

Banks - China

Weekly wrap: more monetary and property easing, solid FY23 bank preliminary results

Industry Overview

Sector performance: banks rebounded amid risk-on

H-share bank sector rebounded 6.5% WoW (vs MSCI China/HSI +4.5%/+4.2%), driven by more government supports to economy, property, and stock market. CMB (+15.1%) and PSBC (+9.6%) led in the risk-on trade and partly due to short-covering, while BOC (+3.1%) lagged. Sector P/B: 0.36x. P/E: 3.5x. dividend yield: 8.9%. A-share bank sector rose 5.2% (vs CSI300 +2.0%). BONB (+9.2%) led, though northbound investors were still selling. BOJS (+2.0%) lagged. Sector P/B: 0.51x, P/E: 4.9x, dividend yield: 6.1%.

Sector update: More easing, solid FY23 bank pre-results

Monetary easing: PBOC announced a 50bp RRR cut on Jan 24, effective Feb 5, which will release RMB1tn long-term liquidity. The 50bp cut was larger than expected vs only 25bp each in the previous four cuts. PBOC also stated to cut the relending & rediscount rates for supporting agriculture & SMEs by 25bp to 1.75%, effective Jan 25, which along with the aforementioned RRR cut and major banks' deposit pricing cuts in 4023 should help drive the LPR lower. Our China Economic Team now expects 15bp LPR cut in 1Q24 and another 30bp LPR cut for rest of the year. In our recent bank management calls (see takeaways), CCB indicated it expects an LPR cut soon in Feb or Mar, while BOC said it already expected at least two LPR cuts before recent monetary easing.

Property easing: property development loans declined 2.2% QoQ or rose 1.5% YoY to RMB12.9tn in 4Q23, while mortgage loans declined 0.7% QoQ/1.6% YoY to RMB38.17tn in 4023, the third quarterly decline in a row. China further stepped up policy supports to the property market, including relaxation on commercial property operating loans (allowed for debt repayment), property financing coordination mechanism (white list for home projects) and more proactive relaxation by local government (e.g., Guangzhou).

Banking sector FY23 preliminary results: NFRA disclosed that banks' net profit grew 3.24% YoY to RMB2.38tn in FY23 (up from the 1.6% YoY growth in 9M23). Banking financial institutions' NPL ratio fell 3bp QoQ/9bp YoY to 1.62%, >90day overdue/NPLs fell 3.3ppt QoQ to 84.2%, and NPL coverage ratio fell 2.8ppt QoQ/0.8ppt YoY to 205.1%. Banks disposed RMB3tn non-performing assets in FY23, similar to RMB3-3.1tn p.a. in FY20-22. Banks' CET1 ratio was 10.5% on average, of which, big banks' was 11.7%.

Bank specific: BOC TLAC, CNCB pre-guidance, Asia II Calls

BOC announced the plan to issue ≤RMB150bn TLAC bonds either onshore or offshore, with tenor no less than 1 year. CNCB pre-guided FY23 results: revenue declined 2.6% YoY and net profit rose 7.9% YoY in FY23, vs -2.6%/+9.2% YoY in 9M23, largely in line with BofAe (±0.5%) though slightly lower than consensus (1-2% lighter). Assets rose 1.5% QoQ/5.9% YoY by FY23, accelerating from 3.5% YoY in 9M23. NPL ratio fell 4bp QoQ/9bp YoY to 1.18%. NPL coverage ratio fell 2ppt QoQ though still rose 6ppt YoY to 208% by 4Q23, while loan loss ratio fell 11bp QoQ/10bp YoY to 2.45%, likely to support profit. Asia II Series: ABC/ICBC/CEB/CNCB/MSB/CIB/SPDB/PAB/HSB/HSBC, RSVP.

29 January 2024

Equity China Banks-Multinational

Table of Contents Performance and valuation A-H share premium Stock connect holdings Relative valuation Interest rates and NCDs 9 Bank FY23 preliminary results 9 Company Acronym

Emma Xu >> Research Analyst Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong) +852 3508 8165 emma.xu@bofa.com

Winnie Wu >> Research Analyst Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong) +852 3508 3058 winnie.wu@bofa.com

Wenqing Han, CFA >> Research Analyst Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong) +852 3508 5032 wenqing.han@bofa.com

LPR: Loan Prime Rate

RRR: Required Reserve Ratio

SME: Small and Medium sized Enterprise

TLAC: Total Loss Absorbing Capacity

See company acronym at the end of this report

Refer to "Other Important Disclosures" for information on certain BofA Securities entities that take responsibility for the information herein in particular jurisdictions.

BofA Securities does and seeks to do business with issuers covered in its research reports. As a result, investors should be aware that the firm may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this report. Investors should consider this report as only a single factor in making their investment decision. Refer to important disclosures on page 10 to 12.

Timestamp: 28 January 2024 05:00PM EST

>> Employed by a non-US affiliate of BofAS and is not registered/qualified as a research analyst under the FINRA rules.

Performance and valuation

Exhibit 1: China/HK banks: price performance and valuation

CMB/BONB/StanChart outperformed, while BOC/BOJS/HSB underperformed among H-share China banks/A-share China banks/HK banks, respectively

