

Advisory Blog

Timely insights on the issues that matter most to advisors and their clients

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[Not Your Parents' Dividends](#)

By: [Charles Gaffney](#) | February 28, 2024

KEY POINTS

1. 56 companies in the S&P 500 have already announced dividend increases in 2024, by a median of 6%.¹
2. For decades, large, global-branded companies were among the headline performers for dividend-paying companies.
3. A new wave of companies has begun distributing dividends and rewarding shareholders. We think it's about time.

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[Election Cycle is Very Likely to Impact Stocks](#)

KEY POINTS

- 1. During presidential election years over most of the last century, on average both U.S. large- and small-cap value have outperformed their growth peers.
- 2. Value vs. Growth's dominance in election years also correlates with U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) growth and detraction.
- 3. Incumbent candidates and parties keen to win reelection seek to make voters feel financially secure when heading to the polls.

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[Brazilian Economy Boosted by Reasonable Government Legislations and Tight Monetary Policy](#)

By: Paul Psaila | February 5, 2024

KEY POINTS

- 1. A year into President Lula's term, the political and economic situation in Brazil is better than many had expected.
- 2. The economy will likely grow more than expected as interest rates continue to fall.
- 3. We believe Brazil remains cheap compared to other emerging markets with lower inflation and rates acting as a tailwind for growth.

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[Postcard from Ghana: The Cocoa Supply Chain Risk for Multinational Chocolate Producers](#)

By: Jennifer Byron, CFA | & Christopher M. Dyer, CFA | February 2, 2024

KEY POINTS

- 1. We believe cocoa farmers must earn a living income to end child labor and deforestation.
- 2. Cocoa farmers are up against formidable forces along the supply chain and have little or no bargaining power on price.
- 3. Profit margins could be impacted if the price of cocoa soars, as farmers opt out for other sources of income.

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