

Banks | China | October 18, 2023



# China

HOLD (no change)

Consensus ratings*: Buy 14	Hold 6 Sell 2
Current price:	Rmb4.02
Target price:	Rmb3.70
Previous target:	Rmb3.70
Up/downside:	-8.0%
CGS-CIMB / Consensus:	-4.8%
Reuters:	601988.SS
Bloomberg:	601988 CH
Market cap:	US\$146,068m
	Rmb1,068,311m
Average daily turnover:	US\$81.65m
	Rmb598.0m
Current shares o/s:	294,388m
Free float: *Source: Bloomberg	28.4%

#### Key changes in this note

> No changes



Major shareholders	% held
Huijin	67.8
SSF	2.7

#### Analyst(s)



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# **Bank of China-A**

# Addressing Malaysian investor feedback

- We hosted BOC in Malaysia on a roadshow, with investor interest on issues relating to profits, NIM, dividends, property, asset quality and loan growth.
- We continue to be confident in FY23F 25F stability of profits and dividend payout ratios, despite continued revenue pressures & economic challenges.
- NIM pressure remains greatest between 2Q23 and 3Q24F, with impacts from mortgage backbook pricing of about 6bp in FY24F, in our view.
- BOC-A remains our top SOE A-share bank pick. Reiterate Hold rating, TP unchanged at Rmb3.70.

# Much Malaysian investor interest in meeting BOC

We brought Bank of China (BOC) to Malaysia to meet investors, with many questions from institutional investors centered around the outlook for bank profitability, net interest margins (NIM), the property sector, asset quality, and loan growth, as well as the sustainability of BOC's dividend payout ratio.

# We see BOC's strong record of stable profits since 2015 persisting

BOC emphasised its strong record of stable-to-rising net profits (prior to deductions for minority interests, preference share dividends and perpetual bond payments) since FY15 (Fig 1). We see this continuing despite FY23F – 25F revenue pressures relating to net interest margins (NIM) and fee growth, given its sizable buildup of provisioning and non-performance loan recognition buffers, as argued in <u>Significant buffers to absorb LPR cuts</u>, dated 15 Aug 2023. We assess BOC's excess buffers over regulatory minimum could fall by 26% pts over FY22 - FY25F to 75% of FY25F pre-tax profits, and fall by 19% pts over FY22 – FY25F to 55% of FY25F pre-provisioning operating profits (PPOP) (Fig 2). As argued in <u>Addressing dividend and profit concerns</u>, dated 11 Jul 2023, we do not expect cuts to BOC's dividend payout ratios or DPS over FY23F – 25F.

# NIM pressure greatest over 2Q23 – 3Q24F period, in our view

We see BOC's NIM pressure to be the greatest over the 2Q23 – 3Q24F period, due to lower loan prime rates, a worsening time deposit mix, lower mortgage rates, as well as mortgage back-book repricing, with mortgage back-book repricing to have a -6bp impact on FY24F NIM, in our view. The People's Bank of China (PBOC) has recently stated that as of 1 Oct 2023, 56% of all system mortgages have seen their back-book reprice, with these repriced mortgages seeing a 73bp fall in mortgage yields. Furthermore, Sep 2023 yields on all mortgages had fallen 42bp mom to 4.29%.

# Reiterate Hold rating; remains our top SOE A-share bank pick

Our stress-test adjusted GGM-based TP remains unchanged at Rmb3.70. We reiterate our Hold rating on support from continued high FY24F dividend yields but offset by FY23F – 25F revenue pressures. Upside risks include improving asset quality and economic recovery. Key downside risks: a worse-than-expected NIM trend and greater social responsibilities impacting its profits.

