

Nomura Individual Investor Survey

November 2013

November 14, 2013

Global Research Division
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 rises 5.8 points m-m to 58.8

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 58.8 for November, an increase of 5.8pt from 53.0 in October. The proportion of respondents expecting a "rise of about 1,000 points" increased by 8.0ppt m-m, while the proportion of respondents declined m-m for all other responses. There were particularly large m-m declines for respondents expecting the Nikkei Average to rise/fall "more than 2,000 points" or "about 2,000 points."

(2) Forex trends attracting 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 the most watched factor this month, but its response rate declined slightly, by 1.5ppt m-m. Forex trends saw the largest rise in response rate among all the factors, with a 6.4ppt increase m-m. Forex trends also became the second most watched factor, up from third in the previous survey. Domestic politics registered the largest decline, of 6.9ppt m-m, pushing it down from the second most watched factor to fourth.

(3) Capital goods/other still most appealing sector despite m-m decline in DI

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." Capital goods/other remained the most appealing sector this month, but its DI fell 10.5pt m-m, the largest decline of all the sectors. The DI for consumer goods remained in negative territory after a sharp decline last month. However, this month the DI improved by a strong 10.8pt m-m.

(4) Higher proportion of investors expect yen to appreciate against dollar

On the outlook for the USD/JPY rate over the next three months, the combined percentage of respondents expecting the yen to strengthen against the dollar was 44.6%, up 6.4ppt from the previous month's reading of 38.2%. The response rate for "rise of about ¥5 against the dollar" increased 6.9ppt m-m, the largest rise of all the responses. In contrast, the largest decline in the response rate was for "fall of about ¥5 against the dollar," which dropped 4.9ppt m-m.

(5) Yen remains 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 yen remained the most appealing currency this month. DIs declined m-m for all currencies ranked second through sixth. Although the Chinese yuan remained the least appealing currency, its DI saw the largest improvement among all the currencies, of 4.1ppt m-m.

(6) Japanese equities remain the most appealing financial instrument

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. Japanese equities remained the most appealing financial instrument this month, with its DI rising 1.9pt m-m. The largest increase in DI this month was for Japanese investment trusts, which rose 2.5pt m-m.

(7) Price outlook

Asked for their outlook for prices of regularly purchased goods and services one year out, 62.7% of respondents said they expected prices to rise, a decline of 5.4ppt from last month. "Rise of less than 2%" continued to have the highest response rate, at 34.9%. The response rate for "no change" rose 4.1ppt m-m, the largest increase among all the responses. In contrast, the largest fall in the response rate was for "rise of 2% up to 5%," which decreased 4.2ppt m-m.

(8) Investment action after end of tax breaks on capital gains and dividends

For our spot question category this month, we made some changes to the questions we asked investors in August about the end of preferential tax treatment on capital gains and dividends. A combined total of 85.6% of respondents said they were either "fully aware" or "somewhat aware" of the end of this tax break, suggesting that most individual investors are up to speed on securities tax regulations. When asked what investment action they would take regarding equity holdings when the tax break comes to an end, the most popular response, selected by 68.9% of respondents, was "no plans to sell shares due to the end of tax breaks." Of the respondents that said they might sell some or all of their shares before the end of the year, 82.9% responded that their decision "would depend on capital gains/losses and the market environment" at the time. When we asked these respondents what level of share price appreciation above the purchase price would prompt them to sell, the most popular response, selected by 31.9%, was "10% or more but less than 20%." Lastly, we asked investors about their intended uses of proceeds from sales of shareholdings. The most popular response, selected by 65.3% of respondents, was "invest in equities (or already invested in equities) using Nippon Individual Savings Accounts (NISA)."

