

Equity Research

24 April 2020

#virus

Mining, Autos, Aerospace and Chemicals

Tracking Covid-19 impact: China high frequency indicators (24 Apr 2020)

In the absence of frequent official data, we have assembled an array of high-frequency activity indicators across the Chinese economy that we hope investors find useful. Please let us know if you would like to receive this on a daily basis. Indicators include China daily coal burn and inventories at the top 6 IPPs, blast furnace/EAF steel/rebar/coke plant/automobile tyres/textile operating rates, steel mill inventories, passenger transport volumes, airline flight departures, daily property sales, PMI2.5 emissions, freight rates and hotel RevPAR data. We also include geolocation activity of US airport traffic, Italy electricity load, Spain/Portugal electricity consumption and NYC subway ridership (see *Data Science High Frequency Indicators Update: Nothing Notable to Report*).

The data suggest the recovery in Chinese steel demand continues, with steel inventories declining across the board (particularly construction steel -6% WoW, +98% YoY vs. 118% last week) despite improving blast furnace, rebar and EAF operating rates (steel production is up 1.4% YTD). Property sales have rebounded to +20% YoY (7dma) this week vs -31% YoY last week. China top 6 IPP daily coal burn has been oscillating around 0% to +5% YoY for the past week (vs -5% and -20% the prior week); however, on a like-for-like basis (one of the top 6 IPPs has changed since mid-March) it would be c.+5-9% YoY. Road travel restrictions are easing, with road congestion flat YoY this week vs. -6% last week. However, the recovery in manufacturing activity has stalled, likely driven by the collapse in export demand, with polyester weaving operating rates falling back to 50% (vs. mid 50s last week and 60-68% in previous weeks) and auto tyre operating rates also steady at around 60% in the past few weeks (vs. 70% this time last year). We also note that hotel RevPAR is improving slowly, but is still down 59% YoY (as of 18 Apr) vs. -68% last week. Also, Chinese flight departures are down 63% YoY (international+domestic) vs. -65% last week.

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INDUSTRY UPDATE

European Autos & Auto Parts

NEUTRAL

Unchanged

European Chemicals

NEUTRAL

Unchanged

European Mining

POSITIVE

Unchanged

U.S. Aerospace & Defense

NEUTRAL

Unchanged

European Mining

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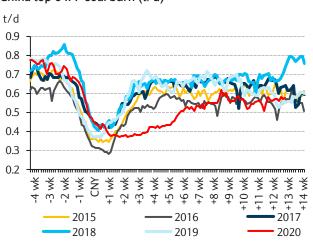
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China industrial activity indicators

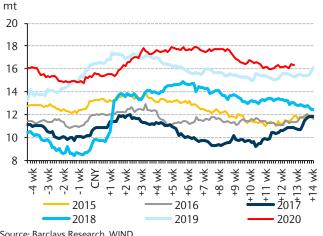
FIGURE 1 China top 6 IPP coal burn (t/d)



Source: Barclays Research, WIND

FIGURE 3

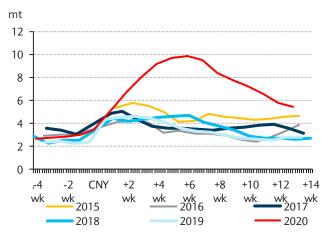
Top China top 6 IPP coal inventory (mt)



Source: Barclays Research, WIND

FIGURE 5

China construction steel inventories at mills (mt)



Source: Barclays Research, WIND, Mysteel

FIGURE 2

China top 6 IPP coal burn (% YoY)

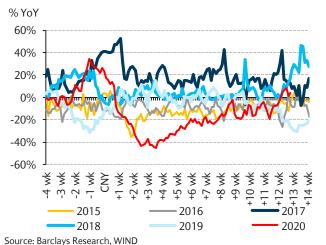
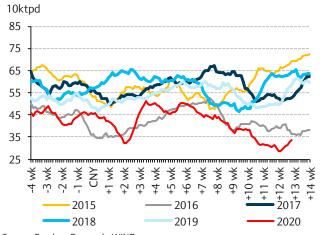


FIGURE 4

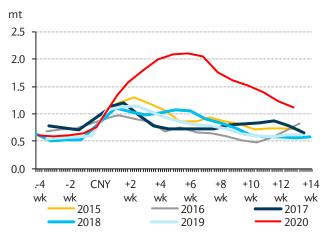
Coal arriving in Qinhuangdao port by rail



