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MRAA/Baird/Trade Only Marine Retailer Pulse Report

February 6, 2024

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Overview



Robert W. Baird, in partnership with Marine Retailers Association of the Americas (MRAA) and Soundings Trade Only, is pleased to present the January 2024 Marine Retailer Pulse Report.

We recently surveyed 49 marine retailers to assess recent trends in North America.

Thank you to each of the retailers who participated in this survey.

If you have any questions or comments that you would like to direct to MRAA, please contact Matt Gruhn, President of MRAA, at 763.333.2421.

If you have any questions or comments, would like additional research on the marine industry, or are a retailer and would like to participate in our next survey, please email Senior Analyst Craig Kennison [ckennison@rwbaird.com].

Note: This is not a scientific survey, rather it is meant to give investors an indication of current industry trends. Some quotes have been edited to protect the anonymity of respondents.

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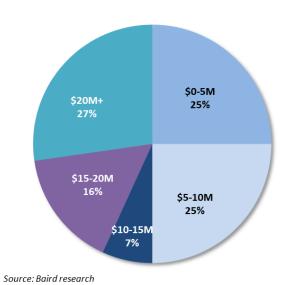
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Retailer Profile

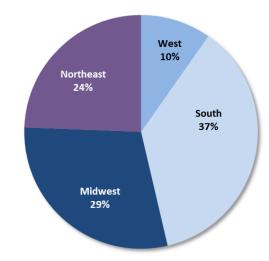


49 retailers participated in the MRAA/Baird/Trade Only Marine Retailer Pulse Report.

Dealer Annual Revenue Profile



Dealer Participation - By Geography



Retailer Sentiment



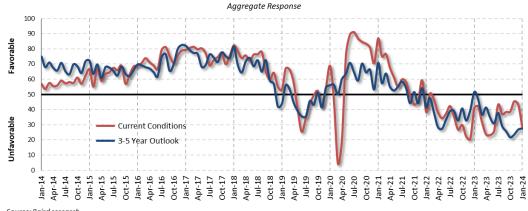


We have established the first Marine Retailer Sentiment Index, capturing both current and longerterm (3-5 year) retailer sentiment.

Sentiment on current conditions decreased in January (28 vs. 43 in December), while the 3-5 year outlook ticked higher (28 vs. 27 in December).

For context, sentiment readings can range from 0-100, with 50 providing a "neutral" outlook.

MRAA/Baird/Trade Only Marine Retailer Sentiment Index



Retail Results



January Retail Trends

More dealers reported retail declines in January (38%) than growth (29%), but trends improved from recent months.

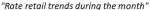
Dealers also reported used boat retail declines, with 37% reporting a decline versus 26% reporting growth.

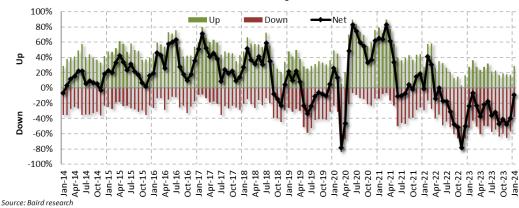
January typically represents ~3% of annual retail sales.

U.S. Powerboat Retail - Seasonality 16% 14% 12% 10% 8% 6% 4% 2% 0% Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