Financial Summary	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
Net Interest Income (Rmbm)	425,142	460,678	469,339	468,974	496,247
Total Non-Interest Income (Rmbm)	180,575	158,461	162,049	170,924	184,089
Operating Revenue (Rmbm)	605,717	619,139	631,388	639,898	680,336
Total Provision Charges (Rmbm)	(104,220)	(103,993)	(106,487)	(103,554)	(115,784)
Net Profit (Rmbm)	205,908	214,020	219,079	226,636	238,141
Core EPS (Rmb)	0.70	0.73	0.74	0.77	0.81
Core EPS Growth	13.9%	3.9%	2.4%	3.4%	5.1%
FD Core P/E (x)	5.75	5.53	5.40	5.22	4.97
DPS (Rmb)	0.22	0.23	0.24	0.25	0.26
Dividend Yield	5.50%	5.77%	5.91%	6.11%	6.42%
BVPS (Rmb)	6.47	6.99	7.54	8.11	8.71
P/BV (x)	0.62	0.58	0.53	0.50	0.46
ROE	11.2%	10.8%	10.2%	9.8%	9.6%
EPS/Consensus EPS (x)			0.99	0.97	0.96

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



# Addressing Malaysian investor feedback

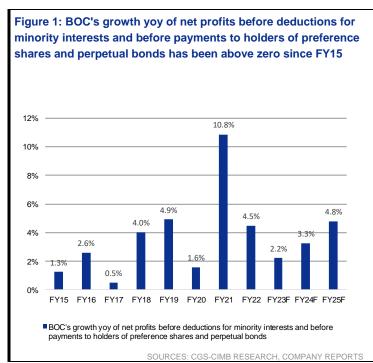


Figure 2: Despite the erosion of provisioning buffers over regulatory minimum requirements, BOC's FY25F excess provisioning buffers remain at a healthy level, at 75% of FY25F pre-tax profits and 55% of FY25F pre-provisioning operating profits (PPOP)

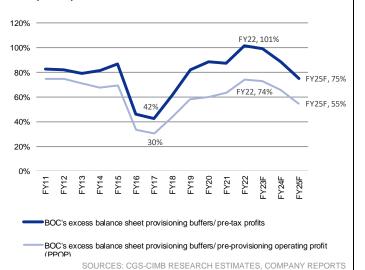


Figure 3: Valuation using a stress-test-adjusted GGM (Rmb) Assumptions and forecasts Equity risk premium 8.0% Risk free rate 3.0% Beta 0.55 COE 7.4% 3.0% g Sustainable ROE (based on FY25F ROE) 9.6% Initial target P/BV 1.50x Asset quality valuation discount -36% National service' discount -55% Final target P/BV 0.43 FY24F BVPS 7.83 3.37 Initial target price Average A-H share premium applied 19% Valuation incorporating average A-H share gap since start-2011 4.00 Weighting given to A-H valuation gap 50% Hence, final A-share target price 3.70 Current price (Rmb) 4.02 Share price upside -8% TP-implied sustainable ROE 5.1% SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH ESTIMATES Share price as of 18 Oct 2023



