



Dudack Research Group

A Division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC Member NYSE, FINRA & SIPC

Gail M. Dudack, CMT • Chief Investment Strategist • [gail@dudackresearchgroup.com](mailto:gail@dudackresearchgroup.com) • 212-320-2045

January 18, 2023

DJIA: 33910.85

SPX: 3990.97

NASDAQ: 11095.11

# US Strategy Weekly

## Oil, the Dollar, Gold, and Treasury Bonds

Equities have demonstrated some impressive price momentum in recent weeks, and this inspired us to look at a range of markets to see what might either support or counter this advance. Unfortunately, what we found triggered more questions than answers.

### OIL, THE DOLLAR, GOLD, AND TREASURY BONDS

We began by looking at the WTI crude oil future (CLc1 - \$80.71) which peaked on June 8, 2022 at a price of \$122.11. Much of the weakness in oil was attributed to the shutdowns being implemented in China due to a string of outbreaks of a Covid variant. This was logical since China's actions implied factory shutdowns, less global economic activity, and less demand for oil. Plus, it was not only China that was a concern since there were growing fears of recessions in Europe and the US.

On September 27, 2022 the dollar (.DXY - \$102.39) peaked at a price of \$114.11. This was counter to the fact that the Fed was in tightening mode, but it was logical because most energy trades are done in dollars and a weakening global economy, and a lower price of oil would reduce global demand for dollars. However, we found it intriguing that the gold future (GCc1 - \$1907.20) troughed on the very same day, September 27, 2022, at a price of \$1626.70. This has different implications for the dollar. Gold, which had historically traded in line with inflation, was not an outperformer like most commodities and in fact, it continues to trade below its August 6, 2020 peak of \$2051.50. The corresponding high in the dollar and the low in gold implies a possible switch by global investors from the dollar to gold as a safe-haven global currency. This suggests a lack of faith in the US dollar. But in fact, the underlying strength in gold and weakness in the dollar may be directly tied to China. Beijing rarely telegraphs its purchases of gold, yet it recently announced it had purchased 32 tons of gold in November and 30 tons in December. China's stockpiling of gold resembles that of Russia before its invasion of Ukraine. Before invading Ukraine, Russia de-dollarized its economy and stockpiled gold and Chinese yuan. Some geopolitical analysts theorize that China may be building its gold coffers in preparation for an attack on Taiwan. Should this theory become reality, it would be a major negative for global stability and equities, in our view.

Lastly, and on October 21, 2022, the 10-year Treasury yield index (.TNX - \$35.35) peaked at \$42.13 or the equivalent of a 4.2% yield in the 10-year bond. It has been declining ever since. A decline in long-duration Treasury bonds yields can have many explanations, but when investors are fearful of an economic slowdown, demand for Treasuries typically increases and yields fall. Global investors will shift to US Treasuries as a safe-haven investment in times of economic weakness or geopolitical uncertainty. This could explain the decline in long-term interest rates.

In sum, the weakness in oil, the dollar and long-term interest rates could make sense in times of impending economic weakness. The rise in gold and fall in the dollar could have ominous implications for Taiwan and geopolitics. In general, this threat could trigger an even greater shift toward gold for

stability. Nevertheless, none of this explains or supports the advance in US equities from the October 12, 2022 S&P 500 low of 3577.03.

#### STILL JUMPING THE GUN

Headline CPI fell from 7.1% YOY to 6.5% YOY in December, which led to a rally in the equity market. However, this decline in inflation was concentrated in energy, the energy-derivative category, transportation, and apparel. All items less food and energy had a smaller decline from 6% to 5.7% YOY as prices continued to rise at a faster pace in housing, owners' equivalent rent and services. See page 3. There were items to celebrate in the inflation report. Areas of the economy like new and used cars, transportation (public and private), lodging away from home and household furnishings and operations are experiencing major decelerations in price gains. On the other hand, food at home and all areas of the service sector continue to show stubbornly strong price rises. See page 4.

We remain concerned. Whenever inflation has exceeded a standard deviation above the norm (3.4%), a recession, or string of recessions, has ensued. We do not believe this time will be different. Plus, the Fed has indicated that its goal is to beat inflation and return to a real fed funds rate. Today the real fed funds rate is negative 210 basis points to CPI and negative 170 basis points to November's PCE index. In short, all signals point to more Fed hikes in 2023. See page 5.

#### CONSUMER SENTIMENT IMPROVES

Consumer sentiment has improved in recent months as seen by the headline Conference Board Consumer Confidence index rising nearly 7 points to 108.3. The University of Michigan released preliminary results for January which showed an increase from 59.7 to 64.6 in the overall survey, a jump from 59.4 to 68.6 in the present situations and an increase from 59.9 to 62.0 in the expectations survey. Both surveys are clearly improving and rebounding from recent recession levels. See page 6.

But we remain concerned about the consumer. The savings rate was 2.4% in November and has been below 3% for five of the last six months. Readings below 3% were last seen in April 2008 (2.9%), November 2007 (2.8%), and seven of nine consecutive months between February 2005 and October 2005. The record low savings rate of 2.1% was recorded in July 2005. Another indication that consumers are stretched is the rise in credit. As of November, total consumer credit grew 8% YOY, but since August 2022 revolving credit has been steadily expanding at a pace of 15% YOY or more. This is worrisome; however, one consolation is that revolving credit remains below levels seen prior to the 2008 recession. Nevertheless, real consumer credit is just modestly below its 2020 peak and is a sign that consumers are financially strained. See page 7.

#### TECHNICALS ARE LOOKING UP

The current rally has broadened to include most of the popular indices which are now trading above their 200-day moving averages. The one exception is the Nasdaq Composite. However, January's advance is reminiscent of the August 2022 rally which also resulted in tests or breaks of the 200-day moving averages but became a failed rally. Nonetheless, the current rally could have staying power and it is significant that this rally is materializing in January, a month that can be predictive of the year's performance. See page 9.

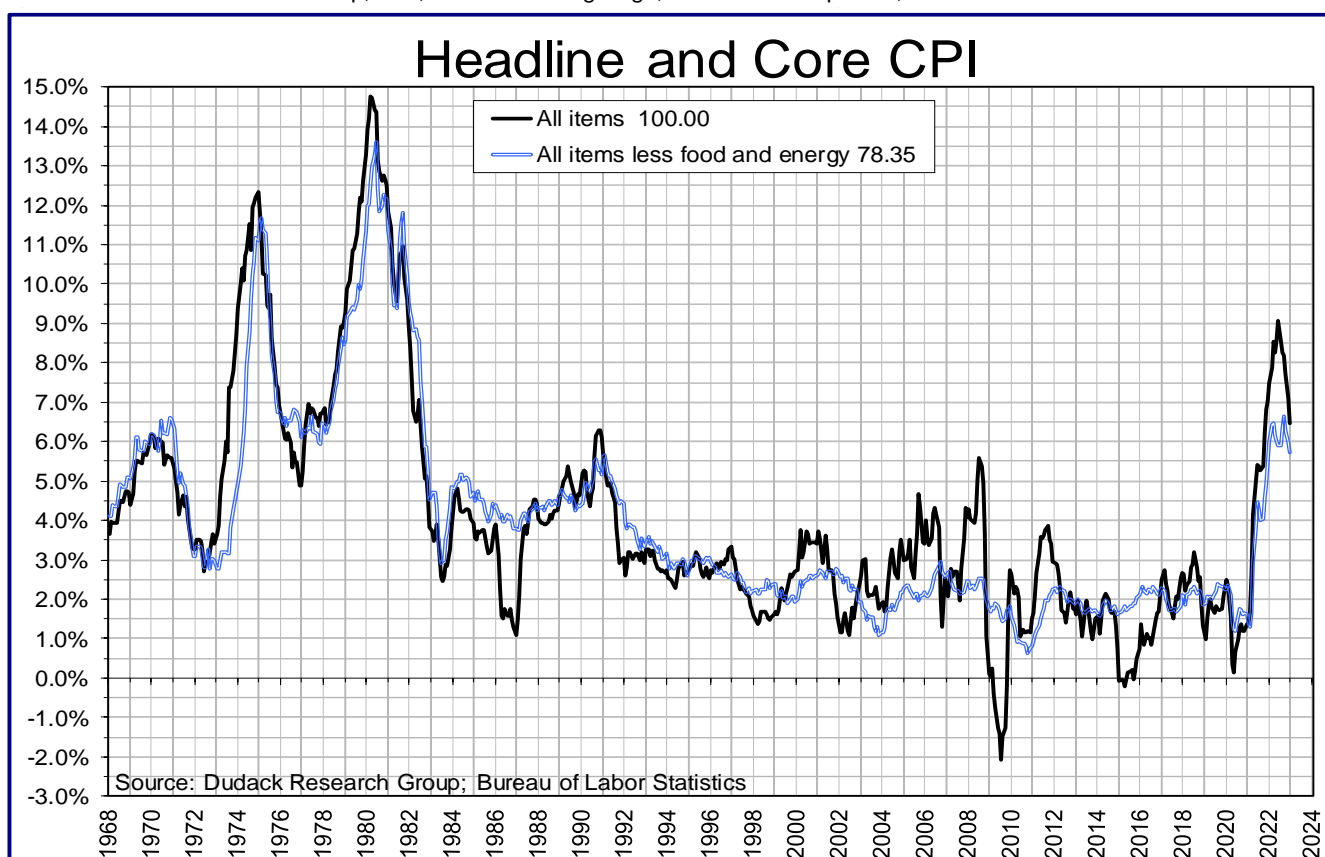
The 25-day up/down volume oscillator is currently neutral with a reading of 2.44 but is close to recording an overbought reading. An overbought reading that persists for at least five to ten consecutive trading sessions would be significant and a sign of a positive shift in the cycle. See page 10.

Also interesting is that the 10-day average of daily new highs is 103 and new lows are 39. This combination is now positive since new highs are above the 100 benchmark and new lows are below 100. New highs have not consistently outnumbered new lows since April 2022. The advance/decline line is currently 33,545 net advancing issues from its 11/8/21 high – still negative yet a big improvement in the last two weeks. See page 11. We remain cautious but are carefully monitoring technical indicators, particularly the 25-day volume oscillator, for potential good news.

