

Hong Kong 2012 WAPOR Conference
“The New World of Public Opinion Research”
Hong Kong, 14-16 June 2012

PSI: Towards a New Index of Public Opinion

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PSI: Towards a New Index of Public Opinion

Objectives

- To quantify the general feeling of Hong Kong people towards the socio-political condition of Hong Kong
- To explain or predict the likelihood of collective behaviour, social movement, social disorder and/or governance crisis

PSI sub-indices

- Two sub-indices have been constructed: **government appraisal (GA)** and **society appraisal (SA)**

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| Government Appraisal (GA) | Earliest Datapoint | Data Frequency |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (1) CE Rating | Dec 1992 | Twice a month |
| (2) CE Approval rate | Feb 2002 | Twice a month |
| (3) Government Satisfaction | Jul 1997 | Once a month |
| (4) Trust in Government | Dec 1992 | Once a quarter |

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| Government Appraisal (GA) | Data | Question wordings |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (1) CE Rating | 0 to 100 marks | Please use a scale of 0-100 to rate your extent of support to the Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam-kuen, with 0 indicating absolutely not supportive, 100 indicating absolutely supportive and 50 indicating half-half. How would you rate the Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam-kuen? |
| (2) Net CE Approval rate | -100% to +100% | If a general election of the Chief Executive were to be held tomorrow, and you had the right to vote, would you vote for Donald Tsang Yam-kuen? |
| (3) Mean value Government Satisfaction | 1 to 5 marks | Are you satisfied with the overall performance of the HKSAR Government? (Interviewer to probe extent) |
| (4) Mean value Trust in Govt. | 1 to 5 marks | On the whole, do you trust the HKSAR Government? (Interviewer to probe extent) |

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| Society Appraisal (SA) | Earliest Datapoint | Data Frequency |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) Political condition | Dec 1992 | Once half a year |
| (2) Economical condition | Dec 1992 | Once half a year |
| (3) Social condition | Dec 1992 | Once half a year |
| (4) Weights of importance | Dec 1992 | Once half a year |