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Company	Ticker	Rating	Mkt cap	Price	Target	Upside/	P/B\	/ (x)	P/E	(x)	P/PPC	DP (x)	Dividen	d yield	ROE	E(%)
			(US\$ bn)	(Lcy)	price (Lcy)	Downside	FY23F	FY24F	FY23F	FY24F	FY23F	FY24F	FY23F	FY24F	FY23F	FY24
ICBC	1398 HK	Add	229.1	3.88	3.90	1%	0.38	0.35	3.7	3.5	2.1	2.1	8.6	8.8	10.8	10.3
CCB	0939 HK	Add	163.4	4.65	5.70	23%	0.37	0.34	3.3	3.2	2.0	2.0	9.2	9.4	11.5	10.9
BOC	3988 HK	Add	147.9	2.82	3.60	28%	0.35	0.32	3.5	3.4	2.0	1.9	9.1	9.4	10.2	9.8
ABC	1288 HK	Add	169.5	2.96	2.90	-2%	0.40	0.37	3.9	3.8	2.2	2.1	8.2	8.5	10.7	10.3
BOCOM	3328 HK	Add	54.6	4.87	4.90	1%	0.37	0.35	3.9	3.8	2.1	2.1	8.4	8.7	9.8	9.5
CMB	3968 HK	Add	116.7	32.30	57.30	77%	0.82	0.73	5.2	4.6	3.5	3.4	6.3	7.2	16.6	16.
CITIC	0998 HK	Add	36.4	3.69	5.30	44%	0.28	0.26	2.7	2.4	1.2	1.1	10.4	11.5	10.9	11.1
MSB	1988 HK	Reduce	22.6	2.71	2.20	-19%	0.21	0.20	3.4	3.2	1.3	1.3	8.9	9.5	6.3	6.5
CQRCB	3618 HK	Hold	5.6	3.07	2.50	-19%	0.28	0.26	3.0	2.7	1.7	1.7	10.2	11.2	9.5	10.0
H-share weighted																
average							0.42	0.39	3.8	3.6	2.2	2.2	8.5	8.9	11.4	11.(
ICBC - A	601398 CH	Reduce	229.1	4.93	3.80	-23%	0.52	0.48	5.0	4.8	2.9	2.9	6.3	6.5	10.8	10.3
CCB - A	601939 CH	Hold	163.4	6.75	5.60	-17%	0.57	0.53	5.2	5.0	3.2	3.1	5.9	6.0	11.5	10.9
BOC - A	601988 CH	Hold	147.9	4.02	3.70	-8%	0.53	0.50	5.4	5.2	3.0	3.0	5.9	6.1	10.2	9.8
ABC - A	601288 CH		169.5	3.74	2.90	-22%	0.55	0.51	5.3	5.1	3.0	2.9	6.1	6.3	10.7	10.3
BOCOM - A	601328 CH	Reduce	54.6	5.95	4.90	-18%	0.49	0.46	5.1	5.0	2.8	2.7	6.4	6.6	9.8	9.5
CMB - A	600036 CH	Add	116.7	32.49	53.60	65%	0.88	0.79	5.6	5.0	3.8	3.7	5.9	6.6	16.6	16.
CITIC - A	601998 CH	Add	36.4	5.89	6.00	2%	0.49	0.45	4.6	4.2	2.0	2.0	6.1	6.7	10.9	11.1
MSB - A	600016 CH	Reduce	22.6	3.75	2.40	-36%	0.31	0.30	5.0	4.7	2.0	2.0	6.0	6.4	6.3	6.5
PAB - A	000001 CH	Add	30.6	10.95	14.70	34%	0.52	0.46	4.3	3.7	1.6	1.5	3.0	3.5	12.7	13.1
CQRCB - A	601077 CH	Reduce	5.6	4.29	3.00	-30%	0.42	0.39	4.5	4.1	2.6	2.5	6.8	7.5	9.5	10.0
A-share weighted							-		-		-	-		-		
average							0.58	0.54	5.2	4.9	3.0	2.9	5.9	6.2	11.7	11.4
Combined sector																
weighted average							0.50	0.46	4.5	4.2	2.6	2.6	7.2	7.5	11.5	11.2

BOCOM: BANK OF COMMUNICATIONS; CMB: CHINA MERCHANTS BANK; CITIC: CHINA CITIC BANK; MSB: CHINA MINSHENG BANK;

CQRCB: CHONGQING RURAL COMMERCIAL BANK) DATA AS OF 18 OCT 2023



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#### Figure 5: Key financial summary

