

MGIC Investment Corp.

4Q beats on \$60M reserve release

Reiterate Rating: BUY | PO: 22.50 USD | Price: 19.84 USD

Solid credit trends drive EPS beat; reiterate Buy

Buy-rated private mortgage insurer MGIC Investment Corp (MTG) reported 4Q adj. EPS of \$0.67 well above BofAe/cons at \$0.56/\$0.58. The beat was primarily driven by a \$60M prior period reserve release, which was partially offset by lower premium revenue. Overall, we think 4Q shakes out as relatively positive: book value per share grew nicely (18% y/y; 7% q/q) to \$18.61 (\$19.77 adj. for AOCI), credit remains resilient and capital returns were robust. Lower interest rates should boost NIW prospectively and housing credit remains favorable. Reiterate Buy.

Key metrics – variance table inside

NIW (-): MTG reported an NIW of \$10.9B, down 16% y/y and 25% q/q. 4Q NIW fell short of BofAe/cons expectations at \$11.6B/\$12.8B.

IIF (+/-): at \$293.5B, down 0.6% y/y and 0.3% q/q, was mostly in-line BofAe/cons at \$293.4B/\$295.3B. Persistency came in at 86.1% vs 86.3% in the prior quarter, but above our 83.4% estimate.

Total revenue (-): of \$284M was below BofAe/cons forecasts at \$291M/\$292M driven by lower premiums earned. The average premium rate was 30.8bps vs our 32.9bps estimate and weakened 1.9bps q/q due to reinsurance cancellation transactions. Direct premium yield was 38.6bps, down 0.6bps q/q.

Losses incurred (+): were (\$9.5)M well below BofAe/cons at \$22.8/\$23.0M. In-period losses were \$51M vs our \$43M estimate and the company released \$60M in prior period reserves well above our \$20M forecast. MTG noted prior period reserve benefited from an improvement in the claim rate. The default rate increased 10bps q/q to 2.25%.

Capital return: MTG repurchased 7M shares in 4Q and an additional 1.8M shares through Jan 26.

Adjusting estimates and PO

We adjust our 2024/2025 EPS estimates to \$2.48/\$2.57 from \$2.36/\$2.40 prior as we account for 4Q results and an updated mortgage origination forecast. We also increase our PO from \$19.00 to \$22.50 based on a 9x multiple to 2024e estimates (8x prior) as we account for faster book value growth and the continuing favorable housing credit backdrop. Conference call at 10am ET tomorrow.

Estimates (Dec) (US\$)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
EPS	2.91	2.52	2.48	2.57	2.60
GAAP EPS	2.79	2.49	2.48	2.57	2.60
EPS Change (YoY)	51.6%	-13.4%	-0.4%	3.6%	1.2%
Consensus EPS (Bloomberg)			2.38	2.51	2.79
DPS	0.36	0.43	0.46	0.46	0.46
Valuation (Dec)					
P/E	6.8x	7.9x	8.0x	7.7x	7.6x
GAAP P/E	7.1x	8.0x	8.0x	7.7x	7.6x
Dividend Yield	1.8%	2.2%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%

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Refer to important disclosures on page 6 to 8. Analyst Certification on page 4. Price
Objective Basis/Risk on page 4.

31 January 2024

Equity

Previous	Current
19.00	22.50

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Stock Data

Price 19.84 USD Price Objective 22 50 USD Date Established 31-lan-2024 Investment Opinion B-1-7 52-Week Range 12.16 USD -20.26 USD Mrkt Val / Shares Out (mn) 5.627 USD / 283.6 Free Float 99.0% Average Daily Value 32.37 USD BofA Ticker / Exchange MTG / NYS Bloomberg / Reuters MTG US / MTG.N ROE (2024E) 12.7% ESGMeter™

ESGMeter is not indicative of a company's future stock price performance and is not an investment recommendation or rating. ESGMeter is independent of BofA Global Research's equity investment rating, volatility risk rating, income rating, and price objective for that company. For full details, refer to "BofA ESGMeter Methodology"

IIF: Insurance in force

NIW: New insurance written

AOCI: Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income

iQprofile[™] MGIC Investment Corp.

