

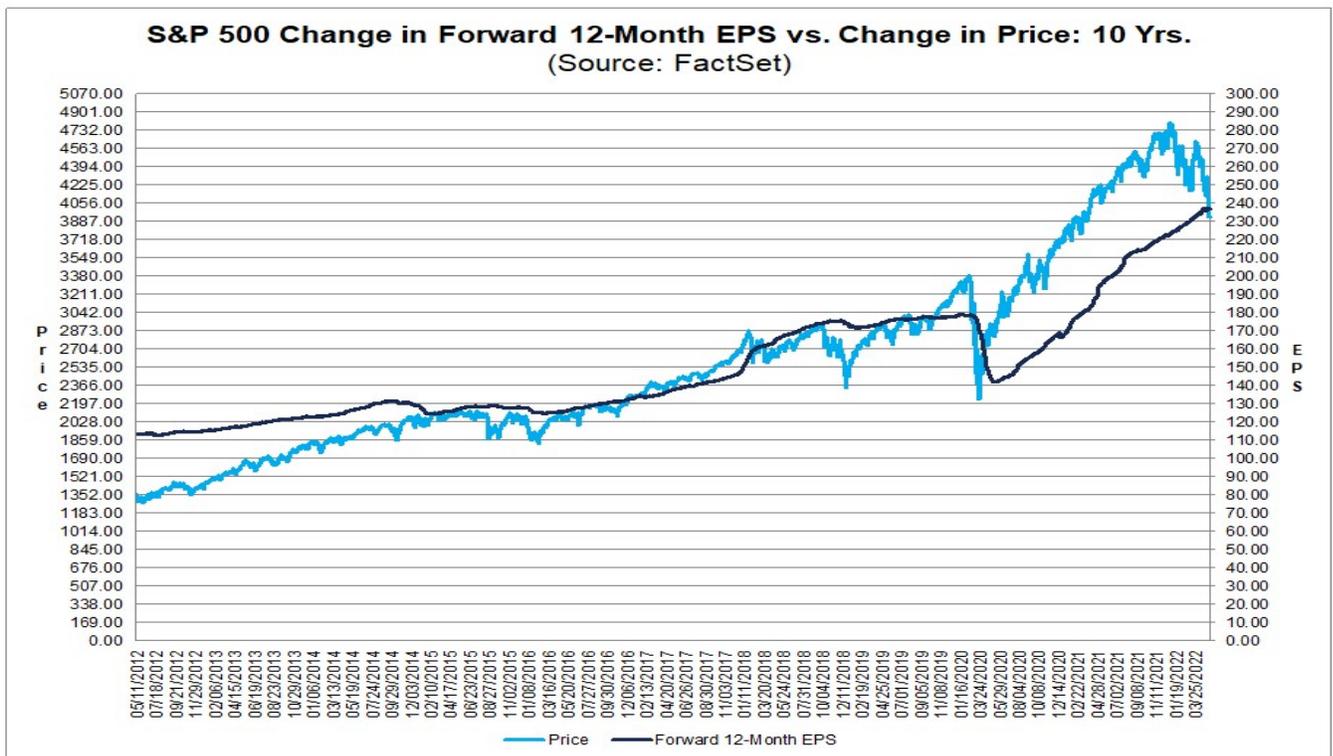
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## Key Metrics

- **Earnings Scorecard:** For Q1 2022 (with 91% of S&P 500 companies reporting actual results), 77% of S&P 500 companies have reported a positive EPS surprise and 74% of S&P 500 companies have reported a positive revenue surprise.
- **Earnings Growth:** For Q1 2022, the blended earnings growth rate for the S&P 500 is 9.1%. If 9.1% is the actual growth rate for the quarter, it will mark the lowest earnings growth rate reported by the index since Q4 2020 (3.8%).
- **Earnings Revisions:** On March 31, the estimated earnings growth rate for Q1 2022 was 4.6%. Ten sectors have higher earnings growth rates today (compared to March 31) due to positive EPS surprises and upward revisions to EPS estimates.
- **Earnings Guidance:** For Q2 2022, 53 S&P 500 companies have issued negative EPS guidance and 23 S&P 500 companies have issued positive EPS guidance.
- **Valuation:** The forward 12-month P/E ratio for the S&P 500 is 16.6. This P/E ratio is below the 5-year average (18.6) and below the 10-year average (16.9).



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## Topic of the Week: 1

### 85% of S&P 500 Companies Are Citing "Inflation" on Q1 Earnings Calls

The market continues to be concerned about higher inflation. Consumer prices increased by 8.3% in April, which was the second-largest (year-over-year) increase since 1982. In light of recent high inflation numbers, have more S&P 500 companies than normal commented on inflation during their earnings conference calls for the first quarter?

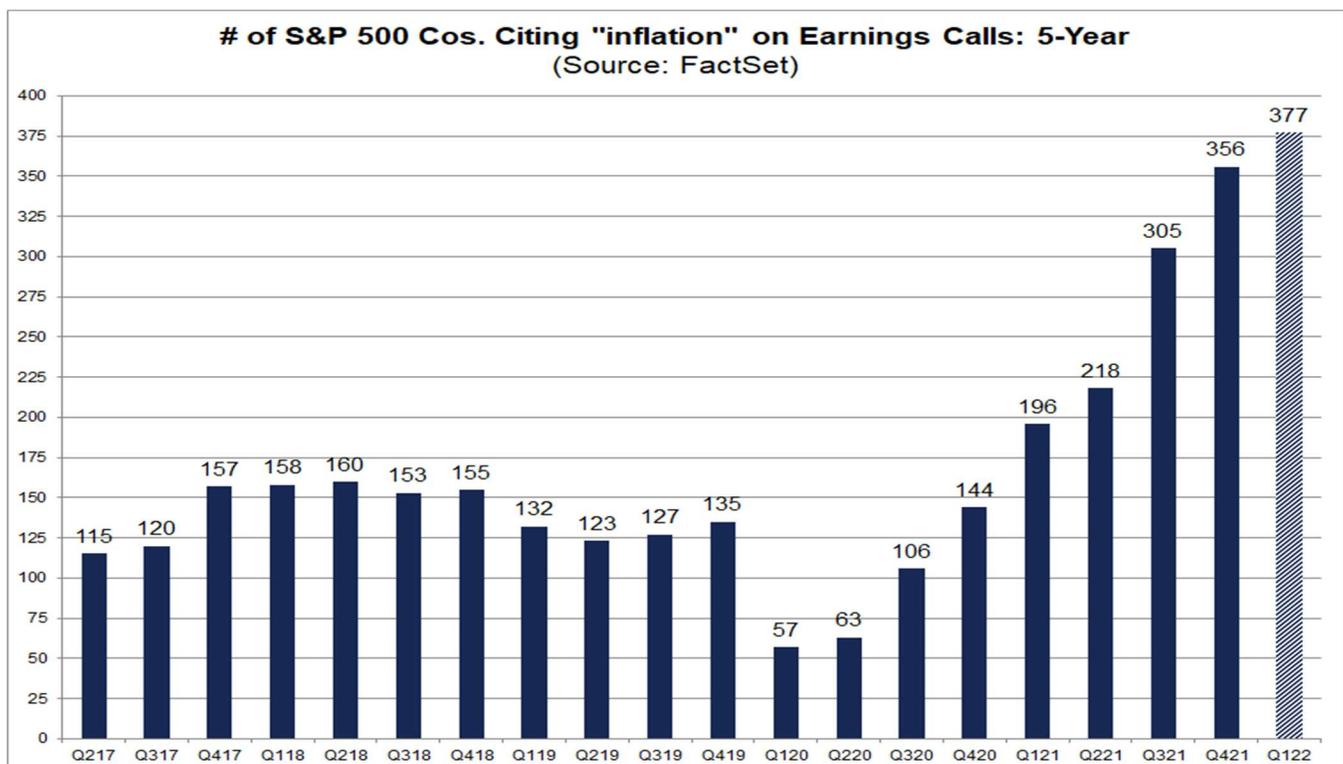
FactSet Document Search (which allows users to search for key words or phrases across multiple document types) was used to answer this question. Through Document Search, FactSet searched for the term "inflation" in the conference call transcripts of all the S&P 500 companies that conducted earnings conference calls from March 15 through May 12.

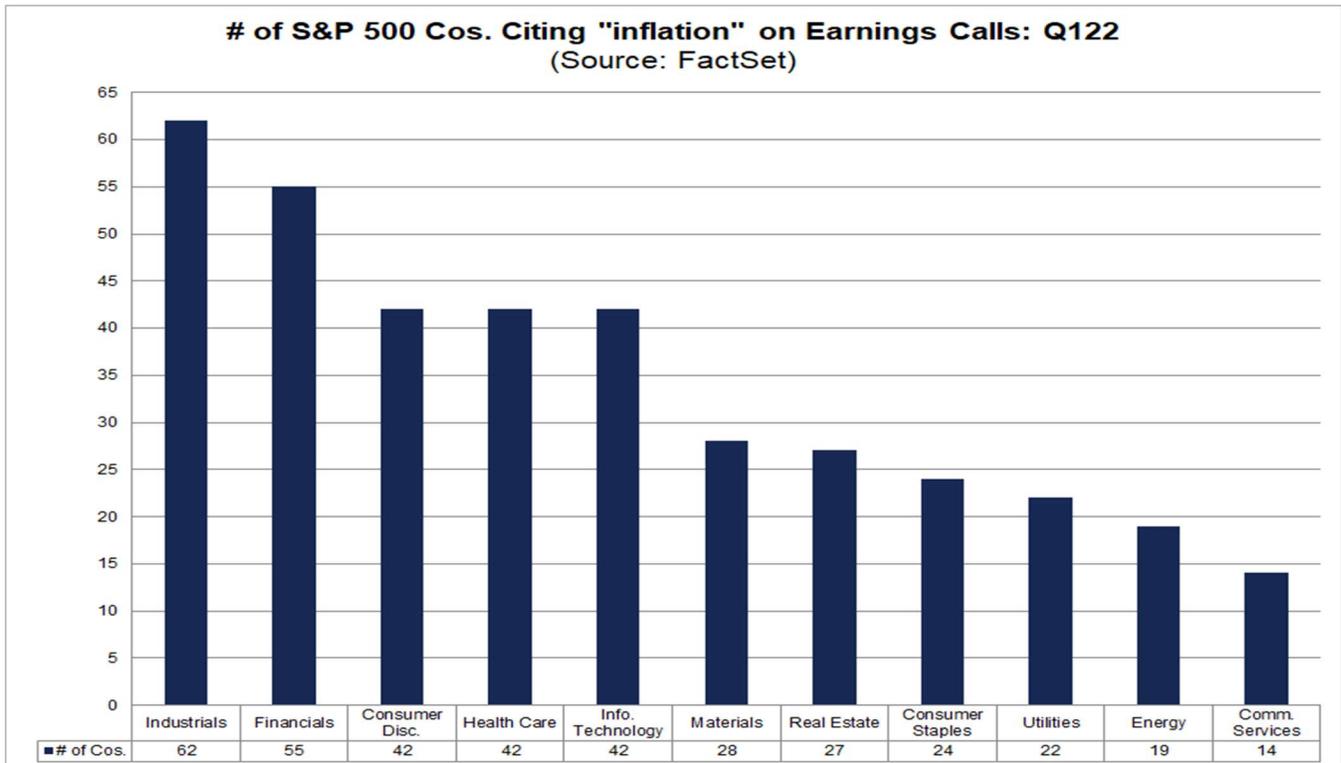
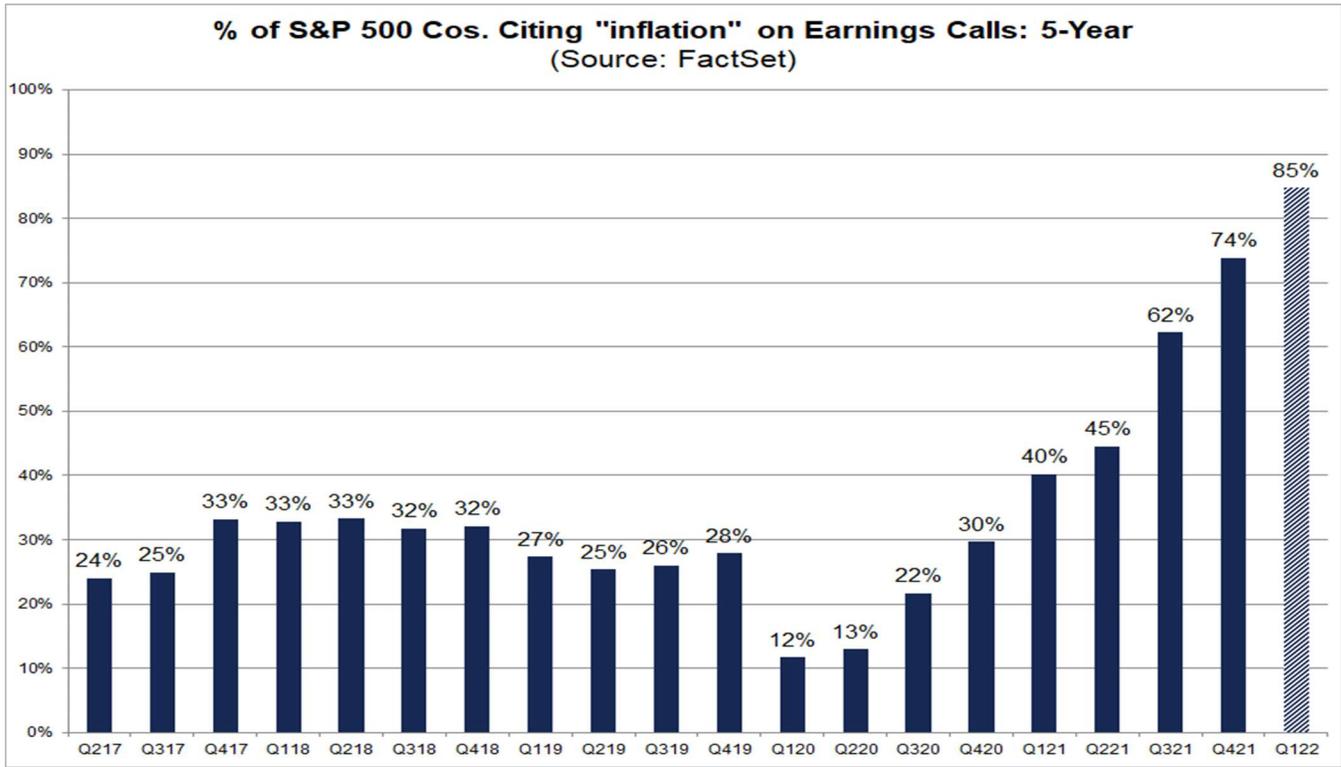
Of these 445 companies, 377 have cited the term "inflation" during their earnings calls for the first quarter, which is well above the 5-year average of 155. In fact, this is the highest overall number of S&P 500 companies citing "inflation" on earnings calls going back to at least 2010 (using current index constituents going back in time). The previous record was 356, which occurred in Q4 2021. However, there are still about 40 S&P 500 companies that have not reported actual earnings for the first quarter to date, so the final number will likely finish even higher.

