

JHF No.173 Monthly MBS Issue

Average DTI for Flat 35 loans is rising on more low-income borrowers Strategic Memorandum DSBE017 FICC Research Dept.

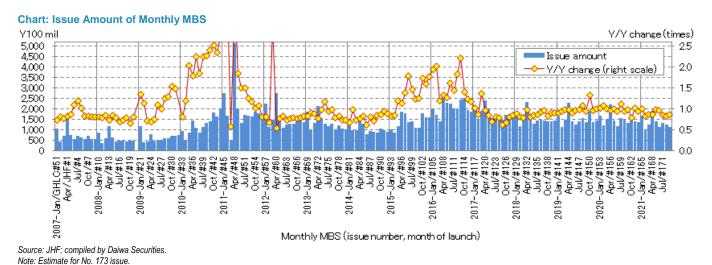
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Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd.

- The Japan Housing Finance Agency (JHF) plans to issue its No. 173 Monthly MBS. The coupon will be set by referencing the yield of the on-the-run 10-year JGB.
- JHF RMBS are issued with home loans as the underlying asset. The assets eligible to be used as collateral for the No. 173 issue are the Y145.3 billion of Flat 35 loans originated in August. Assuming overcollateralization at a credit enhancement ratio of 21.1%, which is what it was the previous issue, the issuance amount will be Y114.6 billion
- The volume of Flat 35 loans written in August declined 13% in y/y terms. Averages for both loan-to-value (LTV) and debt to income (DTI) remain high, with the latter reaching a new record high. Given Japan's economic environment of stagnating incomes, this is probably evidence that more Flat 35 loans are being written for home purchases by low-income individuals.
- Based on our prepayment model, we estimate a WAL of 9.75 years (based on 9 September closing prices; same hereinafter). The expected WAL based on the JHF's PSJ Forecast Statistical Data is 9.14 years.
- The No. 172, launched in August, had a launch spread of 29bps and a coupon of 0.31%. Based on the same launch spread, the No. 173 would have a coupon of 0.33% and an OAS of 5.8bps, 0.9bps tighter than the previous issue's launch OAS. Based on the No. 172's OAS in the secondary market, the No. 173's coupon is estimated at 0.29-0.30% and the launch spread 25-26bps.
- We think it appropriate that supply and demand will meet at the launch spread of about 29-30bps. If so, the coupon would be about 0.33-0.34%.





Issuance of JHF MBS and Situations of Flat 35

No. 173 to be launched in September

The Japan Housing Finance Agency (JHF) plans to price (launch) its No. 173 MBS this month. Issuance terms are determined by the spread-pricing method, in which a new issue's coupon is set on the launch date by adding a launch spread—which is determined based on investor demand—to the compound yield on a benchmark 10Y JGB (JB363 in this case) at the time of the launch. The launch date is scheduled in mid-September, and the payment date is scheduled on 27 September.

Issuance amount of about Y115 billion

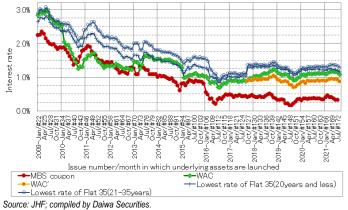
Candidate trust assets for the No. 173 totaled Y145.3 billion, all of which were Flat 35 loans originated in August. The issue is likely to have the highest ratings from S&P and R&I. The issue amount is to be announced on 10 September. If the credit enhancement ratio is unchanged from that for the previous issue at 21.1%, the issue amount is estimated at Y114.6 billion.

The amount of Flat 35 loans declined 13% y/y in August

The amount of Flat 35 mortgages originated in July declined 13% Y/Y to Y145.3 billion. The lowest retail rate (for 35-year mortgages, including group credit insurance costs) was 1.28%, down 0.05ppt from August and down 0.03ppt from August 2020. The lowest retail rate for Flat 20 loans was 1.15%, which was also a decline of 0.05ppt m/m and down 0.09ppt y/y.

Average DTI reaches record-high, average LTV also remains high

The main reason why the volume of loans declined 13% is probably that incomes have failed to keep up with housing prices. Even for Flat 35 loans that meet the minimum debt-to-income (DTI) requirement (30% for annual incomes below Y4 million and 35% for the rest), there may be a growing cohort of people unable to purchase the property they want. The average DTI hit a record high of 25.14% in August and the average loan-to-value (LTV) is also still high (see pages 6-7).



