

## Company Report: PICC P&C (02328 HK)

公司报告: 中国财险 (02328 HK)

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# 1-3Q2019 Results Above Expectation, Maintain "Neutral"

2019年首三季度业绩好于预期,维持"中性"

- PICC P&C's (02328 HK) unaudited 1-3Q2019 results were above our expectation. GWP increased 8.6% to RMB96.8 bn in 3Q2019, dragging down 1-3Q2019 growth to 13.1%. Motor premiums experienced 2.0% yoy decline in 3Q2019, whereas non-motor premiums maintained robust growth. We expect 3Q2019 underwriting performance to improve, driven by the reduction in motor insurance commission rate. Benefiting from normalization of effective tax rate, net profit realized 2.51x growth to RMB5.1 bn in 3Q2019. The results were above our expectation due to underwriting improvement.
- PICC P&C plans to achieve integration of technology innovation and business model innovation and integration of policy-based business and commercial business. On the investor day, the management of PICC P&C introduced a strategy of two integrations: 1/ technology innovation and business model innovation, and 2/ policy-based business and commercial business. In our view, the Company is improving customer experience through cooperation with the government, leveraging its SOE background. Such business strategy is not easy for peer companies to copy.
- Lift target price to HK\$10.56, but maintain "Neutral" rating to reflect concerns on motor insurance. We lift 2019F P/B target to 1.33x, equivalent to target price of HK\$10.56. Despite that underwriting performance saw some improvements, our concern for motor insurance remains. Moreover, motor premium deregulation is expected to bring pressure to motor underwriting in the long term. Hence, we maintain "Neutral" investment rating for PICC P&C.
- 中国财险(02328 HK)的未经审计的 2019 年首 3 季度业绩好于我们的预期。总保费在 2019 年第三季度同比增长 8.6%至人民币 968 亿元,将 2019 年首 3 季度保费增长拖至 13.1%。 车险保费在 2019 年第三季度录得 2.0%的同比下滑,非车险保费则保持快速的增长。我们预计 2019 年第三季度的承保表现出现了改善,主要是受到车险手续费率下降的驱动。受益于税率的正常化,净利润在 2019 年第三季度实现了 2.51 倍的增长,达到人民币 51 亿元。该业绩因为承保改善而好于我们的预期。
- 中国财险计划实现技术变革与商业模式变革的融合以及政策性业务与商业性业务的融合。 在投资者开放日上,中国财险的管理层介绍了公司的两个融合策略: 1/技术变革与商业模 式变革的融合,和 2/政策性业务与商业性业务的融合。我们认为,公司凭借其国企背景通 过与政府的合作改善客户体验。对于同业公司而言,这种商业模式并不容易模仿。
- 我们调高目标价至 10.56 港元但维持"中性"的投资评级以反映车险上的担忧。我们将 2019 年目标市净率提高至 1.33 倍,相当于 10.56 港元的目标价。尽管承保表现出现了一些改善,我们对于车险的担忧依旧存在。此外,车险费率改革预计将在长期内给车险承保带来压力。因此,我们维持对于中国财险的"中性"投资评级。

Rating:	Neutral
	Maintained

评级: **中性** (维持)

**6-18m TP 目标价: HK\$10.56** Revised from 原目标价: HK\$9.60

Share price 股价: HK\$9.700

## Stock performance

股价表现



Change in Share Price	1 M	3 M	1 Y
股价变动	1 个月	3个月	1年
Abs. % 绝对变动 %	2.6	13.6	17.6
Rel. % to HS Index 相对恒指变动 %	2.5	8.6	14.0
Avg. Share price(HK\$) 平均股价 (港元)	9.8	9.3	8.5

