BRYANT PARK CAPITAL Market Trends & Insights Q4 2023





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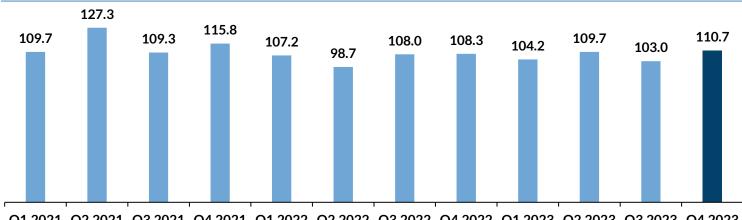
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Key Takeaways

- ✓ Rising consumer confidence reflects a positive economic outlook driven by anticipation of lower interest rates in 2024 and positive employment trends
- ✓ The U.S. economy remains strong, driven by sustained real GDP growth, a solid labor market, and continued downward trends in both overall and core inflation
- ✓ The M&A market faces continuing challenges in the year ahead, as global instability, policy uncertainty, and valuation gaps suppress deal-making activity
- ✓ While PE deal volume held relatively steady, deal value remained significantly below 2021's highs, as PE firms relied on smaller, add-on transactions
- ✓ Equity markets remain strong, with major indices posting robust gains throughout the year and showing little signs of slowing in 2024
- ✓ Fixed income instruments generated modest returns during 2023, with highyield leading the way

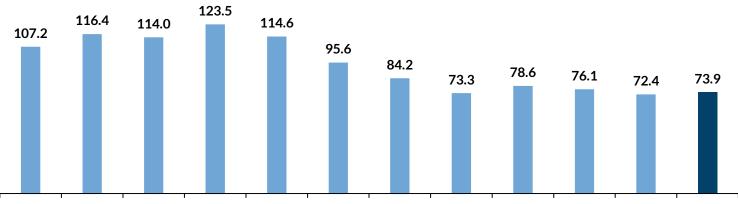
Economic Outlook

Consumer Confidence Index



Q1 2021 Q2 2021 Q3 2021 Q4 2021 Q1 2022 Q2 2022 Q3 2022 Q4 2022 Q1 2023 Q2 2023 Q3 2023 Q4 2023

CEO Economic Outlook Survey



Q1 2021 Q2 2021 Q3 2021 Q4 2021 Q1 2022 Q2 2022 Q3 2022 Q4 2022 Q1 2023 Q2 2023 Q3 2023 Q4 2023

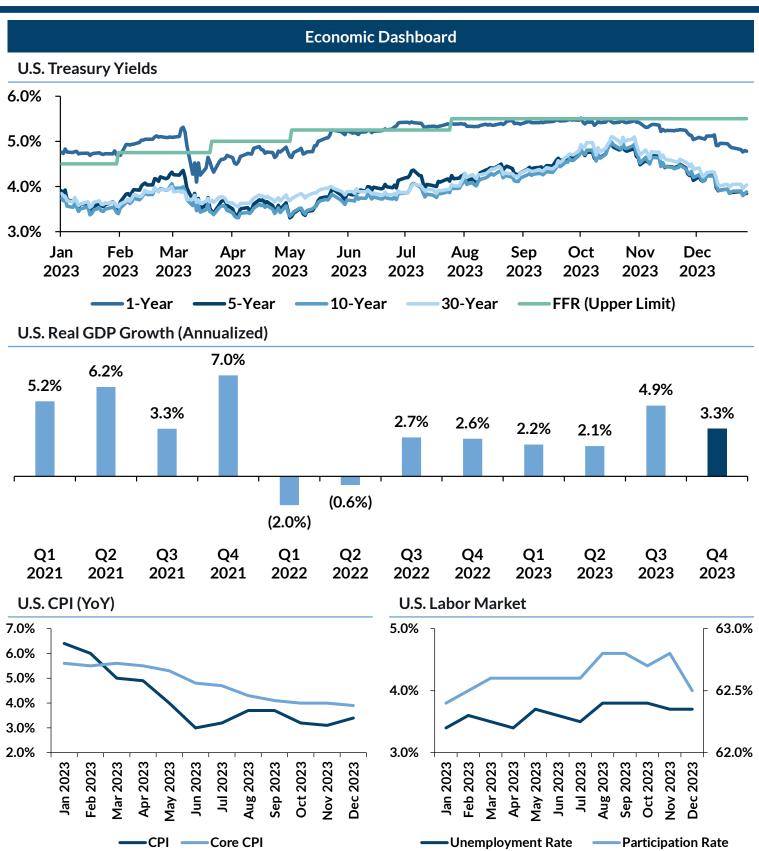


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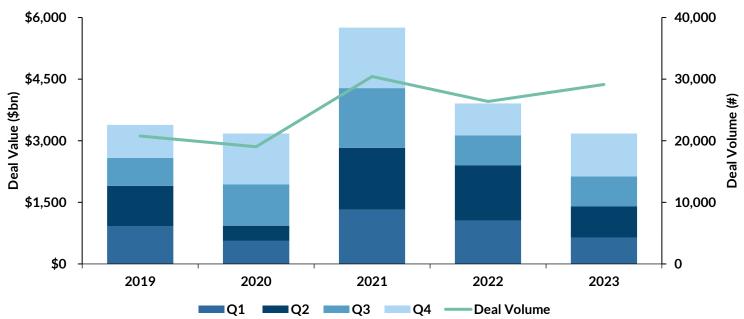
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M&A

