

CAVA

Sell

Current Price: \$147.60

Price Target: \$78.62 (-46.73% Downside)

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Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

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Overview of Cava

Value Proposition

- Offer authentic health-focused Mediterranean cuisine, highlighting customization and convenience to appeal to diverse demographics and health trends

Business Segments

- Operates two business segments: (1) Cava Restaurants and (2) Consumer Packaged Goods

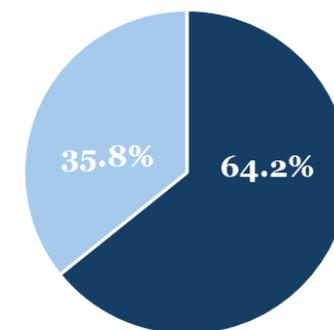
Operating Leverage

- Cava leverages a scalable business model with fixed cost efficiencies, enabling margin expansion through store growth and increased digital penetration

Key Statistics (\$) in Millions

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Current Stock Price: | \$147.60 |
| Market Capitalization: | 16,915 |
| LTM Revenue: | 913 |
| LTM Adjusted EBITDA: | 136 |
| LTM Restaurant Openings: | 62 |
| Cava Average Unit Volume: | 2.8 |

Restaurant Revenue by Channel



■ Restaurants ■ Digital Business

Seasonality Analysis

Seasonal Quarterly Revenue (\$) in Millions



Full Year 2024 Outlook

Revenues

- In Q3-2024 Cava saw revenues of \$244M, representing a 3890 b.p. increase from Q3-2023
- Management raised guidance and expects a 12%-13% increase in Same Restaurant Sales Growth in 2024, representing a 350 b.p. increase from prior quarters guidance

Store Growth

- In Q3-2024 Cava saw 11 Net New Store openings representing a 4210 b.p. decrease from Q3-2023 openings
- Management expects continued store growth in Q4 2024 with total year store openings between 56 and 58

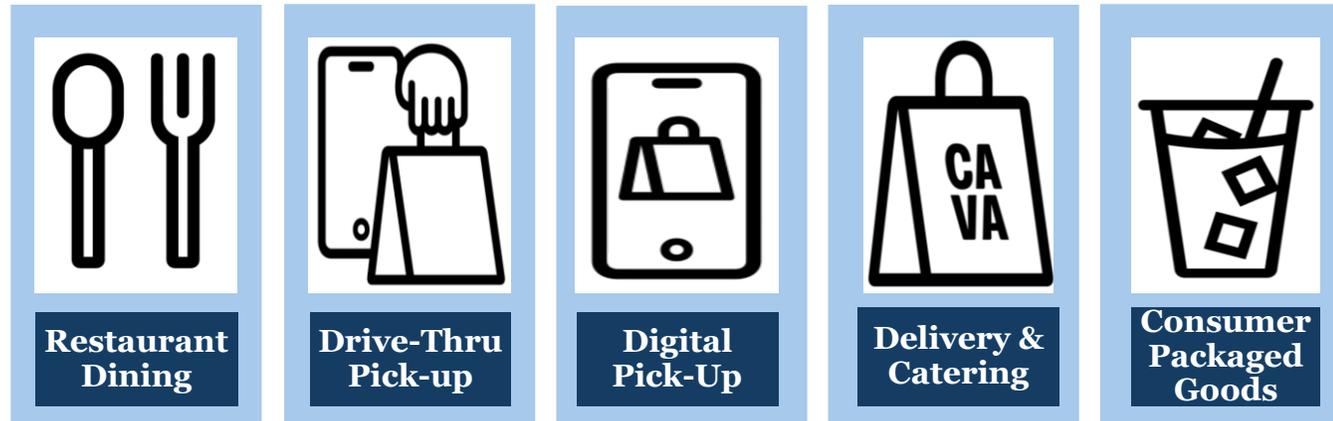
Margins

- In Q3-2024 Cava saw Gross Margin of 25.69% and EBITDA Margin of 11.54% representing a 35 and 332 b.p. increase from the previous years same quarter

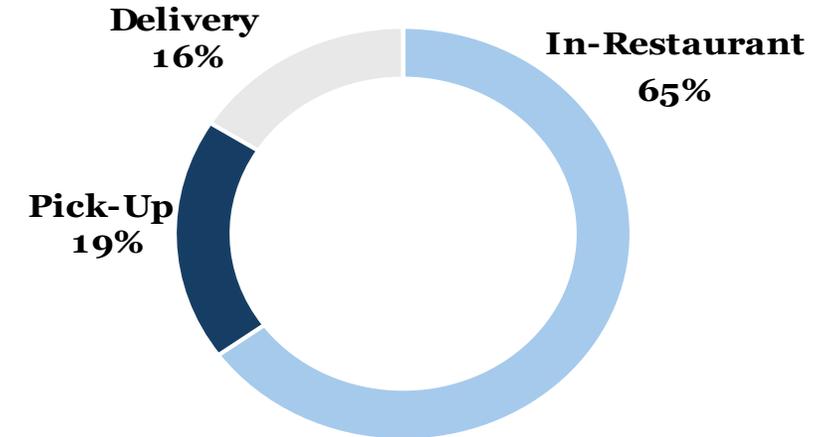
Business Model

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

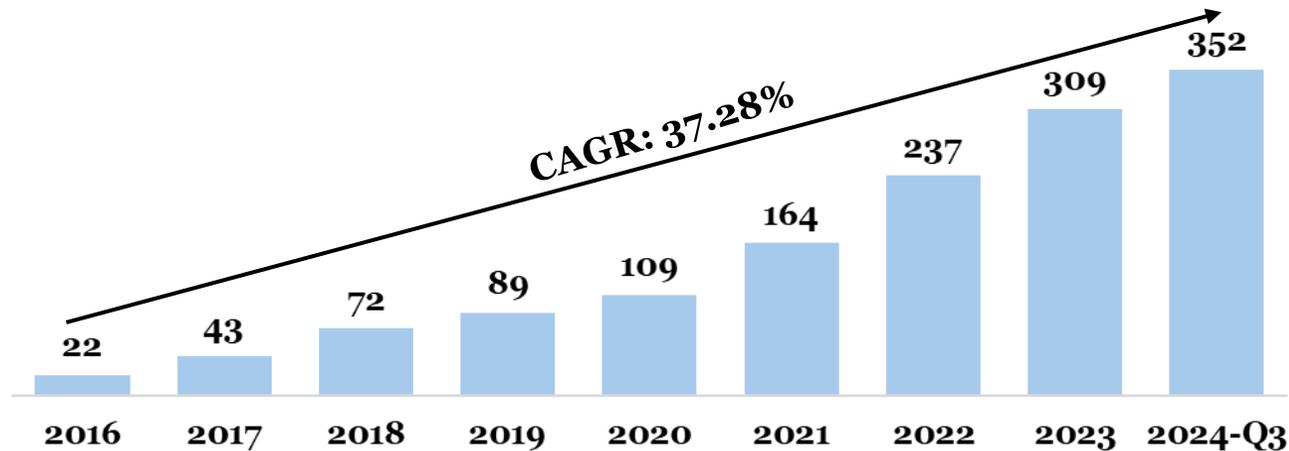
Cava's Multi-Channel Experience



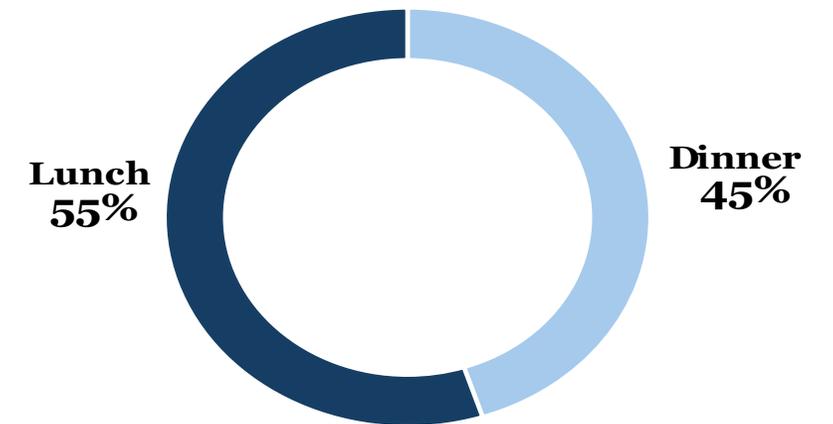
Restaurant Channel Diversity



Total Cava Store Locations



Restaurant Daypart Diversity



Chef-Curated and Seasonal Options



11 Core Menu Entrées



Kid's Meal, Drinks, & Sides

34 Customizable Bowl & Pita Ingredients – 17.4+ Billion Combinations



7 Mains



6 Dips



13 Toppings



8 Dressings



Brett Schulman
Co-Founder & CEO

- Co-founded Cava in 2010
- Served as COO at Skiddy Snacks, previously FBR Securities, & Deutsche Bank



Theodore Xenohristos
Founder & Chief Concept Officer

- Lead of CAVA's Culinary Innovation & Brand Concept, Advisor of Executive Leadership Team



Jennifer Somers
Chief Operations Officer

- Served as VP of Customer Engagement Tech, Data Engineering, & Analytics at PetSmart



Tricia Tolivar
Chief Financial Officer

- Served as CFO of GNC for 5+ Years



Jeffrey Gaul
Chief Development Officer

- 30+ Years of Leadership Experience in Global Retail Real Estate & Development

Optimistic Market Expectations Intensify Pressure on Cava's Management to Deliver

Current Price: \$147.60
Price Target: \$78.62
Implied Downside $-(46.73\%)$

Continue Delivering Value Proposition

- Cava must continue focusing on providing existing and new health-focused, innovative products to sustain brand growth and loyalty
- The evolving digital landscape provides an opportunity for Cava to enhance customer engagement and retention through mobile app innovations and loyalty programs
- Successful expansion into new markets will depend on maintaining operational excellence, ensuring consistency in service and product quality, and effectively navigating operating challenges