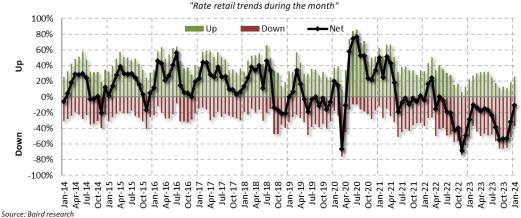
Source: Brunswick, NMMA, Baird research

New Boat Retail Trends





Used Boat Retail Trends



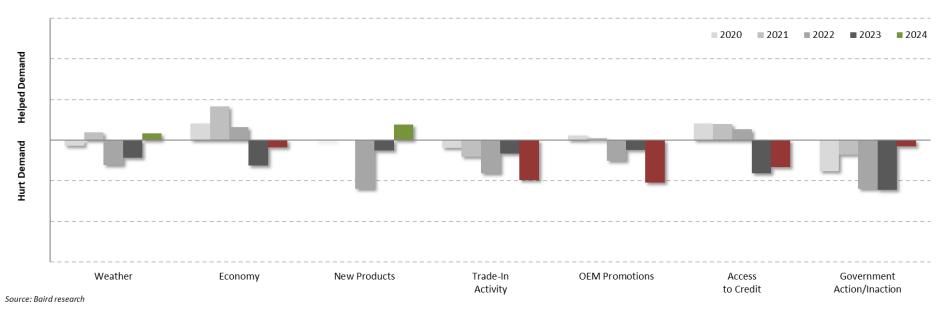


Retail Demand Factors

January Retail Trends

Retailers indicated that trade-in activity, promotions (or lack of), and access to credit were the primary headwinds to demand in January.