						Price per	formance			12mth	forward v	
H-Share China Banks	Bloomberg ticker	Market cap (USD bn)	Price (HKD)	1W	1M	3M	6M	1Y	YTD	P/B	P/E	Dividend yield
ABC	1288 HK	183.5	3.02	+5.2%	+3.1%	+5.6%	+11.9%	+15.3%	+0.3%	0.36x	3.7x	8.4%
30C	3988 HK	157.4	2.97	+3.1%	+2.4%	+9.2%	+6.5%	+6.6%	-0.3%	0.33x	3.5x	9.2%
BoComm	3328 HK	53.6	4.67	+4.7%	-1.1%	-0.8%	+2.0%	+2.3%	-4.1%	0.32x	3.4x	9.2%
CCB	939 HK	152.5	4.66	+6.2%	+3.3%	+2.9%	+6.2%	-2.5%	+0.2%	0.33x	3.1x	9.6%
ICBC	1398 HK	233.5	3.82	+6.4%	+3.8%	+0.5%	+4.7%	-2.6%	-0.0%	0.34x	3.4x	9.1%
PSBC	1658 HK	61.0	3.75	+9.6%	+3.3%	-1.1%	-16.9%	-27.8%	+0.5%	0.39x	3.7x	8.2%
CEB	6818 HK	24.0	2.32	+5.5%	+4.0%	+3.6%	+2.7%	-1.5%	-0.0%	0.25x	2.8x	9.5%
CMB	3968 HK	106.4	28.95	+15.1%	+12.2%	-6.9%	-18.5%	-42.4%	+6.4%	0.62x	4.3x	7.6%
CNCB	998 HK	35.9	3.82	+4.7%	+7.0%	+7.6%	+3.5%	+9.2%	+3.8%	0.27x	2.6x	10.4%
MSB	1988 HK	22.6	2.64	+4.8%	+2.7%	+4.3%	-7.7%	-4.1%	-0.4%	0.18x	3.2x	9.1%
CQRB	3618 HK	6.3	3.03	+5.2%	+2.0%	+2.0%	+9.4%	+15.4%	-0.0%	0.25x	2.6x	10.5%
Weighted average	·······			+6.5%	+4.1%	+2.6%	+2.3%	-2.8%	+0.6%	0.36x	3.5x	8.9%
A-share		Market cap	Price									Dividend
China Banks	Bloomberg ticker	(USD bn)	(RMB)	1W	1M	3M	6M	1Y	YTD	P/B	P/E	yield
ABC	601288 CH	183.5	3.86	+4.9%	+5.2%	+6.6%	+10.9%	+40.8%	+6.0%	0.51x	5.1x	6.0%
BOC	601988 CH	157.4	4.28	+7.8%	+6.2%	+10.3%	+12.9%	+41.1%	+7.3%	0.51x	5.5x	5.9%
BoComm	601328 CH	53.6	5.97	+3.5%	+3.3%	+2.2%	+6.2%	+31.0%	+4.0%	0.44x	4.8x	6.6%
CCB	601939 CH	152.5	6.84	+5.6%	+5.7%	+5.2%	+15.2%	+29.4%	+5.1%	0.53x	5.0x	6.0%
ICBC	601398 CH	233.5	5.09	+4.1%	+5.6%	+6.3%	+9.9%	+25.4%	+6.5%	0.49x	5.0x	6.3%
PSBC	601658 CH	61.0	4.66	+5.9%	+9.9%	-2.9%	-5.3%	+0.3%	+7.1%	0.53x	5.1x	6.1%
CEB	601818 CH	24.0	3.13	+4.3%	+9.4%	+4.7%	+4.0%	+7.5%	+7.9%	0.36x	4.1x	6.5%
CMB	600036 CH	106.4	31.12	+4.7%	+14.1%	-1.2%	-6.7%	-20.0%	+11.9%	0.73x	5.1x	6.5%
CNCB	601998 CH	35.9	6.03	+7.5%	+15.1%	+7.3%	+4.3%	+25.7%	+14.0%	0.47x	4.5x	6.0%
MSB	600016 CH	22.6	4.00	+6.1%	+5.8%	+8.4%	+1.8%	+20.9%	+7.0%	0.30x	5.2x	5.5%
CIB	601166 CH	45.2	15.64	+3.2%	+7.4%	-0.4%	-1.9%	-6.4%	-3.5%	0.41x	3.7x	7.0%
SPDB	600000 CH	28.1	6.87	+4.2%	+4.7%	-1.3%	-5.8%	-2.5%	+3.8%	0.30x	5.9x	3.3%
PAB	000001 CH	26.0	9.62	+4.9%	+5.7%	-7.6%	-17.6%	-34.8%	+2.4%	0.40x	3.5x	3.5%
BOCD	601838 CH	6.6	12.40	+3.2%	+12.6%	-6.5%	-3.5%	-8.5%	+10.1%	0.63x	3.4x	9.0%
BOHZ	600926 CH	8.8	10.69	+2.3%	+11.5%	-0.1%	-7.4%	-16.7%	+6.8%	0.58x	3.9x	6.7%
BOJS	600919 CH	18.5	7.24	+2.0%	+10.5%	+3.1%	+2.8%	+3.1%	+8.2%	0.53x	3.3x	10.2%
BONB	002142 CH	19.9	21.62	+9.2%	+11.2%	-12.0%	-19.0%	-33.6%	+7.5%	0.70x	4.8x	3.1%
BONJ	601009 CH	11.8	8.21	+4.2%	+13.4%	+4.9%	-1.2%	-17.9%	+11.2%	0.53x	4.3x	8.3%
BOSZ	002966 CH	3.6	6.99	+3.9%	+7.2%	+11.1%	+3.1%	-6.8%	+8.2%	0.57x	4.5x	7.0%
CQRB	601077 CH	6.3	4.30	+2.6%	+4.6%	+2.6%	+13.5%	+28.6%	+5.4%	0.39x	4.1x	7.1%
CSRB	601128 CH	2.7	6.95	+3.3%	+10.0%	-5.7%	+1.5%	-3.0%	+8.8%	0.67x	4.8x	5.3%
Weighted average	<u> </u>			+5.2%	+7.2%	+4.2%	+6.0%	+19.3%	+6.6%	0.51x	4.9x	6.1%
HK Banks	Bloomberg ticker	Market cap (USD bn)	Price (HKD)	1W	1M	3M	6M	1Y	YTD	P/B	P/E	Dividend yield
BOCHK	2388 HK	26.0	19.22	+3.6%	-6.5%	-6.5%	-16.0%	-25.7%	-9.3%	0.60x	5.7x	9.4%
BEA	23 HK	3.1	9.20	+3.1%	-2.6%	-0.8%	-22.3%	-5.8%	-4.6%	0.24x	4.5x	10.3%
HSB	11 HK	20.4	83.40	+1.1%	-6.5%	-6.2%	-26.1%	-32.5%	-8.4%	0.91x	8.6x	7.7%
HSBC	5 HK	148.7	60.70	+3.5%	-1.8%	+7.7%	-3.7%	+12.4%	-3.7%	0.82x	5.8x	10.1%
StanChart	2888 HK	20.2	59.15	+4.0%	-7.7%	-1.0%	-17.4%	-11.5%	-9.5%	0.43x	4.9x	3.9%
Weighted average	·······			+3.3%	-3.3%	+3.8%	-8.8%	+1.2%	-5.3%	0.76x	6.0x	9.2%
Major indices	Bloomberg ticker		Price	1W	1M	3M	6M	1Y	YTD			
MSCI China	MXCN Index		53.2	+4.5%	-0.4%	-4.7%	-16.2%	-27.6%	-4.9%			
HSI	HSI Index		15,952	+4.2%	-2.4%	-6.4%	-17.6%	-29.3%	-6.4%			
HK Financials	H-FIN Index		11,479	+6.8%	+2.9%	-3.6%	-8.7%	-22.2%	-1.2%			
Hang Seng TECH	HSTECH Index		3,186	+1.8%	-10.2%	-14.2%	-24.5%	-33.1%	-15.3%			
China Internet ETF	KWEB US		24.7	+4.3%	-4.1%	-4.2%	-14.7%	-28.5%	-8.4%			
SSE50	SSE50 Index		2,314	+3.2%	+2.3%	-3.3%	-10.2%	-18.4%	-0.5%			
CSI300	SHSZ300 Index		3,334	+2.0%	+0.3%	-5.1%	-14.7%	-20.3%	-2.8%			
CSI500	SH000905 Index		5,027	+0.2%	-4.4%	-6.9%	-16.2%	-19.6%	-7.4%			
S&P500	SPX Index		4,894	+2.4%	+2.9%	+16.9%	+7.2%	+21.9%	+2.6%			
NASDAQ	CCMP Index		15,511	+3.0%	+3.5%	+21.0%	+9.7%	+37.1%	+3.3%			
US banks	BKX Index		96.2	+4.8%	+0.9%	+33.1%	+9.7%	-12.8%	+0.2%			
EU banks	SX7P Index		167.9	+1.9%	-0.3%	+9.5%	+2.9%	+7.7%	-0.6%			

 $\textbf{Source:} \ \ \text{Bloomberg: as of January 26 except for US/EU ones which were as of January 25}$



Exhibit 2: China insurance, brokers, and diversified financials: price performance

China Pacific/China Pacific-A/Everbright Securities/Everbright Securities-A/Lufax outperformed, while Zhong An/Ping An-A/Huatai Securities/GF Securities-A/Noah underperformed among H-share China insurance/A-share China insurance/H-share China brokers/China diversified financials