Profitability

- While Cava's potential to leverage its fixed operating structure and scale volumes could improve overall margins, the execution risks associated with achieving these efficiencies pose significant challenges
- The 1,000-store location goal requires substantial capital investment, access to key locations, operational consistency, and supply chain optimization, all of which pose a risk in a particularly competitive industry
- At the current valuation, the market prices in these efficiencies and growth targets, leaving management little room for error

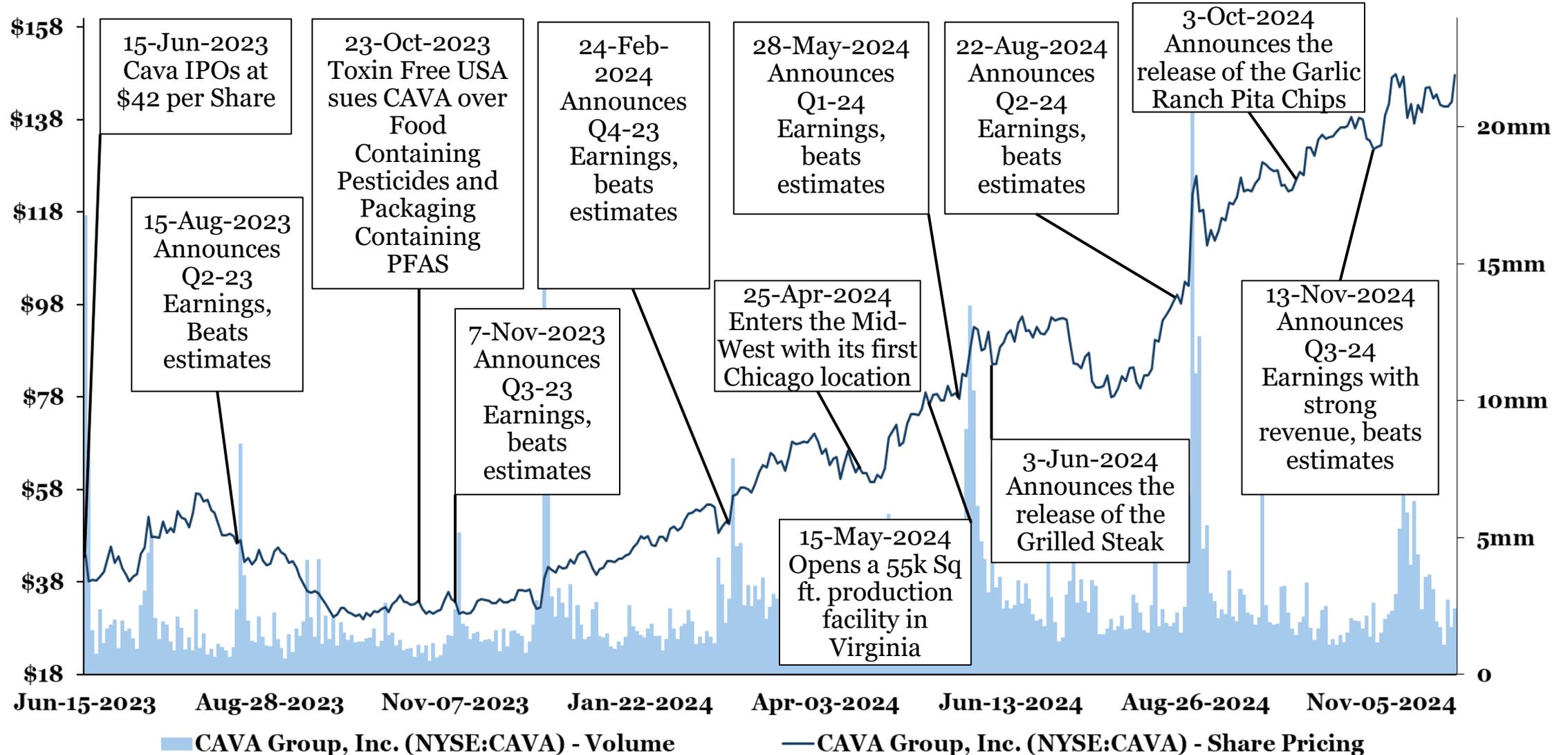
Unattractive Valuation

- At the current market price, Cava is trading at a 2025E P/E multiple of 116.34x, significantly above HFG's public comps average of 53.45x
- At Cava's current market capitalization, each store is worth \$48.1 million, compared to Chipotle, where each store is worth \$24.1 million
- HFG's implied downside of -46.73% emphasizes a significant overvaluation in Cava's stock, presenting a compelling opportunity for investors to open a short position

Stock Performance Since IPO

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

Investors have been rewarding managements recent performance driving the stocks price to \$147.60

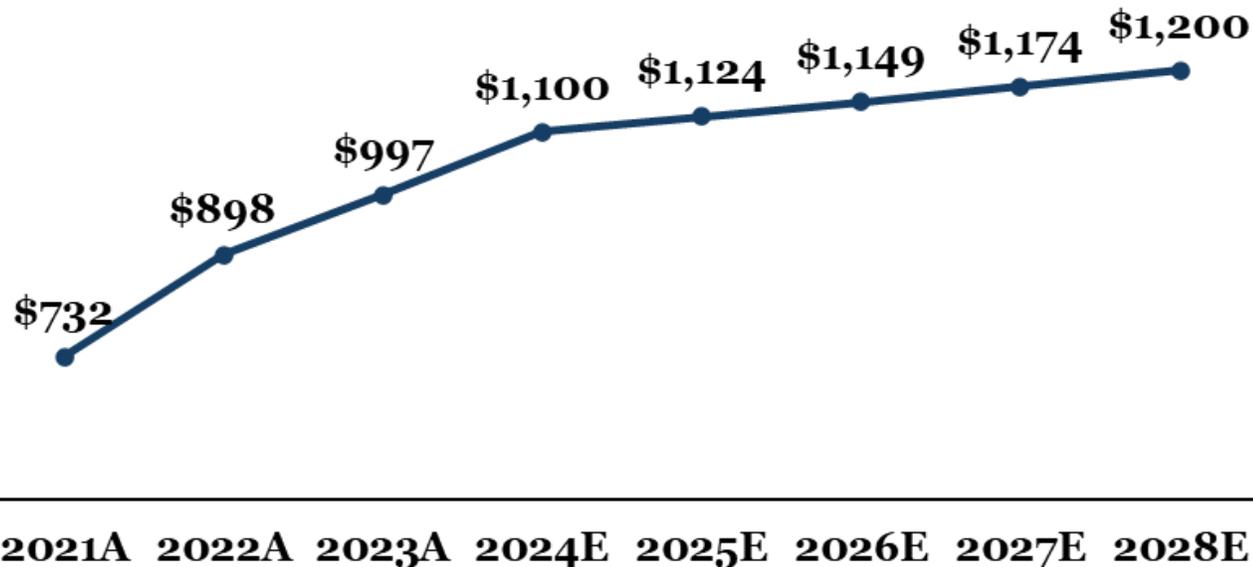


Source: S&P CapIQ 12/4/24

Industry Trends & Competitive Landscape

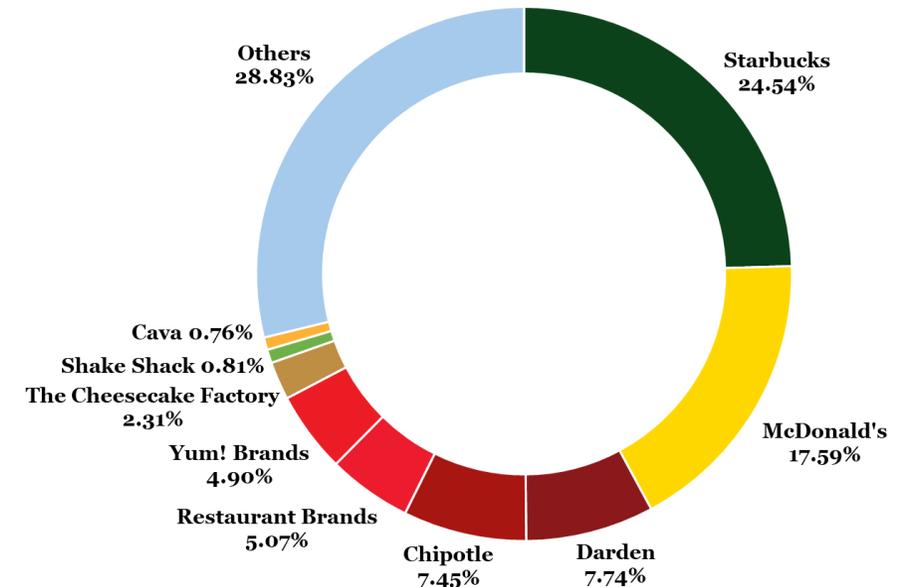
- The total United States Restaurant and Foodservice Industry is expected to reach \$1.1 trillion in annual sales revenue in 2024 and continue to increase at a CAGR of 2.20% until 2030
- The Industry is dominated by mature players, allowing for potential growth and margin capture for new innovative brands
- In addition to being mature, the market boasts strong competition, with Starbucks holding a leading market share of 24.54%
- Workforce and demand for labor in the restaurant industry is forecasted to grow by 200,000 jobs, reaching 15.7 million in total employment by the end of 2024
- Labor and food costs are expected to continue to rise, representing a major concern for companies in the near and long term

Total U.S. Restaurant Sales (\$ in Billions)