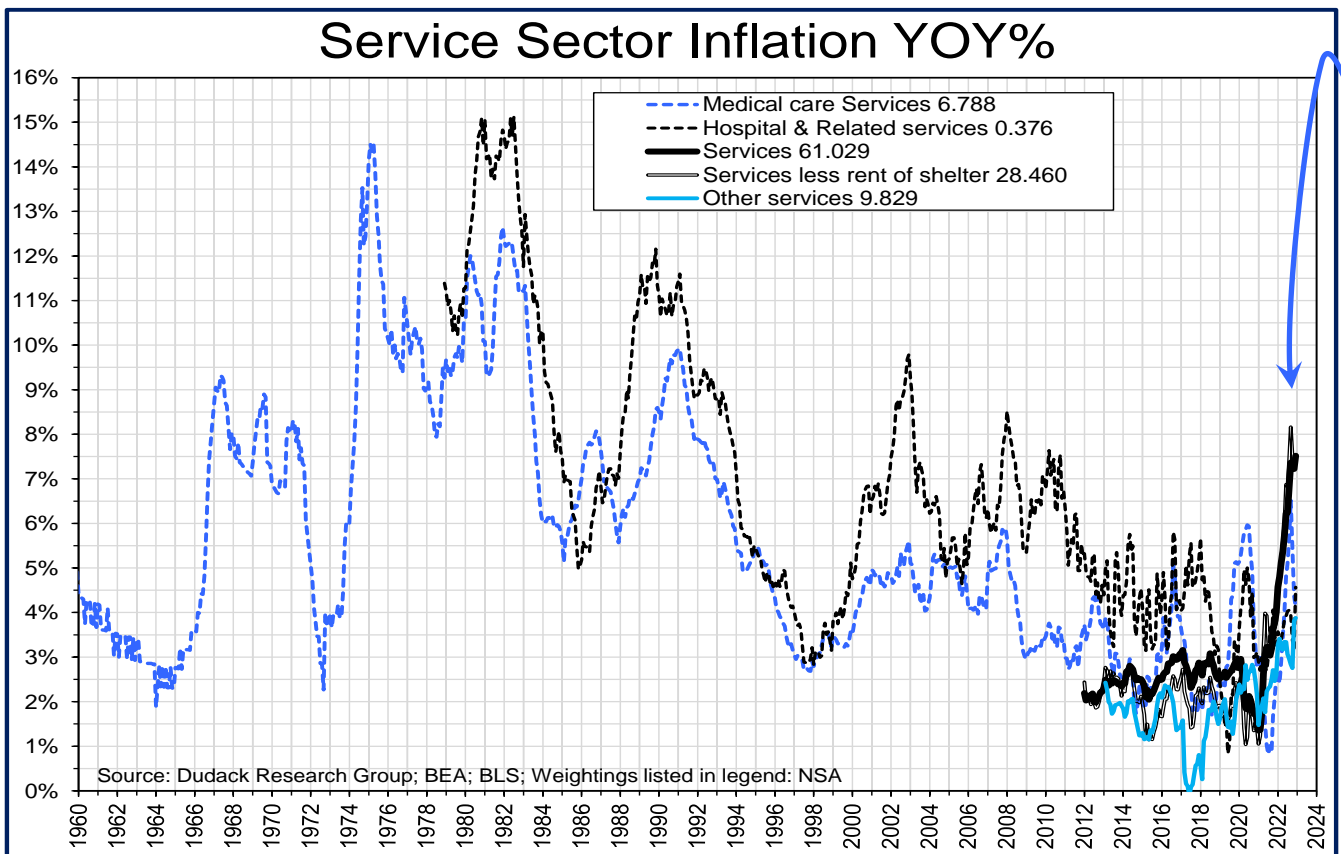
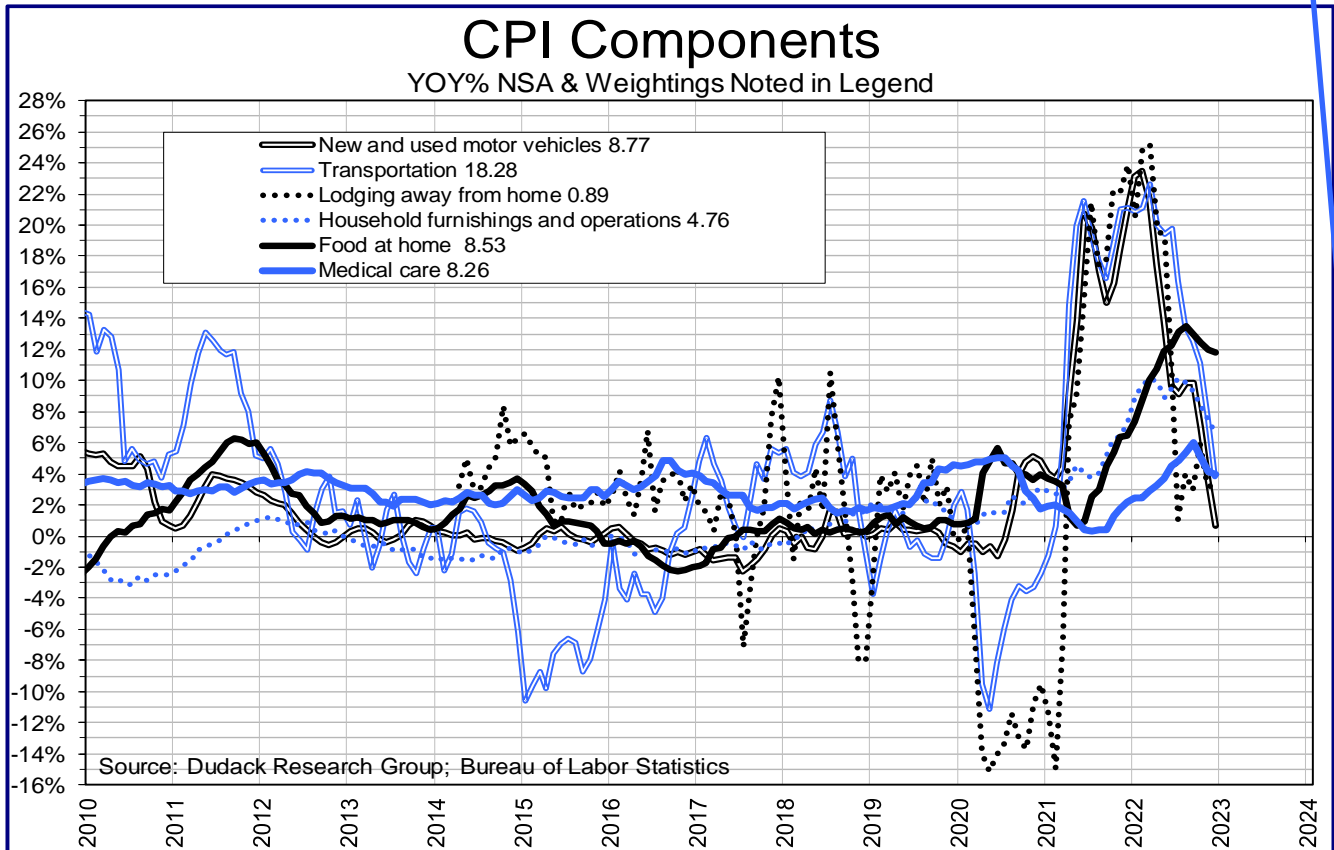
Headline CPI fell from 7.1% YOY to 6.5% YOY in December, which led to a rally in the equity market. However, this decline in inflation was concentrated in energy, the energy-derivative category, transportation, and apparel. All items less food and energy had a smaller decline from 6% to 5.7% YOY. Prices continue to increase at a faster pace in housing, owners' equivalent rent and services.

CPI Components Heavy Weights - Not Seasonally Adjusted Data	Component Weight*	Fuel Weight	Price Chg YOY%	Price Chg MOM%
<b>Housing</b>	<b>42.6%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
<i>Owners' equivalent rent of residences</i>	<b>24.2%</b>		7.5%	0.8%
<b>Fuels and utilities</b>	<b>4.9%</b>		<b>13.5%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>18.3%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>-3.3%</b>
<b>Food and beverages</b>	<b>14.7%</b>		<b>10.1%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
<i>Food at home</i>	<b>8.5%</b>		11.8%	0.3%
<i>Food away from home</i>	<b>5.3%</b>		8.3%	0.4%
<i>Alcoholic beverages</i>	<b>0.9%</b>		5.8%	0.4%
<b>Medical care</b>	<b>8.3%</b>		<b>4.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Education and communication</b>	<b>6.0%</b>		<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Recreation</b>	<b>5.0%</b>		<b>5.1%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>Apparel</b>	<b>2.4%</b>		<b>2.9%</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>
<b>Other goods and services</b>	<b>2.7%</b>		<b>6.4%</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>
Special groups:				
Energy	7.9%		7.3%	-6.1%
All items less food and energy	78.4%		5.7%	0.2%
<b>All items</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>6.45%</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>