Retail Demand Factors - January



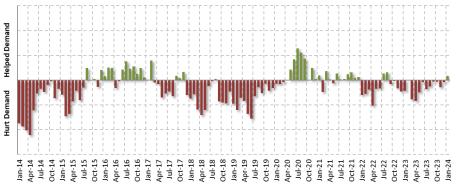




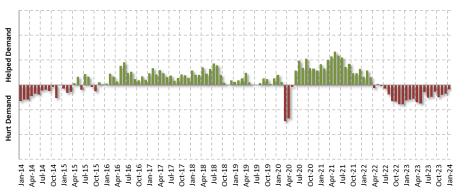


Detail

Weather Impact on Demand



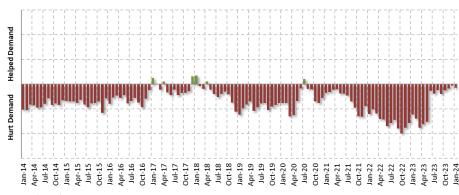
Economy Impact on Demand



Source: Baird research

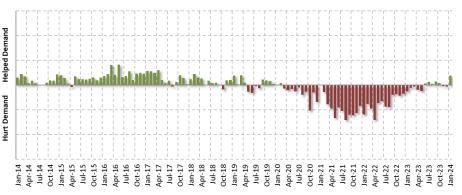
Source: Baird research

Government Impact on Demand



Source: Baird research

New Products Impact on Demand



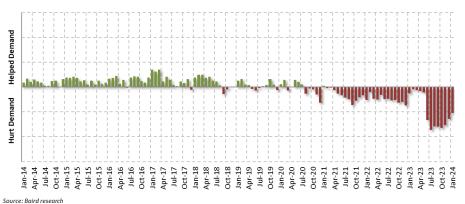




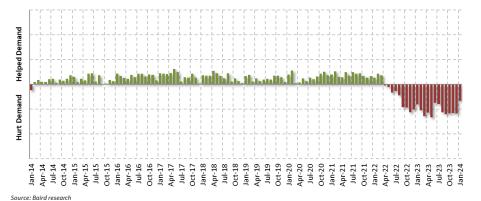


Detail

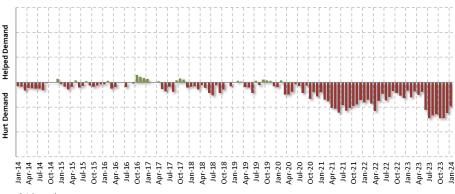
OEM Promotions Impact on Demand



Access to Credit Impact on Demand



Trade-In Activity Impact on Demand

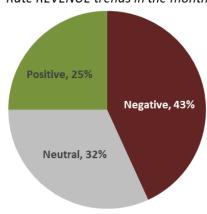


Dealership Revenue Trends



New Boat Revenue

Rate REVENUE trends in the month

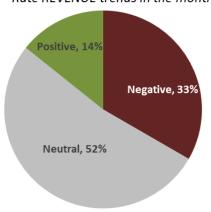


Source: Baird research

Source: Baird research

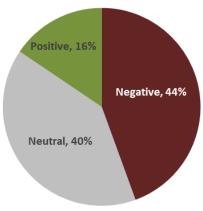
Parts and Service Revenue

Rate REVENUE trends in the month



Used Boat Revenue

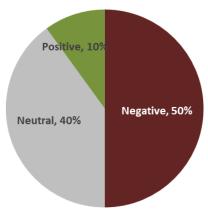
Rate REVENUE trends in the month



Source: Baird research

Finance and Insurance Revenue

Rate REVENUE trends in the month



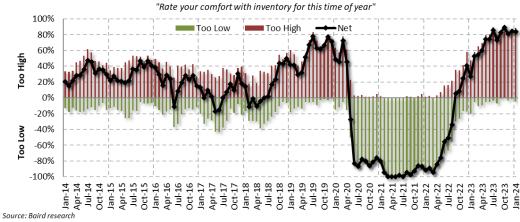
Inventory





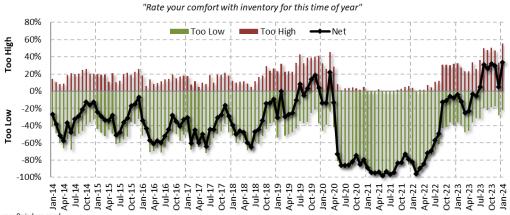
New boat inventory remained higher than dealers would like. 89% of dealers reported new boat inventory was "too high" and just 5% dealers reported new boat inventory was "too low" in January.

New Boat Inventory



Used boat inventory also was higher than dealers would like, with 56% of dealers responding it is "too high" and 22% responding "too low."

Used Boat Inventory



What's Working







Comments

- " Hard work... Being very much a micro manager."
- " European brands. Boat shows. More expensive models."
- " Staffing, engaging in other avenues for marketing, fresh online appearance and restructuring internal processes."
- " Nothing."
- " Pontoons are moving and our high-end glass fishing boats."
- " It is still a buyer's market with heavy price discounts required to move any unit. Coupled with high interest rates, consumers are still timid when it comes to buying a unit. Manufacturer promotions are helping drive traffic, but still with a lot of tire kickers, rather than buyers."
- " Brokerage sales are the only deals that are moving forward."
- " We had our own Open house/Boat show and could offer better discounts because we didn't have all the costs of going to a big show. This is our second year, and we doubled our sales from last year. I call it a win!!"
- " Cobalt, Cobalt, and more Cobalts."
- " Heavy discounts."
- " Customer service, storage, dockage, having a diverse business model to navigate slower sales times."
- " Our Nautique brand is working the best for us."
- " Promotions are helping drive buyers currently, but nothing is making a huge impact for us."
- " Some repower programs."
- " Couple of new boat designs are getting at least some eyeballs. Too early to tell how the year will come together."
- " Used products priced right seem to be in demand."





Comments

- " Domestic brands. Entry-level models."
- " Average-level glass product is still very soft."
- " Trying to conserve profit margins are gone. Buyers know the market is slow and inventory high, so price and discounts are the only thing that is moving units. Deep discounts seem to be the only thing that is working."
- " Most manufacturers, DC and liberals with democrats their lap dogs."
- " New boat sales have completely stalled. Trades on boats less than two years old are impossible to get completed."
- " Honda has come out with a good promotion."
- " Pontoons, our market is saturated and everyone is trying to get rid of their inventory at low prices."
- " Facebook has declined unless you pay a lot, people are not seeing the adds and they are changing the demographics."
- " Runabout boats are not doing well."
- " Inventory is our main concern. We have too much, it is aging, and costing way too much to hold."
- " Weak rebates from boat manufacturers and then they are tied to repurchases."
- " Consumers are pretty jaded regarding rebates. Most believe the price has been adjusted upwards to offset the rebate. We know that's not true, but being untruthful has become a national pastime in America."