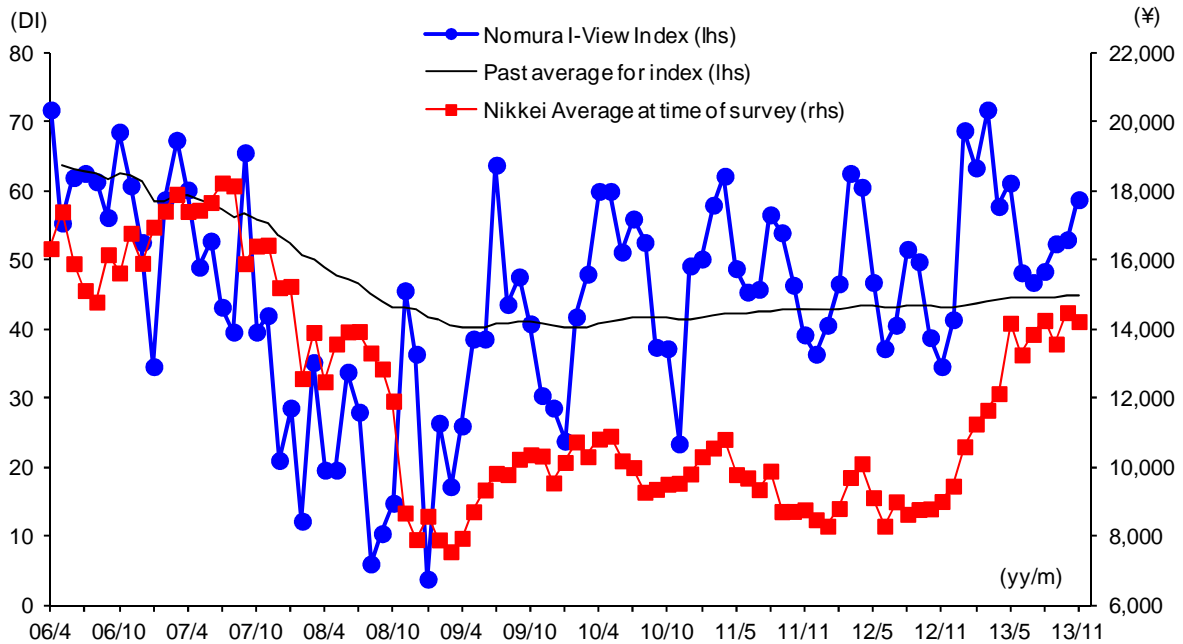
2. Survey results

(1) Nomura I-View Index rises 5.8pt m-m to 58.8

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 58.8 for November, an increase of 5.8pt from 53.0 in October (Figure 1).

The Nikkei Average reference level (5 November close) was 14,225.37, down 259.35pt from the previous survey (1 October close of 14,484.72).

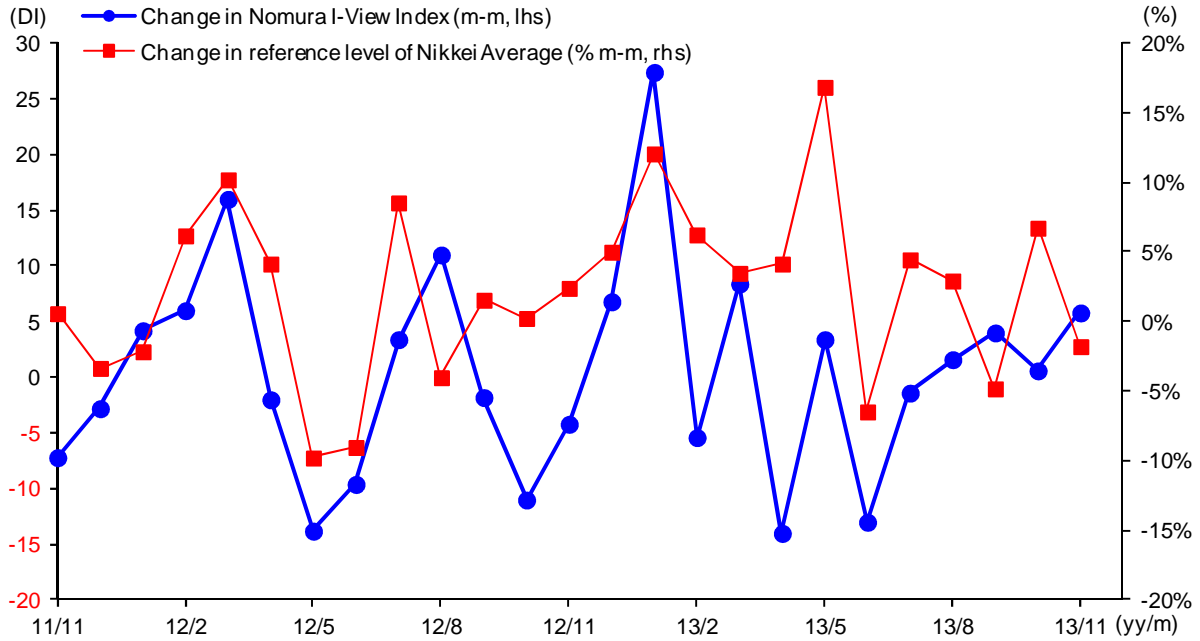
Fig. 1: The Nomura I-View Index and reference level of Nikkei Average at time of survey



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 those 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.