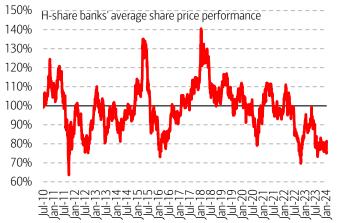
			Price performance									
H-Share Insurance	Bloomberg ticker	Market cap (USD bn)	Price (HKD)	1W	1 M	3M	6M	1Y	YTD			
China Life	2628 HK	91.8	9.25	+8.3%	-4.3%	-13.9%	-23.9%	-36.9%	-8.6%			
hina Pacific	2601 HK	29.0	14.88	+11.7%	-0.3%	-21.9%	-21.7%	-30.8%	-5.6%			
New China Life	1336 HK	11.0	14.38	+8.6%	-0.4%	-22.1%	-29.3%	-33.6%	-5.5%			
PICC Group	1339 HK	28.1	2.50	+5.9%	+6.4%	-6.4%	-14.1%	-3.6%	+4.2%			
PICC P&C	2328 HK	27.7	9.72	+2.2%	+8.6%	+2.7%	+10.2%	+32.9%	+4.7%			
Ping An	2318 HK	94.0	33.75	+11.2%	+2.6%	-16.5%	-34.2%	-45.1%	-4.5%			
Zhong An	6060 HK	2.6	13.58	-3.6%	-19.4%	-37.4%	-41.1%	-51.8%	-23.9%			
AIA	1299 HK	94.4	64.95	+7.4%	-2.6%	-4.1%	-15.2%	-26.3%	-4.6%			
Weighted average				+8.4%	-0.1%	-11.3%	-21.2%	-28.3%	-4.4%			
		Market cap	Price									
A-share Insurance	Bloomberg ticker	(USD bn)	(RMB)	1W	1M	3M	6M	1Y	YTD			
China Life	601628 CH	91.8	28.62	+10.5%	+3.5%	-15.7%	-15.3%	-19.6%	+1.0%			
China Pacific	601601 CH	29.0	24.87	+12.2%	+9.0%	-12.8%	-15.4%	-1.7%	+4.6%			
New China Life	601336 CH	11.0	31.37	+8.8%	+6.3%	-10.7%	-23.1%	-3.0%	+0.8%			
PICC Group	601319 CH	28.1	5.11	+8.7%	+8.0%	-7.8%	-16.2%	-1.0%	+5.6%			
Ping An	601318 CH	94.0	41.25	+5.2%	+5.5%	-9.7%	-14.9%	-16.7%	+2.4%			
Weighted average				+8.5%	+5.5%	-12.1%	-15.6%	-13.7%	+2.4%			
I-Share Brokers	Bloomberg ticker	Market cap (USD bn)	Price (HKD)	1W	1M	3M	6 M	1Y	YTD			
China Galaxy Securities	6881 HK	14.1	4.03	+7.2%	+3.3%	+0.2%	-5.4%	-4.1%	-2.4%			
China Merchants Securities	6099 HK	15.0	6.07	+3.4%	-0.7%	-5.6%	-20.3%	-30.1%	-5.0%			
China Securities	6066 HK	21.6	6.15	+3.4%	-7.0%	-14.3%	-30.4%	-27.5%	-10.9%			
CICC	3908 HK	16.4	9.94	+6.4%	-5.3%	-24.1%	-34.0%	-45.4%	-13.3%			
CITIC Securities	6030 HK	40.7	15.96	+4.3%	+4.2%	+6.0%	+5.3%	-11.7%	+0.1%			
Everbright Securities	6178 HK	9.3	5.21	+9.2%	+4.8%	-1.3%	-8.1%	-11.7%	+0.1%			
GF Securities	1776 HK	13.4	8.31	+6.9%	-6.1%	-15.5%	-25.0%	-35.7%	-11.0%			
Guotai Junan Securities	2611 HK	17.3	8.87	+4.2%	+4.0%	+4.1%	-7.0%	-6.0%	+0.9%			
	6837 HK	14.2	3.85	+3.8%	-3.0%	-13.7%	-26.2%	-0.0%	-7.7%			
Haitong Securities	6886 HK	16.7	9.70	-0.0%	+3.9%	-13.7%			-7.7% -1.6%			
Huatai Securities							-6.0%	-1.2%				
Orient Securities	3958 HK	9.5	3.27	+6.2%	-0.0%	-6.3%	-27.0%	-31.6%	-5.2%			
Neighted average	Dia anahan atahan	Market cap	Price	+4.6%	+0.1%	-5.4%	-14.0%	-20.0%	-4.6%			
A-share Brokers	Bloomberg ticker	(USD bn)	(RMB)	1W	1M	3M	6M	1Y	YTD			
China Galaxy Securities	601881 CH	14.1	12.10	+9.6%	+4.0%	-1.9%	-8.3%	+24.1%	+0.4%			
China Merchants Securities	600999 CH	15.0	13.52	+3.8%	+1.1%	-3.6%	-5.3%	-6.2%	-0.9%			
China Securities	601066 CH	21.6	22.74	+6.8%	-0.0%	-6.6%	-9.3%	-16.0%	-3.9%			
CICC	601995 CH	16.4	34.28	+5.1%	-5.8%	-7.5%	-8.2%	-14.0%	-9.9%			
CITIC Securities	600030 CH	40.7	20.83	+7.0%	+4.9%	-4.4%	-2.3%	-1.8%	+2.3%			
	601700 611	9.3	16.15	+11.7%	+8.5%	-1.0%	-7.5%	+0.4%	+4.7%			
Everbright Securities	601788 CH	5.5		11.7 /0			F C0/	10.20/	1 40/			
•	601788 CH 000776 CH	13.4	14.09	+2.8%	+0.9%	-3.5%	-5.6%	-19.2%	-1.4%			
GF Securities	000776 CH	13.4	14.09	+2.8%	+0.9%							
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities	000776 CH 601211 CH	13.4 17.3	14.09 15.06	+2.8% +4.8%	+0.9% +2.9%	+3.1%	+0.2%	+7.9%	+1.2%			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH	13.4 17.3 14.2	14.09 15.06 9.30	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4%	+3.1% -6.3%	+0.2% -4.4%	+7.9% +0.9%	+1.2% -0.7%			
Everbright Securities GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities Huatai Securities Drient Securities	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH 601688 CH	13.4 17.3 14.2 16.7	14.09 15.06 9.30 14.28	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4% +4.6%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4% +5.1%	+3.1% -6.3% -10.0%	+0.2% -4.4% -7.5%	+7.9% +0.9% +11.6%	+1.2% -0.7% +2.4%			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH	13.4 17.3 14.2	14.09 15.06 9.30	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4%	+3.1% -6.3%	+0.2% -4.4%	+7.9% +0.9%	+1.2% -0.7%			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities Huatai Securities Drient Securities	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH 601688 CH	13.4 17.3 14.2 16.7 9.5	14.09 15.06 9.30 14.28	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4% +4.6% +5.5%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4% +5.1% +6.7%	+3.1% -6.3% -10.0% +2.3%	+0.2% -4.4% -7.5% -14.8%	+7.9% +0.9% +11.6% -19.3%	+1.2% -0.7% +2.4% +0.7%			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities Huatai Securities Orient Securities Weighted average	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH 601688 CH	13.4 17.3 14.2 16.7	14.09 15.06 9.30 14.28 8.76	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4% +4.6% +5.5%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4% +5.1% +6.7%	+3.1% -6.3% -10.0% +2.3%	+0.2% -4.4% -7.5% -14.8%	+7.9% +0.9% +11.6% -19.3%	+1.2% -0.7% +2.4% +0.7%			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities Huatai Securities Drient Securities	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH 601688 CH 600958 CH	13.4 17.3 14.2 16.7 9.5 Market cap	14.09 15.06 9.30 14.28 8.76 Price (HKD;	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4% +4.6% +5.5% +6.0%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4% +5.1% +6.7% +2.6%	+3.1% -6.3% -10.0% +2.3% -4.1%	+0.2% -4.4% -7.5% -14.8% -5.8%	+7.9% +0.9% +11.6% -19.3% -2.6%	+1.2% -0.7% +2.4% +0.7% - 0.4%			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities Huatai Securities Orient Securities Neighted