

# Japan Economy 2023 and the Investment Opportunities

**TOKIO MARINE** 

**ASSET MGT** 

February 2023

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# Tokio Marine Asset Management (TMAM)

## Leading Japan specialist manager with over 30-years' history

TMAM is the investment management arm of Tokio Marine Holdings (Tokyo Stock Exchange: 8766)

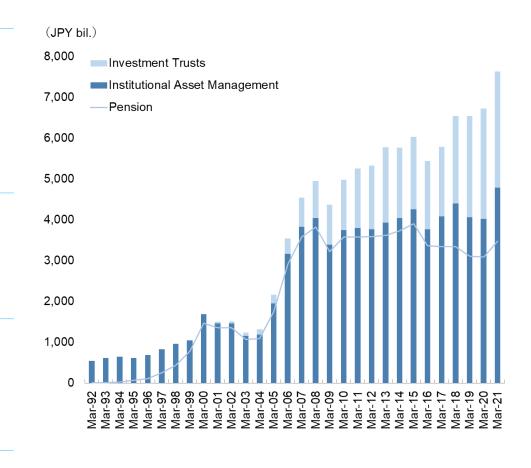
One of the largest investment managers in Japan

- 392 employees including 122 investment professionals
- USD 67.2 billion in AUM
- 373 institutional mandates

#### Strong local presence

- Investment teams based in Tokyo and Singapore
- Offices in London and New York

TMAM has an established history of 30+ years in providing award-winning fund management to pension funds, financial institutions and sovereign wealth funds around the world.

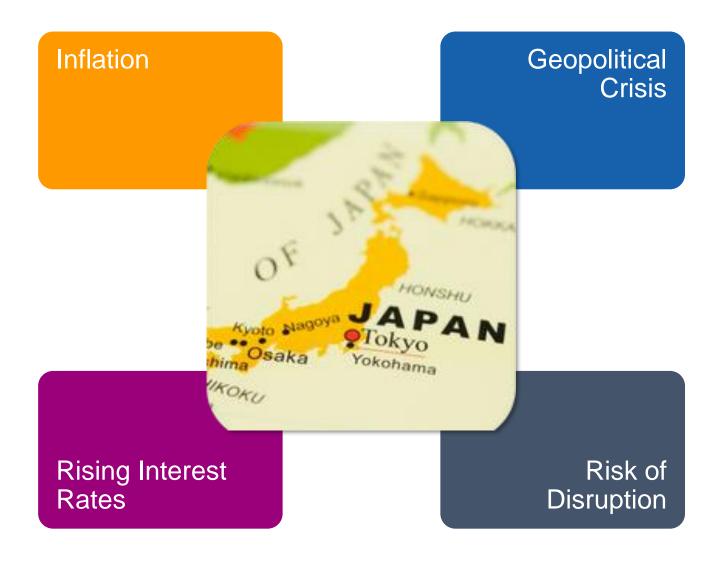


# Macro Outlook



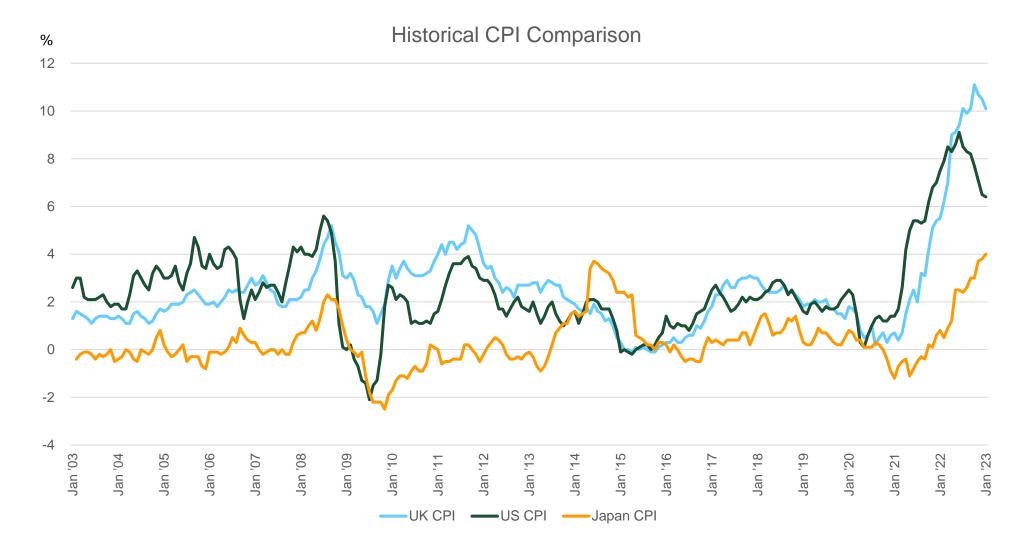
# What keeps us awake at night?

And how does Japan fit into the big picture?