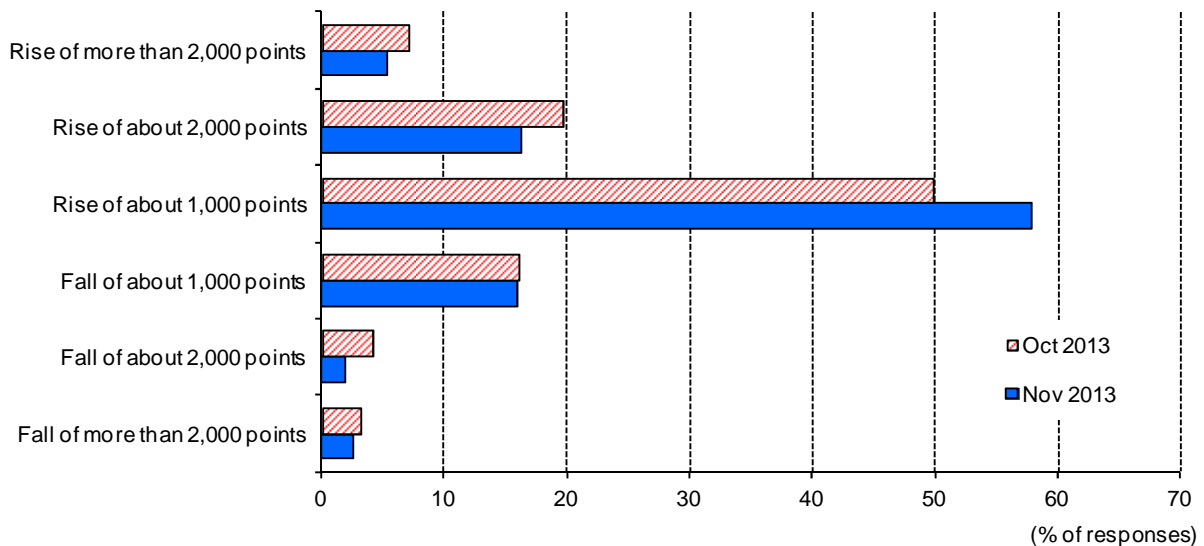
Looking at data for the two years from November 2011, we observe a loose positive correlation between the monthly change in the Nomura I-View Index and the reference level of the Nikkei Average at the time of survey versus its month-earlier level, suggesting that individual investors' share price outlook tends to be easily influenced by recent share price trends. This month, however, the Nomura I-view Index rose strongly m-m, despite a decline in share prices, indicating that individual investors were less sensitive to share price trends (Figure 2).

Fig. 2: M-m change in Nomura I-View Index and m-m change in reference level of Nikkei Average at time of survey



The combined proportion of respondents expecting the Nikkei Average to rise over the next three months was 79.4%, up 2.9pt from 76.5% in the last survey. The proportion of respondents expecting a rise of “about 1,000 points” increased by 8.0ppt m-m, while the proportion of respondents declined m-m for all other responses. There were particularly large m-m declines for respondents expecting the Nikkei Average to rise/fall “more than 2,000 points” or “about 2,000 points.” The Nikkei Average trended in a narrow range during October, and it appears that fewer individual investors expect substantial fluctuations in share prices (Figure 3).

Fig. 3: Outlook for Nikkei Average during the next three months

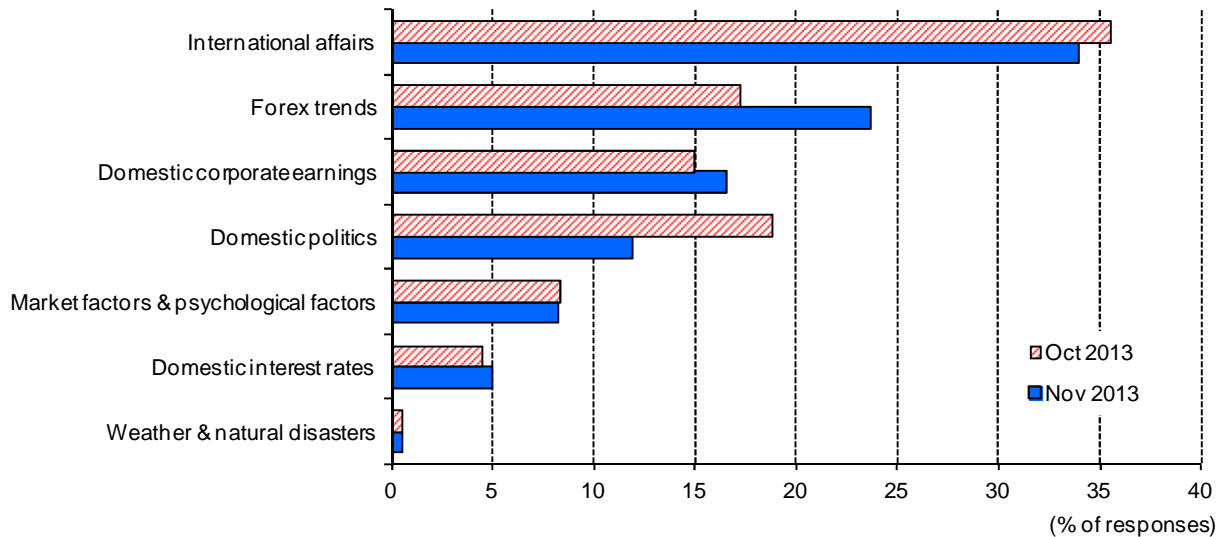


Note: Respondents were asked to share their outlook for the Nikkei Average during the next three months based on a 5 November closing figure of 14,225. Respondents could choose one answer from a possible six responses ranging from a rise of more than 2,000 points to a fall of more than 2,000 points with 1,000-point increments in between.