Source: Bloomberg, Guotai Junan International

Year End	Turnover	Net Profit	EPS	EPS	PER	BPS	PBR	DPS	Yield	ROE
年结	收入	股东净利	每股净利	每股净利变动	市盈率	每股净资产	市净率	每股股息	股息率	净资产收益率
12/31	(RMB m)	(RMB m)	(RMB)	(△ %)	(x)	(RMB)	(x)	(RMB)	(%)	(%)
2017A	350,314	19,807	0.891	10.0	9.1	5.985	1.3	0.225	2.8	15.7
2018A	388,769	15,485	0.696	(21.9)	12.2	6.362	1.3	0.272	3.2	11.3
2019F	429,083	26,454	1.189	70.8	7.3	7.279	1.2	0.416	4.8	17.4
2020F	475,161	24,667	1.109	(6.7)	7.9	7.972	1.1	0.388	4.4	14.5
2021F	520,197	27,108	1.219	9.9	7.2	8.803	1.0	0.427	4.9	14.5
Shares in ice	ue (m) 兑股数	(m)		22 242 0	Major s	hareholder 大服	<b>-</b>		PICC	Group 69.0%

Shares in issue (m) 总股数 (m)	22,242.0	Major shareholder 大股东	PICC Group 69.0%
Market cap. (HK\$ m) 市值 (HK\$ m)	215,747.4	Free float (%) 自由流通比率 (%)	31.0%
3 month average vol. 3 个月平均成交股数 ('000)	24,165.3	FY19 Target P/B (x) FY19 目标市净率 (x)	1.3
52 Weeks high/low (HK\$) 52 周高/低 (HK\$)	10.260 / 7.470	FY19 Combined Ratio FY19 综合成本率	98.0%

Source: the Company, Guotai Junan International.



PICC P&C's (02328 HK or the "Company") unaudited 1-3Q2019 results beat our expectation thanks to underwriting improvement. Gross written premiums (GWP) increased 8.6% to RMB96.8 bn in 3Q2019, dragging down 1-3Q2019 growth to 13.1%. Motor premiums experienced 2.0% yoy decline in 3Q2019, whereas non-motor premiums maintained robust growth supported by 1.48x growth in credit insurance. Combined ratio (COR) for 1-3Q2019 was 97.9%, while underwriting profit stood at RMB375.4 bn. Although detailed information on underwriting has not been disclosed, we expect underwriting performance to improve in 3Q2019, driven by the reduction in motor insurance commission rate. As for investment, investment income remained flat in 3Q2019. Benefiting from normalization of effective tax rate as a result of decline in commission rate, net profit realized 2.51x growth to RMB5.1 bn in 3Q2019. The results were above our expectation due to underwriting improvement,

Table-1: PICC P&C's Results Summary

,				
(RMB mn)	3Q2019	YOY%	1-3Q2019	YOY%
Gross written premiums	96,772	8.6	332,808	13.1
Net premiums earned	99,201	8.3	280,186	7.5
Net claims	61,637	11.3	169,292	12.2
Commission and G&A expense	30,765	(15.9)	94,124	(5.5)
Investment income	5,045	12.0	17,052	11.3
Profit before tax	6,149	32.4	21,361	1.6
Net profit	5,131	251.7	21,985	66.7

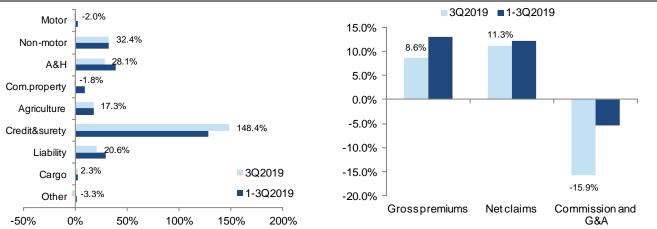
Source: the Company, Guotai Junan International.

Note: Results are based on PRC Accounting Standards for Enterprise Business.

which we attribute to the reduction in commission rate in motor underwriting.

Figure-1: PICC P&C's Premiums by Line

Figure-2: PICC P&C's Premiums, Claims and Expense YoY



Source: the Company.

Source: the Company.

