

Brown-Forman Corporation

Not so Happy Holidays; Reiterate Underperform

Reiterate Rating: UNDERPERFORM | PO: 56.00 USD | Price: 56.33 USD

Weak 3Q depletions & organic sales weigh on BF/B shares

Yesterday, BF/B reported 3Q24 EPS of \$0.60 (includes \$90mm pre-tax gain/\$0.16 EPS related to Finlandia) which was below our forecast of \$0.61 and ahead of Visible Alpha Consensus of \$0.57. In comparison to our financial model, weaker than anticipated organic sales and gross margins were almost entirely offset by lower-than-expected effective tax rate. To our surprise and investors, 3Q organic sales declined -2.0% y/y (BofAe +5.4% y/y) with shipments down -14.9% and price/mix +12.9%. Volume depletions declined approximately -10.0% y/y (BofAe +1.0%). Weak holiday sales in the U.S., UK and France were a negative surprise. BF/B believes that weak global spirits demand is driven by consumers economizing in reaction to inflation, however there is no sign of trade down. In our view, the deceleration of volume depletions the past two quarters suggests limited earnings visibility entering FY25 given the industry backdrop.

Sales and profit outlook reduced

BF/B lowered its FY24 financial outlook and now expects organic sales to be flat and organic operating income to grow between +0%-2.0%. The company's outlook assumes the global spirits category remains unchanged sequentially. This outlook implies Q4 organic sales up about +1% y/y and organic operating income in the range of \$273mm-\$298mm.

4Q24 modeling call outs

Key drivers behind our 4Q23 EPSe of 0.40 includes: 1) organic sales up 0.8% y/y with volumes down 0.12.2% and price/mix 0.40%. We expect depletions to be down 0.60% y/y. 2) 0.61.0% gross margins or up 0.40% y/y and 0.40% sequentially. 3) Operating expenses up 0.40% y/y.

Lowering estimates & our PO to \$56

Given the EPS miss and lower organic sales growth in Q4, we lower our FY24/FY25/FY26 EPSe from \$2.04/\$2.04/\$2.17 to \$1.98/\$1.94/\$2.06, respectively. We also lower our PO from \$60 to \$56, which is still based on 28.0x our CY25 EPS estimate. At 28.0x we value BF/B at about a 20% discount versus its 5-year average and believe that is appropriate given that global spirit consumption is beginning to show signs of normalization.

Estimates (Apr) (US\$)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
EPS	1.82	1.90	1.98	1.94	2.06
EPS Change (YoY)	13.0%	4.4%	4.2%	-2.0%	6.2%
Consensus EPS (Bloomberg)			2.02	2.12	2.30
DPS	0.74	0.79	0.84	0.88	0.93
Valuation (Apr)					
P/E	33.4x	32.0x	30.7x	31.3x	29.5x
Dividend Yield	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.5%
EV / EBITDA*	23.6x	23.4x	22.5x	22.9x	21.9x
Free Cash Flow Yield*	2.7%	1.6%	4.1%	2.9%	3.0%
* For full definitions of <i>IQ</i> method ^{≤M} measures, see page 7.					

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Refer to important disclosures on page 8 to 10. Analyst Certification on page 6. Price Objective Basis/Risk on page 6.

Timestamp: 07 March 2024 05:00AM EST

07 March 2024

Equity

Key Changes		
(US\$)	Previous	Current
Price Obj.	60.00	56.00
2024E Rev (m)	4,335.8	4,243.4
2025E Rev (m)	4,394.2	4,299.5
2026E Rev (m)	4,504.1	4,406.9
2024E EPS	2.04	1.98
2025E EPS	2.04	1.94
2026E EPS	2.17	2.06

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Stock Data

Prio	ce	56.33 USD
Prio	ce Objective	56.00 USD
Dat	e Established	7-Mar-2024
Inv	estment Opinion	B-3-7
52-	Week Range	52.59 USD - 71.27 USD
Mrl	kt Val (mn) / Shares Out	27,241 USD / 483.6
(mı	٦)	
Fre	e Float	98.2%
Ave	erage Daily Value (mn)	88.37 USD
Bof	A Ticker / Exchange	BFB / NYS
Blo	omberg / Reuters	BF/B US / BFb.N
RO	E (2024E)	28.1%
Net	Dbt to Eqty (Apr-2023A)	77.7%
ESC	GMeter™	High