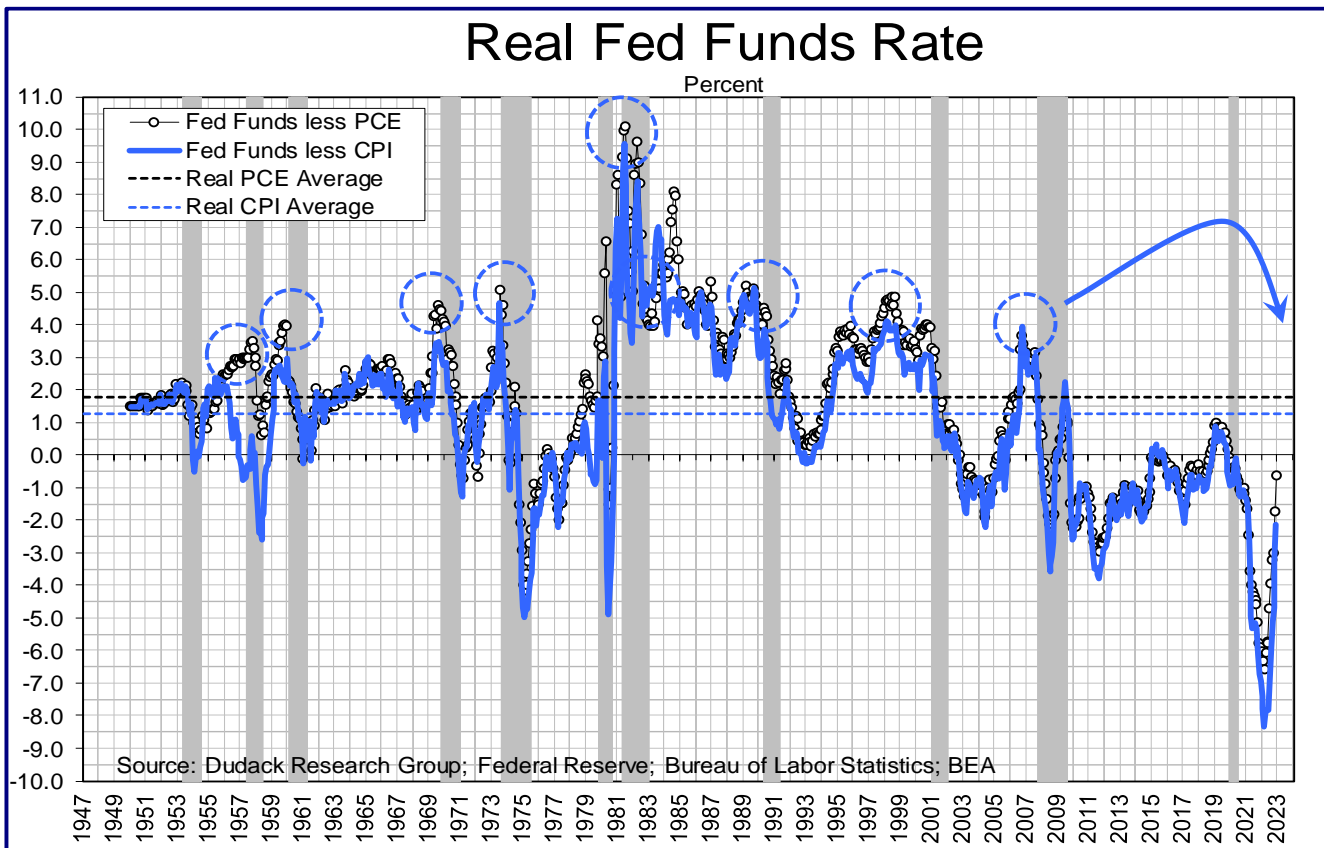
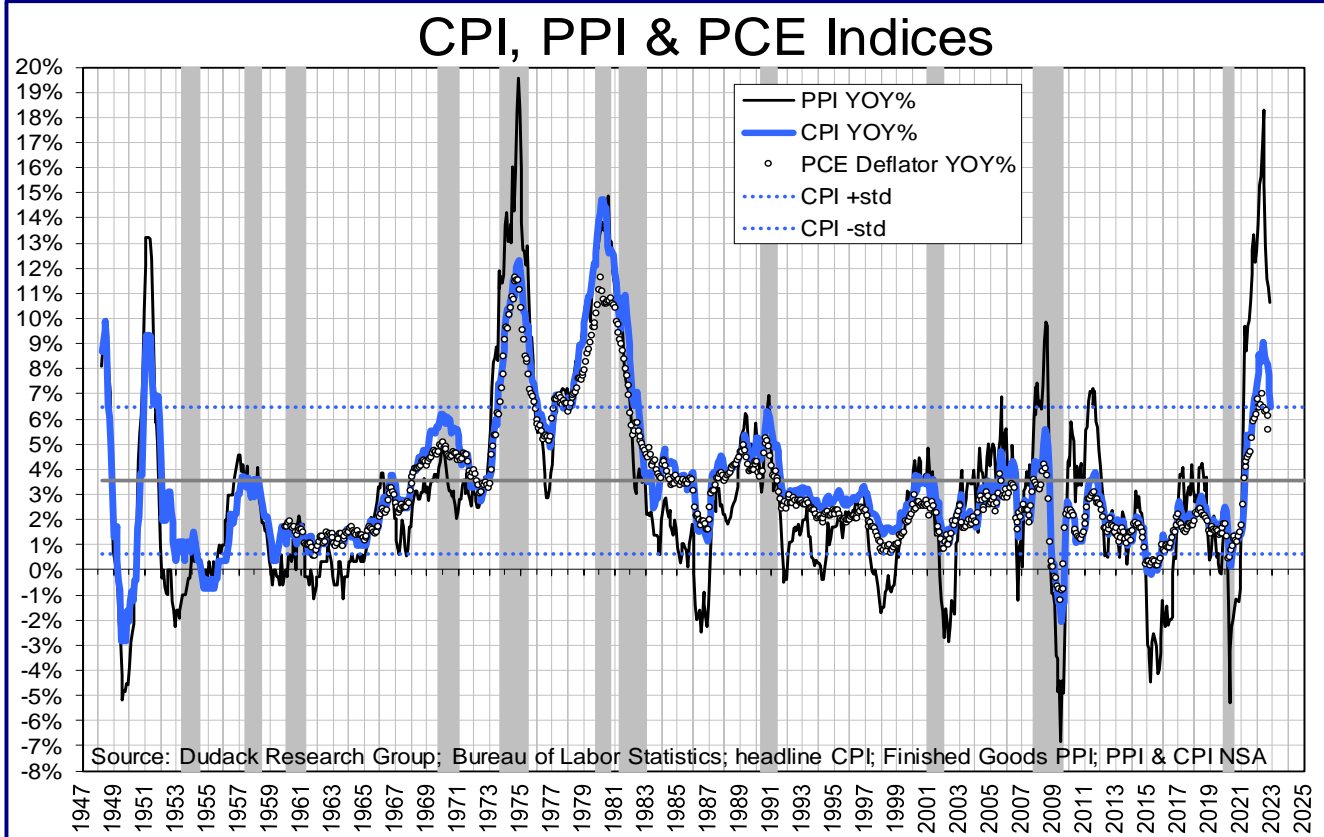
Source: Dudack Research Group; BLS; \*Oct. 2022 w weightings; Italics=sub-component; blue>headline



There were items to celebrate in the inflation report. Areas of the economy like new and used cars, transportation (public and private), lodging away from home and household furnishings and operations are experiencing major decelerations in price gains. Still, food at home and all areas of the service sector continue to show stubbornly strong price rises.



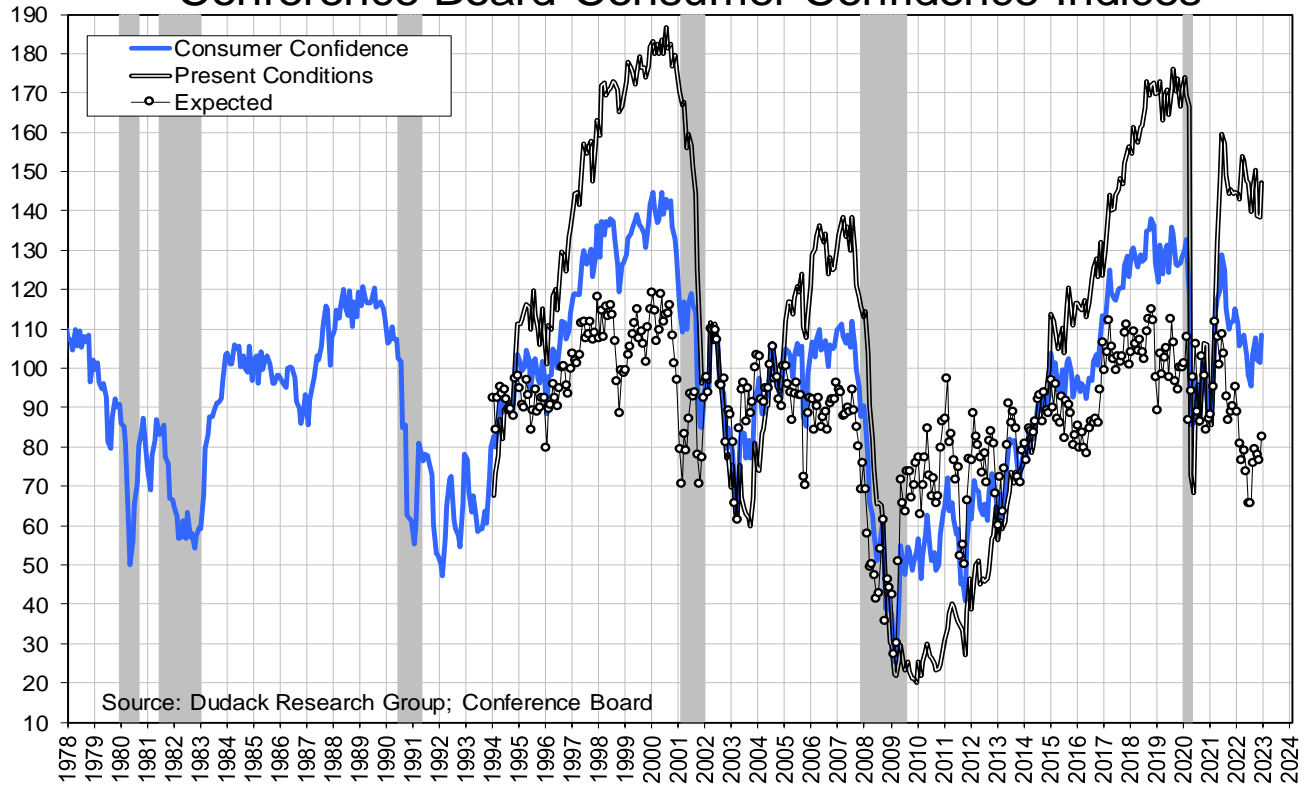
We show these charts because they tell a different story from the consensus view of a soft recession and a Fed pivot in 2023. Whenever inflation has exceeded a standard deviation above the norm (3.4%), a recession, or string of recessions, has ensued. Moreover, the Fed has indicated that its goal is to beat inflation and return to a real fed funds rate. The real fed funds rate to CPI is negative 210 basis points and negative 60 basis points to the PCE (if it is unchanged in December). November's real fed funds rate relative to the PCE is negative 170 basis points. In short, more Fed hikes are expected.