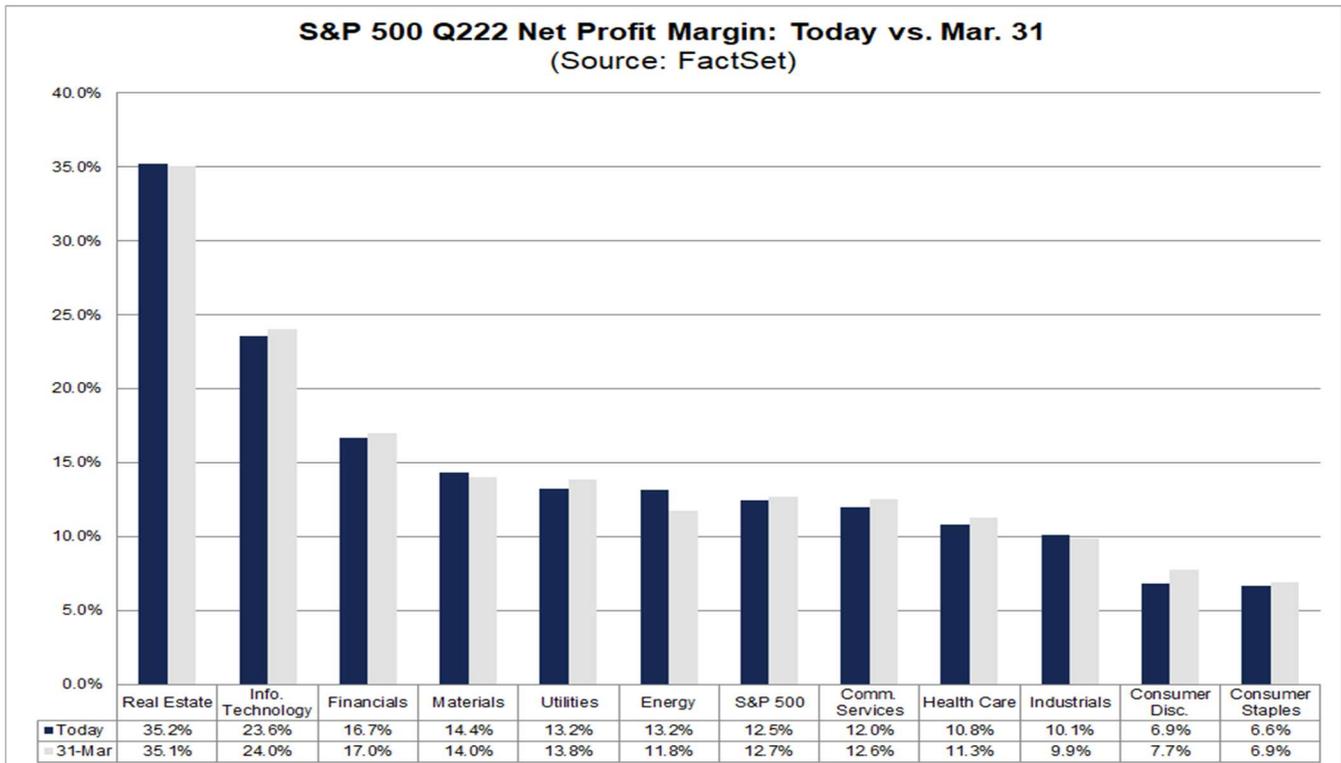
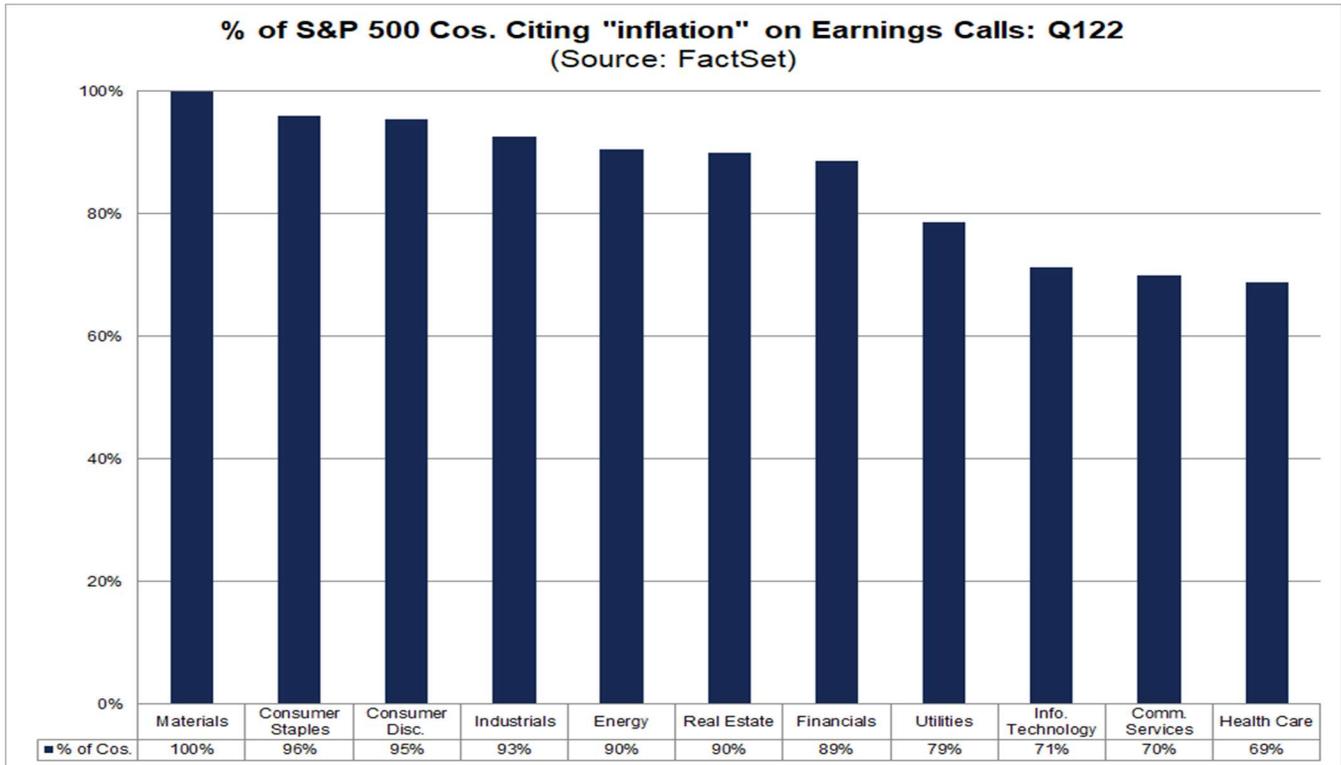
It should also be noted that 85% of the S&P 500 companies (377 out of 445) that have conducted earnings calls for the first quarter (through May 12) have cited "inflation" during the call. This is also the highest percentage of S&P 500 companies citing "inflation" on earnings calls also going back to at least 2010. The previous record was 74%, which also occurred in Q4 2021.

At the sector level, the Industrials (62) and Financials (55) sectors have the highest number of companies citing "inflation" on earnings calls for Q1. On the other hand, the Materials (100%) and Consumer Staples (96%) sectors have the highest percentages of companies citing "inflation" on their Q1 earnings calls during this period.

Given the high number of S&P 500 companies that have cited "inflation" on Q1 earnings calls, have net profit margin expectations for the S&P 500 for Q2 2022 and CY 2022 been revised? The current net profit margin estimate of 12.5% for Q2 2022 is below the estimate of 12.7% on March 31, while the current net profit margin estimate of 12.6% for CY 2022 is also below estimate of 12.7% on March 31.







## Topic of the Week: 2

### S&P 500 Forward P/E Ratio Falls Below 10-Year Average For The First Time Since Q2 2020

On May 12, the closing price for the S&P 500 was 3930.08 and the forward 12-month EPS estimate for the index was \$237.18. Based on this closing price and EPS estimate, the forward 12-month P/E ratio for the S&P 500 on that date was 16.6. How does this 16.6 P/E ratio compare to historical averages? How much has it changed in recent months?

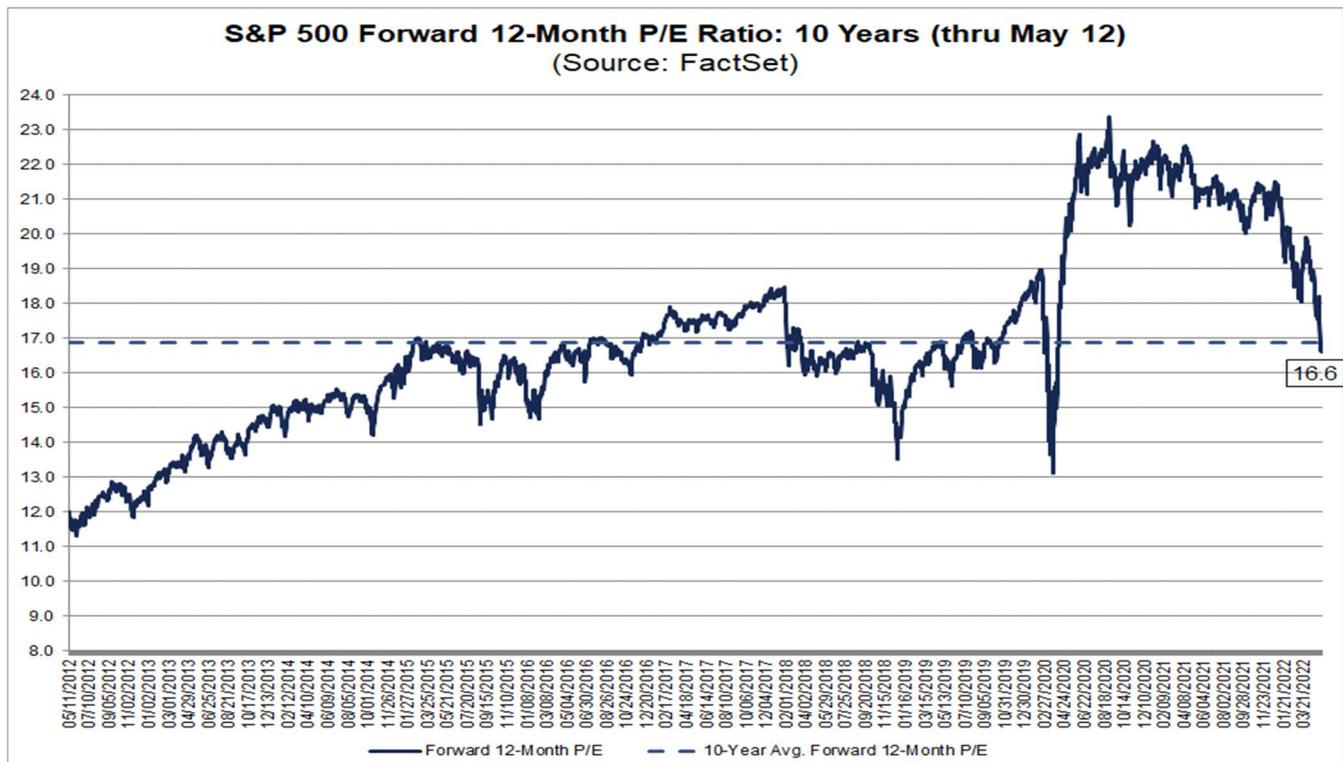
The forward 12-month P/E ratio of 16.6 on May 12 was below the 5-year average of 18.6 and below the 10-year average of 16.9. However, it was still above the next three most recent historical averages: 15-year (15.5), 20-year (15.5) and 25-year (16.5).

In fact, prior to the past four days, this marked the first time the forward 12-month P/E ratio was below the 10-year average of 16.9 since April 7, 2020 (16.8). However, the forward 12-month P/E ratio of 16.6 on this date was still well above the lowest P/E ratio of the past 9 years of 13.1 recorded on March 23, 2020.

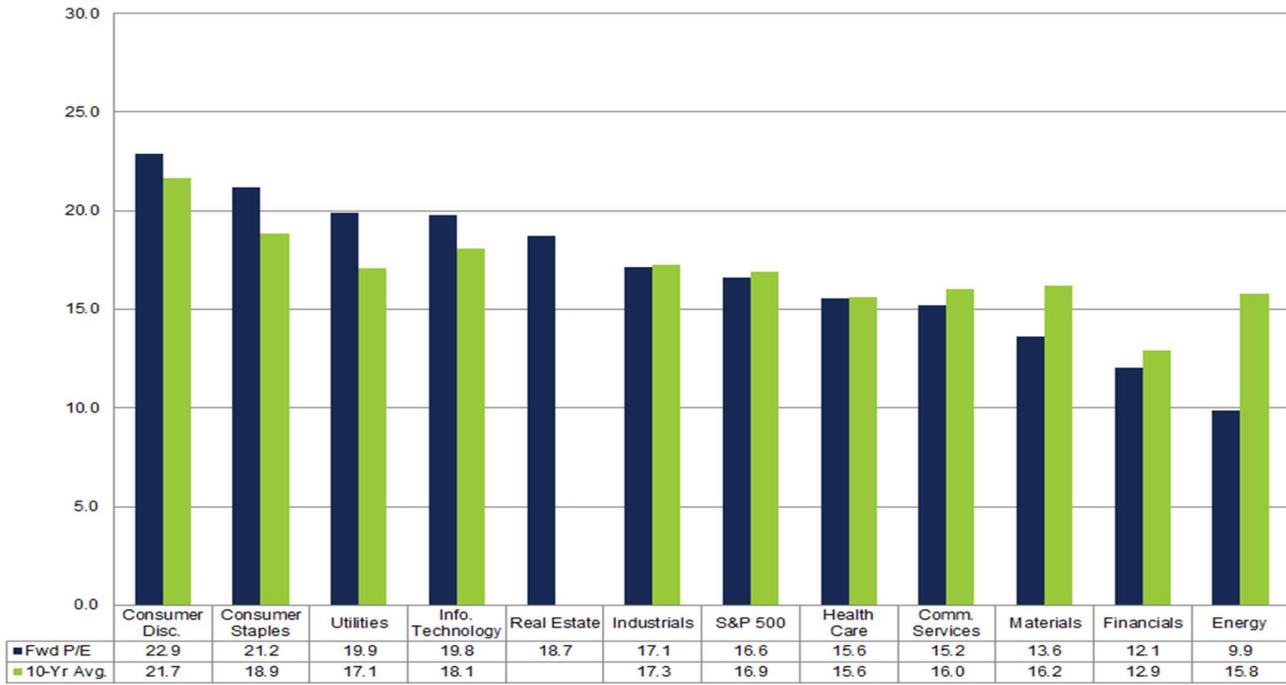
At the sector level, five sectors had forward 12-month P/E ratios on May 12 that were below their 10-year averages, led by the Energy (9.9 vs. 15.8) and Materials (13.6 vs. 16.2) sectors. On the other hand, five sectors had forward 12-month P/E ratios that were above their 10-year averages on that date, led by the Utilities (19.9 vs. 17.1) and Consumer Staples (21.2 vs. 18.9) sectors. One sector (Health Care) had a forward 12-month P/E ratio equal to its 10-year average (15.6).

On January 3, 2022, the S&P 500 closed at a record-high value of 4796.56. The forward 12-month P/E ratio on that date was 21.4. From January 3 through May 12, the price of the S&P 500 decreased by 17.5%, while the forward 12-month EPS estimate increased by 6.1%. Thus, the decrease in the “P” has been the main driver of the decrease in the forward P/E ratio since January 3.