Closing Sales

What approach to the closing process is more efficient for your dealership?

- " Overcoming objections with next level financing.
- "You have to ask for the sale, a boating store is a destination store not an impulse buyers store. If someone walks into your showroom there is more than likely a reason for him being there even if it is slight interest there is at least some interest in buying, you just have to get them over the hump."
- " We now focus heavily on value versus pricing. We show and demonstrate the features and options, then explain why they can use that option and how it works for them to have a better experience."
- " Begin closing at the start of the process ;-) "
- " Give-aways, freebies."
- " Customers are calling from about five hours away for a quote then going to their local dealer and asking to beat this price."
- " Follow-up is very important."
- " Having to be willing to negotiate more on price and trades."
- " One-on-one close and then to the finance department. No sales tower."





Customer Financing

What tactics has your dealership installed to help reduce your customers' fear and anxiety surrounding credit scores, term lengths and monthly payments when entering the financing process??

- " Act normal, be positive of what a boat can bring to be distraction form what is going on in country and world."
- " Selling value and experience in the new economy."
- " Maybe if you lie to them first you have to get someone to buy."
- " We have not experienced much of that, our customers do not seem scared off by the interest or term of the loan if they are borrowing to buy."
- " We focus on the enjoyment of use and family time, rather than the finance equation. Even with that, however, consumer anxiety seems prevalent with every non-cash buyer."
- " We are fortunate to not do many deals associated with financing."
- " We offer two terms 180 months or 240 months the longer term has high rates but lower payments."
- " Most of the buyers have been mentally prepared to refinance down the road if the opportunity arises."
- " Sympathize with them and try to get as close to their needs as possible."
- " Increased presence in social media and digital space."







Additional Comments

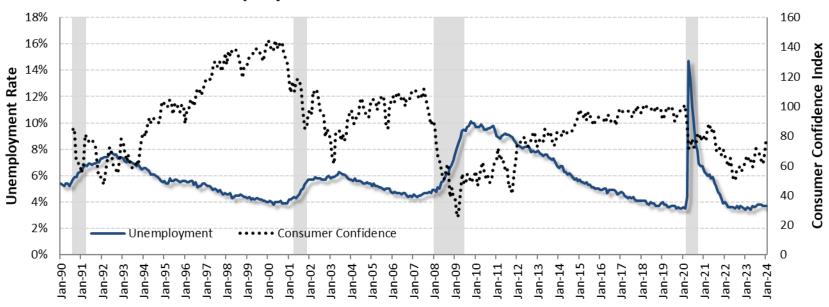
- " We really have only one manufacturer--WRMG that is on top of their game. Industry needs a purging of 10-25% of manufactures and 15-20% of dealers. To many businesses splitting a piece of industry. Look at auto and RV number of dealers vs. number of retailers."
- " Boat show season has started and for us is coming soon... the turnout there along with the mindset of the customers will set the tone for the next several months for sales."
- " Government inaction."
- " High interest rates, stricter loan underwriting, and much higher prices are killing the market. Buyers are anxious, lenders are anxious, and dealers should definitely be anxious. If dealers are going to make it, we all need interest rate cuts, a settled economy, and stability in our government. A tall order indeed."
- " We will know more in a month or two. Customers need to get past the holidays and winter doldrums."
- " Focus on margins and less on volume."
- " We are getting killed on our floor plan interest rate by both Huntington Bank and Wells Fargo."
- " Between high boat cost, high interest rates and the general high cost of living it is very had for most to justify a \$700 and up boat payment for 15 years."