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".

iQprofile[™] Brown-Forman Corporation

Aprofile brown-rollinan Corporation							
iQmethod SM − Bus Performance*							
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026		
Return on Capital Employed	16.5%	15.6%	14.3%	13.5%	14.1%		
Return on Equity	32.4%	30.5%	28.1%	26.5%	28.2%		
Operating Margin	31.9%	29.9%	31.1%	29.9%	30.4%		
Free Cash Flow	798	457	1,193	866	875		
<i>iQ</i> method [™] – Quality of Earnings*							
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E		
Cash Realization Ratio	1.1x	0.7x	1.5x	1.1x	1.1x		
Asset Replacement Ratio	1.7x	2.3x	2.9x	1.6x	1.4x		
Tax Rate	25.0%	22.6%	21.0%	21.0%	21.0%		
Net Debt-to-Equity Ratio	51.2%	77.7%	55.6%	58.7%	60.7%		
Interest Cover	16.3x	15.6x	11.4x	10.7x	11.2x		
Income Statement Data (Apr)							
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E		
Sales	3,933	4,228	4,243	4,299	4,407		
% Change	13.6%	7.5%	0.4%	1.3%	2.5%		

2,391

14.2%

1,335

19.6%

(90)

874

13.1%

2,494

4.3%

1,345

0.7%

(83)

915

4.7%

2,585

3.6%

1,399

4.0%

(119)

948

3.6%

2,638

2.1%

1,376

-1.6%

(132)

912

-3.7%

2,724

3.3%

1,437

4.4%

(132)

954

4.6%

Free	Cash	Flow	Data	(Apr)

Net Interest & Other Income

Net Income (Adjusted)

Gross Profit

EBITDA

% Change

% Change

% Change

(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)	874	915	948	912	954
Depreciation & Amortization	79	80	81	89	97
Change in Working Capital	(77)	(352)	406	(18)	(59)
Deferred Taxation Charge	(11)	(3)	(15)	0	0
Other Adjustments, Net	71	0	9	22	22
Capital Expenditure	(138)	(183)	(235)	(140)	(140)
Free Cash Flow	798	457	1,193	866	875
% Change	5.7%	-42.7%	161.1%	-27.4%	1.0%
Share / Issue Repurchase	0	0	(400)	(500)	(500)
Cost of Dividends Paid	(831)	(378)	(402)	(418)	(433)
Change in Debt	(196)	632	492	0	0

Balance Sheet Data (Apr)

(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
Cash & Equivalents	868	374	1,466	1,414	1,356
Trade Receivables	813	855	663	671	688
Other Current Assets	2,095	2,572	2,418	2,264	2,298
Property, Plant & Equipment	875	1,031	1,014	1,014	1,014
Other Non-Current Assets	1,722	2,945	2,808	2,808	2,808
Total Assets	6,373	7,777	8,368	8,171	8,164
Short-Term Debt	250	235	728	728	728
Other Current Liabilities	784	849	773	671	680
Long-Term Debt	2,019	2,678	2,678	2,678	2,678
Other Non-Current Liabilities	583	747	702	702	702
Total Liabilities	3,636	4,509	4,881	4,779	4,788
Total Equity	2,737	3,268	3,487	3,392	3,376
Total Equity & Liabilities	6,373	7,777	8,368	8,171	8,164

^{*} For full definitions of $\emph{\textbf{IQ}}\textit{method}^{\text{SM}}$ measures, see page 7.

Company Sector

Spirits, Wines & Ciders

Company Description

Brown-Forman Corporation manufactures, bottles, imports, exports, and markets a wide variety of alcoholic beverage brands. The Company's products include branded whiskey, vodka, wines, tequila, bourbon, and gin.