(2) Forex trends attracting 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 the most watched factor this month, but its response rate declined slightly, by 1.5ppt m-m. Forex trends saw the largest rise in response rate among all the factors, with a 6.4ppt increase m-m. Forex trends also became the second most watched factor, up from third in the previous survey. Domestic politics registered the largest decline, of 6.9ppt m-m, pushing it down from the second most watched factor to fourth (Figure 4).

Fig. 4: 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) Capital goods/other still most appealing sector, but DI falls m-m

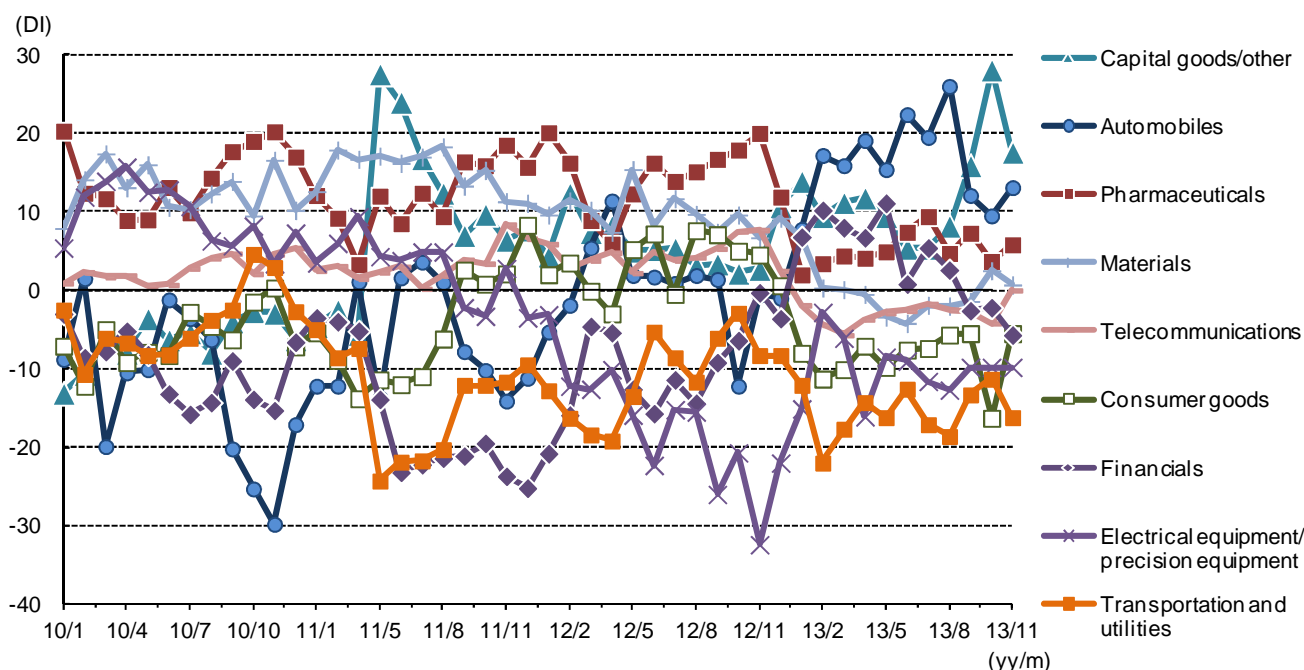
Respondents were asked to choose one sector as an “appealing” investment target and one as “unappealing” over a timeframe of about three months. We calculated a diffusion index for each sector by subtracting the percentage of responses for “unappealing” from that for “appealing.” Capital goods/other remained the most appealing sector this month, but its DI fell 10.5pt m-m, the largest decline of all the sectors. The DI for consumer goods remained in negative territory after a sharp decline last month, which made it the least appealing sector in October. However, this month the DI improved by a strong 10.8pt m-m (Figures 5, 6).

Fig. 5: Investment appeal by sector

Sector	DI	Breakdown of DI (% of responses)		(Ref) Previous DI
		Appealing	Unappealing	
Capital goods/other	17.6	21.3	3.7	28.1
Automobiles	13.1	19.4	6.3	9.5
Pharmaceuticals	5.8	10.9	5.1	3.7
Materials	0.7	11.3	10.6	2.5
Telecommunications	0.0	6.0	6.0	-4.2
Consumer goods	-5.5	11.9	17.4	-16.3
Financials	-5.7	8.1	13.8	-2.2
Electrical equipment/precision equipment	-9.8	7.2	17.0	-9.8
Transportation and utilities	-16.2	3.9	20.1	-11.3

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. 6: 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 7).