Income Statement Data (Dec)					
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
Total Earned Premiums	1,007	953	962	969	978
Net Investment Income	167	215	245	245	246
Total Revenue	1,173	1,155	1,209	1,216	1,226
Total Cost of Benefits and Claims	255	21	(111)	(135)	(177)
S,G & A (Including Commissions)	(249)	(237)	(227)	(236)	(241)
Total Operating Expenses	(83)	(253)	(374)	(407)	(453)
Pre-Tax Operating Earnings	1,090	902	835	809	773
Income Tax Expense	(225)	(189)	(175)	(170)	(162)
Operating Earnings After Tax Net Income (Reported)	908 869	725 714	660 660	639 639	611 611
Diluted Shares	311	287	265	249	235
Operating Earnings Per Share	2.91	2.52	2.48	2.57	2.60
Net Income (Reported) Per Share	2.79	2.32	2.48	2.57	2.60
Net meone (Reported) Fer Share	2.7 3	2.13	2.10	2.57	2.00
Balance Sheet Data (Dec)					
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
Fixed Income Securities	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total Cash and Investments	5,758	6,109	6,303	6,600	6,911
Total Assets	6,214	6,538	6,732	7,029	7,340
Reserves	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
LT Debt	642	643	643	643	643
Total Liabilities	1,571	1,466	1,430	1,386	1,385
Total Equity	4,643	5,072	5,302	5,643	5,955
Total Equity (Ex FAS 115)	4,643	5,072	5,302	5,643	5,955
Book Value per Share (Reported) Book Value per Share (Ex FAS 115)	15.82 15.82	18.61 18.61	20.99 20.99	23.63 23.63	26.35 26.35
Ratios (Dec)					
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026
Expense Ratio	24.7%	24.9%	23.6%	24.4%	24.6%
Loss Ratio	-25.3%	-2.2%	11.5%	13.9%	18.1%
Combined Ratio	-0.5%	22.7%	35.2%	38.3%	42.7%
Avg Assets / Avg Eq (Ex FAS 115) Ratio	1.4x	1.3x	1.3x	1.3x	1.2x
Growth Rates (YoY) (Dec)					
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026
Total Earned Premium	-0.7%	-5.4%	1.0%	0.7%	0.9%
Net Investment Income	7.1%	28.2%	13.9%	0.1%	0.4%
Total Revenue	-1.1%	-1.5%	4.6%	0.6%	0.8%
Operating Earnings per Share	51.6%	-13.4%	-0.4%	3.6%	1.2%
Asset	-15.2%	5.2%	3.0%	4.4%	4.4%
Reported Book Value per Share	4.3%	17.6%	12.8%	12.6%	11.5%
Performance Metrics (Dec)					
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
Operating ROE	19.1%	14.9%	12.7%	11.7%	10.5%
Operating ROE (Ex FAS 115)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Operating Return on Average Assets	13.4%	11.4%	9.9%	9.3%	8.5%
Operating Margin	77.4%	62.8%	54.6%	52.6%	49.8%
Long Term Debt to Cap Ratio (Ex FAS 115)	12.1%	11.3%	10.8%	10.2%	9.7%
Long Tellin Debt to cap Natio (EXTAD TTD)	12.170	11.570	10.070	10.270	5.7

95.3%

98.3%

100.0%

100.0%

100.0%

0%

Company Sector

Mortgage Finance

Company Description

MGIC Investment Corporation (MTG) is one of the oldest and largest private mortgage insurance companies in the United States. The company is based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. MTG is licensed to write business in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico. In addition to mortgage insurance, MTG also provides lenders with underwriting and contract services related to home mortgage lending.