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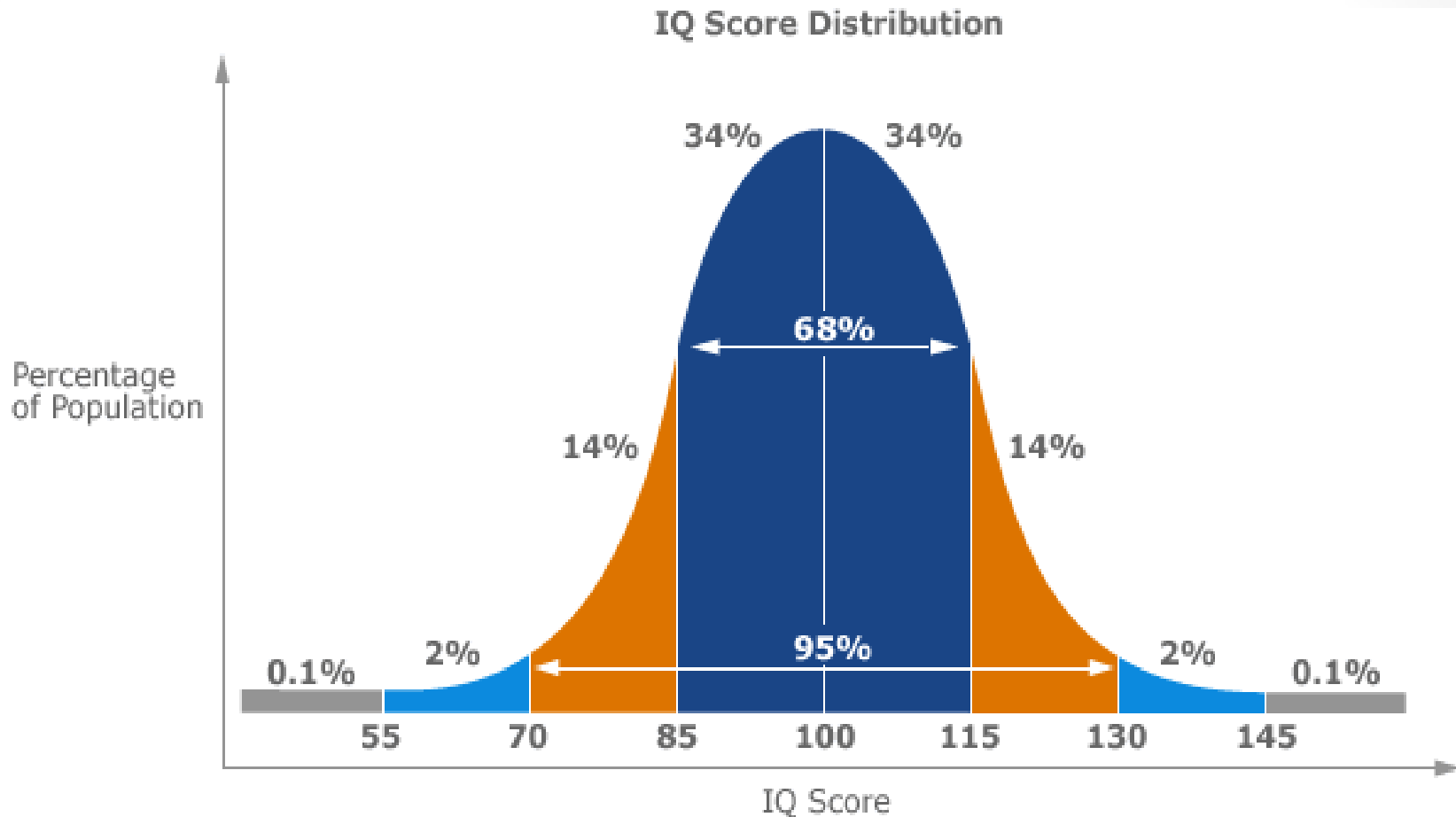
| Society Appraisal (SA) | Data | Question wordings |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (1) Political condition Mean value | 0 to 10 marks | Generally speaking, are you satisfied with the present political condition in Hong Kong? (Interviewer to probe extent) |
| (2) Economical condition Mean value | 0 to 10 marks | Generally speaking, are you satisfied with the present economic condition in Hong Kong? (Interviewer to probe extent) |
| (3) Social condition Mean value | 0 to 10 marks | Generally speaking, are you satisfied with the present social condition in Hong Kong? (Interviewer to probe extent) |
| (4) Ratio of importance ratings of (1), (2), (3) per individuals | 0 to 1 | Weightings calculated from the ratios of the mean value of the 3 conditions per individual respondent |

