RG Dudack Research Group

A Division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC Member NYSE, FINRA & SIPC

Gail M. Dudack, CMT • Chief Investment Strategist • gail@dudackresearchgroup.com • 212-320-2045

October 9, 2024

DJIA: 42080.37 SPX: 5751.13 NASDAQ: 18182.92

US Strategy Weekly An Important Earnings Season

This week marks the beginning of third quarter earnings season, and it will include four S&P financial companies reporting earnings this Friday. According to LSEG IBES, analysts are forecasting S&P Composite earnings per share to grow 5% YOY this quarter, led by the double-digit gains projected for the technology, communications services, and healthcare sectors. Conversely, energy sector earnings are expected to decline 3.4% and be a drag on S&P Composite earnings and only low single-digit earnings growth is anticipated for the other six sectors. Still, it may not be the results of this quarter that will capture investors' attention. The guidance for future earnings growth is what may move markets. Keep in mind that while S&P's third quarter earnings are forecast to grow only 5% YOY, fourth quarter earnings are estimated to increase a healthy 12.5% YOY. With the popular equity indices recently hitting record highs, double-digit earnings growth might be a necessity to keep the current advance in place. Positive earnings estimates for 2024, 2025, and 2026 for the last four consecutive weeks. See page 11. In our view, rising prices and falling earnings are inconsistent, particularly when the market's trailing 12-month PE is 24.7 times earnings, and the 12-month forward PE is rich at 21.3 times. See page 10.

With this in mind, PepsiCo Inc. (PEP - \$170.42) announced third quarter adjusted earnings of \$2.31 that were above analysts' expectations of \$2.29. However, revenue growth disappointed in the quarter and the company cut its forecast for annual sales growth stating that price-conscious consumers were opting for cheaper private-label brands and hurting revenue. As a result, PepsiCo now expects annual organic revenue growth to be below its previous forecast of 4%. When banks come into focus later this week, analysts will be concentrating on changes in net interest income. Net interest income, or the difference between what banks earn on loans and what they pay out on deposits, provided a windfall for the sector as the Federal Reserve was raising rates; but September marked a big change after the Fed's first rate cut since March 2020. Corporate guidance on net interest income, consumer loan delinquencies, office loan reserves, trading, and investment banking activity will be important for the financial sector this quarter and in the quarters ahead.

The source of the market's recent exuberance was September's employment report that was much stronger than expected. The 254,000 increase in payrolls and the unemployment rate falling for the second month in a row to 4.1%, pointed to a robust economy. Even the U6 unemployment rate fell from 7.9% to 7.7% in the month.

But the details of the report were not quite as hearty, in our view. The establishment survey indicated jobs grew 1.56% YOY, slightly below the long-term average of 1.69% YOY. Meanwhile, the household survey revealed a weaker employment picture, which in our view, justifies the expected revision to the establishment survey early next year. The household survey has been showing that year-over-year job growth has been less than 1% in each month of 2024. August's household survey showed employment declined on a year-over-year basis; however, in September, the survey reported job growth improved slightly to 0.2% YOY. This poor job growth is significant because negative job growth is a classic signal of a recession. See page 3.

For important disclosures and analyst certification please refer to the last page of this report.

There has been a focus on foreign-born versus native-born employment this year because of a growing disparity between the two categories since the end of 2019. In the last 12 months foreign-born employment grew by 1.2 million to 31.4 million people; while in the same period, native-born employment fell by 825,000 to 130.6 million. Keep in mind that this data comes from the household survey which is much broader than the establishment survey which only includes workers on a payroll as reported to the state. The total number of unemployed foreign-born residents was 1.4 million in September and the foreign-born unemployment rate was 4.2%. There were 5.2 million native-born workers unemployed in September and the native-born unemployment rate was lower at 3.8%. See page 4.

<u>The ISM nonmanufacturing index rose from 51.5 to 54.9 in September and all components moved higher. The only indices still below the 50 level were employment and order backlog.</u> The best improvement was new orders which rose from 53.0 to 59.4, the highest reading since February 2023. The ISM manufacturing index was unchanged at 47.2, with five components rising and five declining. The biggest improvement was seen in business activity/production, which increased from 44.8 to 49.8, the best reading since May 2024. See page 5.

Employment in the manufacturing index fell from 46.0 to 43.9 and in the nonmanufacturing survey it fell from 50.2 to 48.1. These declines are in sharp contrast to September's payroll report which was stronger than expected and makes us concerned that September's payrolls may be revised lower. The ISM backlog of orders was the only other index in the nonmanufacturing survey that remained below 50, even though it increased from 43.7 to 48.3. In the manufacturing survey the backlog of orders was also weak, inching up from 43.6 to 44.1. Overall, the ISM reports suggested a stable economy with good growth in the service sector, stability in the manufacturing sector, but questionable growth in terms of employment. See page 6.

Consumer credit outstanding grew by \$8.9 billion in August, underperforming consensus expectations and decelerating sharply from July's upwardly revised gain of \$26.7 billion. Both revolving and nonrevolving credit grew 0.6% in August versus July, and on a seasonally adjusted basis, revolving credit grew 5.4% (down from 10.7% a year earlier) and nonrevolving credit grew 1.2% (down from 1.9% a year earlier). After inflation, revolving credit grew 2.8% YOY and nonrevolving decreased 1.2% YOY. Nonrevolving credit contracted slightly in June, but falling interest rates had a positive impact on mortgage growth in July and August. The importance of consumer credit is similar to that of job growth. Deceleration precedes contraction and contraction is a sign of a recession. See page 7.

The NFIB small business optimism index was 91.5 in September, in line with the 88.5 to 91.9 range it has maintained since June 2022. This made July's increase to 93.7 a positive "outlier." September was the 33rd consecutive month of the optimism index falling below the 50-year average of 98. Plans for capex, employment, expansion, and inventories were somewhat lower, but little changed in the month. See page 8. Actual sales changes for small business owners fell from negative 16 to negative 17 in September and actual earnings rose from negative 37 to negative 34. Nevertheless, both remain historically weak. Sales expectations rose from negative 18 to negative 9 in September. With this backdrop it is not surprising that the NFIB uncertainty index rose from 92 to 103 in September, its highest level since data began in 2017. NFIB stated "Uncertainty makes owners hesitant to invest in capital spending and inventory, especially as inflation and financing costs continue to put pressure on their bottom lines." See page 9.

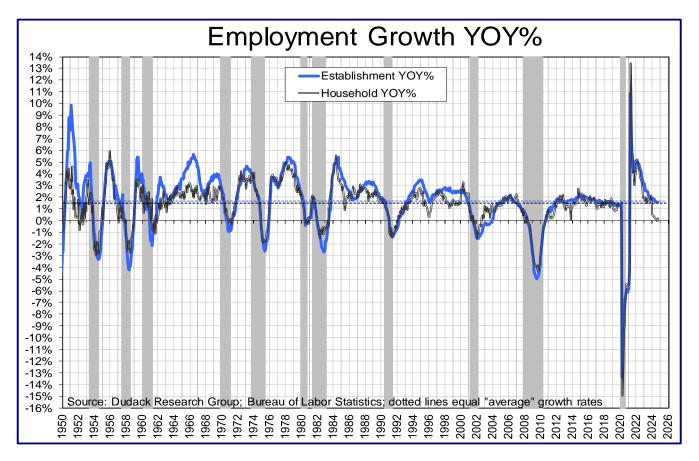
There were no significant changes in our technical indicators this week. See page 12 to 16. In our view, stock prices should always be supported by solid earnings growth, and this makes third quarter earnings season critically important. However, earnings do not matter in a bubble market and with liquidity flowing due to monetary easing taking place in Europe, China, and the US, the path of least resistance for equities may still be up.

September's employment report was much stronger than expected showing a 254,000 increase in payrolls and the unemployment rate falling for the second month in a row to 4.1%. The U6 unemployment rate also inched down from 7.9% in August to 7.7% in September.

The establishment survey indicated jobs grew 1.56% YOY, slightly below the average of 1.69% YOY. The household survey has revealed a weakness in employment, which in our view justifies the expected revision to the establishment survey early next year. The household survey has shown job growth of less than 1% YOY in each month of 2024. After revisions, August's household survey showed employment declined on a year-over-year basis; however, in September, the survey reported job growth improved slightly to 0.2% YOY. This is significant because negative job growth is a classic signal of a recession.