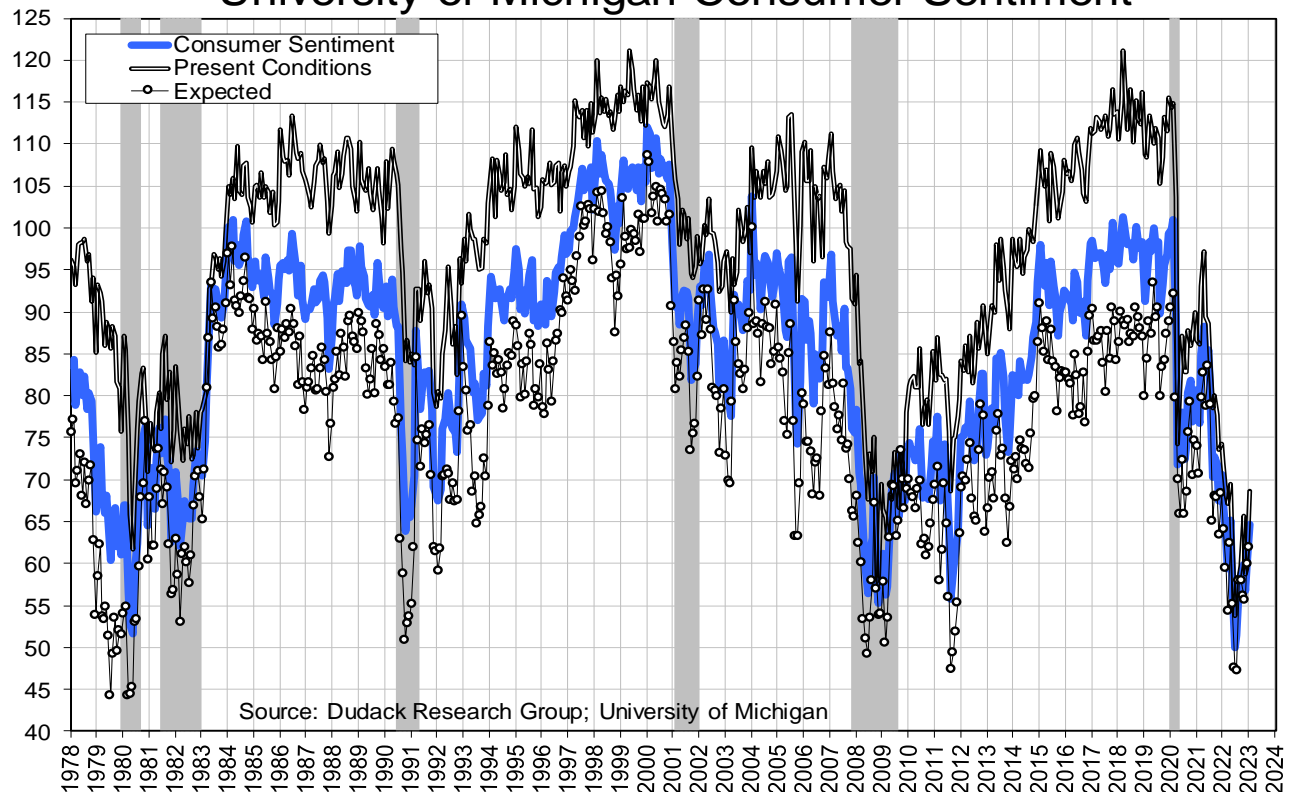


Consumer sentiment has improved in recent months. The headline Conference Board Consumer Confidence index saw a rise in December from 101.4 to 108.3, the present situation index rose from 138.2 to 147.2 and the expectations index rose from 76.7 to 82.4. The University of Michigan released preliminary results for January which showed an increase from 59.7 to 64.6 in the overall survey, a jump from 59.4 to 68.6 in the present situations and an increase from 59.9 to 62.0 in the expectations survey. Surveys are clearly improving and rebounding from recent recession levels.

### Conference Board Consumer Confidence Indices

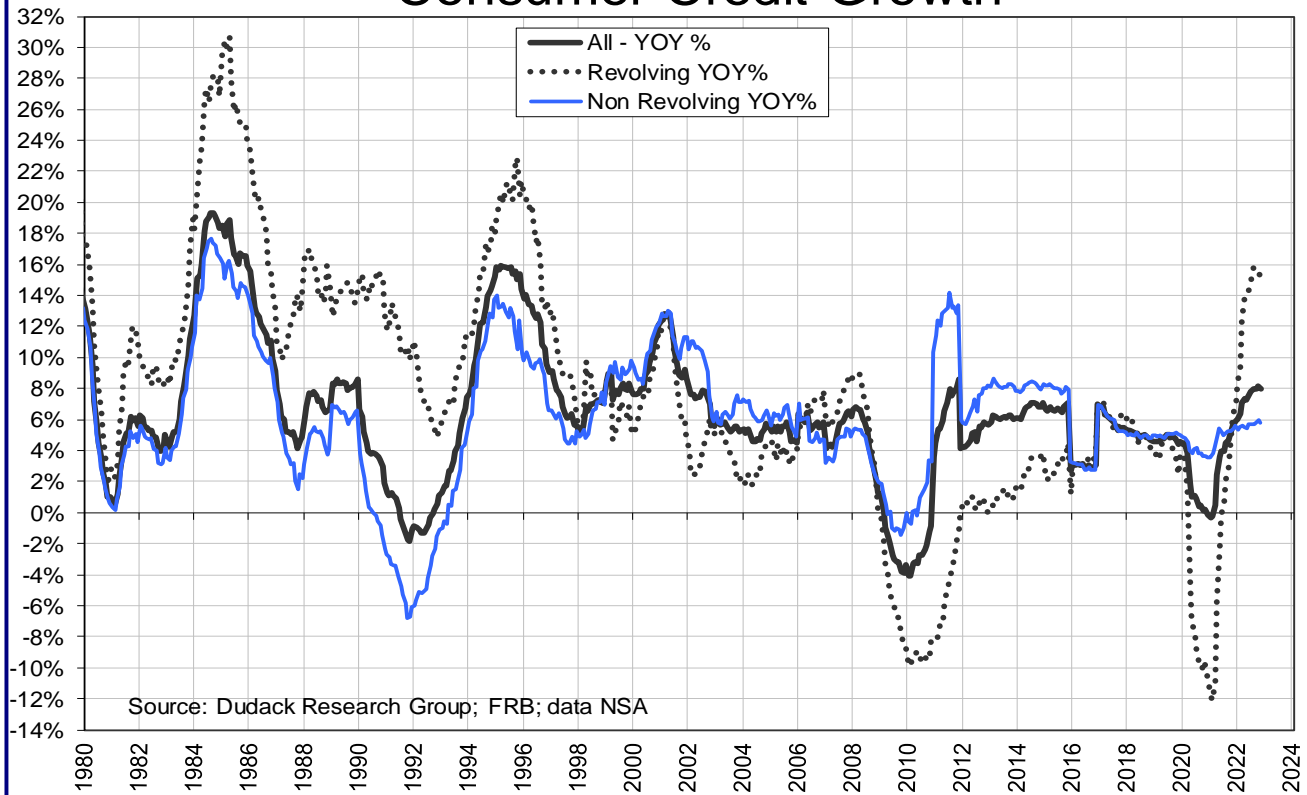


### University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment

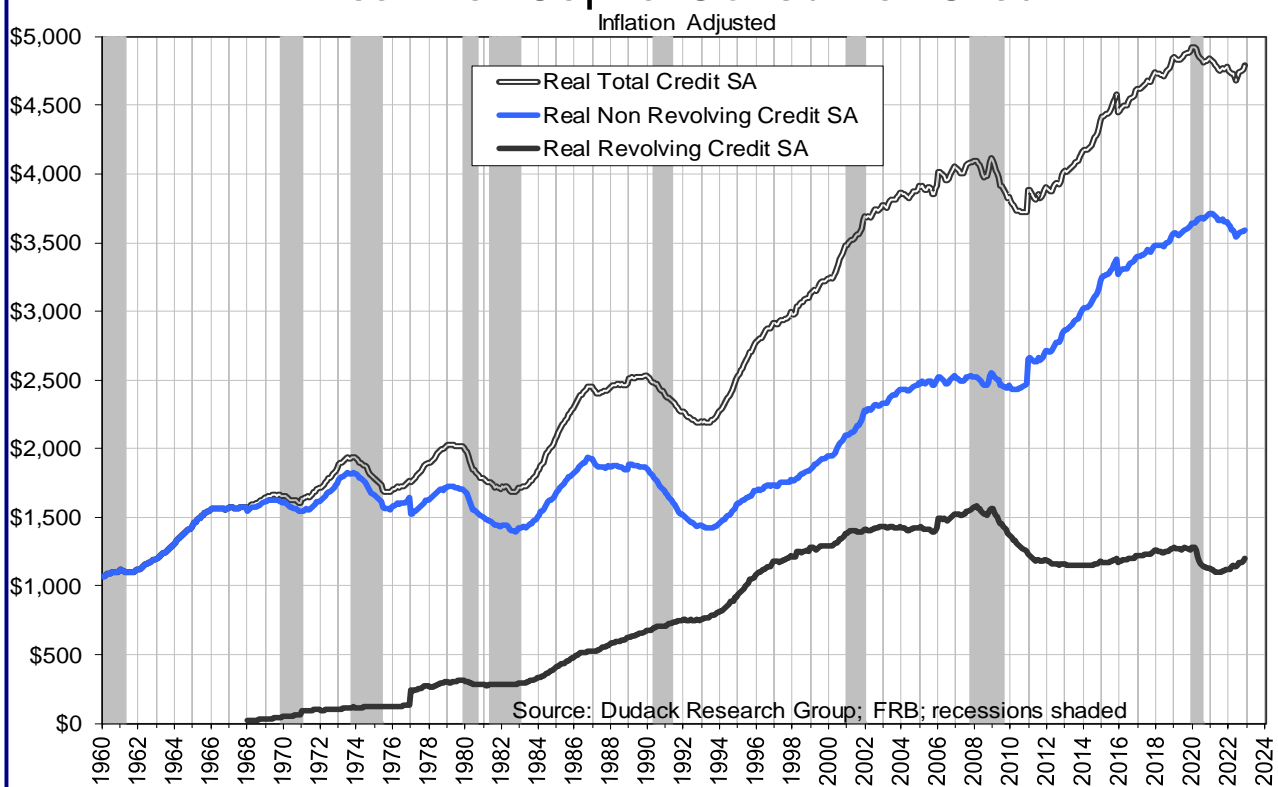


One sign of a stressed consumer is the historically low savings rate of 2.4% seen in November, the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive month below 3%. Another indication that consumers are stretched is the recent rise in credit. Overall, credit has grown 8% YOY, but revolving credit has been expanding at a pace of more than 15% YOY since August 2022. Revolving credit is the area of credit growing the most on a per capita inflation-adjusted basis, but it remains below levels seen before the 2008 recession. Still, real consumer credit is only modestly below its 2020 peak and is a source of concern.