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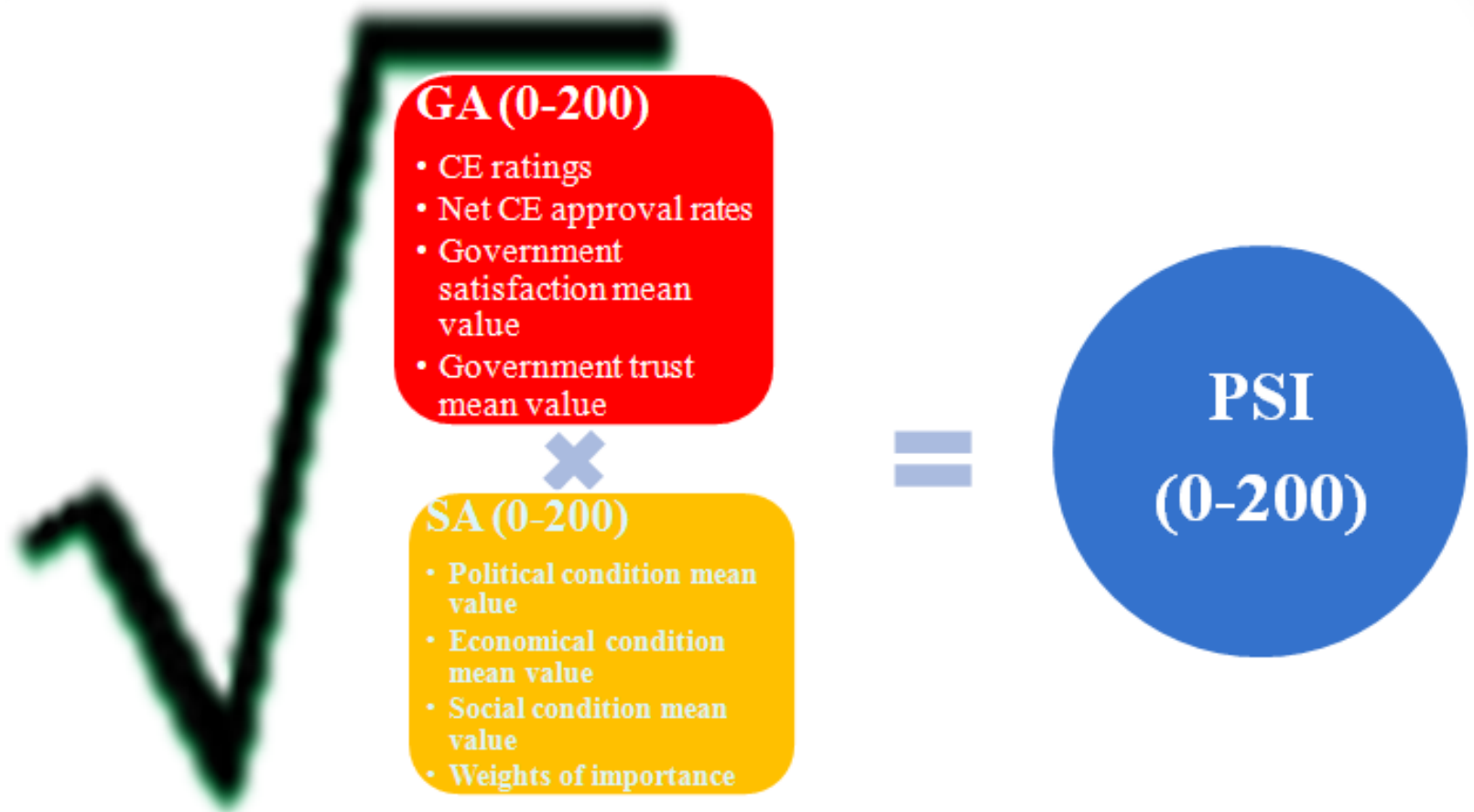
| Score value | Percentile | Score value | Percentile |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 140 – 200 | Highest 1% | 0-60 | Lowest 1% |
| 125 | Highest 5% | 75 | Lowest 5% |
| 120 | Highest 10% | 80 | Lowest 10% |
| 110 | Highest 25% | 90 | Lowest 25% |