Unemployment Rate and Consumer Confidence

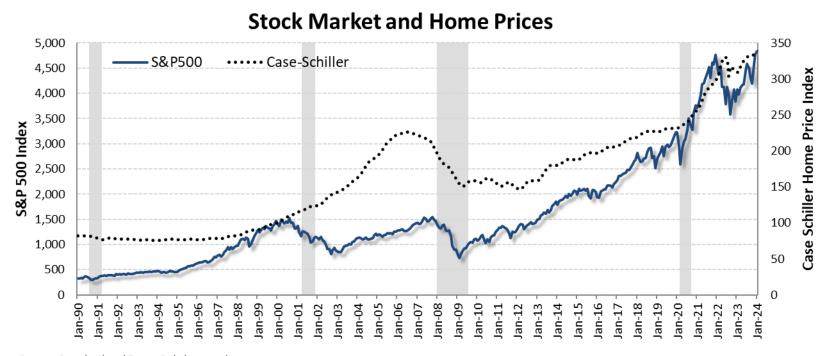


Source: Conference Board, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Baird research

Wealth







Source: Standard and Poors, Baird research

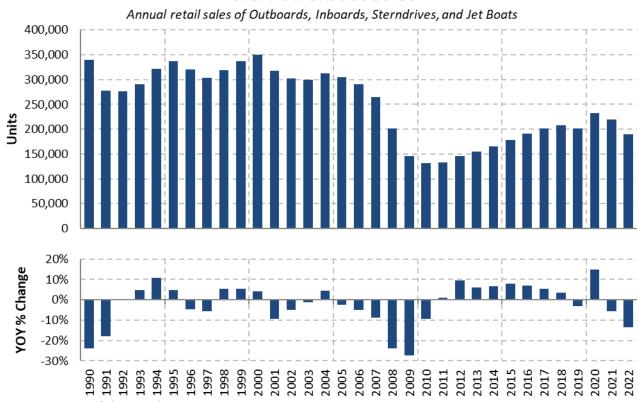








U.S. Powerboat Sales



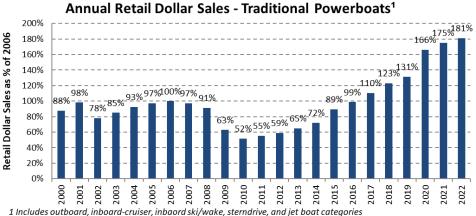
Source: NMMA, Baird research



U.S. Powerboat Retail Dollar Sales

Annual Retail Dollar Sales - Traditional Powerboats¹ 18,000 Retail Dollar Sales (Billions) 10,000 10,000 10,000 4,000 20,000 20,000 20,000 2,000

1 Includes outboard, inboard-cruiser, inbaord ski/wake, sterndrive, and jet boat categories Source: NMMA, Baird research



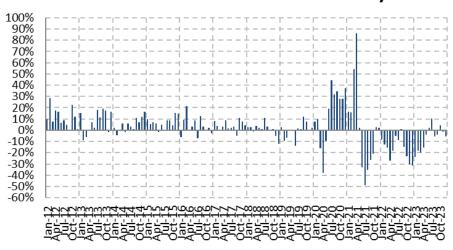
1 Includes outboard, inboard-cruiser, inbaord ski/wake, sterndrive, and jet boat categories Source: NMMA, Baird research