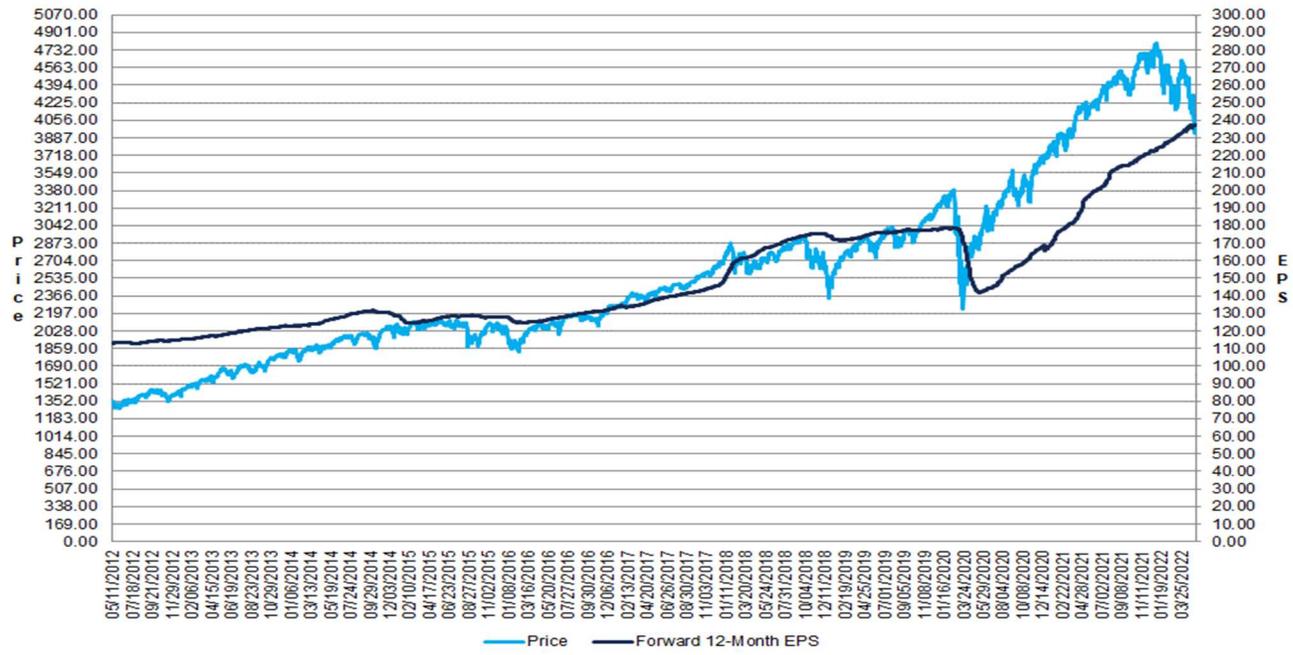
It is important to note that analysts were still projecting record-high EPS for the S&P 500 of \$229.22 for CY 2022 and \$251.22 for CY 2023 on May 12. If not, the forward 12-month P/E ratio would likely have been higher than 16.6.



**S&P 500 Sector-Level Forward 12-Month P/E Ratios (May 12)**  
(Source: FactSet)



**S&P 500 Change in Forward 12-Month EPS vs. Change in Price: 10 Yrs. (thru May 12)**  
(Source: FactSet)



## Q1 Earnings Season: By The Numbers

### Overview

At this point in time, the percentage of S&P 500 companies beating EPS estimates is equal to the 5-year average, but the magnitude of these positive surprises is below the 5-year average. As a result, the index is reporting higher earnings for the first quarter today relative to the end of last week and relative to the end of the quarter. However, the index is also reporting single-digit earnings growth for the first time since Q4 2020. The lower earnings growth rate for Q1 2022 relative to recent quarters can be attributed to both a difficult comparison to unusually high earnings growth in Q1 2021 and continuing macroeconomic headwinds.

Overall, 91% of the companies in the S&P 500 have reported actual results for Q1 2022 to date. Of these companies, 77% have reported actual EPS above estimates, which is equal to the 5-year average of 77%. In aggregate, companies are reporting earnings that are 4.9% above estimates, which is below the 5-year average of 8.9%.

Due to these positive EPS surprises, the index is reporting higher earnings for the first quarter today relative to the end of last week and relative to the end of the quarter. The blended (combines actual results for companies that have reported and estimated results for companies that have yet to report) earnings growth rate for the first quarter is 9.1% today, compared to an earnings growth rate of 9.0% last week and an earnings growth rate of 4.6% at the end of the first quarter (March 31). Positive earnings surprises reported by companies in the Health Care, Financials, and Information Technology sectors, partially offset by a negative earnings surprise reported by a company in the Consumer Discretionary sector, have been the largest contributors to the increase in the earnings growth rate since the end of the first quarter (March 31).

If 9.1% is the actual growth rate for the quarter, it will mark the lowest earnings growth rate reported by the index since Q4 2020 (3.8%). Nine of the eleven sectors are reporting (or have reported) year-over-year earnings growth, led by the Energy, Materials, and Industrials sectors. On the other hand, two sectors are reporting a year-over-year decline in earnings: Consumer Discretionary and Financials.

In terms of revenues, 74% of S&P 500 companies have reported actual revenues above estimates, which is above the 5-year average of 69%. In aggregate, companies are reporting revenues that are 2.8% above estimates, which is also above the 5-year average of 1.7%. If 2.8% is the final percentage for the quarter, it will tie the mark (with Q4 2020) for the fourth-highest revenue surprise reported by the index since FactSet began tracking this data in 2008.

Due to these positive revenue surprises, the index is reporting higher revenues for the first quarter today relative to the end of last week and relative to the end of the quarter. The blended revenue growth rate for the first quarter is 13.4% today, compared to a revenue growth rate of 13.3% last week and a revenue growth rate of 10.7% at the end of the first quarter (March 31). Upward revisions to revenue estimates and positive revenue surprises reported by companies in the Energy and Health Care sectors have been the largest contributors to the improvement in the revenue growth rate since the end of the first quarter (March 31).

If 13.4% is the actual growth rate for the quarter, it will mark the fifth-straight quarter of year-over-year revenue growth above 10% for the index. All eleven sectors are reporting year-over-year growth in revenues, led by the Energy, Materials, and Real Estate sectors.

Looking ahead, analysts expect earnings growth of 4.4% for Q2 2022, 10.3% for Q3 2022, and 9.8% for Q4 2022. For CY 2022, analysts are predicting earnings growth of 10.1%.

The forward 12-month P/E ratio is 16.6, which is below the 5-year average (18.6) and below the 10-year average (16.9). It is also below the forward P/E ratio of 19.4 recorded at the end of the first quarter (March 31), as prices have decreased while the forward 12-month EPS estimate has increased over the past several weeks.

During the upcoming week, 15 S&P 500 companies (including three Dow 30 components) are scheduled to report results for the first quarter.

## Scorecard: More Companies Beating Revenue Estimates Than Average

### Percentage of Companies Beating EPS Estimates (77%) is Equal to 5-Year Average

Overall, 91% of the companies in the S&P 500 have reported earnings to date for the first quarter. Of these companies, 77% have reported actual EPS above the mean EPS estimate, 3% have reported actual EPS equal to the mean EPS estimate, and 20% have reported actual EPS below the mean EPS estimate. The percentage of companies reporting EPS above the mean EPS estimate is below the 1-year average (83%), equal to the 5-year average (77%), and above the 10-year average (72%).

At the sector level, the Industrials (90%) and Consumer Staples (88%) sectors have the highest percentages of companies reporting earnings above estimates, while the Consumer Discretionary (59%) and Communication Services (64%) sectors have the lowest percentages of companies reporting earnings above estimates.

### Earnings Surprise Percentage (+4.9%) is Below 5-Year Average

In aggregate, companies are reporting earnings that are 4.9% above expectations. This surprise percentage is below the 1-year average (+14.1%), below the 5-year average (+8.9%), and below the 10-year average (6.5%). If 4.9% is the final percentage for the quarter, it will mark the lowest earnings surprise percentage reported by the index since Q1 2020 (+1.1%).

The Utilities (+14.7%) sector reported the largest positive (aggregate) difference between actual earnings and estimated earnings. Within this sector, NRG Energy (\$7.17 vs. \$0.60), Pinnacle West Capital (\$0.15 vs. \$0.07), and Edison International (\$1.07 vs. \$0.81) reported the largest positive EPS surprises.

The Materials (+9.5%) sector reported the second-largest positive (aggregate) difference between actual earnings and estimated earnings. Within this sector, International Paper (\$0.76 vs. \$0.52) and Albemarle Corporation (\$2.38 vs. \$1.64) reported the largest positive EPS surprises.

The Consumer Staples (+8.9%) sector is reporting the third-largest positive (aggregate) difference between actual earnings and estimated earnings. Within this sector, Lamb Weston Holdings (\$0.73 vs. \$0.44), Molson Coors (\$0.29 vs. \$0.19), Clorox (\$1.31 vs. \$0.92), and Archer-Daniels-Midland (\$1.90 vs. \$1.41) have reported the largest positive EPS surprises.

The Financials (+8.6%) sector is reporting the fourth-largest positive (aggregate) difference between actual earnings and estimated earnings. Within this sector, Citigroup (\$2.02 vs. \$1.43), SVB Financial Group (\$7.92 vs. \$5.60), Assurant (\$3.75 vs. \$2.84), and MetLife (\$2.08 vs. \$1.65) have reported the largest positive EPS surprises.

The Health Care (+8.5%) sector is reporting the fifth-largest positive (aggregate) difference between actual earnings and estimated earnings. Within this sector, Moderna (\$8.58 vs. \$5.37), Bio-Rad laboratories (\$4.94 vs. \$3.37), Hologic (\$2.07 vs. \$1.60), and Organon (\$1.65 vs. \$1.30) have reported the largest positive EPS surprises.

On the other hand, the Consumer Discretionary (-34.2%) sector is reporting the largest negative (aggregate) difference between actual earnings and estimated earnings. Within this sector, Amazon.com (-\$7.56 vs. \$8.35) and Under Armour (-\$0.01 vs. \$0.04) have reported the largest negative EPS surprises. It should be noted that the GAAP EPS number for Amazon.com of -\$7.56 included a pre-tax (valuation) loss of \$7.6 billion. The majority of analysts provide estimates for Amazon.com on a GAAP basis.

### Market Punishing Positive Surprises

To date, the market is not rewarding positive earnings surprises and punishing negative earnings surprises more than average.

Companies that have reported positive earnings surprises for Q1 2022 have seen an average price decrease of -0.6% two days before the earnings release through two days after the earnings release. This percentage decrease is well below the 5-year average price increase of +0.8% during this same window for companies reporting positive earnings surprises.

Companies that have reported negative earnings surprises for Q1 2022 have seen an average price decrease of -5.1% two days before the earnings release through two days after the earnings. This percentage decrease is larger than the 5-year average price decrease of -2.3% during this same window for companies reporting negative earnings surprises.

### Percentage of Companies Beating Revenue Estimates (74%) is Above 5-Year Average

In terms of revenues, 74% of companies have reported actual revenues above estimated revenues and 26% have reported actual revenues below estimated revenues. The percentage of companies reporting revenues above estimates is below the 1-year average (79%), but above the 5-year average (69%) and above the 10-year average (61%).

At the sector level, the Information Technology (90%), Materials (86%), and Consumer Staples (85%) sectors have the highest percentages of companies reporting revenues above estimates, while the Communication Services (36%) and Financials (54%) sectors have the lowest percentages of companies reporting revenues above estimates.

### Revenue Surprise Percentage (+2.8%) is Above 5-Year Average

In aggregate, companies are reporting revenues that are 2.8% above expectations. This surprise percentage is below the 1-year average (+3.5%), but above the 5-year average (+1.7%) and above the 10-year average (+1.1%).

If 2.8% is the final percentage for the quarter, it will tie the mark (with Q4 2020) for the fourth-highest revenue surprise reported by the index since FactSet began tracking this data in 2008. The current record is 4.6%, which occurred in Q2 2021.

At the sector level, the Utilities (+10.4%) and Energy (+10.3%) sectors reported the largest positive (aggregate) differences between actual revenues and estimated revenues, while the Communication Services (-0.1%) sector is reporting the largest negative (aggregate) difference between actual revenues and estimated revenues.

## Revisions: Increase in Blended Earnings Growth Rate This Week

### Increase in Blended Earnings Growth Rate This Week Due to Multiple Sectors

The blended (year-over-year) earnings growth rate for the first quarter is 9.1%, which is above the earnings growth rate of 9.0% last week. Positive earnings surprises reported by companies in multiple sectors were responsible for the small increase in the overall earnings growth rate during the week.

### Increase in Blended Revenue Growth This Week Due to Multiple Sectors

The blended (year-over-year) revenue growth rate for the first quarter is 13.4%, which is above the revenue growth rate of 13.3% last week. Positive revenue surprises reported by companies in multiple sectors (led by the Utilities and Consumer Staples sectors) were responsible for the small improvement in the revenue growth rate during the week.

### Health Care Sector Has Seen Largest Increase in Earnings since March 31

The blended (year-over-year) earnings growth rate for Q1 2022 of 9.1% is larger than the estimate of 4.6% at the end of the first quarter (March 31). Ten sectors have recorded an increase in their earnings growth rate since the end of the quarter due to upward revisions to earnings estimates and positive earnings surprises, led by the Energy (to 268.2% from 245.7%), Utilities (to 26.8% from 8.2%), and Materials (to 42.1% from 30.4%) sectors. However, the Health Care, Financials, and Information Technology sectors have been the largest contributors to the increase in the earnings growth rate for the index during this period. On the other hand, the Consumer Discretionary (to -34.1% from -15.1%) sector is the only sector that has recorded an increase in its earnings decline since the end of the quarter due to downward revisions to earnings estimates and negative earnings surprises. This sector is also the largest detractor to the improvement in the earnings growth rate for the index since March 31.

In the Health Care sector, the positive EPS surprises reported by Moderna (\$8.58 vs. \$5.37), Merck (\$2.14 vs. \$1.83), Eli Lilly (\$2.62 vs. \$2.29), and Abbott Laboratories (\$1.73 vs. \$1.47) have been significant contributors to the increase in the earnings growth rate for the index since March 31. As a result, the blended earnings growth rate for the Health Care sector increased to 16.2% from 8.4% over this period.

In the Financials sector, the positive EPS surprises reported by Citigroup (\$2.02 vs. \$1.43) and Goldman Sachs have been significant contributors to the increase in the earnings growth rate for the index since March 31. As a result, the blended earnings decline for the Financials sector has decreased to -19.8% from -24.4% over this period.

In the Information Technology sector, the positive EPS surprises reported by Apple (\$1.52 vs. \$1.42) and Mastercard (\$2.76 vs. \$2.18) have been substantial contributors to the increase in the earnings growth rate for the index since March 31. As a result, the blended earnings growth rate for the Information Technology sector has increased to 12.9% from 8.3% over this period.

In the Consumer Discretionary sector, the negative EPS surprise reported by Amazon.com (-\$7.56 vs. \$8.35) has been the largest detractor to the increase in the earnings growth rate for the index since March 31. It should be noted that the GAAP EPS number for Amazon.com of -\$7.56 included a pre-tax (valuation) loss of \$7.6 billion. The majority of analysts provide estimates for Amazon.com on a GAAP basis. As a result, the blended earnings decline for the Consumer Discretionary sector increased to -34.1% from -15.1% over this period.

### Energy Sector Has Seen Largest Increase in Revenues since March 31

The blended (year-over-year) revenue growth rate for Q1 2022 of 13.4% is larger than the estimate of 10.7% at the end of the first quarter (March 31). Ten sectors have recorded an increase in revenue growth since the end of the quarter due to upward revisions to revenue estimates and positive revenue surprises, led by the Energy (to 60.2% from 43.5%) and Utilities (to 2.5% from -7.3%) sectors. However, the Energy and Health Care sectors have been the largest contributors to the increase in the revenue growth rate for the index during this period. On the other hand, one sector has recorded a decrease in its revenue growth rate since the end of the quarter due to downward revisions to revenue estimates and negative revenue surprises: Communication Services (to 10.2% from 10.3%).

In the Energy sector, upward revisions to revenue estimates and positive revenue surprises reported by Exxon Mobil (\$90.5 billion vs. \$82.8 billion), Valero Energy (to \$38.5 billion from \$31.6 billion), Marathon Petroleum (\$38.4 billion vs. \$30.8 billion), and Chevron (\$54.4 billion vs. \$51.1 billion) were the largest contributors to the increase in the revenue growth rate for the index after March 31. As a result, the blended revenue growth rate for the Energy sector increased to 60.2% from 43.5% over this period.

In the Health Care sector, positive revenue surprises reported by Centene Corporation (\$37.2 billion vs. \$34.5 billion), McKesson (\$66.1 billion vs. \$63.7 billion), Cardinal Health (\$44.8 billion vs. \$43.1 billion), Moderna (\$6.1 billion vs. \$4.4 billion), and UnitedHealth Group (\$80.1 billion vs. \$78.7 billion) have been significant contributors to the increase in the revenue growth rate for the index after March 31. As a result, the blended revenue growth rate for the Health Care sector has increased to 14.5% from 11.3% over this period.