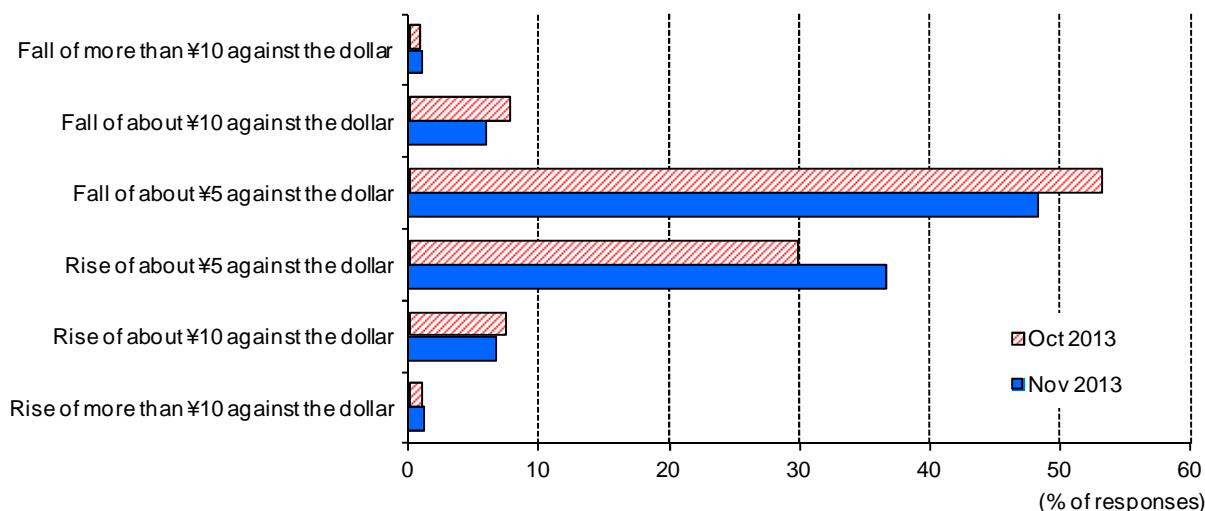
Fig. 7: Name a stock with appeal (1,000 valid responses)

Code	Company	No. of respondents	Code	Company	No. of respondents
7203	Toyota Motor	106	7751	Canon	9
9984	Softbank	41	8058	Mitsubishi Corp	9
6752	Panasonic	24	8604	Nomura Holdings	9
4502	Takeda Pharmaceutical	23	9437	NTT Docomo	9
4661	Oriental Land	23	4503	Astellas Pharma	8
8267	Aeon	20	7201	Nissan Motor	8
6758	Sony	17	7270	Fuji Heavy Industries	8
6501	Hitachi	14	9501	Tokyo Electric Power	8
8411	Mizuho Financial Group	13	3765	GungHo Online Entertainment	7
1801	Taisei	12	8306	Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group	7
4755	Rakuten	12	9022	Central Japan Railway	7
9202	ANA Holdings	12	3402	Toray Industries	6
2811	Kagome	11	5401	Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal	6
7267	Honda Motor	11	5711	Mitsubishi Materials	6
8316	Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group	10	6301	Komatsu	6
6502	Toshiba	9	7261	Mazda Motor	6

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

(5) Higher proportion of investors expect yen to appreciate against dollar

On the outlook for the USD/JPY rate over the next three months, the percentage of respondents expecting the yen to strengthen against the dollar was 44.6%, up 6.4ppt from the previous month's reading of 38.2%. The response rate for "rise of about ¥5 against the dollar" increased 6.9ppt m-m, the largest rise of all the responses. In contrast, the largest decline in the response rate was for "fall of about ¥5 against the dollar," which dropped 4.9ppt m-m (Figure 8).

Fig. 8: Respondents' three-month outlook for the USD/JPY rate

Note: Respondents were asked to share their outlook for the USD/JPY rate over the next three months, referencing a 5 November 2013 indicative rate of US\$1=¥98.29. They could choose one answer from a possible six responses ranging from a rise of more than ¥10 against the dollar to a fall of more than ¥10 against the dollar, with ¥5 increments in between.