Source: Barclays Research, WIND

FIGURE 6

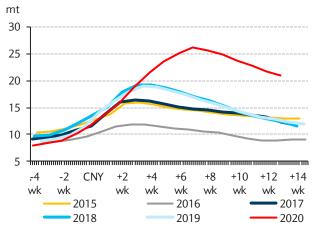
China wirerod steel inventories at mills (mt)



Source: Barclays Research, WIND, Mysteel

FIGURE 7

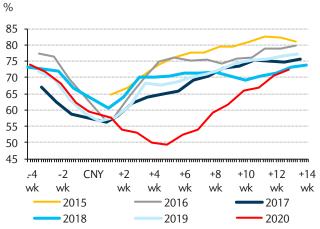
China distributor steel inventories (mt)



Source: Barclays Research, WIND

FIGURE 9

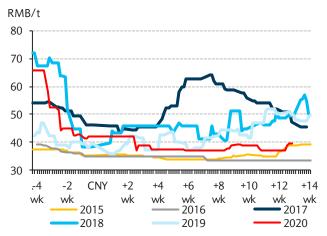
Rebar steel plant national operating rate (%)



Source: Barclays Research, WIND

FIGURE 11

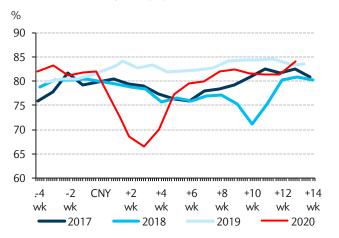
Coal coastal freight rates from Qinhuangdao port (RMB/t)



Source: Barclays Research, WIND

FIGURE 8

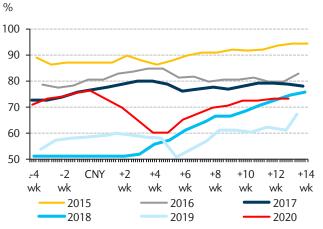
Coke plant operating rate (%)



Source: Barclays Research, WIND

FIGURE 10

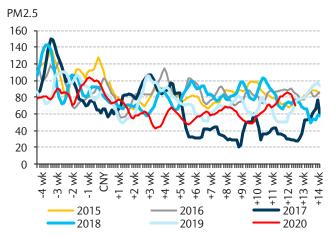
Blast furnace national operating rates (%)



Source: Barclays Research, Mysteel, WIND

FIGURE 12

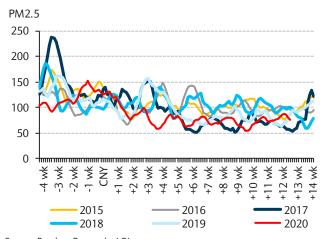
Air quality index in main manufacturing hubs (PM2.5)



3

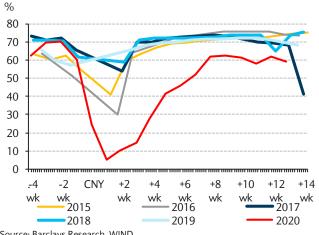
Source: Barclays Research, AQI

FIGURE 13 Air quality index in main steel producer hubs (PM2.5)



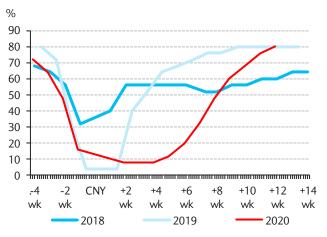
Source: Barclays Research, AQI

FIGURE 15 Operating rate: auto tyres (all steel tyre)



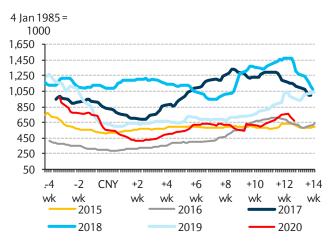
Source: Barclays Research, WIND

FIGURE 17 EAF operating rates: SW China



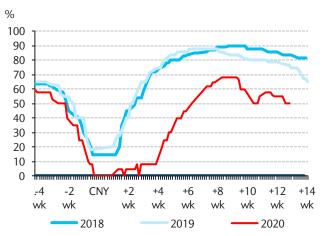
Source: Barclays Research, WIND

FIGURE 14 **Baltic Dry Freight Index**



Source: Barclays Research, Bloomberg

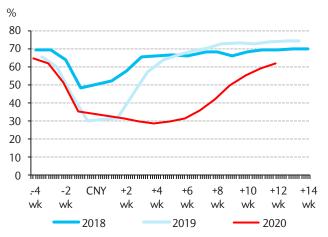
FIGURE 16 Operating rate: polyester industry: weaving