Annual Income Upper Limit (DTI)

~Y3million 25%

~Y4million 30%

~Y7million 35%

Y7million~ 40%

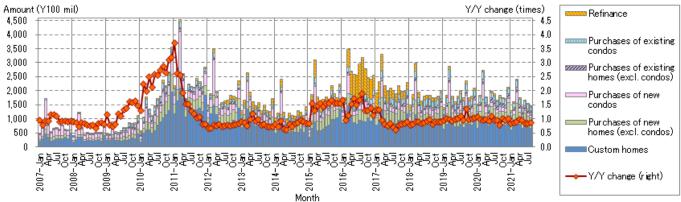
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Annual Income	Upper Limit(DTI)
~Y4million	30%
Y4million∼	35%

Source: JHF; compiled by Daiwa Securities.

Chart: Flat 35 Loans by Type of Loans



Source: JHF; compiled by Daiwa Securities.



Terms for the previous issue

Launch spread of 29bps and coupon of 0.31%

The No. 172 (Y123.4 billion) was launched on 20 August with a coupon of 0.31%. The coupon was determined by adding the launch spread of 29bp on the compound yield of benchmark JB363. The OAS at launch (our estimate; same hereinafter) stood at 6.7bps (1.5bps tighter than previous issue) and the YCS was 12.7bps (1.5bps tighter).

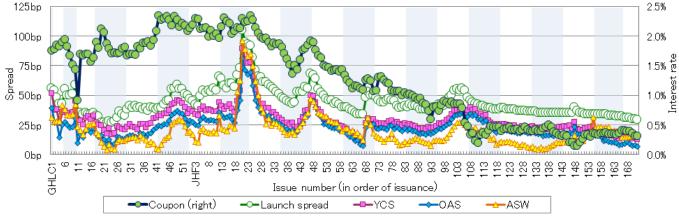
Reflecting rising JGB yields

Launch spreads narrowed by 1bp m/m but the coupon did not change because that narrowing was offset by a 1bp rise in the benchmark JGB yield. A rise in the 10-year Treasury yield above 1.3% fueled by inflation worries pulled Japan's long-term rates higher, and the on-the-run 10-year JGB yield rose slightly to near 0%. The OAS and YCS narrowed more than the launch spread because the rise in superlong JGB yields outstripped the rise in the benchmark JGB yield.

Now less attractive relative to the secondary market

Last month, the launch OAS and YCS as well as final yield were more than 5bp higher than the on-the-run bond in the secondary market, and this fueled strong investment demand in the primary market. Although the yield on the No. 172 narrowed less than 5bp, excess demand remained strong.

Chart: Issuance Terms for JHF Monthly MBS



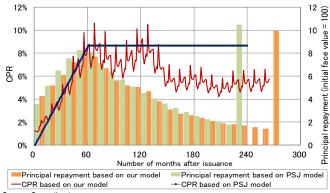
Source: JHF and our estimates.

Note: The background colors indicate different fiscal years.

Different risk premiums depending on expected cash flow distribution

With regard to the pricing of JHF MBS, it should be noted that the risk premium varies depending on the expected cash flow distribution. The expected cash flows of JHF MBS No.167 based on our prepayment model have terms that are somewhat longer than those based on the PSJ Forecast Statistical Data. As a result, YCSs based on our prepayment model are several basis points lower than those based on the PSJ Forecast Statistical Data. Since tweaking our model in July 2019, we have updated the model's parameters, and the expected maturity at the time of new issuance has gradually risen since the No. 147. We have recently adjusted this.

Chart: Expected CPR & Principal Repayment for No. 172 Issue (based on 11 Aug closing prices)

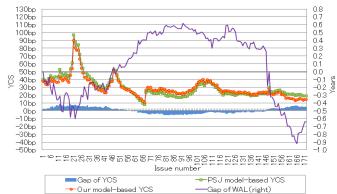


Source: Our estimates

Note: Although principal repayments are made every month, the graph show annual repayment

totals.

Chart: Difference in YCS for Monthly MBS at Launch



Source: Our estimates.