## Consumer Credit Growth

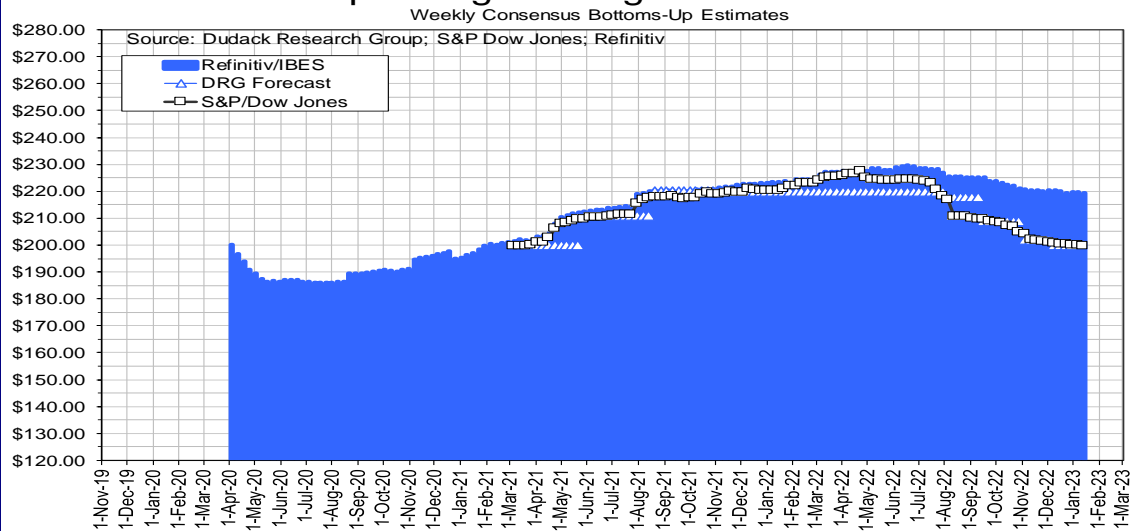


## Real Per Capita Consumer Credit

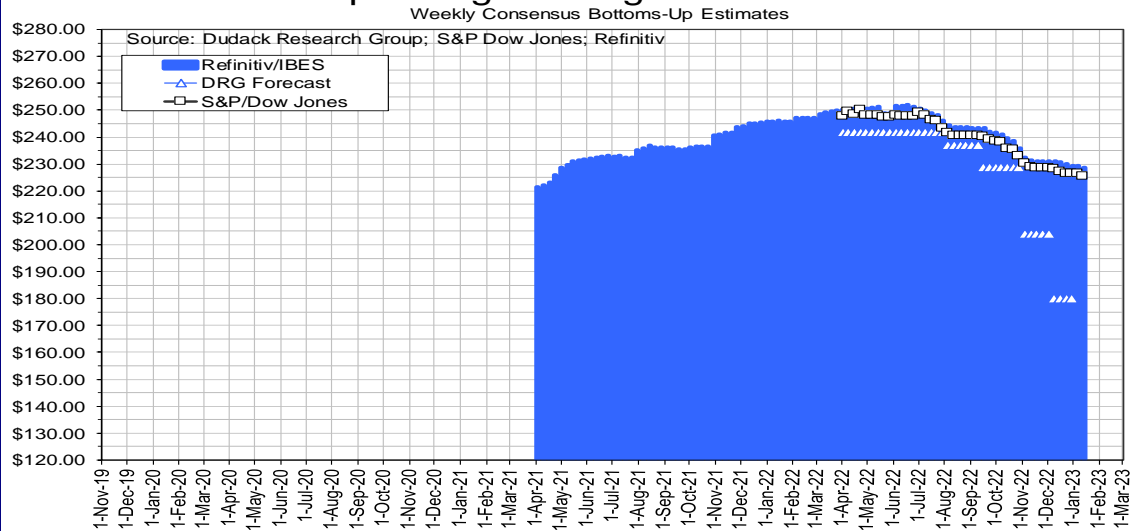


S&P Dow Jones earnings estimates for 2022 and 2023 fell \$0.36 and \$1.14 this week. Refinitiv IBES consensus earnings forecasts fell \$0.33 and \$0.66, respectively, leaving estimates at \$199.76/\$219.54 and \$225.35/\$228.58, respectively. EPS growth rates for 2022 are (4.1%) and 5.5%, and for 2023 are 12.8% and 4.1%, respectively. (Note: consensus macro-EPS forecasts may differ from four quarter analysts' forecast sums seen on page 14.) DRG's 2022 and 2023 estimates are \$200 and \$180, reflecting earnings declines of 3.9% and 10%, respectively.

### SP500 Operating Earnings Forecasts for 2022

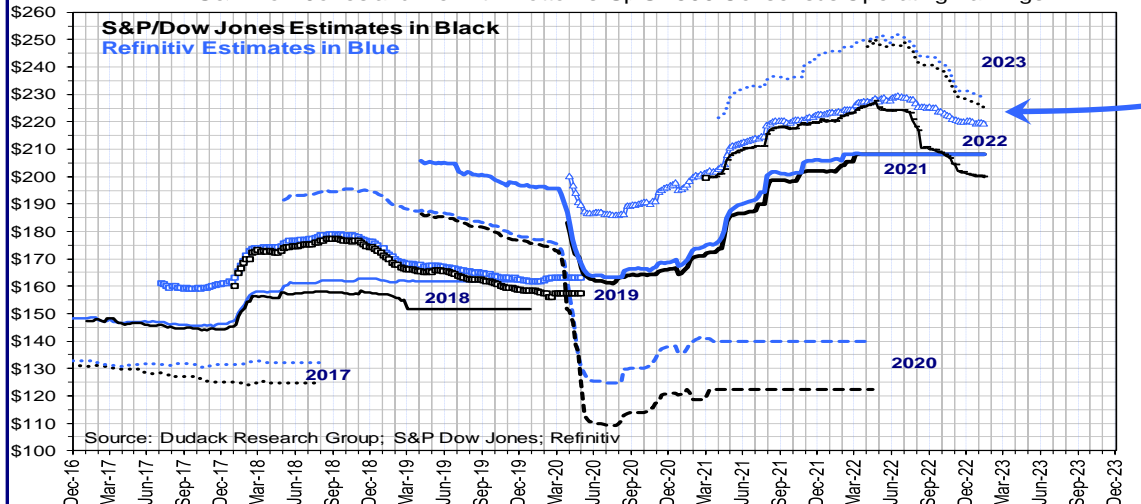


### SP500 Operating Earnings Forecasts for 2023



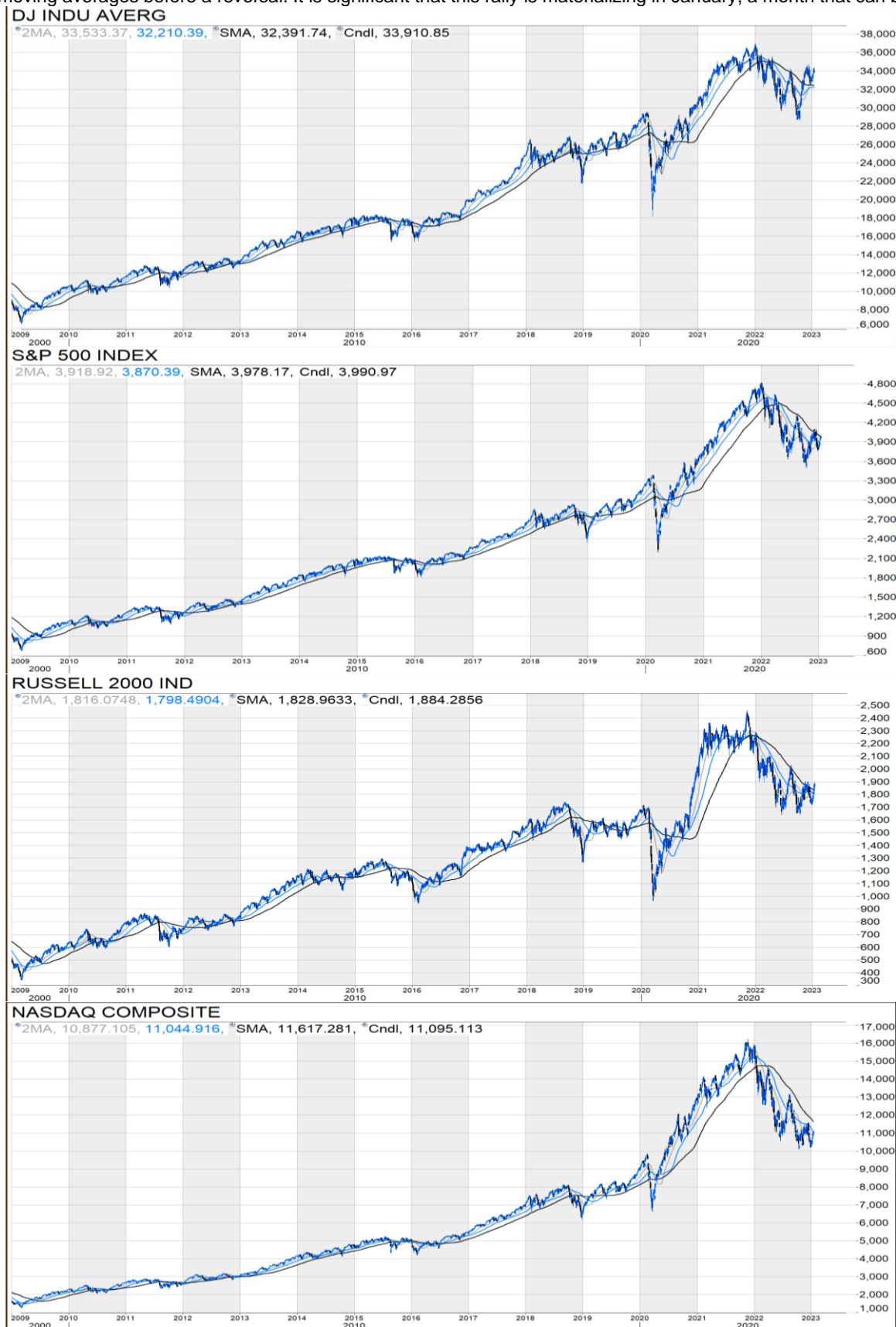
### Consensus Calendarized EPS Estimates

S&P Dow Jones and Refinitiv Bottoms-Up SP500 Consensus Operating Earnings





The current rally has broadened to include most of the popular indices which are now trading above their 200-day moving averages. The one exception is the Nasdaq Composite. This advance is reminiscent of the August 2022 rally which also resulted in tests or breaks of the 200-day moving averages before a reversal. It is significant that this rally is materializing in January, a month that can be predictive.