Employment Surveys (1,000s SA)	Sep-24	Aug-24	Change	Sep-23	Yr/Yr
Establishment Survey: NonFarm Payrolls	159,105	158,851	254	156,667	2,438
Household Survey Data (1,000s)					
Employed (A)	161,864	161,434	430	161,550	314
Unemployed (B)	6,834	7,115	(281)	6,347	487
Civilian labor force [A+B]	168,698	168,549	149	167,897	801
Unemployment rate [B/(A+B)]	4.05%	4.22%	-0.17%	3.8%	0.3%
U6 Unemployment rate	7.7%	7.9%	-0.2%	7.0%	0.7%
Civilian noninstitutional population (C)	269,080	268,856	224	267,428	1,652
Participation rate [(A+B)/C]	62.7	62.7	0.0	62.8	-0.1
Employment-population ratio [A/C]	60.2	60.0	0.2	60.4	-0.2
Not in labor force	100,381	99,849	532	99,531	850

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

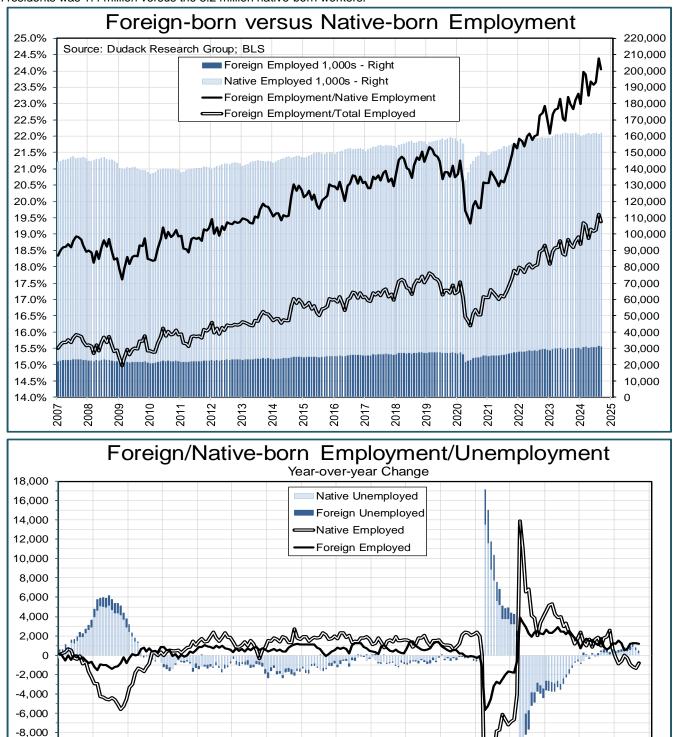


10,000 -12,000 -14,000 -16,000

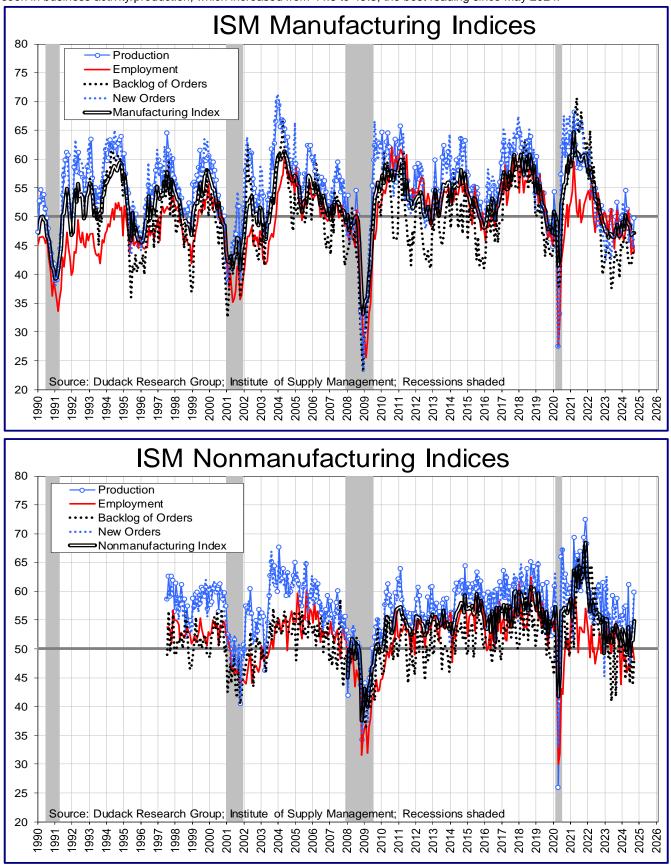
-18.000

Source: Dudack Research Group; BLS

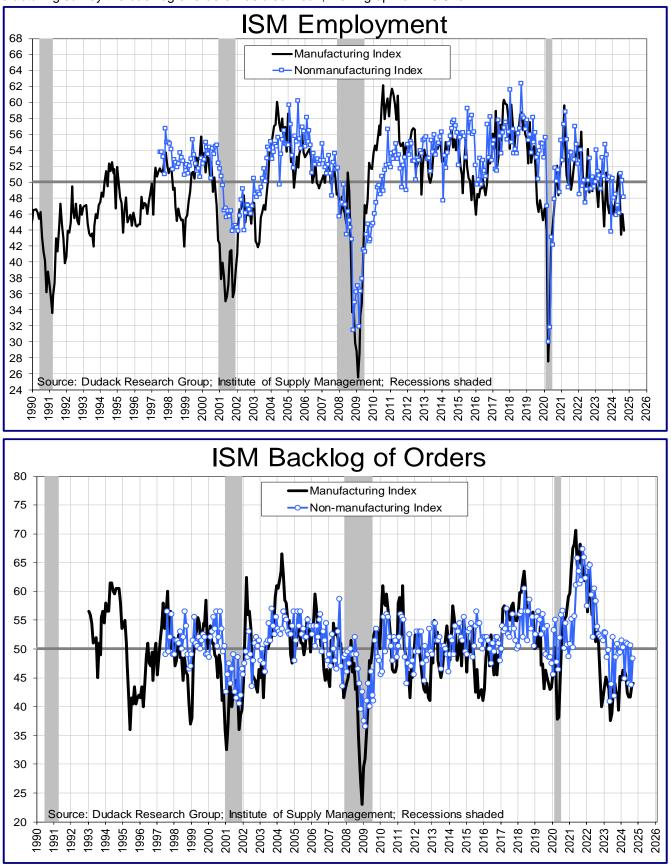
There has been a focus on foreign-born versus native-born employment this year. In the last 12 months foreign-born employment grew by 1.2 million to 31.4 million people. In the same period, native-born employment declined by 825,000 to 130.6 million. The foreign-born unemployment rate was 4.2% in September versus the native-born unemployment rate of 3.8%. The total number of unemployed foreignborn residents was 1.4 million versus the 5.2 million native-born workers.



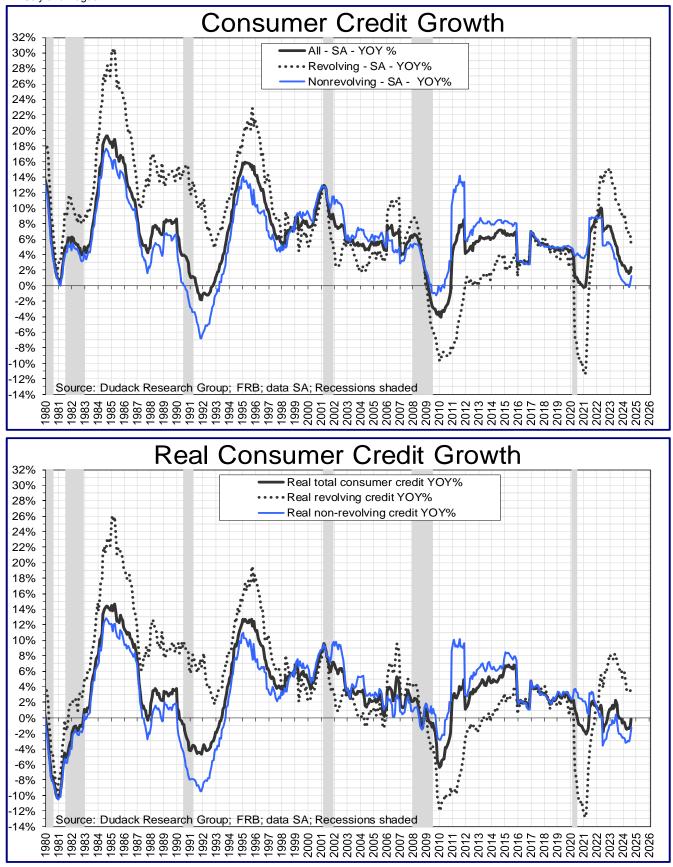
The ISM nonmanufacturing index rose from 51.5 to 54.9 and all components moved higher. The only indices still below the 50 level were employment and order backlog. The best improvement was new orders which rose from 53.0 to 59.4, the best reading since February 2023. The ISM manufacturing index was unchanged at 47.2, with five components rising and five declining. The biggest improvement was seen in business activity/production, which increased from 44.8 to 49.8, the best reading since May 2024.