### Earnings Growth: 9.1%

The blended (combines actual results for companies that have reported and estimated results for companies that have yet to report), year-over-year earnings growth rate for Q1 2021 is 9.1%, which is below the 5-year average earnings growth rate of 15.0% but above the 10-year average earnings growth rate of 8.8%. If 9.1% is the actual growth rate for the quarter, it will mark the lowest (year-over-year) earnings growth rate reported by the index since Q4 2020 (3.8%).

The lower earnings growth rate for Q1 2022 relative to recent quarters can be attributed to both a difficult comparison to unusually high earnings growth in Q1 2021 and continuing macroeconomic headwinds. In Q1 2021, the S&P 500 reported (year-over-year) earnings growth of 91.1%, which is the second-highest year-over-year earnings growth rate reported by the index since 2008. Companies also continue to face macroeconomic headwinds, including higher costs, supply chain disruptions, labor shortages, and the military conflict in Ukraine. During the earnings season for Q4 2021, 74% of S&P 500 companies cited "inflation" on their earnings calls from December 15 to March 14, while 74% of S&P 500 companies cited "supply chain" on their earnings calls from December 15 to March 14. These were the highest percentages of S&P 500 companies citing "inflation" and "supply chain" on earnings calls going back to at least 2010.

Nine of the eleven sectors are reporting (or have reported) earnings growth, led by the Energy, Materials, and Industrials sectors. On the other hand, two sectors are reporting a decline in earnings: Consumer Discretionary and Financials.

### Energy: Largest Contributor to (Year-Over-Year) Earnings Growth for S&P 500 For Q1

The Energy sector reported the highest (year-over-year) earnings growth of all eleven sectors at 268.2%. Higher year-over-year oil prices contributed to the year-over-year improvement in earnings for this sector, as the average price of oil in Q1 2022 (\$95.01) was 63% above the average price for oil in Q1 2021 (\$58.14). At the sub-industry level, four of the five sub-industries in the sector reported a year-over-year increase in earnings. A growth rate was not calculated for the Oil & Gas Refining & Marketing sub-industry due to the loss reported by the sub-industry in the year-ago quarter. However, this sub-industry reported a profit in Q1 2022 (\$2.4 billion) compared to a loss in Q1 2021 (-\$1.3 billion). The other three sub-industries that are reported year-over-year earnings growth were the Integrated Oil & Gas (299%), Oil & Gas Exploration & Production (237%), and Oil & Gas Equipment & Services (70%) sub-industries. On the other hand, the Oil & Gas Storage & Transportation (-26%) sub-industry is the only sub-industry that reported a (year-over-year) decline in earnings in the sector.

The Energy sector is also the largest contributor to earnings growth for the S&P 500 for the first quarter. If this sector were excluded, the blended earnings growth rate for the index would fall to 3.1% from 9.1%.

### Materials: Metals & Mining Industry Led Year-over-Year Growth

The Materials sector reported the second-highest (year-over-year) earnings growth rate of all eleven sectors at 42.1%. At the industry level, three of the four industries in this sector reported year-over-year earnings growth above 20%: Metals & Mining (83%), Chemicals (35%), and Containers & Packaging (22%). On the other hand, the Construction Materials industry (-22%) is the only industry that reported a (year-over-year) decline in earnings.

### Industrials: Airlines Industry Is Largest Contributor to Year-Over-Year Growth

The Industrials sector is reporting the third-highest (year-over-year) earnings growth rate of all eleven sectors at 33.3%. At the industry level, 10 of the 12 industries in the sector are reporting (or have reported) a year-over-year increase in earnings. A growth rate is not being calculated for the Airlines industry due to the loss reported by the industry in the year-ago quarter. However, this industry reported a smaller loss in Q1 2022 (-\$4.0 billion) compared to Q1 2021 (-\$8.9 billion). Six of the remaining nine industries are reporting (or have reported) earnings growth above 10%: Construction & Engineering (72%), Trading Companies & Distributors (50%), Road & Rail (22%), Air Freight & Logistics (20%), Commercial Services & Supplies (13%), and Electrical Equipment (12%). On the other hand, two industries reported a year-over-year decline in earnings: Aerospace & Defense (-9%) and Industrial Conglomerates (-3%).

At the industry level, the Airlines industry is the largest contributor to earnings growth for the sector. If the five companies in this industry were excluded, the blended earnings growth rate for the Industrials sector would fall to 7.2% from 33.3%.

### Consumer Discretionary: Amazon Is Largest Contributor to Year-Over-Year Decline

The Consumer Discretionary sector is reporting the largest (year-over-year) earnings decline of all eleven sectors at -34.1%. At the industry level, 6 of the 10 industries in the sector are reporting (or have reported) a year-over-year decrease in earnings. Four of these six industries are reporting (or have reported) a double-digit decline in earnings: Internet & Direct Marketing Retail (-136%), Leisure Products (-42%), Auto Components (-27%), and Multiline Retail (-17%). On the other hand, four industries reported year-over-year earnings growth. A growth rate was not calculated for the Hotels, Restaurants, & Leisure industry due to the loss reported in the year-ago quarter. This industry reported a smaller loss in Q1 2022 (-\$780 million) compared to Q1 2021 (-\$2.4 billion). Of the remaining three industries, the Distributors (21%) industry is the only industry that reported earnings growth above 10%.

At the company level, Amazon.com is the largest contributor to the decline in earnings for the sector. If this company were excluded, the Consumer Discretionary sector would be reporting earnings growth of 1.8% rather than an earnings decline of 34.1%.

### Financials: Banks Industry Leads Year-Over-Year Decline

The Financials sector is reporting the second-largest (year-over-year) earnings decline of all eleven sectors at -19.8%. At the industry level, all five industries in this sector are reporting (or have reported) a year-over-year earnings decline. Three of these five industries are reporting (or have reported) a year-over-year decrease in earnings of 10% or more: Banks (-31%), Consumer Finance (-19%), and Capital Markets (-14%).

The Financials sector is also the largest detractor to earnings growth for the S&P 500 for the first quarter. If this sector were excluded, the blended earnings growth rate for the index would improve to 17.0% from 9.1%.

### Revenue Growth: 13.4%

The blended (year-over-year) revenue growth rate for Q1 2022 is 13.4%, which is above the 5-year average revenue growth rate of 7.1% and above the 10-year average revenue growth rate of 4.0%. If 13.4% is the actual growth rate for the quarter, it will mark the fifth-straight quarter of (year-over-year) revenue growth above 10%.

All eleven sectors are reporting (or have reported) year-over-year growth in revenues, led by the Energy, Materials, and Real Estate sectors.

#### Energy: 3 of 5 Sub-Industries Reported Year-Over-Year Growth Above 55%

The Energy sector reported the highest (year-over-year) revenue growth rate of all eleven sectors at 60.2%. Higher year-over-year oil prices contributed to the year-over-year improvement in revenues for this sector, as the average price of oil in Q1 2022 (\$95.01) was 63% above the average price for oil in Q1 2021 (\$58.14). At the sub-industry level, all five sub-industries in the sector reported year-over-year revenue growth above 10%: Oil & Gas Exploration & Production (79%), Oil & Gas Refining & Marketing (73%), Integrated Oil & Gas (59%), Oil & Gas Equipment & Services (12%), and Oil & Gas Storage & Transportation (11%).

#### Materials: Metals & Mining Industry Led Year-Over-Year Growth

The Materials sector reported the second-highest (year-over-year) revenue growth of all eleven sectors at 24.1%. At the industry level, all four industries in this sector reported double-digit (year-over-year) growth in revenues: Metals & Mining (37%), Construction Materials (35%), Chemicals (25%), and Containers & Packaging (13%).

#### Real Estate: 6 of 8 Sub-Industries Reported Year-Over-Year Growth At or Above 10%

The Real Estate sector reported the third-highest (year-over-year) revenue growth of all eleven sectors at 20.5%. At the sub-industry level, all eight sub-industries in this sector reported year-over-year growth in revenues. Six of these eight sub-industries reported double-digit revenue growth, with four of these six sub-industries reporting revenue growth at or above 20%: Hotel & Resort REITs (169%), Retail REITs (26%), Real Estate Services (23%), and Health Care REITs (20%).

### Net Profit Margin: 12.3%

The blended net profit margin for the S&P 500 for Q1 2022 is 12.3%, which is above the 5-year average of 11.2%, but below the year-ago net profit margin of 12.8% and below the previous quarter's net profit margin of 12.4%.

If 12.3% is the actual net profit margin for the quarter, it will mark the third straight quarter in which the net profit margin for the index has declined. On the other hand, it will also mark the fifth-highest net profit margin reported by the index since FactSet began tracking this metric in 2008, trailing only the previous four quarters.

At the sector level, seven sectors are reporting (or have reported) a year-over-year increase in their net profit margins in Q1 2022 compared to Q1 2021, led by the Energy (to 10.5% vs. 4.6%) sector. On the other hand, four sectors are reporting (or have reported) a year-over-year decrease in their net profit margins in Q1 2022 compared to Q1 2021, led by the Financials (17.6% vs. 22.6%) sector.

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Nine sectors are reporting (or have reported) net profit margins in Q1 2022 that are above their 5-year averages, led by the Energy (10.5% vs. 5.7%) sector. On the other hand, two sectors are reporting net profit margins in Q1 2022 that are below their 5-year averages, led by the Consumer Discretionary (4.6% vs. 6.7%) sector.

## Looking Ahead: Forward Estimates and Valuation

### Guidance: % of S&P 500 Companies Issuing Negative EPS Guidance for Q2 is Above Average

At this point in time, 76 companies in the index have issued EPS guidance for Q2 2022. Of these 76 companies, 53 have issued negative EPS guidance and 23 have issued positive EPS guidance. The percentage of companies issuing negative EPS guidance is 70% (53 out of 76), which is above the 5-year average of 60% and above the 10-year average of 67%.

The term “guidance” (or “preannouncement”) is defined as a projection or estimate for EPS provided by a company in advance of the company reporting actual results. Guidance is classified as negative if the estimate (or mid-point of a range estimates) provided by a company is lower than the mean EPS estimate the day before the guidance was issued. Guidance is classified as positive if the estimate (or mid-point of a range of estimates) provided by the company is higher than the mean EPS estimate the day before the guidance was issued.

### Earnings: S&P 500 Expected to Report Earnings Growth of 10% for CY 2022

For the first quarter, S&P 500 companies are reporting earnings growth of 9.1% and revenue growth of 13.4%.

For Q2 2022, analysts are projecting earnings growth of 4.4% and revenue growth of 9.9%.

For Q3 2022, analysts are projecting earnings growth of 10.3% and revenue growth of 9.2%.

For Q4 2022, analysts are projecting earnings growth of 9.8% and revenue growth of 7.1%.

For CY 2022, analysts are projecting earnings growth of 10.1% and revenue growth of 10.2%.

### Valuation: Forward P/E Ratio is 16.6, Below the 10-Year Average (16.9)

The forward 12-month P/E ratio for the S&P 500 is 16.6. This P/E ratio is below the 5-year average of 18.6 and below the 10-year average of 16.9. It is also below the forward 12-month P/E ratio of 19.4 recorded at the end of the first quarter (March 31). Since the end of the first quarter (March 31), the price of the index has decreased by 13.3%, while the forward 12-month EPS estimate has increased by 1.7%. At the sector level, the Consumer Discretionary (22.9) and Consumer Staples (21.2) sectors have the highest forward 12-month P/E ratios, while the Energy (9.9) and Financials (12.1) sectors have the lowest forward 12-month P/E ratios.

The trailing 12-month P/E ratio is 19.1, which is below the 5-year average of 23.1 and below the 10-year average of 20.2.

### Targets & Ratings: Analysts Project 32% Increase in Price Over Next 12 Months

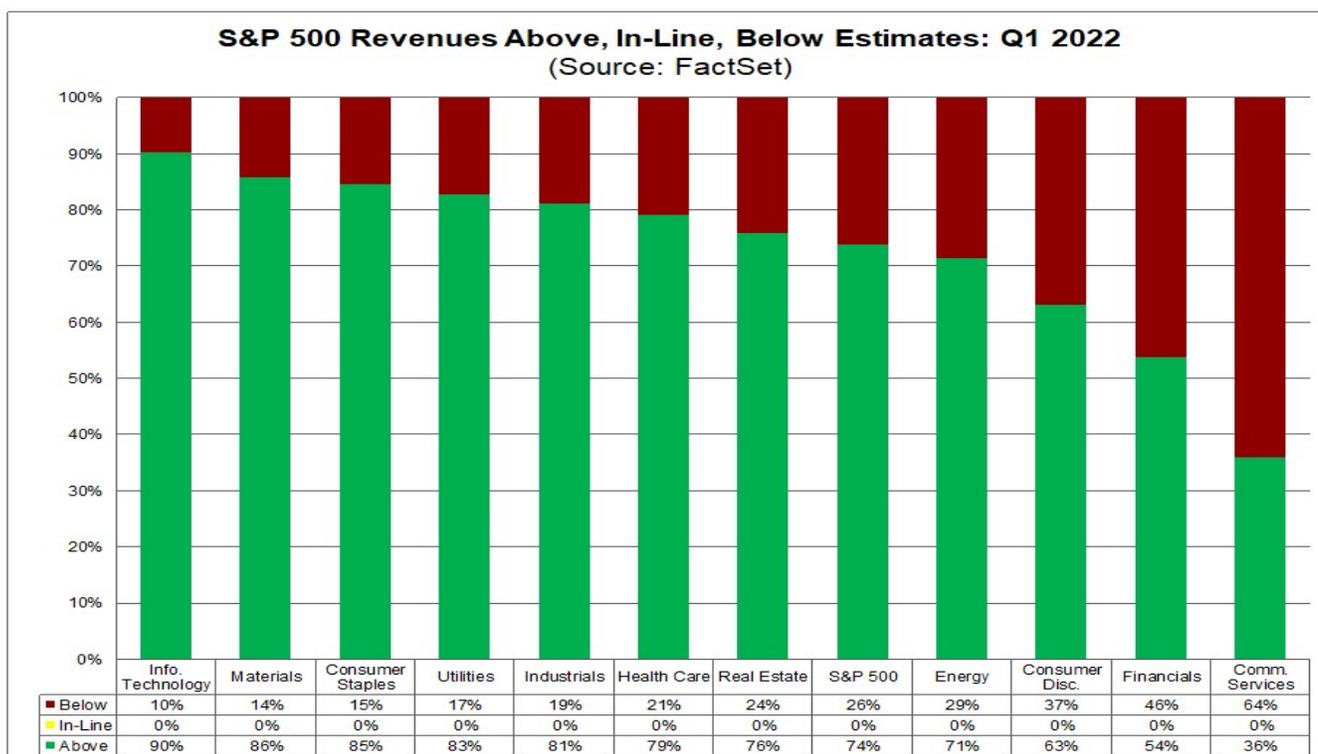
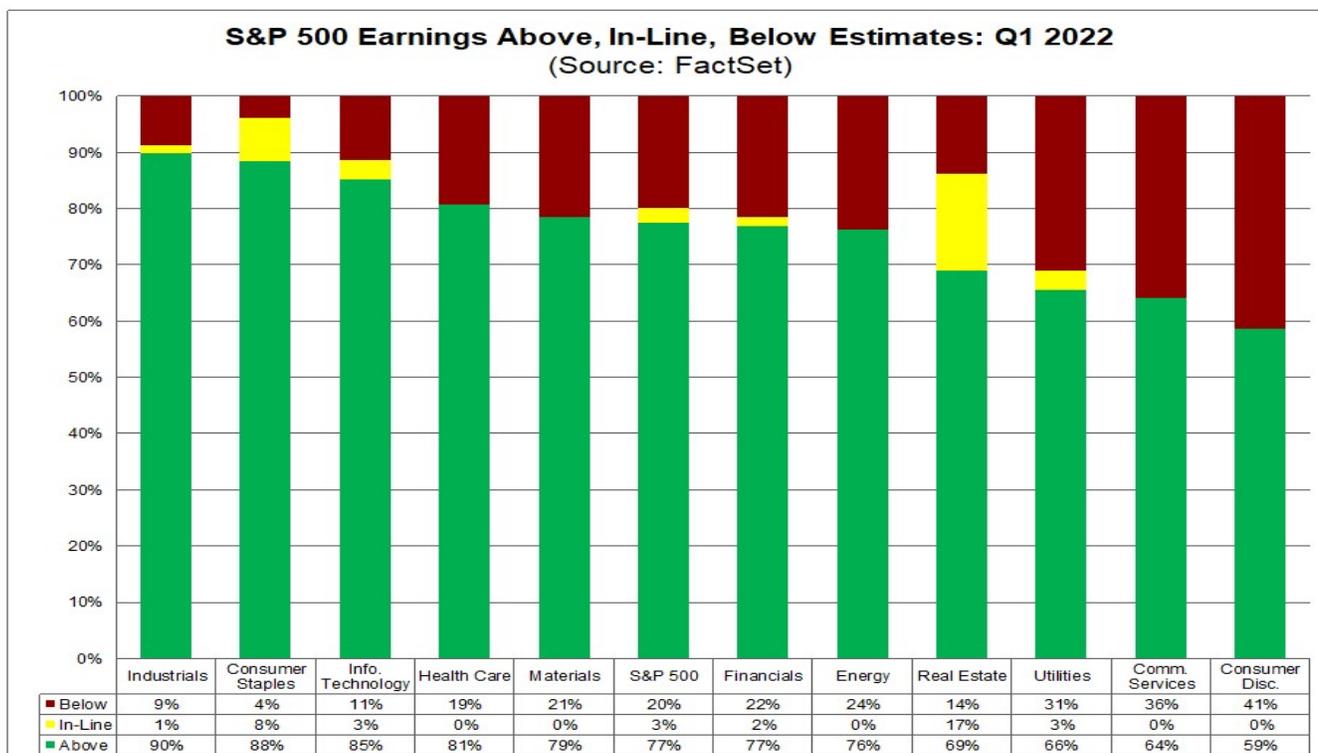
The bottom-up target price for the S&P 500 is 5170.65, which is 31.6% above the closing price of 3930.08. At the sector level, the Consumer Discretionary (+48.2%), Communication Services (+43.0%), and Information Technology (+41.1%) sectors are expected to see the largest price increases, as these sectors have the largest upside differences between the bottom-up target price and the closing price. On the other hand, the Consumer Staples (+11.3%) and Utilities (+13.0%) sectors are expected to see the smallest price increases, as these sectors have the smallest upside differences between the bottom-up target price and the closing price.