average Diversified Financials	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH 601688 CH 600958 CH Bloomberg ticker	13.4 17.3 14.2 16.7 9.5 Market cap (USD bn)	14.09 15.06 9.30 14.28 8.76 Price (HKD; USD)	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4% +4.6% +5.5% +6.0% 1W	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4% +5.1% +6.7% +2.6% 1M	+3.1% -6.3% -10.0% +2.3% -4.1% 3M	+0.2% -4.4% -7.5% -14.8% -5.8% 6M	+7.9% +0.9% +11.6% -19.3% -2.6% 1Y	+1.2% -0.7% +2.4% +0.7% - 0.4% YTD			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities Huatai Securities Orient Securities Weighted average Diversified Financials HKEX	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH 601688 CH 600958 CH Bloomberg ticker 388 HK FUTU US	13.4 17.3 14.2 16.7 9.5 Market cap (USD bn) 39.6 6.8	14.09 15.06 9.30 14.28 8.76 Price (HKD; USD) 244.00 49.02	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4% +4.6% +5.5% +6.0% 1W +6.3% +6.3%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4% +5.1% +6.7% +2.6% 1M -4.5% -4.8%	+3.1% -6.3% -10.0% +2.3% -4.1% 3M -10.7% -12.6%	+0.2% -4.4% -7.5% -14.8% -5.8% 6M -18.5% -4.4%	+7.9% +0.9% +11.6% -19.3% -2.6% 1Y -33.2% -8.9%	+1.2% -0.7% +2.4% +0.7% - 0.4% YTD -9.0% -10.3%			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities Huatai Securities Orient Securities Neighted average Diversified Financials HKEX Futu	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH 601688 CH 600958 CH Bloomberg ticker 388 HK FUTU US LU US	13.4 17.3 14.2 16.7 9.5 Market cap (USD bn) 39.6 6.8 1.4	14.09 15.06 9.30 14.28 8.76 Price (HKD; USD) 244.00 49.02 2.52	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4% +4.6% +5.5% +6.0% 1W +6.3% +6.3% +14.0%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4% +5.1% +6.7% +2.6% 1M -4.5% -4.8% -10.0%	+3.1% -6.3% -10.0% +2.3% -4.1% 3M -10.7% -12.6% -34.3%	+0.2% -4.4% -7.5% -14.8% -5.8% 6M -18.5% -4.4% -61.2%	+7.9% +0.9% +11.6% -19.3% -2.6% 1Y -33.2% -8.9% -76.0%	+1.2% -0.7% +2.4% +0.7% - 0.4% YTD -9.0% -10.3% -17.9%			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities Huatai Securities Orient Securities Neighted average Diversified Financials HKEX Futu Lufax Noah	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH 601688 CH 600958 CH Bloomberg ticker 388 HK FUTU US LU US NOAH US	13.4 17.3 14.2 16.7 9.5 Market cap (USD bn) 39.6 6.8 1.4 0.8	14.09 15.06 9.30 14.28 8.76 Price (HKD; USD) 244.00 49.02 2.52 12.33	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4% +4.6% +5.5% +6.0% 1W +6.3% +6.3% +14.0% +2.1%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4% +5.1% +6.7% +2.6% 1M -4.5% -4.8% -10.0% -7.6%	+3.1% -6.3% -10.0% +2.3% -4.1% 3M -10.7% -12.6% -34.3% +3.4%	+0.2% -4.4% -7.5% -14.8% -5.8% 6M -18.5% -4.4% -61.2% -17.6%	+7.9% +0.9% +11.6% -19.3% -2.6% 1Y -33.2% -8.9% -76.0% -28.8%	+1.2% -0.7% +2.4% +0.7% -0.4% YTD -9.0% -10.3% -17.9% -10.7%			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities Huatai Securities Orient Securities Weighted average Diversified Financials HKEX Futu Lufax Noah	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH 601688 CH 600958 CH Bloomberg ticker 388 HK FUTU US LU US NOAH US QFIN US	13.4 17.3 14.2 16.7 9.5 Market cap (USD bn) 39.6 6.8 1.4 0.8 2.4	14.09 15.06 9.30 14.28 8.76 Price (HKD; USD) 244.00 49.02 2.52 12.33 14.84	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4% +4.6% +5.5% +6.0% 1W +6.3% +6.3% +14.0% +2.1% +2.3%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4% +5.1% +6.7% +2.6% 1M -4.5% -4.8% -10.0% -7.6% -1.1%	+3.1% -6.3% -10.0% +2.3% -4.1% 3M -10.7% -12.6% -34.3% +3.4% +1.2%	+0.2% -4.4% -7.5% -14.8% -5.8% -6M -18.5% -4.4% -61.2% -17.6% -19.5%	+7.9% +0.9% +11.6% -19.3% -2.6% 1Y -33.2% -8.9% -76.0% -28.8% -32.8%	+1.2% -0.7% +2.4% +0.7% -0.4% YTD -9.0% -10.3% -17.9% -6.2%			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities Huatai Securities Orient Securities Neighted average Diversified Financials HKEX Futu Lufax Noah Qifu Technology East Money	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH 601688 CH 600958 CH Bloomberg ticker 388 HK FUTU US LU US NOAH US QFIN US 300059 CH	13.4 17.3 14.2 16.7 9.5 Market cap (USD bn) 39.6 6.8 1.4 0.8 2.4 29.0	14.09 15.06 9.30 14.28 8.76 Price (HKD; USD) 244.00 49.02 2.52 12.33 14.84 13.12	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4% +4.6% +5.5% +6.0% 1W +6.3% +6.3% +14.0% +2.1% +2.3% +3.3%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4% +5.1% +6.7% +2.6% 1M -4.5% -4.8% -10.0% -7.6% -1.1% -4.2%	+3.1% -6.3% -10.0% +2.3% -4.1% 3M -10.7% -12.6% -34.3% +3.4% +1.2% -11.6%	+0.2% -4.4% -7.5% -14.8% -5.8% 6M -18.5% -4.4% -61.2% -17.6% -19.5% -11.6%	+7.9% +0.9% +11.6% -19.3% -2.6% 1Y -33.2% -8.9% -76.0% -28.8% -32.8% -32.0%	+1.2% -0.7% +2.4% +0.7% -0.4% YTD -9.0% -10.3% -17.9% -6.2% -6.6%			
GF Securities Guotai Junan Securities Haitong Securities Huatai Securities Orient Securities Weighted average Diversified Financials HKEX Futu Lufax Noah	000776 CH 601211 CH 600837 CH 601688 CH 600958 CH Bloomberg ticker 388 HK FUTU US LU US NOAH US QFIN US	13.4 17.3 14.2 16.7 9.5 Market cap (USD bn) 39.6 6.8 1.4 0.8 2.4	14.09 15.06 9.30 14.28 8.76 Price (HKD; USD) 244.00 49.02 2.52 12.33 14.84	+2.8% +4.8% +4.4% +4.6% +5.5% +6.0% 1W +6.3% +6.3% +14.0% +2.1% +2.3%	+0.9% +2.9% +1.4% +5.1% +6.7% +2.6% 1M -4.5% -4.8% -10.0% -7.6% -1.1%	+3.1% -6.3% -10.0% +2.3% -4.1% 3M -10.7% -12.6% -34.3% +3.4% +1.2%	+0.2% -4.4% -7.5% -14.8% -5.8% -6M -18.5% -4.4% -61.2% -17.6% -19.5%	+7.9% +0.9% +11.6% -19.3% -2.6% 1Y -33.2% -8.9% -76.0% -28.8% -32.8%	+1.2% -0.7% +2.4% +0.7% -0.4% YTD -9.0% -10.3% -17.9% -6.2%			