Cash flow characteristics and issuance terms for No. 173

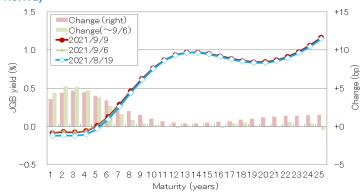
We take a look at the issuance terms for the upcoming issue. Based on expected cash flow using our prepayment model and the PSJ model, we estimate the issuance terms (the coupon and launch spread) and the risk premiums.

Expected maturity of around 9 years

The expected cash flow distribution for the upcoming issue (the chart on the previous page. based on 9 September closing prices; hereinafter the same unless otherwise noted) is about the same as the previous issue (at the time of its launch; same hereinafter).

- Based on our model, the expected WAL is 9.75 years (9.66 years for the previous issue) and the expected final maturity 22.5 years (22.1 years). The PSJ forecast is 7.33% (vs. 7.46% for the previous issue).
- The PSJ Calculation Statistical Value (average) is 8.35% (vs. 8.64% for the previous issue). Accordingly, the expected WAL is 9.14 years (vs. 8.99 years for the previous issue) and the expected final maturity 20.0 years (19.6 years).

Chart: Change in 3Y-Forward Rate (from the day before launch day of No.172)



Source: JHF; compiled by Daiwa Securities.

Note: WAC' means the Weight Average Coupon excl. premiums for JHF group credit life insurance

Forecast maturities are a bit longer than for the previous issue, and since the implied forward rate increased, this was probably owing to rising refinancing rates in each future period and declining incentives to refinance. The decline in PSJ forecasts was as big as it was in large part because Mizuho Securities cut its PSJ forecast from 8.73% last time to 7.03% now. Mizuho Securities was at the extreme of those expecting longer maturities.

The underlying loan pool's WAC (weighted average coupon; see pp. 6-7) is 1.08% and the WAC' 0.86%, 0.05ppt lower than the previous issue's.

Chart: Launch Spread Estimates for No. 173 MBS (based on 9 Sep closing prices)

Valuations of JHF_MBS_#173 Pricing(Simulation) 9-Sep-21 (Tokvo Close) Base Yield: JGB(363G) YTM 0.035 % Valuations of Cash Flows Daiwa Model PSJ Model Launch Indications of Previous RMBS Issue Coupon PSJ forec Spread (#172)ModDur OAS YCS ASW YCS ASW <u>Mo</u>dDur 0.27 % 23 bp 11.0 11.6 (Issuance Terms) -0.37.8 9.552 8.831 **24** bp 0.28 % 0.7 6.3 8.8 9.545 12.6 8.825 _aunch Spread=29bp 13.0 13.6 8.819 Coupon=0.31 % 0.30 % 14.6 (Valuations at the time of Launch) 26 bp 2.8 8.3 10.8 9.530 14.1 8.813 [CF based on Daiwa Model]: 27 bb 0.31 3.8 9.3 11.8 9.523 15.1 15.78.807 28 bp 0.32 % 8 801 OAS=6.7bp, YCS=12.7bp, ASW=16.2bp 48 104 12.8 9 5 1 5 161 167 [CF based on PSJ Model]: 29 bp 5.8 11.4 13.8 9.508 17.1 17.7 8.795 0.33 0.34 % 9.501 8.789 18.7 YCS=17.9bp, ASW=19.2bp 30 bp 6.9 12.4 14.7 18.1 19.7 19.1 (Valuations in the secondary market) 9.494 8.783 32 bp 0.36 % 8.9 14.4 16.7 9.486 20.2 20.7 8.777 [CF based on Daiwa Model/Daiwa Price] OAS=2bp, YCS=7.9bp, ASW=10.1bp **33** bp 9.9 15.5 17.7 9.479 21.2 21.8 8.771 34 bp 0.38 % 11.0 16.5 9.472 18.7 22.8 [CF based on PSJ Model/JSDA price]: < PSJ Model/based on PSJ Forecast Statistical Data> < Daiwa Model> YCS=14.5 bp. ASW=14.6 bp PS. I 7.33 % 8.35 % (Median: 8.50) % Ave: 9.75 years 9.14 years (9.07) years

Source: Compiled by Daiwa Securities

Note: 1) Figures in colored cells show similar indications to those in the previous issue, as indicated in the right section (Indications of Previous MBS Issue) with the same colors. Spreads in the previous issue at launch are based on those at the time of pricing. The spreads in the previous issue in the secondary market used in the Daiwa model are based on Daiwa prices, and the spreads in the previous issue in the secondary market used in the Secondary market used in the PSJ model are based on the JSDA's Trading Reference Statistical Data.