Investment Rationale

We rate MTG a Buy. MTG should grow earnings as it grows its insured portfolio. The favorable housing credit backdrop should drive solid ROEs and book value growth, setting the stage for robust capital return. We also think mortgage insurers will be more resilient in a downturn (vs. prior performance) given extensive use of reinsurance and more dynamic pricing.

Stock Data

Average Daily Volume 1,631,301

Quarterly Earnings Estimates

	2023	2024
Q1	0.54A	0.63E
Q2	0.68A	0.64E
Q3	0.64A	0.60E
Q4	0.67A	0.62E

Net Income % Operating Income
Amtz of DAC % Pretax Profit bef Amtz of DAC

Exhibit 1: A \$60M reserve drove the EPS beat Variance table

(\$ in thousands)	Q4'22A	Q3'23A	Q4'23E	Q4'23A	VAR	QoQ	YoY	Consensus
GAAP EPS	\$0.64	\$0.64	\$0.56	\$0.66	\$0.10	3.2%	2.2%	\$0.58
Adjusted EPS	\$0.64	\$0.64	\$0.56	\$0.67	\$0.11	4.9%	2.8%	\$0.58
Net Premiums Earned	\$244.1	\$241.3	\$233.6	\$226.4	(\$0.02)	(6.1%)	(7.2%)	\$235.5
Total Revenues	\$292.3	\$296.5	\$290.8	\$284.0	(\$0.02)	(4.2%)	(2.8%)	\$292.4
Total Losses and expenses	\$51.8	\$62.1	\$90.3	\$54.1	\$0.10	(12.9%)	4.4%	\$87.8
Losses incurred	(\$31.1)	(\$0.1)	\$22.8	(\$9.5)	\$0.09	12281.8%	(69.4%)	\$23.0
Other expenses	\$83.0	\$62.2	\$67.6	\$63.6	\$0.01	2.3%	(23.3%)	\$64.7
Income before Tax	\$240.4	\$234.4	\$200.5	\$229.8	\$0.08	(1.9%)	(4.4%)	\$204.7
Provision for income taxes	\$49.0	\$51.6	\$44.1	\$45.3	(\$0.00)	(12.0%)	(7.5%)	\$43.4
Tax Rate	20.4%	22.0%	22.0%	19.7%		-2.3%	-0.6%	21.2%
Net Income	\$191.4	\$182.8	\$156.4	\$184.5	\$0.10	0.9%	(3.6%)	\$161.6
Adj. Net Income	\$193.3	\$183.0	\$156.4	\$187.6	\$0.11	2.5%	(3.0%)	\$163.4
Weighted Average shares outstanding (Diluted)	300.0	285.6	279.4	278.9		(2.3%)	(7.0%)	281.3
Book Value Per Share (Basic)	\$15.82	\$17.37	\$17.84	\$18.61		7.2%	17.6%	
Key Drivers								
New Primary Insurance Written (NIW)	12,900	14,600	11,560	10,900		(25.3%)	(15.5%)	12,779
Insurance In-force	295,300	294,300	293,352	293,500		(0.3%)	(0.6%)	295,332
Average Premium Rate (Premium earned / Average IIF)	0.332%	0.329%	0.329%	0.308%		(0.021%)	(0.023%)	0.321%
Annual Persistency (reported)	79.8%	86.3%	83.4%	86.1%		(0.2%)	6.30%	84.8%
Loss Ratio	(12.8%)	(0.0%)	9.8%	(4.2%)		(4.2%)	8.5%	9.7%
Expense Ratio (NPE basis)	30.1%	21.9%	23.0%	24.2%		2.2%	(5.9%)	23.0%
Combined Ratio	17.4%	21.9%	32.8%	20.0%		(1.9%)	2.6%	32.7%
Expense Ratio (reported)	31.3%	22.2%	0.0%	24.6%		2.4%	(6.7%)	
Total Number of Loans in Default	26.4	24.7	25.4	25.7		3.8%	(2.8%)	26.5
Default Rate (as a % of number of loans)	2.24%	2.15%	2.23%	2.25%		0.10%	0.01%	2.27%

Source: BofA Global Research estimates, Visible Alpha, company reports

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Price objective basis & risk

MGIC Investment Corp. (MTG)

Our \$22.50 PO is based on an 9x PE multiple to our 2024 EPS forecast. A 9x PE multiple is at the high-end of the historical range for mortgage insurers (6x-11x) and reflects the current favorable backdrop for housing credit, as well as, MTG's strong book value growth and capital return potential.