Overall, there are 10,802 ratings on stocks in the S&P 500. Of these 10,802 ratings, 57.0% are Buy ratings, 37.5% are Hold ratings, and 5.5% are Sell ratings. At the sector level, the Energy (66%) and Information Technology (65%) sectors have the highest percentages of Buy ratings, while the Consumer Staples (39%) and Utilities (49%) sectors have the lowest percentages of Buy ratings.

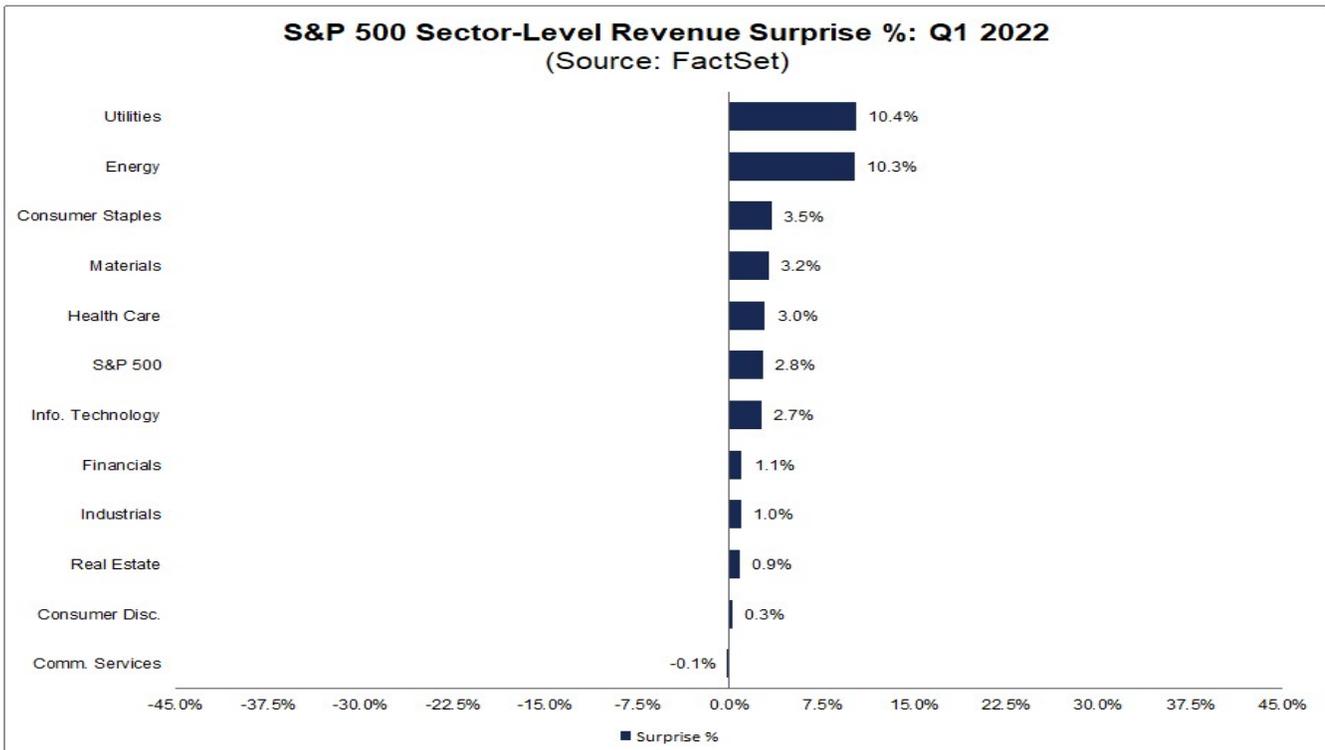
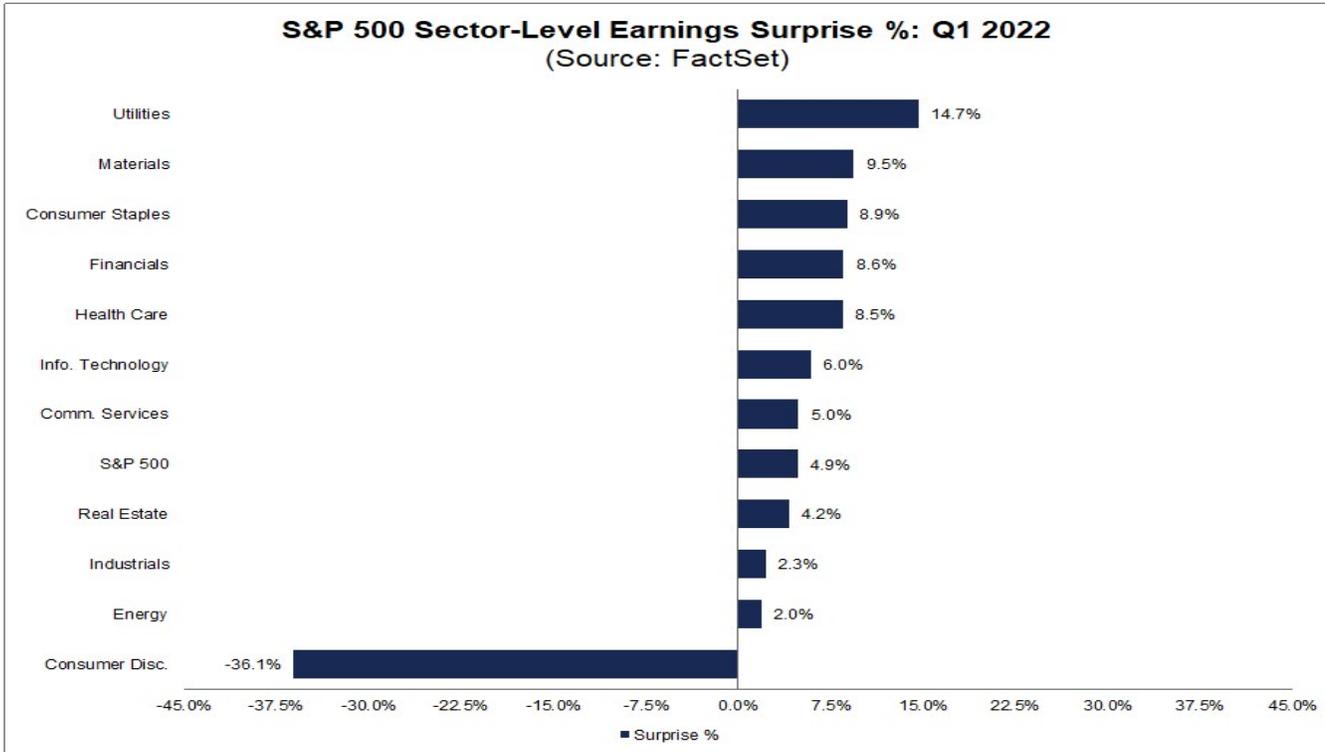
### Companies Reporting Next Week: 15

During the upcoming week, 15 S&P 500 companies (including 3 Dow 30 components) are scheduled to report results for the first quarter.

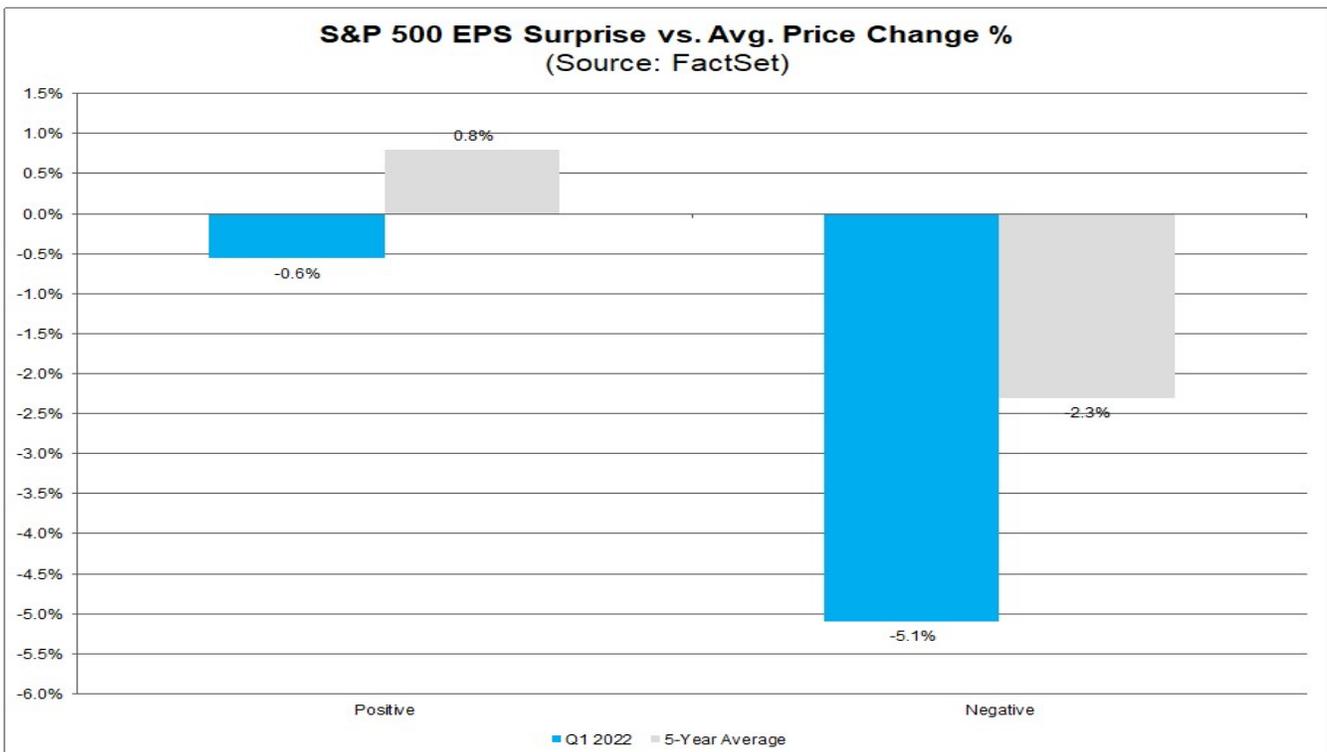
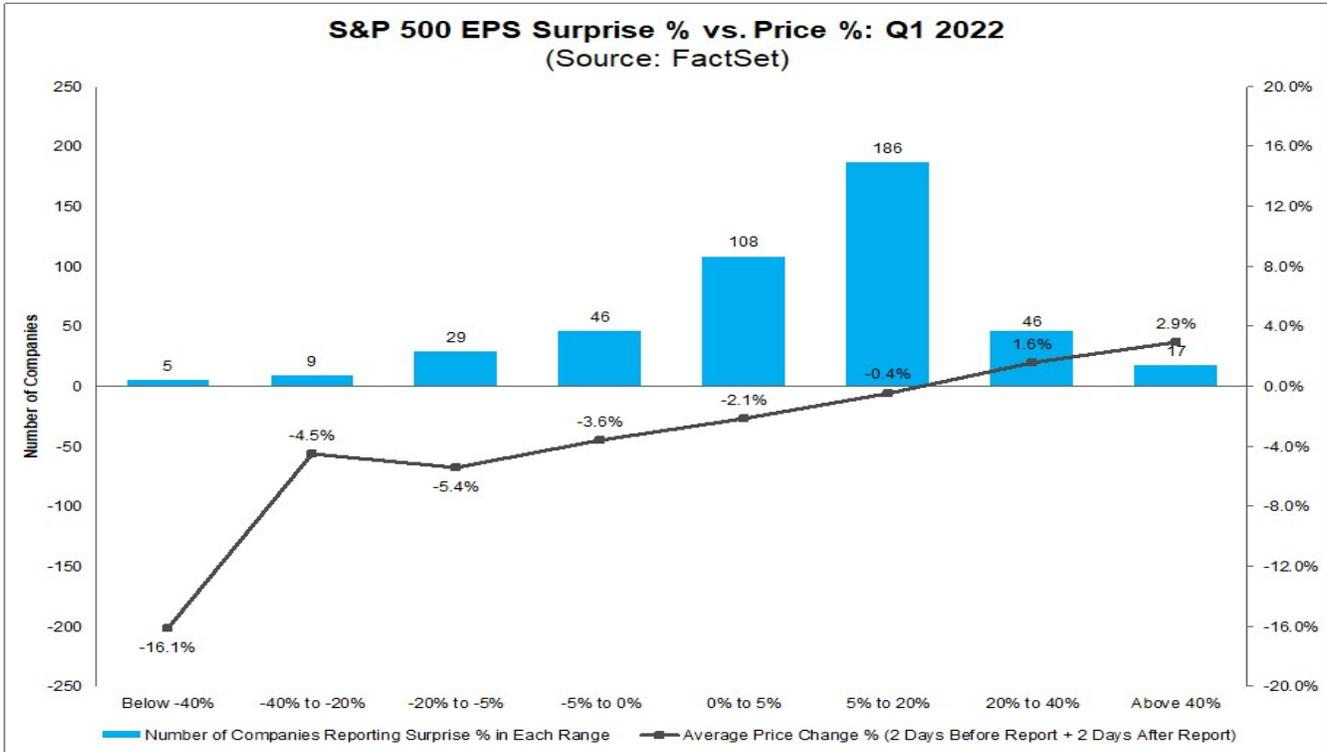
# Q1 2022: Scorecard