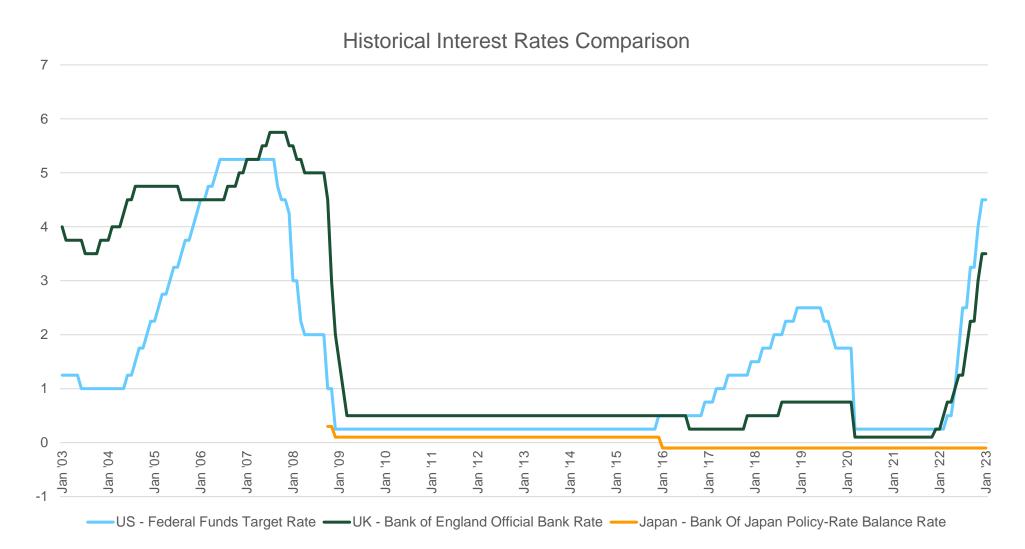
# Inflation

## Where do we stand and where (does it looks like) we are headed?



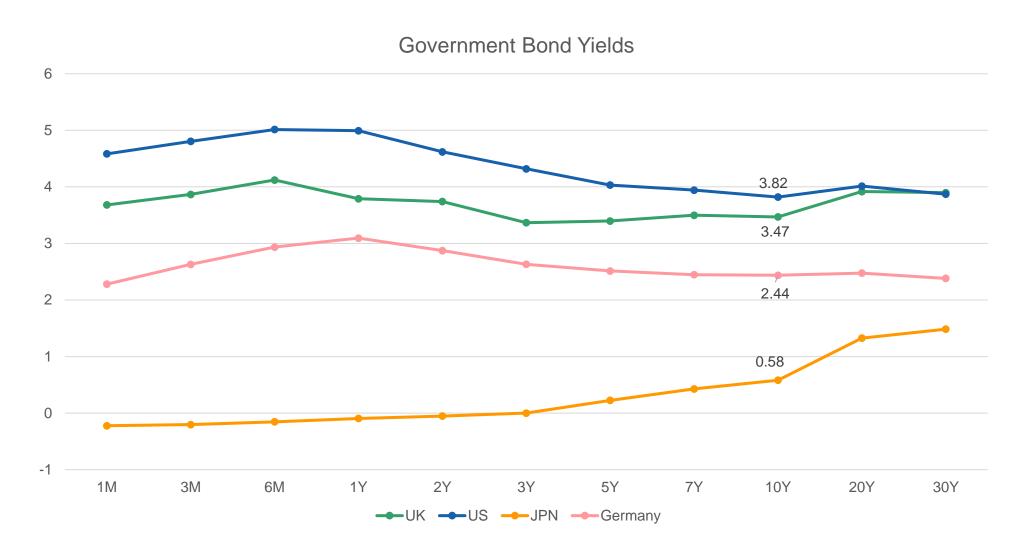
## **Interest Rates**

## Where do we stand and where (does it looks like) we are headed?



# JGB yields in global context

## Short-to-medium term government bond yields remain comparatively low



Source: Bloomberg, as of 20 January 2023

# **Geopolitical Crisis**

War in Ukraine caused disruptions globally. And brought Taiwan into sharp focus

### Ukraine

- How much longer is the war to go on?
- What are the implications for inflation?
- How likely is a global escalation?

### Taiwan

- How likely is China to take military action?
- What is the impact on the semiconductors supply?
- Further stress in the global supply chains?



# Japan and its equity markets

## Big and stable economy with deep stock markets

## Japan's Economy

- Big
- Stable
- Low growth

- 3<sup>rd</sup> biggest economy by GDP
- Less volatile during crises
- Not a high growth economy

## Japan's Equity Markets

- Big & deep
- Diverse
- Both global & local

- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest single-country market
- ⊕ About 4,000 names
- Mix of all sized local and global players

# Economy in a different phase from others

Japan is a different type of economy in a different stage of the cycle

Steady	Slow, steady recovery due to conservative reopening policy, structural impact of sacrificing growth to minimise downside
Different	Different from other economies – so is BOJ's monetary policy
Facing risks	Inflation, global recession, Covid, are all tangible risks
Multi-pronged	Consumption, capital expenditure and exports to support economy