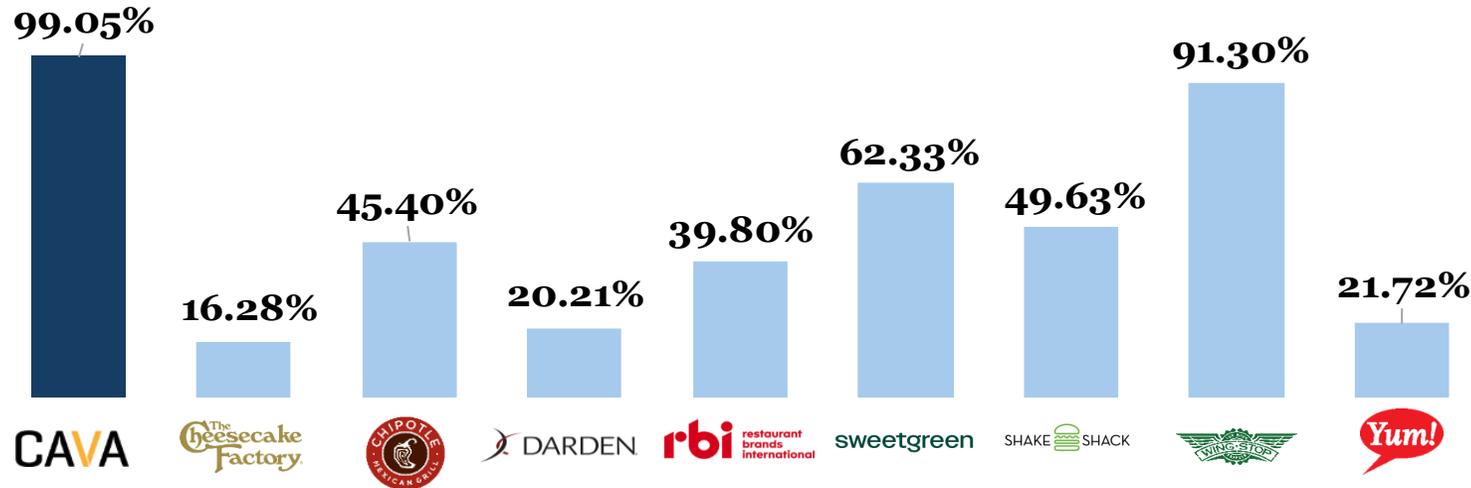
Source: National Restaurant Association

Market Share



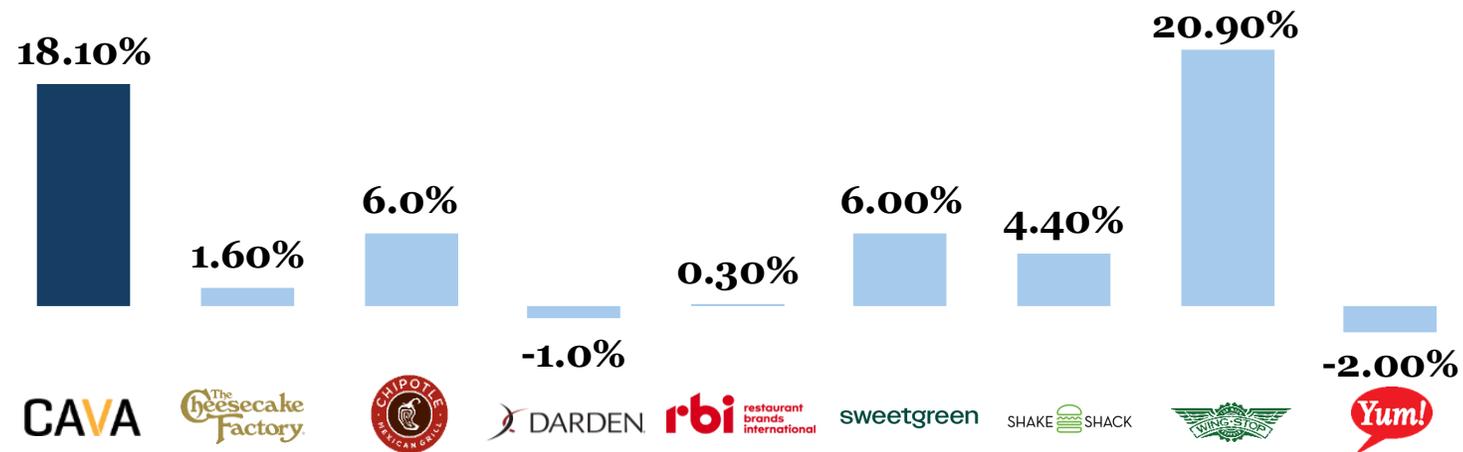
Source: SEC EDGAR most recent 10Q Revenue, S&P CapIQ Total Market Revenue

Revenue Growth 2023-2026



Source: Tegus 12/3/24

Q3 YoY Same Restaurant Sales Growth



Source: SEC EDGAR most recent 10Q Revenue, S&P CapIQ Total Market Revenue

Industry Challenges

Competition

- 45% of companies expect competition to intensify in the coming years
- With interest rates cooling off and margins fluctuating, the market will likely see consolidation and as a result an increase in M&A

Labor Costs

- In 2023, 38% of restaurants weren't profitable due to increased labor and operational costs

Supply Delays

- Supply chain disruptions continue to persist post-pandemic, with global conflicts and natural disasters being a major contribution

Customer Retention

- Competitors are finding new ways to innovate their digital infrastructure with mobile apps and vendor partnerships
- Companies are seeking to gain customer loyalty, finding success with various rewards programs that capture market share

Profitability

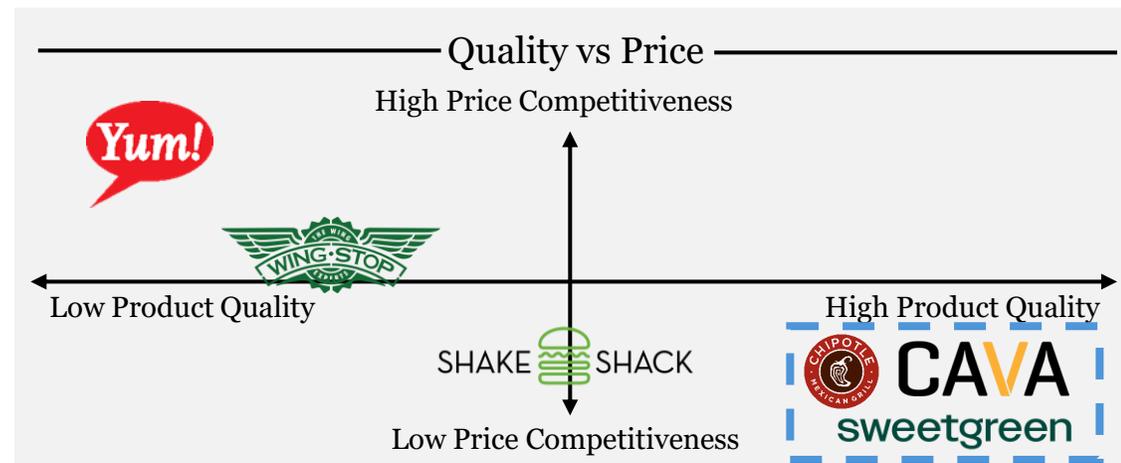
- Margins are likely to experience pressure in the coming years as a result of rising food and labor costs, inability to raise menu prices will affect overall industry profits

Food Safety

- Staff turnover and product contamination remain to be a significant challenge for the industry

Competitive Positioning

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

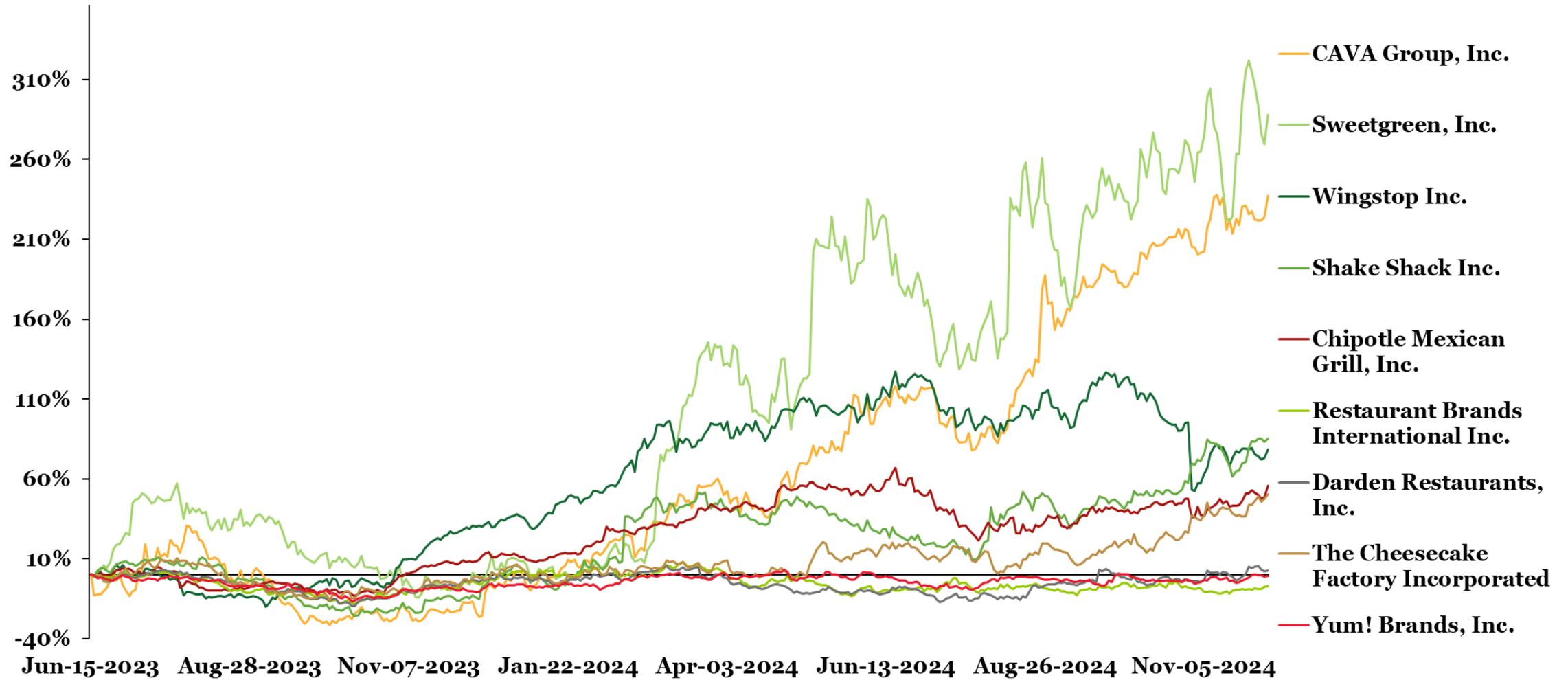


| Company | Ticker | Product Quality | Customer Service | Price Competitiveness | Market Capitalization | EBITDA Margin |
|---|--------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| CAVA | CAVA | High | High | Low | 16,915 | 14.26% |
|  | CMG | High | High | Low | 87,123 | 20.45% |
| sweetgreen | SG | High | High | Low | 4,684 | -0.97% |
| SHAKE  SHACK | SHAK | Moderate | High | Low | 5,341 | 14.22% |
|  | WING | Moderate | Moderate | Moderate | 9,852 | 32.94% |
|  | YUM | Low | Low | High | 38,557 | 35.29% |