Under "3411 Project", PICC P&C plans to achieve two integrations ,1/ integration of technology innovation and business model innovation, and 2/ integration of policy-based business and commercial business. PICC Group held its investor day on November 1, in which the management introduced PICC P&C's strategy of two integrations: 1/ technology innovation and business model innovation, and 2/ policy-based business and commercial business. The Company also presented its success in motor insurance digitalization in Jiangsu and their unique collaborative platform with traffic police, which improves motor insurance customer experience. Regarding the business in rural areas, the Company also tried to explore opportunities for commercial business based on strong presence in policy-based agriculture insurance. In our view, PICC P&C is improving customer experience through cooperation with the government, leveraging its SOE background. Such business strategy is not easy for peer companies to copy. As the market leader in rural areas, it is also exploring opportunities of selling commercial insurance to customers of policy-based insurance. Except for strategy, the management also gave two medium to long-term operational targets: commercial business COR target of 95.0% and non-motor premiums contribution target of 60.0%.

Despite commission rate having declined significantly, motor premiums deregulation will bring pressure on premiums growth. Due to suspension of motor premiums sales in 11 local branches, 3Q2019 motor premiums decreased 2.0% to RMB61.7 bn. Detailed underwriting data has not been disclosed. However, as commission rate declined notably, we expect underwriting performance to improve in 3Q2019. The improvement in commission rate was attributable to the tightened supervision on motor underwriting commission and the P&C industry's self-discipline on motor insurance commission. We



expect such trend to persist in 4Q2019. Despite that the increase in net claims was higher than that of GWP, we believe that non-motor claims hike was the reason and motor claims should remain stable. In addition, we expect motor COR to remain high due to distortion led by increasing unearned premiums reserves. Going forward, motor premiums growth deceleration is expected thanks to the continuous premiums deregulation as well as sluggish china auto market performance.

Non-motor premiums expansion was supported by A&H and credit insurance, whereas underwriting deteriorated due to more claims. Non-motor premiums increased 32.4% to RMB34.0 bn in 3Q2019. A&H and credit insurance were the growth drivers, of which credit insurance was up 148.4% in 3Q2019 premiums. However, other lines all saw slowdown in premiums growth in 3Q2019. The management said that non-motor claims deterioration was due to natural disasters and African swine fever. Thus, COR should deteriorate with loss ratio increasing. The management continued to emphasize the principle of policy-based insurance of slight profitability. Moreover, they also mentioned to explore a combination of policy-based insurance and commercial insurance due to large exposure in policy-based insurance, such as social security insurance and agriculture insurance. Hence, robust growth is expected to be sustained, especially under the situation of motor premiums expansion slowdown.

We lift underwriting profit forecasts on motor insurance, leading to a 14.6% increase in 2019F shareholders' profit. Considering volume decline and commission rate improvement in 3Q2019, we have revised down 2H2019 motor premiums growth forecast and revise up 2H2019 motor underwriting profit forecast. The non-motor premiums forecast for 2H2019 has been increased to reflect steady growth in 3Q2019. On underwriting, non-motor COR has been slightly adjusted. Investment forecast remains unchanged. Benefiting from motor underwriting profit improvement, shareholders' profit forecast for 2019F has been lifted by 14.6% compared to our previous forecasts.

**Table-2:Earnings Forecasts** 

Updated				Previous			Change		
(RMB mn)	2019F	2020F	2021F	2019F	2020F	2021F	2019F	2020F	2021F
Gross written premiums	429,083	475,161	520,197	434,757	476,099	516,137	(1.3%)	(0.2%)	0.8%
Underwriting profit	7,181	11,997	14,581	2,821	9,032	10,133	154.6%	32.8%	43.9%
Total investment income	22,000	22,107	22,826	22,223	22,695	23,870	(1.0%)	(2.6%)	(4.4%)
Profit before tax	26,988	31,625	34,979	22,851	29,248	31,573	18.1%	8.1%	10.8%
Shareholders' profit	26,454	24,667	27,108	23,082	22,813	24,469	14.6%	8.1%	10.8%
EPS (RMB)	1.189	1.109	1.219	1.038	1.026	1.100	14.6%	8.1%	10.8%
BPS (RMB)	7.279	7.972	8.803	7.128	7.790	8.531	2.1%	2.3%	3.2%

Source: Guotai Junan International.