Investment Rationale

Our Underperform rating reflects our view that shares of BFB could underperform peers given tariff issues, its business is susceptible to inflation (agave, wood, transportation) and our view certain markets will encounter a slower than expected recovery. Further, travel retail remains a headwind to sales and profitability over the near term.

Stock Data

Average Daily Volume 1,568,809

Quarterly Earnings Estimates

	2023	2024
Q1	0.52A	0.48A
Q2	0.47A	0.50A
Q3	0.48A	0.60A
Q4	0.43A	0.40E



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Variance

Exhibit 1: 3Q24 BF/B Variance

3Q24 EPS of \$0.60 was \$0.01 below our forecast of \$0.61

	Actual results	Our estimates	Last year			
	1/31/2024	1/31/2024	4/30/2022			
	3Q24A	3Q24E	3Q23A			
Sales breakdown						
Est volume	-14.9%	-2.6%	3.0%			
Est price/mix	12.9%	8.0%	2.0%			
Organic sales growth	-2.0%	5.4%	5.0%			
Foreign currency	-1.0%	0.0%	-1.0%			
Acquisitions/divestitures	1.0%	-2.3%	1.0%			
Net sales growth	-1.1%	3.1%	4.2%			
c 1						
Supplemental info.	E 00/	0.00/	4.00/			
Estimated net change in distributor inventories	-5.0%	0.0%	-4.0%			
Total shipments	12.0	13.7	14.1			
Total depletions	12.6	14.1	14.0			
Variance between shipments & depletions	-0.6	-0.4	0.1			
variance between simplificities & depictions	0.0	0.1	0.1			
Year over year change in depletions	-10.0%	1.0%	3.0%			
Consolidated income statement	3Q24A	3Q24E	3Q23A	Variance	EPS impact	% chg
Adjusted net sales	\$1,069.0	\$1,114.4	\$1,081.0	(45.4)	(0.08)	-1.1%
Cost of goods sold	(434.0)	(434.6)	(457.0)	0.6	0.00	-5.0%
Gross profit	635.0	679.8	624.0	(44.8)	(0.08)	1.8%
Advertising expenses	(143.0)	(148.1)	(141.0)	5.1	0.01	1.4%
SG&A expense	(203.0)	(197.3)	(186.0)	(5.7)	(0.01)	9.1%
Amortization expense	(203.0)	(137.3)	(100.0)	(5.7)	(0.01)	5.1 70
Other (exp) inc, net	84.0	72.0	14.0	12.0	0.02	500.0%
Operating income	373.0	406.3	311.0	(33.3)	(0.06)	19.9%
Post retirement expenses	(1.0)	(1.0)	-	(00.0)	-	#DIV/0!
Interest expense, net	(30.0)	(29.0)	(22.0)	(1.0)	(0.00)	36.4%
Pretax income	342.0	376.3	289.0	(34.3)	(0.06)	18.3%
Income taxes	(57.0)	(82.8)	(57.0)	25.8	0.05	0.0%
Underlying net income	285.0	293.5	232.0	(8.5)	(0.02)	22.8%
Gain/(charge)	-	-	(132.0)	-	-	-
GAAP net income	285.0	293.5	100.0	(8.5)	(0.02)	185.0%
Diluted EPS	\$0.60	\$0.61	\$0.48	(0.01)		24.1%
Diluted shares out	475.6	479.8	480.5	(4.2)	(0.01)	-1.0%
% chg	-1.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	• • •	, ,	
Cost of goods	40.6%	39.0%	42.3%			
COGS mgn chg	-170 bp	-330 bp	230 bp			
Advertising	13.4%	13.3%	13.0%			
Adv mgn chg	30 bp	30 bp	180 bp			
SG&A	19.0%	17.7%	17.2%			
SG&A mgn chg	180 bp	50 bp	160 bp			
Gross profit mgn	59.4%	61.0%	57.7%			
Gross mgn chg	170 bp	330 bp	-230 bp			
Operating margin	34.9%	36.5%	28.8%			
Op mgn chg	610 bp	770 bp	-470 bp			
Pretax margin	32.0%	33.8%	26.7%			
Net margin	26.7%	26.3%	21.5%			
Tax rate	16.7%	22.0%	19.7%			
Tax rate change	-310 bp	230 bp	-130 bp			