Relative Stock Performance

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

Cava has outperformed the broader U.S. restaurant industry increasing 237% since its IPO in 2023



Source: S&P CapIQ 12/4/24

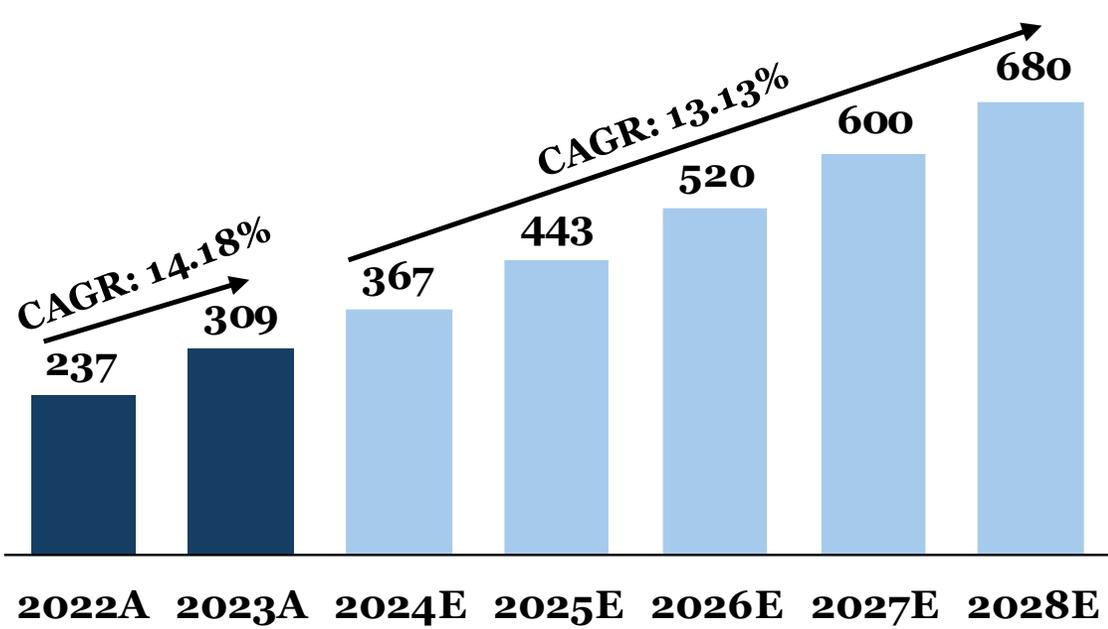
Top 25 Institutional Investors

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| Institution | Refinitiv Style | AUM (\$bn) | Cost Basis & Returns | | Q3 '24 | | Historical Positions (Shares in mm) | | | | |
|---|-----------------|------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | Cost Basis | Unrealized Gain | % OS | Shares (mm) | Q3 '23 | Q4 '23 | Q1 '24 | Q2 '24 | Q3 '24 |
| Artal Group S.A. | Strategic | \$ 2.38 | \$ 37.75 | 74.42% | 15.28% | 17.51 | 32.01 | 32.01 | 26.51 | 23.51 | 17.51 |
| The Vanguard Group, Inc. | Index | 5584.48 | 62.74 | 57.49 | 5.81 | 6.65 | 1.46 | 1.57 | 4.94 | 5.60 | 6.65 |
| Capital Research and Management Company | Active | 2.70 | 15.94 | 89.20 | 5.49 | 6.29 | 4.58 | 7.70 | 8.64 | 8.13 | 6.29 |
| Act 3 Holdings, LLC | Strategic | 1.00 | 37.75 | 74.42 | 5.26 | 6.03 | 11.64 | 11.64 | 10.14 | 7.14 | 6.03 |
| D. E. Shaw & Co., L.P. | Quantitative | 116.49 | 78.81 | 46.60 | 4.49 | 5.15 | 0.00 | 0.09 | 2.26 | 3.48 | 5.15 |
| BlackRock, Inc. | Index | 4763.74 | 73.97 | 49.88 | 3.12 | 3.57 | 0.80 | 0.88 | 1.62 | 2.44 | 3.57 |
| FMR LLC | Active | 1643.41 | 48.41 | 67.20 | 3.04 | 3.48 | 1.14 | 1.69 | 3.34 | 3.45 | 3.48 |
| T. Rowe Price Group, Inc. | Active | 1610.00 | 37.75 | 74.42 | 2.14 | 2.45 | 16.85 | 15.41 | 7.16 | 3.64 | 2.45 |
| Two Sigma Advisers, LP | Quantitative | 67.50 | 79.49 | 46.14 | 1.93 | 2.21 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.52 | 1.89 | 2.21 |
| Two Sigma Investments, LP | Quantitative | 45.63 | 65.74 | 55.46 | 1.72 | 1.97 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 1.21 | 1.99 | 1.97 |
| Marshall Wace LLP | Hedge Fund | 82.10 | 100.14 | 32.15 | 1.70 | 1.94 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.18 | 0.42 | 1.94 |
| Renaissance Technologies LLC | Quantitative | 66.50 | 88.90 | 39.77 | 1.57 | 1.80 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.44 | 0.89 | 1.80 |
| Voloridge Investment Management, LLC | Quantitative | 27.48 | 73.06 | 50.50 | 1.44 | 1.65 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.91 | 1.31 | 1.65 |
| 1832 Asset Management L.P. | Active | 131.44 | 12.44 | 91.57 | 1.34 | 1.53 | 1.25 | 2.25 | 2.18 | 1.85 | 1.53 |
| Qube Research & Technologies Ltd | Quantitative | 67.85 | 98.72 | 33.12 | 1.29 | 1.48 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.53 | 1.48 |
| Lord, Abnett & Co. LLC | Active | 214.00 | 44.37 | 69.94 | 1.19 | 1.36 | 0.77 | 0.88 | 1.37 | 1.34 | 1.36 |
| Morgan Stanley | Broker Dealer | 1600.00 | 54.47 | 63.09 | 1.12 | 1.28 | 0.13 | 0.53 | 1.09 | 1.18 | 1.28 |
| State Street Global Advisors, Inc. | Index | 1515.67 | 73.12 | 50.46 | 1.11 | 1.27 | 0.18 | 0.23 | 0.59 | 0.95 | 1.27 |
| Geode Capital Management, LLC | Index | 1234.95 | 84.92 | 42.46 | 1.07 | 1.22 | 0.21 | 0.22 | 0.38 | 0.55 | 1.22 |
| Federated Hermes, Inc. | Active | 82.48 | 50.84 | 65.56 | 0.96 | 1.10 | 0.45 | 0.57 | 0.97 | 1.06 | 1.10 |
| Schulman, Brett (Co-Founder, CEO, President & Director) | Strategic | N/A | 26.72 | 81.90 | 0.92 | 1.06 | 1.18 | 1.19 | 1.22 | 1.24 | 1.06 |
| Invesco Ltd. | Active | 6023.46 | 64.92 | 56.02 | 0.91 | 1.05 | 0.34 | 0.35 | 0.40 | 1.08 | 1.05 |
| Franklin Resources, Inc. | Active | 2032.69 | 42.08 | 71.49 | 0.81 | 0.93 | 0.58 | 0.71 | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.93 |
| Arrowstreet Capital, Limited Partnership | Quantitative | 117.40 | 102.61 | 30.48 | 0.67 | 0.77 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.06 | 0.10 | 0.77 |
| Driehaus Capital Management LLC | Hedge Fund | 11.65 | 52.70 | 64.29 | 0.63 | 0.72 | 0.29 | 0.45 | 0.48 | 0.73 | 0.72 |
| Total | | | | | 64.99% | 74.47 | 73.85 | 78.38 | 77.55 | 75.43 | 74.47 |
| Median | | | \$62.74 | 55.46% | | | | | | | |