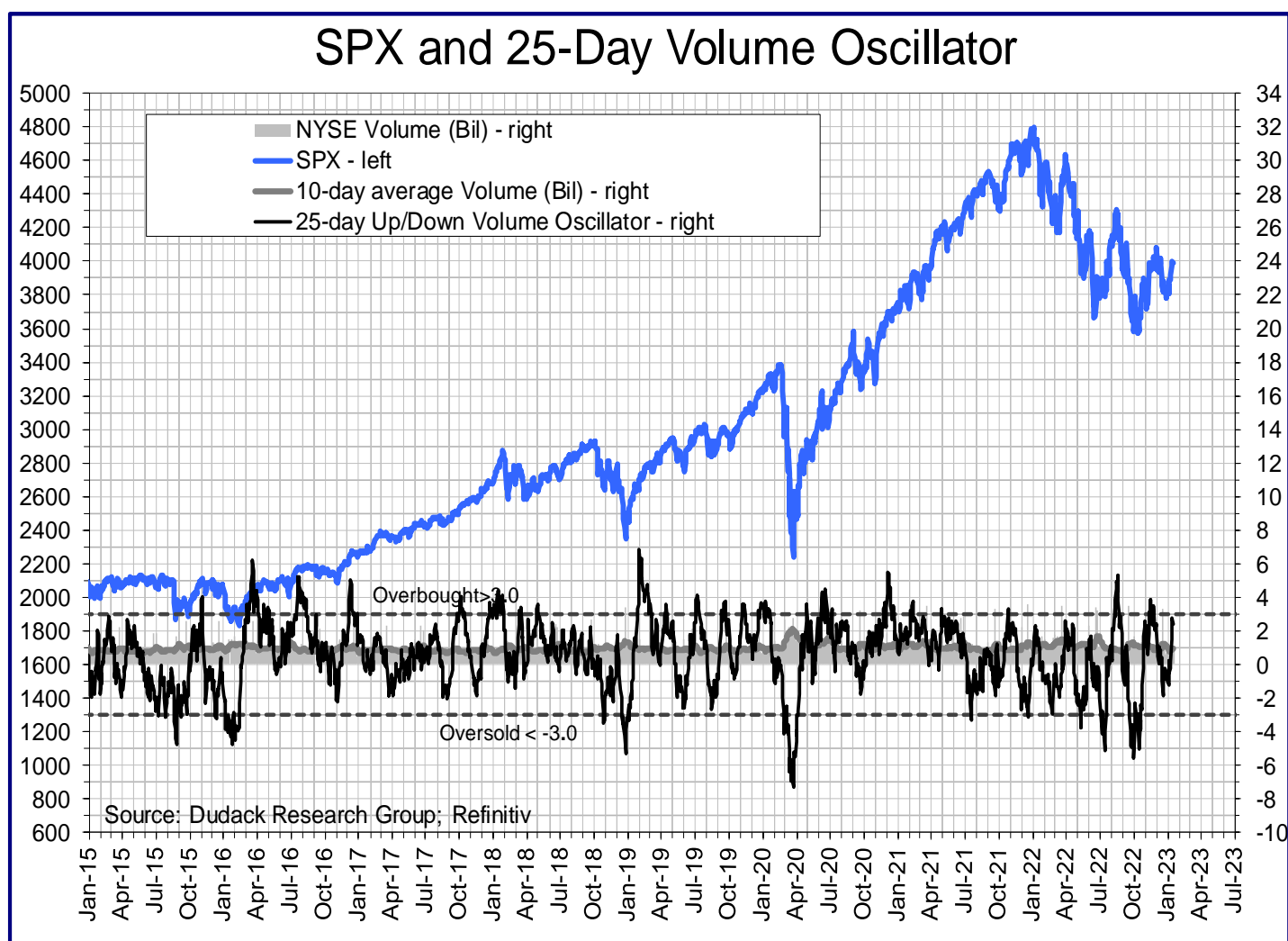


Source: Refinitiv

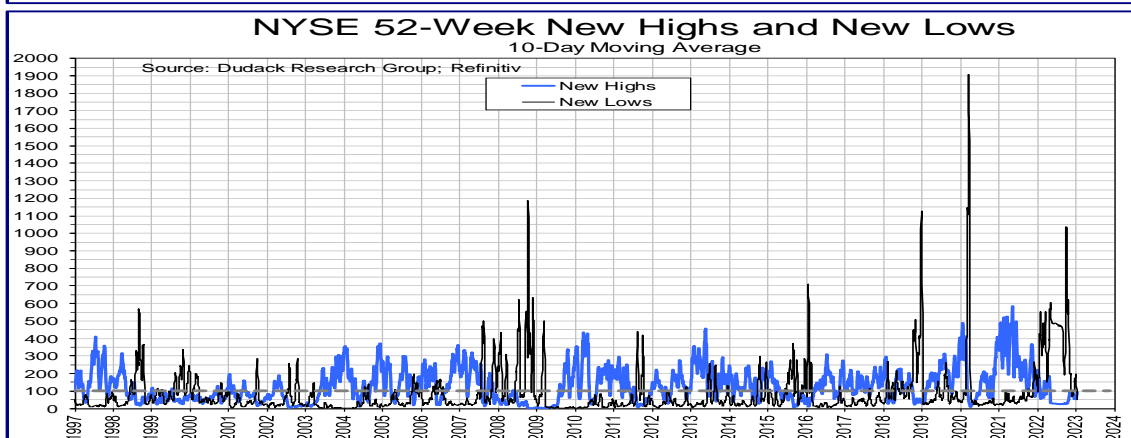
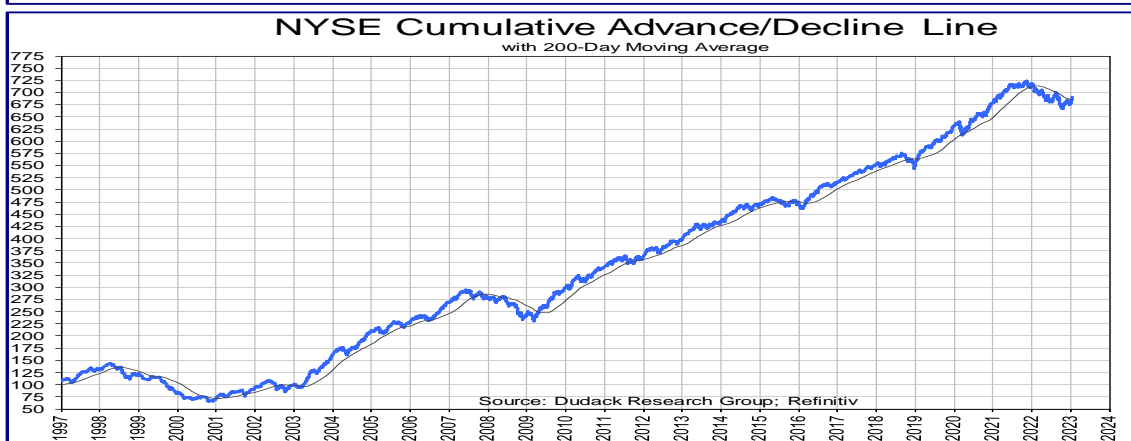
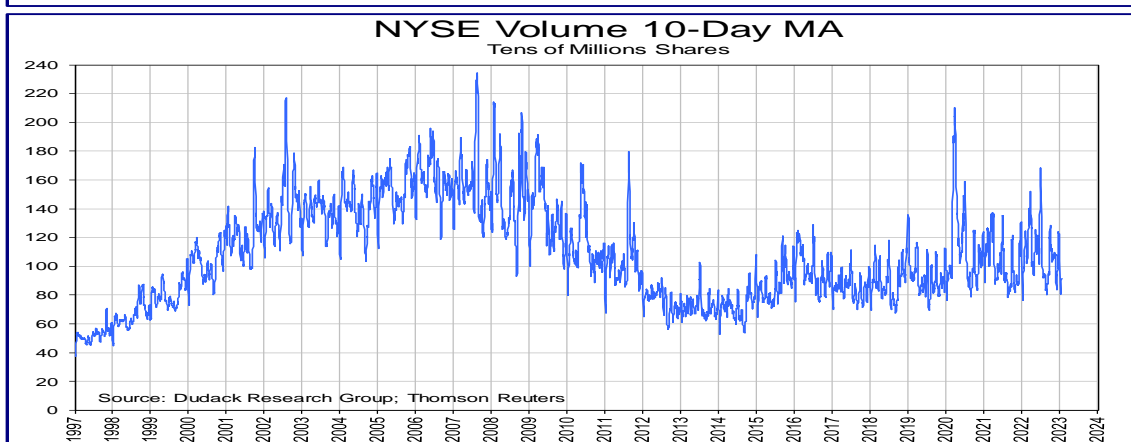
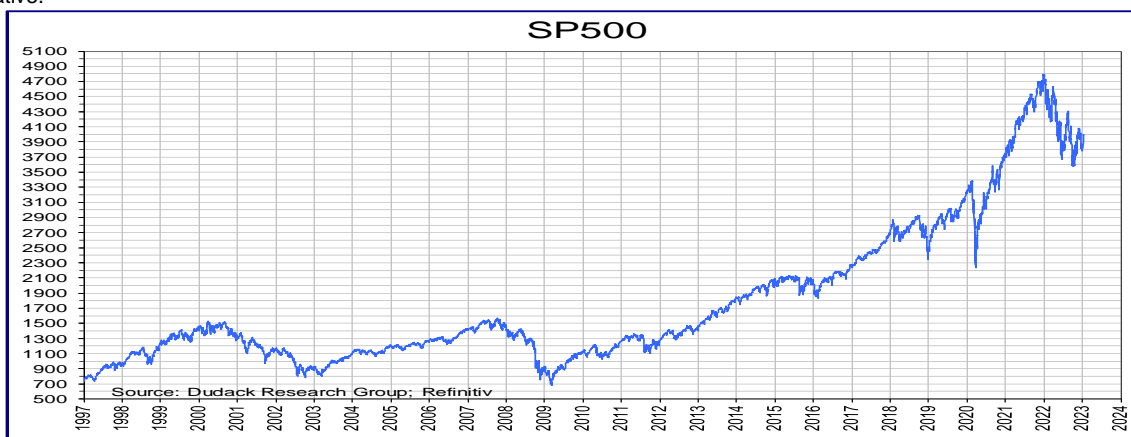
The 25-day up/down volume oscillator is currently neutral with a reading of 2.44, after being in overbought territory for seven of 10 trading days in November. However, in November the oscillator was not overbought for five consecutive trading days, which is a minimum requirement for a positive signal since bear markets rarely reach overbought territory, but if they do, the reading is brief. An overbought reading that persists for at least five to ten consecutive trading days -- hopefully reaching a new overbought high reading -- is significant. Nevertheless, this will be a key indicator to monitor in the coming weeks to assess the strength of the recent advance in prices.

The 25-day up/down volume oscillator hit an oversold reading of negative 5.6 on September 30 which was a deeper oversold reading than the negative 5.17 reading of July 14, 2022. The oscillator was in oversold territory for 8 of 10 consecutive trading sessions in July and oversold for 18 of 24 consecutive trading sessions in September/October. This is much longer than the oversold reading at the previous low which means the test of the June low was unsuccessful by several measures and the bear market continues.