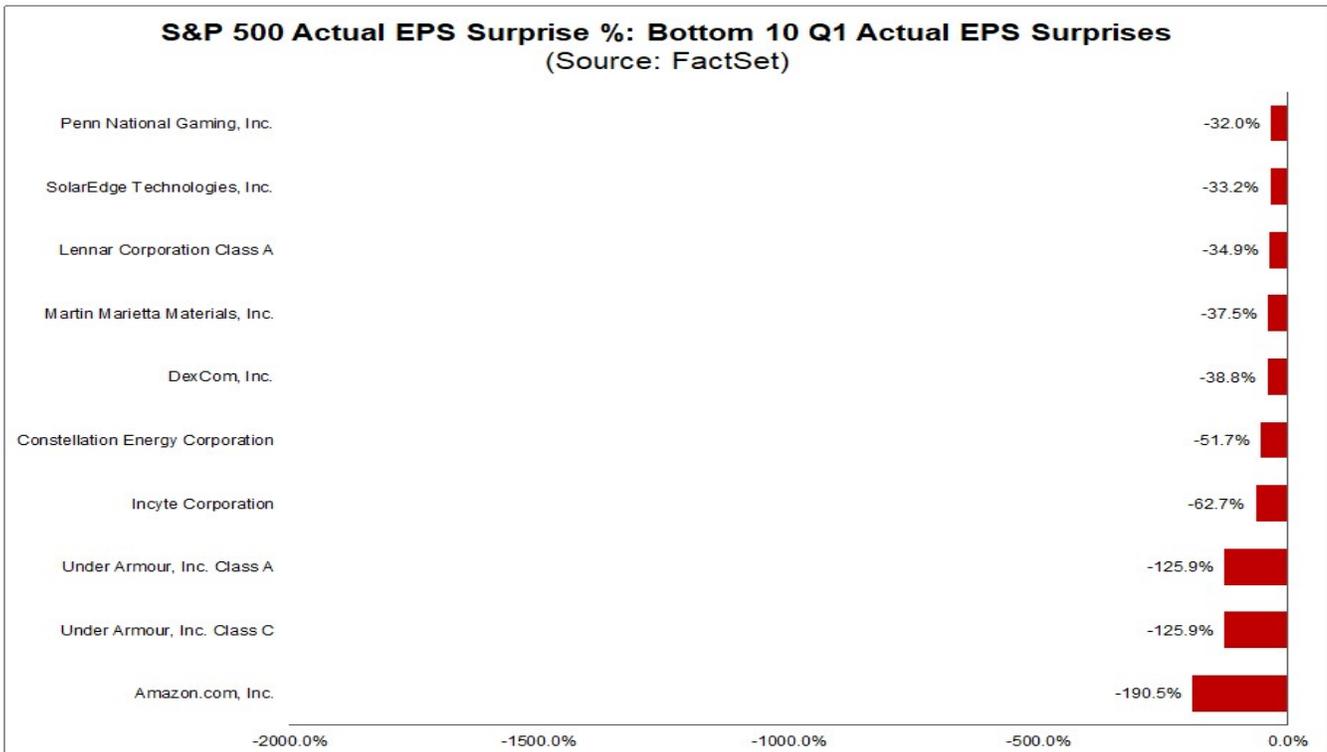
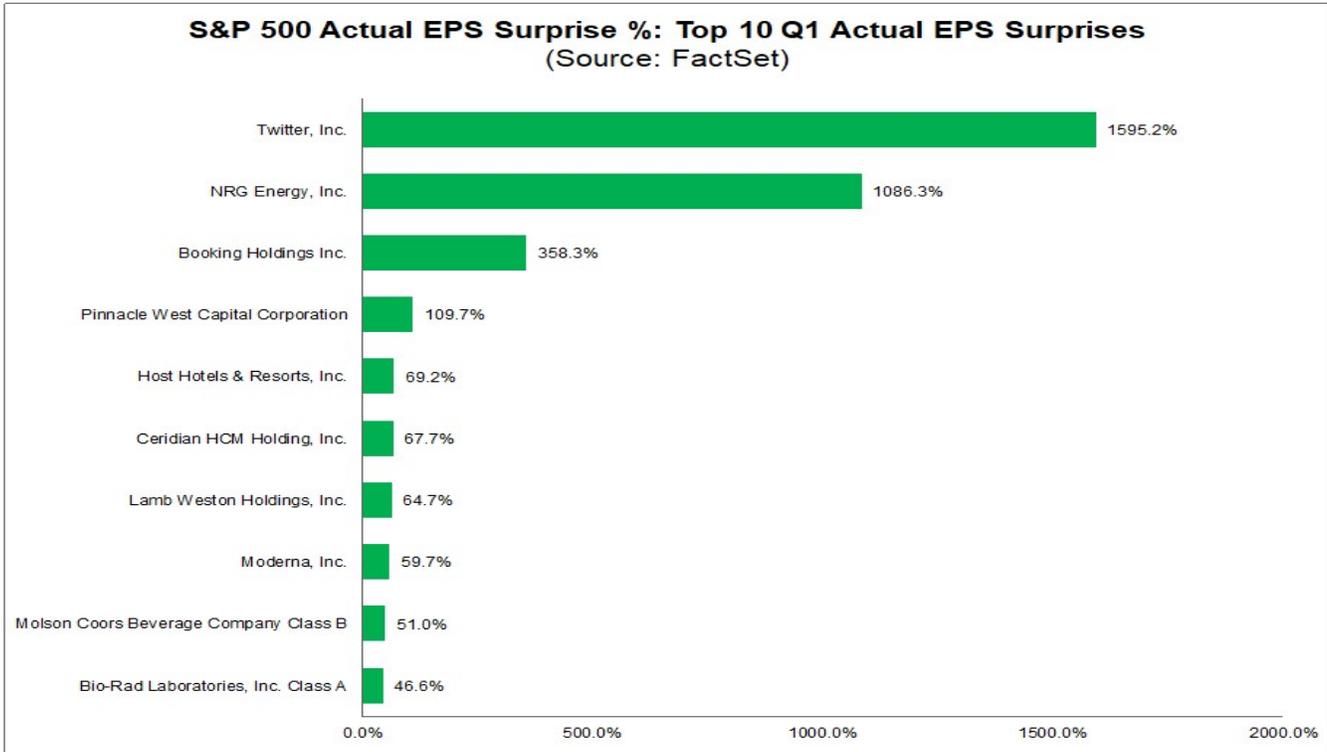
## Q1 2022: Scorecard



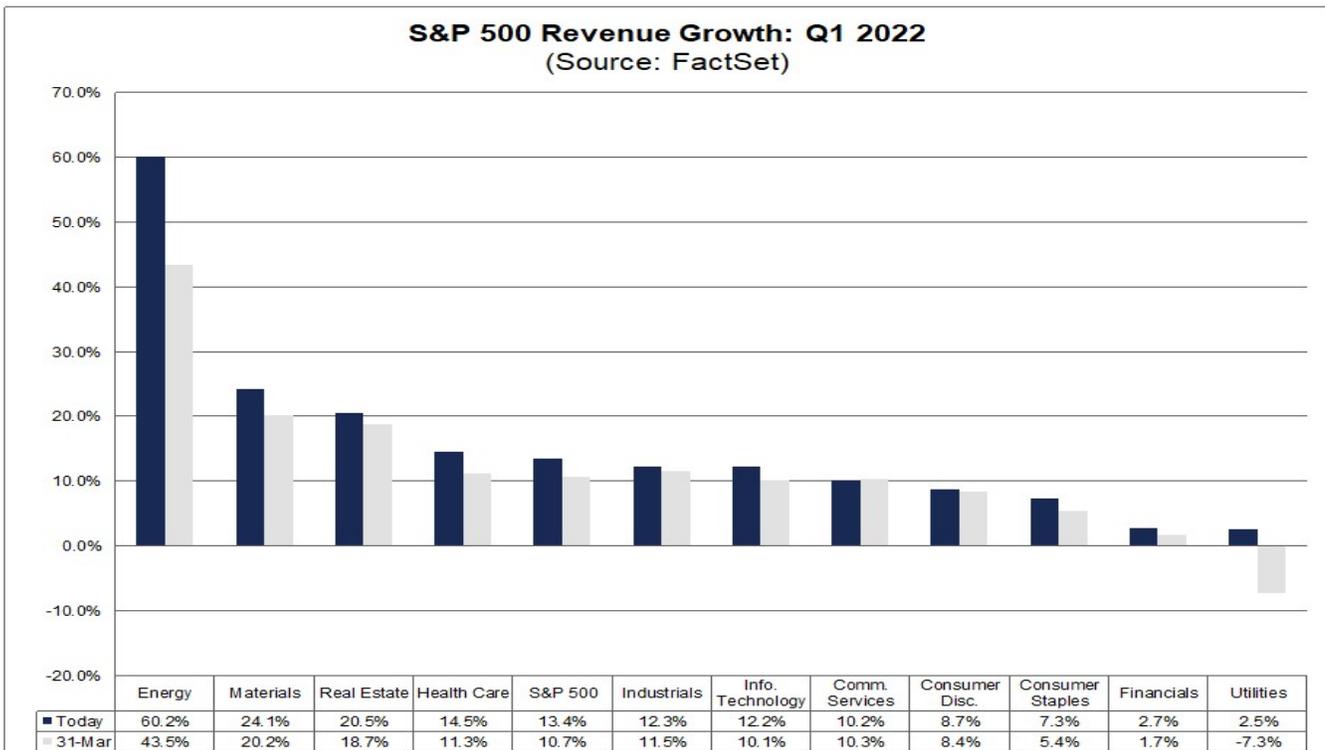
# Q1 2022: Scorecard



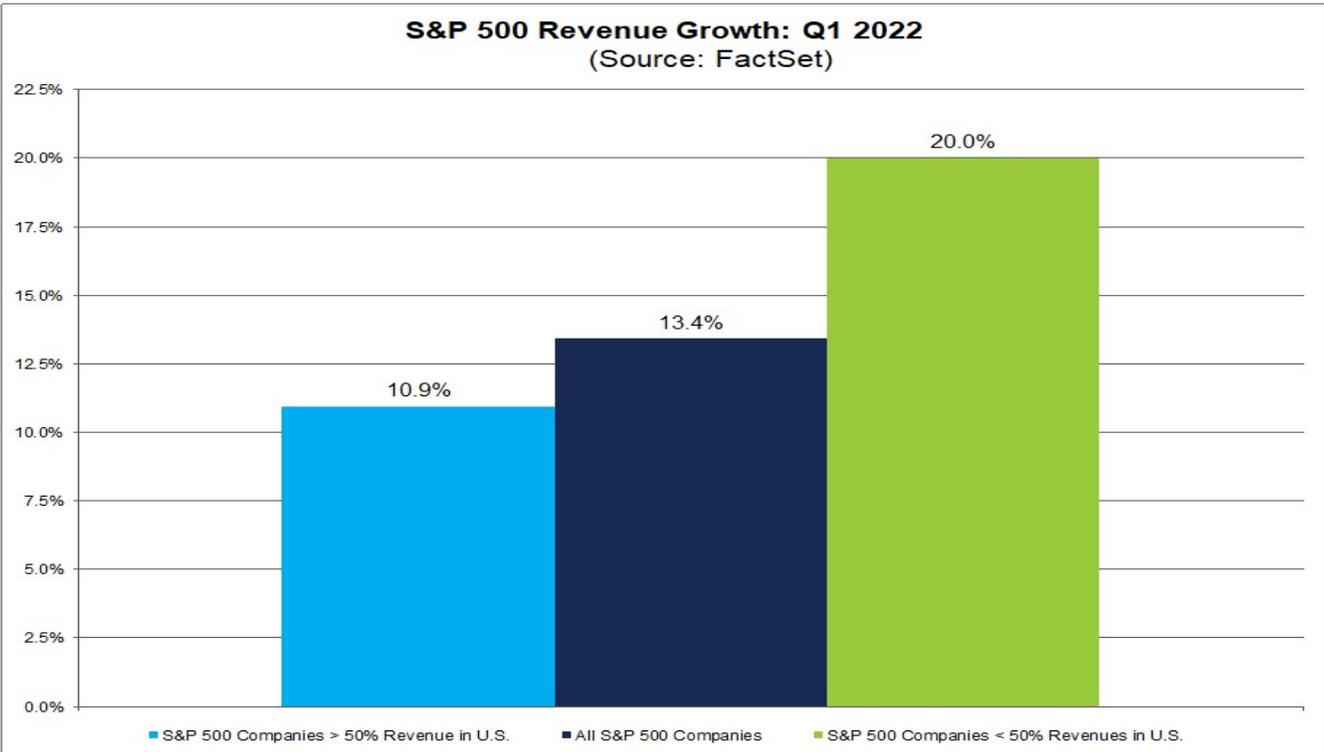
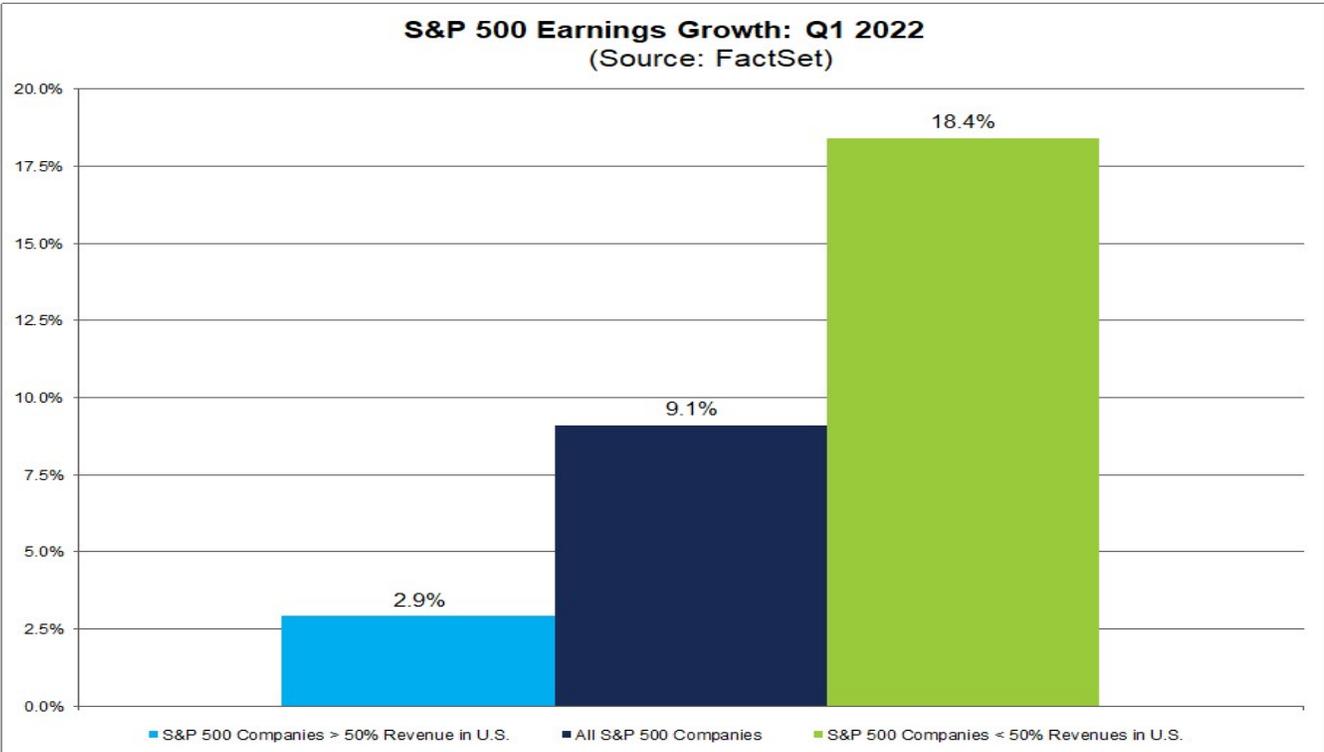
# Q1 2022: Scorecard