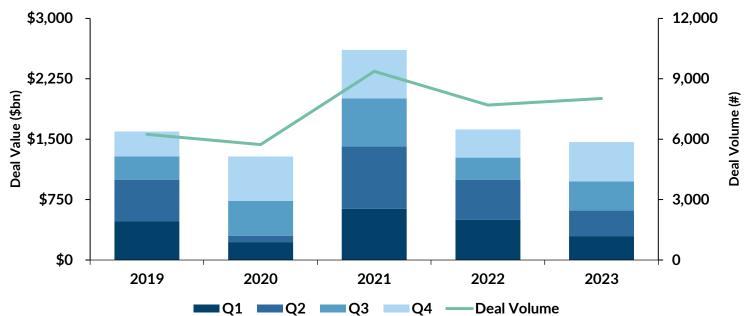
Global M&A Activity

Global M&A deal value declined to \$3.2 trillion in 2023, driven by higher interest rates, geopolitical risks, regulatory challenges, and a strong equity market that widened the valuation gap between public and private companies.



U.S. M&A Activity

U.S. M&A deal value declined slightly to \$1.5 trillion in 2023. However, 2023 saw a slight increase in deal volume as U.S. dealmakers delayed larger deals in anticipation of a more favorable M&A environment.





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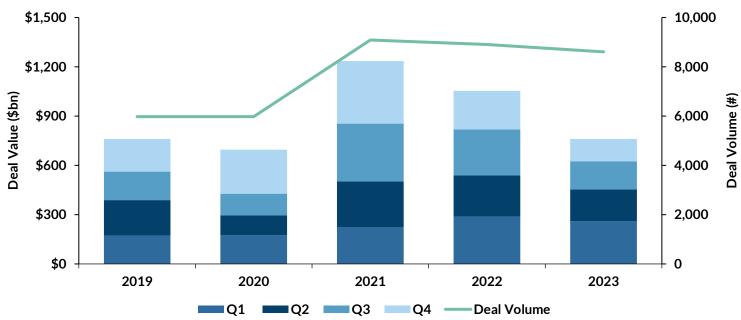
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Private Equity

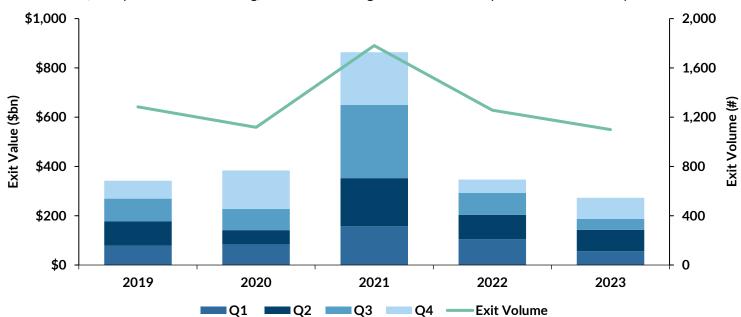
U.S. Private Equity Deal Activity

PE capital deployed in the U.S. declined 29.5% in 2023, its lowest level since the COVID lockdowns of 2020. However, fundraising remains strong, and U.S. PE dry powder reached a record high of \$955.7 billion during the year.



U.S. Private Equity Exits

2023 PE exit activity fell to its lowest level in more than a decade. With exit options limited by a higher-for-longer rate environment, hold periods are increasing, and the median age of PE-owned companies now sits at 4.2 years.