 $\textbf{Source:} \ \ \textbf{Bloomberg; as of January 26, except for ADRs which were as of January 25}$



Exhibit 3: H-share banks' weighted average stock price performance

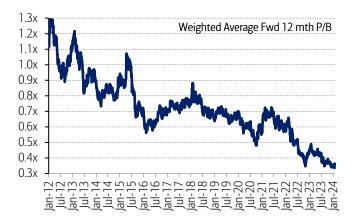
H-share banks' average share price at the low end of the LT average level



Source: Bloomberg, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend; as of Jan 26; LT=Long Term BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 4: H-share banks' forward P/B valuation since 2012

P/B rebounded from 0.34x to 0.36x WoW



Source: Bloomberg, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend; as of Jan 26

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

A-H share premium

Exhibit 5: A-H share premium

A-H share premium changed by -11.5ppt to +7.0ppt last week

	ABC	BOC	BoComm	CCB	ICBC	PSBC	CEB	СМВ	CNCB	MSB	CQRB	Average
Current	39.1%	56.8%	39.1%	59.7%	45.0%	35.2%	46.8%	17.0%	71.8%	64.9%	54.4%	48.2%
WoW	-0.3ppt	+7.0ppt	-1.5ppt	-0.7ppt	-3.0ppt	-4.6ppt	-1.4ppt	-11.5ppt	+4.7ppt	+2.3ppt	-3.7ppt	-1.1ppt
YTD	+6.0ppt	+9.5ppt	+9.4ppt	+5.7ppt	+7.3ppt	+6.9ppt	+9.3ppt	+4.5ppt	+13.6ppt	+9.6ppt	+6.3ppt	+8.0ppt
vs 2023 avg	+6.8ppt	+14.6ppt	+11.2ppt	+15.0ppt	+13.2ppt	+13.7ppt	+1.1ppt	+13.8ppt	+3.1ppt	+15.4ppt	+4.0ppt	+10.2ppt

Source: Bloomberg; as of January 26

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Stock connect holdings

Exhibit 6: Shanghai/Shenzhen-HK Stock Connect Holdings

Last week, Southbound investors bought all major China banks; Northbound investors bought CCB/BoComm/CMB while sold CSRB/BOHZ/BONJ

	Southbound holdings in H-share China banks and HK banks														
	ABC	вос	BoComm	ССВ	ICBC	PSBC	CEB	СМВ	CNCB	MSB	CQRB	воснк	BEA	HSB	HSBC
% stake	21.44%	8.32%	2.92%	8.30%	26.45%	10.29%	12.02%	5.83%	19.23%	22.40%	37.25%	0.31%	0.06%	0.20%	9.18%
WoW	+7bp	+1bp	+9bp	+9bp	+12bp	+22bp	+12bp	+57bp	+22bp	+26bp	+77bp	-4bp	-1bp	-1bp	+3bp
YTD	-27bp	+11bp	+15bp	+12bp	+13bp	+42bp	+9bp	+104bp	+21bp	+30bp	+57bp	-6bp	-10bp	-1bp	+0bp
	Northbound holdings in A-share China banks														
	ABC	вос	BoComm	ССВ	ICBC	PSBC*	CEB	СМВ	CNCB	MSB	CIB	SPDB	PAB	BOCD	BOHZ
% stake	0.92%	0.74%	2.85%	6.93%	0.91%	0.88%	1.92%	5.27%	0.48%	2.37%	3.10%	2.03%	3.31%	3.66%	2.03%
WoW	+5bp	+4bp	+23bp	+27bp	+7bp	+0bp	+12bp	+23bp	+2bp	+10bp	+15bp	+11bp	-3bp	-4bp	-18bp
YTD	+7bp	+4bp	+19bp	+26bp	+8bp	-14bp	+29bp	+13bp	-4bp	+18bp	+12bp	+6bp	-50bp	-11bp	-8bp
	BOJS	BONB	BONJ	BOSZ	CQRB	CSRB									
% stake	4.53%	4.54%	1.73%	1.70%	4.69%	3.91%									
WoW	+15bp	-6bp	-15bp	+2bp	+2bp	-22bp									
YTD	+82bp	-3bp	-12bp	+6bp	+37bp	+65bp									

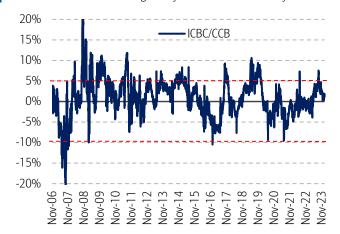
Source: Wind; as of January 25, *adjust the impact from change of tradable shares



Relative valuation

Exhibit 7: Relative P/B: ICBC's premium over CCB

ICBC and CCB have been trading closely to each other historically

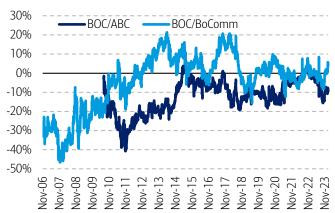


Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BotA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 9: Relative P/B: BOC's premium over ABC & BoComm

BOC traded at 10% discount to ABC and 4% premium to BoComm

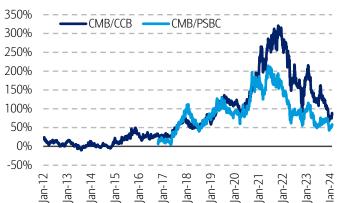


Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 11: Relative P/B: CMB's premium over CCB & PSBC

CMB's P/B was 89% and 59% higher than CCB and PSBC

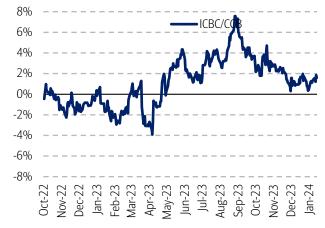


Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 8: Relative P/B: ICBC's premium over CCB (LTM)

ICBC's premium over CCB increased from 1.3% to 1.6% WoW

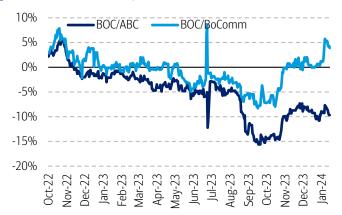


Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 10: Relative P/B: BOC's premium over ABC & BoComm (LTM)

BOC's discount to ABC enlarged and premium to BoComm narrowed WoW

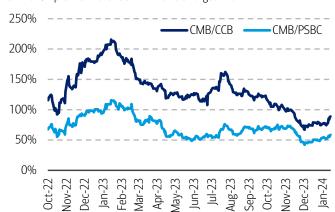


Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 12: Relative P/B: CMB's premium over CCB & PSBC (LTM)

CMB's P/B premium over CCB and PSBC enlarged WoW



Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend



Exhibit 13: Relative P/B: CIB's discount to CMB-A & PAB

CIB's P/B was 45% lower and 0.4% higher than CMB-A and PAB

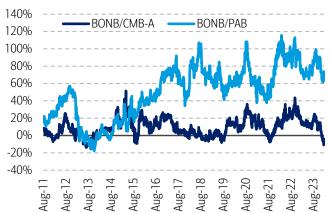


Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 15: Relative P/B: BONB's premium over CMB-A & PAB

BONB's P/B was 4% lower and 74% higher than CMB-A and PAB



Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 17: Relative P/B: HSB's premium over BOCHK

HSB's P/B was 52% higher than BOCHK

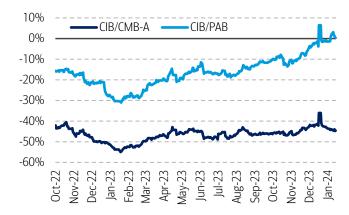


Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 14: Relative P/B: CIB's discount to CMB-A & PAB (LTM)

CIB's discount to CMB enlarged and premium to PAB narrowed last week

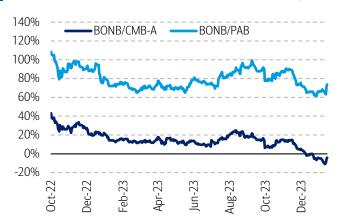


Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 16: Relative P/B: BONB's premium over CMB-A & PAB (LTM)

BONB's discount to CMB-A narrowed and premium over PAB enlarged WoW



Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 18: Relative P/B: HSB's premium over BOCHK (LTM)

HSB's P/B premium over BOCHK narrowed last week

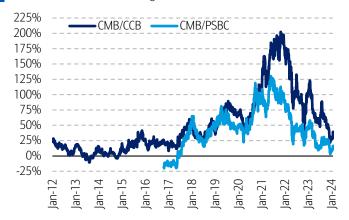


Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend



Exhibit 19: Relative P/E: CMB's premium over CCB & PSBC

CMB's P/E was 39% and 16% higher than CCB and PSBC's



Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 21: Relative P/E: CIB's discount to CMB-A and PAB

