

## **US** Semiconductors

# State of the union: big-tech results next gut-check for Al semis

**Industry Overview** 

#### More of the same thus far in '24

SOX index up 4% YTD (vs. SPX up 2.5%), led by strength across "planet Al" including data-center exposed chip stocks (on avg. up 7% YTD), memory/storage (up 7%) and semicap equipment (up 6%). This has been offset by continued weakness in more cyclical markets including auto/industrial semis (-7% YTD), smartphones (-4%) and SMidcaps (-1%), as detailed on Pg. 2. TSMC and ASML results/guide provides a compelling view of high-performance computing growth well into CY25E, but weakness at TXN and INTC was a sharp reminder that cyclical headwinds still persist across PC, enterprise, telco, industrial and now auto end markets.

## AMD headline report next week, we see muted Q1

Several big tech names report next week (MSFT, Alphabet, Amazon, Meta, Apple), and their views on capex/AI monetization could be critical to continued outperformance of data center/AI stocks. As reference we forecast about 20% YoY growth in CY24 cloud capex, though flag the growing pool of Al capex at state entities and small-mid-size data-center operators (such as Coreweave, or Equinix who last week announced fullymanaged NVDA DGX private cloud service for enterprises). Results from enterprise software leader ServiceNow (covered by Brad Sills) suggest strong enterprise gen Al adoption, where related products drove its largest net new annualized contract value contribution. Within our coverage AMD will be the headliner next week, reporting postclose on Tuesday. As detailed in our preview (linked here), we see an inline Q4, but Q1 outlook possibly below expectations, driven by PC, Xilinx FPGA/embedded (auto/industrial inventory correction), enterprise headwinds. AMD stock could also be at risk of some n-t profit taking after its parabolic 80%+ move up in the last 3 months, over 2x vs SOX and 4x vs SPX. However, we believe as long as management keeps the focus on server CPU share gains and MI300 AI ramp, the stock could recover soon as it offers an attractive alternative to NVDA in a rapidly expanding AI market.

## CHIPS grants imminent, benefit INTC, TXN, MU, Semicaps

Media reports suggest we could soon (within Q1) see headlines of several large grants from US CHIPS Act (\$39bn in total including \$11bn for mature node). Most impactful for INTC (also holds foundry day event on Feb-21), TXN (Capital management upside Feb-1), MU, WOLF and others. In our view the most important beneficiaries could be semicap equipment stocks, though tool orders are more likely to impact CY25 than CY24 wafer fab equipment spending (more meaningful for CY25 demand).

## Seasonality favors SOX, catalysts well into March

Despite mixed news, we believe seasonality favors SOX, with the index up 700bps+ on an average in CQ1 since 2010, 440bps ahead of the SPX. The outperformance has often then reversed in Q2/Q3. Catalysts continue as we head towards NVDA's earnings (Feb-21) and then its GPU Tech conference (GTC) during week of March 18 which also includes analyst events at AVGO and SNPS, all with solid Al-driven growth trends.

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Refer to important disclosures on page 8 to 11. Analyst Certification on page 7. Price
Objective Basis/Risk on page 5.