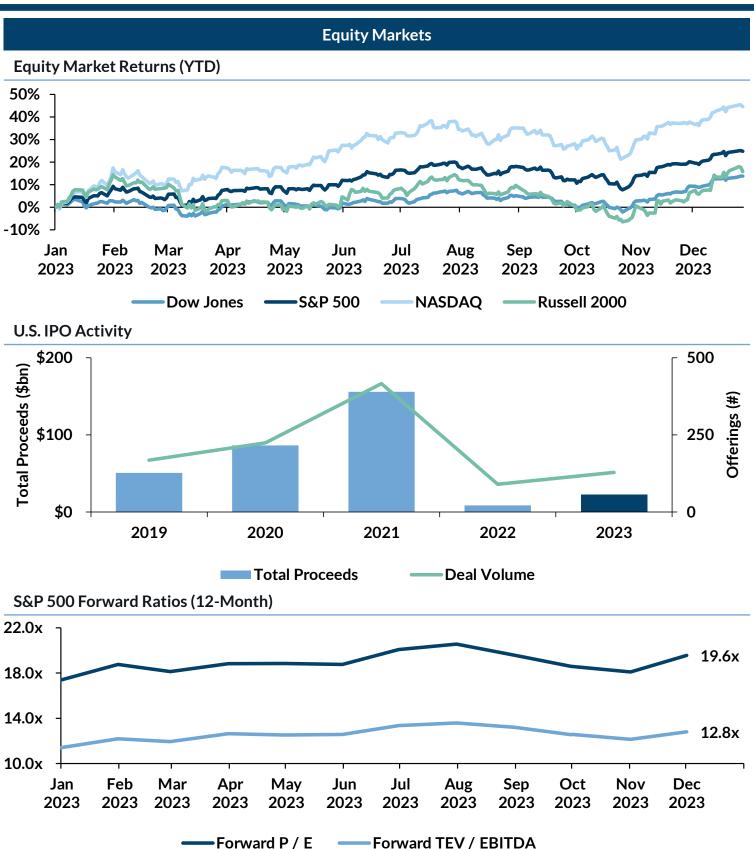


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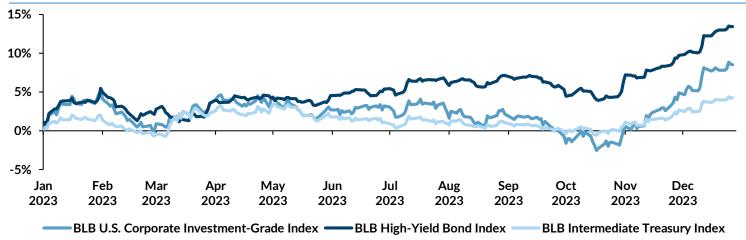
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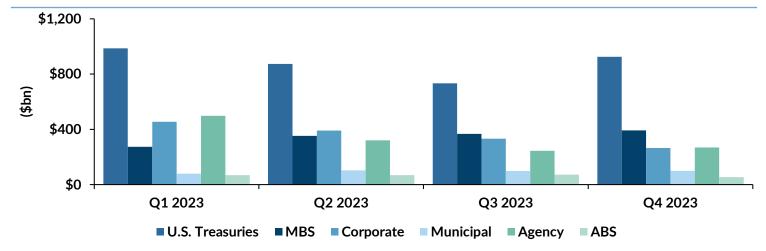
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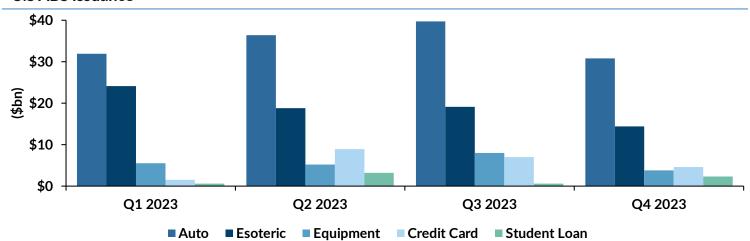
Bond Market Returns (YTD)



U.S. Bond Market Issuance



U.S ABS Issuance





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Experience Beyond Investment Banking

Since 1991, Bryant Park Capital ("BPC" or "Bryant Park") has been providing a full range of merger & acquisition, capital raising, and strategic advisory services. The firm's clients have included a number of the largest international corporations, but the majority of the practice involves emerging growth and middle-market companies, both public and private.

Industry Expertise

Bryant Park Capital focuses on the following Industries and their related sub-sectors:



Specialty Finance & Business Services

Business & Commercial Services



Energy, Cleantech, & Natural Resources





Consumer



Technology, Media, & Telecom

We have strong, senior-level industry relationships and expertise, and partner with industry experts in other selected verticals.

Financing Relationships: Connecting Capital with Great Ideas

Bryant Park combines the capabilities of a large firm with the focus of a small firm. Bryant Park's distinguishing characteristics include:

- **Deep Experience:** We are seasoned professionals, with an average of over 30 years of experience who have collectively completed over 400 transactions.
- Superior Access to Capital: Our professionals maintain strong and active relationships with the "decision makers" at numerous providers of capital, from hedge and private equity funds to senior and junior lenders.
- Creative Thinking: We have served as senior executives at operating companies, as successful private
 equity investors, and as corporate finance professionals. We pride ourselves on being able to craft the best
 solution, not just the conventional one.

Capital Raising



Growth Equity

Unitranche Structures

Senior Credit Facilities

Mezzanine, Second Lien, & Subordinated Debt Placements

Structured Equity Placements for Established, EBITDA Positive Businesses

Forward Flow, structured sales & synthetic securitizations

Mergers & Acquisition

Sell-side Advisory

Buy-side Advisory

Fairness Opinions

Leveraged Buyouts & Management Buyouts

Defense Advisory

Take Private Transactions

Strategic Advisory

Advisory

Strategic & Financial Advisory

Business Planning & Forecasting

Restructuring & Recapitalization Advisory

ESOP Funding & Valuation Services

Takeover Defense Advisory

Business Valuation Services

High Yield Advisory Services

March 2024



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March 2024