(6) Yen remains most appealing currency

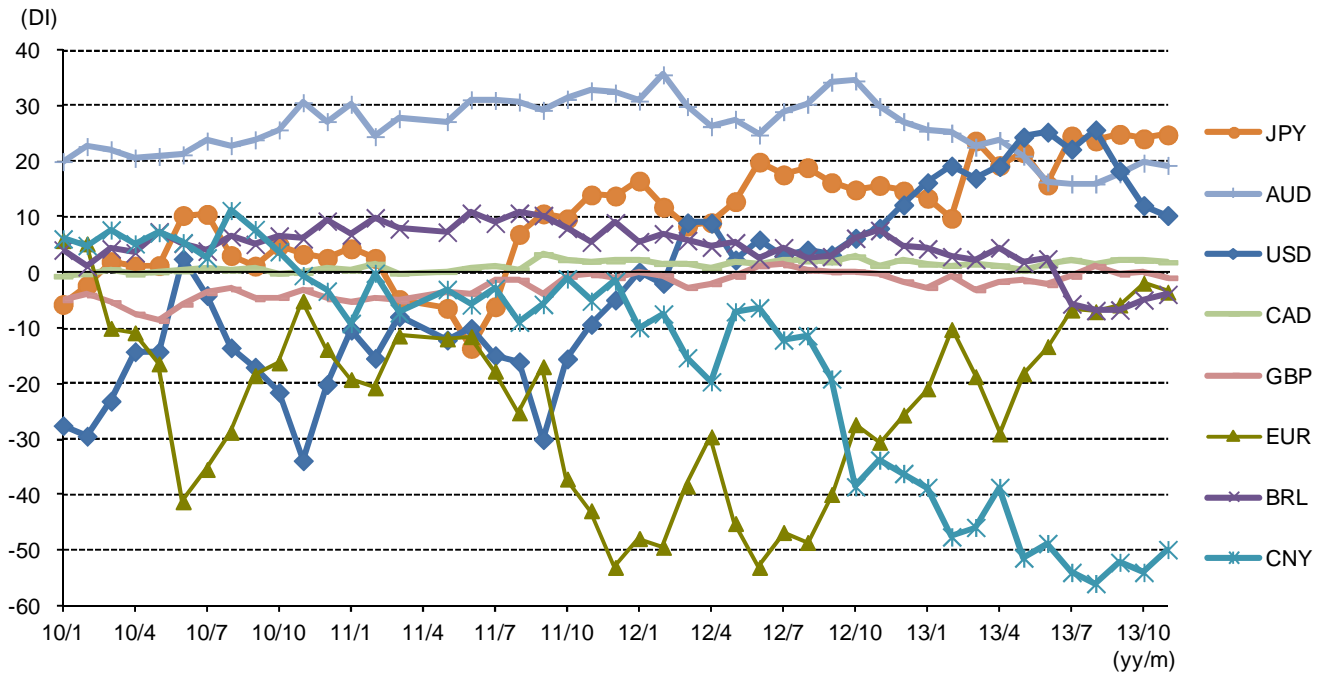
Respondents were asked to choose one currency as an “appealing” investment target and one as “unappealing” over an approximately three-month timeframe. We calculated a diffusion index for each currency by subtracting the percentage of responses for “unappealing” from that for “appealing.” The yen remained the most appealing currency this month. DIs declined m-m for all currencies ranked second through sixth. The largest decline among all the currencies was for the third-ranked US dollar, which saw its DI drop 1.8ppt m-m. Although the Chinese yuan remained the least appealing currency, its DI saw the largest improvement among all the currencies, of 4.1ppt m-m (Figures 9, 10).

Fig. 9: Investment appeal by currency

Currency	DI	Breakdown of DI (% of responses)		(Ref) Previous DI
		Appealing	Unappealing	
Japanese yen	24.8	33.3	8.5	24.1
Australian dollar	19.3	21.3	2.0	19.7
US dollar	10.3	20.3	10.0	12.1
Canadian dollar	1.9	2.7	0.8	2.2
Pound sterling	-0.9	2.0	2.9	0.0
Euro	-3.5	8.8	12.3	-1.9
Brazilian real	-3.9	7.2	11.1	-4.9
Chinese yuan	-49.8	2.1	51.9	-53.9

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. 10: Trend in DIs for investment appeal of selected currencies



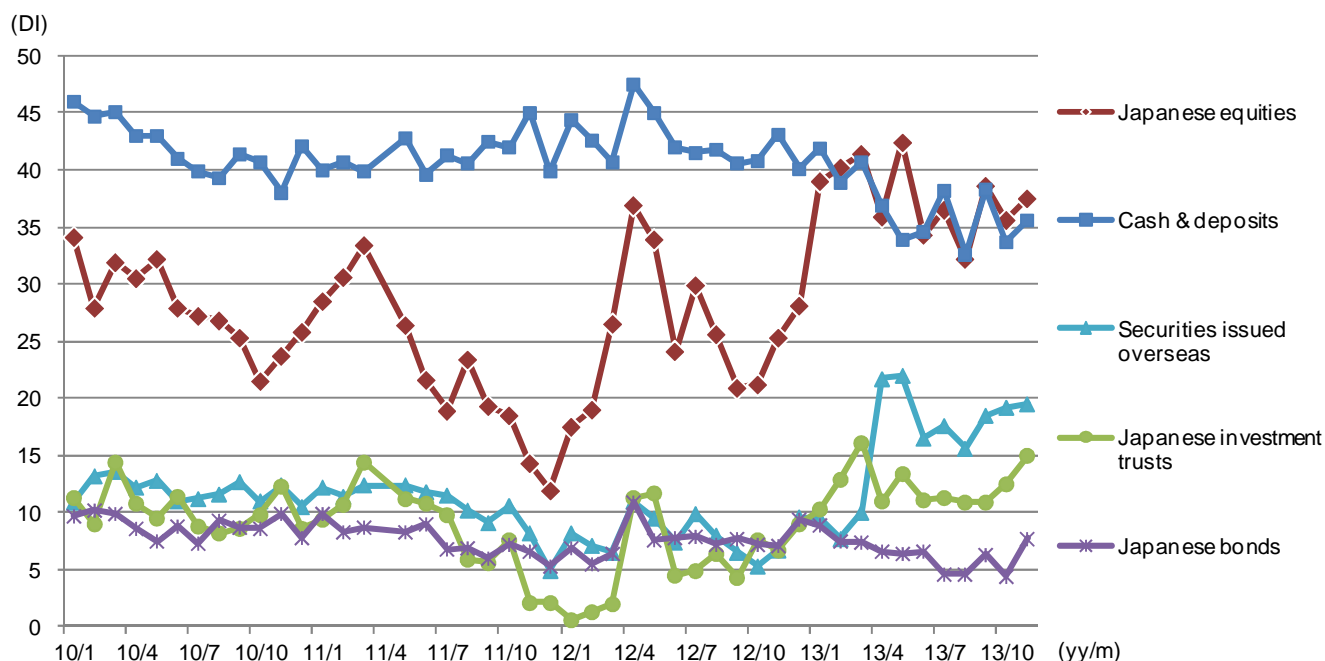
(7) Japanese equities remain the most appealing financial instrument