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Al: Artificial Intelligence

AMAT: Applied Materials

AMD: Advanced Micro Devices

ASML: ASML Holding AVGO: Broadcom

INTC: Intel

KLAC: KLA Corporation LRCX: Lam Research MCHP: Microchip MRVL: Marvell

MSFT: Microsoft NVDA: Nvidia

NXPI: NXP Semiconductor

ON: onsemi

PC: Personal Computer

SOX: Philadelphia Semiconductor Index

SPX: S&P 500 Index

TXN: Texas Instruments

WFE: Wafer fab equipment

YTD: Year to-date SNPS: Synopsys

## Weekly wrap: mixed results

The SOX (flat week-to-date) modestly underperformed the SPX (+1% week-to-date) through the first week of earnings. TSMC's results highlighted industry optimism following a down '23 (guided '24 semis ex-memory sales up >10% YoY), though initial semis reports reflect continued market headwinds. Decelerating industrial demand, emerging autos weakness, and PC/data center seasonality drove several guides below Street (TXN, STM, INTC). While we continue to expect 8%-10%+, growth is likely to be 2H weighted (similar to semicaps/WFE demand) driven by continued Al infra investment, rebound from auto/industrial inventory corrections, and seasonal upturn in smartphones/PCs. Up next week are several semis in smartphone (SWKS, QRVO, QCOM, TER, Apple), auto/industrial (WOLF, MCHP, MTSI, ALGM, TXN capital mgmt), and AMD.

Zooming out, the SOX index is up 4% YTD (vs. SPX up 2.5%), led by strength across "planet AI" including data-center exposed chip stocks (on avg. up 7% YTD), memory/storage (up 7%) and semicap equipment (up 6%). This has been offset by continued weakness in more cyclical markets including auto/industrial semis (-7% YTD), smartphones (-4%) and SMidcaps (-1%). TSMC and ASML results/guide provides a compelling view of high-performance computing growth well into CY25E, but weakness at TXN and INTC was a sharp reminder that cyclical headwinds still persist across PC, enterprise, telco, industrial and now auto end markets.

Exhibit 1: Summary of stock performance by major end market

Semis performance YTD mix, with compute/semicap/memory outperformance offset by other markets

Sub-sector	YTD	Q4'23	Q3'23	Q2'23	Q1'23	2023	2022
Compute/Networking/EDA	7.0%	26.2%	-2.9%	22.1%	36.2%	103.5%	-13.6%
Smartphones	-3.6%	18.7%	-8.2%	-9.6%	26.1%	22.7%	-17.6%
Auto/Industrial/IoT	-7.2%	6.5%	-9.5%	2.6%	28.8%	26.0%	4.9%
Semicap	5.5%	19.7%	-7.5%	14.0%	21.1%	53.3%	-20.2%
Memory/Storage	6.8%	23.2%	11.6%	-0.4%	21.9%	66.3%	-39.6%
SMidcaps	-1.0%	12.2%	-8.1%	17.5%	16.6%	39.2%	167.8%
SOX Index	4.0%	21.6%	-6.5%	13.7%	27.6%	64.9%	-18.1%
S&P 500 Index	2.5%	11.2%	-3.6%	8.3%	7.0%	24.2%	-13.8%
Nasdaq Index	3.0%	13.6%	-4.1%	12.8%	16.8%	43.4%	-21.9%

Source: BofA Global Research, Bloomberg

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## **Auto/industrial: Corrections ongoing**

TXN rev guide missed on cyclical weakness. DecQ was TXN's first period of auto weakness, with sales down mid-single digits QoQ (vs up mid-single digits in SepQ), while industrial continued to weaken (down mid-teens QoQ vs down MSD in SepQ). STM reported auto demand stable (likely helped by SiC exposure) despite cut at ADAS customer (likely MBLY) and sees auto growth of MSD% in CY24E. Commentary from auto OEMs Tesla/Hyundai suggest EV demand slowdown a concern, with TSLA volume production growth to be "well below" from ~38% YoY in CY23. Hyundai saw EV demand weaken in Q4 and expects 12% YoY unit growth in CY24E vs 28% YoY for hybrid.

## Auto/industrial stocks: non-consensus but require patience

We continue to like NXPI (top pick) and ON, though expect weak Q1, below-consensus outlook when they report the week of Feb-5 (see our related preview) Auto/industrial semis offer important diversification away from planet AI, at more compelling valuations (17-18x estimate-adjusted and 13-14x current forward PE for NXPI/ON), but stocks could require patience especially as/until investors continue to find comfort in data center/AI semis. Industrial/auto chips benefitted most from pricing/non-cancelable contracts and tight supply from CY20-1H23 but are now seeing the other side with industrial correction that began late '23 and auto chip inventory correction that could just be starting now. Weak demand and frequent price cuts at EV innovation leader Tesla are concerning, and perhaps leading indicator for auto chip recovery sentiment. Upcoming US elections and potential for greater US/China friction/tariffs etc. could



further impact the timing of any cyclical recovery, and keep attention focused on datacenter semis that are more dependent on domestic cloud spending.