Downside risks to our price objective are an economic downturn, which could lead to elevated defaults on mortgages and fewer mortgage originations, increased competitive pressures and price competition from private and / or government competitors. Changes to the regulatory environment could also impact future returns.

Analyst Certification

I, Mihir Bhatia, hereby certify that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject securities and issuers. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or view expressed in this research report.

US - Payments, Processors, Specialty Finance and IT services Coverage Cluster

Investment rating	Company	BofA Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
BUY				
	Accenture Plc	ACN	ACN US	Jason Kupferberg
	American Express Company	AXP	AXP US	Mihir Bhatia
	Block Inc	SQ	SQ US	Jason Kupferberg
	Capital One Financial	COF	COF US	Mihir Bhatia
	Discover Financial	DFS	DFS US	Mihir Bhatia
	Enact Holdings	ACT	ACT US	Mihir Bhatia
	Essent Group	ESNT	ESNT US	Mihir Bhatia
	Fidelity National Information Services	FIS	FIS US	Jason Kupferberg
	Fiserv Inc	FI	FIUS	Jason Kupferberg
	FleetCor Technologies Inc.	FLT	FLT US	Mihir Bhatia
	Flywire	FLYW	FLYW US	Jason Kupferberg
	Global Payments Inc	GPN	GPN US	Jason Kupferberg
	Jack Henry & Associates	JKHY	JKHY US	Jason Kupferberg
	Mastercard Inc	MA	MA US	Jason Kupferberg
	MGIC Investment Corp.	MTG	MTG US	Mihir Bhatia
	NMI Holdings	NMIH	NMIH US	Mihir Bhatia
	Nuvei	NVEI	NVEI US	Jason Kupferberg
	Nuvei	YNVEI	NVEI CN	Jason Kupferberg
	OneMain Holdings, Inc.	OMF	OMF US	Mihir Bhatia
	Shift4 Payments, Inc	FOUR	FOUR US	Jason Kupferberg
	Telus International	TIXT	TIXT US	Cassie Chan
	Telus International	YTIXT	TIXT CN	Cassie Chan
	Visa Inc.	V	V US	Jason Kupferberg
	WEX Inc.	WEX	WEX US	Mihir Bhatia
NEUTRAL				
	ADP	ADP	ADP US	Jason Kupferberg
	Affirm Holdings	AFRM	AFRM US	Jason Kupferberg
	Bread Financial Holdings Inc	BFH	BFH US	Mihir Bhatia
	DLocal	DLO	DLO US	Jason Kupferberg
	Globant SA	GLOB	GLOB US	Jason Kupferberg
	Margeta	MQ	MQ US	Jason Kupferberg
	PayPal Holdings Inc	PYPL	PYPL US	Jason Kupferberg
	SoFi Technologies Inc	SOFI	SOFI US	Mihir Bhatia
	Synchrony Financial	SYF	SYF US	Mihir Bhatia
	Thoughtworks	TWKS	TWKS US	Jason Kupferberg
	Toast	TOST	TOST US	Jason Kupferberg
	TTEC Holdings	TTEC	TTEC US	Cassie Chan

