S&P Dow Jones Indices

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S&P/JPX JGB VIX® Update October 2018

JGB VIX Exhibits Sensitivity to BoJ Rumors

While S&P/JPX JGB VIX levels have remained below the highs witnessed in July and August of this year, the JGB market has continued to exhibit heightened sensitivity to rumors related to possible changes to the Bank of Japan (BoJ) JGB purchases. The

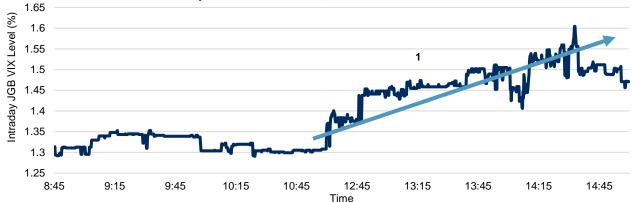
Volatility JGB VIX Versus TYVIX			
	AUG 2018	SEP 2018	OCT 2018
JGB VIX	126%	74%	81%
TYVIX	63%	57%	94%

Source: Bloomberg, October 2018.

S&P/JPX JGB VIX reached intramonth highs after news reports that some at the BoJ would be comfortable seeing 10-year yields move higher and beyond their perceived upper band limit of 0.20%. As expected, JGB futures reacted negatively to the news, though the impact was short-lived. With decreased liquidity becoming an increasing concern for market participants, the BoJ is expected to consider ways to boost JGB trading activity. These discussions, centered on possible tweaks to current operations, were to be held at its regular two-day monetary policy meeting at the end of the month (Oct. 30-31, 2018).

Note: Since we are currently evaluating the S&P/JPX JGB VIX as a real-time index, we wanted to share some examples of particularly interesting intraday movements this month. Exhibits 1 and 2 are purely for illustrative/educational purposes only. Please contact us for more details.

Exhibit 1: Yields Rise on BoJ Speculation - Oct. 26, 2018

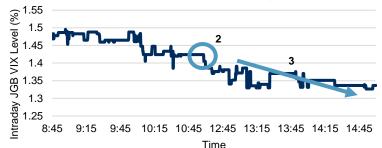


Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC. Data as of October 2018. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Chart is provided for illustrative purposes.

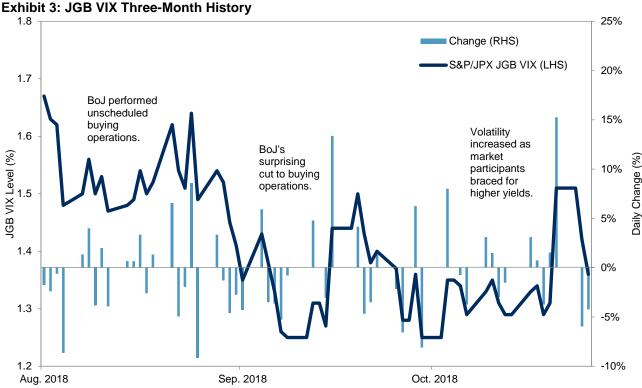
JGB VIX Real-Time Movements:

- Moved higher after reports that some at BoJ would be comfortable with higher yields.
- 2. BoJ monetary policy decision announced.
- With no changes to policy, levels moved lower into the market close.

Exhibit 2: BoJ October Decision - Oct. 31, 2018



Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC. Data as of October 2018. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Chart is provided for illustrative purposes.



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Upcoming November Events

Scheduled JGB Purchases

Nov. 2, 9, 19, 28 (1-5 years)

Nov. 2, 12, 16, 26, 30 (5-10 years)

Nov. 5, 9, 16, 26, 30 (10+ years)

Major JGB Auctions

Nov. 1 (10-year)

Nov. 6 (10-year inflation-indexed)

Nov. 13 (30-year) Nov. 15 (5-year)

Nov. 20 (20-year)

Nov. 27 (40-year)

Nov. 29 (2-year)

Geopolitical/Fiscal Factors Could Take Center Stage

Aside from being a crucial way to measure investor sentiment regarding potential changes to the BoJ's current JGB purchase program, the S&P/JPX JGB VIX should be closely monitored for other factors as well. The midterm election results in the U.S. could spill over and affect global markets if the outcome causes increased uncertainty. Additionally in Japan, all signs are pointing to a consumption tax hike to 10% in October 2019. The government may propose a stimulus package to counter possible negative economic effects of the hike, but the BoJ would be limited in its ability to offer any additional support via easing. In fact, if inflationary pressures continue, the BoJ might need to consider exiting policy sooner than it wants.

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