Source: Barclays Research, WIND

FIGURE 18

EAF operating rates: National

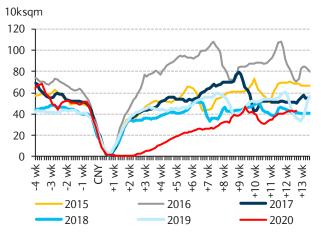


Source: Barclays Research, Bloomberg

China retail & transport activity indicators

FIGURE 19

China housing floor space sales (7dma)



Source: Barclays Research, WIND

FIGURE 21

Passenger car sales - wholesale ('000 units per day)

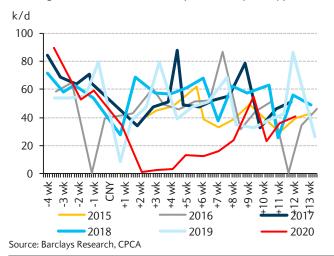
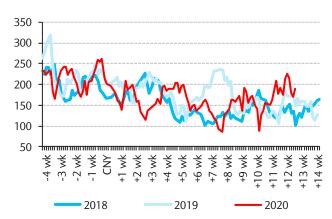


FIGURE 23

China LNG tanker port berth visits





Source: Barclays Research, CPCA

FIGURE 20

Passenger car sales – retail ('000 units per day)

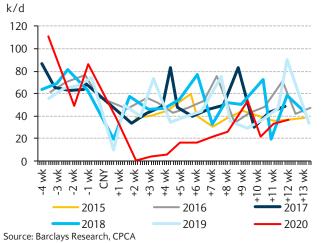
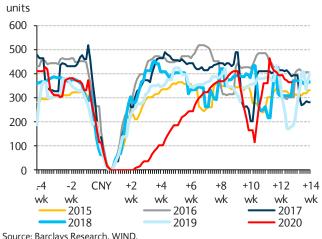


FIGURE 22

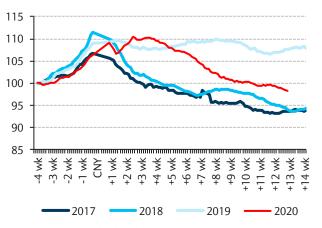
Shanghai 2nd hand car and motorcycle sales



Source: Barclays Research, WIND.

FIGURE 24

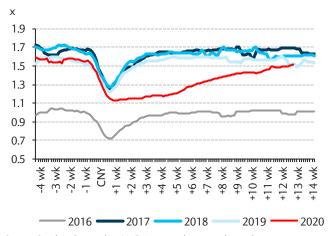
China Wholesale Food price index



Source: Barclays Research, Bloomberg.

FIGURE 25

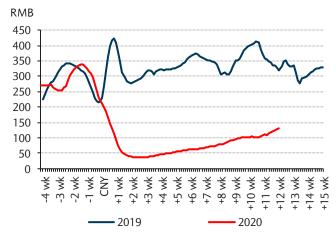
Average road congestion 100 cities (7dma)



Source: Barclays Research, AMAP Note: peak:non-peak travel times ratio

FIGURE 27

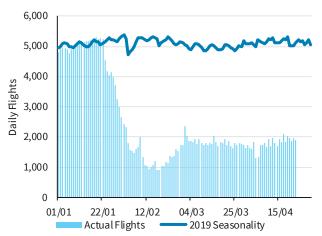
Mainland China - hotel RevPAR trend vs last year



Source: Barclays Research, STR Note: RevPAR = revenue per available room.

FIGURE 29

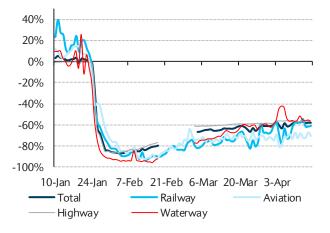
Airline departures from largest airports in China



Source: Barclays Research, Flightaware

FIGURE 26

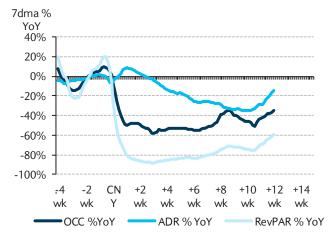
Passenger transport volumes (% YoY)



Source: Barclays Research, Ministry of Transport, National Railway Administration, Civil Aviation Administration

FIGURE 28

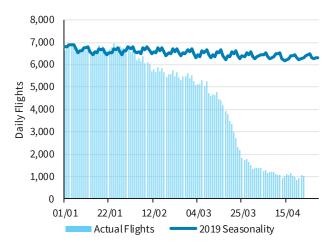
Mainland China – hotel occupancy (%), ADR (% YoY) and RevPAR trend vs last year (% YoY)



Source: Barclays Research, STR Note: ADR = average daily rate.

