# Nomura Individual Investor Survey

September 2012

September 14, 2012

Equity Research Department Nomura Securities Co., Ltd.

The Nomura Individual Investor Survey is a monthly survey conducted with the aim of better understanding investing activity by individuals and providing information on related trends.

# 1. Survey overview

### (1) Nomura I-View Index down 1.8pt m-m at 49.8

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 "fall" from that for "rise," was 49.8 for September, down 1.8pt m-m. The largest proportion of respondents, 58.8%, said they expect a rise of "about 1,000 points," though that proportion was down 2.0ppt from the previous month. The proportion of all other response was between flat m-m and up marginally, by less than 1.0ppt.

# (2) Domestic politics attracts greatly increased attention

Respondents were asked to select the factor most likely to impact the stock market in the next three months. International affairs was again selected by the largest proportion of respondents, though that proportion declined the most of any category, by 8.6ppt m-m. The largest increase, of 8.7ppt, was marked by domestic politics.

### (3) Pharmaceuticals still the most attractive sector

Respondents were asked to choose one sector as an "appealing" investment target and one as "unappealing" over a timeframe of about three months. We calculated a diffusion index for each sector by subtracting the percentage of responses for "unappealing" from that for "appealing." Pharmaceuticals was the most attractive sector this month, as last month, with its DI rising 1.6pt m-m. The month's biggest gainer was transportation and utilities, the DI for which rose 5.6pt. This month's biggest decliner, by 10.5pt, was electrical equipment/precision equipment.

# (4) Rising expectations of yen depreciation versus US dollar

On the outlook for the USD/JPY rate over the next three months, the percentage of respondents expecting the yen to weaken against the dollar was 66.0%, up 6.1ppt from the previous month. The response "fall of about ¥5 against the dollar" saw the largest rise in response rate, of 4.8ppt, while "rise of about ¥5 against the dollar" saw the largest decline, of 4.0ppt m-m.

### (5) Australian dollar still the most appealing currency

Respondents were asked to choose one currency as an "appealing" investment target and one as "unappealing" over an approximately three-month timeframe. 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 32nd straight time since this survey question was introduced in January 2010 (no survey was conducted in April 2011). Its DI rose 4.0pt m-m. The euro was once again ranked bottom, though its DI rose by 8.6pt, the most for any currency. The DI for the renminbi marked the largest decline, of 7.8pt.

# (6) Reduced investment appetite for all financial instruments except gold and bonds

To give an indication of plans for holding financial instruments, we calculate DIs for each financial instrument by subtracting the percentage of respondents planning to cease holding the instrument or decrease their holding from the percentage planning to hold the instrument for the first time or increase their holding. The DIs for all instruments except gold and bonds declined m-m.

# 2. Survey results

10

06/4

06/10

07/4

07/10

08/4

08/10

### (1) Nomura I-View Index down 1.8pt m-m at 49.8

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 "fall" from that for "rise," was 49.8 for September, down 1.8pt m-m. The number of investors expecting share prices to rise appears to have fallen, if only slightly (Figure 1).

The Nikkei Average reference level (4 September close) was 8,775, up 134pt from the previous survey (1 August close of 8,641).

Nomura I-View Index (Ihs)
— Past average for index (Ihs)
— Nikkei Average at time of survey (rhs)

10,000
11,000

09/4

Fig. 1: The Nomura I-View Index and reference level of Nikkei Average at time of survey

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 projected the Nikkei Average would 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.

09/10

10/4

11/5

The combined proportion of respondents projecting the Nikkei Average would rise over the next three months was 74.9%, down 0.9ppt from 75.8% the previous month. The largest proportion of respondents, 58.8%, said they expect a rise of "about 1,000 points," though that proportion was down 2.0ppt from the previous month. The proportion of all other response was between flat m-m and up marginally, by less than 1.0ppt (Figure 2).

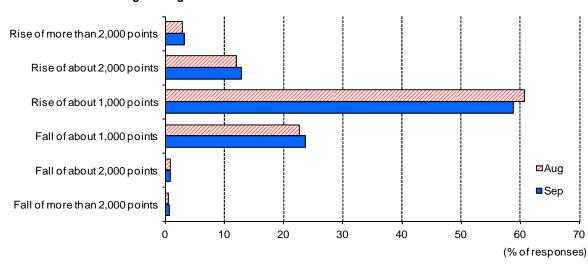


Fig. 2: Outlook for Nikkei Average during the next three months

Note: Respondents were asked to share their outlook for the Nikkei Average during the next three months based on a 4 September closing figure of 8,775. 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.