## Semicaps: resilient on CHIPS grants, AI, CY25E recovery

Despite weak CY23 WFE, at-best 0-5% YoY CY24 WFE recovery, just inline Q1 outlook from LRCX, and misses from ASML/KLAC, semicap stocks remain resilient. History shows that semicap equipment stocks are more sensitive to performance of data center semis, and less to absolute WFE changes.

There appears to be some industry debate on actual CY23 WFE baseline, with different companies suggesting a number between low 80s to mid \$80bn. Even though both companies are more confident of CY24 WFE at high \$80bn level, the CY23 baseline impacts the way one thinks of growth as being either flattish or up mid-single digit, with greater 2H recovery.

LRCX in line Q4/Q1, though company recorded DRAM sales in DecQ, benefitting from Alfocused HBM/DDR5 spending. Leading edge spend/NAND to recover closer to 2H24/CY25, sentiment shared by ASML (flattish YoY CY24 guide, robust booking activity on EUV demand). KLAC CQ1 miss (-6% below Street) related to Samsung fab pushout, though can offset with other projects in future quarters. Like peers, KLAC optimistic about leading edge/memory demand in 2H24. Look to INTC IFS day (Feb-21) as possible catalyst for the group.

We continue to like this sector (KLAC top pick, also like AMAT, LRCX, NVMI) on headline benefits from upcoming large CHIPS grants; China spending resiliency (though subject to US election/restriction noise); 2H memory spending recovery (more DRAM than NAND) and large tech inflections/rising WFE intensity in leading-edge (Gate All Around or GAA, back side power) into CY25E.

## INTC results weak, we continue to prefer AI infrastructure

INTC Q1 miss (\$12.7bn vs. \$14.2bn expected) partially related to "non-core assets" (Mobileye, PSG/Altera), though core x86 PC/server business remains muted, with foundry business turning as certain contracts roll-off. Net-net, read through negative for AMD (reports Jan-30), but note AMD's stronger position in the accelerator market could offset any x86/FPGA related headwinds. We expect investors more focused on upside to previous CY24 data center GPU guide of \$2bn, with consensus closer to ~\$3bn-\$4bn (see preview). Al infrastructure continues to remain our preferred market, expecting the investment cycle to last through CY25 (top pick NVDA, also like AVGO, MRVL, AMD).

Several big tech names reports next week (MSFT, Alphabet, Amazon, Meta, Apple), and their views on capex/Al monetization could be critical to continued outperformance of data center/Al stocks. As reference we forecast about 20% YoY growth in CY24 cloud capex, though flag the growing pool of Al capex at state entities and small-mid-size data-center operators (such as Coreweave, or Equinix who last week announced fully-managed NVDA DGX private cloud service for enterprises). Results from enterprise software leader ServiceNow (covered by Brad Sills) suggest strong enterprise gen Al adoption, where related products drove its largest net new annualized contract value contribution.

Exhibit 2: Summary of performance by stocks and end markets

Semis have slightly outperformed the SPX YTD, led by performance in compute stocks

	YTD	Q4'23	Q3'23	Q2'23	Q1'23	2023	2022
SOX	4.0%	21.6%	-6.5%	13.7%	27.6%	64.9%	-18.1%
SPX	2.5%	11.2%	-3.6%	8.3%	7.0%	24.2%	-13.8%
Nasdaq	3.0%	13.6%	-4.1%	12.8%	16.8%	43.4%	-21.9%
Compute/EDA							
NVDA	23.2%	13.8%	2.8%	52.3%	90.1%	238.9%	-5.6%
INTC	-13.1%	41.4%	6.3%	2.4%	23.6%	90.1%	-36.6%
AVGO	7.9%	34.4%	-4.2%	35.2%	14.7%	99.6%	-3.6%