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. Japanese equities remained the most appealing financial instrument this month, with its DI rising 1.9pt m-m. The largest increase this month was for Japanese investment trusts, which rose 2.5pt m-m (Figures 11, 12).

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

Financial instrument	DI	Breakdown of DI (% of responses)		(Ref) Previous DI
		Plan to increase	Plan to decrease	
Japanese equities	37.5	50.2	12.7	35.6
Cash & deposits	35.6	39.4	3.8	33.7
Japanese investment trusts	15.0	20.2	5.2	12.5
Gold	9.3	10.2	0.9	8.6
Foreign equities	8.5	9.9	1.4	7.8
Japanese bonds	7.7	9.0	1.3	4.4
Foreign investment trusts	7.4	8.4	1.0	7.1
Foreign bonds	3.6	5.1	1.5	4.3
Hybrid securities	2.2	2.3	0.1	1.8
Other	1.4	1.5	0.1	0.8
None	-49.3	27.9	77.2	-45.5

Note: Respondents were given a selection of nine 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. Hybrid securities and gold were added to the list of choices from the February 2012 survey. From the April 2013 survey, we have divided the former category of "Securities issued overseas" into foreign equities, foreign investment trusts and foreign bonds.

Fig. 12: Trend in DIs for financial instruments in which investors are either seeking to increase or decrease their holdings

Note: "Securities issued overseas" is the total for foreign equities, foreign investment trusts and foreign bonds.

(8) Price outlook

Asked for their outlook for prices of regularly purchased goods and services one year out, 62.7% of respondents said they expected prices to rise (responses 5-7 in Figure 13), a decline of 5.4ppt from last month. "Rise of less than 2%" continued to have the highest response rate, at 34.9%. The response rate for "no change" rose 4.1ppt m-m, the largest increase among all the responses. In contrast, the largest fall in the response rate was for "rise of 2% up to 5%," which fell 4.2ppt m-m (Figure 13).

Fig. 13: Outlook for prices one year out

	Choices	% of responses	(Ref) Previous % of responses
1	Fall of 5% or more	5.8	4.8
2	Fall of 2% up to 5%	6.9	7.6
3	Fall of less than 2%	4.3	3.3
4	No change (0%)	20.3	16.2
5	Rise of less than 2%	34.9	34.3
6	Rise of 2% up to 5%	23.2	27.4
7	Rise of 5% or more	4.6	6.4
	Total	100	100

Note: Respondents were asked to select one response to the question: "How do you expect prices of regularly purchased goods and services to differ from current levels one year out?"

(9) Investment action after end of tax breaks on capital gains and dividends

For our spot question category this month, we made some changes to the questions we asked investors in August about the end of preferential tax treatment on capital gains and dividends. A combined total of 85.6% of respondents said they were either “fully aware” or “somewhat aware” of the end of this tax break, suggesting that most individual investors are up to speed on securities tax regulations (Figure 14). When asked what investment action they would take regarding equity holdings when the tax break comes to an end, the most popular response, selected by 68.9% of respondents, was “no plans to sell shares due to the end of tax breaks” (Figure 15). Of the respondents that said they might sell some or all of their shares before the end of the year, 82.9% responded that their decision “would depend on capital gains/losses and the market environment” (Figure 16). When we asked these respondents what level of share price appreciation above the purchase price would prompt them to sell, the most popular response, selected by 31.9%, was “10% or more but less than 20%” (Figure 17). Lastly, we asked investors about their intended uses of proceeds from sales of shareholdings. The most popular response, selected by 65.3% of respondents, was “invest in equities (or already invested in equities) using Nippon Individual Savings Accounts (NISA)” (Figure 18).

Fig. 14: Are you aware of the scheduled end of tax breaks on capital gains and dividends?