CIB's P/E was 27% lower than CMB-A and 5% higher than PAB's



Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 23: Relative P/E: HSB's premium over BOCHK

HSB's P/E was 50% higher than BOCHK's

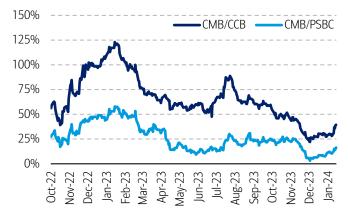


Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 20: Relative P/E: CMB's premium over CCB & PSBC (LTM)

CMB's P/E premium over CCB and PSBC enlarged WoW

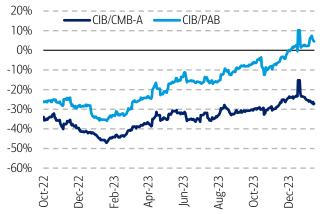


Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 22: Relative P/E: CIB's discount to CMB-A and PAB (LTM)

CIB's P/E discount to CMB-A enlarged and premium to PAB narrowed WoW



Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 24: Relative P/E: HSB's premium over BOCHK (LTM)

HSB's P/E premium over BOCHK narrowed last week



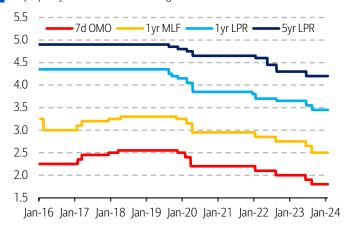
Source: Bloomberg, as of Jan 26, share price here doesn't adjust for dividend



Interest rates and NCDs

Exhibit 25: Major policy rate (%)

Major policy rates remained unchanged WoW

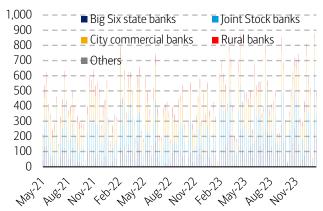


Source: Bloomberg, Wind, as of Jan 26

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 27: Weekly NCD gross issuance by bank type (RMB bn)

Gross issuance was RMB503bn from Jan 15 to Jan 21

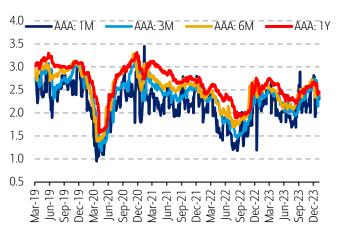


Source: Wind, as of Jan 22, *NCD: Negotiated Certificate of Deposits

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 29: Yield to maturities of AAA rated NCD (%)

AAA rated NCD yields changed by -3 to +4bp WoW for 1M-1Y tenors

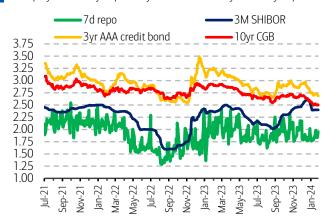


Source: CEIC, as of Jan 25, *NCD: Negotiated Certificate of Deposits

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 26: Major market rate (%)

7d repo yield rose by 8bp and 3yr AAA credit bond yield fell by 4bp WoW

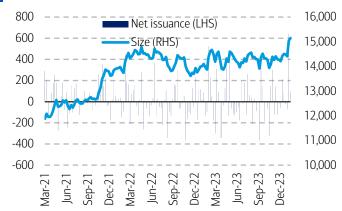


Source: Bloomberg, Wind, as of Jan 26, *CGB: China Government Bond

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 28: Weekly NCD net issuance and outstanding size (RMB bn)

NCD size increased from RMB15.0tn to RMB15.1tn WoW

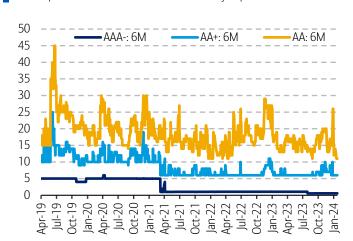


Source: Wind, as of Jan 22, *NCD: Negotiated Certificate of Deposits

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 30: Credit spread over AAA rated NCD (bp)

Credit spread of 6M AA rated NCDs decreased by 1bp last week



Source: CEIC, as of Jan 25, *NCD: Negotiated Certificate of Deposits



Bank FY23 preliminary results

Exhibit 31: China bank FY23 preliminary results

5 out of 42 listed China banks released FY23 preliminary results

Date	Name	Ticker	Operating	revenue	Net profit		
Date	Name	Herei	RMB mn	YoY	RMB mn	YoY	
2024/01/12, Fri	Bank of Hangzhou	600926 CH	35,016	+6.3%	14,383	+23.2%	
2024/01/19, Fri	Bank of Changsha	601577 CH	24,803	+8.5%	7,463	+9.6%	
2024/01/19, Fri	China Merchants Bank	600036 CH/3968 HK	339,123	-1.6%	146,602	+6.2%	
2024/01/19, Fri	Qilu Bank	601665 CH	11,952	+8.0%	4,234	+18.0%	
2024/01/22, Mon	China CITIC Bank	601998 CH/0998 HK	205,896	-2.6%	67,016	+7.9%	

Source: Wind, as of Jan 26

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Company Acronym

ABC: Agricultural Bank of China

BOC: Bank of China

BoComm: Bank of Communications CCB: China Construction Bank

ICBC: Industrial and Commercial Bank of China

PSBC: Postal Savings Bank of China

CEB: China Everbright Bank CMB: China Merchants Bank CNCB: China CITIC Bank MSB: China Minsheng Bank CIB: China Industrial Bank

SPDB: Shanghai Pudong Development Bank

PAB: Ping An Bank BOCD: Bank of Chengdu BOHZ: Bank of Hangzhou BOJS: Bank of Jiangsu BONB: Bank of Ningbo BONJ: Bank of Nanjing BOSZ: Bank of Suzhou

CQRB: Chongqing Rural Commercial Bank CSRB: Changshu Rural Commercial Bank

BEA: Bank of East Asia

BOCHK: Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited

HSB: Hang Seng Bank

StanChart: Standard Chartered

CITICS: CITIC Securities

CPIC: China Pacific Insurance Company

GFS: Guangfa Securities NCI: New China Life Insurance

PICC P&C: PICC Property and Casualty Company

Disclosures

Important Disclosures

FUNDAMENTAL EQUITY OPINION KEY: Opinions include a Volatility Risk Rating, an Investment Rating and an Income Rating. VOLATILITY RISK RATINGS, indicators of potential price fluctuation, are: A - Low, B - Medium and C - High. INVESTMENT RATINGS reflect the analyst's assessment of both a stock's absolute total return potential as well as its attractiveness for investment relative to other stocks within its Coverage Cluster (defined below). Our investment ratings are: 1 - Buy stocks are expected to have a total return of at least 10% and are the most attractive stocks in the coverage cluster; 2 - Neutral stocks are expected to remain flat or increase in value and are less attractive than Buy rated stocks and 3 - Underperform stocks are the least attractive stocks in a coverage cluster. An investment rating of 6 (No Rating) indicates that a stock is no longer trading on the basis of fundamentals. Analysts assign investment ratings considering, among other things, the 0-12 month total return expectation for a stock and the firm's guidelines for ratings dispersions (shown in the table below). The current price objective for a stock should be referenced to better understand the total return expectation at any given time. The price objective reflects the analyst's view of the potential price appreciation (depreciation).

Investment rating Total return expectation (within 12-month period of date of initial rating) Ratings dispersion guidelines for coverage cluster^{R1}

Buy ≥ 10% ≤ 70% Neutral ≥ 0% ≤ 30% Underperform N/A ≥ 20%

INCOME RATINGS, indicators of potential cash dividends, are: 7 - same/higher (dividend considered to be secure), 8 - same/lower (dividend not considered to be secure) and 9 - pays no cash dividend. Coverage Cluster is comprised of stocks covered by a single analyst or two or more analysts sharing a common industry, sector, region or other classification(s). A stock's coverage cluster is included in the most recent BofA Global Research report referencing the stock.