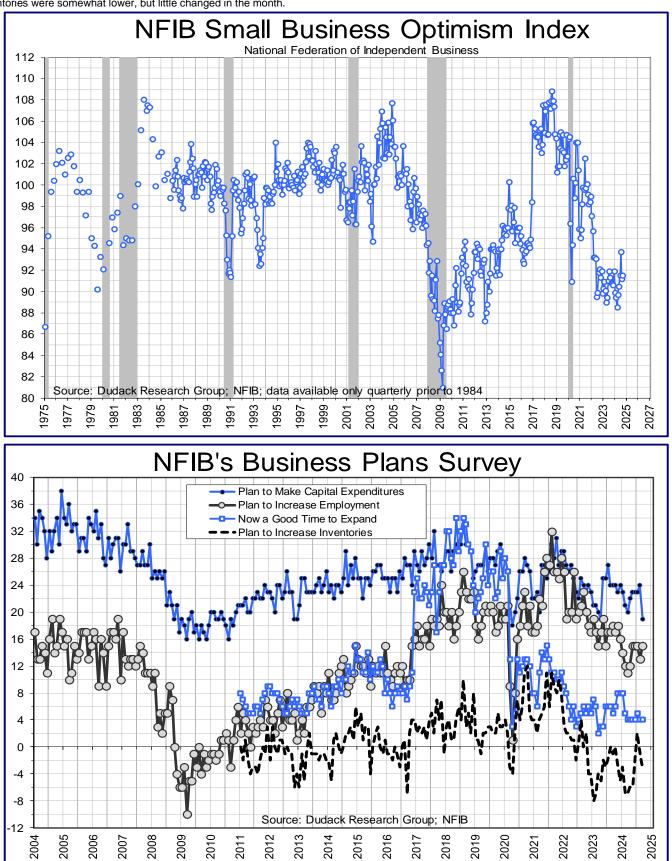
Employment in the manufacturing index fell from 46.0 to 43.9 and in the nonmanufacturing survey it fell from 50.2 to 48.1. This is in contrast to September's payroll report which was much stronger than expected. Backlog of orders was the only other index in the nonmanufacturing survey that remained below 50, even though it increased from 43.7 to 48.3. In the manufacturing survey the backlog of orders was also weak, inching up from 43.6 to 44.1.



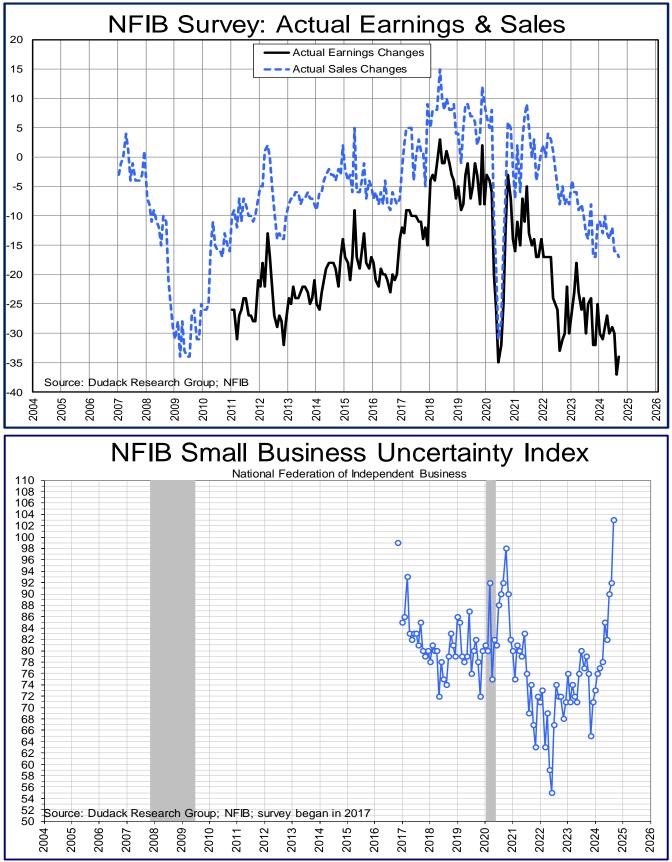
Consumer credit outstanding grew by \$8.9 billion in August, underperforming consensus expectations and decelerating sharply from July's upwardly revised gain of \$26.7 billion. Both revolving and nonrevolving credit grew 0.6% in August versus July, and on a seasonally adjusted basis, revolving credit grew 5.4% (down from 10.7% a year earlier) and nonrevolving credit grew 1.2% (down from 1.9% a year earlier). After inflation, revolving credit grew 2.8% YOY and nonrevolving decreased 1.2% YOY. Nonrevolving credit contracted slightly in June, but falling interest rates had a positive impact on mortgage growth in July and August.



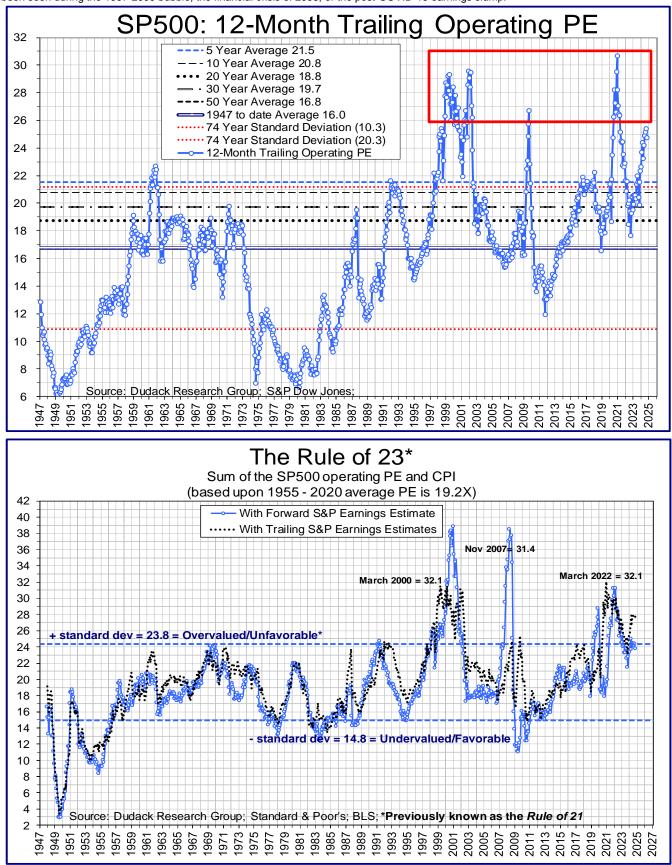
The NFIB small business optimism index was 91.5 in September, in line with the 88.5 to 91.9 range it has maintained since June 2022. This made July's increase to 93.7 an outlier. September was the 33rd consecutive month below the 50-year average of 98. Plans for capex, employment, expansion, and inventories were somewhat lower, but little changed in the month.



