# China Macro Economy and Equity Market Outlook for Q1 2023

February 2023

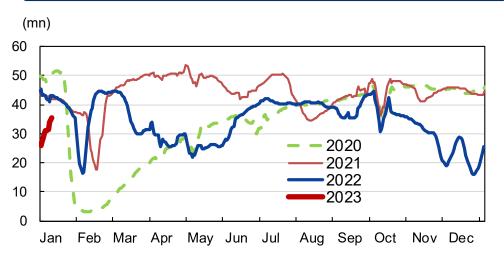
Macro economy	Page 2
Bottoming out Traffic	
2. Service Inflation to Accelerate	
3. CNY to Appreciate	
4. Macro Economy Outlook	
Market Outlook	Page 6
1. Market outlook	
2. Earnings	
3. Valuation	
4. Liquidity	
Key Monitoring Points	Page 10
1. Supportive Policies	
2. Earnings Revision after Reopening	
3. Property Market Transaction	



# **Quarter's Highlight: Bottoming Out Traffic**

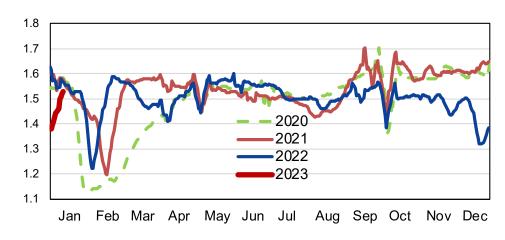
■ After the abolishment of Zero-Corona Policy, <u>city traffic is bottoming out</u>.

#### Subway Passenger Volume (Top 10 Cities\*) (7DMA\*\*)



(Source: Wind, SMDAM) (As of 12th January, 2023)

#### Traffic Congestion Index\*\*\*: 99 Cities (7DMA)



(Source: Wind, SMDAM) (As of 12th January, 2023)

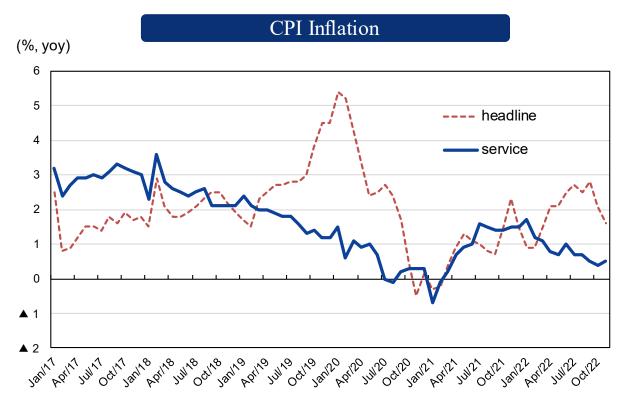
<sup>\*</sup> Top 10 Cities: Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Chengdu, Nanjing, Wuhan, Xian, Suzhou, Zhengzhou, Chongqing

<sup>\*\* 7</sup>DMA: 7 days moving average

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Urban citizens' actual travel time per trip divided by travel time at free-flow status with no traffic. The higher the index, the more time people spend due to traffic delay.

## **Quarter's Highlight: Service Inflation to Accelerate**

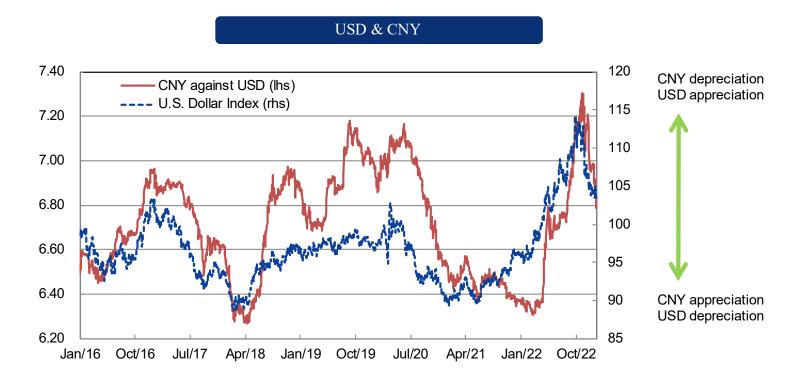
- Zero-corona policy had caused service inflation to decelerate.
- Service inflation should accelerate after the zero-corona policy was lifted.
- Higher inflation should cause a positive factor for nominal GDP outlook



