Nomura Individual Investor Survey

January 2011

5 January 2011

Investment Strategy Department Financial & Economic Research Center Nomura Securities Co., Ltd.

1. Survey overview

(1) Nomura I-View Index up slightly to 50.2

The Nomura Individual Investor Market View Index (Nomura I-View Index), based on respondents' three-month outlook for share prices and calculated by subtracting the percentage of responses for "rise" from that for "fall," was 50.2 for December, up from 49.2 the previous month, indicating that most individual investors remain bullish on the outlook for stock prices. The Nikkei Average reference level (16 December close) was 10,311, up roughly 500 from last month's survey. The most popular three-month outlook for the Nikkei Average, at 55.1% of responses, was for a "rise of about 1,000 points," although this percentage is down from the previous month, while the proportions for a "rise of about 2,000 points" and a "rise of more than 2,000 points" both increased.

(2) Increased attention on international affairs and domestic politics

Respondents were asked to select the factor most likely to impact the stock market in the next three months. The percentage citing forex trends, the top response last month, fell 12.1ppt to 28.0%. International affairs took over the top spot, with 29.8% of responses, while domestic politics posted the largest gain, of 5.6ppt.

(3) Materials the most appealing sector

We calculated a diffusion index for each sector by subtracting the percentage of responses for "unappealing" from that for "appealing." Materials was top with a DI of 12.6, up 2.4 points from the previous month. Automobiles remained the least appealing sector for a fifth consecutive month, with a DI of -12.2, but this marks a 4.9 point improvement, the largest of the month.

(4) Most respondents expect the yen to weaken against the dollar

On the outlook for the US\$/¥ rate over the next three months, the combined proportion of respondents expecting the yen to weaken against the dollar was 54.6%, a slight decrease from 54.9% last month but still above the 50% mark. The proportion of respondents expecting a fall of about ¥5 against the dollar was both the most popular response, at 47.2%, and the biggest gainer of the month, up 2.5ppt.

(5) US dollar draws further appeal

Respondents were asked to choose one currency as an "appealing" investment target and one as "unappealing." The Australian dollar was the most appealing currency for the 13th straight month since this survey question was introduced in January 2010, and its DI ("appealing" – "unappealing") rose 3.1 points from the previous month to 30.3. The US dollar pulled out of last place, where it had been for three straight months, by posting the largest gain of the month, 9.8 points, bringing its DI up to -10.3.

(6) Increased investment appetite for equities

Respondents were asked about their plans for holding financial instruments. We calculated DIs for each financial instrument by subtracting the percentage planning to cease holding the instrument or decrease their holding from the percentage of respondents planning to hold the instrument for the first time or increase their holding. Equities marked the largest rise of the month, up 2.7 points to 28.5.

2. Survey results

(1) Nomura I-View Index up slightly to 50.2

The Nomura Individual Investor Market View Index (Nomura I-View Index), based on respondents' three-month outlook for share prices and calculated by subtracting the percentage of responses for "rise" from that for "fall," was 50.2 for December, up 1.0 point from 49.2 the previous month. This marks the second straight month of increase, however small, indicating that most individual investors remain bullish on the outlook for stock prices. The Nikkei Average reference level (16 December close) was 10,311, up roughly 500 from last month's survey (Exhibit 1).



Note: (1) The Nomura I-View Index is based on data collected by this survey and expressed as a diffusion index. The calculation method is as follows: [(Number of responses indicating expected rise in share prices in the next three months) minus (number of responses indicating expected fall in share prices in the next three months) divided by number of respondents] x 100. The figure for January 2010 used here excludes respondents who called for the Nikkei Average to be flat.

(2) The Nomura I-View Index ranges from -100 to +100. The closer to +100 the figure is, the more bullish the outlook held by individual investors. The closer to -100 the figure is, the more bearish the outlook held by individual investors.

The combined proportion of respondents expecting the Nikkei Average to rise over the next three months was 75.1%, up 0.5ppt from 74.6% last month. The most popular response, at 55.1%, was for a "rise of about 1,000 points," although this is down 2.7ppt from the previous month. Meanwhile, the proportions for a "rise of about 2,000 points" and a "rise of more than 2,000 points" both increased, with a combined gain of 3.2ppt, indicating an increase in the number of investors expecting a large stock market advance. The three "decline" categories were all broadly unchanged (Exhibit 2).