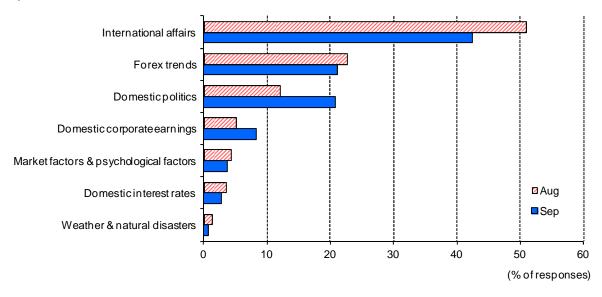
8,000

6,000

# (2) Domestic politics attracts greatly increased attention

Respondents were asked to select the factor most likely to impact the stock market in the next three months. International affairs was again selected by the largest proportion of respondents, though that proportion declined the most of any category, by 8.6ppt m-m. The largest increase, of 8.7ppt, was marked by domestic politics. There was also a marked increase of 3.3ppt for the domestic corporate earnings category (Figure 3).

Fig. 3: Impact of factors on the stock market



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

### (3) Pharmaceuticals still the most attractive sector

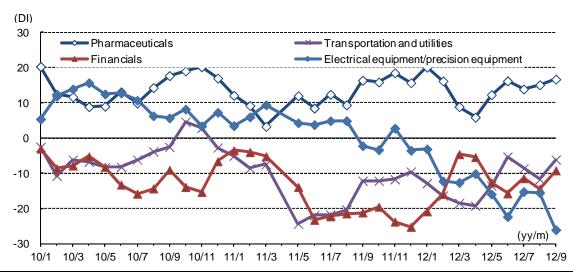
Respondents were asked to choose one sector as an "appealing" investment target and one as "unappealing" over a timeframe of about three months. We calculated a diffusion index for each sector by subtracting the percentage of responses for "unappealing" from that for "appealing." Pharmaceuticals was the most attractive sector this month, as last month, with its DI rising 1.6pt m-m. The month's biggest gainer was transportation and utilities, the DI for which rose 5.6pt, though it remained negative. The next largest rise, of 5.2pt, was for financials. The electrical equipment/precision equipment DI saw the largest decline, of 10.5pt, taking it to a record low of -26.0 (Figures 4, 5).

Fig. 4: Investment appeal by sector

Conton	DI	Breakdown of D	(Ref)	
Sector		Appealing	Unappealing	Previous DI
Pharmaceuticals	16.7	19.0	2.3	15.1
Materials	7.4	15.2	7.8	9.7
Consumer goods	7.1	14.7	7.6	7.6
Telecommunications	5.3	8.4	3.1	4.2
Capital goods/other	3.4	9.7	6.3	3.1
Automobiles	1.4	12.6	11.2	1.9
Transportation and utilities	-6.1	6.2	12.3	-11.7
Financials	-9.2	8.0	17.2	-14.4
Electrical equipment/precision equipment	-26.0	6.2	32.2	-15.5

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.

Fig. 5: Trend in DIs for selected 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 long-term investment horizon (including stocks actually held) or that they find appealing. We show the most popular responses below (Figure 6).

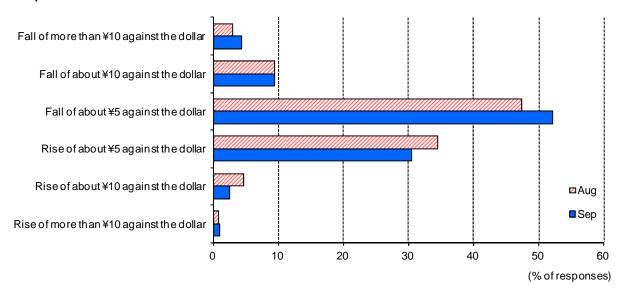
Fig. 6: Name a stock with appeal (1,000 valid responses)

Code	Company	No. of respondents	Code	Company	No. of respondents
7203	Toyota Motor	68	6752	Panasonic	11
4502	Takeda Pharmaceutical	39	7267	Honda Motor	11
9984	Softbank	31	2811	Kagome	10
4661	Oriental Land	21	4755	Rakuten	9
8058	Mitsubishi Corp	20	4503	Astellas Pharma	8
6753	Sharp	19	8750	Dai-ichi Life Insurance	8
8411	Mizuho Financial Group	18	9437	NTT Docomo	7
2702	McDonald's Holdings (Japan)	17	2788	Apple International	6
6501	Hitachi	16	3402	Toray Industries	6
7201	Nissan Motor	15	6301	Komatsu	6
8267	Aeon	15	8113	Unicharm	6
8306	Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group	14	8410	Seven Bank	6
9202	All Nippon Airways	14	8604	Nomura Holdings	6
4523	Eisai	12	9020	East Japan Railway	6
6758	Sony	12	9501	Tokyo Electric Power	6