(Source: CEIC, SMDAM) (As of 10th January, 2023)

# **Quarter's Highlight: CNY to Appreciate**

- Given softening USD trend, <u>CNY is likely to appreciate</u> against USD.
- Capital inflow into China should support CNY's appreciation scenario



(Source: CEIC, SMDAM) (As of 10th January, 2023)

## **China Economic Outlook**

- Without zero-corona policy, <u>our economic growth forecast is higher than consensus</u>.
- Consumption rebound should lead the economy.
- We expect <u>one-time rate cut in late</u> Mar 2023.
- Given softening USD trend, we expect CNY to appreciate against USD further

#### China Economic Outlook

	2021	2022	2023	2024	1Q22	2Q22	3Q22	4Q22	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23	1Q24	2Q24	3Q24	4Q24
	2021	2022	(F)	(F)	. 422		JUL	. 422	(F)							
Real GDP (%)	8.4	3.0	5.3	5.2	4.8	0.4	3.9	2.9	2.5	6.2	5.9	6.2	6.2	5.1	4.9	4.9
Consumption	10.0	1.9	7.5	7.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Investment	2.7	3.8	4.5	4.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Net exports (contribution)	1.7	0.5	-0.5	-0.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nominal GDP (%)	13.4	5.3	7.3	7.2	8.9	3.9	6.1	3.5	4.1	8.2	8.0	8.5	8.4	7.1	6.7	6.8
GDP deflator (%)	4.8	2.4	2.0	2.0	4.0	3.5	2.1	0.2	1.6	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.9
Industrial production (%)	9.6	3.6	4.9	5.0	6.5	0.7	4.8	2.7	1.8	6.0	5.5	6.1	5.8	4.8	4.7	4.7
PPI (%)	8.1	4.1	0.9	0.9	8.7	6.9	2.5	-1.1	0.2	8.0	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.7
CPI (%)	0.9	2.0	2.4	2.2	1.1	2.3	2.7	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.0
7 days reverse repo (%)	2.20	2.00	1.90	1.90	2.10	2.10	2.00	2.00	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90
1Y money lending facility (%)	2.95	2.75	2.65	2.65	2.85	2.85	2.75	2.75	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65
USD/CNY	6.36	6.90	6.40	6.20	6.35	6.70	7.12	6.90	6.70	6.60	6.50	6.40	6.35	6.30	6.25	6.20

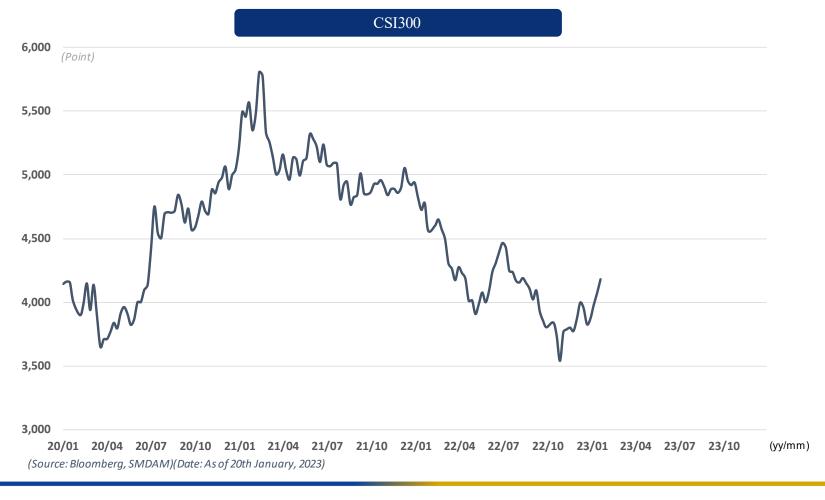
Conse	nsus
2023	3 2024
5.1	5.0
N/A	NA
N/A	NA
N/	NA
N/	NA
N/A	NA
5.0	4.9
0.6	3 1.7
2.3	3 2.2
2.00	2.00
2.75	2.75
6.70	6.50