**Exhibit 2: Summary of performance by stocks and end markets**Semis have slightly outperformed the SPX YTD, led by performance in compute stocks

	YTD	Q4'23	Q3'23	Q2'23	Q1'23	2023	2022
AMD	20.2%	43.4%	-9.7%	16.2%	51.3%	127.6%	-31.9%
MRVL	12.8%	11.4%	-9.5%	38.1%	16.9%	62.8%	-50.5%
SNPS	2.6%	12.2%	5.4%	12.7%	21.0%	61.3%	4.8%
CDNS	6.7%	16.2%	-0.1%	11.6%	30.8%	69.6%	12.7%
MPWR	-4.7%	36.5%	-14.5%	7.9%	41.6%	78.4%	1.5%
Average	7.0%	26.2%	-2.9%	22.1%	36.2%	103.5%	-13.6%
<u>Smartphones</u>							
QCOM	4.2%	30.2%	-6.7%	-6.7%	16.0%	31.6%	-30.2%
SWKS	-7.0%	14.0%	-10.9%	-6.2%	29.5%	23.4%	-24.0%
QRVO	-7.9%	18.0%	-6.4%	0.5%	12.1%	24.2%	-35.1%
CRUS	-3.8%	12.5%	-8.7%	-25.9%	46.9%	11.7%	18.9%
Average	-3.6%	18.7%	-8.2%	-9.6%	26.1%	22.7%	-17.6%
Auto/Industrial/IoT							
TXN	-3.7%	7.2%	-11.7%	-3.2%	12.6%	3.2%	-1.3%
ADI	-2.3%	13.4%	-10.1%	-1.2%	20.2%	21.1%	12.2%
NXPI	-6.3%	14.9%	-2.3%	9.8%	18.0%	45.3%	-18.1%
IFX	-9.1%	20.6%	-17.0%	0.3%	32.5%	33.0%	-7.6%
MCHP	-3.6%	15.5%	-12.9%	6.9%	19.3%	28.4%	-3.8%
STM	-8.7%	10.4%	-10.1%	-6.9%	48.4%	37.1%	12.9%
ON	-14.2%	-10.1%	-10.1%	14.9%	32.0%	33.9%	21.2%
LSCC	-14.2% -9.4%	-10.1%	-10.6%	0.6%	47.2%	6.3%	23.9%
Average	-7.2%	6.5%	-9.5%	2.6%	28.8%	26.0%	4.9%
Average	-7.290	0.5%	-3.3%	2.0%	20.070	20.0%	4.3%
Semicap	2.00/	17.10/	4.20/	17.70/	26.10/	66.40/	21.00/
AMAT	3.0%	17.1%	-4.2%	17.7%	26.1%	66.4%	-21.9%
ASML	16.9%	21.9%	-15.7%	6.0%	24.1%	35.3%	-11.5%
LRCX	7.1%	25.0%	-2.5%	21.3%	26.1%	86.4%	-26.3%
KLAC	3.1%	26.7%	-5.4%	21.5%	5.9%	54.2%	-7.2%
TER	-2.8%	8.0%	-9.8%	3.6%	23.1%	24.2%	-34.3%
Average	5.5%	19.7%	-7.5%	14.0%	21.1%	53.3%	-20.2%
Memory/Storage							
MU	3.2%	25.4%	7.8%	4.6%	20.7%	70.7%	-35.2%
WDC	11.2%	14.8%	20.3%	0.7%	19.4%	66.0%	-42.2%
STX	5.9%	29.4%	6.6%	-6.4%	25.7%	62.3%	-41.5%
Average	6.8%	23.2%	11.6%	-0.4%	21.9%	66.3%	-39.6%
<u>Foundry</u>							
GFS	-6.8%	4.1%	-9.9%	-10.5%	33.9%	12.5%	11.1%
<u>Smallcaps</u>							
COHR	8.7%	33.4%	-36.0%	33.9%	8.5%	24.0%	-44.3%
MTSI	-6.0%	13.9%	24.5%	-7.5%	12.5%	47.6%	-9.5%
WOLF	-21.7%	14.2%	-31.5%	-14.4%	-5.9%	-37.0%	-41.9%
NVMI	6.1%	22.2%	-4.1%	12.3%	27.9%	68.2%	-28.7%
CAMT	14.0%	11.4%	74.7%	25.7%	29.1%	215.9%	-38.4%
LITE	5.4%	16.0%	-20.4%	5.0%	3.5%	0.5%	-48.9%
AMBA	-10.6%	15.6%	-36.6%	8.1%	-5.8%	-25.5%	-61.8%
AEIS	-3.6%	5.6%	-7.5%	13.7%	14.2%	27.0%	880.0%
ALGM	-11.6%	-5.2%	-29.2%	-5.9%	59.9%	0.8%	336.3%
CRDO	7.0%	27.7%	-12.1%	84.1%	-29.2%	46.3%	-21.5%
ACLS							
ACLS	1.2%	-20.5%	-11.1%	37.6%	67.9%	63.4%	925.0%