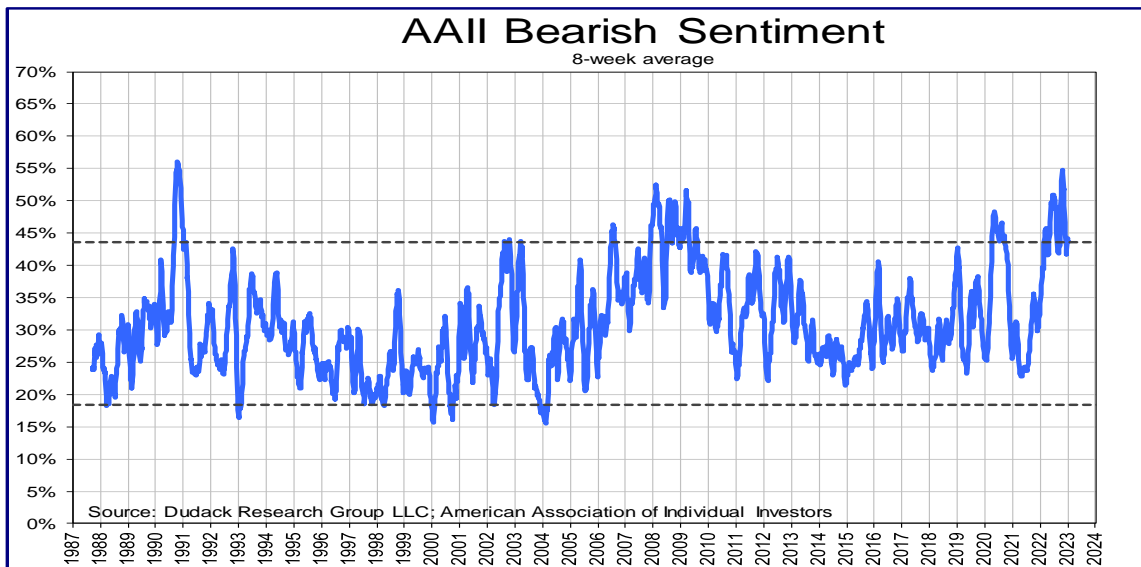
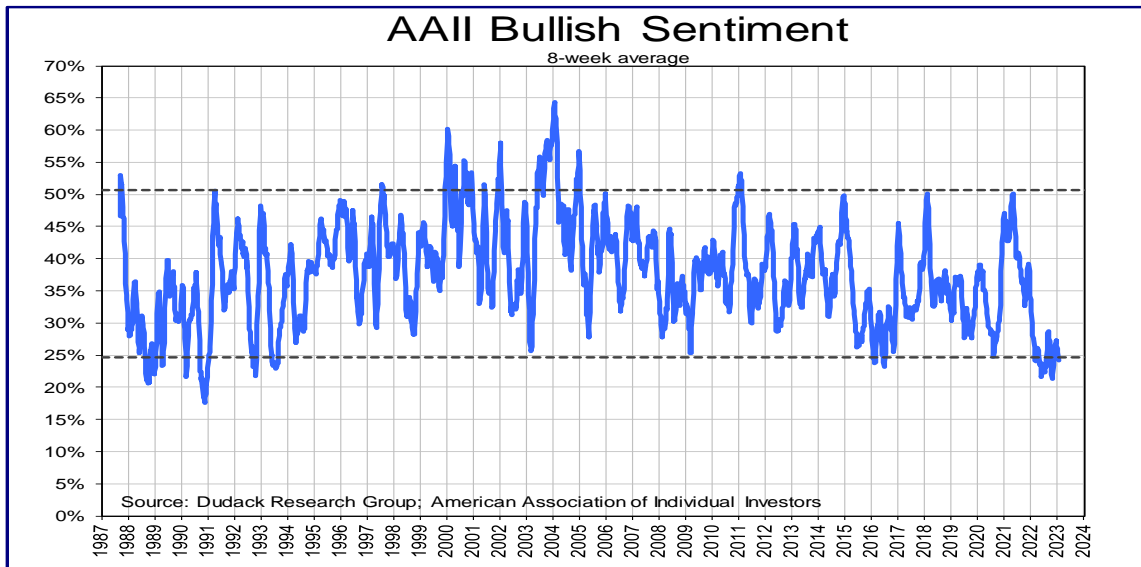
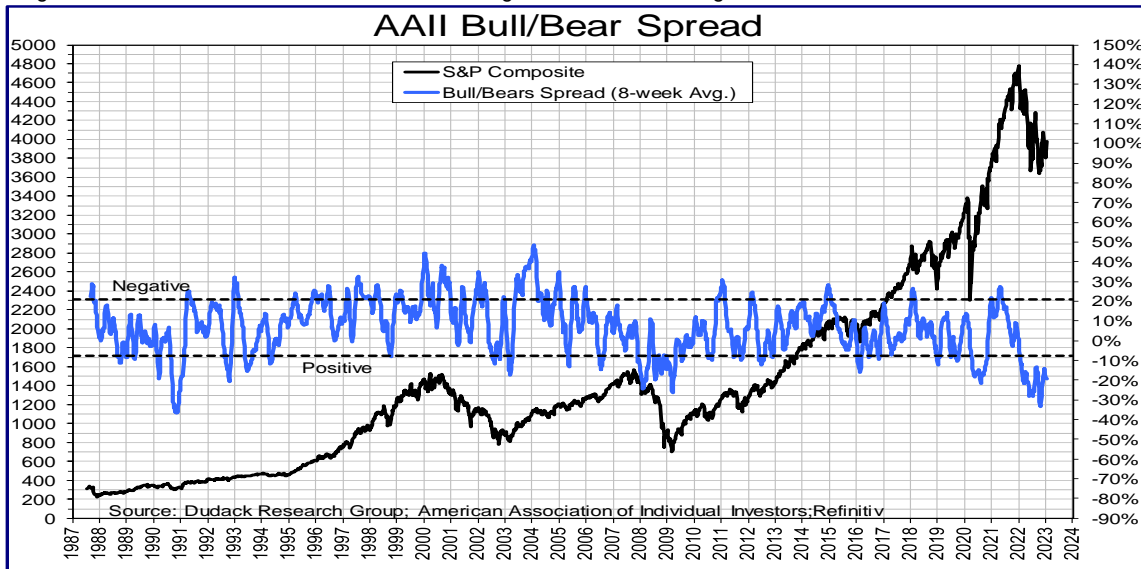
*The key to a successful retest of a bear market low is whether or not a new low in price generates a new low in breadth. A successful retest will show there is less selling pressure – a less severe oversold reading -- despite a lower low in price. This “non-confirmation” of a low is a positive and implies that downside risk is subsiding.*



The 10-day average of daily new highs is 103 and new lows are 39. This combination is now positive since new highs are above the 100 benchmark and new lows are below 100. The advance/decline line fell below the June low on September 22 and is currently 33,545 net advancing issues from its 11/8/21 high – still negative.



Last week's AAI readings showed a 3.5% increase in bulls to 24.0% and a 2.1% decrease in bears of 39.9%. Bullishness remains below the long-term average of 37.5% and bearishness is above its long-term average of 40.2%. Sentiment readings were most extreme on September 21, 2022, and equity prices tend to be higher in the next six and/or twelve months following such extreme readings.

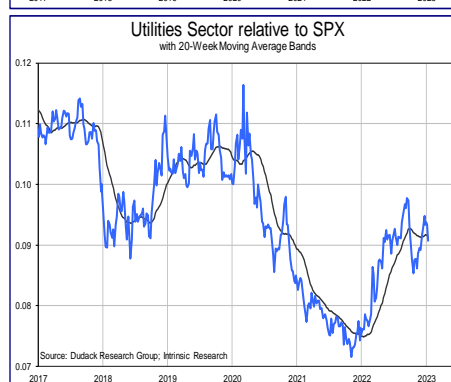
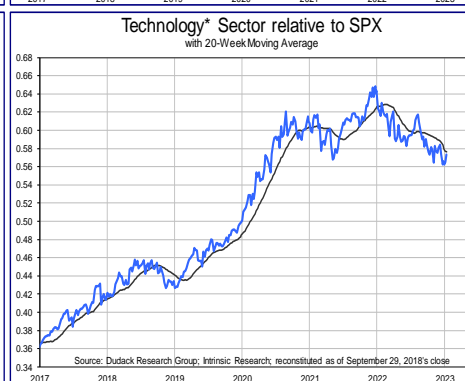
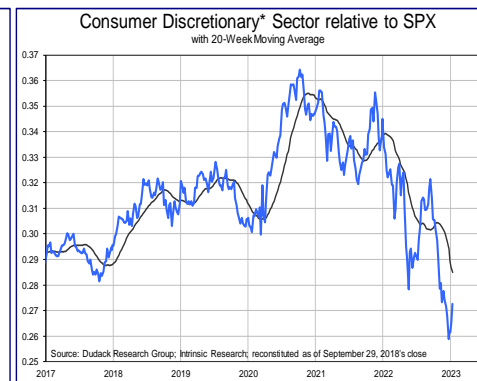
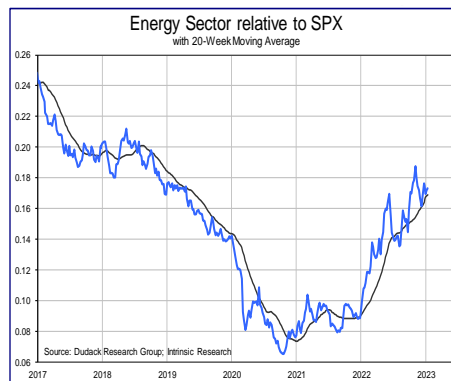


## SECTOR RELATIVE PERFORMANCE – RELATIVE OVER/UNDER/ PERFORMANCE TO S&P 500

### DRG Recommended Sector Weights

Overweight		Neutral		Underweight
Energy		Healthcare		Consumer Discretionary
Industrials		Technology		REITS
Staples		Materials		Communication Services
Utilities		Financials		

3/8/2022: Materials upgraded from underweight to neutral/communication service downgraded from neutral to underweight. 3/1/2022 Financials downgraded to neutral and Industrials upgraded to overweight.



2023 Performance - Ranked	
SP500 Sector	% Change
S&P CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY	8.2%
S&P REITS	7.1%
S&P COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES	6.9%
S&P MATERIALS	6.7%
S&P INFORMATION TECH	5.3%
S&P FINANCIAL	4.7%
S&P 500	3.9%
S&P INDUSTRIALS	3.4%
S&P ENERGY	2.8%
S&P UTILITIES	1.0%
S&P CONSUMER STAPLES	0.3%
S&P HEALTH CARE	-0.9%

Source: Duda Research Group; Refinitiv; Monday closes



## US Asset Allocation

	Benchmark	DRG %	Recommendation
Equities	60%	55%	Neutral
Treasury Bonds	30%	20%	Underweight
Cash	10%	25%	Overweight
	100%	100%	

Source: Dudack Research Group; raised cash and lowered equity 15% on December 21, 2022