(Source: CEIC, SMDAM) (As of 20th January, 2023)

(note) Interest rates & foreign exchange rates are the ones at end of period. Other indicators are year-on-year growth rate.

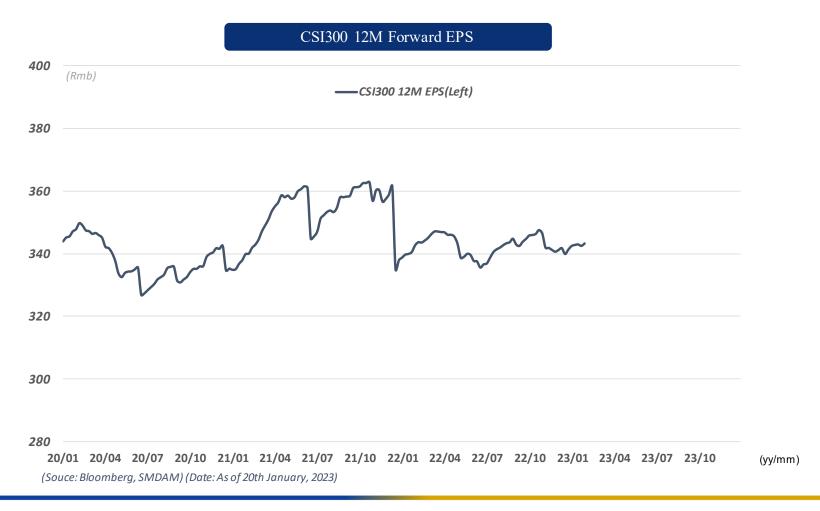
# **Outlook for China A-Share Equity Market (CSI300)**

- (A) Strict COVID control and (B) Lackluster property market dampened CSI300 in 2022.
- Our base case assumes a <u>market recovery in 12 months timeframe</u> supported by improving earnings growth.



## 12 months forward EPS forecast for CSI300

- Chinese Corporate Earnings remained under pressure throughout 2022.
- Due to low base and COVID policy adjustment, <u>higher growth is estimated</u> for 2023.



# **Earnings multiples\* for CSI300**

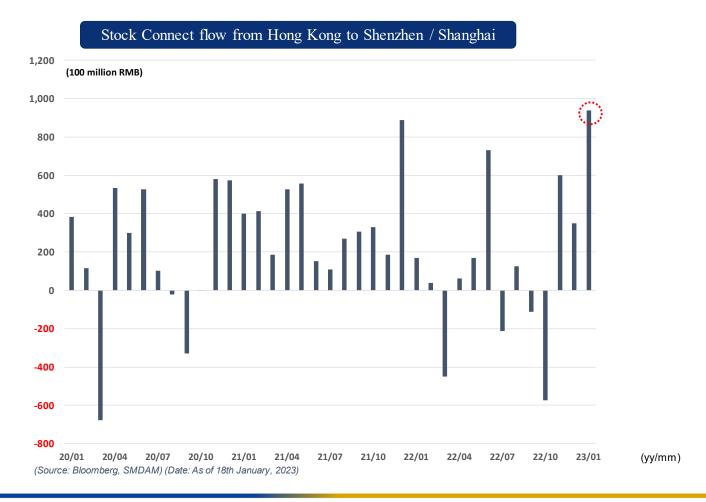
\* Price-to-earnings ratio based on 12 month forward EPS

- 12 months forward PER stands at 12.2 times, which is almost in line with long term average.
- We expect there still remains <u>upside for multiples</u> given clearer economic growth outlook going forward.



