

## Daily Boarding

## Copa February traffic figures

Industry Overview

**Copa February traffic figures; ASM up 17% YoY**

Copa reported February traffic figures, with total ASM (Available Seats Mile) up 17% YoY (vs BofAe at +5% for 1Q24), +20% versus 2019, while RPM (Revenue Passenger Mile) was up 17% YoY (vs BofAe at +7% for 1Q24), +24% versus 2019, yielding a load factor of 86.2% (vs BofAe at 88.3% for 1Q24) - See Exhibit 1. Potential impact: neutral to Copa. The market already expected a MoM capacity recovery as the grounding of 21 737 MAX-9 ended on January 29th. As a recap, Copa released a strong guidance for the year, already considering the groundings in January (see [Strong 4Q23 results; 2024 guidance is evidence of high margin sustainability](#)). We have a Buy rating on Copa on a robust operating momentum (which we see as sustainable) and appealing valuation level.

**13 March 2024**

Equity  
Latin America  
Daily Boarding

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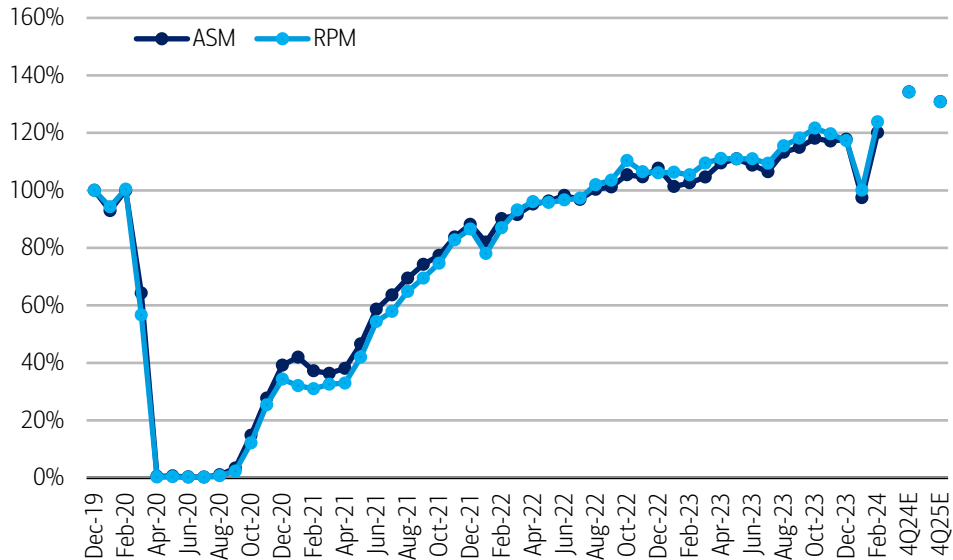
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Timestamp: 13 March 2024 08:24AM EDT

**Exhibit 1: Copa's traffic figures – vs 2019 levels – (%)**

Copa's ASM is up 20% and RPM is up 24% vs 2019



Source: Copa, BofA Global Research Estimates

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**Price objective basis & risk****Copa (CPA, C-1-7, U\$102.25)**

We derive our US\$170 price objective from a 2024 Adjusted EV/EBITDAR target of 8.0x (in line with historical levels pre-COVID 19). In order to have consistency among the sector and historical valuation levels, we do one valuation adjustment for Copa that we judge as fair: 1) we assume 7x rent as a proxy for operating leases' NPV, as we calculate this reflects the economic value of leased aircraft better than lease liability (especially for Copa, who has lease contracts much shorter than other airlines in the region).

Downside risks to our price objective are: 1) increases in oil price, 2) weakening of economic growth and air demand, 3) FX depreciation in Latin American countries, which could reduce the willingness of local population to fly to the US (traffic is more outbound than inbound in the region), 4) stronger-than-expected competition and potential oversupply, 5) other pandemic crisis, closing countries' borders for international passengers, or reducing the willingness of people from traveling, 6) potential changes in Panama's regulation, opening up foreigner airlines to connect passengers in Tocumen airport.

**Analyst Certification**

We, Rogerio Araujo and Gabriel Frazao, hereby certify that the views each of us has expressed in this research report accurately reflect each of our respective personal views about the subject securities and issuers. We also certify that no part of our respective compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or view expressed in this research report.