Lift target price to HK\$10.56, but maintain "Neutral" rating to reflect concerns on motor insurance. We lift target 2019F P/B from 1.12x to 1.33x, equivalent to target price of HK\$10.56. Despite that underwriting performance saw some improvements, our concerns for motor premiums growth remained due to continuous deepening motor premiums deregulation as well as sluggish auto market in China. Meanwhile, motor deregulation is expected to lower premiums per policy and increase claims per policy, bringing pressure to motor underwriting in the long term. Hence, we maintain "Neutral" investment rating for PICC P&C.

Figure-3: PICC P&C's 5-Year Forward P/B

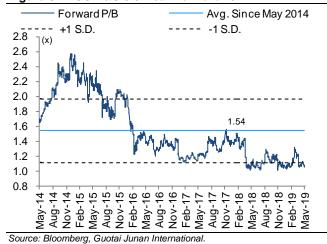
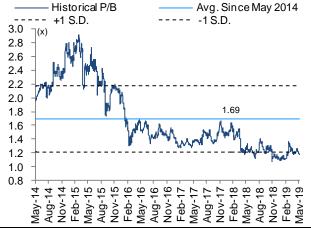


Figure-4: PICC P&C's 5-Year Historical P/B

Historical P/B



Source: Bloomberg, Guotai Junan International.



**Table-3: Peers Comparison** 

Company	Stock Code	Currency	Last price		PE (fisca	l year)			PB (fiscal	year)		ROE(%)	D/Y(%)	Mkt Cap
			(in local \$)	18A	19F	20F	21F	18A	19F	20F	21F	19F	19F	HKD mn
PICC Property & Casualty-H	02328 HK	HKD	9.70	11.8	7.8	8.0	7.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	16.4	4.4	215,755
Manulife Financial Corp	00945 HK	HKD	154.40	10.9	8.8	8.3	7.8	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.0	12.9	3.8	300,904
China Taiping Insurance Hold	00966 HK	HKD	18.60	10.1	7.0	6.6	6.0	1.1	0.9	8.0	0.7	13.9	0.9	66,849
AIA Group Ltd	01299 HK	HKD	77.75	45.9	18.9	16.9	14.9	3.1	2.5	2.3	2.1	14.9	1.7	939,904
New China Life Insurance C-H	01336 HK	HKD	32.30	10.7	6.6	7.2	6.3	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9	18.0	3.8	143,642
People's Insurance Co Grou-H	01339 HK	HKD	3.23	9.1	6.1	6.4	6.3	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	12.4	2.7	349,381
China Reinsurance Group Co-H	01508 HK	HKD	1.28	12.0	8.9	8.0	7.0	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	7.0	5.1	53,949
Ping An Insurance Group Co-H	02318 HK	HKD	91.45	12.8	9.3	9.3	8.2	2.6	2.2	1.9	1.6	25.7	2.9	1,744,649
Prudential Plc	02378 HK	HKD	135.10	11.0	9.1	9.1	8.3	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.4	22.2	3.0	351,249
China Pacific Insurance Gr-H	02601 HK	HKD	29.45	12.5	8.3	8.6	7.8	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.2	18.0	5.4	331,223
China Life Insurance Co-H	02628 HK	HKD	20.75	44.9	9.4	12.0	10.7	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.2	15.4	3.7	958,259
ZhongAn Online P&C Insuran-H	06060 HK	HKD	23.65	n.a.	n.a.	181.9	40.1	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.9	(3.2)	0.0	34,761
Simple Average				17.4	9.1	23.5	10.9	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.2	14.5	3.1	
Weighted Average				23.5	10.5	11.7	9.7	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.4	18.8	3.1	

Source: Bloomberg, Guotai Junan International. Prices as at November 13, 2019.