Profit & loss								
(Rmb m)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023F	2024F	2025F
Net interest income	359,706	374,250	415,918	425,142	460,678	469,339	468,974	496,247
уоу	6.3%	4.0%	11.1%	2.2%	8.4%	1.9%	-0.1%	5.8%
Non interest income	144,100	175,760	151,729	180,575	158,461	162,049	170,924	184,089
уоу	-0.9%	22.0%	-13.7%	1 <u>9</u> .0%	-12.2%	2.3%	5.5%	7.7%
Total revenue	503,806	550,010	567,647	605,717	619,139	631,388	639,898	680,336
уоу	4.1%	9.2%	3.2%	6.7%	2.2%	2.0%	1.3%	6.3%
Operating expenses	-176,979	-198,269	-202,411	-226,355	-231,196	-235,770	-238,948	-254,048
Pre-prov profit	326,827	351,741	365,236	379,362	387,943	395,618	400,950	426,288
уоу	5.5%	7.6%	3.8%	3.9%	2.3%	2.0%	1.3%	6.3%
Provisioning expenses	-99,294	-102,153	-119,016	-104,220	-103,993	-106,487	-103,554	-115,784
Net profit to common shareholders	173,295	180,579	180,841	205,908	214,020	219,079	226,636	238,141
уоу	4.6%	4.2%	0.1%	13.9%	3.9%	2.4%	3.4%	5.1%

#### Key balance sheet items

Payout ratio

Tier 1 ratio

Total CAR

NPL ratio

Equity/Assets

NPL coverage

LLR to loan

Credit cost

Loan-deposit ratio

Cost-income ratio

Net interest margin

Non interest income/ total income

Core tier 1 ratio

noy balance choot home								
(Rmb m)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023F	2024F	2025F
Loans	11,787,683	13,034,189	14,183,385	15,674,994	17,507,349	19,536,393	21,781,060	24,261,851
Interbank assets	1,482,289	1,464,426	1,742,465	1,902,229	1,989,160	2,088,618	2,193,049	2,302,701
Investments	5,054,551	5,514,062	5,591,117	6,164,671	6,445,743	6,739,432	7,047,806	7,371,598
Deposits	14,883,596	15,817,548	16,879,171	18,142,887	20,201,825	22,125,138	24,528,351	27,169,069
Interbank liabilites	1,731,209	1,668,046	1,917,003	2,682,739	2,240,323	2,177,281	2,064,724	1,883,579
Common shareholders' equity	1,513,266	1,651,808	1,760,929	1,905,648	2,058,084	2,220,670	2,388,400	2,563,965
Total shareholders' equity	1,725,397	1,976,696	2,162,837	2,350,553	2,567,571	2,740,446	2,918,800	3,105,496
RWA	12,841,526	14,123,915	15,109,085	16,323,713	16,818,275	17,976,615	19,381,219	20,463,603
Total assets	21,267,275	22,769,744	24,402,659	26,722,408	28,913,857	30,905,267	33,320,052	35,898,855
уоу								
Loans	8.2%	10.6%	8.8%	10.5%	11.7%	11.6%	11.5%	11.4%
Interbank assets	30.5%	-1.2%	19.0%	9.2%	4.6%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
Investments	11.0%	9.1%	1.4%	10.3%	4.6%	4.6%	4.6%	4.6%
Deposits	9.0%	6.3%	6.7%	7.5%	11.3%	9.5%	10.9%	10.8%
Interbank liabilites	21.5%	-3.6%	14.9%	39.9%	-16.5%	-2.8%	-5.2%	-8.8%
Common shareholders' equity	8.4%	9.2%	6.6%	8.2%	8.0%	7.9%	7.6%	7.4%
Total shareholders' equity	9.4%	14.6%	9.4%	8.7%	9.2%	6.7%	6.5%	6.4%
RWA	5.6%	10.0%	7.0%	8.0%	3.0%	6.9%	7.8%	5.6%
Total assets	9.2%	7.1%	7.2%	9.5%	8.2%	6.9%	7.8%	7.7%
Key ratios & drivers								
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023F	2024F	2025F
EPS (Rmb)	0.59	0.61	0.61	0.70	0.73	0.74	0.77	0.81
EPS Growth	4.6%	4.2%	0.1%	13.9%	3.9%	2.4%	3.4%	5.1%
BVPS (Rmb)	5.14	5.61	5.98	6.47	6.99	7.54	8.11	8.71
BVPS Growth	8.4%	9.2%	6.6%	8.2%	8.0%	7.9%	7.6%	7.4%
ROAE	11.9%	11.4%	10.6%	11.2%	10.8%	10.2%	9.8%	9.6%
ROAA	0.88%	0.85%	0.82%	0.85%	0.82%	0.78%	0.75%	0.73%
DPS (Rmb)	0.18	0.19	0.20	0.22	0.23	0.24	0.25	0.26