Source: Cabinet Office, TMAM

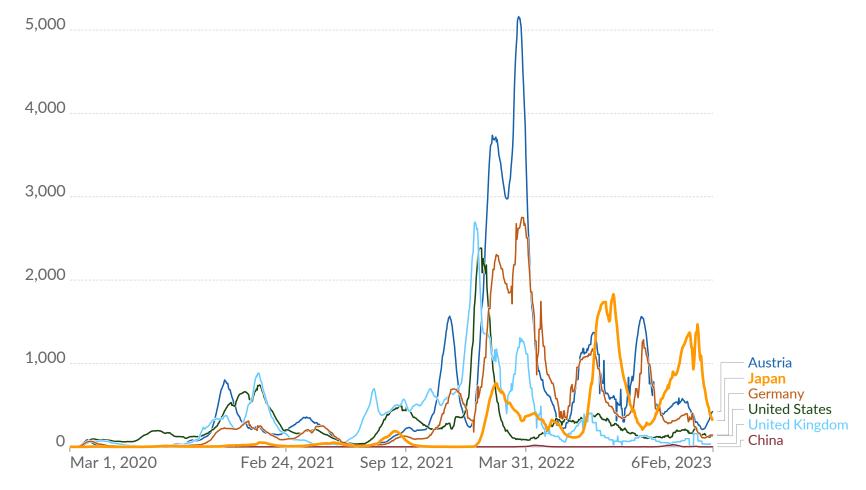
# Covid situation in Japan

## Upswing in infections following removal of restrictions is coming to an end

## Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases per million people



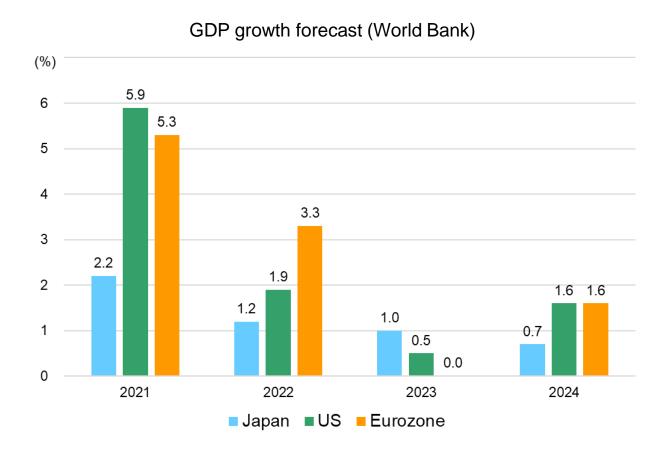
7-day rolling average. Due to limited testing, the number of confirmed cases is lower than the true number of infections.



Source: Johns Hopkins University CSSE COVID-19 Data

# Economy in a different phase from others

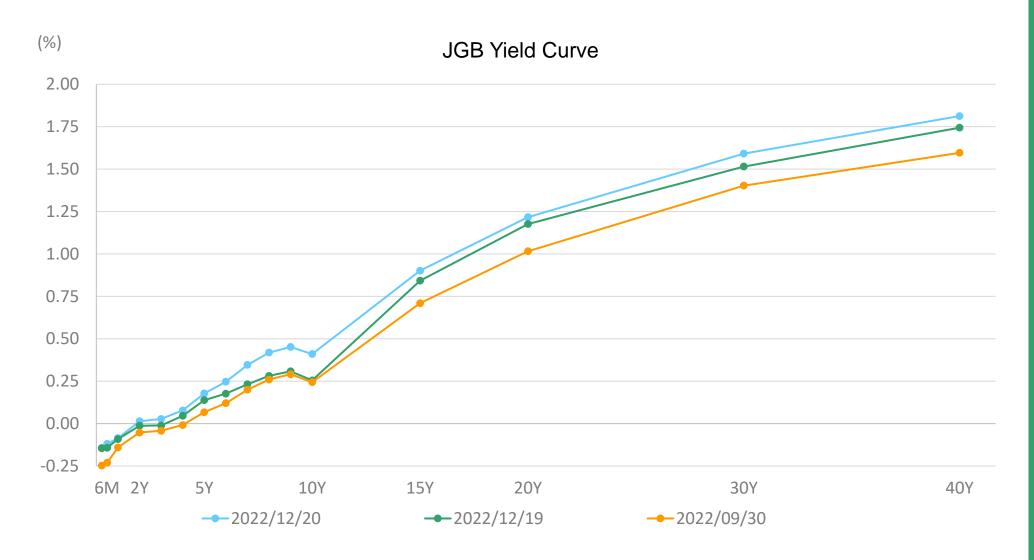
## Perhaps less upside, but much less downside as well



Source: OECD

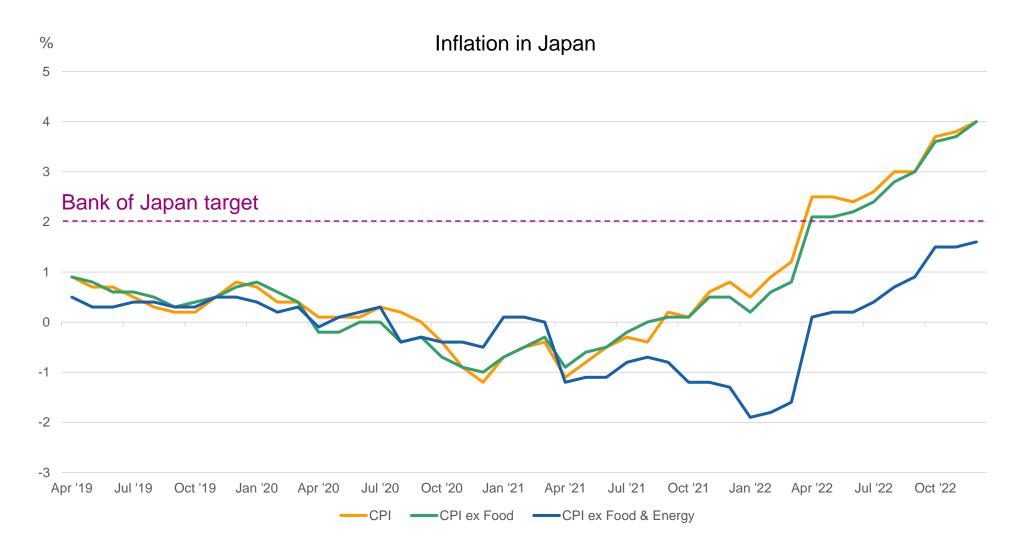
# Changes in monetary policy

BoJ eased yield curve control, which were already increasing; pressure on yen eased