U.S. Powerboat Retail



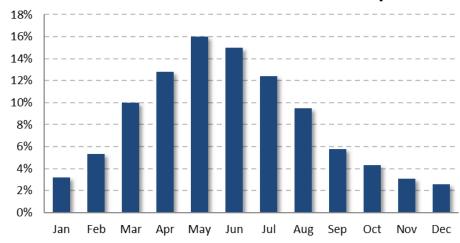


Total U.S. Powerboat Retail - Monthly



Source: SSI, Trade Only Today, Baird research

U.S. Powerboat Retail - Seasonality

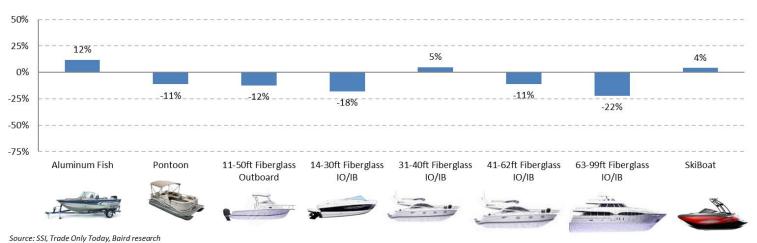


Source: Brunswick, NMMA, Baird research

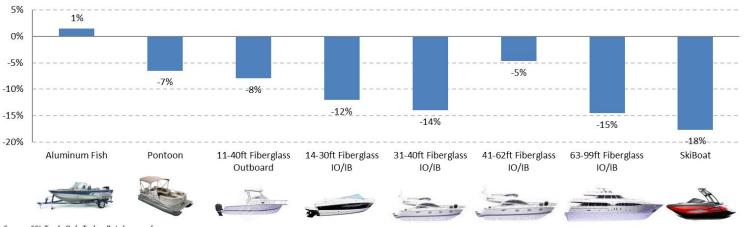




U.S. Retail Growth by Category - December 2023

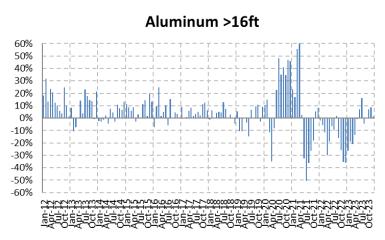


U.S. Retail Growth by Category - YTD



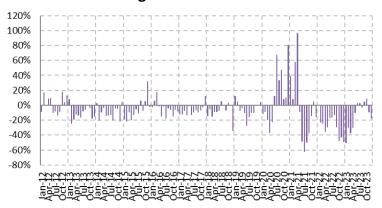
U.S. Retail by Category





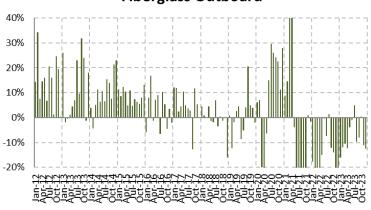
Source: SSI, Trade Only Today, Baird research

Fiberglass Sterndrive <30ft



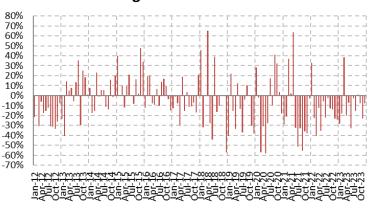
Source: SSI, Trade Only Today, Baird research