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177.6%

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9.2%

88%

1.16%

191.0%

2.22%

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26%

0.57% 0.50% 0.50% SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH ESTIMATES

32%

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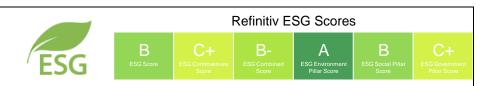
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# **ESG** in a nutshell

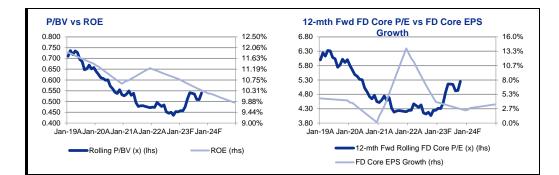
Bank of China (BOC) scored a B- rating for its combined ESG score by Refinitiv in 2022. It has rigorously practiced the concept of green and low-carbon services and reduced paper consumption. As of end-2020, the electronic conciliation rate of BOC reached 97.8%, and its use of electronic bills have saved 257m paper sheets, according to the bank. It also incorporated the requirements of green finance into credit policies and established the Bank of China University in May 2020 to empower its employees' career development and cultivate innovative talents. To help the government achieve carbon neutrality by 2060, the bank has created a roadmap for the implementation of its green finance plan in 2021-2025 in 15 aspects, including organisational structure, stress tests and product innovation.

Keep your eye on	Implications
The pace at which green finance solutions are rolled out by the China banks, as well as the extent to which the China banks ramped up lending to coal and energy companies in late 2021 to help ease China's power shortages.	stop financing new coal mining and coal power projects
ESG highlights	Implications
BOC's B- Refinitiv combined ESG score is at the upper end of ESG scoring among China banks, driven by its strengthened risk management capabilities, people-oriented working culture, and increased green finance projects.	development over the past few years. While not priced in at
Trends	Implications
2021 to B Its Environmental pillar score rose from B- in both 2016 and 2017 to B from 2018 onwards, before rising to A in 2022. Its Governance pillar score fell from B in 2021 to C+ in 2022. Its Social pillar score has been more volatile, from C+ in 2019, B- in 2020, to B in 2021 and 2022. Similarly, its	
	SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, REFINITIV



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# **BY THE NUMBERS**



# Profit & Loss

(Rmbm)	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
Net Interest Income	425,142	460,678	469,339	468,974	496,247
Total Non-Interest Income	180,575	158,461	162,049	170,924	184,089
Operating Revenue	605,717	619,139	631,388	639,898	680,336
Total Non-Interest Expenses	(226,355)	(231,196)	(235,770)	(238,948)	(254,048)
Pre-provision Operating Profit	379,362	387,943	395,618	400,950	426,288
Total Provision Charges	(104,220)	(103,993)	(106,487)	(103,554)	(115,784)
Operating Profit After Provisions	275,142	283,950	289,132	297,396	310,504
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.	1,478	645	645	645	645
Operating EBIT (incl Associates)	276,620	284,595	289,777	298,041	311,149
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)	0	0	0	0	0
Profit Before Tax (pre-El)	276,620	284,595	289,777	298,041	311,149
Exceptional Items	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-tax Profit	276,620	284,595	289,777	298,041	311,149
Taxation	(49,281)	(47,091)	(46,989)	(47,363)	(48,457)
Consolidation Adjustments & Others					
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	227,339	237,504	242,787	250,678	262,692
Minority Interests	(10,780)	(10,065)	(10,289)	(10,623)	(11,132)
Pref. & Special Div	(10,651)	(13,419)	(13,419)	(13,419)	(13,419)
FX And Other Adj.	0	0	0	0	0
Net Profit	205,908	214,020	219,079	226,636	238,141
Recurring Net Profit	205,908	214,020	219,079	226,636	238,141