100 being normal level, meaning half above & half below

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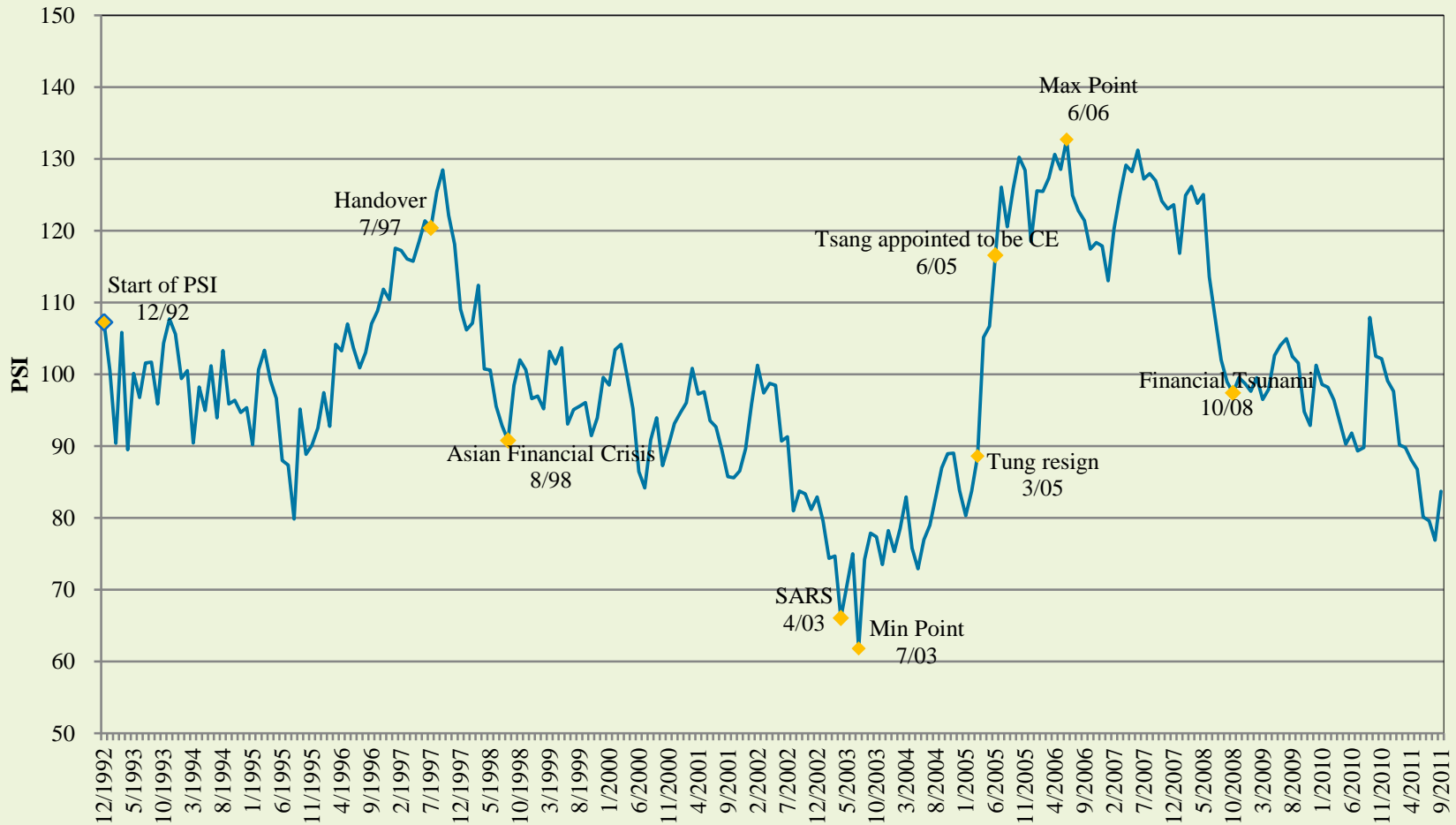