## Inflation

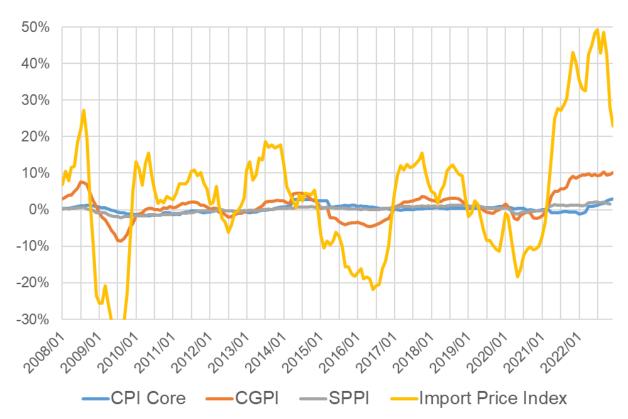
## Japan is not immune from inflationary pressures, but core CPI is still below 2%



# Input price hikes tell a complex story

- Import prices and CGPI\* skyrocketing since the beginning of 2022 but peak has passed
- CPI growth diluted by labour costs and profits
- SPPI\*\* growth also modest given major labour component

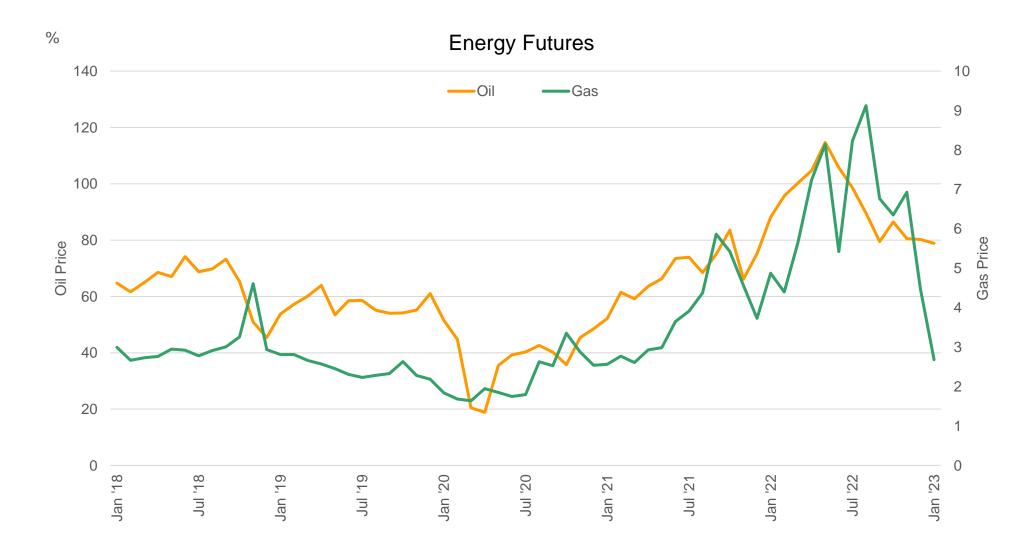




Source: Bank of Japan, FactSet. \*CGPI: Corporate Goods Price Index. \*\*SPPI: Service Producer Price Index.

# **Energy Prices**

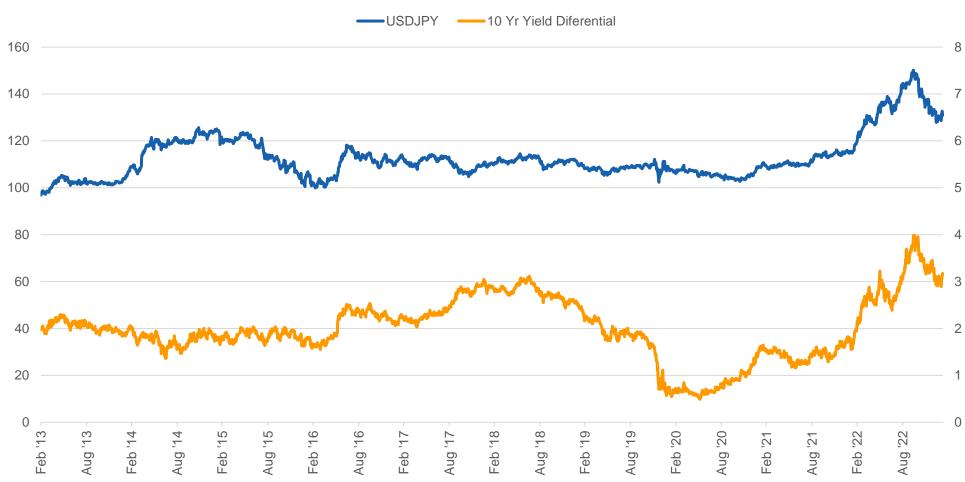
## Both oil and gas prices have peaked, this should reduce cost-push inflation