 $\textbf{Source:} \ \mathsf{BofA} \ \mathsf{Global} \ \mathsf{Research} \ \mathsf{estimates}, \mathsf{Company} \ \mathsf{reports}$

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Income statement

Exhibit 2: BF/B Income Statement

BofA forecasting FY24 EPSe of \$1.98 4/30/22 4/30/23 7/31/23 10/31/23 1/31/24 4/30/24 4/30/24 4/30/25 4/30/26 FY2025E FY2022 FY2023 1Q24 2Q24 3Q24E 4Q24E FY2024E FY2026E Sales mix 9.0% -9.1% -14.9% -10.0% 1.0% 1.0% Est volume 8.0% -4 0% -12.2% Est price/mix 8.0% 2.0% 6.0% 8.1% 12.9% 13.0% 10.0% 1.5% 1.5% Local FX, organic sales growth 17.0% 10.0% 2.0% -1.0% 0.0% 2.5% 2.5% **-2.0**% 0.8% Foreign currency -2.0% -3.0% -1.0% 1.0% -1.0% -0.3% 0.0% 0.0% Acquisitions/divestitures -2.0% 0.0% 2.0% 1.0% 1.0% 0.4% -1.2% 0.0% 13.6% 7.5% 3.1% 1.2% 1.3% Reported net sales growth -1.1% -1.6% 0.4% 2.5% Estimated net change in distributor inventories 0.0% -6.0% -5.0% -5.0% -3.8% -3.8% 0.0% 0.0% 40% YTD impact BofA quarterly estimate using YTD figure 4.0% 0.0% -6.0% -4.0% -5.0% 0.0% -3.8% 0.0% 0.0% Shipments 13.0 50.1 Total portfolio (year over year change) 51.1 55.1 13.2 12.0 11.4 49.6 50.6 **Estimated change in depletions** 7.0% 8.7% 1.0% -4.6% -10.0% -6.0% -4.9% 1.0% 1.0% Total portfolio (year over year change) Depletions (millions in 9-Liter) 47.1 51.2 12.6 12.4 12.6 11.1 48.7 49.2 49.7 40 06 06 09 09 Variance between shipments & depletions 39 -06 03 09 15.7% 14.0% 6.4% -7.0% 1.0% 3.8% -3.9% 2.0% Two year stack **Consolidated income statement** Adjusted net sales \$3,933.0 \$4,228.0 \$1,038.0 \$1,107.0 \$1,069.0 \$1,029.4 \$4,243.4 \$4,299.5 \$4,406.9 Cost of goods sold (1,542.0)(1,734.0)(387.0)(436.0)(434.0)(401.5)(1,658.5)(1,661.4)(1,683.1)**Gross profit** \$2,391.0 \$2,494.0 \$651.0 \$671.0 \$635.0 \$627.9 \$2,584.9 \$2,638.1 \$2,723.8 Advertising expenses (438.0)(506.0)(131.0)(140.0)(143.0)(141.5)(555.5)(563.1)(577.2)(690.0) (742.0)(200.0)(192.0)(203.0)(207.5)(802.5)(812.1)(831.1)SG&A expense Amortization expense Other (exp) inc, net (7.0)19.0 7.0 84.0 91.0 24.0 24.0 \$1,256.0 \$278.9 \$1,317.9 \$1,286.8 \$1,339.6 Operating income \$1,265.0 \$327.0 \$339.0 \$373.0 Postretirement expense (13.0)(2.0)(1.0)(1.0)(1.0)(3.0)(12.0)(12.0)(27.<u>0)</u> Interest expense, net (77.0)(29.0)(30.0)(30.0)(116.0)(120.0)(120.0)(81.0)\$299.0 \$310.0 \$342.0 Pretax income \$1,166.0 \$1,182.0 \$247.9 \$1,198.9 \$1,154.8 \$1,207.6 (291.7)(68.0)(253.6)Income taxes (267.0)(68.0)(57.0)(58.3)(251.3)(242.5)**Underlying net income** \$874.3 \$915.0 \$231.0 \$242.0 \$285.0 \$189.6 \$947.6 \$912.3 \$954.0 Gain/(charge) (36.3)(132.0)\$231.0 **GAAP** net income \$838.0 \$783.0 \$242.0 \$285.0 \$189.6 \$947.6 \$912.3 \$954.0 Diluted shares out 480.6 480.5 480.4 480.1 475.6 473.8 477.8 470.2 463.1 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% -1.6% -1.5% % chg -0.1% -1.0% -1.4% -0.6% **Underlying EPS** \$1.82 \$1.90 \$0.48 \$0.50 \$0.60 \$0.40 \$1.98 \$1.94 \$2.06 13.1% 4.7% -7.2% 6.7% 24.1% -7.1% 4.1% -2.2% 6.2% % chg Consensus EPS \$1.70 -2.0% -100.0% #DIV/0! #DIV/0! #DIV/0! #DIV/0 #DIV/0 #DIV/0! #DIV/0! % chg GAAP EPS \$1.74 \$1.63 \$0.48 \$0.50 \$0.60 \$0.40 \$1.98 \$1.94 \$2.06 **FX** impact on **EPS** FX neutral EPS % chg 41.0% Cost of goods 39.2% 37.3% 39.4% 40.6% 39.0% 39.1% 38.6% 38.2% 180 bp -30 bp -90 bp -460 bp -170 bp -30 bp -190 bp -40 bp -50 bp COGS mgn chg Advertising 11.1% 12.0% 12.6% 12.6% 13.4% 13.8% 13.1% 13.1% 13.1% -40 bp 80 bp 170 bp 160 bp 30 bp 90 bp 110 bp Adv mgn chg bp bp SG&A 17.5% 17.5% 19.3% 17.3% 19.0% 20.2% 18.9% 18.9% 18.9% 90 bp SG&A mgn chg -180 bp 190 bp 90 bp 180 bp 140 bp bp bp bp 61.8% 59.0% 60.6% 61.4% 60.8% 62.7% 59.4% 61.0% 60.9% Gross profit mgn 50 bp 30 bp -180 bp 90 bp 460 bp 170 bp 190 bp 40 bp Gross mgn chg 30 bp Operating margin 31.9% 29.9% 31.5% 30.6% 34.9% 27.1% 31.1% 29.9% 30.4% Op mgn chg 190 bp -200 bp -260 bp 200 bp 610 bp -140 bp 110 bp -110 bp 50 bp Pretax margin 29.6% 28.0% 28.8% 28.0% 32.0% 24.1% 28.3% 26.9% 27.4%