	Choices	% of responses
1	Fully aware	43.0
2	Somewhat aware	42.6
3	Not aware at all	14.4
	Total	100.0

Note: Investors were asked to select one of the above responses to the question: “The preferential tax rate of 10% on dividends and capital gains for listed stocks, etc, is due to expire at the end of December 2013 and revert to 20% from January 2014. Are you aware of this issue?”

Fig. 15: Investment action due to the end of tax breaks

	Choices	% of responses
1	Already sold some or all shares due to the end of tax breaks	5.4
2	Plan to sell some or all shares within the year due to the end of tax breaks	25.7
3	No plans to sell shares due to the end of tax breaks	68.9
	Total	100.0

Note: Investors were asked to select one of the above responses to the question: “Have you already sold or do you plan to sell your equity holdings within the year due to the end of the tax breaks?”

Fig. 16: Investment strategy if planning to sell shares before year-end

	Choices	No. of responses	% of responses
1	Would not depend on capital gains/losses and market environment	44	17.1
2	Would depend on capital gains/losses and market environment	213	82.9
	Total	257	100.0

Note: Investors who selected response 2 in Figure 15 were asked to select one of the above responses to the question: “Would your decision to sell shares before the year-end depend on likely capital gains/losses and the market environment at the time?”

Fig. 17: Level of gains that would prompt sale of shares

	Choices	No. of responses	% of responses
1	Less than 5%	24	11.3
2	5% or more but less than 10%	43	20.2
3	10% or more but less than 20%	68	31.9
4	20% or more but less than 30%	34	16.0
5	30% or more but less than 50%	26	12.2
6	50% or more but less than 100%	12	5.6
7	100% or more	6	2.8
	Total	213	100.0

Note: Investors who selected response 2 in Figure 16 were asked to select one of the above responses to the question: "What level of share price appreciation above the purchase price would prompt you to sell your shares?"

Fig. 18: Intended use of proceeds from sale of shareholdings

	Choices	No. of responses	% of responses
1	Invest in equities (or already invested in equities) using NISA	203	65.3
2	Invest in equities (or already invested in equities) but without using NISA	77	24.8
3	No intention to invest in equities	31	10.0
	Total	311	100.0

Note: Investors who selected response 1 or 2 in Figure 15 were asked to select one of the above responses to the question: "Do you intend to use the proceeds from the sale of shareholdings to invest in equities? If so, do you intend to use Nippon Individual Savings Accounts (NISA)?"

3. Nomura Individual Investor Survey

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

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

Survey target: 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 5 November with deadline for responses on 6 November.

Survey content: 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, (5) financial instruments for which investors plan to change their holdings, and (6) inflation outlook (since July 2013). Respondents are also asked spot questions each month and queries about their personal profiles.

4. Nomura Individual Investor Survey (November 2013) respondents

Gender: Male (79.0%), Female (21.0%)

Age: Under 30 (1.3%), 30–39 (11.8%), 40–49 (25.0%), 50–59 (32.4%), 60 and above (29.5%)

Occupation: Self-employed/fisheries, agriculture, forestry (8.3%), Professional (physician/medical professional, lawyer, etc) (2.2%), Company management/corporate officer (5.1%), Company employee/public servant (50.0%), Student (0.3%), Full-time homemaker (10.2%), Part-time worker/casual worker/job-hopper (5.3%), Unemployed/pensioner (16.8%), Other (1.8%)

Region: Kanto (43.8%), Kinki (22.1%), Tokai/Koshinetsu/Hokuriku (17.7%), Hokkaido/Tohoku (5.3%), Chugoku/Shikoku/Kyushu (11.1%)

Financial assets held: Less than ¥1,000,000 (5.8%), ¥1,000,000–¥2,999,999 (9.7%), ¥3,000,000–¥4,999,999 (11.7%), ¥5,000,000–¥9,999,999 (20.4%), ¥10,000,000–¥29,999,999 (28.6%), ¥30,000,000–¥49,999,999 (12.3%), ¥50,000,000 or more (11.5%)

Value of domestic stocks held: Less than ¥500,000 (13.3%), ¥500,000–¥999,999 (9.5%), ¥1,000,000–¥2,999,999 (24.7%), ¥3,000,000–¥4,999,999 (16.2%), ¥5,000,000–¥9,999,999 (17.1%), ¥10,000,000–¥29,999,999 (14.3%), ¥30,000,000 or more (4.9%)

Investment experience: Less than three years (4.1%), Three years to less than five years (10.6%), Five years to less than 10 years (25.5%), 10 years to less than 20 years (32.8%), 20 years or more (27.0%)

Investment plan for domestic stocks: Mainly for long-term holding (43.0%), Pursuit of gains from short-term appreciation (15.8%), Pursuit of dividends and shareholder perks (25.3%), No particular plan (15.9%)

Notice

The next Nomura Individual Investor Survey (December 2013) is scheduled for release on Thursday, 12 December 2013.

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

Important Disclosures

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STOCKS

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SECTORS

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STOCKS

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