Fiberglass Outboard



Source: SSI, Trade Only Today, Baird research

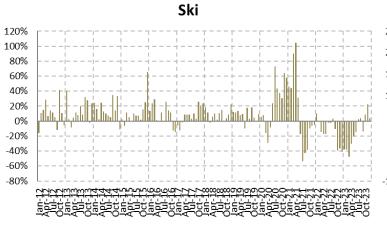
Fiberglass Sterndrive 30ft+

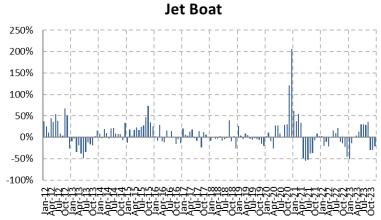


Source: SSI, Trade Only Today, Baird research





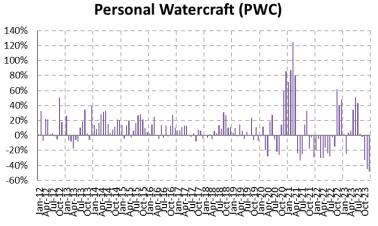


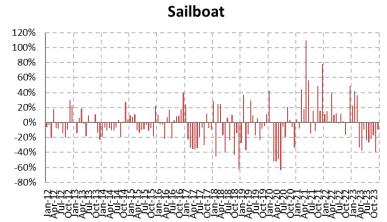


Source: SSI, Trade Only Today, Baird research

Source: SSI, Trade Only Today, Baird research

Source: SSI, Trade Only Today, Baird research





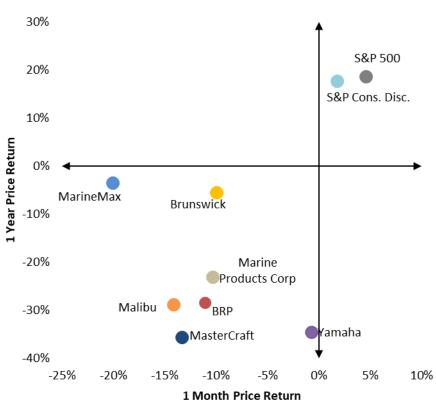
Source: SSI, Trade Only Today, Baird research







Marine Stock Performance



Source: Factset, Baird research









Brunswick Monthly Excess Return versus S&P 500

assumes reinvested dividends

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2015	9%	-5%	-3%	-4%	1%	2%	2%	0%	-1%	4%	-2%	-2%
2016	-16%	8%	6%	0%	-2%	-5%	6%	-7%	6%	-9%	12%	7%
2017	8%	-3%	2%	-8%	-3%	13%	-12%	-7%	5%	-12%	7%	-1%
2018	8%	-5%	7%	1%	4%	1%	-4%	1%	0%	-15%	1%	-3%
2019	0%	2%	-6%	-2%	-12%	4%	6%	-3%	10%	10%	-2%	-1%
2020	5%	-7%	-21%	22%	11%	15%	-1%	-14%	-1%	11%	7%	-2%
2021	15%	0%	4%	7%	-5%	-5%	3%	-10%	3%	-9%	2%	3%
2022	-5%	9%	-19%	2%	0%	-5%	13%	-2%	-3%	0%	0%	3%
2023	11%	7%	-10%	2%	-11%	8%	-3%	-6%	5%	-10%	5%	18%
2024	-18%											
L			ı		1		1	ı				I
· Average	2%	1%	-4%	1%	-1%	2%	1%	-5%	2%	-2%	3%	3%
H			1		I	l	!	+		-		

60%

50%

30%

60%

40%

80%

50%

Source: FactSet, Baird research

% of Years

Outperformed

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

70%

50%

50%

40%

50%



Appendix – Important Disclosures and Analyst Certification

Covered Companies Mentioned

All stock prices below are the 2/5/2024 closing price.

Brunswick Corporation (BC - \$84.25 – Outperform)
LCI Industries (LCII - \$109.16 – Outperform)
Malibu Boats, Inc. (MBUU - \$45.01 – Outperform)
MasterCraft Boat Holdings, Inc (MCFT - \$19.67 – Outperform)
OneWater Marine Inc. (ONEW - \$26.00 – Outperform)
Patrick Industries, Inc. (PATK - \$100.91 – Outperform)

See recent research reports for more information

Appendix – Important Disclosures and Analyst Certification

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Neutral (N) - Expected to perform in line with the broader U.S. equity market over the next 12 months. Underperform (U) - Expected to underperform on a total return, risk-adjusted basis the broader U.S. equity market over the next 12 months.

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Valuation, Ratings and Risks. The recommendation and price target contained within this report are based on a time horizon of 12 months but there is no guarantee the objective will be achieved within the specified time horizon. Price targets are determined by a subjective review of fundamental and/or quantitative factors of the issuer, its industry, and the security type. A variety of methods may be used to determine the value of a security including, but not limited to, discounted cash flow, earnings multiples, peer group comparisons, and sum of the parts. Overall market risk, interest rate risk, and general economic risks impact all securities. Specific information regarding the price target and recommendation is provided in the text of our most recent research report.

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