FIGURE 30

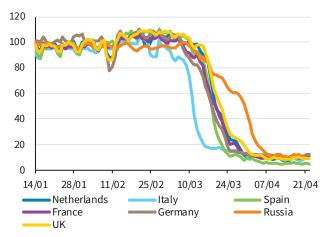
Airline departures from largest airports in Asia (ex-China)



Source: Barclays Research, Flightaware

FIGURE 31

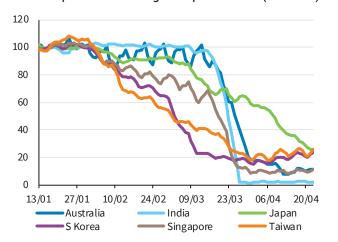
Airline departures from largest airports (EU/CIS)



Source: Barclays Research, Flightaware

FIGURE 32

Airline departures from largest airports in Asia (ex-China)

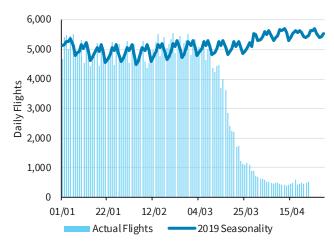


Source: Barclays Research, Flightaware

EU/US activity indicators

FIGURE 33

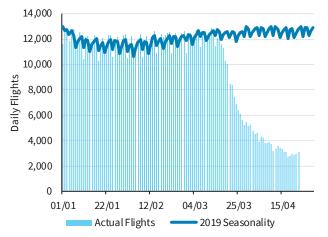
Airline departures from largest airports in Europe



Source: Barclays Research, Flightaware

FIGURE 34

Airline departures from largest airports in North America

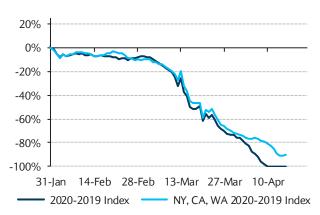


Source: Barclays Research, Flightaware

FIGURE 35

US geolocation data for US airport traffic

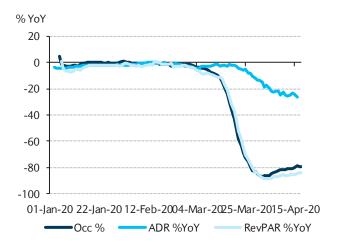
Airport Traffic



Source: Barclays Research, Complementics

FIGURE 37

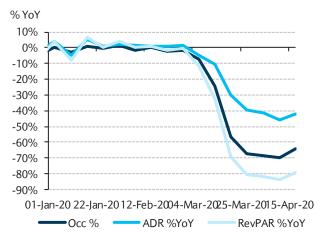
UK regional hotel occ/ADR & RevPAR (7dma)



Source: Barclays Research, STR

FIGURE 39

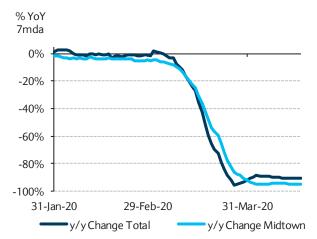
US hotel occ/ADR & RevPAR (7dma)



Source: Barclays Research, STR

FIGURE 36

NYC subway ridership

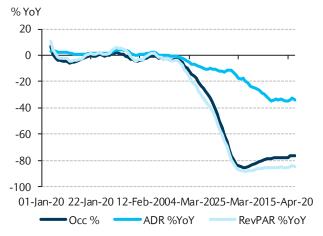


Note: Midtown are all the stations along 34th and 42nd Streets, including those attached to Grand Central Terminal and Penn Station.