BofA Global Research personnel (including the analyst(s) responsible for this report) receive compensation based upon, among other factors, the overall profitability of Bank of America Corporation, including profits derived from investment banking. The analyst(s) responsible for this report may also receive compensation based upon, among other factors, the overall profitability of the Bank's sales and trading businesses relating to the class of securities or financial instruments for which such analyst is responsible.

Other Important Disclosures

From time to time research analysts conduct site visits of covered issuers. BofA Global Research policies prohibit research analysts from accepting payment or reimbursement for travel expenses from the issuer for such visits.

Prices are indicative and for information purposes only. Except as otherwise stated in the report, for any recommendation in relation to an equity security, the price referenced is the publicly traded price of the security as of close of business on the day prior to the date of the report or, if the report is published during intraday trading, the price referenced is indicative of the traded price as of the date and time of the report and in relation to a debt security (including equity preferred and CDS), prices are indicative as of the date and time of the report and are from various sources including BofA Securities trading desks.

The date and time of completion of the production of any recommendation in this report shall be the date and time of dissemination of this report as recorded in the report timestamp.

Recipients who are not institutional investors or market professionals should seek the advice of their independent financial advisor before considering information in this report in connection with any investment decision, or for a necessary explanation of its contents.

Officers of BofAS or one or more of its affiliates (other than research analysts) may have a financial interest in securities of the issuer(s) or in related investments. Refer to BofA Global Research policies relating to conflicts of interest.

"BofA Securities" includes BofA Securities, Inc. ("BofAS") and its affiliates. Investors should contact their BofA Securities representative or Merrill Global Wealth Management financial advisor if they have questions concerning this report or concerning the appropriateness of any investment idea described herein for such investor. "BofA Securities" is a global brand for BofA Global Research.

Information relating to Non-US affiliates of BofA Securities and Distribution of Affiliate Research Reports:

BofAS and/or Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S") may in the future distribute, information of the following non-US affiliates in the US (short name: legal name, regulator): Merrill Lynch (South Africa): Merrill Lynch South Africa (Pty) Ltd., regulated by The Financial Service Board; MLI (UK): Merrill Lynch International, regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA); BofASE (France): BofA Securities Europe SA is authorized by the Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution (ACPR) and regulated by the ACPR and the Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF). BofA Securities Europe SA ("BofASE") with registered address at 51, rue La Boétie, 75008 Paris is registered under no 842 602 690 RCS Paris. In accordance with the provisions of French Code Monétaire et Financier (Monetary and Financial Code), BofASE is an établissement de crédit et d'investissement (credit and investment institution) that is authorised and supervised by the European Central Bank and the Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution (ACPR) and regulated by the ACPR and the Autorité des Marchés Financiers. BofASE's share capital can be found at www.bofaml.com/BofASEdisclaimer; BofA Europe (Milan): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Milan Branch, regulated by the Bank of Italy, the European Central Bank (ECB) and the Central Bank of Ireland (CBI); BofA Europe (Frankfurt): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Frankfurt Branch regulated by BaFin, the ECB and the CBI; BofA Europe (Madrid): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Sucursal en España, regulated by the Bank of Spain, the ECB and the CBI; Merrill Lynch (Australia): Merrill Lynch (Australia): Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong): Merrill (Hong Kong): Merr (Asia Pacific) Limited, regulated by the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission (HKSFC); Merrill Lynch (Singapore): Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd, regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS); Merrill Lynch (Canada): Merrill Lynch (Canada): Merrill Lynch (Canada): Merrill Lynch (Mexico): Merrill Mexico): Merrill Lynch (Mexico): Merrill Lynch (Mexico): Merrill Lynch (Me de Bolsa, regulated by the Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores; Merrill Lynch (Argentina): Merrill Lynch Argentina SA, regulated by Comisión Nacional de Valores; BofAS Japan: BofA Securities Japan Co., Ltd., regulated by the Financial Services Agency; Merrill Lynch (Seoul): Merrill Lynch International, LLC Seoul Branch, regulated by the Financial Supervisory Service; Merrill Lynch (Taiwan): Merrill Lynch Securities (Taiwan) Ltd., regulated by the Securities and Futures Bureau; BofAS India: BofA Securities India Limited, regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI); Merrill Lynch (Israel): Merrill Lynch (I Financial Services Authority (DFSA); Merrill Lynch (Brazil): Merrill Lynch (S.A. Corretora de Títulos e Valores Mobiliários, regulated by Comissão de Valores Mobiliários; Merrill Lynch KSA Company: Merrill Lynch Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Company, regulated by the Capital Market Authority.

This information: has been approved for publication and is distributed in the United Kingdom (UK) to professional clients and eligible counterparties (as each is defined in the rules of the FCA and the PRA) by MLI (UK), which is authorized by the PRA and regulated by the FCA and the PRA - details about the extent of our regulation by the FCA and PRA are available from us on request; has been approved for publication and is distributed in the European Economic Area (EEA) by BofASE (France), which is authorized by the ACPR and regulated by the ACPR and the AMF; has been considered and distributed in Japan by BofAS Japan, a registered securities dealer under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act in Japan, or its permitted affiliates; is issued and distributed in Hong Kong by Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong) which is regulated by HKSFC; is issued and distributed in Taiwan by Merrill Lynch (Taiwan); is issued and distributed in India by BofAS India; and is issued and distributed in Singapore to institutional investors and/or accredited investors (each as defined under the Financial Advisers Regulations) by Merrill Lynch (Singapore) (Company Registration No 198602883D). Merrill Lynch (Singapore) is regulated by MAS. Merrill Lynch Equities (Australia) Limited (ABN 65 006 276 795), AFS License 235132 (MLEA) distributes this information in Australia only to 'Wholesale' clients as defined by s.761G of the Corporations Act 2001. With the exception of Bank of America N.A., Australia Branch, neither MLEA nor any of its affiliates involved in preparing this information is an Authorised Deposit-Taking Institution under the Banking Act 1959 nor regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority. No



R1 Ratings dispersions may vary from time to time where BofA Global Research believes it better reflects the investment prospects of stocks in a Coverage Cluster.

approval is required for publication or distribution of this information in Brazil and its local distribution is by Merrill Lynch (Brazil) in accordance with applicable regulations. Merrill Lynch (DIFC) is authorized and regulated by the DFSA. Information prepared and issued by Merrill Lynch (DIFC) is done so in accordance with the requirements of the DFSA conduct of business rules. BofA Europe (Frankfurt) distributes this information in Germany and is regulated by BaFin, the ECB and the CBI. BofA Securities entities, including BofA Europe and BofASE (France), may outsource/delegate the marketing and/or provision of certain research services or aspects of research services to other branches or members of the BofA Securities group. You may be contacted by a different BofA Securities entity acting for and on behalf of your service provider where permitted by applicable law. This does not change your service provider. Please refer to the Electronic Communications Disclaimers for further information.

This information has been prepared and issued by BofAS and/or one or more of its non-US affiliates. The author(s) of this information may not be licensed to carry on regulated activities in your jurisdiction and, if not licensed, do not hold themselves out as being able to do so. BofAS and/or MLPF&S is the distributor of this information in the US and accepts full responsibility for information distributed to BofAS and/or MLPF&S clients in the US by its non-US affiliates. Any US person receiving this information and wishing to effect any transaction in any security discussed herein should do so through BofAS and/or MLPF&S and not such foreign affiliates. Hong Kong recipients of this information should contact Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Limited in respect of any matters relating to dealing in securities or provision of specific advice on securities or any other matters arising from, or in connection with, this information. Singapore recipients of this information should contact Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd in respect of any matters arising from, or in connection with, this information. For clients that are not accredited investors, expert investors or institutional investors Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd accepts full responsibility for the contents of this information distributed to such clients in Singapore.