Source: S&P CapIQ 12/4/24

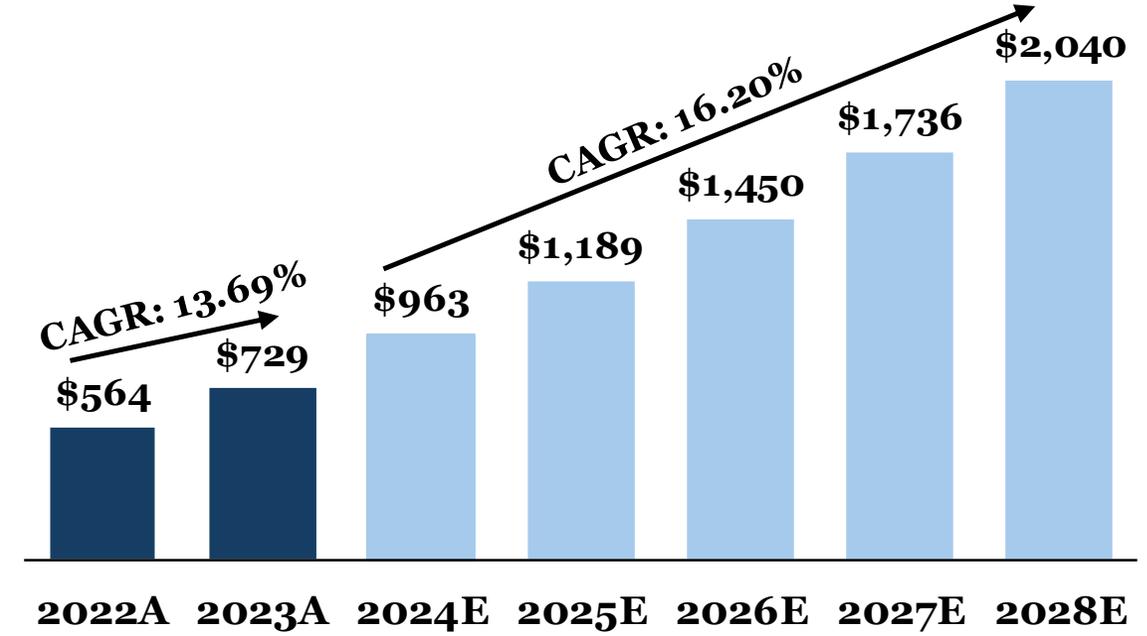
Total Store Locations



Store Growth Expectations

- Management’s goal is to reach 1,000 store locations by 2032, opening ~680 locations by the end of 2028
- In Q3-2024 Cava saw 11 new net store locations, the recent slowdown can be attributed to the final conversions of Zoe's Kitchen locations which allowed Cava to easily and quickly convert 200 new locations after acquisition in 2018
- Finding key geographical locations and acquiring real estate may be challenging for management
- Investors will be focused on new net store openings in 2025

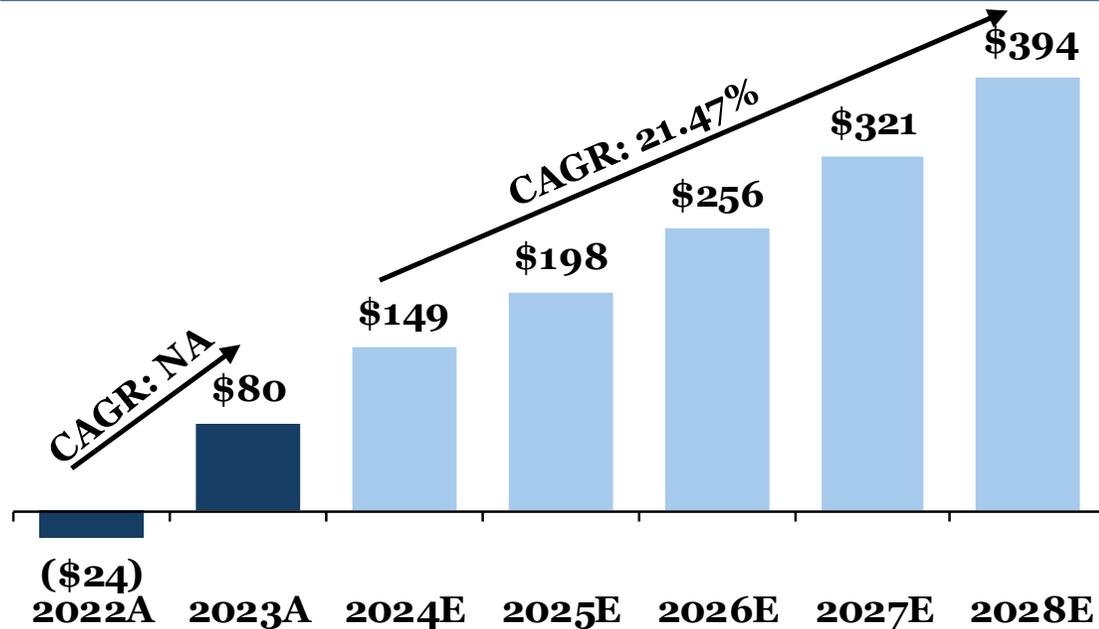
Total Revenue (\$) in Millions



Projected Revenue

- Given management's optimistic store location goal, HFG projects that on the upside Cava will generate revenues of \$2,040m in 2028
- These expectations are primarily driven by management’s continued success in opening new store locations, increasing same store revenues, and increasing its digital business infrastructure
- HFG also believes Cava will continue to grow its brand recognition through their social media marketing efforts and CPG products

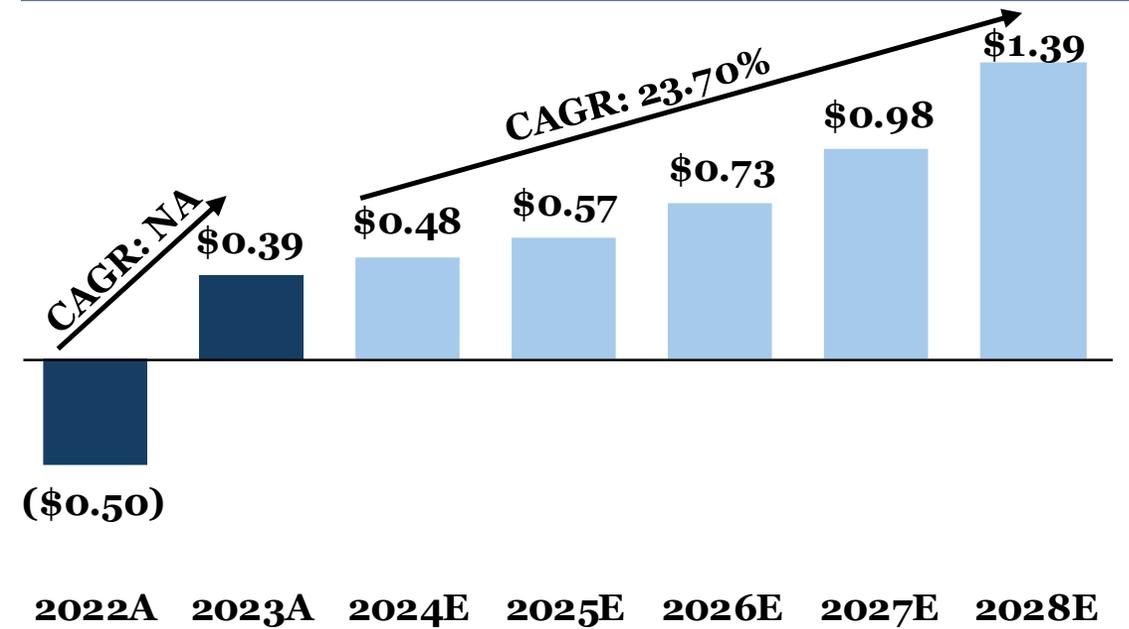
Adjusted EBITDA (\$) in Millions



Projected Adjusted EBITDA

- On the upside HFG projects that Cava will continue its success in growing its store landscape, digital business, and will experience beneficial market conditions leading to 2028 projected Adj. EBITDA of \$394m
- Fixed operating leverage structure allows for margin capture through increases in average unit volume and growth in Cava's digital presence
- Management continues efficient working capital management, operating lease expansion, and access to capital markets allowing them to grow FCF's

Earnings Per Share



Projected Earnings Per Share

- Given management's optimistic projections, HFG believes that EPS will grow at a CAGR of 23.45% through 2028, driven primarily through store expansion and operating efficiencies
- HFG expects management to leverage strategic funding through capital markets, maintaining efficient capital allocation to support sustained earnings growth

Scenario Analysis (HFG - Upside)

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| FYE - Dec-31st | HFG Projections | | | | '23 - '26 CAGR | Wall Street Consensus | | | | '23 - '26 CAGR |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | 2023A | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | | 2023A | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | |
| Revenue | 729 | 963 | 1189 | 1450 | 25.8% | 729 | 959 | 1178 | 1445 | 25.6% |
| % Growth | 29.2% | 32.1% | 23.5% | 22.0% | | 29.2% | 31.6% | 22.8% | 22.7% | |
| Δ bps to Street | | 54 | 62 | (65) | | | | | | |
| Gross Profit | 180 | 240 | 303 | 387 | 28.9% | 180 | 239 | 307 | 387 | 28.9% |
| % Margin | 24.7% | 25.0% | 25.5% | 26.7% | | 24.7% | 25.0% | 26.1% | 26.8% | |
| Δ bps to Street | | 0 | (62) | (10) | | | | | | |
| Adj. EBITDA | 80 | 149 | 198 | 256 | 47.5% | 80 | 124 | 162 | 211 | 38.3% |
| % Margin | 10.9% | 15.5% | 16.7% | 17.6% | | 10.9% | 12.9% | 13.7% | 14.6% | |
| Δ bps to Street | | 253 | 295 | 303 | | | | | | |
| EPS | 0.39 | 0.48 | 0.57 | 0.73 | 23.1% | 0.39 | 0.49 | 0.62 | 0.79 | 26.5% |
| Δ bps to Street | | (194) | (880) | (801) | | | | | | |

Source: Tegus 12/4/24

Scenario Analysis (HFG - Base)

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| FYE - Dec-31st | HFG Projections | | | | '23 - '26 CAGR | Wall Street Consensus | | | | '23 - '26 CAGR |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | 2023A | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | | 2023A | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | |
| Revenue | 729 | 962 | 1152 | 1357 | 23.0% | 729 | 959 | 1178 | 1445 | 25.6% |
| % Growth | 29.2% | 32.1% | 19.8% | 17.8% | | 29.2% | 31.6% | 22.8% | 22.7% | |
| Δ bps to Street | | 45 | (308) | (488) | | | | | | |
| Gross Profit | 180 | 236 | 292 | 358 | 25.7% | 180 | 239 | 307 | 387 | 28.9% |
| % Margin | 24.7% | 24.5% | 25.3% | 26.4% | | 24.7% | 25.0% | 26.1% | 26.8% | |
| Δ bps to Street | | (44) | (74) | (37) | | | | | | |
| Adj. EBITDA | 80 | 145 | 185 | 230 | 42.3% | 80 | 124 | 162 | 211 | 38.3% |
| % Margin | 10.9% | 15.0% | 16.1% | 16.9% | | 10.9% | 12.9% | 13.7% | 14.6% | |
| Δ bps to Street | | 208 | 236 | 231 | | | | | | |
| EPS | 0.39 | 0.46 | 0.53 | 0.65 | 18.7% | 0.39 | 0.49 | 0.62 | 0.79 | 26.5% |
| Δ bps to Street | | (708) | (1382) | (1747) | | | | | | |