# Japanese yen weakness

## Interest rates/yield differential is a primary driver of USDJPY rate





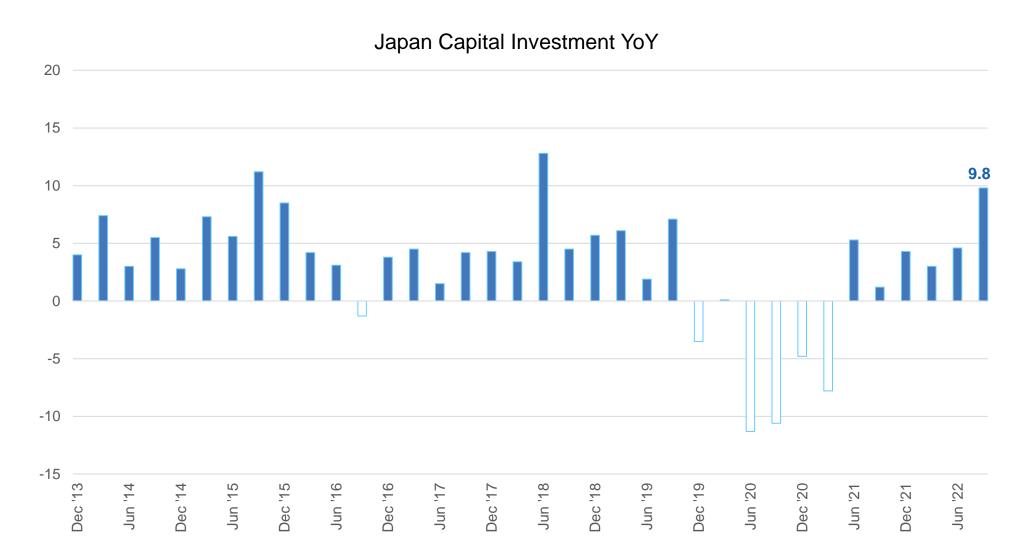
# Wages - finally increasing

## The big shift everyone was hoping for might already be here



# **Capital Investment**

## A rebound is under way



# Japan Equity Markets



# Opportunity Set

Short-term: mixed with some potential left in the re-opening story

Long-term: fundamental shift to a more inflationary environment

#### **SHORT TERM**

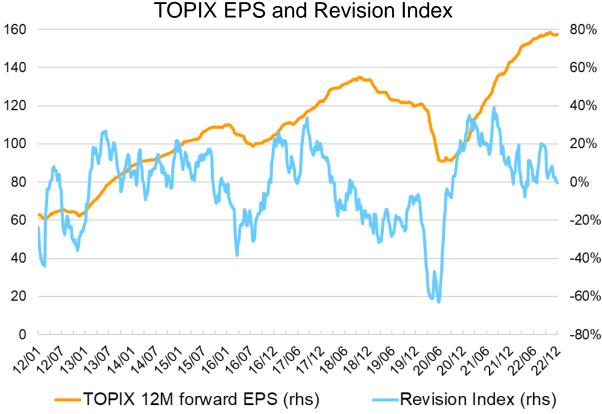
- Some upside left from the post-Covid reopening in domestic travel and retail sales.
- China's transition from zero-Covid towards a significant upside for tourismrelated sectors.
- Increased input costs will continue to put pressure on margins but are expected to ease.
- Value is a significant factor behind market performance pattern, but unlikely to persist.

#### **LONG TERM**

- Fundamental shift from deflationary to (low) inflationary environment.
- Wages are finally starting to pick up, both on the back of inflation and higher labour mobility.
- Investment into IT and human capital likely to pay off in the long run.

## Steady corporate profits

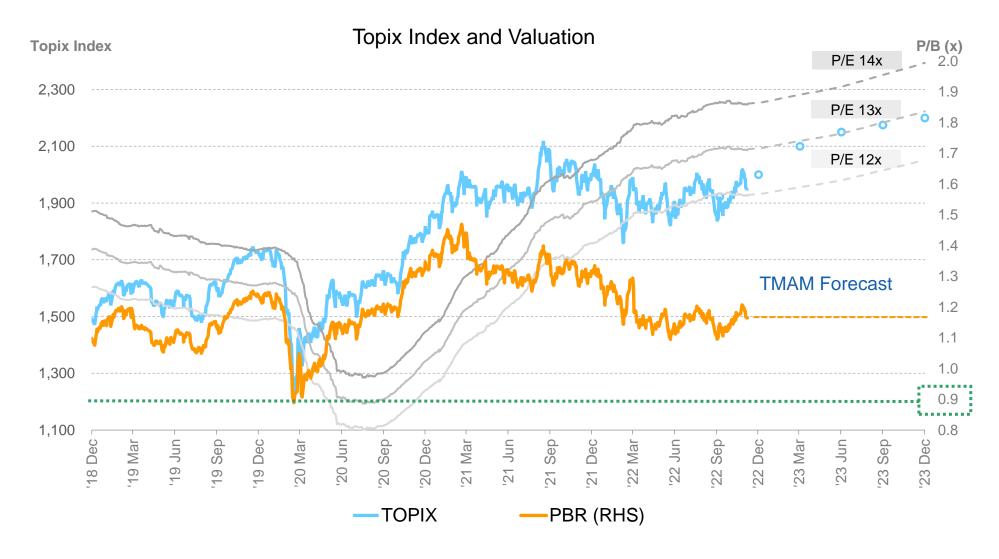
- Revenues up but profits slower as firms absorb rising input costs
- Terms of trade push corporate profits down with one year lag, but will improve in 2023
- FY2022: Steady earnings growth underpinned by weak yen and domestic demand recovery as the economy reopens
- FY2023: Single digit growth starting with conservative company estimates in Q2



Source: FactSet. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. The value of investments can go down as well as up and you may not get back what you invested.