# (5) Rising expectations of yen depreciation versus US dollar

On the outlook for the USD/JPY rate over the next three months, the percentage of respondents expecting the yen to weaken against the dollar was 66.0%, up 6.1ppt from the previous month's 59.9%. The response "fall of about ¥5 against the dollar" saw the largest rise in response rate, of 4.8ppt. The response "rise of about ¥5 against the dollar" saw the largest decline, of 4.0ppt m-m (Figure 7). At the time of the latest survey (4 September), the noon indicative USD/JPY rate was 78.32, indicating a weaker yen than at the time of the previous survey (77.98 as of 1 August).

Fig. 7: Respondents' three-month outlook for the USD/JPY rate



Note: Respondents were asked to share their outlook for the USD/JPY rate during the next three months, referencing a 4 September indicative rate of US\$1=¥78.32. 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) Australian dollar still the most appealing currency

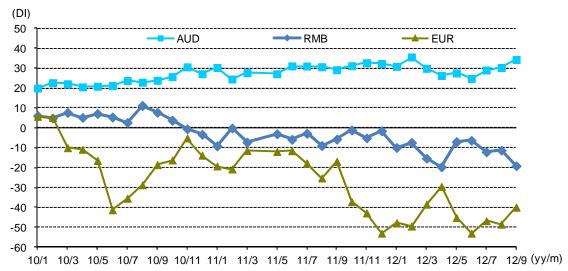
Respondents were asked to choose one currency as an "appealing" investment target and one as "unappealing" over an approximately three-month timeframe. We calculated a diffusion index for each currency by subtracting the percentage of responses for "unappealing" from that for "appealing." The Australian dollar was the most appealing currency for the 32nd straight time since this survey question was introduced in January 2010 (no survey was conducted in April 2011). Its DI rose 4.0pt m-m. The euro was once again ranked bottom, though its DI rose by 8.6pt, the most for any currency. The DI for the renminbi marked the largest decline, of 7.8pt (Figures 8, 9).

Fig. 8: Investment appeal by currency

Currency	DI	Breakdown of D	(Ref)	
		Appealing	Unappealing	Previous DI
Australian dollar	34.3	35.8	1.5	30.3
Japanese yen	16.2	26.1	9.9	18.9
US dollar	3.2	13.2	10.0	4.1
Brazilian real	2.9	9.0	6.1	2.6
Canadian dollar	1.9	2.2	0.3	2.1
Pound sterling	0.1	2.3	2.2	0.4
Chinese renminbi	-19.1	6.7	25.8	-11.3
Euro	-39.9	3.7	43.6	-48.5

Note: Respondents were given nine possible responses, consisting of the above eight currencies and "other," 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.

Fig. 9: Trend in DIs for selected currencies



# (7) Reduced investment appetite for all financial instruments except gold and bonds

To give an indication of plans for holding financial instruments, we calculate DIs for each financial instrument by subtracting the percentage of respondents planning to cease holding the instrument or decrease their holding from the percentage planning to hold the instrument for the first time or increase their holding. The DIs declined m-m for all instruments except gold and bonds, which rose slightly (Figure 10).

Fig. 10: Financial instruments for which investors are either seeking to increase or decrease their holdings

Currency	DI.	Breakdown of DI	Breakdown of DI (% of responses)		
	DI	Plan to increase	Plan to decrease	Previous D	
Cash & deposits	40.6	43.4	2.8	41.8	
Equities	20.9	42.8	21.9	25.6	
Gold	14.0	14.5	0.5	13.3	
Bonds	7.7	11.0	3.3	7.2	
Securities issued overseas	6.5	9.0	2.5	8.0	
Investment trusts	4.3	16.7	12.4	6.4	
Hybrid securities	2.0	2.7	0.7	2.9	
Other	0.4	0.6	0.2	1.0	
None	-36.8	28.9	65.7	-39.6	

Note: Respondents were given a selection of nine financial instruments and asked to choose those for which they planned to increase 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. Hybrid securities and gold were added to the list of choices from the February 2012 survey.

# 3. Nomura Individual Investor Survey

With the aim of better understanding investing activity by individuals and providing information on those trends, the Equity Research Department 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 24,000 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 4 September with deadline for responses on 5 September.

<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) USD/JPY rate outlook and attractive currencies, and (5) financial instruments for which investors plan to change their holdings. Respondents are also queried each month on their personal profiles.