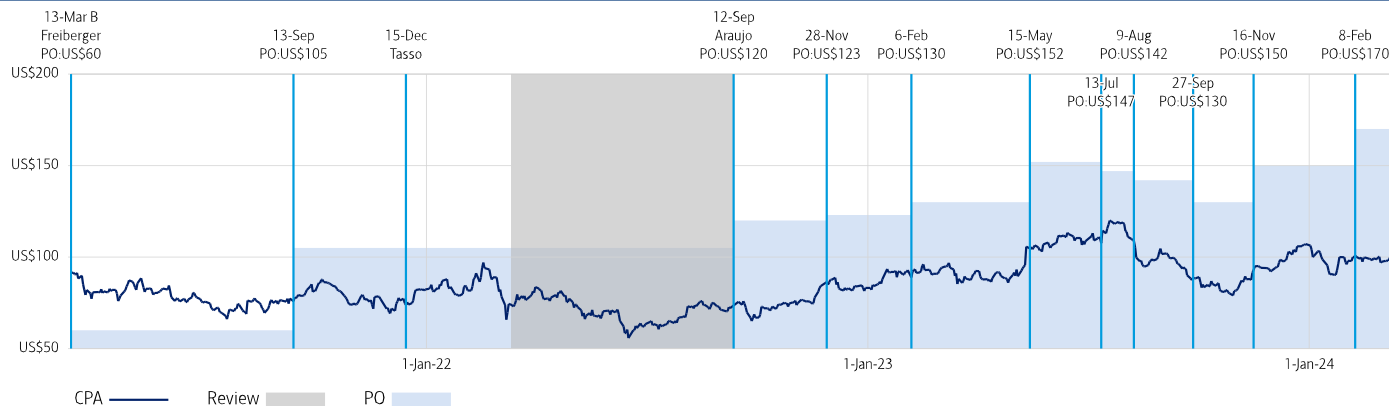
## Latin America - Capital Goods &amp; Transportation Coverage Cluster

Investment rating	Company	BofA Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
<b>BUY</b>				
	Copa	CPA	CPA US	Rogério Araujo
	GPS Participacoes e Empreendimentos S.A.	XKTRF	GGPS3 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Hidroviás do Brasil	XDXXF	HBSA3 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Localiza	LZRFF	RENT3 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Mills	MLSTF	MILS3 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Movida	XMBDF	MOV13 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Rumo	RUMOF	RAIL3 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Volaris	VLRS	VLRS US	Rogério Araujo
	Volaris	CTTRF	VOLARA MM	Rogério Araujo
<b>NEUTRAL</b>				
	Armac	XCVZF	ARML3 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Azul	XAZUF	AZUL4 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Azul	AZUL	AZUL US	Rogério Araujo
	Randon	RPRTF	RAPT4 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Vamos	XPLPF	VAMO3 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	WEG	WGSEF	WEGE3 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	WEG	WEGZY	WEGZY US	Rogério Araujo
<b>UNDERPERFORM</b>				
	CCR	CDCRF	CCRO3 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Ecorodovias	XVEDF	ECOR3 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Iochpe-Maxion	IOCJF	MYPK3 BZ	Rogério Araujo
	Tupy	TPYSF	TUPY3 BZ	Rogério Araujo

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## Copa (CPA) Price Chart



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

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## Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Industrials/Multi-Industry Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships <sup>R1</sup>	Count	Percent
Buy	45	50.56%	Buy	25	55.56%
Hold	26	29.21%	Hold	13	50.00%
Sell	18	20.22%	Sell	7	38.89%

**Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Transport/Infrastructure Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)**

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships <sup>R1</sup>	Count	Percent
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Hold	31	23.31%	Hold	13	41.94%
Sell	35	26.32%	Sell	17	48.57%

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

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships <sup>R1</sup>	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%

<sup>R1</sup> 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 <sup>R2</sup>
Buy	≥ 10%	≤ 70%
Neutral	≥ 0%	≤ 30%
Underperform	N/A	≥ 20%

<sup>R2</sup> Ratings dispersions may vary from time to time where BofA Global Research believes it better reflects the investment prospects of stocks in a Coverage Cluster.

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