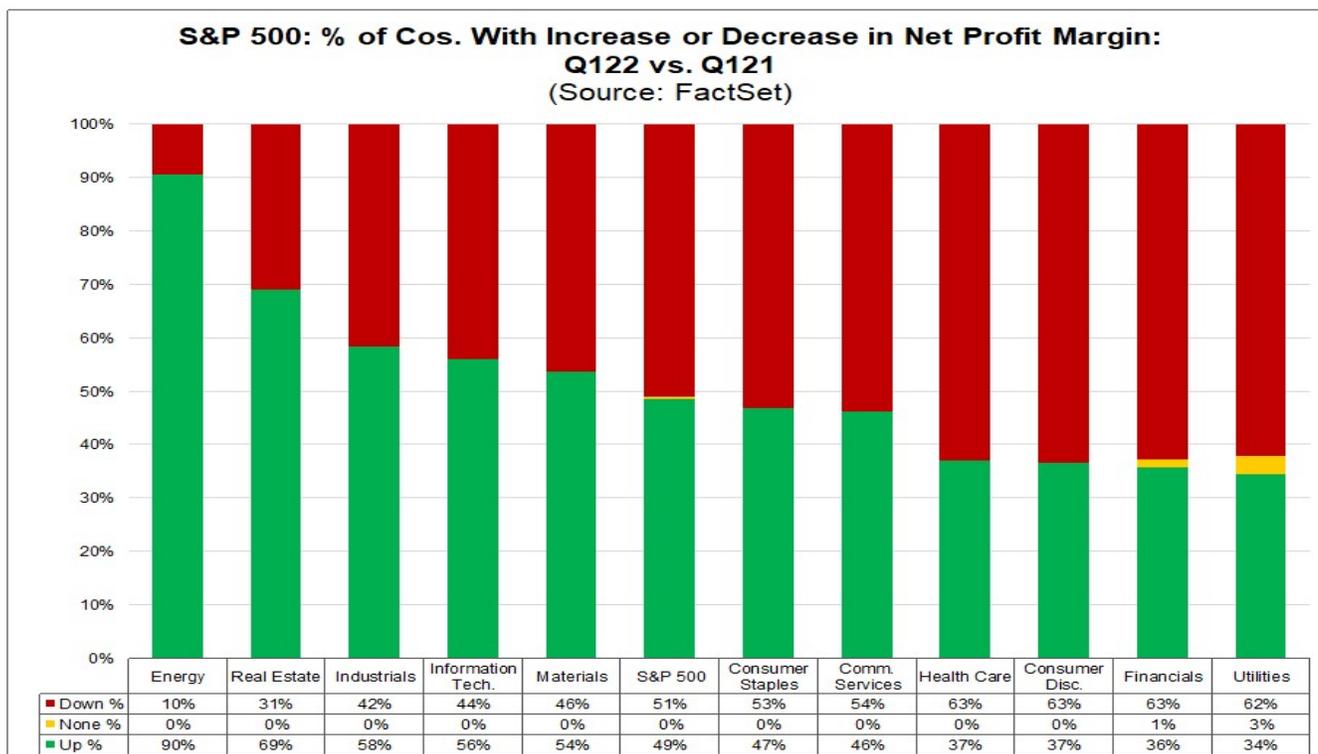
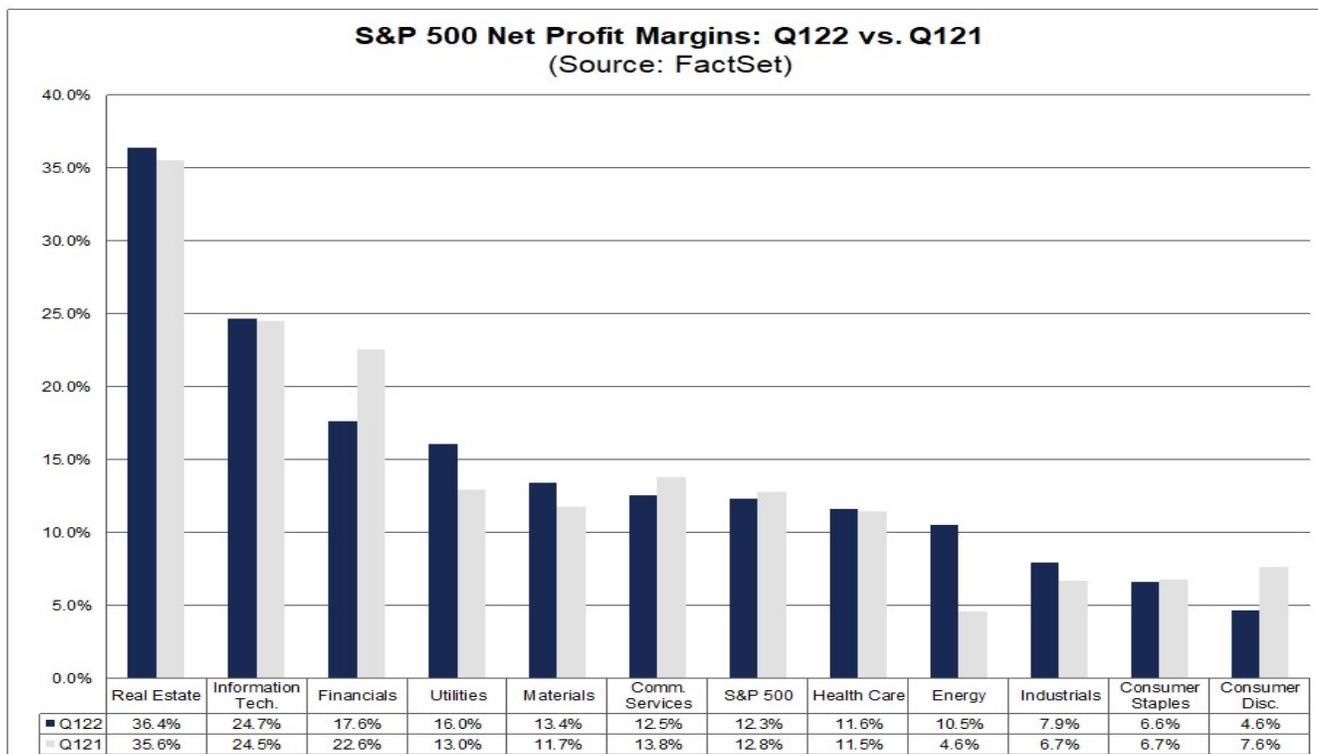
## Q1 2022: Growth



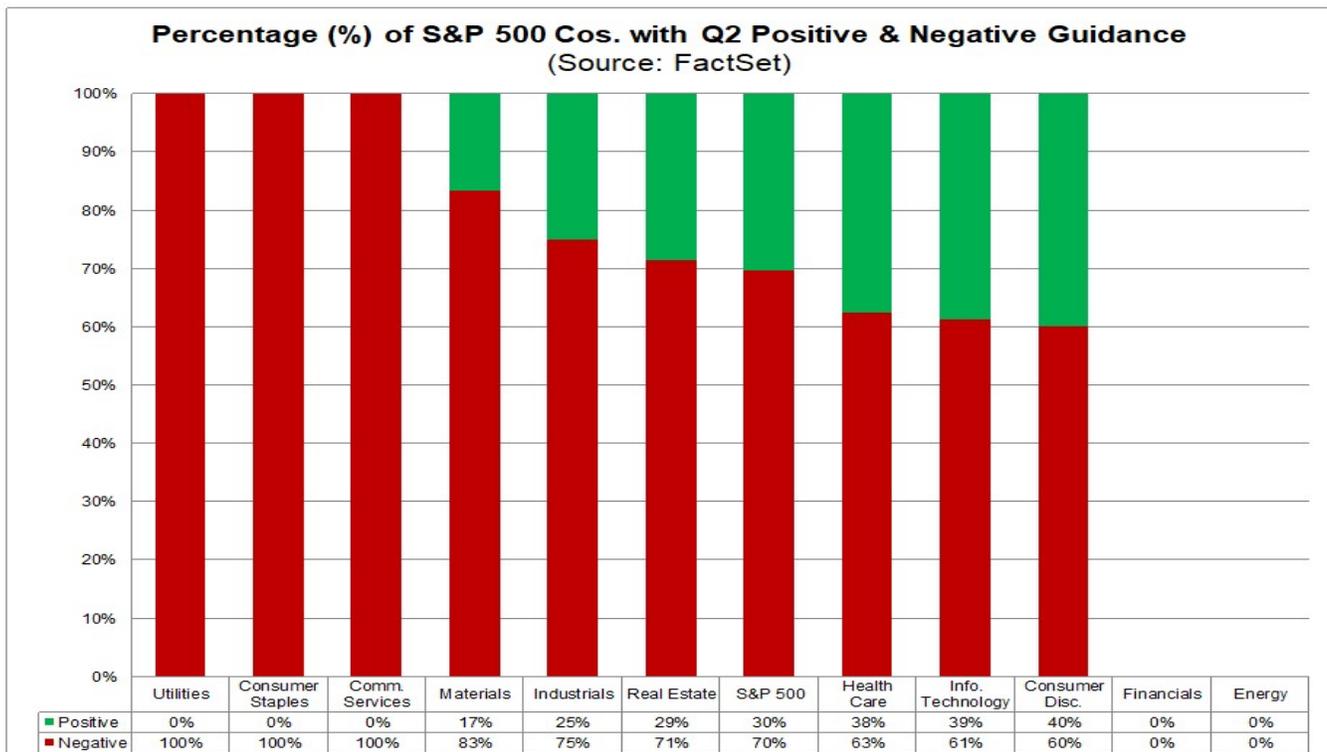
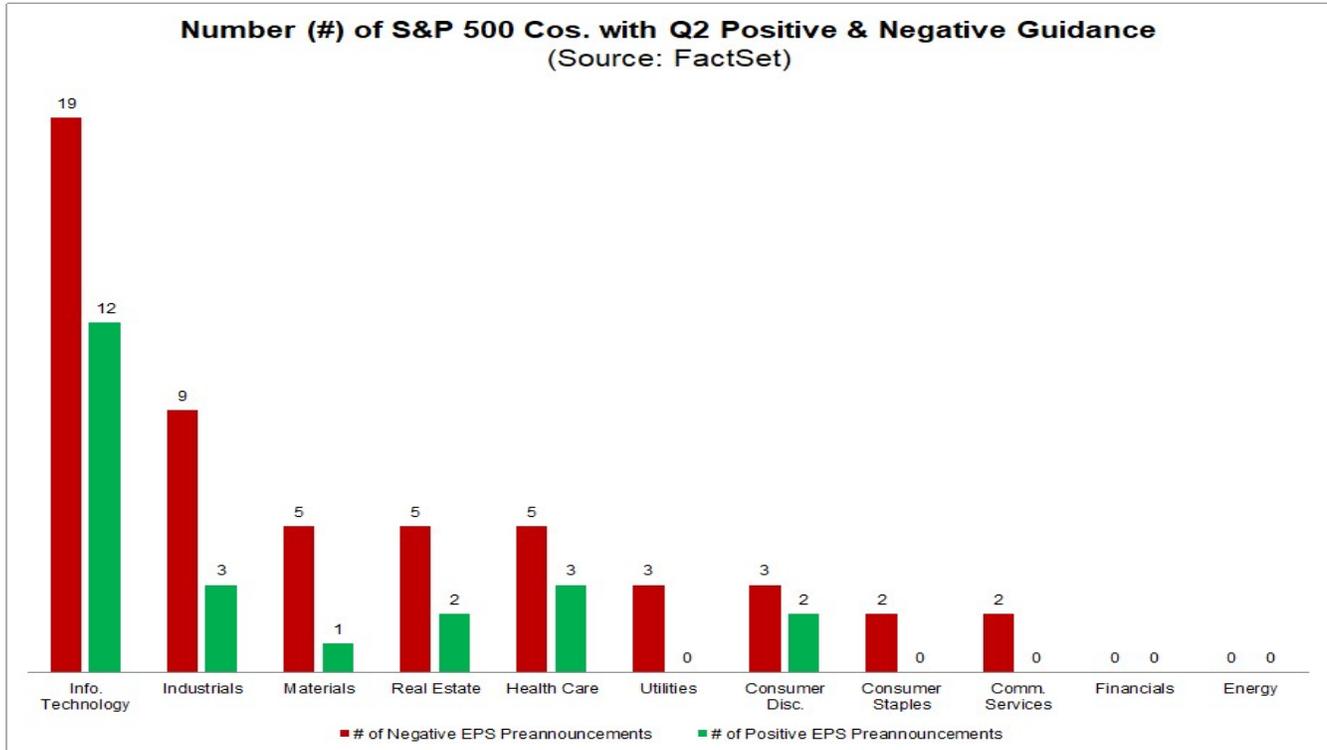
# Q1 2022: Growth



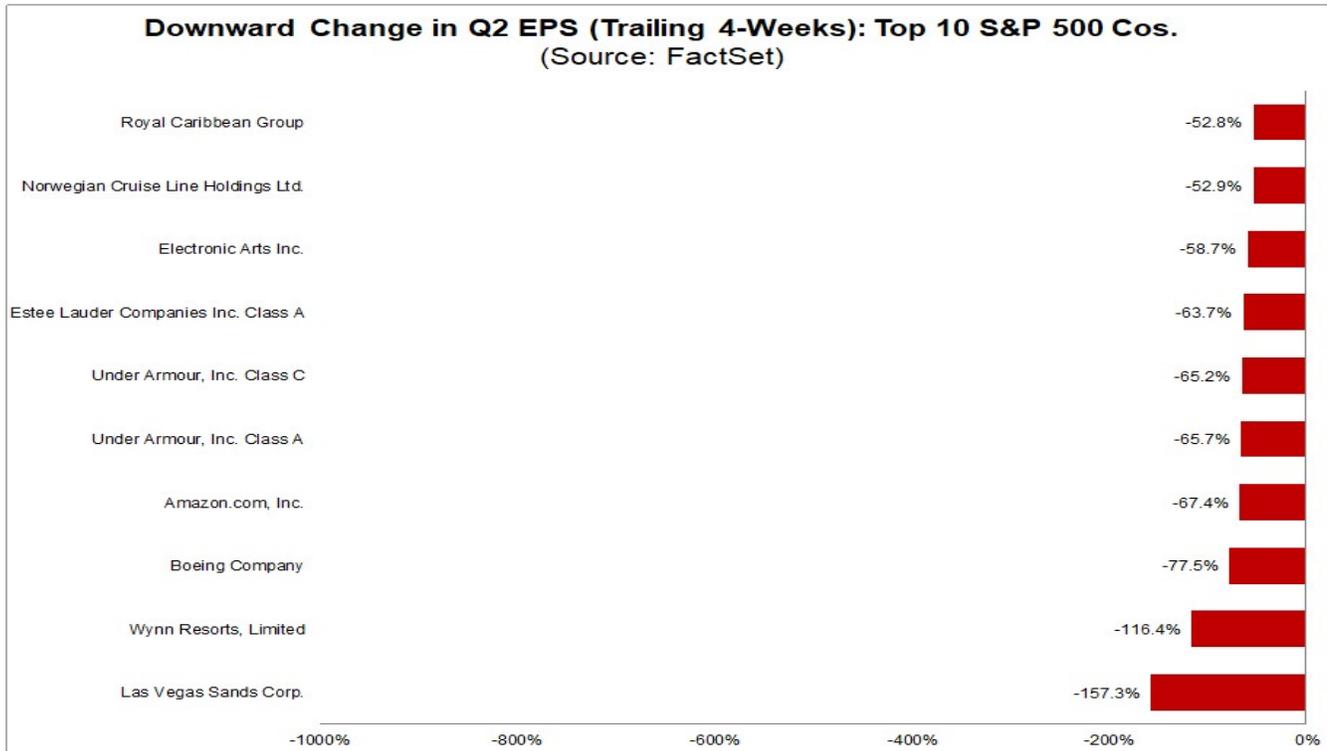
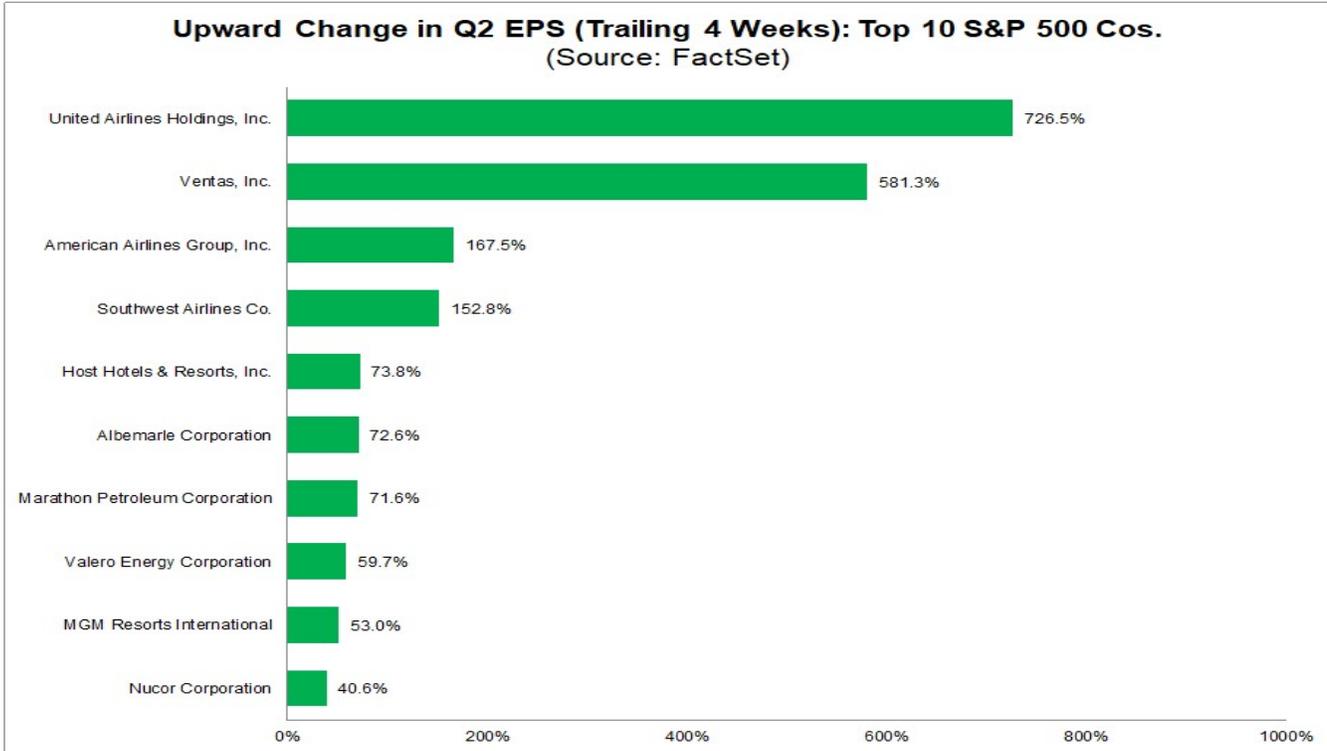
## Q1 2022: Net Profit Margin