2) Figures for both Trading Reference Statistical Data and PSJ Forecast Statistical Data are average figures.

3) Estimated cash flow is based on the assumption that clean-up call options are exercised in initial April or October after the outstanding amount becomes 10% or less of the original.

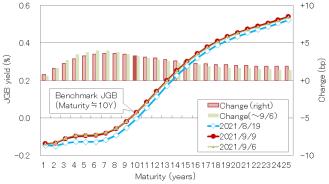


Launch spread indications

The previous issue (No. 172) was launched at a time when the on-the-run 10-year JGB yield had dropped below 0% and was testing a bottom several basis points into negative territory. Since then, the bottom of its range has risen slightly.

If the launch spread is the same as the previous issue at 29bps, the No. 173 coupon would be 0.33 %. In this case, the OAS would be 5.8bps, down0.9bps from the previous issue's launch OAS. The OAS narrowing would be in connection with changes in the shape of the yield curve, a technical factor, mainly because of larger increases in superlong yields than the increase in the benchmark JGB's yield.

Chart: JGB Yield Curve Changes (from the day before launch day of No.172)



Source: Compiled by Daiwa Securities.

(Connection with risk premium of previous issue)

The connection with secondary market levels is also of concern. We confirmed spread levels from our offices' prices and JSDA Trading Reference Statistical Data for the previous issue and then looked at the connection with the current issue. For convenience, we used our offices' prices for our model's cash flow analysis and JSDA Trading Reference Statistical Data for the PSJ model-based cash flow estimates (the JSDA's published PSJ Forecast Statistical Data; PSJ values based on the average of the Obp yield curve scenario).

The connections with the previous issue are shown as follows (secondary market levels and benchmark yield are as of the 9 September close).

[Pricing using our model's cash flow estimates]

- The No. 172's launch OAS was 6.7bps and the YCS 12.7bps. Based on the similar OAS and YCS, the No. 173's launch spread would be 30bps and the coupon 0.34%.
- In the secondary market, the No. 172's OAS is 2.0bps and the YCS 7.9bps. In line with these, the No. 173's launch spread would be about 25-26bps and the coupon 0.29-0.30%.

[Pricing using PSJ forecast-based cash flow estimates]

- The No. 172's launch YCS was 17.9bps. Based on the similar YCS, the No. 173's launch spread would be about 30bps and the coupon 0.34%.
- In the secondary market, the No. 172's YCS is 14.5bps. In line with this, the No. 173's launch spread would be about 26bps and the coupon 0.30%.

(Demand forecast for No. 173 issue and issuance level)

Status of the pandemic

Japan's fifth wave of COVID-19 infections has begun to moderate. The number of new positive cases nationwide, which peaked at 5,773 on 13 August, has dropped below 2,000 per day. Japan lifted its state of emergency in Miyagi and Okayama prefectures on 12 September but extended it until 30 September for Hokkaido, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa, Shizuoka, Aichi, Gifu, Mie, Shiga, Kyoto. Osaka, Hyogo, Hiroshima, Fukuoka, and Okinawa prefectures. Japan's vaccination rate is over 50% for a single dose and 42.9% for a second dose (as of 8 September; from the government's CIO portal).

Credit enhancement ratio and RMBS issuance volume

We expect the amount of the upcoming issuance to be about 13% lower than the year-ago issue. Given the loan pool's high averages for both LTV and DTI, we expect more overcollateralization and a high credit enhancement ratio close to the 21.1% of the previous issue. This provides a buffer to ensure investors' ability to collect principal and interest is not threatened even if the beneficiary interests of the RMBS are activated, and the credit enhancement ratio was set at the minimum value allowed for a AAA rating from the rating agencies. A higher credit enhancement ratio results in a lower amount of RMBS issuance.