Source: New York MTA, Barclays Research

FIGURE 38

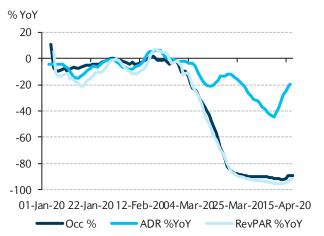
London hotel occ/ADR & RevPAR (7dma)



Source: Barclays Research, STR

FIGURE 40

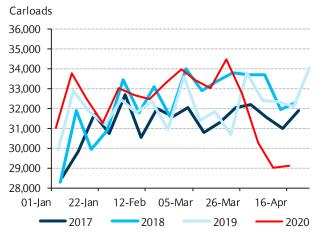
Germany hotel occ/ADR & RevPAR (7dma)



Source: Barclays Research, STR

FIGURE 41

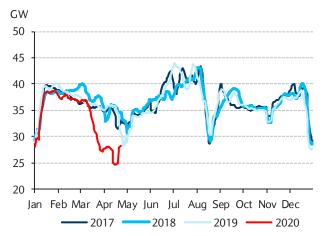
US rail chemicals freight carloads



Source: Barclays Research, Bloomberg

FIGURE 43

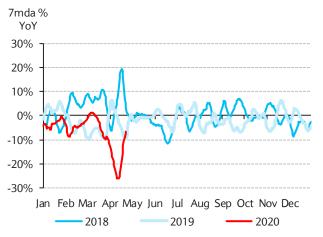
Italy electricity power load (7dma)



Source: Barclays Research, Terna

FIGURE 45

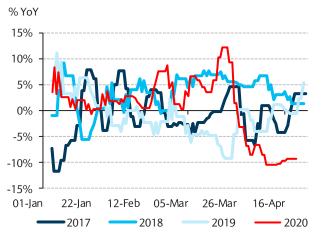
Spain daily power consumption (7dma) % YoY



Source: Barclays Research, RED Eléctrica de España

FIGURE 42

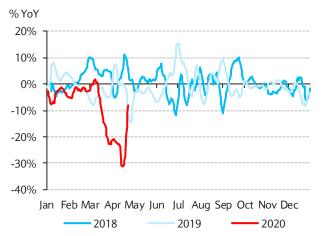
US rail chemicals freight carloads (% YoY)



Source: Barclays Research, Bloomberg

FIGURE 44

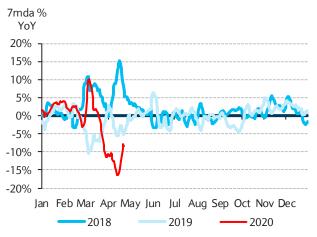
Italy electricity power load (7dma) % YoY



Source: Barclays Research, Terna

FIGURE 46

Portugal daily corrected power consumption (7dma) % YoY



Source: Barclays Research, Redes Energéticas Nacionais (REN)

ANALYST(S) CERTIFICATION(S):

We, Ian Rossouw, CFA, Amos Fletcher, CFA, Kennedy Nyangoni, CFA, Erwann Dagorne, David Strauss, Ryan Preclaw, Ben McSkelly, CFA, Alex Stewart, CFA, Sebastian Satz, CFA and Cezara Lozneanu, hereby certify (1) that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect our personal views about any or all of the subject securities or issuers referred to in this research report and (2) no part of our compensation was, is or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendations or views expressed in this research report.

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Faurecia (EPED.PA)	Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCHA.MI)	Gestamp (GEST.MC)
Michelin (MICP.PA)	Porsche Automobil Holding SE (PSHG_p.DE)	Renault SA (RENA.PA)
TRATON (8TRA.DE)	Valeo (VLOP.PA)	Volkswagen AG-PFD Preferred (VOWG_p.DE
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Clariant (CLN.S)	Covestro (1COV.DE)	Croda (CRDA.L)
DSM (DSMN.AS)	Elementis (ELM.L)	Evonik (EVKn.DE)
Givaudan (GIVN.S)	Johnson Matthey (JMAT.L)	Lanxess (LXSG.DE)
Solvay (SOLB.BR)	Symrise (SY1G.DE)	Synthomer (SYNTS.L)
Umicore (UMI.BR)	Victrex (VCTX.L)	
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Boliden (BOL.ST)	Ferrexpo Plc (FXPO.L)	Fresnillo (FRES.L)
Gem Diamonds Ltd. (GEMD.L)	Glencore (GLEN.L)	Hochschild Mining (HOCM.L)
KAZ Minerals PLC (KAZ.L)	Norsk Hydro (NHY.OL)	Petra Diamonds Ltd. (PDL.L)
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