

Daiwa's View

US yield outlook for FY23 (revised on 22 Jun)

- We forecast US 10-year yield of 3.5% at end-2023 and 3.25% at end-Mar 2024
- Now may be the last buying opportunity

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US yield outlook for FY23 (revised on 22 Jun)

We have revised our outlook for US yields in light of yesterday's revision to our outlook for US monetary policy. Our new forecast for the US 10-year yield is 3.50% at end-2023 (up 50bp vs. our previous forecast) and 3.25% at end-March 2024. Our outlook reflects two new factors—(1) a 25bp rise in the level of the terminal rate (from 5.25% to 5.5%) due to an anticipated rate hike at the July FOMC meeting and (2) a 3- to 5-month delay in the timing of rate cuts compared to the previous projection (from Dec 2023 to Mar-May 2024). (We estimate that both factors will have the effect of raising the yield by around 25bp each.)

As previously reported, there are certain limitations with the inversion of the 10-year yield and the federal funds rate. With the negative yield now close to the limit of what is sustainable, a revision to the terminal rate will likely have a direct impact on the 10-year yield. In *Daiwa's View* reports, we view it as highly likely that, in the end, the Fed will not raise the upper limit of the federal funds rate to 5.75% because two additional rate hike projections in 2023 shown in the new dot plot (median) for the June FOMC meeting consist of one strong signal and one weak signal. We forecast that the Fed will probably implement the last additional rate hike in July, and then enter a period of maintaining the policy interest rate following the Jackson Hole conference in August and the FOMC meeting in September.

Of course, it is true that risks with the yield outlook are increasing in two different directions. Over the next six months, both of the following are possible—(1) increased pricing in of the second additional rate hike and (2) increased speculation about a rate cut at an early stage. The 10-year yield is expected to approach 4% in the former case and 3.5% in the latter case. While the market is factoring in a terminal rate of 5.5%, the 10-year US yield is likely to move in a range centering on 3.75%.¹

US Yield Outlook as of 22 Jun 2023 (%)

	22-Jun (Actual: Bloomberg)	FY23								
		Jul-Sep			Oct-Dec			Jan-Mar		
		Lower limit	Upper limit	Term-end	Lower limit	Upper limit	Term-end	Lower limit	Upper limit	Term-end
FF (upper limit)	5.25	5.00	6.00	5.50	4.00	6.00	5.50	3.00	6.00	5.25
2y	4.71	3.75	5.50	4.75	3.25	5.25	4.50	2.50	5.00	3.50
5y	3.96	3.00	4.50	4.00	2.75	4.25	3.50	2.50	4.25	3.25
10y	3.72	3.00	4.25	3.75	2.75	4.25	3.50	2.50	4.25	3.25

Source: Compiled by Daiwa Securities.

¹ When expressing this by breaking it down into the 10-year breakeven inflation rate (BEI) and the real yield, a 10-year real yield of around 1.45% and real yield of 1.1-1.7% are estimated for a 10-year BEI of around 2.3%.

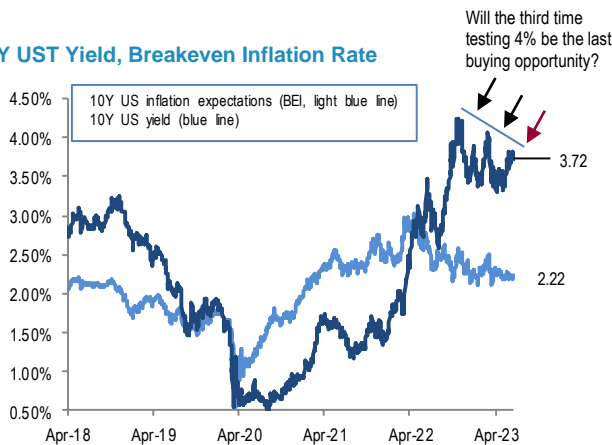
Current movement testing 4% could be the last buying opportunity

◆ Is this the last opportunity to buy?

We feel it is highly likely that the current uptrend in the US long-term yield will be the last opportunity to buy during this rate-hike cycle. Looking back on developments since last year, the 10-year yield hit 4% twice, and both times this occurred when the Fed became more hawkish and the market increased speculation about a substantial rise in real yields due to rate hikes. As the Fed raised its projection for the upper limit of the federal funds rate to 5.7% in the dot plot for the June FOMC meeting, the 10-year yield is now testing 4%, which is the third time in the current cycle. However, we get the impression it is unlikely that the Fed will raise the terminal rate to a level higher than 6% during 2H FY23 (of course, this depends on data). If this were to be the last rise in the terminal rate, this third time testing 4% could be the last buying opportunity.

Moreover, during the current rate-hike cycle, the 30-year US yield has exceeded 4% only during 17 October-11 November 2022. We are focusing on the fact that the 30-year yield has not exceeded 4% since the beginning of 2023 (on a closing price basis). Even when the 10-year US yield topped 4% on 2 March 2023 on a closing price basis, the 30-year yield did not exceed 4%. The fact that the 30-year yield, which tends to be traded based on a long-term perspective, is forming a peak at 4% serves as an important reference factor when examining the investment attractiveness of the 10-year yield of 4% in the current rate-hike cycle.

10Y UST Yield, Breakeven Inflation Rate



Source: Bloomberg; compiled by Daiwa Securities.

30Y UST Yield



Source: Bloomberg; compiled by Daiwa Securities.

Appendix: Outlook for Monetary Policy and Balance Sheet Reductions (QT) as of 21 Jun 2023

FOMC meeting	Policy rate (median of range)	Balance sheet reductions (QT)
Sep-22	0.75% hike (3.125%)	Maximum roll-off cap of \$95bn/m (US Treasuries: \$60bn/m, MBS \$35bn)
Nov-22	0.75% hike (3.875%)	
Dec-22	0.50% hike (4.375%)	
Feb-23	0.25% hike (4.625%)	
Mar-23	0.25% hike (4.875%)	
May-23	0.25% hike (5.125%)	
Jun-23	-	
Jul-23	0.25% hike (5.375%) Terminal rate: 5.25%~5.50%	
Sep-23	-	
Nov-23	-	
Dec-23	-	
Jan-24	-	
Mar-24	0.25% cut (5.125%)	Suspension of balance sheet reductions (Continuation of MBS roll-off)
May-24	0.25% cut (4.875%)	
Jun-24	0.25% cut (4.625%)	
Jul-24	0.25% cut (4.375%)	
Sep-24	0.50% cut (3.875%)	
Nov-24	0.50% cut (3.375%)	
Dec-24	0.50% cut (2.875%)	
Jan-25	0.25% cut (2.625%) Terminal rate: 2.50%~2.75%	

Source: Compiled by Daiwa Securities.

Note: Official schedule for FOMC meetings from Mar 2024 onwards undisclosed.

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