Note: Respondents were asked to share their outlook for the Nikkei Average during the next three months based on a 16 December closing figure of 10,311. Respondents could choose one answer from a possible six responses ranging from a rise of more than 2,000 points to a fall of more than 2,000 points with 1,000-point increments in between.

(2) Increased attention on international affairs and domestic politics

Respondents were asked to select the factor most likely to impact the stock market in the next three months. The percentage citing forex trends, the top response last month, fell 12.1% to 28.0%. International affairs took over the top spot, with 29.8%. Domestic politics posted the largest gain, of 5.6ppt, followed by domestic corporate earnings, up 2.7ppt, showing that investor interest in these factors is on the rise (Exhibits 3, 4).



Note: Respondents could choose one answer from a possible seven responses concerning factors likely to impact the stock market over the next three months or so.



(3) Materials the most appealing sector

Respondents were asked to choose one sector as an "appealing" investment target and one as "unappealing." We calculated a diffusion index for each sector by subtracting the percentage of responses for "unappealing" from that for "appealing". Materials was top with a DI of 12.6, up 2.4 points from the previous month, while pharmaceuticals, which had been in the top spot for five straight months, fell to second with a 4.9 point decline, the largest drop of any sector this month. Automobiles remained the least appealing sector for a fifth consecutive month, with a DI of -12.2, but this marks a 4.9 point improvement, making it the most improved for the second straight month. Financials likewise continued to have a negative DI but showed improvement, of 3.1 points, the second largest for the month (Exhibits 5, 6).

5. Investment appeal by sector

Sector	DI	Breakdown of DI	(Ref)	
Sector		Appealing	Unappealing	Previous month DI
Materials	12.6	19.3	6.7	10.2
Pharmaceuticals	12.1	15.8	3.7	17.0
Electrical equipment/precision equipment	3.5	11.9	8.4	7.3
Telecommunications	2.5	7.1	4.6	5.4
Financials	-3.5	13.1	16.6	-6.6
Capital goods/others	-4.6	5.8	10.4	-6.3
Transportation and utilities	-5.0	5.8	10.8	-2.7
Consumer goods	-5.4	9.5	14.9	-7.2
Automobiles	-12.2	11.7	23.9	-17.1

Note: Respondents were given nine sectors and asked to choose one viewed as an appealing investment target and one viewed as unappealing. For each sector we calculated a diffusion index by subtracting the percentage of responses for unappealing from that for appealing. The materials sector comprises mining, textiles, paper & pulp, chemicals, oil, ceramics, steel, nonferrous metals, and trading houses. The financials sector comprises banks, miscellaneous finance, securities, and insurance. The capital goods/others sector comprises construction, machinery, shipbuilding, transportation equipment, miscellaneous manufacturing, and real estate. The transportation and utilities sector comprises railroads & buses, trucking, shipping, airlines, warehousing, electric power, and gas. The consumer goods sector comprises marine products, food, retail, and services.



6. Trend in DIs for select sectors

(4) Most-watched stocks

Respondents were asked to name one stock that they would like to have in their portfolio, irrespective of short or longterm investment horizon (including stocks actually held) or that they find appealing. We show the most popular responses below (Exhibit 7).

Code	Company	No. of respondents	Code	Company	No. of respondents
7203	Toyota Motor	53	2811	Kagome	12
4502	Takeda Pharmaceutical	32	4578	Otsuka Holdings	12
8306	Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group	31	4661	Oriental Land	12
9501	Tokyo Electric Power	31	6301	Komatsu	12
7201	Nissan Motor	25	4755	Rakuten	11
6758	Sony	22	5401	Nippon Steel	11
7267	Honda Motor	21	6752	Panasonic	11
8411	Mizuho Financial Group	21	9437	NTT Docomo	11
9984	Softbank	21	6501	Hitachi	9
8058	Mitsubishi Corp	16	8316	Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group	9
9202	All Nippon Airways	15	9432	Nippon Telegraph and Telephone	9
2702	McDonald's Holdings (Japan)	14	4523	Eisai	8
7550	Zensho	14	9983	Fast Retailing	8
7751	Canon	14	5711	Mitsubishi Materials	7
8267	Aeon	14	7211	Mitsubishi Motors	7
7974	Nintendo	13			

Note: Not included in valid responses were answers of "none" or clearly mistaken responses.