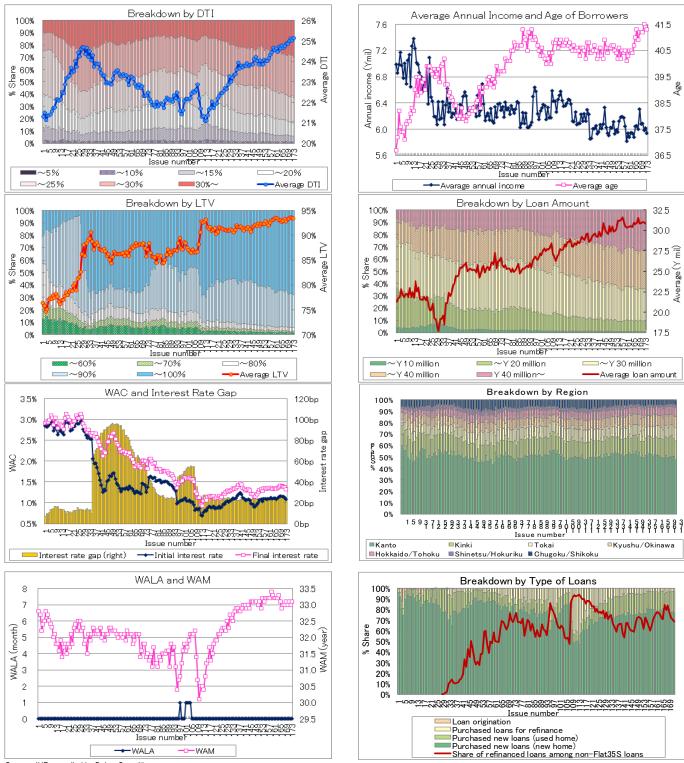
Coupon in the lower 0.3% range

The personal opinion of your author is that the launch spread for this issue will confirm sufficient demand and be either 29bp, the same as for the last one, or 30bp, which



would give it the same OAS on issuance as the previous issue. In this case, the coupon would be 0.33-0.34% (based on 9 September closing prices).

Characteristics of Underlying Loan Pools for All JHF Monthly MBSs



Source: JHF; compiled by Daiwa Securities. Note: Candidate pool used for No. 173 issue.



Characteristics of Underlying Loans: No. 173 Monthly MBS and Last Six Issues (No. 167-172)