# Equity markets outlook

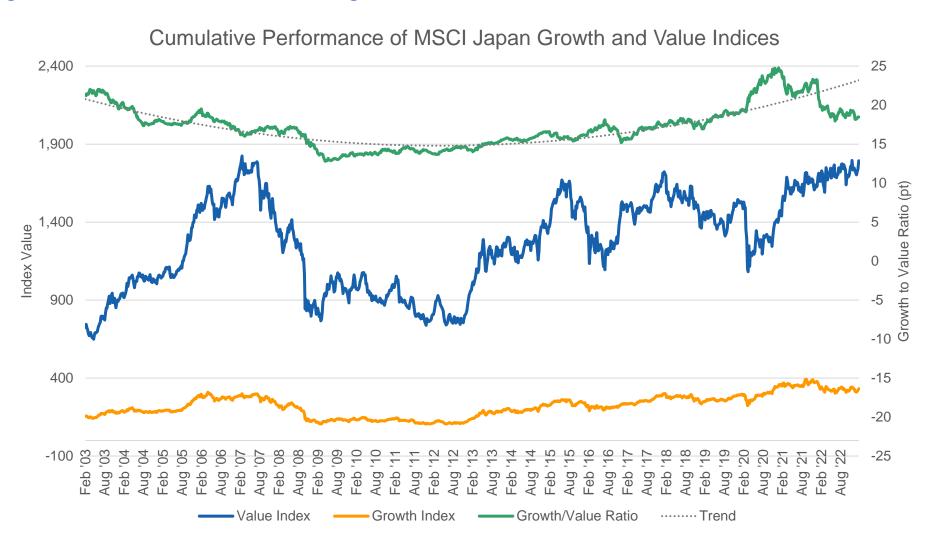
## We expect a gradual recovery



Source: TMAM. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. The value of investments can go down as well as up and you may not get back what you invested.

# Growth/Value Dynamics

## Significant dislocation from the long-term historical trend

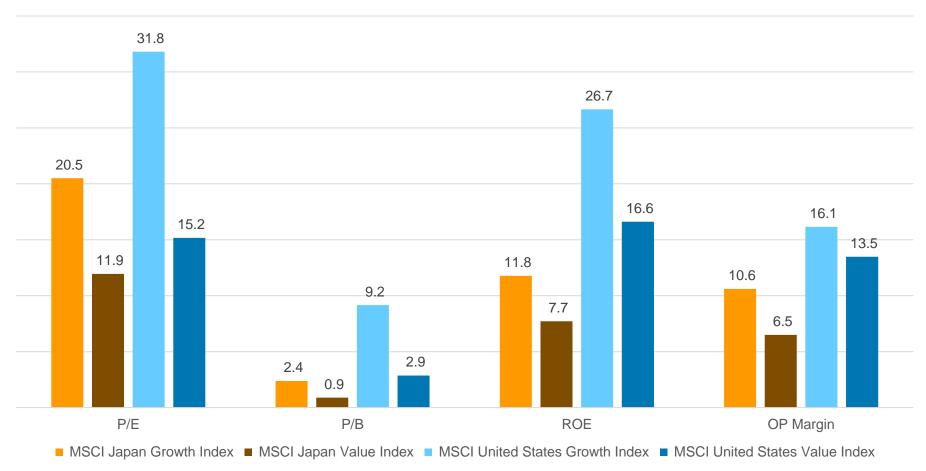


Source: Bloomberg. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. The value of investments can go down as well as up and you may not get back what you invested.

# **Comparative Valuations**

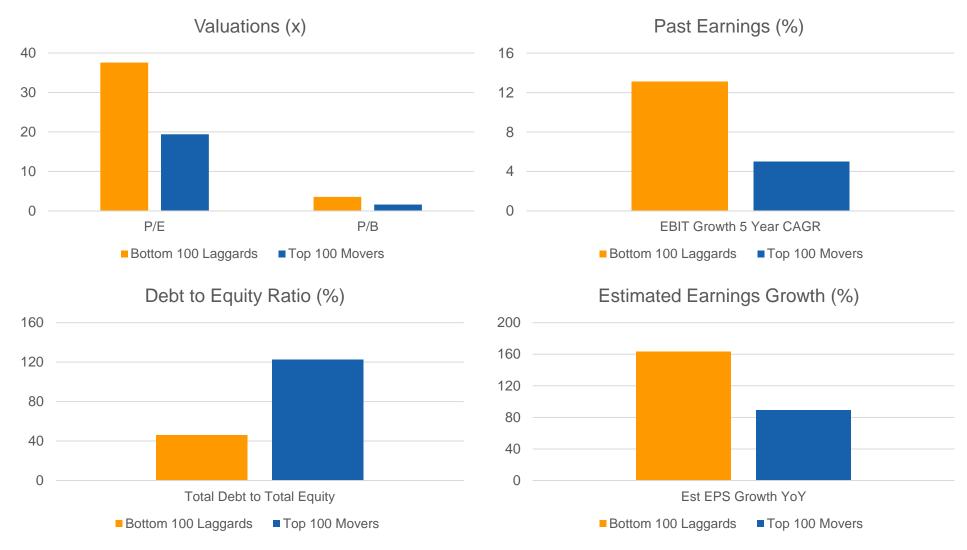
## Japan's growth stocks look resemble US value stocks, labels are misleading

### Valuation Multiples and Profitability - Growth & Value in US & Japan



# Anatomy of a value factor driven market

## Japan's stock market was mainly driven by poor quality names in 2022



# **Investment Opportunities**



# Japan equity product offering

Different concentration/market cap focus, but same active growth philosophy

	Style	Approach	Market Cap	Concentration
Focus	active growth at reasonable price	bottom-up stock picking	all cap	high (30-40 names)*
Small Cap	active growth at reasonable price	bottom-up stock picking	small cap	medium (50-60 names)*