(5) Most respondents expect the yen to weaken against the dollar

On the outlook for the US\$/¥ rate over the next three months, the combined proportion of respondents expecting the yen to weaken against the dollar was 54.6%, a slight decrease from 54.9% last month but still above the 50% mark. The proportion of respondents expecting a fall of about ¥5 against the dollar was both the most popular response, at 47.2%, and the biggest gainer of the month, up 2.5ppt. Meanwhile, the proportions expecting falls of "about ¥10" and "more than ¥10" both declined. The most popular response among those looking for the yen to rise was a "rise of about ¥5", at 40.5% of total responses, up 1.0ppt. A majority of respondents thus appear to expect the yen to weaken, but most by only a small amount (Exhibit 8). At the time of the survey (16 December), the noon indicative rate was US\$1=¥84.15, about ¥0.8 weaker than US\$1=¥83.34 at the time of the previous survey (17 November).



Note: Respondents were asked to share their outlook for the U\$/¥ rate during the next three months, referencing a 16 December indicative rate of US\$1=¥84.15. Respondents could choose one answer from a possible six responses ranging from a rise of ¥10 or more against the dollar to a fall of ¥10 or more against the dollar, with ¥5 increments in between.

(6) US dollar draws further appeal

Respondents were asked to choose one currency as an "appealing" investment target and one as "unappealing." We calculated a diffusion index for each currency by subtracting the percentage of responses for "unappealing" from that for "appealing." The Australian dollar was the most appealing currency for the 13th straight month since this survey question was introduced in January 2010, and its DI rose 3.1 points from the previous month to 30.3. The US dollar pulled out of last place, where it had been for three straight months, by posting the largest gain of the month, 9.8 points, bringing its DI up to -10.3. The euro fell to the bottom of the list, with a 5.4 point decline to -19.2. The renminbi marked the largest decline of the month, down 5.8 points to -9.1. (Exhibits 9, 10).

Currency	DI	Breakdown of D	(Ref)	
		Appealing	Unappealing	Previous month D
Australian dollar	30.3	32.6	2.3	27.2
Brazilian real	6.8	11.3	4.5	9.3
Japanese yen	4.3	18.8	14.5	2.6
Canadian dollar	0.4	1.9	1.5	0.8
Pound sterling	-5.2	0.8	6.0	-4.7
Chinese renminbi	-9.1	14.1	23.2	-3.3
US dollar	-10.3	12.9	23.2	-20.1
Euro	-19.2	5.5	24.7	-13.8

Note: Respondents were given nine currency options and asked to choose one viewed as an appealing investment target and one viewed as unappealing. Those selecting "other" were asked to specify a currency.

10. Trend in DIs for select currencies



(7) Increased investment appetite for equities

Respondents were asked about their plans for holding financial instruments. We calculated DIs for each financial instrument by subtracting the percentage planning to cease holding the instrument or decrease their holding from the percentage of respondents planning to hold the instrument for the first time or increase their holding. DIs rose for all instruments other than cash & deposits. Equities marked the largest rise of the month, up 2.7 points to 28.5 (Exhibit 11).

Currency	DI	Breakdown of DI	(Ref)	
		Plan to increase	Plan to decrease	Previous month DI
Cash & deposits	40.0	45.8	5.8	42.1
Equities	28.5	49.5	21.0	25.8
Securities issued overseas	12.2	13.5	1.3	10.5
Bonds	9.9	13.6	3.7	7.8
Investment trusts	9.4	20.9	11.5	8.6
Other	1.7	1.9	0.2	1.6
None	-40.5	22.7	63.2	-40.8

11. Financial instruments for which investors are either seeking to increase or decrease their holdings

Note: Respondents were given a selection of seven financial instruments and asked to choose those for which they planned to increase their holdings and those for which they planned to decrease their holdings (multiple responses were allowed). In the exhibit, "plan to increase" refers to financial instruments that investors plan to hold for the first time or for which they plan to increase their holding, while "plan to decrease" refers to instruments that investors plan to cease holding or for which they plan to decrease their holding.