Source: BofA Global Research, Bloomberg

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#### **Exhibit 3: Stocks mentioned**

Prices and ratings for stocks mentioned in the report

<b>BofA Ticker</b>	Bloomberg ticker	Company name	Price	Rating
AMD	AMD US	Advanced Micro	US\$ 177.25	C-1-9
AMAT	AMAT US	Applied Materials	US\$ 166.9	B-1-7
AVGO	AVGO US	Broadcom	US\$ 1204.88	B-1-7
CDNS	CDNS US	Cadence	US\$ 290.73	B-1-9
INTC	INTC US	Intel	US\$ 43.65	B-2-8
KLAC	KLAC US	KLA Corp	US\$ 599.37	B-1-7
LRCX	LRCX US	Lam Research	US\$ 839.04	C-1-7
MRVL	MRVL US	Marvell	US\$ 68.04	C-1-7
NVDA	NVDA US	NVIDIA	US\$ 610.31	C-1-7
SNPS	SNPS US	Synopsys	US\$ 528.13	B-1-9

Source: BofA Global Research

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## Price objective basis & risk

#### Advanced Micro Devices, Inc (AMD)

Our \$195 PO is based on 38x our 2025E non-GAAP EPS, which is towards the middle of AMD's historical 17x-64x range, justified by Al upside offset by slowdown in cyclical embedded/console markets.

Downside risks: 1) M&A integration risks, 2) Strong competition from larger names, 3) Lumpy nature of consumer and enterprise spending that could create delays in acceptance and success of new products, 4) High reliance on one outsourced manufacturing partner, 5) Maturity of current game console cycle.

#### Applied Materials, Inc. (AMAT)

Our PO of \$185 is based on 21x our CY25E P/E estimate, in line with mid-cycle average and at normal 1-2 turn discount to more profitable semicap peers.

Downside risks to our PO are: ongoing US government probe that we are unable to size the financial impact at this time, slower-than-expected capital spending cycle, delay in memory capacity adds, market share loss in deposition, implant, thermal, CMP, etch, or process control segments, merger & integrations risk, and macro headwinds.

#### **Broadcom Inc (AVGO)**

Our \$1250 price objective for Broadcom is based on 22x CY25E P/E, the upper end of its 8x-23x historical range, though justified given double-digit EPS growth and best-insemis profitability, FCF generation, and returns.

Downside risks to our price objective are 1) semiconductor cycle risks, including sensitivity to US/China trade relations, 2) high exposure to Apple and Google with potential design out risks, 3) competitive risks in networking, smartphone, storage, enterprise software markets, 4) frequent acquirer of assets, which increases financial and integration risks, and 5) recent strategy towards moving into non-core software businesses creates execution risks.