Source: Tegus 12/4/24

Scenario Analysis (HFG - Downside)

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| FYE - Dec-31st | HFG Projections | | | | '23 - '26 CAGR | Wall Street Consensus | | | | '23 - '26 CAGR |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | 2023A | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | | 2023A | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | |
| Revenue | 729 | 962 | 1123 | 1285 | 20.8% | 729 | 959 | 1178 | 1445 | 25.6% |
| % Growth | 29.2% | 32.0% | 16.8% | 14.4% | | 29.2% | 31.6% | 22.8% | 22.7% | |
| Δ bps to Street | | 36 | (603) | (824) | | | | | | |
| Gross Profit | 180 | 231 | 279 | 329 | 22.2% | 180 | 239 | 307 | 387 | 28.9% |
| % Margin | 24.7% | 24.0% | 24.9% | 25.6% | | 24.7% | 25.0% | 26.1% | 26.8% | |
| Δ bps to Street | | (93) | (120) | (115) | | | | | | |
| Adj. EBITDA | 80 | 140 | 170 | 201 | 36.2% | 80 | 124 | 162 | 211 | 38.3% |
| % Margin | 10.9% | 14.5% | 15.2% | 15.7% | | 10.9% | 12.9% | 13.7% | 14.6% | |
| Δ bps to Street | | 159 | 141 | 105 | | | | | | |
| EPS | 0.39 | 0.42 | 0.42 | 0.45 | 5.0% | 0.39 | 0.49 | 0.62 | 0.79 | 26.5% |
| Δ bps to Street | | (1518) | (3216) | (4291) | | | | | | |

Source: Tegus 12/4/24

Summary of Financial Analyses

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| | Illustrative Price Per Share | | Comments | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|---|--|
| Financial Analysis | Precedent Transaction Analysis | \$9.56 | Price Target: \$78.62 \$20.85 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9.5x to 21x multiple applied to LTM EBITDA - Low: Jack In The Box / Del Taco (2022) - High: Equicorp Partners / Dunkin Brands (2020) |
| | Discounted Cash Flow | \$11.58 | \$85.99 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13.97x to 50.64x 2028E EBITDA Multiple • 8.68% to 9.03% Weighted Average Cost of Capital |
| | Present Value of Future Share Price | \$7.93 | \$116.15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23.21x to 166.79x P/E Multiple • 8.92% Cost of Equity Applied |
| Market Analysis | Public Comps | \$13.76 | \$283.93 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13.97x - 244.28x multiple applied to 2025E EBITDA - Low: Darden Restaurants - High: SweetGreen |
| | 52 Week High/Low | \$31.47 | \$172.43 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High: \$172.43 (11/13/24) • Low: \$31.47 (12/11/23) |
| | Analysts High/Low | \$110.00 | \$190.00 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High: \$190.00 Wedbush (11/13/24) • Low: \$110.00 JP Morgan (11/13/24) |

Competition

- Cava maintains high product quality and premium pricing, competing directly with industry leaders like Chipotle and Sweetgreen
- The digital landscape intensified competition for customer retention, with companies leveraging mobile apps and loyalty programs
- Securing and retaining a skilled workforce remains a persistent challenge across the industry
- Competition for prime real estate locations adds pressure, particularly as Cava enters new markets

Food Safety & Health Risks

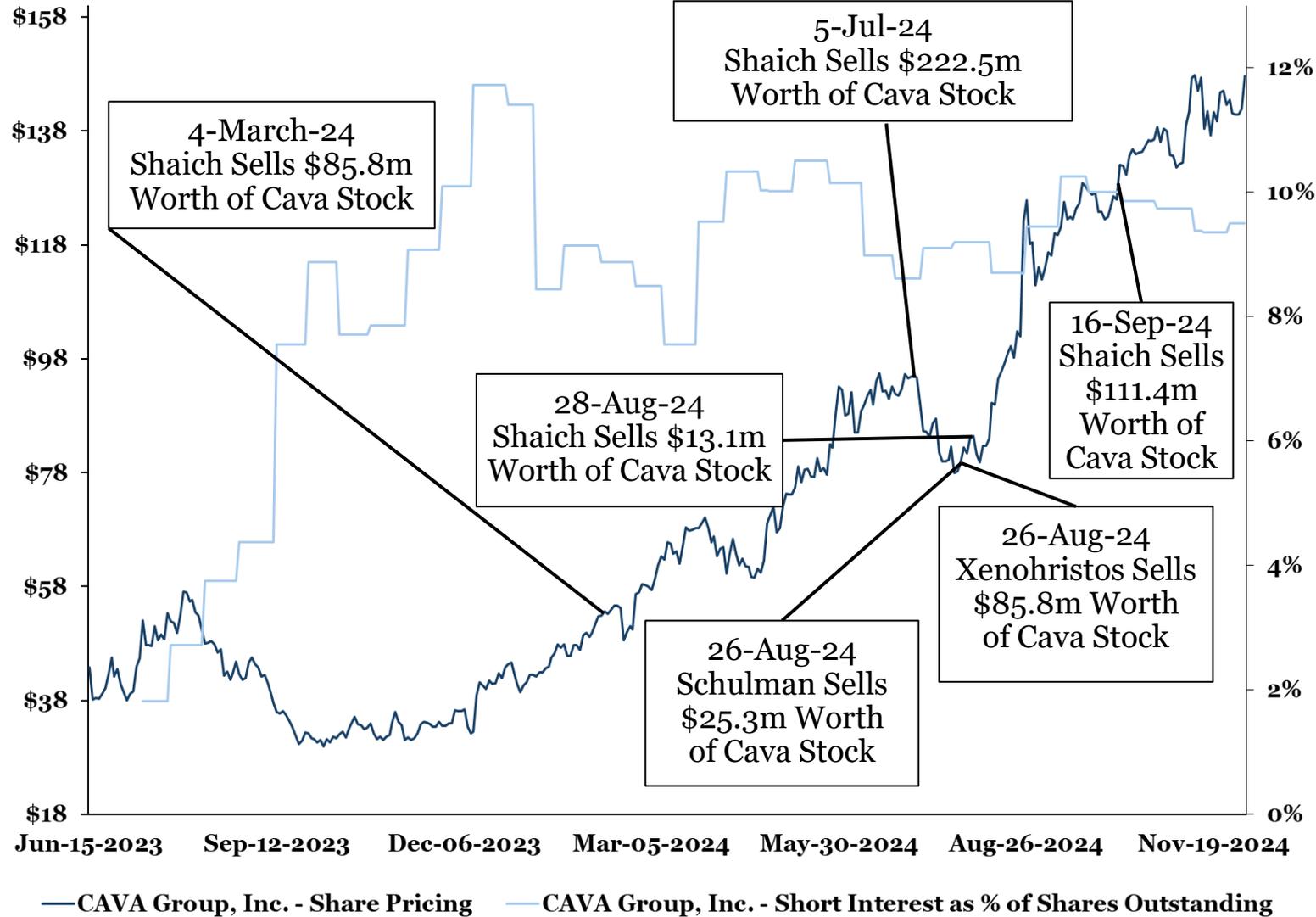
- Recently companies like McDonald's and Chipotle have experienced detrimental food safety challenges resulting in lower sales, reduced market share, and diminished brand equity
 - McDonald's E. coli outbreak: Linked to contaminated onions, the incident caused a 6.5% stock price decrease
 - Chipotle's E. coli outbreak: Tied to contaminated beef, this event led to a 28.4% stock price decrease
- In New York City, 18% of Cava's locations have a grade of "C" for health and food safety with one store closing for not displaying the correct grade
- Workforce turnover and a lack of focus on food safety could severely harm Cava's brand, if the firm faced similar food safety issues, the market would likely react, discounting the stock price

Economic Downturns

- During a recession, Cava may face significant pressures from declining sales revenue and elevated interest rates
- Historically, Cava has benefitted from interest income on its cash and marketable securities: however, these returns could diminish in a downturn
- Persistently low unemployment levels may exacerbate operational challenges, including higher labor costs and workforce retention
- Tightened equity markets and reduced operating margins could lower Cava's intrinsic value

Customer Retention

- Customer spending is largely pulling back due to rising prices, driven by inflation, supply restraints, and increasing food and labor costs
- Competition is intensifying as consumers have more options, including established brands like Chipotle and Sweetgreen, alongside emerging players such as Naya
- The industry has faced challenges retaining customers in 2024, with concerning trends in same-store sales growth
- Notably, October 2024 was the only month where same-store sales growth surpassed the previous years levels
- Cava's same-store sales growth of 18.1% in Q3 signifies optimism for future revenues, investors will be focused on continued growth going forward



Source: S&P CapIQ 12/4/24

Insider Sales

- Since the lockup period ended 12/12/23, insiders have been leveraging the rising stock price and aggressively selling their positions in Cava
- Total insider sales since IPO amount to \$595.6 million, signaling potential concerns about managements confidence in long-term growth

Short Interest

- Hedge Funds and traders are showing skepticism about Cava's valuation, with 9.5% of the total shares outstanding sold short
- While short interest has marginally declined post-Q3 earnings, conviction in short positions remains high, suggesting ongoing concerns about overvaluation
- Elevated short interest indicates that the market perceives limited upside potential for Cava