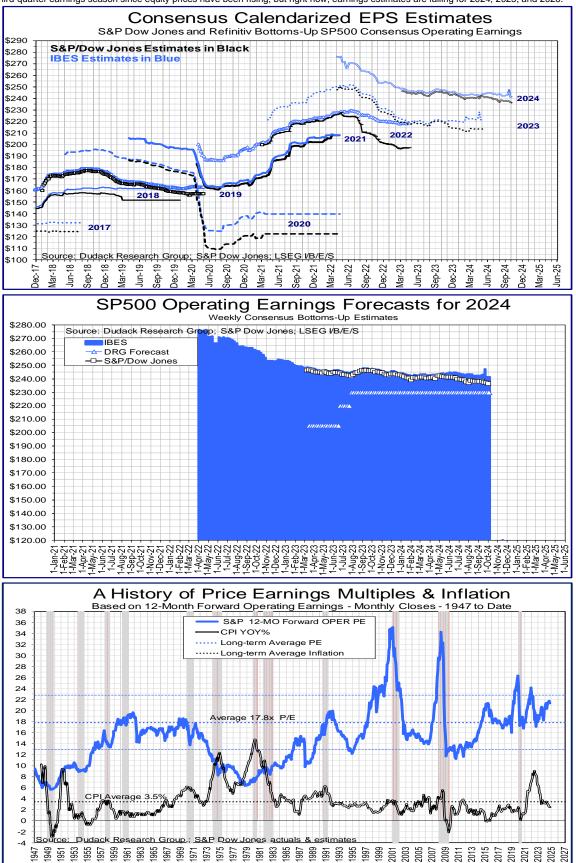
Actual sales changes for small business owners fell from negative 16 to negative 17 in September and actual earnings rose from negative 37 to negative 34. Nevertheless, both remain historically weak. Sales expectations rose from negative 18 to negative 9 in September. With this backdrop it is not surprising that the uncertainty index rose from 92 to 103 in September, its highest level since data began in 2017. NFIB stated "Uncertainty makes owners hesitant to invest in capital spending and inventory, especially as inflation and financing costs continue to put pressure on their bottom lines."



Valuation does not support equities, but if this market is a melt-up or bubble, valuation will not matter. The SPX **trailing** 4-quarter operating multiple is now 24.7 times, and well above all long- and short-term averages. The **12-month forward** PE multiple is 21.3 times and when added to inflation of 2.5%, sums to 23.8, which is at the top of the normal range of 14.8 to 23.8. By all measures, the equity market remains richly valued. Current valuation levels have only been seen during the 1997-2000 bubble, the financial crisis of 2008, or the post-COVID-19 earnings slump.



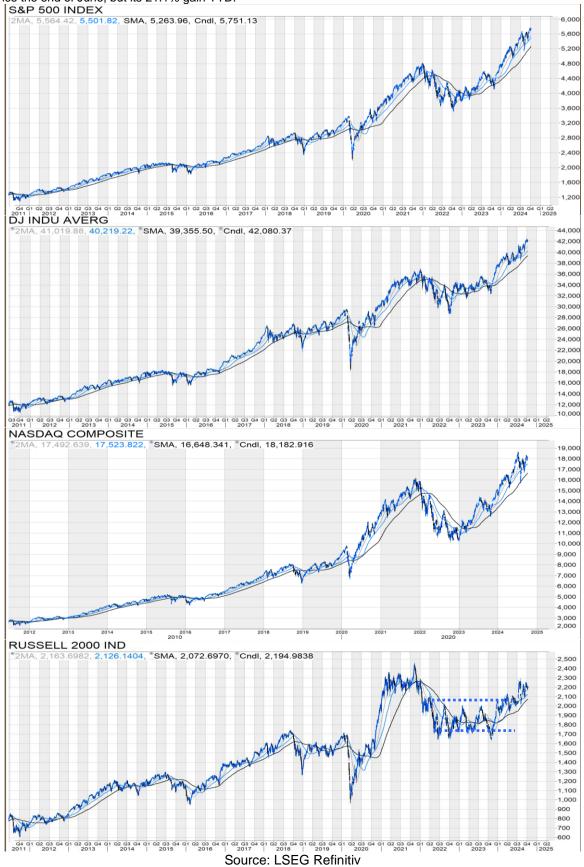
The S&P Dow Jones consensus estimate for calendar 2024 is \$236.19, down \$0.48 and the 2025 estimate is \$273.92, down \$0.81 this week. The LSEG IBES estimate for 2024 is \$241.28, up \$0.03 and the estimate for 2025 is \$276.45, down \$0.83. The IBES guesstimate for 2026 EPS is \$312.73, down \$0.19. Monitoring estimates will be critical as we approach third-quarter earnings season since equity prices have been rising, but right now, earnings estimates are falling for 2024, 2025, and 2026.



Crude oil rose nearly 14% due to a widening conflict in the Middle East, however, the 200-day moving average at \$77 appears to be holding as resistantce. The commodity appears to be returning to the \$65 to \$75 range that has containing prices in recent weeks. Gold futures, on the other hand, continue to be strong, which could be a flight to safety. Meanwhile, the 10-year Treasury bond yield leaped back to 4% after strong employment numbers for September indicated the economy was stronger than expected.



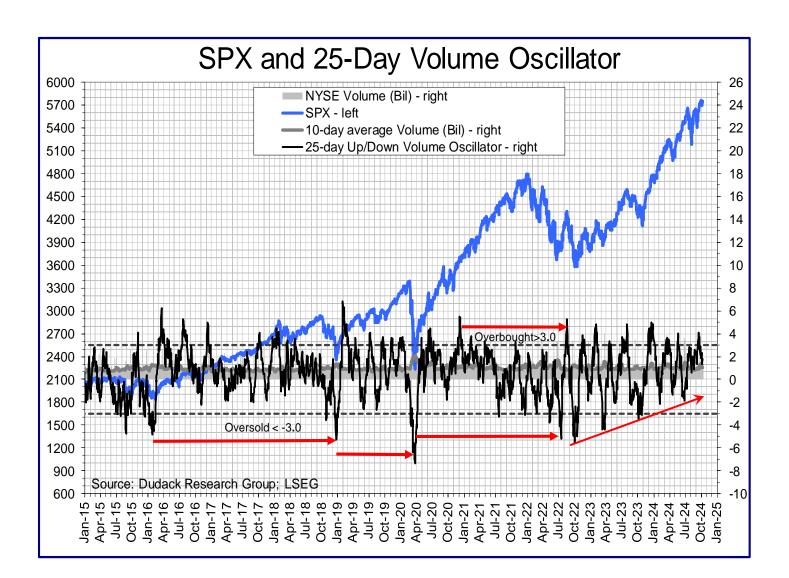
The recent broadening in the market has led to the Dow Jones Industrial Average gaining 7.6% since midyear, versus 11.7% YTD. The benchmark S&P 500 Composite index rose 5.3% since midyear and 20.6% YTD. Meanwhile the broader Russell 2000 index was the biggest winner with a 7.9% gain since midyear, and an 8.3% YTD gain. The loss of leadership by the Nasdaq Composite is seen by its 2.5% gain since the end of June, but its 21.1% gain YTD.



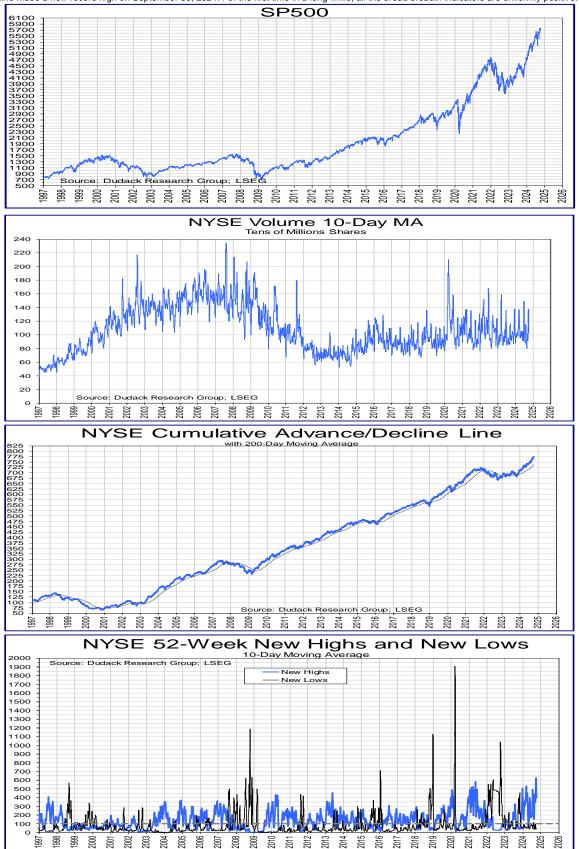
The 25-day up/down volume oscillator is 1.77 and neutral. This oscillator was in overbought territory for seven of eight days ending September 19, the last six of these sessions were consecutive. With many of the indices at or near all-time highs, it is important for this indicator to confirm the advance with an overbought reading of at least 5 consecutive days.