### **Financial Statements and Ratios**

Income Statement						
Year end 31 Dec (RMB m)	2017A	2018A	2019F	2020F	2021F	
Gross written premiums	350,314	388,769	429,083	475,161	520,197	
Net premiums earned	309,076	344,124	360,868	400,473	432,918	
Claims incurred	(192,520)	(213,303)	(233,042)	(258,150)	(280,462)	
Costs and expenses	(107,851)	(125,517)	(120,645)	(130,326)	(137,875)	
Underwriting profit	8,705	5,304	7,181	11,997	14,581	
Investment income	15,382	16,635	17,046	17,593	18,279	
Net realised gains and FV gains	1,136	(1,226)	818	67	(233)	
Non-underwriting expenses	(2,637)	(1,030)	(2,193)	(2,479)	(2,429)	
Share of profit of associates	4,575	4,482	4,136	4,447	4,780	
Loss on deemed disposal of an associate	0	(737)	0	0	0	
Profit before tax	27,161	23,428	26,988	31,625	34,979	
Income tax	(7,353)	(7,942)	(535)	(6,957)	(7,870)	
Profit after tax	19,808	15,486	26,454	24,667	27,108	
Non-controlling interest	1	1	0	0	0	
Shareholders' profit / loss	19,807	15,485	26,454	24,667	27,108	
Basic EPS	0.891	0.696	1.189	1.109	1.219	
Diluted EPS	0.891	0.696	1.189	1.109	1.219	

Balance Sheet						
Year end 31 Dec (RMB m)	2017A	2018A	2019F	2020F	2021F	
Cash & cash equivalents	34,688	33,797	35,071	36,812	38,722	
Term deposits	61,300	73,963	76,752	80,562	84,740	
Debts securities	153,728	143,499	148,910	156,302	164,408	
Equity securities	64,701	74,102	76,896	80,713	84,899	
Other investment assets	101,091	108,861	112,966	118,573	124,723	
Total investment assets	415,508	434,222	450,595	472,962	497,492	
Non-investment assets	109,058	116,397	162,201	199,076	243,795	
Total assets	524,566	550,619	612,796	672,038	741,287	
Insurance contracts liabilities	264,748	275,781	306,257	343,584	386,802	
Policyholders' deposits	2,296	1,956	2,015	2,105	2,211	
Bonds payable	23,262	23,420	31,420	32,834	34,476	
Other liabilities	101,146	107,959	111,198	116,202	122,012	
Total liabilities	391,452	409,116	450,890	494,724	545,500	
Total shareholders' equity	133,107	141,495	161,898	177,306	195,779	
Minority interest	7	8	8	8	8	
Total equity	133,114	141,503	161,906	177,314	195,787	

	Cash Flow	Statement			
Year end 31 Dec (RMB m)	2017A	2018A	2019F	2020F	2021F
Operating activities					
Profit before tax	27,161	23,428	26,988	31,625	34,979
Investment income	(15,382)	(16,635)	(17,046)	(17,593)	(18,279
Change in insurance contract liability	30,476	37,326	(343,584)	202,075	19,862
Others	(20,848)	(34,240)	340,592	(199,304)	(16,881
Cash from Operating Activities	21,407	9,879	6,952	16,803	19,680
Investing activities					
Interest received	13,232	14,312	11,156	11,593	12,02
Purchase of debt and equity securities	(27,199)	(7,382)	819	(11,184)	(14,718
Others	6,444	(15,662)	(4,170)	(5,040)	(5,372
Cash from Investing Activities	(7,523)	(8,732)	7,805	(4,631)	(8,060
Financing activities					
Right issue	0	0	0	0	
Debts issue	0	0	0	0	
Interest paid	(1,849)	(1,904)	(2,451)	(2,561)	(2,689
Dividends paid	(4,582)	(5,012)	(6,050)	(9,259)	(8,634
Others	2,091	4,878	(4,981)	1,388	1,61
Cash from Financing Activities	(4,340)	(2,038)	(13,482)	(10,431)	(9,71
Net Changes in Cash	9,544	(891)	1,274	1,741	1,90
Cash at Beg of Year	25,144	34,688	33,797	35,071	36,81
Cash at End of Year	34,688	33,797	35,071	36,812	38,72