<sup>\*</sup> typical range

# Japanese Equity Team Structure – 1 October 2022

Chief Investment Officer: Nobuki Goto, CMA (30/32)								
Head of Equity: Yoshihisa Nakagawa, CMA, CIIA (32/32)								
Portfolio Management Team (24/16)			Investment Research Team		m	(13/9)		
	7 Portfolio Managers		14 Analysts		Basic Industry	IT	Financial & Services	Social Infrastructure
	Yoshihisa Nakagawa, CMA, C Chief Portfolio Manager	CIIA (32/32)	Yoshimasa Ikazaki, CMA Head of Investment Research Financial & Services Team Lead	<b>(23/9)</b> der			Retail	
GARP	Koji Hashizume, CMA (31/14) Deputy Portfolio Manager	(31/14)	Akio Otani, CMA IT Team Leader	(22/22)		Technology, Media and Telecoms		
Strategy			Hiroyuki Natsume, CMA Basic Industry Team Leader	(21/21)	Autos			
		(16/16)	Shunsuke Bando, CFA, CMA Social Infrastructure Team Lead	<b>(9/5)</b> ler			Services	Construction/ real estate
			You Mizuno, CFA, CMA	(28/11)			Healthcare	
Focus	Shinji Watanabe, CMA Chief Portfolio Manager	(12/3)	Takeru Asano, CMA	(23/21)	Machinery			Utilities
Strategy			Tetsushi Wakayama, CMA	(16/16)			Banking	
Small Cap	Taku Yoshida, CMA Chief Portfolio Manager	(23/6)	Shun Nemoto, CFA, CMA	(8/1)		Consumer electronics		
Strategy			Daisuke Kosugi	(7/1)			Foods	
O,			Nozomi Kokubun, CFA, CMA	(14/4)			Financials	
Kenichi Hiramatsu, CFA, CMA (29/21) Portfolio Manager		Masanori Yagura, CMA	(5/5)		Industrial electronics, Components			
Takuya Yamanaka, CMA (30/18)		40.044.01	Naoki Mushiake	(3/5)	Materials			
		(30/18)	Justin Cho	(2/3)				Transport
Portfolio Manag	ger		Sayuri Ishii, CMA	(1/8)			Household	
	2 Economists		4 Quantitative Analy	ysts		4 Traders	5	

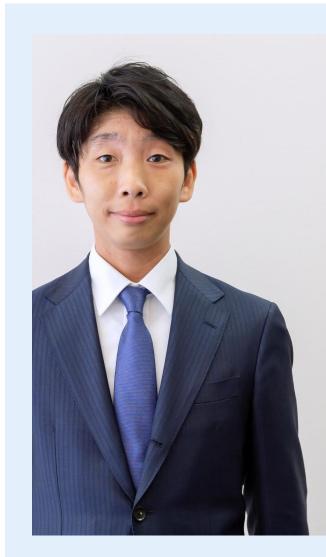
As at 1 October 2022. (#/#) = (Years of investment experience/ Years with TMAM). Figures rounded to the nearest year; <6 months shown as 1 year. CMA: Chartered Member of the Securities Analysts Association of Japan. CIIA: Certified International Investment Analyst.

# Focus Fund Overview

Fund Name	Tokio Marine Japanese Equity Focus Fund	
Benchmark	TOPIX Total Return Index	
Tracking Error	4 – 10% (ex-ante)	
Stock Holdings	20 – 40	
Inception Date	30 January 2018	
AUM	approx. USD 202mn as at Dec-end 2022	

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# Chief Portfolio Manager



## Shinji Watanabe, CMA

Shinji joined the firm in November 2019. Prior to being appointed Chief Portfolio Manager of the Japanese Equity Focus Strategy on 1 June 2021, he served as Chief Portfolio Manager of the GARP Target Alpha Strategy in conjunction with his role as Deputy Portfolio Manager of the Japanese Equity Owners Strategy.

His prior experience includes positions at a number of SBI Holdings Group companies, spending three years as a small cap growth equity analyst at SBI Asset Management before leaving to start a financial information website company. He subsequently joined T&D Asset Management in 2014 as an equity analyst covering a wide range of sectors, becoming a portfolio manager in April 2018.

Shinji obtained a BA in Business Administration from Kobe University and is a CMA charterholder.

• CMA: Chartered Member of the Securities Analysts Association of Japan.

# What makes up the Focus portfolio?

### We separate 'growth' stocks into two categories

Core Growth: Higher quality companies on a sustainable earnings growth trend

Secular Growth



Growth Trend

Companies benefitting from structural trends, where we can expect significant earnings upside over the mid-to-long term Steady Growth



Earnings
Growth Trend

Companies where we can expect stable earnings growth owing to a competitive advantage in terms of business model, service or products

Cyclical Growth



Earnings Growth Trend

Companies that exhibit fluctuations in earnings growth due to varying economic conditions but achieve higher earnings over time



Transformational Growth: Companies undergoing a transformation that lifts earnings growth prospects