However, if the rally which began in October was a new bull market advance, it should also include several extreme overbought readings of 5.0 or better, which is typical of the first stage of a major advance. To date, the 4.07 reading on September 17 was the best level since December 2023, which is not impressive, but is encouraging. This six-consecutive-day overbought reading was not overly impressive, but it was the best demonstration of volume following prices seen since the end of last year. In short, it was good enough to confirm the new highs in the averages, but did not suggest the rally is the beginning of a new bull cycle.

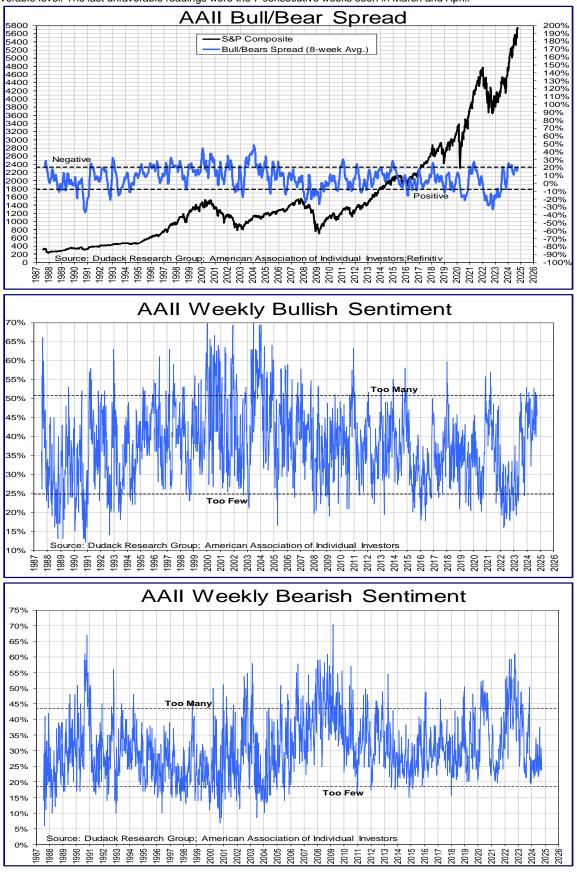
Meanwhile, we continue to monitor an interesting uptrend in this oscillator (red line below) off the 2022 low. This trendline lends a bullish bias to an otherwise neutral position of this index, and it remains intact despite recent market weakness. Should this trend line be broken it would be a warning sign for the longer-term trend of the stock market.



The 10-day average of daily new highs fell to 348 this week and new lows are 47. This combination of new highs above 100 and new lows below 100 is positive. The NYSE advance/decline line made a new record high on September 30, 2024. For the first time in a long while, all the broad breadth indicators are uniformly positive.

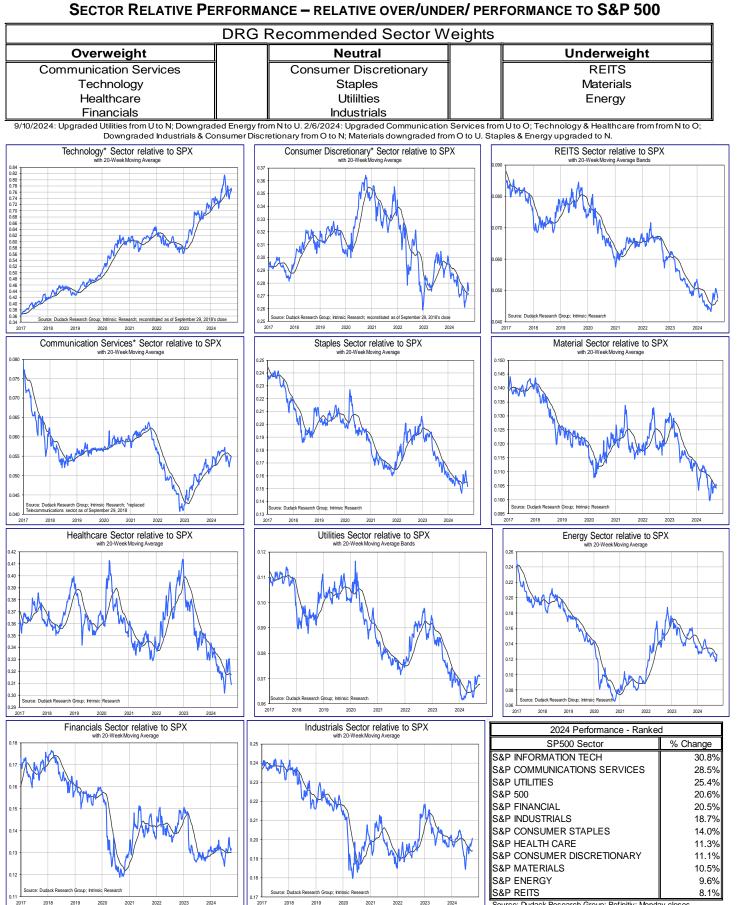


Last week's AAII survey showed bullishness fell 4.1% to 45.5% and bearishness rose 3.6% to 27.3%. Bullishness is above average, and bearishness is below average for the third week in a row. Extreme sentiment readings -- a negative signal -- were seen on December 13, 2023, when bearishness was 19.6%, its lowest level since the January 3, 2018 reading of 15.6%, and bullishness was 51.3%. The 8-week bull/bear rose to 20.8% and is at the edge of the 20.8% unfavorable level. The last unfavorable readings were the 7 consecutive weeks seen in March and April.



