

China Exchange Rate Outlook

Tools & Forecasts

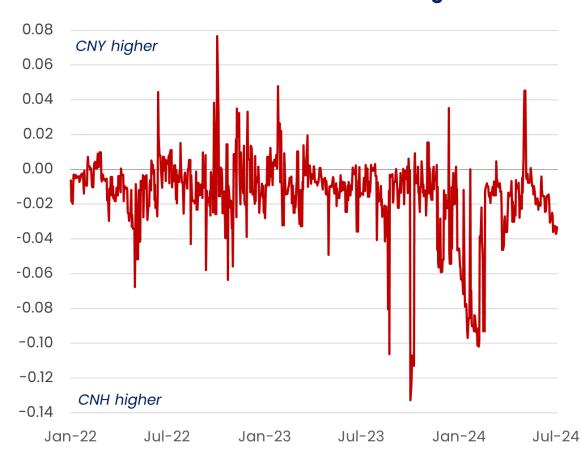
July 2024





China Exchange Rate Outlook: more volatility expected ahead

Difference between CNY and CNH exchange rates

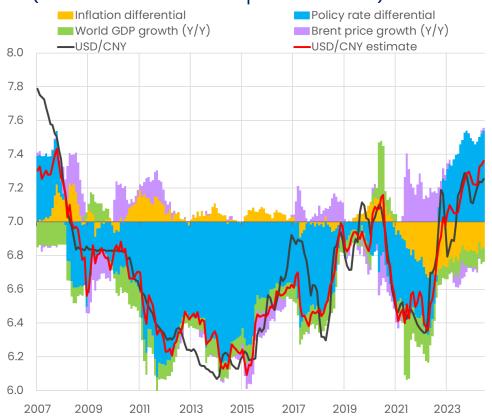


The first tool assesses the underlying pressures on USD/CNY from capital flows exiting mainland China (ratio of CNY against offshore CNH), with clear evidence of underlying pressures.



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USD/CNY historical estimates and contributions (deviation from intercept value at 7.0)



This second chart is derived from our proprietary econometric model projecting monthly values for USD/CNY up to 18-month ahead, showing what are the critical economic variables explaining the deviation from the "neutral level" of 7.0 CNY to the USD.

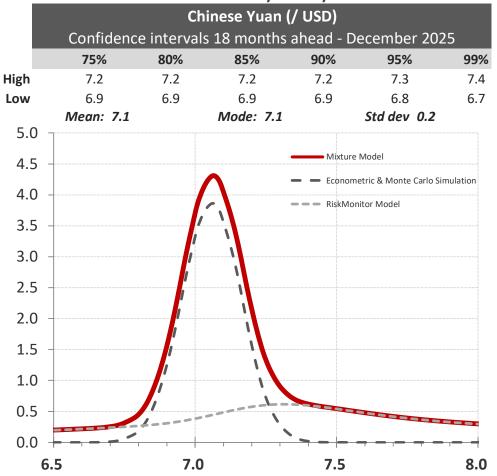
The key message is the dominant role of shortterm interest rate differential between the US and China (Fed Funds versus 3m-Shibor) and to a lesser extent the inflation differential.... i.e. a very traditional behavior of a currency!

Source: TAC ECONOMICS Datalab



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The last chart is the probability density function for the USD/CNY exchange rate at the end of the horizon forecast (December 2025), a sophisticated and powerful combination of Monte Carlo simulations on our econometric model and the currency outlook implied by our non-linear Exchange Rate Risk Rating. The "mode" of the probability distribution suggests a level at USD/CNY 7.1 in 18 months.

As expected, the probability distribution shown by the Monte Carlo simulations has a symmetric / gaussian shape, but the same distribution derived from the Exchange Rate Rating is both very flat and asymmetric: this points to (1) a large uncertainty and likely bouts of heightened volatility, and (2) large "fat tails" of the distribution: the combination of MC simulation and RiskMonitor outputs, indeed shows almost 25% probability of the USD/CNY moving above 7.50 by the end of next year and 15% above 8.0.

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