## DRG Earnings and Economic Forecasts

	S&P 500 Price	S&P Reported EPS**	S&P Operating EPS**	DRG Operating EPS Forecast	DRG EPS YOY %	Refinitiv Consensus Bottom-Up \$ EPS**	Refinitiv Consensus Bottom-Up EPS YOY%	S&P Op PE Ratio	S&P Divd Yield	GDP Annual Rate	GDP Profits post-tax w/ IVA & CC	YOY %
2005	1248.29	\$69.93	\$76.45	\$76.45	13.0%	\$76.28	13.7%	16.3X	1.8%	3.5%	\$1,108.90	9.7%
2006	1418.30	\$81.51	\$87.72	\$87.72	14.7%	\$88.18	15.6%	16.2X	1.8%	2.8%	\$1,216.10	9.7%
2007	1468.36	\$66.18	\$82.54	\$82.54	-5.9%	\$85.12	-3.5%	17.8X	1.8%	2.0%	\$1,141.40	-6.1%
2008	903.25	\$14.88	\$49.51	\$49.51	-40.0%	\$65.47	-23.1%	18.2X	2.5%	0.1%	\$1,029.90	-9.8%
2009	1115.10	\$50.97	\$56.86	\$56.86	14.8%	\$60.80	-7.1%	19.6X	2.6%	-2.6%	\$1,182.90	14.9%
2010	1257.64	\$77.35	\$83.77	\$83.77	47.3%	\$85.28	40.3%	15.0X	1.9%	2.7%	\$1,456.50	23.1%
2011	1257.60	\$86.95	\$96.44	\$96.44	15.1%	\$97.82	14.7%	13.0X	2.0%	1.5%	\$1,529.00	5.0%
2012	1426.19	\$86.51	\$96.82	\$96.82	0.4%	\$103.80	6.1%	14.7X	2.1%	2.3%	\$1,662.80	8.8%
2013	1848.36	\$100.20	\$107.30	\$107.30	10.8%	\$109.68	5.7%	17.2X	2.0%	1.8%	\$1,648.10	-0.9%
2014	2127.83	\$102.31	\$113.01	\$113.01	5.3%	\$118.78	8.3%	18.8X	2.2%	2.3%	\$1,713.10	3.9%
2015	2043.94	\$86.53	\$100.45	\$100.45	-11.1%	\$118.20	-0.5%	20.3X	2.1%	2.7%	\$1,664.20	-2.9%
2016	2238.83	\$94.55	\$106.26	\$96.82	-3.6%	\$118.10	-0.1%	21.1X	1.9%	1.7%	\$1,661.50	-0.2%
2017	2673.61	\$109.88	\$124.51	\$124.51	28.6%	\$132.00	11.8%	21.5X	1.8%	2.3%	\$1,816.60	9.3%
2018	2506.85	\$132.39	\$151.60	\$151.60	21.8%	\$161.93	22.7%	16.5X	1.9%	2.9%	\$2,023.40	11.4%
2019	3230.78	\$139.47	\$157.12	\$157.12	3.6%	\$162.93	0.6%	20.6X	1.8%	2.3%	\$2,065.60	2.1%
2020	3756.07	\$94.14	\$122.38	\$122.38	-22.1%	\$139.72	-14.2%	30.7X	1.6%	-3.4%	\$1,968.10	-4.7%
2021	4766.18	\$197.87	\$208.17	\$208.17	70.1%	\$208.12	49.0%	22.9X	1.3%	5.7%	\$2,424.60	23.2%
2022P	~~~~~	\$180.30	\$199.76	\$200.00	-3.9%	\$219.54	5.5%	20.0X	NA	NA	NA	NA
2023E	~~~~~	\$203.53	\$225.35	\$180.00	-10.0%	\$228.58	4.1%	17.7X	NA	NA	NA	NA
2015 1Q	2108.88	\$21.81	\$25.81	\$25.81	-5.5%	\$28.60	1.5%	18.9	2.0%	3.3%	\$1,706.90	9.2%
2015 2Q	2166.05	\$22.80	\$26.14	\$26.14	-10.9%	\$30.09	0.1%	20.0	2.0%	2.3%	\$1,689.20	-1.4%
2015 3Q	1920.03	\$23.22	\$25.44	\$25.44	-14.1%	\$29.99	-0.2%	18.4	2.2%	1.3%	\$1,675.60	-6.6%
2015 4Q	2043.94	\$18.70	\$23.06	\$23.06	-13.8%	\$29.52	-3.3%	20.3	2.1%	0.6%	\$1,585.20	-11.1%
2016 1Q	2059.74	\$21.72	\$23.97	\$23.97	-7.1%	\$26.96	-5.7%	20.9	2.1%	2.4%	\$1,664.90	-2.5%
2016 2Q	2098.86	\$23.28	\$25.70	\$25.70	-1.7%	\$29.61	-1.6%	21.4	2.1%	1.2%	\$1,624.20	-3.8%
2016 3Q	2168.27	\$25.39	\$28.69	\$28.69	12.8%	\$31.21	4.1%	21.4	2.1%	2.4%	\$1,649.90	-1.5%
2016 4Q	2238.83	\$24.16	\$27.90	\$27.90	21.0%	\$31.30	6.0%	21.1	2.0%	2.0%	\$1,707.00	7.7%
2017 1Q	2362.72	\$27.46	\$28.82	\$28.82	20.2%	\$30.90	14.6%	21.3	2.0%	1.7%	\$1,791.40	7.6%
2017 2Q	2423.41	\$27.01	\$30.51	\$30.51	18.7%	\$32.58	10.0%	20.9	1.9%	2.0%	\$1,803.70	11.1%
2017 3Q	2519.36	\$28.45	\$31.33	\$31.33	9.2%	\$33.45	7.2%	21.2	1.9%	3.4%	\$1,845.10	11.8%
2017 4Q	2673.61	\$26.96	\$33.85	\$33.85	21.3%	\$36.02	15.1%	21.5	1.8%	4.1%	\$1,884.60	10.4%
2018 1Q	2640.87	\$33.02	\$36.54	\$36.54	26.8%	\$38.07	23.2%	20.0	1.9%	2.8%	\$1,968.30	9.9%
2018 2Q	2718.37	\$34.05	\$38.65	\$38.65	26.7%	\$41.00	25.8%	19.4	1.9%	2.8%	\$1,972.70	9.4%
2018 3Q	2913.98	\$36.36	\$41.38	\$41.38	32.1%	\$42.66	27.5%	19.4	1.8%	2.9%	\$2,028.40	9.9%
2018 4Q	2506.85	\$28.96	\$35.03	\$35.03	3.5%	\$41.18	14.3%	16.5	2.1%	0.7%	\$2,087.60	10.8%
2019 1Q	2834.40	\$35.02	\$37.99	\$37.99	4.0%	\$39.15	2.8%	18.5	1.9%	2.2%	\$2,051.00	4.2%
2019 2Q	2941.76	\$34.93	\$40.14	\$40.14	3.9%	\$41.31	0.8%	19.0	1.9%	2.7%	\$2,115.30	7.2%
2019 3Q	2976.74	\$33.99	\$39.81	\$39.81	-3.8%	\$42.14	-1.2%	19.5	1.9%	3.6%	\$2,130.00	5.0%
2019 4Q	3230.78	\$35.53	\$39.18	\$39.18	11.8%	\$41.98	1.9%	20.6	1.8%	1.8%	\$2,122.70	1.7%
2020 1Q	2584.59	\$11.88	\$19.50	\$19.50	-48.7%	\$33.13	-15.4%	18.6	2.3%	-4.6%	\$1,965.90	-4.1%
2020 2Q	4397.35	\$17.83	\$26.79	\$26.79	-33.3%	\$27.98	-32.3%	35.1	1.9%	-29.9%	\$1,746.10	-17.5%
2020 3Q	3363.00	\$32.98	\$37.90	\$37.90	-4.8%	\$38.69	-8.2%	27.3	1.7%	35.3%	\$2,154.30	1.1%
2020 4Q	3756.07	\$31.45	\$38.19	\$38.19	-2.5%	\$42.58	1.4%	30.7	1.6%	3.9%	\$2,018.50	-4.9%
2021 1Q	3972.89	\$45.95	\$47.41	\$47.41	143.1%	\$49.13	48.3%	26.4	1.5%	6.3%	\$2,237.40	13.8%
2021 2Q	4297.50	\$48.39	\$52.03	\$52.03	94.2%	\$52.58	87.9%	24.5	1.3%	7.0%	\$2,401.70	37.5%
2021 3Q	4307.54	\$49.59	\$52.02	\$52.02	37.3%	\$53.72	38.8%	22.7	1.4%	2.7%	\$2,456.40	14.0%
2021 4Q	4766.18	\$53.94	\$56.71	\$56.71	48.5%	\$53.95	26.7%	22.9	1.3%	7.0%	\$2,435.90	20.7%
2022 1Q	4530.41	\$45.99	\$49.36	\$49.36	4.1%	\$54.80	11.5%	21.6	1.4%	-1.6%	\$2,374.60	6.1%
2022 2Q	3785.38	\$42.74	\$46.87	\$46.87	-9.9%	\$57.62	9.6%	18.5	1.7%	-0.6%	\$2,522.60	5.0%
2022 3QE	3585.62	\$44.41	\$50.35	\$51.00	-2.0%	\$56.02	4.3%	18.5	1.8%	3.2%	\$2,543.00	3.5%
2022 4QE*	3990.97	\$47.16	\$53.18	\$52.77	-6.9%	\$53.50	-0.8%	20.0	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source: DRG; S&amp;P Dow Jones; Refinitiv Consensus estimates; \*\*quarterly EPS may not sum to official CY estimates

1/17/2023

**Regulation AC Analyst Certification**

I, Gail Dudack, hereby certify that all the views expressed in this report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject company or companies and its or their securities. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly related to the specific views contained in this report.

**IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES****RATINGS DEFINITIONS:****Sectors/Industries:**

“Overweight”: Overweight relative to S&P Index weighting

“Neutral”: Neutral relative to S&P Index weighting

“Underweight”: Underweight relative to S&P Index weighting

---

**Other Disclosures**

This report has been written without regard for the specific investment objectives, financial situation, or particular needs of any specific recipient, and should not be regarded by recipients as a substitute for the exercise of their own judgment. The report is published solely for informational purposes and is not to be construed as a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell securities or related financial instruments. The securities described herein may not be eligible for sale in all jurisdictions or to certain categories of investors. The report is based on information obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but is not guaranteed to be accurate, nor is it a complete statement or summary of the securities, markets or developments referred to in the report. Any opinions expressed in this report are subject to change without notice and the Dudack Research Group division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC. (DRG/Wellington) is under no obligation to update or keep current the information contained herein. Options, derivative products, and futures are not suitable for all investors, and trading in these instruments is considered risky. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results, and yield from securities, if any, may fluctuate as a security's price or value changes. Accordingly, an investor may receive back less than originally invested. Foreign currency rates of exchange may adversely affect the value, price or income of any security or related instrument mentioned in this report.

DRG/Wellington relies on information barriers, such as “Chinese Walls,” to control the flow of information from one or more areas of DRG/Wellington into other areas, units, divisions, groups, or affiliates. DRG/Wellington accepts no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage of any kind arising out of the use of all or any part of this report.

The content of this report is aimed solely at institutional investors and investment professionals. To the extent communicated in the U.K., this report is intended for distribution only to (and is directed only at) investment professionals and high net worth companies and other businesses of the type set out in Articles 19 and 49 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2001. This report is not directed at any other U.K. persons and should not be acted upon by any other U.K. person. Moreover, the content of this report has not been approved by an authorized person in accordance with the rules of the U.K. Financial Services Authority, approval of which is required (unless an exemption applies) by Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

**Additional information will be made available upon request.**

*©2023. All rights reserved. No part of this report may be reproduced or distributed in any manner without the written permission of Dudack Research Group division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC. The Company specifically prohibits the re-distribution of this report, via the internet or otherwise, and accepts no liability whatsoever for the actions of third parties in this respect.*

---

Dudack Research Group a division of Wellington Shields & Co. LLC.

**Main Office:**

Wellington Shields & Co. LLC

140 Broadway

New York, NY 10005

212-320-3511

Research Sales: 212-320-2046

**Florida office:**

549 Lake Road

Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

212-320-2045