GLOBAL MARKETS AND COMMODITIES - RANKED BY YTD TRADING PERFORMANCE

Index/EFT	Symbol	Price	5-Day%	20-Day%	QTD%	YTD%	
iShares China Large Cap ETF	FXI	33.33	0.7%	30.7%	4.9%	38.7%	
iShares Silver Trust	SLV	29.34	-2.0%	9.9%	-1.4%	28.9%	Outperformed SP500
SPDR Homebuilders ETF	XHB	122.05	-2.0%	9.9 <i>%</i> 8.8%	-1.4 %	28.9%	Underperformed SP500
							Underpendimed SF500
Silver Future	Slc1	30.36	-3.5%	9.2%	-2.6%	27.3%	
SPDR Gold Trust	GLD	242.37	-1.3%	5.1%	-0.3%	26.8%	
Utilities Select Sector SPDR	XLU	79.48	-2.4%	4.7%	-1.6%	25.5%	
Communication Services Select Sector SPDR Fund	XLC	90.45	0.0%	8.0%	0.1%	24.5%	
iShares Russell 1000 Growth ETF	IWF	376.70	1.7%	8.8%	0.4%	24.3%	
iShares MSCI Malaysia ETF	EWM	25.91	-3.9%	2.5%	-4.2%	21.9%	
Nasdaq Composite Index Tracking Stock	ONEQ.O	71.69	1.6%	8.8%	0.1%	21.0%	
Financial Select Sector SPDR	XLF	45.35	0.6%	2.4%	0.1%	20.6%	
SP500	.SPX	5751.13	0.7%	6.3%	-0.2%	20.6%	
iShares MSCI BRIC ETF	BKF	41.18	-0.2%	15.7%	1.8%	20.4%	
iShares Russell 1000 ETF	IWB	313.91	0.7%	6.1%	-0.2%	19.7%	
NASDAQ 100	NDX	20107.78	1.7%	9.2%	0.2%	19.5%	
Industrial Select Sector SPDR	XLI	135.48	0.0%	7.6%	0.0%	18.9%	
Technology Select Sector SPDR	XLK	227.92	3.5%	11.8%	1.0%	18.4%	
iShares MSCI Taiwan ETF	EWT	54.34	1.6%	8.5%	0.9%	18.1%	
Shanghai Composite	.SSEC	3489.78	4.6%	26.2%	4.6%	17.3%	
iShares MSCI India ETF	INDA.K	57.08	-1.9%	1.0%	-2.5%	16.9%	
iShares MSCI Singapore ETF	EWS	21.83	-1.1%	6.0%	-1.4%	16.7%	
iShares MSCI Emerg Mkts ETF	EEM	46.19	0.0%	10.6%	0.7%	14.9%	
PowerShares Water Resources Portfolio	РНО	69.64	-0.5%	5.4%	-1.3%	14.4%	
iShares Russell 1000 Value ETF	IWD	188.54	-0.3%	3.3%	-0.7%	14.1%	
United States Oil Fund, LP	USO	75.79	5.1%	10.0%	8.4%	13.7%	
SPDR S&P Bank ETF	KBE	51.98	1.1%	1.6%	-1.7%	13.0%	
Consumer Staples Select Sector SPDR	XLP	81.06	-2.0%	-2.3%	-2.3%	12.5%	
iShares MSCI Canada ETF	EWC	41.14	-1.2%	4.7%	-0.9%	12.2%	
	IYZ	25.45	0.6%	9.9%	0.8%		
iShares US Telecomm ETF SPDR DJIA ETF						11.8%	
	DIA	420.80	-0.2%	4.0%	-0.5%	11.7%	
	.DJI	42080.37	-0.2%	4.3%	-0.6%	11.6%	
iShares Russell 2000 Growth ETF	IWO	281.48	0.4%	6.7%	-0.9%	11.6%	
Health Care Select Sect SPDR	XLV	151.79	-0.9%	-1.4%	-1.4%	11.3%	
iShares MSCI Japan ETF	EWJ	71.26	-0.5%	4.7%	-0.4%	11.1%	
Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US ETF	VEU	62.28	-0.9%	4.7%	-1.1%	10.9%	
iShares MSCI Germany ETF	EWG	32.91	-1.4%	3.9%	-2.7%	10.8%	
Materials Select Sector SPDR	XLB	94.45	-1.8%	5.1%	-2.0%	10.4%	
iShares MSCI United Kingdom ETF	EWU	36.44	-2.4%	-0.1%	-2.6%	10.3%	
Consumer Discretionary Select Sector SPDR	XLY	196.99	-1.3%	8.0%	-1.7%	10.2%	
iShares MSCI EAFE ETF	EFA	81.96	-1.3%	2.7%	-2.0%	8.8%	
Energy Select Sector SPDR	XLE	91.07	1.4%	5.9%	3.7%	8.6%	
iShares Russell 2000 ETF	IWM	217.58	-0.1%	4.7%	-1.5%	8.4%	
iShares MSCI Australia ETF	EWA	26.29	-2.3%	4.7%	-3.0%	8.0%	
iShares US Real Estate ETF	IYR	98.73	-2.5%	-0.7%	-3.1%	8.0%	
iShares MSCI Hong Kong ETF	EWH	18.76	-1.7%	18.6%	0.5%	8.0%	
Gold Future	GCc1	2925.10	0.2%	0.8%	0.2%	7.4%	
SPDR S&P Semiconductor ETF	XSD	237.83	2.5%	12.2%	-1.0%	5.8%	
iShares Nasdaq Biotechnology ETF	IBB.O	143.00	-1.2%	0.2%	-1.8%	5.3%	
iShares Russell 2000 Value ETF	IWN	163.41	-0.6%	2.6%	-2.0%	5.2%	
SPDR S&P Retail ETF	XRT	75.69	-0.8%	4.4%	-2.6%	4.7%	
Oil Future	CLc1	73.57	-0.8 % 5.4%	4.4 % 8.7%	7.9%	2.7%	
iShares MSCI Austria Capped ETF	EWO						
		22.09	-1.5%	-0.9%	-3.2%	2.2%	
iShares iBoxx \$ Invest Grade Corp Bond	LQD	111.17	-1.7%	-1.0%	-1.6%	0.5%	
iShares MSCI South Korea Capped ETF	EWY	63.39	-0.1%	4.8%	-0.9%	-3.3%	
iShares 20+ Year Treas Bond ETF	TLT	94.99	-3.6%	-4.6%	-3.2%	-3.9%	
iShares DJ US Oil Eqpt & Services ETF	IEZ	20.86	1.3%	6.8%	3.8%	-4.8%	
iShares MSCI Brazil Capped ETF	EWZ	28.97	-1.8%	-1.3%	-1.8%	-17.1%	
iShares MSCI Mexico Capped ETF Source: Dudack Research Group; Refinitiv	EWW	54.20 Priced as of	0.8%	5.4%	0.9%	-20.1%	



Source: Dudack Research Group; Refinitiv; Monday closes

US Asset Allocation								
Benchmark DRG % Recommenda								
Equities	60%	55%	Neutral					
Treasury Bonds	30%	20%	Underweight					
Cash	10%	25%	Overweight					
	100%	100%						

Source: Dudack Research Group; raised cash and lowered equity 15% on December 21, 2022