General Investment Related Disclosures:

Taiwan Readers: Neither the information nor any opinion expressed herein constitutes an offer or a solicitation of an offer to transact in any securities or other financial instrument. No part of this report may be used or reproduced or quoted in any manner whatsoever in Taiwan by the press or any other person without the express written consent of BofA Securities. This document provides general information only, and has been prepared for, and is intended for general distribution to, BofA Securities clients. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed constitutes an offer or an invitation to make an offer, to buy or sell any securities or other financial instrument or any derivative related to such securities or instruments (e.g., options, futures, warrants, and contracts for differences). This document is not intended to provide personal investment advice and it does not take into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation and the particular needs of, and is not directed to, any specific person(s). This document and its content do not constitute, and should not be considered to constitute, investment advice for purposes of ERISA, the US tax code, the Investment Advisers Act or otherwise. Investors should seek financial advice regarding the appropriateness of investing in financial instruments and implementing investment strategies discussed or recommended in this document and should understand that statements regarding future prospects may not be realized. Any decision to purchase or subscribe for securities in any offering must be based solely on existing public information on such security or the information in the prospectus or other offering document issued in connection with such offering, and not on this document.

Securities and other financial instruments referred to herein, or recommended, offered or sold by BofA Securities, are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and are not deposits or other obligations of any insured depository institution (including, Bank of America, N.A.). Investments in general and, derivatives, in particular, involve numerous risks, including, among others, market risk, counterparty default risk and liquidity risk. No security, financial instrument or derivative is suitable for all investors. Digital assets are extremely speculative, volatile and are largely unregulated. In some cases, securities and other financial instruments may be difficult to value or sell and reliable information about the value or risks related to the security or financial instrument may be difficult to obtain. Investors should note that income from such securities and other financial instruments, if any, may fluctuate and that price or value of such securities and instruments may rise or fall and, in some cases, investors may lose their entire principal investment. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Levels and basis for taxation may change.

This report may contain a short-term trading idea or recommendation, which highlights a specific near-term catalyst or event impacting the issuer or the market that is anticipated to have a short-term price impact on the equity securities of the issuer. Short-term trading ideas and recommendations are different from and do not affect a stock's fundamental equity rating, which reflects both a longer term total return expectation and attractiveness for investment relative to other stocks within its Coverage Cluster. Short-term trading ideas and recommendations may be more or less positive than a stock's fundamental equity rating.

BofA Securities is aware that the implementation of the ideas expressed in this report may depend upon an investor's ability to "short" securities or other financial instruments and that such action may be limited by regulations prohibiting or restricting "shortselling" in many jurisdictions. Investors are urged to seek advice regarding the applicability of such regulations prior to executing any short idea contained in this report.

Foreign currency rates of exchange may adversely affect the value, price or income of any security or financial instrument mentioned herein. Investors in such securities and instruments, including ADRs, effectively assume currency risk.

BofAS or one of its affiliates is a regular issuer of traded financial instruments linked to securities that may have been recommended in this report. BofAS or one of its affiliates may, at any time, hold a trading position (long or short) in the securities and financial instruments discussed in this report.

BofA Securities, through business units other than BofA Global Research, may have issued and may in the future issue trading ideas or recommendations that are inconsistent with, and reach different conclusions from, the information presented herein. Such ideas or recommendations may reflect different time frames, assumptions, views and analytical methods of the persons who prepared them, and BofA Securities is under no obligation to ensure that such other trading ideas or recommendations are brought to the attention of any recipient of this information. In the event that the recipient received this information pursuant to a contract between the recipient and BofAS for the provision of research services for a separate fee, and in connection therewith BofAS may be deemed to be acting as an investment adviser, such status relates, if at all, solely to the person with whom BofAS has contracted directly and does not extend beyond the delivery of this report (unless otherwise agreed specifically in writing by BofAS). If such recipient uses the services of BofAS in connection with the sale or purchase of a security referred to herein, BofAS may act as principal for its own account or as agent for another person. BofAS is and continues to act solely as a broker-dealer in connection with the execution of any transactions, including transactions in any securities referred to herein.

Copyright and General Information:

Copyright 2024 Bank of America Corporation. All rights reserved. iQdatabase® is a registered service mark of Bank of America Corporation. This information is prepared for the use of BofA Securities clients and may not be redistributed, retransmitted or disclosed, in whole or in part, or in any form or manner, without the express written consent of BofA Securities. BofA Global Research information is distributed simultaneously to internal and client websites and other portals by BofA Securities and is not publicly-available material. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited. Receipt and review of this information constitutes your agreement not to redistribute, retransmit, or disclose to others the contents, opinions, conclusion, or information contained herein (including any investment recommendations, estimates or price targets) without first obtaining express permission from an authorized officer of BofA Securities. Materials prepared by BofA Global Research personnel are based on public information. Facts and views presented in this material have not been reviewed by, and may not reflect information known to, professionals in other business areas of BofA Securities, including investment banking personnel. BofA Securities has established information barriers between BofA Global Research and certain business groups. As a result, BofA Securities does not disclose certain client relationships with, or compensation received from, such issuers. To the extent this material discusses any legal proceeding or issues, it has not been prepared as nor is it intended to express any legal conclusion, opinion or advice. Investors should consult their own legal advisers as to issues of law relating to the subject matter of this material. BofA Global Research personnel's knowledge of legal proceedings in which any BofA Securities entity and/or its directors, officers and employees may be plaintiffs, defendants, co-defendants or co-plaintiffs with or involving issuers mentioned in this material is based on public inform

This information has been prepared independently of any issuer of securities mentioned herein and not in connection with any proposed offering of securities or as agent of any issuer of any securities. None of BofAS any of its affiliates or their research analysts has any authority whatsoever to make any representation or warranty on behalf of the issuer(s). BofA Global Research policy prohibits research personnel from disclosing a recommendation, investment rating, or investment thesis for review by an issuer prior to the publication of a research report containing such rating, recommendation or investment thesis.

Any information relating to the tax status of financial instruments discussed herein is not intended to provide tax advice or to be used by anyone to provide tax advice. Investors are urged to seek tax advice based on their particular circumstances from an independent tax professional.

The information herein (other than disclosure information relating to BofA Securities and its affiliates) was obtained from various sources and we do not guarantee its accuracy. This information may contain links to third-party websites. BofA Securities is not responsible for the content of any third-party website or any linked content contained in a third-party website. Content contained on such third-party websites is not part of this information and is not incorporated by reference. The inclusion of a link does not imply any endorsement by or any affiliation with BofA Securities. Access to any third-party website is at your own risk, and you should always review the terms and privacy policies at third-party websites before submitting any personal information to them. BofA Securities is not responsible for such terms and privacy policies and expressly disclaims any liability for them.

All opinions, projections and estimates constitute the judgment of the author as of the date of publication and are subject to change without notice. Prices also are subject to change without



notice. BofA Securities is under no obligation to update this information and BofA Securities ability to publish information on the subject issuer(s) in the future is subject to applicable quiet periods. You should therefore assume that BofA Securities will not update any fact, circumstance or opinion contained herein.

Certain outstanding reports or investment opinions relating to securities, financial instruments and/or issuers may no longer be current. Always refer to the most recent research report relating to an issuer prior to making an investment decision.

In some cases, an issuer may be classified as Restricted or may be Under Review or Extended Review. In each case, investors should consider any investment opinion relating to such issuer (or its security and/or financial instruments) to be suspended or withdrawn and should not rely on the analyses and investment opinion(s) pertaining to such issuer (or its securities and/or financial instruments) nor should the analyses or opinion(s) be considered a solicitation of any kind. Sales persons and financial advisors affiliated with BofAS or any of its affiliates may not solicit purchases of securities or financial instruments that are Restricted or Under Review and may only solicit securities under Extended Review in accordance with firm policies.

Neither BofA Securities nor any officer or employee of BofA Securities accepts any liability whatsoever for any direct, indirect or consequential damages or losses arising from any use of this information.