Exhibit 2: BF/B Income Statement

BofA forecasting FY24 EPSe of \$1.98

	4/30/22	4/30/23	7/31/23	10/31/23	1/31/24	4/30/24	4/30/24	4/30/25	4/30/26
Net margin	22.2%	21.6%	22.3%	21.9%	26.7%	18.4%	22.3%	21.2%	21.6%
Tax rate	25.0%	22.6%	22.7%	21.9%	16.7%	23.5%	21.0%	21.0%	21.0%
Tax rate change	610 bp	-240 bp	-90 bp	-190 bp	-310 bp	50 bp	-160 bp	bp	bp

Source: BofA Global Research estimates, Company reports

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Price objective basis & risk

Brown-Forman Corporation (BFB)

Our \$56 price objective is based on 28.0x our CY25 EPS estimate. At 28.0x we value BF/B at about a 20% discount versus its 5-year average and believe that is appropriate given that global spirit consumption is beginning to show signs of normalization.

Upside risks to our PO: 1) Jack Daniel's Apple contributes more than the expected 100bps to FY20 sales growth and becomes larger than other Jack Daniel flavors (Honey, Fire, etc.). 2) Removal of tariffs. 3) Consumer demand in emerging markets and travel retail return. 4) Increased possibility of M&A activity in spirits. 4) Valuation gap between BFB and other alcoholic beverage manufacturers closes more than anticipated.

Downside risks to our PO: 1) Jack Daniel's Apple does not resonate with consumers. 2) Consumers shift their preference from spirits to hard seltzers, wine and other types of substitutes. 3) Government regulation/taxes/tariffs. 4) Potentially rising costs of production.