	Financial Ratios							
(RMB m, except %)	2017A	2018A	2019F	2020F	2021F			
Insurance operation (%)								
GWP growth	12.6	11.0	10.4	10.7	9.5			
Motor GWP growth	10.5	3.9	0.6	2.5	1.5			
Non-motor GWP growth	18.2	28.5	29.8	23.5	19.7			
Underwriting profits growth	73.3	(39.1)	35.4	67.1	21.5			
Shareholders' profits growth	9.9	(21.8)	70.8	(6.8)	9.9			
Loss ratio	62.3	62.0	64.6	64.5	64.8			
Expense ratio	34.9	36.5	33.4	32.5	31.8			
Combined ratio	97.2	98.5	98.0	97.0	96.6			
Investments (%)								
Investment income growth	2.1	8.1	2.5	3.2	3.9			
Investment assets growth	9.4	4.5	3.8	5.0	5.2			
Profitability (%)								
ROAE	15.7	11.3	17.4	14.5	14.5			
ROAA	4.0	2.9	4.5	3.8	3.8			
Per share data (RMB)								
EPS (adjusted)	0.9	0.7	1.2	1.1	1.2			
BPS (adjusted)	6.0	6.4	7.3	8.0	8.8			
DPS (adjusted)	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4			
Dividend payout ratio	25.3	39.1	35.0	35.0	35.0			
Valuation metrics (x)								
Current P/E	9.1	12.2	7.3	7.9	7.2			
Current P/B	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0			
TP P/E	9.9	13.3	8.0	8.6	7.8			
TP P/B	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.1			
Dividend yiled (%)	2.8	3.2	4.8	4.4	4.9			

Source: the Company, Guotai Junan International.



#### **Company Rating Definition**

The Benchmark: Hong Kong Hang Seng Index

Time Horizon: 6 to 18 months

Rating		Definition
Buy	买入	Relative Performance>15%; or the fundamental outlook of the company or sector is favorable.
Accumulate	收集	Relative Performance is 5% to 15%; or the fundamental outlook of the company or sector is favorable.
Neutral	中性	Relative Performance is -5% to 5%; or the fundamental outlook of the company or sector is neutral.
Reduce	减持	Relative Performance is -5% to -15%; or the fundamental outlook of the company or sector is unfavorable.
Sell	卖出	Relative Performance <-15%; or the fundamental outlook of the company or sector is unfavorable.

#### **Sector Rating Definition**

The Benchmark: Hong Kong Hang Seng Index

Time Horizon: 6 to 18 months

Rating		Definition
Outperform	跑赢大市	Relative Performance>5%; or the fundamental outlook of the sector is favorable.
Neutral	中性	Relative Performance is -5% to 5%; or the fundamental outlook of the sector is neutral.
Underperform	跑输大市	Relative Performance<-5%; Or the fundamental outlook of the sector is unfavorable.

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- (2) The Analysts and their associates do not have any financial interests in relation to the issuer mentioned in this Research Report.
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- (5) Guotai Junan and its group companies are not making a market in the securities in respect of the issuer mentioned in this Research Report.
- (6) Guotai Junan and its group companies have not employed an individual serving as an officer of the issuer mentioned in this Research Report. There is no officer of the issuer mentioned in this Research Report associated with Guotai Junan and its group companies.

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