3. Nomura Individual Investor Survey

With the aim of better understanding investing activity by individuals and providing information on those trends, the Financial & Economic Research Center of Nomura Securities conducts a monthly survey—the Nomura Individual Investor Survey. The results of the survey have been published monthly since April 2006.

<u>Survey method:</u> Questionnaire conducted electronically using the internet monitor questionnaire service administered by Nomura Investor Relations Co., Ltd.

<u>Survey target:</u> Survey sent to 3,000 individual investors randomly selected from the approximately 11,800 with equity investment experience participating in Nomura Investor Relations' internet monitor questionnaire service.

Number of responses: 1,000 (survey closed when 1,000 responses received)

Survey period: Survey distributed on 16 December with deadline for responses on 17 December

<u>Survey content</u>: Questions included each month are (1) share price outlook, (2) factors expected to impact the stock market, (3) attractive sectors and stocks, (4) US\$/¥ rate outlook and attractive currencies, and (5) financial instruments for which investors plan to change their holdings. Respondents are also quizzed each month on their personal profiles.

4. Nomura Individual Investor Survey (January 2011) respondents

<u>Gender:</u> Male (77.0%), Female (23.0%)

Age: Under 30 (1.2%), 30–39 (14.5%), 40–49 (29.5%), 50–59 (28.9%), 60 and above (25.9%)

<u>Occupation:</u> Self-employed/fisheries, agriculture, forestry (10.1%), Professional (physician/medical professional, lawyer, etc) (2.4%), Company management/corporate officer (5.7%), Company employee/public servant (45.5%), Housewife (11.0%), Part-time worker/casual worker/job-hopper (6.0%), Unemployed/pensioner (17.0%), Other (2.3%)

<u>Region:</u> Kanto (42.4%), Kinki (22.2%), Tokai/Koshinetsu/Hokuriku (18.2%), Hokkaido/Tohoku (5.7%), Chugoku/Shikoku/Kyushu (11.5%)

<u>Financial assets held:</u> Less than ¥1,000,000 (6.7%), ¥1,000,000–¥2,999,999 (12.0%), ¥3,000,000–¥4,999,999 (11.3%), ¥5,000,000–¥9,999,999 (18.3%), ¥10,000,000–¥29,999,999 (29.5%), ¥30,000,000–¥49,999,999 (11.6%), ¥50,000,000 or more (10.6%)

<u>Value of domestic stocks held:</u> Less than ¥500,000 (11.9%), ¥500,000–¥999,999 (13.3%), ¥1,000,000–¥2,999,999 (25.0%), ¥3,000,000–¥4,999,999 (14.6%), ¥5,000,000–¥9,999,999 (15.4%), ¥10,000,000–¥29,999,999 (14.0%), ¥30,000,000 or more (5.8%)

<u>Investment experience</u>: Less than three years (3.1%), Three years to less than five years (15.2%), Five years to less than 10 years (29.9%), 10 years to less than 20 years (26.5%), 20 years or more (25.3%)

<u>Investment plan for domestic stocks:</u> Mainly for long-term holding (47.6%), Pursuit of gains from short-term appreciation (14.7%), Pursuit of dividends and shareholder perks (25.6%), No particular plan (12.1%)

Notice

The next Nomura Individual Investor Survey (February 2011) is scheduled for release on Wednesday, 2 February 2011.

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STOCKS

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A '**Buy'** recommendation indicates that upside is between 10% and 20%.

A 'Neutral' recommendation indicates that upside or downside is less than 10%.

A Neutral recommendation indicates that device of downside is less than 10%

A 'Reduce' recommendation indicates that downside is between 10% and 20%.

A 'Sell' recommendation indicates that downside is more than 20%.

SECTORS

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