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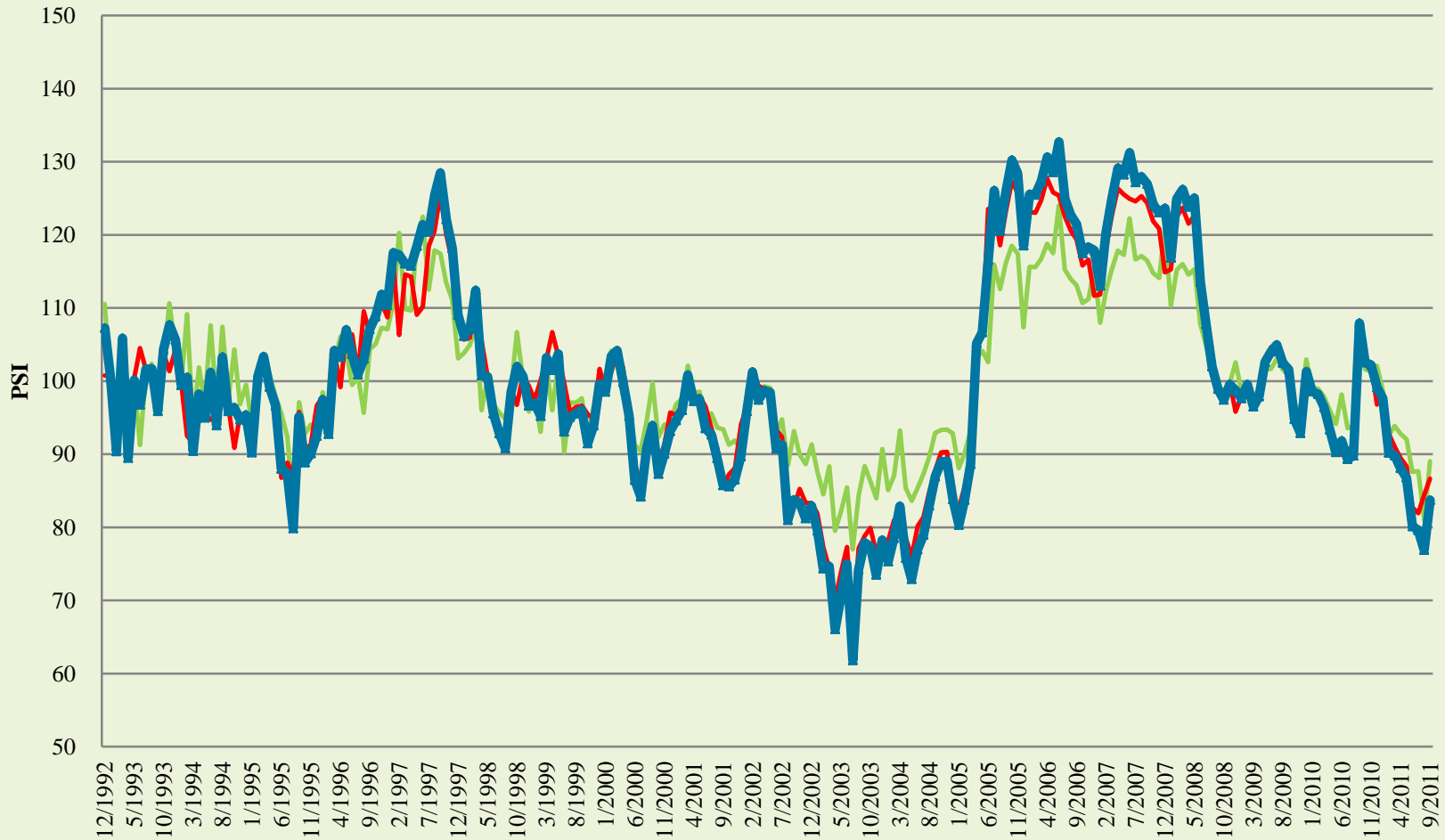
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PSI (1992 – 2011)