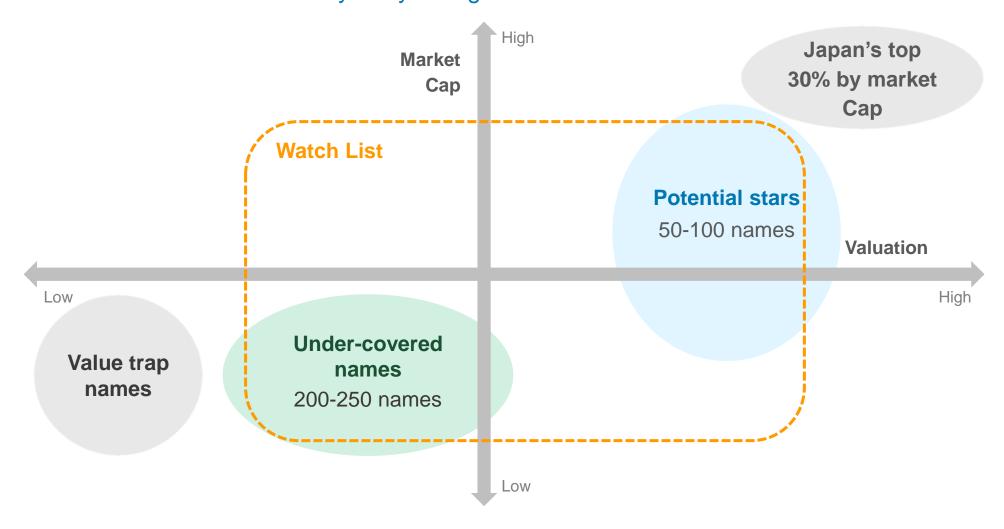
- Change in management or business strategy
- Restructuring of business, e.g. spin offs
- Consolidation or expansion strategy through M&A, etc.



## Investable universe

**Under-covered:** Search for hidden innovators with low coverage

Potential stars: Identify entry timing



# **Fund Overview**

Fund Name	Tokio Marine Japanese Equity Small Cap Fund	
Benchmark	Russell/Nomura Small Cap Total Return Index	
Tracking Error	4 – 10% ex-ante	
Stock Holdings	40 – 80	
Inception Date	30 January 2018	
Fund AUM	USD24 million (as at September-end 2022)	

# Chief Portfolio Manager



Taku Yoshida, CMA\*/CIIA\*\*
Tokio Marine Asset Management Co., Ltd. (TMAM)

Mr Yoshida has been Portfolio Manager of the Japanese Equity Small Cap Strategy since its inception in January 2018. He joined Tokio Marine Asset Management Co., Ltd. in 2016 as Senior Research Analyst and Senior Portfolio Manager.

Mr Yoshida started his career in 1998 at Toyo Trust Bank. In 2001, he joined T&D Asset Management (formerly T&D Taiyo Daido Asset Management) as mid-small cap research analyst. Then utilising his analytical skills and knowledge of companies in equity research, he had worked as fund manager at T&D Asset Management for 6 years since 2010.

Mr Yoshida obtained a BA in Commerce from Otaru University of Commerce and is a CMA charterholder.

- \* Chartered Member of the Securities Analysts Association of Japan
- \*\* Certified International Investment Analyst

## **Contact Information**

Contact Information for non-EEA Investors. For further information, please contact Tokio Marine Asset Management (London) Limited.



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For further information, please contact Bridge
Fund Management Limited.



Authorised and Regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland Tel: + 353 (0) 1 566 9806 (calls may be recorded) Business Development:TokioMarineFundsplc@Bridgeconsulting.ie

#### Information for all investors:

The Fund is a sub-fund of Tokio Marine Funds Plc ("TMF"), an open-ended umbrella investment company in Ireland.

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In addition, a summary of investor rights is available from <a href="https://bridgeconsulting.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Shareholder-Rights-for-UCITS">https://bridgeconsulting.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Shareholder-Rights-for-UCITS</a> -Clean Bridge-Website.pdf. The summary is available in English.

#### Additional information for investors in the UK:

The Fund is recognised for sale in the UK based under the temporary marketing permissions regime established by the UK government. Some share classes may not be available for public sale, and additional restrictions may apply. The TMF may decide to terminate the arrangement made for marketing in the UK in accordance with the relevant regulations.

#### Additional information for investors in the EEA:

The Fund is currently registered for sale in Austria, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, and Spain. Some share classes may not be available for public sale in certain jurisdictions, and additional restrictions may apply. The TMF may decide to terminate the arrangement made for marketing in such jurisdictions in accordance with relevant regulations. In such circumstances, Shareholders in the affected EEA Member State will be notified of this decision and will be provided with the opportunity to redeem their shareholding in the Fund free of any charges or deductions for at least 30 working days from the date of such notification.

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#### Additional information for investors in Germany:

Zeidler Legal Process Outsourcing Ltd with address at Suite 103, South Point, Herbert House, Harmony Row, Grand Canal Dock Dublin 2, Ireland ("Zeidler") has been engaged by TMF to provide facilities as per Article 92 (1) b) - f) of Directive 2009/65/EC (as amended by Article 1 of Directive (EU) 2019/1160).

The basic documents of the Fund, including the prospectus (in English) and the KIIDs (in German), may be obtained free of charge electronically via email from <a href="mailto:facilities\_agent@zeidlerlegalservices.com">facilities\_agent@zeidlerlegalservices.com</a>.

#### Additional information for investors in Switzerland:

This is an advertising document. In Switzerland, the representative is ACOLIN Fund Services AG, Leutschenbachstrasse 50, CH-8050 Zurich, whilst the paying agent is NPB Neue Privat Bank AG, located at Limmatquai 1 / am Bellevue, P.O.Box, CH-8024 Zurich. The prospectus, the Key Investor Information Documents, the memorandum and articles of association as well as the annual and semi-annual reports may be obtained free of charge from the representative. The performance data do not take account of the commissions and costs incurred on the issue and redemption of shares.

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TMF has not been registered as a foreign collective investment scheme in terms of section 65 of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act, 45 of 2002. Furthermore, TMAM London has not been authorised as a financial services provider in terms of the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act 37 of 2002.

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