US - Payments, Processors, Specialty Finance and IT services Coverage Cluster

Investment rating	Company	BofA Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
UNDERPERFORM				
	CGI Inc.	GIB	GIB US	Jason Kupferberg
	CGI Inc.	YGIBA	GIB/A CN	Jason Kupferberg
	Cognizant Technology Solutions	CTSH	CTSH US	Jason Kupferberg
	Coinbase	COIN	COIN US	Jason Kupferberg
	DXC Technology	DXC	DXC US	Jason Kupferberg
	EPAM Systems	EPAM	EPAM US	Jason Kupferberg
	Paychex	PAYX	PAYX US	Jason Kupferberg
	Radian Group Inc	RDN	RDN US	Mihir Bhatia
	Rocket Companies, Inc.	RKT	RKT US	Mihir Bhatia
	TaskUs	TASK	TASK US	Cassie Chan
	Western Union	WU	WU US	Jason Kupferberg

IQmethod[™] Measures Definitions

Business Performance	Numerator	Denominator
Return On Capital Employed	NOPAT = (EBIT + Interest Income) \times (1 - Tax Rate) + Goodwill Amortization	Total Assets - Current Liabilities + ST Debt + Accumulated Goodwill
		Amortization
Return On Equity	Net Income	Shareholders' Equity
Operating Margin	Operating Profit	Sales
Earnings Growth	Expected 5 Year CAGR From Latest Actual	N/A
Free Cash Flow	Cash Flow From Operations – Total Capex	N/A
Quality of Earnings	Numerator	Denominator
Cash Realization Ratio	Cash Flow From Operations	Net Income
Asset Replacement Ratio	Capex	Depreciation
Tax Rate	Tax Charge	Pre-Tax Income
Net Debt-To-Equity Ratio	Net Debt = Total Debt — Cash & Equivalents	Total Equity
Interest Cover	EBIT	Interest Expense
Valuation Toolkit	Numerator	Denominator
Price / Earnings Ratio	Current Share Price	Diluted Earnings Per Share (Basis As Specified)
Price / Book Value	Current Share Price	Shareholders' Equity / Current Basic Shares
Dividend Yield	Annualised Declared Cash Dividend	Current Share Price
Free Cash Flow Yield	Cash Flow From Operations – Total Capex	Market Cap = Current Share Price × Current Basic Shares
Enterprise Value / Sales	EV = Current Share Price × Current Shares + Minority Equity + Net Debt +	Sales
•	Other LT Liabilities	
EV / EBITDA	Enterprise Value	Basic EBIT + Depreciation + Amortization

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Redatabase is our real-time global research database that is sourced directly from our equity analysts' earnings models and includes forecasted as well as historical data for income statements, balance sheets, and cash flow statements for companies covered by BofA Global Research.

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Disclosures

Important Disclosures

MGIC Investment (MTG) Price Chart



B: Buy, N: Neutral, U: Underperform, PO: Price Objective, NA: No longer valid, NR: No Rating

The Investment Opinion System is contained at the end of the report under the heading "Fundamental Equity Opinion Key". Dark grey shading indicates the security is restricted with the opinion suspended. Medium grey shading indicates the security is under review with the opinion withdrawn. Light grey shading indicates the security is not covered. Chart is current as of a date no more than one trading day prior to the date of the report.

Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Financial Services Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships R1	Count	Percent
Buy	156	53.79%	Buy	94	60.26%
Hold	72	24.83%	Hold	48	66.67%
Sell	62	21.38%	Sell	35	56.45%

Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Global Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships R1	Count	Percent
Buy	1895	53.62%	Buy	1083	57.15%
Hold	832	23.54%	Hold	454	54.57%
Sell	807	22.84%	Sell	383	47.46%

R1 Issuers that were investment banking clients of BofA Securities or one of its affiliates within the past 12 months. For purposes of this Investment Rating Distribution, the coverage universe includes only stocks. A stock rated Neutral is included as a Hold, and a stock rated Underperform is included as a Sell.

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Investment rating Total return expectation (within 12-month period of date of initial rating) Ratings dispersion guidelines for coverage cluster^{R2}

Buy	≥ 10%	≤ /0%
Neutral	≥ 0%	≤ 30%
Underperform	N/A	≥ 20%

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BofAS or one of its affiliates is willing to sell to, or buy from, clients the common equity of the issuer on a principal basis: MGIC Investment.

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