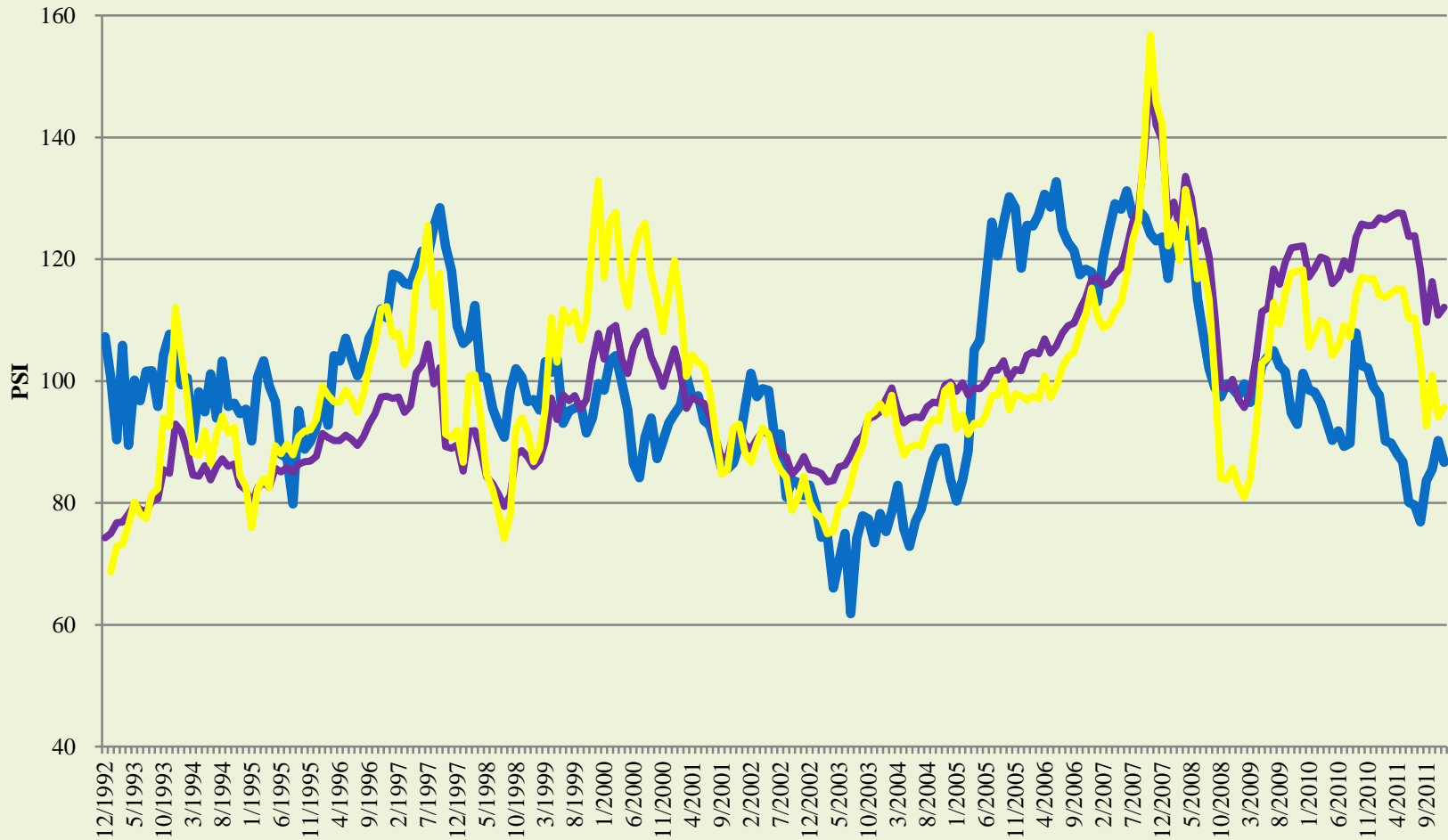
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PSI vs GA (red) & SA (green)



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PSI vs HSI (yellow = GDP adj.)



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| Time | GA | SA | PSI |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Dec 1992 (PSI starts) | 100.8 | 110.5 | 107.3 |
| Feb 1994 (political reform plans by Chris Patten) | 92.5 | 109.1 | 100.5 |
| Apr 2003 (SARS) | 69.9 | 79.5 | 66.1 |
| Jul 2003 (Massive demonstration) | 66.2 | 77.0 | 61.8 |
| Jun 2005 (New CE come to office) | 123.5 | 102.6 | 116.6 |
| Oct 2008 (Financial Tsunami) | 97.8 | 98.5 | 97.4 |
| Jun 2012 | 75.6 | 92.5 | 78.1 |