#### Cadence (CDNS)

Our \$315 PO is based on 46x FY25E P/E, at upper end historical 22x-52x trading range and justified in our view given the strategic importance of EDA in an increasingly fragmented global electronics supply chain.

Downside risks are: (1) Share loss in existing markets to primary competitors, (2) a broader economic downturn dampens semis R&D spending and corresponding spend on



EDA tools and services, (3) escalation of US-China trade war limits CDNS' ability to sell to key customers, (4) semiconductor industry consolidation accelerates which could diminish customer spending power, (5) venture into adjacent system analysis market fails to meaningfully accelerate revenue growth and incremental investments suppress margin expansion.

#### Intel (INTC)

Our \$50 price objective is based on 26x our 2025E pf-EPS ex-stock comp expense, in the middle of compute peers (15x-40x), which we view as appropriate given manufacturing uncertainties and risks of new foundry strategy.

Upside risks to our price objective are 1) clarity or breakthrough on yields for 7nm process technology, 2) new products allowing Intel to limit share loss, 3) improving product mix which can drive upside to gross margins, 4) manufacturing slip up at key foundry competitors.

Downside risks to our price objective are 1) weaker-than-expected trends in a mature PC market, which is largest revenue generator for Intel, 2) further delays in 7nm process technology and roadmap, 3) accelerated share loss to AMD, 4) more competition in profitable data center market.

#### KLA Corporation (KLAC)

Our PO of \$740 is based on 26x CY25E P/E, at higher end KLAC's historical range of 10x-26x. KLAC's leading profit margin and less cyclical topline supports a slightly higher multiple vs. semicap peers, in our view.

Downside risks to our PO are the cyclical nature of the semiconductor capital spending and its impact on earnings, competitive price and market share issues, particularly against Applied Materials, ability to get new products and technologies into the market in a timely manner.

#### Lam Research Corp. (LRCX)

Our PO of \$970 is based on 25x cash adjusted CY25E PE, in line with its historical 1-2 turn discount to more profitable semicap peers.

Upside risks to our PO are: stronger-than-expected electronics demand that would tighten up semiconductor capacity, driving increased semiconductor equipment sales and/or increasing market share.

Downside risks are slower than expected capital spending cycle, delay in memory capacity adds, market share loss in etch or clean segments, merger & integrations risk, and macro headwinds.

#### Marvell Technology Group Ltd. (MRVL)

Our \$80 PO is based on a 32x FY26E/CY25E pf-EPS, which is well-supported by the 20%-30%+ longer-term compounded annual EPS growth potential, and within the normal 1x-2x range for high growth semi peers.

Downside risks: 1) Integration risks in recent deals, 2) Financial risks related to going to net debt from net cash position, and in achieving expected cost synergies in a timely manner, and 3) Cyclical industry risks including potential slowdown in legacy hard disk drive, infrastructure spending, and storage assets, 4) Competitive risks against larger well resourced rivals.

#### **NVIDIA Corporation (NVDA)**

Our \$700 PO is based on 27x CY25E PE ex cash, within NVDA's historical 26x-69x forward year PE range, justified given stronger growth opportunities ahead as gaming



cycle troughs and data center demand potentially faces strong, long-term demand dynamics.

Downside risks to our price objective are: 1) weakness in consumer driven gaming market, 2) Competition with major public firms, internal cloud projects and other private companies in accelerated computing markets, 3) Larger than expected impact from restrictions on compute shipments to China, or additional restrictions placed on activity in the region, 4) Lumpy and unpredictable sales in new enterprise, data center, and autos markets, 5) Potential for decelerating capital returns.

#### Synopsys (SNPS)

Our 650 PO is based on 40x 2025E P/E, at upper end of company's historical trading range (19x-49x), justified in our view as EDA investment accelerates as chip complexity rises.

Downside risks are (1) variability in IP/hardware sales creates issues in timing of revenue recognition, (2) competitors develop unique software capabilities displacing SNPS at core customers, (3) heightened geopolitical tensions lead to further restrictions on supplying firms in China with EDA technology.