## **Stock Connect**

- Stock Connect flow in recent months saw <u>inflow toward</u> Mainland China Market.
- Market sentiment has turned positive due to <u>abolishment of Zero-corona Policy</u> and <u>improving economic outlook</u>.



# **Monitoring Point: Policy Support**

Various policy supports play pivotal roles for strong economic recovery.

Policy Supports Announced in January 2023

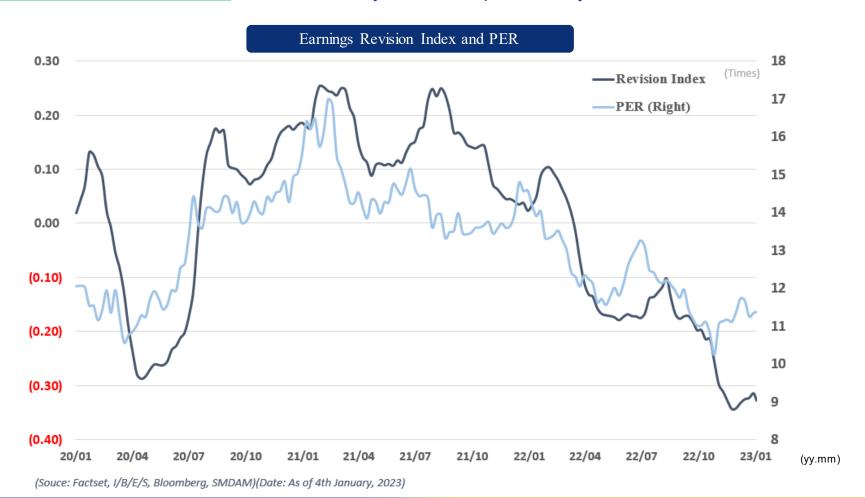
Category	Contents
Property	Bloomberg reported that China is planning to relax restrictions on borrowing for property developers.
Property	PBOC announced to relax [Three Red Line Policy] in the property sector.
Property	Vice Premier Liu He stated in the World Economic Forum that Property Sector is the pillar for the economic growth.
Internet	China Video Game Regulator granted 88 online publishing licenses, including titles belonging to Tencent and NetEase.
Fiscal Stimulus	China is reportedly considering record local debt quota and wider budget deficit
Tax Cut	Ministry of Finance reduces Value Added Tax Rate applicable to small businesses

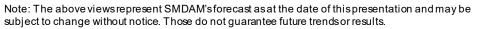
(Source: Bloomberg, Reuters, Nikkei, China Daily, SMDAM)

# **Monitoring Point: Earnings revision index\* for CSI300**

Earnings Revision index is one of the key factors for valuation

- \* (Number of upw ard revisions dow nw ard revisions)/ Number of revisions with earnings forecast
- <u>Improvement of Revision index</u> should be the key for the multiple recovery



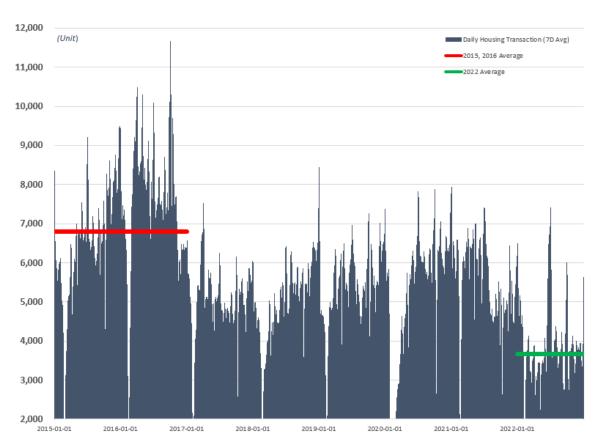




# **Monitoring Point: Property Market**

■ Once buyer's sentiment recovers, investor sentiment would be boosted.

### Daily New Home Transaction (7 Days Average)



(Source: Wind) (Date: As of 31st December, 2022)

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