		JHF #167	JHF #168	JHF #169	JHF #170	JHF #171	JHF #172	JHF #173	Ave. of previous 6 issues	Change from #172
Loan Pool Selected in		Feb-2021	Mar-2021	Apr-2021	May-2021	Jun-2021	Jul-2021	Aug-2021	0 133463	
Loan Application Started in		Jul-2018	Jul-2018	Mar-2019	Dec-2018	May-2018	Mar-2019	Aug-2018		
Repayment Started in		Feb-2021	Mar-2021	Apr-2021	May-2021	Apr-2021, June-2021	Jul-2021	Aug-2021		
Initial Outstanding Entrusted Assets (Y mil)		159,663	241,717	176,241	142,859	167,960	156,411	145,338	174,142	-11,073
Issue Size (Y mil)		127,400	192,900	140,800	113,000	132,600	123,400	TBD	138,350	-
Excess Collateral (Y mil)		32,263	48,817	35,441	29,859	35,360	33,011	TBD	35,792	-
Overcollateralization		20.2%	20.1%	20.1%	20.9%	21.0%	21.1%	TBD	20.6%	-
Number of Loans		5,158	7,656	5,712	4,618	5,410	5,055	4,708	5,602	-347
Average Outstanding Loan (Y mil)		30.954	31.572	30.855	30.935	31.046	30.942	30.871	31.051	-0.071
Average LTV		93.28%	92.85%	93.32%	93.36%	93.64%	93.45%	93.39%	93.32%	-0.06%
Average DTI		24.74%	24.88%	24.85%	24.99%	25.12%	25.04%	25.14%	24.94%	+0.10%
Average LTV for Refinance		82.48%	81.96%	81.09%	81.34%	83.08%	81.14%	85.13%	81.85%	+3.99%
Average DTI for Refinance		19.31%	19.03%	19.05%	18.73%	19.44%	18.76%	19.31%	19.05%	+0.55%
Average Annual Income of Obligors (Y mil)		6.000	6.310	6.082	6.089	5.988	6.019	5.940	6.081	-0.079
Average Age of Obligors		40.9	41.2	41.2	41.2	41.5	41.4	41.3	41.2	-0.1
WAC (Initial Rate)		1.12%	1.15%	1.17%	1.15%	1.15%	1.13%	1.08%	1.15%	-0.05%
WAC (Final Rate)		1.36%	1.39%	1.41%	1.40%	1.39%	1.37%	1.32%	1.39%	-0.05%
WALA (Weighted Average Loan Age)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+0
WALA for Refinance		115	121	118	123	116	126	121	120	-5
WAM		396	396	397	396	397	396	397	396	+1
Maturity Structure of	Up to 10Y	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	+0.0%
Loans at Origination (% share)	10-20Y	4.4%	4.8%	4.3%	5.0%	4.2%	4.4%	4.4%	4.5%	+0.0%
	20-25Y	4.1%	3.7%	4.3%	4.0%	4.3%	4.0%	3.6%	4.1%	-0.4%
	25-30Y	7.1%	6.9%	6.7%	6.2%	6.9%	7.2%	7.1%	6.8%	-0.1%
	Over 30Y	84.2%	84.4%	84.6%	84.7%	84.6%	84.3%	84.8%	84.5%	+0.5%
% share of loans with bonus payments Type of Loan	(in number)	10.8%	10.9%	9.4%	8.7%	7.9%	8.2%	7.9%	9.3%	-0.3%
	(in value)	12.4%	12.1%	10.5%	10.0%	9.0%	9.3%	9.0%	10.6%	-0.3%
	new	96.3%	97.1%	96.5%	96.8%	96.8%	97.0%	96.7%	96.8%	-0.3%
	refinanced	3.7%	2.9%	3.5%	3.2%	3.2%	3.0%	3.3%	3.3%	+0.3%
Loan Amount at Origination (% share)	Up to Y10 mil	0.9%	0.8%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	+0.0%
	Y10-20 mil	8.8%	8.4%	9.0%	8.8%	8.4%	8.7%	8.6%	8.7%	-0.1%
	Y20-30 mil	25.4%	24.7%	26.1%	26.4%	26.4%	26.4%	26.2%	25.9%	-0.2%
	Y30-40 mil	31.8%	30.5%	30.6%	31.6%	31.4%	31.1%	32.1%	31.2%	+1.0%
	Y40-50 mil	18.2%	18.2%	18.5%	17.6%	18.7%	18.0%	17.5%	18.2%	-0.5%
	Over Y50 mil	15.0%	17.4%	14.9%	14.8%	14.3%	14.9%	14.8%	15.2%	-0.1%
Loan Amount by Region (% share)	Hokkaido/Tohoku	6.9%	8.1%	7.5%	6.8%	6.4%	7.3%	7.7%	7.2%	+0.4%
	Kanto	51.5%	49.4%	50.6%	49.9%	51.2%	50.3%	47.5%	50.5%	-2.8%
	Shinetsu/Hokuriku	1.7%	1.9%	2.1%	2.0%	2.1%	2.4%	2.3%	2.0%	-0.1%
	Tokai	10.0%	9.0%	9.8%	9.9%	9.7%	10.3%	11.6%	9.8%	+1.3%
	Kinki	15.9%	17.1%	16.9%	18.5%	17.3%	16.5%	16.6%	17.0%	+0.1%
	Chugoku	2.9%	2.9%	2.4%	2.9%	2.8%	2.7%	3.2%	2.8%	+0.5%
	Shikoku	1.7%	1.3%	1.1%	1.0%	1.5%	1.4%	1.2%	1.3%	-0.2%
	Kyushu/Okinawa	9.4%	10.3%	9.7%	9.0%	9.1%	9.1%	9.8%	9.4%	+0.7%

Source: JHF; compiled by Daiwa Securities. Note: Candidate pool used for No. 173 issue.



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- 2: Outperform TOPIX/benchmark index by 5-15% over the next 12 months.
- 3: Out/underperform TOPIX/benchmark index by less than 5% over the next 12 months.
- 4: Underperform TOPIX/benchmark index by 5-15% over the next 12 months.
- 5: Underperform TOPIX/benchmark index by more than 15% over the next 12 months.

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- * The amount of the trading commission cannot be stated here in advance because it will be determined between our company and you based on current market conditions and the content of each transaction etc.
- ** The ratio of margin requirements etc. to the amount of the transaction cannot be stated here in advance because it will be determined between our company and you based on current market conditions and the content of each transaction etc.

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