# 4. Nomura Individual Investor Survey (September 2012) respondents

Gender: Male (79.9%), Female (20.1%)

Age: Under 30 (1.8%), 30-39 (15.0%), 40-49 (29.0%), 50-59 (28.7%), 60 and above (25.5%)

Occupation: Self-employed/fisheries, agriculture, forestry (8.1%), Professional (physician/medical professional, lawyer, etc) (2.2%), Company management/corporate officer (4.6%), Company employee/public servant (51.7%), Housewife (10.2%), Part-time worker/casual worker/job-hopper (5.3%), Unemployed/pensioner (15.6%), Other (2.3%)

Region: Kanto (44.2%), Kinki (21.0%), Tokai/Koshinetsu/Hokuriku (17.4%), Hokkaido/Tohoku (6.1%), Chugoku/Shikoku/Kyushu (11.3%)

<u>Financial assets held:</u> Less than ¥1,000,000 (7.8%), ¥1,000,000–¥2,999,999 (11.5%), ¥3,000,000–¥4,999,999 (12.6%), ¥5,000,000–¥9,999,999 (21.2%), ¥10,000,000–¥29,999,999 (29.3%), ¥30,000,000–¥49,999,999 (9.0%), ¥50,000,000 or more (8.6%)

<u>Investment experience:</u> Less than three years (8.3%), Three years to less than five years (14.8%), Five years to less than 10 years (27.6%), 10 years to less than 20 years (25.9%), 20 years or more (23.4%)

<u>Investment plan for domestic stocks:</u> Mainly for long-term holding (46.1%), Pursuit of gains from short-term appreciation (10.7%), Pursuit of dividends and shareholder perks (27.7%), No particular plan (15.5%)

# Notice

The next Nomura Individual Investor Survey (October 2012) is scheduled for release on Friday, 12 October 2012.

# Any Authors named on this report are Research Analysts unless otherwise indicated

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A rating of 'Buy', indicates that the analyst expects the stock to outperform the Benchmark over the next 12 months. A rating of 'Neutral', indicates that the analyst expects the stock to perform in line with the Benchmark over the next 12 months. A rating of 'Reduce', indicates that the analyst expects the stock to underperform the Benchmark over the next 12 months. A rating of 'Suspended', indicates that the rating, target price and estimates have been suspended temporarily to comply with applicable regulations and/or firm policies in certain circumstances including, but not limited to, when Nomura is acting in an advisory capacity in a merger or strategic transaction involving the company. Benchmarks are as follows: United States/Europe: please see valuation methodologies for explanations of relevant benchmarks for stocks, which can be accessed at: <a href="http://go.nomuranow.com/research/globalresearchportal/pages/disclosures/disclosures.aspx">http://go.nomuranow.com/research/globalresearchportal/pages/disclosures/disclosures.aspx</a>; Global Emerging Markets (ex-Asia): MSCI Emerging Markets ex-Asia, unless otherwise stated in the valuation methodology.

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A 'Bullish' stance, indicates that the analyst expects the sector to outperform the Benchmark during the next 12 months. A 'Neutral' stance, indicates that the analyst expects the sector to perform in line with the Benchmark during the next 12 months. A 'Bearish' stance, indicates that the analyst expects the sector to underperform the Benchmark during the next 12 months.

Benchmarks are as follows: United States: S&P 500; Europe: Dow Jones STOXX 600; Global Emerging Markets (ex-Asia): MSCI Emerging Markets ex-Asia.

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A 'Buy' recommendation indicates that potential upside is 15% or more. A 'Neutral' recommendation indicates that potential upside is less than 15% or downside is less than 5%. A 'Reduce' recommendation indicates that potential downside is 5% or more. A rating of 'Suspended' indicates that the rating and target price have been suspended temporarily to comply with applicable regulations and/or firm policies in certain circumstances including when Nomura is acting in an advisory capacity in a merger or strategic transaction involving the subject company. Securities and/or companies that are labelled as 'Not rated' or shown as 'No rating' are not in regular research coverage of the Nomura entity identified in the top banner. Investors should not expect continuing or additional information from Nomura relating to such securities and/or companies.

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Purchases of investment trusts (and sales of some investment trusts) are subject to a purchase or sales fee of up to 5.25% (tax included) of the transaction amount. Also, a direct cost that may be incurred when selling investment trusts is a fee of up to 2.0% of the unit price at the time of redemption. Indirect costs that may be incurred during the course of holding investment trusts include, for domestic investment trusts, an asset management fee (trust fee) of up to 5.25% (tax included, annualized basis) of the net assets in trust, as well as fees based on investment performance. Other indirect costs may also be incurred. For foreign investment trusts, indirect fees may be incurred during the course of holding such as investment company compensation.

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