DRG Earnings and Economic Forecasts

P 2007 144 2008 90 2009 111 2010 124 2011 124 2012 144 2013 184 2014 212 2015 204 2016 225 2018 256 2019 325 2020 375	&P 500 Price 468.36 003.25 115.10 257.64 257.60 426.19 848.36 127.83 043.94 238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50 769.83	S&P Dow Jones Reported EP S** \$66.18 \$14.88 \$50.97 \$77.35 \$86.95 \$86.51 \$100.20 \$102.31 \$86.53 \$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	S&P Dow Jones Operating EP S** \$82.54 \$49.51 \$56.86 \$83.77 \$96.44 \$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.02 \$100.45 \$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	DRG Operating EPS Forecast \$49.51 \$56.86 \$83.77 \$96.44 \$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.01 \$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51	DRG EPS YOY % -5.9% -40.0% 14.8% 47.3% 15.1% 0.4% 10.8% 5.3% -11.1%	LSEG IBES Consensus Bottom-Up \$ EPS** \$85.12 \$65.47 \$60.80 \$85.28 \$97.82 \$103.80 \$109.68 \$118.78	LSEG IBES Consensus Bottom-Up EPSYOY% -23.1% -23.1% -7.1% 40.3% 14.7% 6.1% 5.7%	S&P Op PE Ratio 17.8X 18.2X 19.6X 15.0X 13.0X 14.7X 17.2X	S&P Divd Yield 1.8% 2.5% 2.6% 1.9% 2.0% 2.1%	GDP Annual Rate 2.0% 0.1% -2.6% 2.7% 1.6% 2.3%	GDP Profits post-tax w/ IVA & CC \$1,141.40 \$1,029.90 \$1,182.90 \$1,456.50 \$1,529.00 \$1,662.80	YOY % -6.1% -9.8% 14.9% 23.1% 5.0% 8.8%
PH 2007 144 2008 90 2009 111 2010 124 2011 124 2012 144 2013 184 2014 212 2015 204 2016 222 2017 265 2018 256 2019 322 2020 375	Price 468.36 003.25 115.10 257.64 257.60 426.19 848.36 127.83 043.94 238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	Reported EP S** \$66.18 \$14.88 \$50.97 \$77.35 \$86.95 \$86.51 \$100.20 \$102.31 \$86.53 \$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	Operating EPS** \$82.54 \$49.51 \$56.86 \$83.77 \$96.44 \$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.02 \$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	EPS Forecast \$82.54 \$49.51 \$56.86 \$83.77 \$96.44 \$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.01 \$100.45 \$106.26	YOY % -5.9% -40.0% 14.8% 47.3% 15.1% 0.4% 10.8% 5.3%	Bottom-Up \$ EP S** \$85.12 \$65.47 \$60.80 \$85.28 \$97.82 \$103.80 \$109.68	Bottom-Up EPSYOY% -3.5% -23.1% -7.1% 40.3% 14.7% 6.1%	Ratio 17.8X 18.2X 19.6X 15.0X 13.0X 14.7X	Yield 1.8% 2.5% 2.6% 1.9% 2.0% 2.1%	Rate 2.0% 0.1% -2.6% 2.7% 1.6% 2.3%	IVA & CC \$1,141.40 \$1,029.90 \$1,182.90 \$1,456.50 \$1,529.00	-6.1% -9.8% 14.9% 23.1% 5.0%
2008 90 2009 11' 2010 12' 2011 12' 2012 14' 2013 18' 2014 21' 2015 20' 2016 22' 2017 26' 2018 25' 2019 32' 2020 37'	003.25 115.10 257.64 257.60 426.19 848.36 127.83 043.94 238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$66.18 \$14.88 \$50.97 \$77.35 \$86.95 \$86.51 \$100.20 \$102.31 \$86.53 \$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$82.54 \$49.51 \$56.86 \$83.77 \$96.44 \$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.02 \$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	\$82.54 \$49.51 \$56.86 \$83.77 \$96.44 \$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.01 \$100.45 \$106.26	-5.9% -40.0% 14.8% 47.3% 15.1% 0.4% 10.8% 5.3%	\$85.12 \$65.47 \$60.80 \$85.28 \$97.82 \$103.80 \$109.68	-3.5% -23.1% -7.1% 40.3% 14.7% 6.1%	17.8X 18.2X 19.6X 15.0X 13.0X 14.7X	1.8% 2.5% 2.6% 1.9% 2.0% 2.1%	2.0% 0.1% -2.6% 2.7% 1.6% 2.3%	\$1,141.40 \$1,029.90 \$1,182.90 \$1,456.50 \$1,529.00	-6.1% -9.8% 14.9% 23.1% 5.0%
2008 90 2009 11' 2010 12' 2011 12' 2012 14' 2013 18' 2014 21' 2015 20' 2016 22' 2017 26' 2018 25' 2019 32' 2020 37'	003.25 115.10 257.64 257.60 426.19 848.36 127.83 043.94 238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$14.88 \$50.97 \$77.35 \$86.95 \$86.51 \$100.20 \$102.31 \$86.53 \$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$49.51 \$56.86 \$83.77 \$96.44 \$107.30 \$113.02 \$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	\$49.51 \$56.86 \$83.77 \$96.44 \$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.01 \$100.45 \$106.26	-40.0% 14.8% 47.3% 15.1% 0.4% 10.8% 5.3%	\$65.47 \$60.80 \$85.28 \$97.82 \$103.80 \$109.68	-23.1% -7.1% 40.3% 14.7% 6.1%	18.2X 19.6X 15.0X 13.0X 14.7X	2.5% 2.6% 1.9% 2.0% 2.1%	0.1% -2.6% 2.7% 1.6% 2.3%	\$1,029.90 \$1,182.90 \$1,456.50 \$1,529.00	-9.8% 14.9% 23.1% 5.0%
2009 11 2010 12 2011 12 2012 14 2013 18 2014 21 2015 20 2016 22 2017 26 2018 25 2019 32 2020 37	115.10 257.64 257.60 426.19 848.36 127.83 043.94 238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$50.97 \$77.35 \$86.95 \$86.51 \$100.20 \$102.31 \$86.53 \$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$56.86 \$83.77 \$96.44 \$107.30 \$113.02 \$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	\$56.86 \$83.77 \$96.44 \$107.30 \$113.01 \$100.45 \$106.26	14.8% 47.3% 15.1% 0.4% 10.8% 5.3%	\$60.80 \$85.28 \$97.82 \$103.80 \$109.68	-7.1% 40.3% 14.7% 6.1%	19.6X 15.0X 13.0X 14.7X	2.6% 1.9% 2.0% 2.1%	-2.6% 2.7% 1.6% 2.3%	\$1,182.90 \$1,456.50 \$1,529.00	14.9% 23.1% 5.0%
2010 129 2011 129 2012 149 2013 184 2014 212 2015 204 2016 222 2017 267 2018 250 2019 322 2020 375	257.64 257.60 426.19 848.36 127.83 043.94 238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$77.35 \$86.95 \$86.51 \$100.20 \$102.31 \$86.53 \$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$83.77 \$96.44 \$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.02 \$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	\$83.77 \$96.44 \$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.01 \$100.45 \$106.26	47.3% 15.1% 0.4% 10.8% 5.3%	\$85.28 \$97.82 \$103.80 \$109.68	40.3% 14.7% 6.1%	15.0X 13.0X 14.7X	1.9% 2.0% 2.1%	2.7% 1.6% 2.3%	\$1,456.50 \$1,529.00	23.1% 5.0%
2011 12 2012 14 2013 18 2014 212 2015 20 2016 223 2017 263 2018 250 2019 323 2020 375	257.60 426.19 848.36 127.83 043.94 238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$86.95 \$86.51 \$100.20 \$102.31 \$86.53 \$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$96.44 \$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.02 \$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	\$96.44 \$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.01 \$100.45 \$106.26	15.1% 0.4% 10.8% 5.3%	\$97.82 \$103.80 \$109.68	14.7% 6.1%	13.0X 14.7X	2.0% 2.1%	1.6% 2.3%	\$1,529.00	5.0%
2012 142 2013 184 2014 212 2015 204 2016 223 2017 263 2018 256 2019 323 2020 375	426.19 848.36 127.83 043.94 238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$86.51 \$100.20 \$102.31 \$86.53 \$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.02 \$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	\$96.82 \$107.30 \$113.01 \$100.45 \$106.26	0.4% 10.8% 5.3%	\$103.80 \$109.68	6.1%	14.7X	2.1%	2.3%		
2013 18 2014 212 2015 204 2016 223 2017 265 2018 256 2019 323 2020 375	848.36 127.83 043.94 238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$100.20 \$102.31 \$86.53 \$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$107.30 \$113.02 \$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	\$107.30 \$113.01 \$100.45 \$106.26	10.8% 5.3%	\$109.68					\$1,662.80	0 00/
2014 212 2015 204 2016 223 2017 263 2018 256 2019 323 2020 375	127.83 043.94 238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$102.31 \$86.53 \$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$113.02 \$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	\$113.01 \$100.45 \$106.26	5.3%	-	5.7%	17 22				0.0%
2015 20 2016 223 2017 263 2018 256 2019 323 2020 375	043.94 238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$86.53 \$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$100.45 \$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	\$100.45 \$106.26		\$118.78		17.24	2.0%	2.1%	\$1,648.10	-0.9%
2016 223 2017 263 2018 256 2019 323 2020 375	238.83 673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$94.55 \$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$106.26 \$124.51 \$151.60	\$106.26	-11.1%	• • •	8.3%	18.8X	2.2%	2.5%	\$1,713.10	3.9%
2017 267 2018 256 2019 323 2020 375	673.61 506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$109.88 \$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$124.51 \$151.60			\$117.46	-1.1%	20.3X	2.1%	2.9%	\$1,664.20	-2.9%
2018 250 2019 323 2020 375	506.85 230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$132.39 \$94.55 \$109.88	\$151.60	\$124.51	5.8%	\$118.10	0.5%	21.1X	1. 9 %	1.8%	\$1,661.50	-0.2%
2019 32: 2020 37	230.78 756.07 766.18 839.50	\$94.55 \$109.88			17.2%	\$132.00	11.8%	21.5X	1.8%	2.5%	\$1,816.60	9.3%
2020 37	756.07 766.18 839.50	\$109.88		\$151.60	21.8%	\$161.93	22.7%	16.5X	1.9%	3.0%	\$2,023.40	11.4%
2020 37	756.07 766.18 839.50	\$109.88	\$157.12	\$157.12	3.6%	\$162.93	0.6%	20.6X	1.8%	2.5%	\$2,065.60	2.1%
	766.18 839.50		\$122.38	\$122.38	-22.1%	\$139.72	-14.2%	30.7X	1.6%	-2.2%	\$1,968.10	-4.7%
		\$132.39	\$208.17	\$208.17	70.1%	\$208.12	49.0%	22.9X	1.3%	5.8%	\$2,382.80	21.1%
2022 383	760.92	\$139.47	\$196.95	\$196.95	-5.4%	\$218.09	4.8%	19.5X	1.7%	1. 9 %	\$2,478.80	4.0%
2023 470	109.03	\$94.14	\$213.53	\$213.53	8.4%	\$221.36	1.5%	22.3X	1.5%	2.5%	\$2,803.20	4.0%
2024E ~~	~~~~	\$197.87	\$236.19	\$235.00	10.1%	\$241.28	9.0%	24.4X	1.4%	NA	NA	NA
2025E ~~	~~~~	\$172.75	\$273.91	\$255.00	8.5%	\$276.45	14.6%	21.0X	NA	NA	NA	NA
2017 1Q 230	362.72	\$27.46	\$28.82	\$28.82	20.2%	\$30.90	14.6%	21.3	2.0%	2.0%	\$1,911.40	7.5%
	423.41	\$27.01	\$30.51	\$30.51	18.7%	\$32.58	10.0%	20.9	1.9%	2.3%	\$1,896.90	9.5%
	519.36	\$28.45	\$31.33	\$31.33	9.2%	\$33.45	7.2%	21.2	1.9%	3.2%	\$1,927.00	9.8%
	673.61	\$26.96	\$33.85	\$33.85	21.3%	\$36.02	15.1%	21.5	1.8%	4.6%	\$1,977.10	9.4%
	640.87	\$33.02	\$36.54	\$36.54	26.8%	\$38.07	23.2%	20.0	1.9%	3.3%	\$2,028.40	6.1%
	718.37	\$34.05	\$38.65	\$38.65	26.7%	\$41.00	25.8%	19.4	1.9%	2.1%	\$2,071.00	9.2%
	913.98	\$36.36	\$41.38	\$41.38	32.1%	\$42.66	27.5%	19.4	1.8%	2.1%	\$2,072.00	7.5%
	506.85	\$28.96	\$35.03	\$35.03	3.5%	\$41.18	14.3%	16.5	2.1%	0.6%	\$2,099.60	6.2%
	834.40	\$35.02	\$35.05 \$37.99	\$37.99	3.3 <i>%</i> 4.0%	\$39.15	2.8%	18.5	1.9%	2.2%	\$2,033.00 \$2,124.50	4.7%
	941.76	\$33.02 \$34.93	\$40.14	\$40.14	4.0 <i>%</i> 3.9%	\$39.13 \$41.31	2.8%	19.0	1.9%	3.4%	\$2,124.30 \$2,147.20	4.7 % 3.7%
	976.74	\$33.99	\$40.14 \$39.81			\$41.31 \$42.14		19.0			\$2,147.20	
				\$39.81	-3.8%		-1.2%		1.9%	4.6%		7.2%
	230.78	\$35.53	\$39.18	\$39.18	11.8%	\$41.98	1.9%	20.6	1.8%	2.6%	\$2,199.60	4.8%
	584.59	\$11.88	\$19.50	\$19.50	-48.7%	\$33.13	-15.4%	18.6	2.3%	-5.3%	\$1,993.80	-6.2%
	397.35	\$17.83	\$26.79	\$26.79	-33.3%	\$27.98	-32.3%	35.1	1.9%	-28.0%	\$1,785.00	-16.9%
	363.00	\$32.98	\$37.90	\$37.90	-4.8%	\$38.69	-8.2%	27.3	1.7%	34.8%	\$2,386.80	7.5%
	756.07	\$31.45	\$38.19	\$38.19	-2.5%	\$42.58	1.4%	30.7	1.6%	4.2%	\$2,137.60	-2.8%
	972.89	\$45.95	\$47.41	\$47.41	143.1%	\$49.13	48.3%	26.4	1.5%	5.2%	\$2,401.00	20.4%
	297.50	\$48.39	\$52.03	\$52.03	94.2%	\$52.58	87.9%	24.5	1.3%	6.2%	\$2,596.30	45.5%
	307.54	\$49.59	\$52.02	\$52.02	37.3%	\$53.72	38.8%	22.7	1.4%	3.3%	\$2,553.30	7.0%
2021 4Q 470	766.18	\$53.94	\$56.71	\$56.71	48.5%	\$53.95	26.7%	22.9	1.3%	7.0%	\$2,521.90	18.0%
2022 1Q 453	530.41	\$45.99	\$49.36	\$49.36	4.1%	\$54.80	11.5%	21.6	1.4%	-2.0%	\$2,497.90	4.0%
2022 2Q 378	785.38	\$42.74	\$46.87	\$46.87	-9.9%	\$57.62	9.6%	18.5	1.7%	-0.6%	\$2,712.60	4.5%
2022 3Q 358	585.62	\$44.41	\$50.35	\$50.35	-3.2%	\$56.02	4.3%	17.6	1.8%	2.7%	\$2,754.60	7.9%
2022 4Q 383	839.50	\$39.61	\$50.37	\$50.37	-11.2%	\$53.15	-1.5%	19.5	1.7%	2.6%	\$2,700.10	7.1%
2023 1Q 410	109.31	\$48.41	\$52.54	\$52.54	6.4%	\$53.08	-3.1%	20.5	1.7%	2.2%	\$2,588.60	3.6%
2023 2Q 44	450.38	\$48.58	\$54.84	\$54.84	17.0%	\$54.29	-5.8%	21.4	1.5%	2.1%	\$2,601.80	-4.1%
	288.05	\$47.65	\$52.25	\$52.25	3.8%	\$58.41	4.3%	20.4	1.6%	4.9%	\$2,697.90	-2.1%
	769.83	\$47.79	\$53.90	\$53.90	7.0%	\$57.16	7.5%	22.3	1.5%	3.4%	\$2,803.20	3.8%
	254.35	\$47.37	\$54.63	\$54.63	4.0%	\$56.56	6.6%	24.4	1.3%	1.4%	\$2,726.80	5.3%
2024 2QE 552	521.50	\$53.12	\$58.36	\$58.36	6.4%	\$60.40	11.3%	25.2	1.3%	3.0%	\$2,774.00	6.6%
2024 3QE 570	762.48	\$54.67	\$60.22	\$60.75	16.3%	\$60.81	4.1%	25.4	1.3%	NA	NA	NA
2024 4QE* 57	751.13	\$58.53	\$62.98	\$61.26	13.7%	\$63.60	11.3%	24.4	NA	NA	NA	NA
Source: DRG; S&P		os **auarto	rly EDS may									