Appendix. Price Target

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| Cava Price Target | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Valuation Method | % Weight | PT |
| Precedent Transactions Downside | 4% | 0.33 |
| Precedent Transactions Base | 5% | 0.91 |
| Precedent Transactions Upside | 16% | 3.40 |
| Discounted Cash Flow Downside | 4% | 0.41 |
| Discounted Cash Flow Base | 5% | 1.78 |
| Discounted Cash Flow Upside | 16% | 14.04 |
| PV of Future Share Price Downside | 4% | 0.28 |
| PV of Future Share Price Base | 5% | 1.23 |
| PV of Future Share Price Upside | 16% | 18.97 |
| Public Comps Low | 5% | 0.69 |
| Public Comps High | 5% | 14.20 |
| Current Market Price | 5% | 7.38 |
| Analysts Low | 5% | 5.50 |
| Analysts High | 5% | 9.50 |
| Weighted Price Target | 100% | \$78.62 |
| Upside (Downside) | | -(46.73%) |

Comments

- **Methodology Overview:** HFGs PT is derived using a weighted average of the various valuation methods used to account for our different cases. Each method is assigned a weight based on its relevance and probability of occurrence
- **Result:** Given our forecast expectations and assigned weights, HFG believes that Cava is intrinsically worth \$78.62

Appendix. WACC

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| WACC Calculation | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Debt / Cap | 2.23% |
| Equity / Cap | 97.77% |
| Implied Debt / Equity Ratio | 0.02 |
| Risk Free Rate | 4.18% |
| Equity Beta | 1.68 |
| Equity Risk Premium | 7.00% |
| Cost of Equity | 8.92% |
| Illustrative Pre-Tax Cost of Debt | 6.01% |
| After-Tax Cost of Debt | 5.94% |
| WACC | 8.85% |

| WACC Sensitivity Table | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|
| | | Debt / Total Capitalization | | |
| | | 2.00% | 2.23% | 2.50% |
| Equity Beta | 1.74 | 9.03% | 9.01% | 9.01% |
| | 1.68 | 8.86% | 8.85% | 8.84% |
| | 1.62 | 8.69% | 8.68% | 8.68% |

For Reference: Selected Public Companies

| Company | Historical Equity Beta | Total Equity (mm) | Total Debt (mm) | Total Cash (mm) | Net Debt (mm) | Basic Market Cap | Debt-to-Cap | Asset Beta |
|---------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| CAKE | 1.50 | 2612 | 1836 | 56 | 1780 | 2612 | 0.41 | 1.07 |
| CMG | 1.27 | 87123 | 3116 | 561 | 2556 | 87123 | 0.03 | 1.23 |
| DRI | 1.33 | 20118 | 6802 | 195 | 6607 | 20118 | 0.25 | 1.06 |
| QSR | 0.96 | 23019 | 16598 | 1139 | 15459 | 23019 | 0.42 | 0.68 |
| SG | 2.33 | 4684 | 80 | 257 | -177 | 4684 | 0.02 | 2.29 |
| SHAK | 1.87 | 5341 | 526 | 225 | 301 | 5341 | 0.09 | 1.72 |
| WING | 1.76 | 9852 | 694 | 90 | 604 | 9852 | 0.07 | 1.65 |
| YUM | 1.10 | 16912 | 3 | 512 | -509 | 16912 | 0.00 | 1.10 |
| Median | 1.42 | 13382 | 1265 | 241 | 1192 | 13382 | 0.08 | 1.16 |
| Mean | 1.52 | 21208 | 3707 | 379 | 3327 | 21208 | 0.16 | 1.35 |

Source: S&P CapIQ 12/4/24

Appendix. Precedent Transactions

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| Announced Date | Target | Acquirer | Enterprise Value | EV / LTM EBITDA |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Nov-24 | Jersey Mikes | Blackstone | \$8,000 | 18.35x |
| Apr-24 | Subway | Roark Capital Group | \$9,550 | 13.22x |
| Aug-23 | Pollo Operations | Authentic Restaurant Brands | \$255 | 16.90x |
| Mar-22 | Del Taco | Jack in The Box | \$846 | 9.50x |
| Dec-22 | Firehouse Subs | Restaurant Brands International | \$1,020 | 20.30x |
| Dec-20 | Dunkin' Brands | Equicorp Partners | \$12,364 | 21.00x |
| Nov-19 | Papa John's International | MTY Food Group | \$2,757 | 15.90x |
| May-16 | Krispy Kreme Doughnuts Inc. | Cotton Parent, Inc. | \$3,249 | 18.10x |
| Median | | | \$3,003 | 17.50x |
| Mean | | | \$4,755 | 16.66x |
| For Reference | Zoes Kitchen | Cava Group Inc. | 300 | 53.73x |

Source: S&P CapIQ 12/4/24

Appendix. DCF Upside

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| DCF - EBITDA Multiple | 2022A | 2023A | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
|--|----------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Revenue | 564,119 | 728,700 | 962,915 | 1,188,757 | 1,450,451 | 1,735,822 | 2,039,559 |
| % Growth | | 29.2% | 32.1% | 23.5% | 22.0% | 19.7% | 17.5% |
| EBIT | (58,941) | 22,900 | 78,124 | 105,731 | 142,587 | 185,675 | 234,925 |
| % of Revenue | | | 8.1% | 8.9% | 9.8% | 10.7% | 11.5% |
| Taxes | 93 | 768 | 703 | 1,156 | 1,561 | 2,035 | 2,577 |
| % Effective Tax Rate | 0.2% | 3.5% | 0.7% | 1.0% | 1.1% | 1.1% | 1.1% |
| EBIAT | | | 77,420 | 104,574 | 141,026 | 183,640 | 232,348 |
| D&A | | | 59,142 | 69,991 | 85,399 | 102,201 | 120,085 |
| % of Revenue | | | 6.1% | 5.9% | 5.9% | 5.9% | 5.9% |
| CapEx | | | 41,917 | 47,965 | 58,524 | 70,038 | 82,293 |
| % of Revenue | | | 4.4% | 4.0% | 4.0% | 4.0% | 4.0% |
| Δ in NWC | | | (20,061) | (20,196) | (22,993) | (28,232) | (29,791) |
| % of Revenue | | | -2.1% | -1.7% | -1.6% | -1.6% | -1.5% |
| Unlevered FCF | | | 114,707 | 146,797 | 190,895 | 244,035 | 299,930 |
| Present Value of FCF | | | 105,547 | 124,289 | 148,720 | 174,939 | 197,839 |
| Terminal Value | | | | | | | 17,978,250 |
| Present Value of Terminal Value | | | | | | | 11,858,774 |
| Equity Value | | | | | | | 12,610,110 |
| (-) Net Debt | | | | | | | (173,519) |
| Enterprise Value | | | | | | | 12,783,629 |
| Shares Outstanding | | | | | | | 148,666 |
| Implied Share Price | | | | | | | \$85.99 |

Appendix. DCF Base

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| DCF - EBITDA Multiple | 2022A | 2023A | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
|--|----------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Revenue | 564,119 | 728,700 | 962,279 | 1,152,420 | 1,357,420 | 1,571,949 | 1,796,357 |
| % Growth | | 29.2% | 32.1% | 19.8% | 17.8% | 15.8% | 14.3% |
| EBIT | (58,941) | 22,900 | 73,762 | 95,532 | 123,569 | 152,315 | 183,645 |
| % of Revenue | | | 7.7% | 8.3% | 9.1% | 9.7% | 10.2% |
| Taxes | 93 | 768 | 655 | 1,043 | 1,351 | 1,667 | 2,011 |
| % Effective Tax Rate | 0.2% | 3.5% | 0.7% | 1.0% | 1.1% | 1.1% | 1.1% |
| EBIAT | | | 73,107 | 94,489 | 122,218 | 150,649 | 181,634 |
| D&A | | | 59,105 | 67,852 | 79,922 | 92,553 | 105,766 |
| % of Revenue | | | 6.1% | 5.9% | 5.9% | 5.9% | 5.9% |
| CapEx | | | 41,891 | 46,499 | 54,770 | 63,426 | 72,481 |
| % of Revenue | | | 4.4% | 4.0% | 4.0% | 4.0% | 4.0% |
| Δ in NWC | | | (16,916) | (17,234) | (17,191) | (20,897) | (22,430) |
| % of Revenue | | | -1.8% | -1.5% | -1.3% | -1.3% | -1.2% |
| Unlevered FCF | | | 107,236 | 133,076 | 164,561 | 200,672 | 237,349 |
| Present Value of FCF | | | 98,516 | 112,312 | 127,589 | 142,935 | 155,310 |
| Terminal Value | | | | | | | 7,717,483 |
| Present Value of Terminal Value | | | | | | | 5,049,960 |
| Equity Value | | | | | | | 5,686,621 |
| (-) Net Debt | | | | | | | (98,209) |
| Enterprise Value | | | | | | | 5,784,830 |
| Shares Outstanding | | | | | | | 168,381 |
| Implied Share Price | | | | | | | \$34.36 |

