Corporate Finance Briefing: S&P 500 Buybacks & Dividends

Yardeni Research, Inc.

November 20, 2019

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thinking outside the box
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Figure 1.

S&P 500 BUYBACKS
(billion dollars, annualized)

- Actual x 4 (657.9)
- 4-Quarter Sum (797.0)

Source: Standard & Poor’s.

Figure 2.

S&P 500 DIVIDENDS
(billion dollars, annualized)

- 4-Quarter Sum (476.6)

Source: Standard & Poor’s.
Figure 3.
S&P 500 BUYBACKS
(billion dollars, quarterly, nsa)
Source: Standard & Poor’s.

Figure 4.
S&P 500 DIVIDENDS
(billion dollars, quarterly)
Source: Standard & Poor’s Corporation.
Figure 5.

S&P 500 DIVIDENDS & BUYBACKS
(trillion dollars, annualized)

Buybacks
Dividends
S&P 500 Index

Source: Standard & Poor’s.

Figure 6.

S&P 500 BUYBACKS
(billion dollars, annualized)

S&P 500 FORWARD EARNINGS YIELD & CORPORATE BOND YIELD
(percent)

S&P 500 Forward Earnings Yield* (5.7)
BoA Merrill Lynch AA-AAA Corporate Bond Yield (3.1)

* Forward earnings (time-weighted average of consensus operating earnings estimates for current and next year) divided by S&P 500 stock price index.
Source: Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S, Standard & Poor’s and Bank of America Merrill Lynch.
Figure 7.

S&P 500 BUYBACKS & DIVIDENDS
(billion dollars, annualized)

- Total* (1266.1)
- Buybacks* (797.0)
- Dividends* (476.6)

*4-quarter sum.
Source: Standard & Poor’s.
Figure 8.

TOTAL GROSS ISSUANCE OF STOCKS MINUS S&P 500 BUYBACKS
(billion dollars)

- Total Gross Issuance of Stocks Minus S&P 500 Buybacks (annualized)
- Corporate Equities: Net Issuance Nonfinancial Corporate Business (4-quarter sum)

Source: Federal Reserve Board and Standard & Poor’s Corporation.
S&P 1500/500/400/600 Divisors

Figure 9.

S&P 1500 DIVISOR*
(y/y percent change)

S&P 500 DIVISOR*
(y/y percent change)

S&P 400 MIDCAP DIVISOR*
(y/y percent change)

S&P 600 SMALLCAP DIVISOR*
(y/y percent change)

* Divisor is used to ensure that changes in shares outstanding, capital actions, and the addition or deletion of stocks to the index do not change the level of the index.

Source: Standard & Poor’s Corporation.
Buybacks & Dividends

Figure 10.

S&P 500 YIELD FROM BUYBACKS & DIVIDENDS

Buybacks + Dividends (billion dollars, trailing four-quarter)
(1266.08)

Yield (%)
Buybacks (3.26)
Dividends (1.93)
Buybacks + Dividends (5.18)

Source: Standard & Poor’s Corporation.

Figure 11.

S&P 500 BUYBACKS (billion dollars, quarterly)

Buybacks as a % of S&P 500 Market Cap (0.67)

Source: Standard & Poor’s Corporation.
Buybacks & Dividends as % of Operating Earnings

Figure 12.

S&P 500 Buybacks, Dividends, & Operating Earnings (billion dollars, trailing four-quarter)

- Buybacks (797.0)
- Dividends (476.6)
- Operating Earnings (1277.7)
- Buybacks+Dividends (1266.1)

Buybacks+Dividends as percent of Operating Earnings (97.9)

Source: Standard & Poor’s.

Figure 13.

S&P 500 Ex-Energy Buybacks, Dividends, & Operating Earnings (billion dollars, trailing four-quarter)

- Buybacks (772.2)
- Dividends (433.0)
- Operating Earnings (1212.9)
- Buybacks+Dividends (1198.4)

Buybacks+Dividends as percent of Operating Earnings (98.1)

Capped at 150% due to extreme values.

Source: Standard & Poor’s Corporation.
Figure 14.

S&P 500 SECTORS BUYBACKS
(quarterly, billion dollars)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Q2 2019</th>
<th>Q2 2020</th>
<th>Q2 2021</th>
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<td>Total</td>
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Note: Real Estate sector data start Q3-2016.
Source: Standard & Poor's.
S&P 500 Sectors Cumulative Buybacks Since Q1-2009

Note: Real Estate sector data start Q3-2016.
Source: Standard & Poor’s.
Figure 16.

S&P 500 SECTORS DIVIDENDS
(quarterly, billion $)

INDUSTRIALS
(11.1)

CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY
(8.3)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(18.9)

CONSUMER STAPLES
(13.1)

MATERIALS
(3.7)

ENERGY
(11.2)

REAL ESTATE
(6.0)

FINANCIALS
(17.5)

COMMUNICATION SERVICES
(9.3)

HEALTH CARE
(16.2)

UTILITIES
(7.2)

Source: Standard & Poor’s.

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Figure 17.

**S&P 500 SECTORS BUYBACKS**
(trailing four quarter sum, billion dollars)

- **Total**: (797.0)
- **INDUSTRIALS**: (74.6)
- **CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY**: (78.8)
- **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**: (265.7)
- **CONSUMER STAPLES**: (36.5)
- **MATERIALS**: (16.1)
- **ENERGY**: (24.9)
- **REAL ESTATE**: (3.0)
- **FINANCIALS**: (166.9)
- **COMMUNICATION SERVICES**: (33.1)
- **HEALTH CARE**: (93.6)
- **UTILITIES**: (3.7)

Note: Real Estate sector data start Q2-2017.
Source: Standard & Poor's.