#### **Balance Sheet Employment**

	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
Gross Loans/Cust Deposits	86.4%	86.7%	88.3%	88.8%	89.3%
Avg Loans/Avg Deposits	85.3%	86.5%	87.5%	88.6%	89.1%
Avg Liquid Assets/Avg Assets	38.6%	37.9%	35.9%	33.5%	31.3%
Avg Liquid Assets/Avg IEAs	40.6%	40.1%	37.8%	35.3%	32.9%
Net Cust Loans/Assets	57.3%	59.1%	61.9%	64.2%	66.6%
Net Cust Loans/Broad Deposits	68.9%	71.7%	74.4%	76.4%	78.5%
Equity & Provns/Gross Cust Loans	16.7%	16.4%	15.5%	14.6%	13.8%
Asset Risk Weighting	61.2%	58.3%	58.3%	58.3%	57.1%
Provision Charge/Avg Cust Loans	0.70%	0.63%	0.57%	0.50%	0.50%
Provision Charge/Avg Assets	0.408%	0.374%	0.357%	0.323%	0.335%
Total Write Offs/Average Assets	0.322%	0.206%	0.370%	0.353%	0.369%

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



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# BY THE NUMBERS... cont'd

Balance Sheet					
(Rmbm)	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
Total Gross Loans	16,932,407	18,681,446	20,769,195	23,075,502	25,621,015
Liquid Assets & Invst. (Current)	6,164,671	6,445,743	6,739,432	7,047,806	7,371,598
Other Int. Earning Assets	2,228,726	2,313,859	1,854,037	1,563,824	1,162,075
Total Gross Int. Earning Assets	25,325,804	27,441,048	29,362,664	31,687,132	34,154,687
Total Provisions/Loan Loss Reserve	(390,090)	(436,756)	(432,892)	(423,363)	(411,596)
Total Net Interest Earning Assets	24,935,714	27,004,292	28,929,772	31,263,768	33,743,092
Intangible Assets	19,411	21,517	21,517	21,517	21,517
Other Non-Interest Earning Assets	1,084,887	1,026,012	1,045,745	1,077,720	1,125,614
Total Non-Interest Earning Assets	1,104,298	1,047,529	1,067,262	1,099,237	1,147,131
Cash And Marketable Securities	644,816	815,063	855,816	898,607	943,537
Long-term Investments	0	0	0	0	0
Total Assets	26,684,828	28,866,884	30,852,850	33,261,612	35,833,760
Customer Interest-Bearing Liabilities	18,550,654	20,668,160	22,586,488	24,983,224	27,615,883
Bank Deposits	3,638,296	3,156,181	3,083,349	2,958,071	2,761,100
Interest Bearing Liabilities: Others	1,415,032	1,565,840	1,549,101	1,527,353	1,500,294
Total Interest-Bearing Liabilities	23,603,982	25,390,181	27,218,937	29,468,647	31,877,277
Bank's Liabilities Under Acceptances					
Total Non-Interest Bearing Liabilities	767,873	956,105	945,884	932,605	916,082
Total Liabilities	24,371,855	26,346,286	28,164,821	30,401,252	32,793,359
Shareholders' Equity	2,225,153	2,427,589	2,590,175	2,757,905	2,933,470
Minority Interests	125,400	139,982	150,271	160,894	172,027
Total Equity	2,350,553	2,567,571	2,740,446	2,918,800	3,105,496