Appendix. DCF Downside

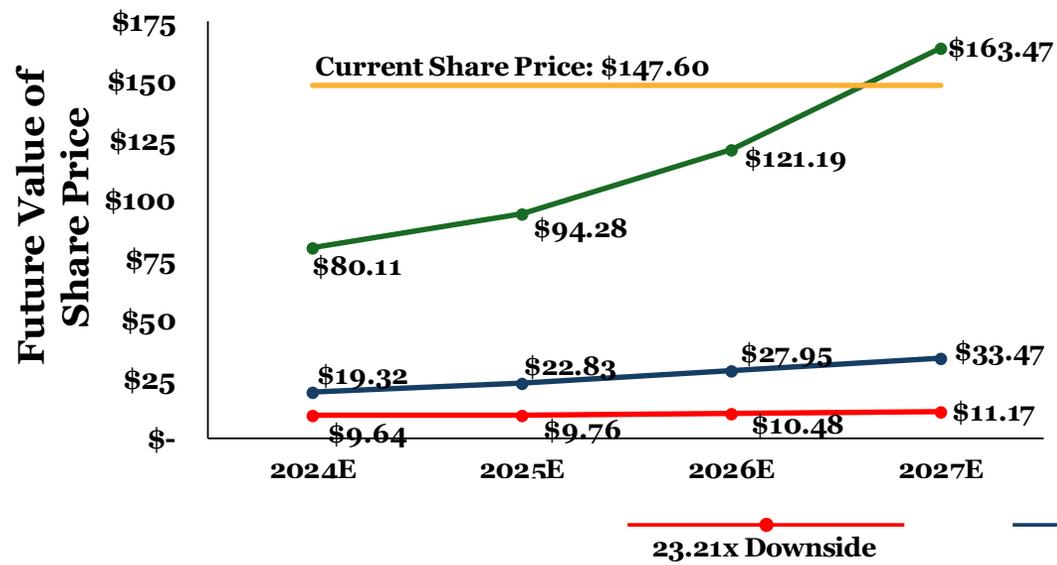
Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| DCF - EBITDA Multiple | 2022A | 2023A | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | 2027E | 2028E |
|--|----------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Revenue | 564,119 | 728,700 | 961,642 | 1,123,273 | 1,285,318 | 1,453,396 | 1,627,682 |
| % Growth | | 29.2% | 32.0% | 16.8% | 14.4% | 13.1% | 12.0% |
| EBIT | (58,941) | 22,900 | 69,000 | 82,439 | 100,724 | 119,257 | 139,273 |
| % of Revenue | | | 7.2% | 7.3% | 7.8% | 8.2% | 8.6% |
| Taxes | 93 | 768 | 602 | 898 | 1,098 | 1,301 | 1,520 |
| % Effective Tax Rate | 0.2% | 3.5% | 0.7% | 1.0% | 1.0% | 1.1% | 1.1% |
| EBIAT | | | 68,398 | 81,541 | 99,626 | 117,956 | 137,753 |
| D&A | | | 59,067 | 66,136 | 75,677 | 85,573 | 95,834 |
| % of Revenue | | | 6.1% | 5.9% | 5.9% | 5.9% | 5.9% |
| CapEx | | | 41,866 | 45,323 | 51,861 | 58,643 | 65,675 |
| % of Revenue | | | 4.4% | 4.0% | 4.0% | 4.0% | 4.0% |
| Δ in NWC | | | (14,970) | (15,689) | (13,185) | (16,902) | (17,114) |
| % of Revenue | | | -1.6% | -1.4% | -1.0% | -1.2% | -1.1% |
| Unlevered FCF | | | 100,569 | 118,044 | 136,626 | 161,788 | 185,027 |
| Present Value of FCF | | | 92,243 | 99,307 | 105,425 | 114,505 | 120,111 |
| Terminal Value | | | | | | | 3,285,096 |
| Present Value of Terminal Value | | | | | | | 2,132,528 |
| Equity Value | | | | | | | 2,664,118 |
| (-) Net Debt | | | | | | | (33,643) |
| Enterprise Value | | | | | | | 2,697,761 |
| Shares Outstanding | | | | | | | 232,935 |
| Implied Share Price | | | | | | | \$11.58 |

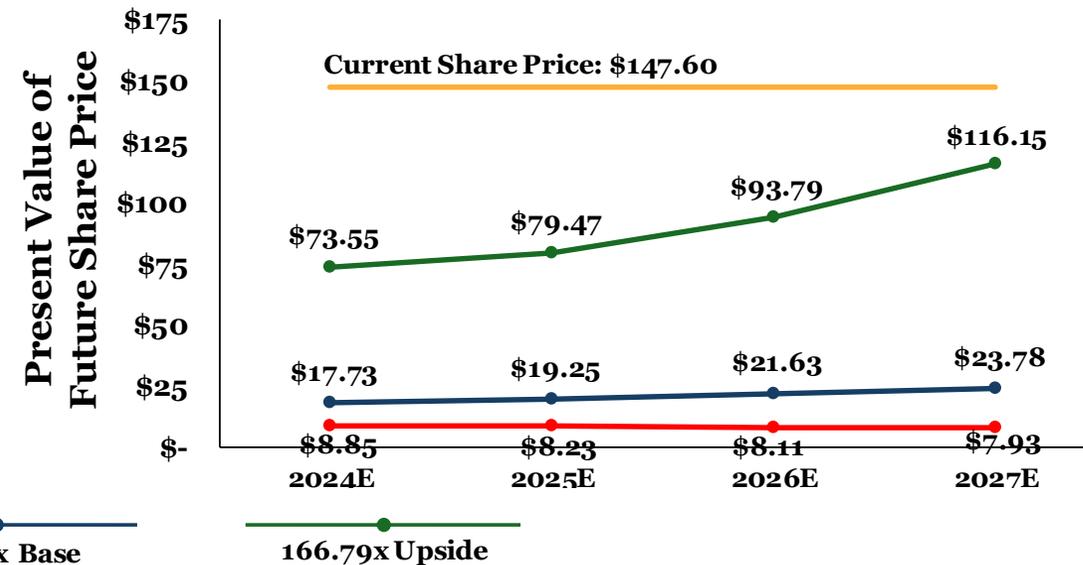
Appendix. PV of Future Share Price

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

Estimated Future Value of Share Price



Estimated Present Value of Future Share Price



| (\$ in millions except per share) | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | 2027E |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Shares Outstanding (mm) | | | | |
| 23.21x Downside P/E | 123.4 | 151.1 | 178.6 | 205.9 |
| 42.40x Base P/E | 123.0 | 142.4 | 156.6 | 165.4 |
| 166.79x Upside P/E | 125.4 | 151.5 | 164.9 | 164.4 |
| EPS | | | | |
| 24.06x Downside P/E | \$ 0.42 | \$ 0.42 | \$ 0.45 | \$ 0.48 |
| 42.62x Base P/E | \$ 0.46 | \$ 0.54 | \$ 0.66 | \$ 0.79 |
| 166.79x Upside P/E | \$ 0.48 | \$ 0.57 | \$ 0.73 | \$ 0.98 |

| Implied Future Share Price | 2024E | 2025E | 2026E | 2027E |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 24.06x Downside P/E | \$ 9.64 | \$ 9.76 | \$ 10.48 | \$ 11.17 |
| 42.62x Base P/E | \$ 19.32 | \$ 22.83 | \$ 27.95 | \$ 33.47 |
| 166.79x Upside P/E | \$ 80.11 | \$ 94.28 | \$ 121.19 | \$ 163.47 |

Cost of Equity: 8.92%

Appendix. Selected Trading Comps

Cava Group Inc (NYSE: CAVA)

| Company | Closing Price | 52-Week High | Market Cap | Enterprise Value | Equity Beta | Enterprise Value Multiples | | | | P / E Multiples | | Revenue | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| | | | | | | 2024E Revenue | 2025E Revenue | 2024E EBITDA | 2025E EBITDA | 2024E EPS | 2025E EPS | 2024E EBITDA | 2025E EBITDA | 2024E Net Income | 2025E Net Income |
| CAVA | \$147.60 | \$172.43 | \$16,915 | \$17,286 | 1.68 | 17.98x | 15.39x | 134.98x | 116.34x | 670.33x | 541.22x | 13.32% | 13.23% | 5.33% | 5.66% |
| CAKE | \$51.17 | \$51.23 | \$2,612 | \$4,448 | 1.50 | 1.20x | 1.24x | 14.59x | 15.61x | 14.33x | 15.46x | 8.23% | 7.69% | 3.45% | 4.52% |
| CMG | \$63.89 | \$69.26 | \$87,123 | \$90,239 | 1.27 | 7.26x | 7.26x | 35.48x | 35.48x | 51.11x | 57.04x | 20.45% | 20.05% | 9.84% | 13.54% |
| DRI | \$171.22 | \$177.67 | \$20,118 | \$26,920 | 1.33 | 2.23x | 2.27x | 13.71x | 13.97x | 17.72x | 18.10x | 16.29% | 16.23% | 8.86% | 9.45% |
| QSR | \$71.11 | \$83.29 | \$23,019 | \$39,617 | 0.96 | 5.66x | 4.70x | 15.35x | 14.28x | 21.95x | 21.29x | 36.88% | 32.87% | 15.96% | 17.83% |
| SG | \$40.49 | \$45.12 | \$4,684 | \$4,763 | 2.33 | 8.17x | 7.02x | -840.11x | 244.28x | -39.70x | -56.24x | -0.97% | 2.87% | -7.83% | -9.40% |
| SHAK | \$133.43 | \$135.76 | \$5,341 | \$5,866 | 1.87 | 4.29x | 4.69x | 30.14x | 34.57x | 132.11x | 166.79x | 14.22% | 13.58% | 1.14% | 2.82% |
| WING | \$337.25 | \$433.86 | \$9,852 | \$10,546 | 1.76 | 14.69x | 16.77x | 44.60x | 50.64x | 78.07x | 91.64x | 32.94% | 33.12% | 10.02% | 17.21% |
| YUM | \$138.16 | \$143.20 | \$38,557 | \$50,070 | 1.10 | 7.01x | 6.63x | 19.86x | 18.76x | 26.02x | 25.12x | 35.29% | 35.31% | 18.86% | 20.71% |
| High | \$337.25 | \$433.86 | \$87,123 | \$90,239 | 2.33 | 14.69x | 16.77x | 44.60x | 244.28x | 132.11x | 166.79x | 36.88% | 35.31% | 18.86% | 20.71% |
| Mean | 125.84 | 142.42 | 23913 | 29059 | 1.52 | 6.31 | 6.32 | -83.30 | 53.45 | 37.70 | 42.40 | 20.42% | 20.22% | 7.54% | 9.58% |
| Median | 102.27 | 109.53 | 14985 | 18733 | 1.42 | 6.34 | 5.66 | 17.60 | 26.67 | 23.98 | 23.21 | 18.37% | 18.14% | 9.35% | 11.50% |
| Low | 40.49 | 45.12 | 2612 | 4448 | 0.96 | 1.20 | 1.24 | -840.11 | 13.97 | -39.70 | -56.24 | -0.97% | 2.87% | -7.83% | -9.40% |

Source: S&P CapIQ 12/4/24