Regulation AC Analyst Certification

I, Gail Dudack, hereby certify that all the views expressed in this report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject company or companies and its or their securities. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly related to the specific views contained in this report.

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

RATINGS DEFINITIONS:

Sectors/Industries:

"Overweight": Overweight relative to S&P Index weighting "Neutral": Neutral relative to S&P Index weighting "Underweight": Underweight relative to S&P Index weighting

Other Disclosures

This report has been written without regard for the specific investment objectives, financial situation, or particular needs of any specific recipient, and should not be regarded by recipients as a substitute for the exercise of their own judgment. The report is published solely for informational purposes and is not to be construed as a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell securities or related financial instruments. The securities described herein may not be eligible for sale in all jurisdictions or to certain categories of investors. The report is based on information obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but is not guaranteed to be accurate, nor is it a complete statement or summary of the securities, markets or developments referred to in the report. Any opinions expressed in this report are subject to change without notice and the Dudack Research Group division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC. (DRG/Wellington) is under no obligation to update or keep current the information contained herein. Options, derivative products, and futures are not suitable for all investors, and trading in these instruments is considered risky. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results, and yield from securities, if any, may fluctuate as a security's price or value changes. Accordingly, an investor may receive back less than originally invested. Foreign currency rates of exchange may adversely affect the value, price or income of any security or related instrument mentioned in this report.

DRG/Wellington relies on information barriers, such as "Chinese Walls," to control the flow of information from one or more areas of DRG/Wellington into other areas, units, divisions, groups, or affiliates. DRG/Wellington accepts no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage of any kind arising out of the use of all or any part of this report.

The content of this report is aimed solely at institutional investors and investment professionals. To the extent communicated in the U.K., this report is intended for distribution only to (and is directed only at) investment professionals and high net worth companies and other businesses of the type set out in Articles 19 and 49 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2001. This report is not directed at any other U.K. persons and should not be acted upon by any other U.K. person. Moreover, the content of this report has not been approved by an authorized person in accordance with the rules of the U.K. Financial Services Authority, approval of which is required (unless an exemption applies) by Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

Additional information will be made available upon request.

©2024. All rights reserved. No part of this report may be reproduced or distributed in any manner without the written permission of Dudack Research Group division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC. The Company specifically prohibits the re-distribution of this report, via the internet or otherwise, and accepts no liability whatsoever for the actions of third parties in this respect.

Dudack Research Group, a division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC. Main Office: Wellington Shields & Co. LLC 60 Broad Street New York, NY 10004 212-320-3511 Research Sales: 212-320-2046

Florida office: 549 Lake Road Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 212-320-2045