Analyst Certification

I, Bryan D. Spillane, 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 - Consumables Coverage Cluster

Investment rating	Company	BofA Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
BUY				
	BellRing Brands Inc	BRBR	BRBR US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Coca-Cola Europacific Partners plc	CCEP	CCEP US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Colgate-Palmolive Company	CL	CL US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Constellation Brands	STZ	STZ US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Coty Inc.	COTY	COTY US	Anna Lizzul
	e.l.f. Beauty	ELF	ELF US	Anna Lizzul
	Freshpet, Inc.	FRPT	FRPT US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Kenvue Inc.	KVUE	KVUE US	Anna Lizzul
	Keurig Dr Pepper	KDP	KDP US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Kraft Heinz Company	KHC	KHC US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Lamb Weston Holdings Inc	LW	LW US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	McCormick & Co.	MKC	MKC US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Mondelez International	MDLZ	MDLZ US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Monster Beverage Corporation	MNST	MNST US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	PepsiCo	PEP	PEP US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Philip Morris International	PM	PM US	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Pilgrim's Pride Corp.	PPC	PPC US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	The Coca Cola Company	KO	KO US	Bryan D. Spillane
	The Procter & Gamble Company	PG	PG US	Bryan D. Spillane
NEUTRAL				•
MEUIKAL	Alberia Correction	MO	MOTIC	Lie K. Levre devoli
	Altria Group	MO CELH	MO US CELH US	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Celsius Holdings Inc			Jonathan Keypour
	Church & Dwight	CHD	CHD US	Anna Lizzul
	Clorox	CLX	CLX US	Anna Lizzul
	Conagra Brands, Inc.	CAG	CAG US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Estee Lauder Companies Inc.	EL	EL US	Bryan D. Spillane
	General Mills	GIS	GIS US	Bryan D. Spillane
	JM Smucker Company	SJM	SJM US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Kellanova	K	KUS	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Molson Coors Beverage Company	TAP	TAP US	Bryan D. Spillane
	The Hershey Company	HSY	HSY US	Bryan D. Spillane
	The Vita Coco Company, Inc.	COCO	COCO US	Bryan D. Spillane

US - Consumables Coverage Cluster

Investment rating	Company	BofA Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
	Tyson Foods, Inc.	TSN	TSN US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Utz Brands	UTZ	UTZ US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	WK Kellogg Co	KLG	KLG US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
UNDERPERFORM				
	Brown-Forman Corporation	BFB	BF/B US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Campbell Soup Company	CPB	CPB US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Canopy Growth	YWEED	WEED CN	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Canopy Growth	CGC	CGC US	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Cronos Group	YCRON	CRON CN	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Cronos Group	CRON	CRON US	Lisa K. Lewandowski
	Dole plc	DOLE	DOLE US	Bryan D. Spillane
	Herbalife Ltd	HLF	HLF US	Anna Lizzul
	Hormel Foods Corp.	HRL	HRL US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA
	Kimberly-Clark	KMB	KMB US	Anna Lizzul
	The Duckhorn Portfolio, Inc.	NAPA	NAPA US	Peter T. Galbo, CFA

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 + Other LT Liabilities	Sales
EV / EBITDA	Enterprise Value	Basic EBIT + Depreciation + Amortization

Manethod 3^{ss} is the set of BofA Global Research standard measures that serve to maintain global consistency under three broad headings: Business Performance, Quality of Earnings, and validations. The key features of iQmethod are: A consistently structured, detailed, and transparent methodology. Guidelines to maximize the effectiveness of the comparative valuation process, and to identify some common pitfalls.

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Brown-Forman (BFB) Price Chart



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Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Beverages - Alcoholic Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships R1	Count	Percent
Buy	22	61.11%	Buy	15	68.18%
Hold	6	16.67%	Hold	4	66.67%
Sell	8	22.22%	Sell	2	25.00%

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%

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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%	≤ 70%
Neutral	≥ 0%	≤ 30%
nderperform	N/A	≥ 20%

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