Upside risks are (1) share gains in existing markets versus primary competitors, (2) increased government investment in semiconductor R&D and development as nations develop internal ecosystems, (3) material M&A that enables consistent margin expansion or further accelerates sales CAGR, (4) faster-than-expected cost improvements driving higher operating margin.

## **Analyst Certification**

I, Vivek Arya, 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.

## **Special Disclosures**

BofA Securities is currently acting as financial advisor to Intel Corp in connection with its sale of a minority stake in IMS Nanofabrication GmbH to Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd, which was announced on September 12, 2023.



#### **US - Semiconductors and Semiconductor Capital Equipment Coverage Cluster**

Investment rating	Company	BofA Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
BUY				
	Advanced Micro Devices, Inc	AMD	AMD US	Vivek Arya
	Analog Devices Inc.	ADI	ADIUS	Vivek Arya
	Applied Materials, Inc.	AMAT	AMAT US	Vivek Arya
	Arm Holdings	ARM	ARM US	Vivek Arya
	Broadcom Inc	AVGO	AVGO US	Vivek Arya
	Cadence	CDNS	CDNS US	Vivek Arya
	Camtek	CAMT	CAMT US	Vivek Arya
	KLA Corporation	KLAC	KLAC US	Vivek Arya
	Lam Research Corp.	LRCX	LRCX US	Vivek Arya
	M/A-Com	MTSI	MTSI US	Vivek Arya
	Marvell Technology Group Ltd.	MRVL	MRVL US	Vivek Arya
	Microchip	MCHP	MCHP US	Vivek Arya
	Micron Technology, Inc	MU	MU US	Vivek Arya
	Nova	NVMI	NVMI US	Vivek Arya
	NVIDIA Corporation	NVDA	NVDA US	Vivek Arya
	NXP Semiconductors NV	NXPI	NXPI US	Vivek Arya
	onsemi	ON	ON US	Vivek Arya
	Synopsys	SNPS	SNPS US	Vivek Arya
NEUTRAL				
	Advanced Energy Industries	AEIS	AEIS US	Duksan Jang
	Allegro MicroSystems	ALGM	ALGM US	Blake Friedman
	Axcelis Technologies	ACLS	ACLS US	Duksan Jang
	Coherent Corp	COHR	COHRUS	Vivek Arya
	GlobalFoundries	GFS	GFS US	Vivek Arya
	Intel	INTC	INTC US	Vivek Arya
	Lattice Semiconductor	LSCC	LSCC US	Blake Friedman
	Texas Instruments Inc.	TXN	TXN US	Vivek Arya
UNDERPERFORM				
	Ambarella	AMBA	AMBA US	Vivek Arya
	Credo Technology	CRDO	CRDO US	Vivek Arya
	Lumentum Holdings	LITE	LITE US	Vivek Arya
	Oorvo Inc.	QRVO	QRVO US	Vivek Arya
	Skyworks Solutions, Inc.	SWKS	SWKS US	Vivek Arya
	Teradyne	TER	TER US	Vivek Arya
	Wolfspeed Inc	WOLF	WOLF US	Vivek Arya

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## **Important Disclosures**

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

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships R1	Count	Percent
Buy	215	53.09%	Buy	111	51.63%
Hold	97	23.95%	Hold	45	46.39%
Sell	93	22.96%	Sell	24	25.81%

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<sup>R2</sup>

 Buy
 ≥ 10%
 ≤ 70%

 Neutral
 ≥ 0%
 ≤ 30%

 Underperform
 N/A
 ≥ 20%

INCOME RATINGS, indicators of potential cash dividends, are: 7 - same/higher (dividend considered to be secure), 8 - same/lower (dividend not considered to be secure) and 9 - pays no cash dividend. Coverage Cluster is comprised of stocks covered by a single analyst or two or more analysts sharing a common industry, sector, region or other classification(s). A stock's coverage cluster is included in the most recent BofA Global Research report referencing the stock.

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