# Key Ratios

	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
Total Income Growth	6.71%	2.22%	1.98%	1.35%	6.32%
Operating Profit Growth	3.87%	2.26%	1.98%	1.35%	6.32%
Pretax Profit Growth	12.3%	2.9%	1.8%	2.9%	4.4%
Net Interest To Total Income	70.2%	74.4%	74.3%	73.3%	72.9%
Cost Of Funds	1.63%	1.75%	1.94%	2.06%	2.09%
Return On Interest Earning Assets	3.25%	3.36%	3.46%	3.46%	3.46%
Net Interest Spread	1.63%	1.61%	1.52%	1.40%	1.37%
Net Interest Margin (Avg Deposits)	2.43%	2.40%	2.22%	2.01%	1.92%
Net Interest Margin (Avg RWA)	2.71%	2.78%	2.70%	2.51%	2.49%
Provisions to Pre Prov. Operating Profit	27.5%	26.8%	26.9%	25.8%	27.2%
Interest Return On Average Assets	1.67%	1.66%	1.57%	1.46%	1.44%
Effective Tax Rate	17.8%	16.5%	16.2%	15.9%	15.6%
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	31.6%	31.9%	31.9%	31.9%	31.9%
Return On Average Assets	0.81%	0.77%	0.73%	0.71%	0.69%

# Key Drivers

	Dec-21A	Dec-22A	Dec-23F	Dec-24F	Dec-25F
Loan Growth (%)	10.5%	11.7%	11.6%	11.5%	11.4%
Net Interest Margin (%)	1.8%	1.8%	1.7%	1.5%	1.5%
Non Interest Income Growth (%)	19.0%	-12.2%	2.3%	5.5%	7.7%
Cost-income Ratio (%)	37.4%	37.3%	37.3%	37.3%	37.3%
Provision charge as % avg loans	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%
Effective tax rate (%)	17.8%	16.5%	16.2%	15.9%	15.6%
Net NPL Ratio (%)	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%
Provisioning coverage ratio (%)	186.8%	188.5%	191.0%	169.0%	147.5%
Loan Loss Reserve (%)	2.5%	2.5%	2.2%	1.9%	1.7%
Deposit Growth (%)	7.5%	11.3%	9.5%	10.9%	10.8%
Loan-deposit Ratio (%)	87.5%	87.8%	88.3%	88.8%	89.3%
Core Tier 1 ratio (%)	11.3%	11.8%	12.1%	12.0%	12.2%
Risk weighted assets to total assets ratio (%)	61.1%	58.2%	58.2%	58.2%	57.0%
Dividend payout ratio (%)	31.6%	31.9%	31.9%	31.9%	31.9%

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



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Distribution of stock ratings and investment banking clients for quarter ended on 30 September 2023					
634 companies under coverage for quarter ended on 30 September 2023					
	Rating Distribution (%)	Investment Banking clients (%)			
Add	66.7%	0.9%			
Hold	23.7%	0.0%			
Reduce	9.6%	0.2%			

Spitzer Chart for stock being researched ( 2 year data )



Recommendation Framework				
Stock Ratings	Definition:			
Add	The stock's total return is expected to exceed 10% over the next 12 months.			
Hold	The stock's total return is expected to be between 0% and positive 10% over the next 12 months.			
Reduce	The stock's total return is expected to fall below 0% or more over the next 12 months.			
	The total expected return of a stock is defined as the sum of the: (i) percentage difference between the target price and the current price and (ii) the forward net dividend yields of the stock. Stock price targets have an investment horizon of 12 months.			
Sector Ratings	Definition:			
Overweight	An Overweight rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a positive absolute recommendation.			
Neutral	A Neutral rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a neutral absolute recommendation.			
Underweight	An Underweight rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a negative absolute recommendation.			
Country Ratings	Definition:			
Overweight	An Overweight rating means investors should be positioned with an above-market weight in this country relative to benchmark.			
Neutral	A Neutral rating means investors should be positioned with a neutral weight in this country relative to benchmark.			
Underweight	An Underweight rating means investors should be positioned with a below-market weight in this country relative to benchmark.			

# Bank of China-A (601988 CH)