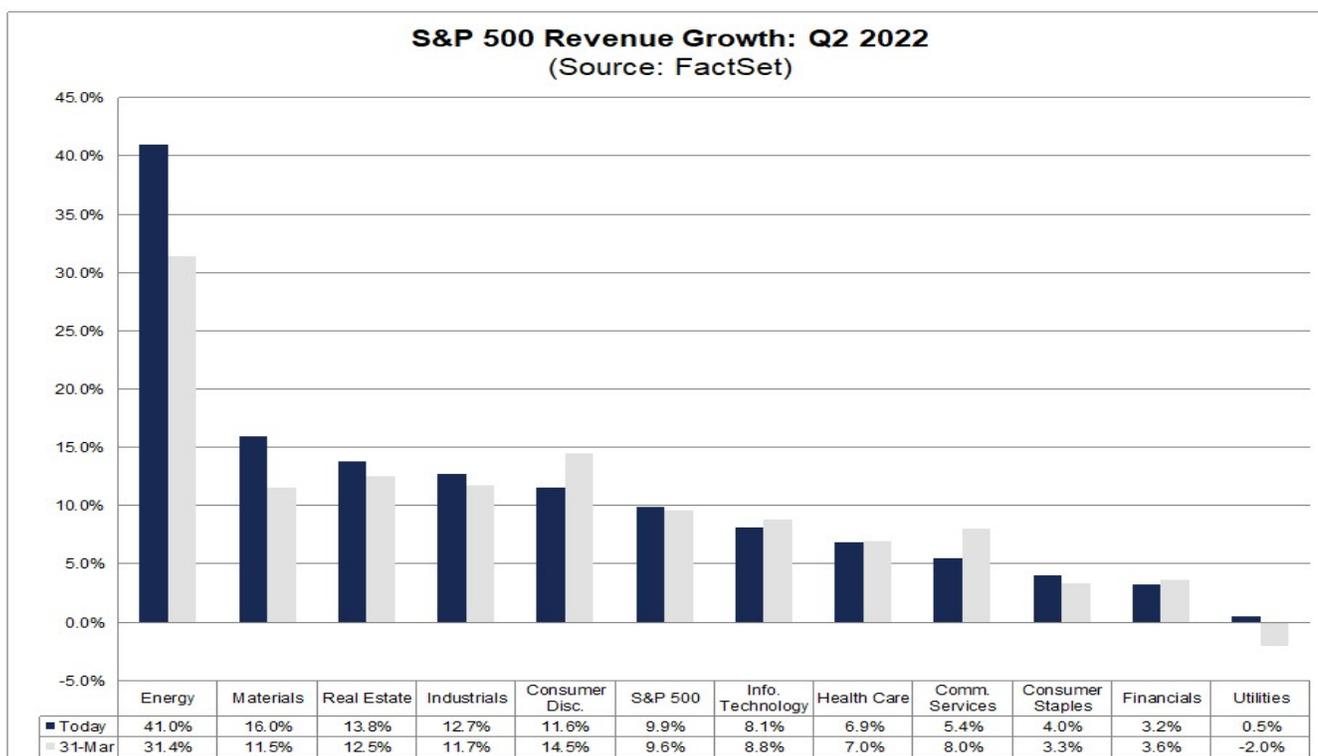
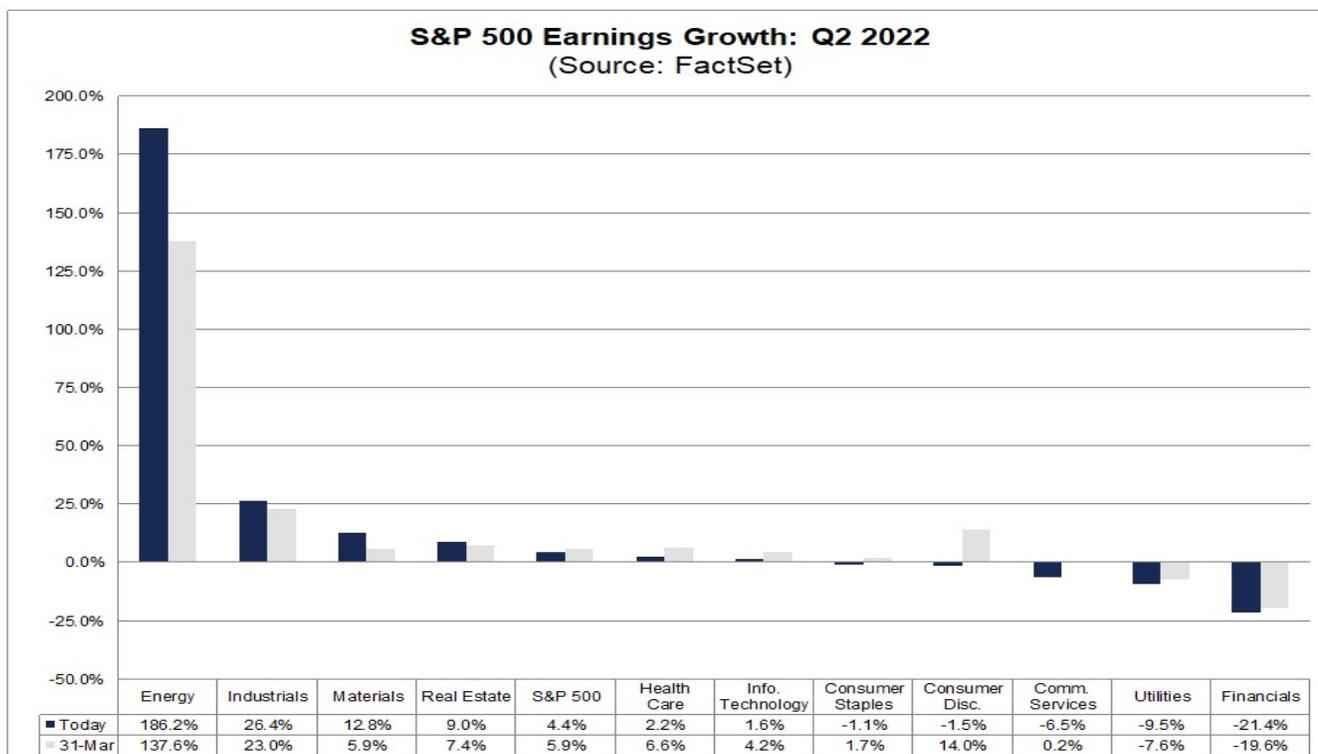
## Q2 2022: EPS Guidance



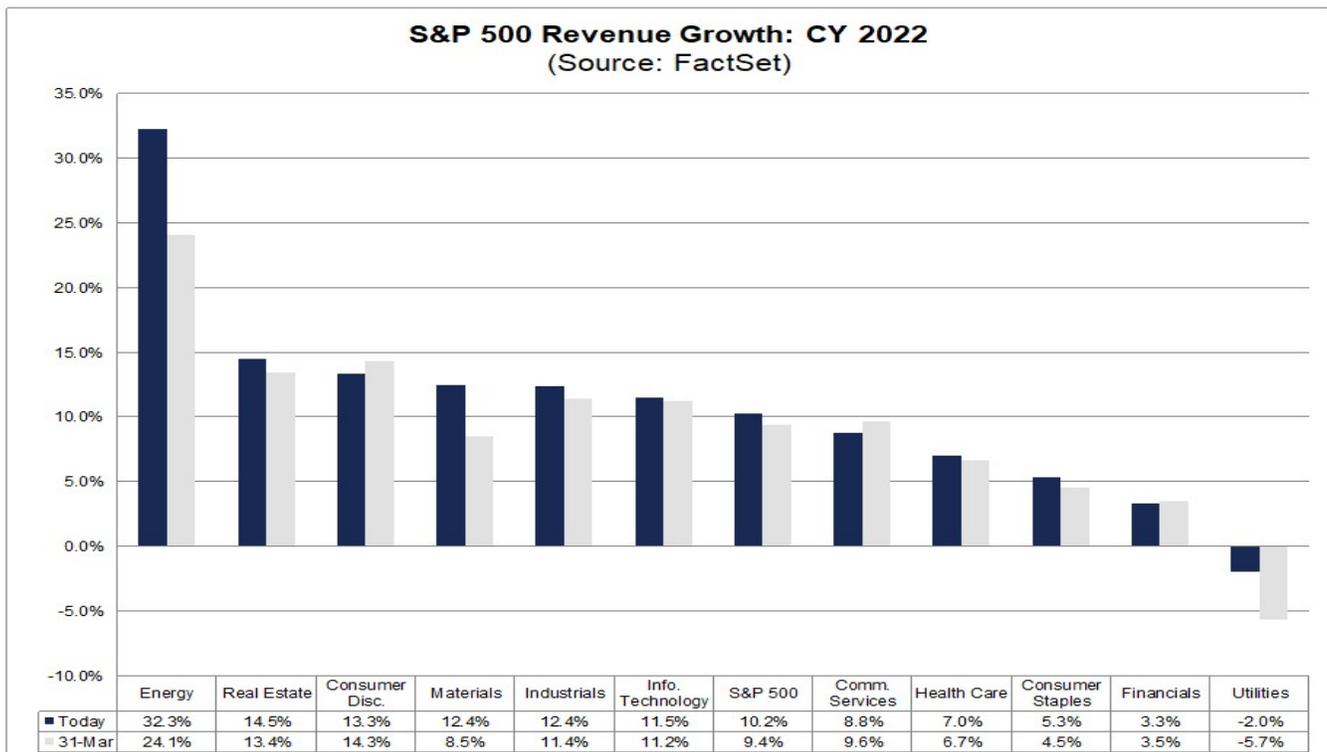
## Q2 2022: EPS Revisions



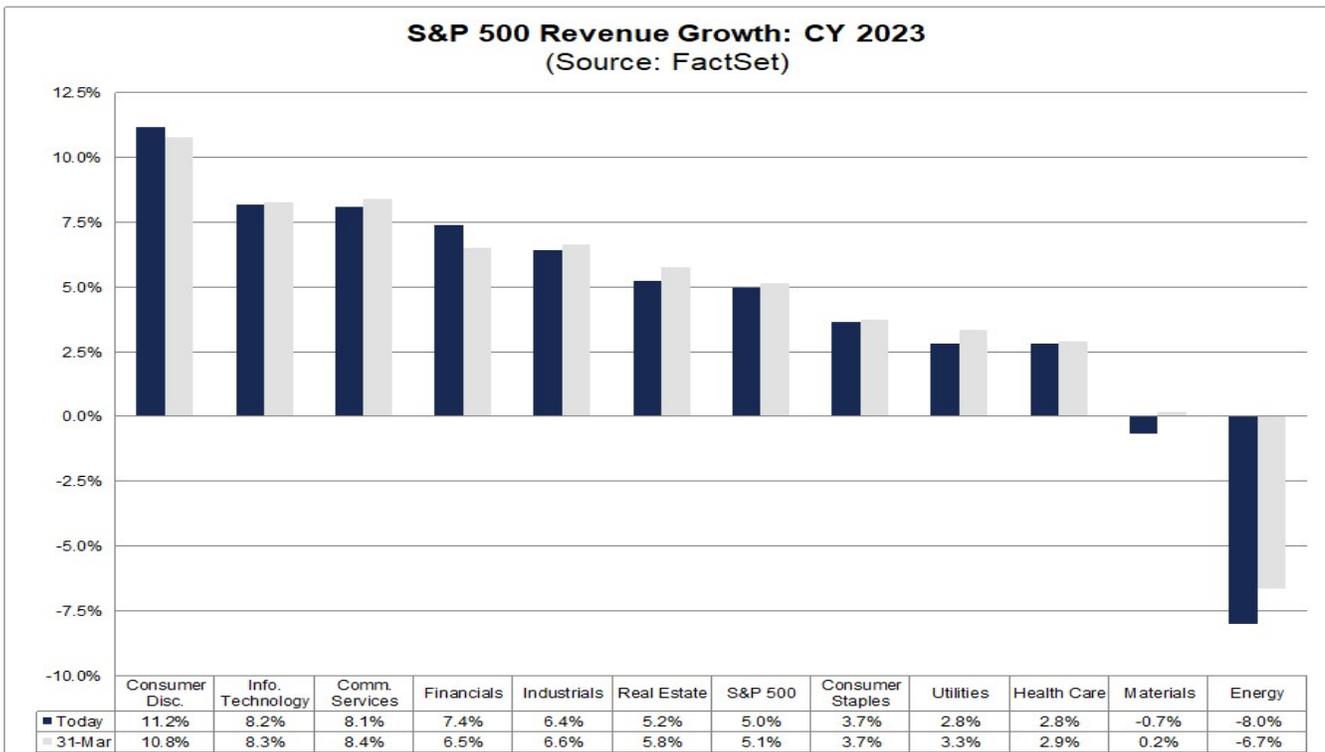
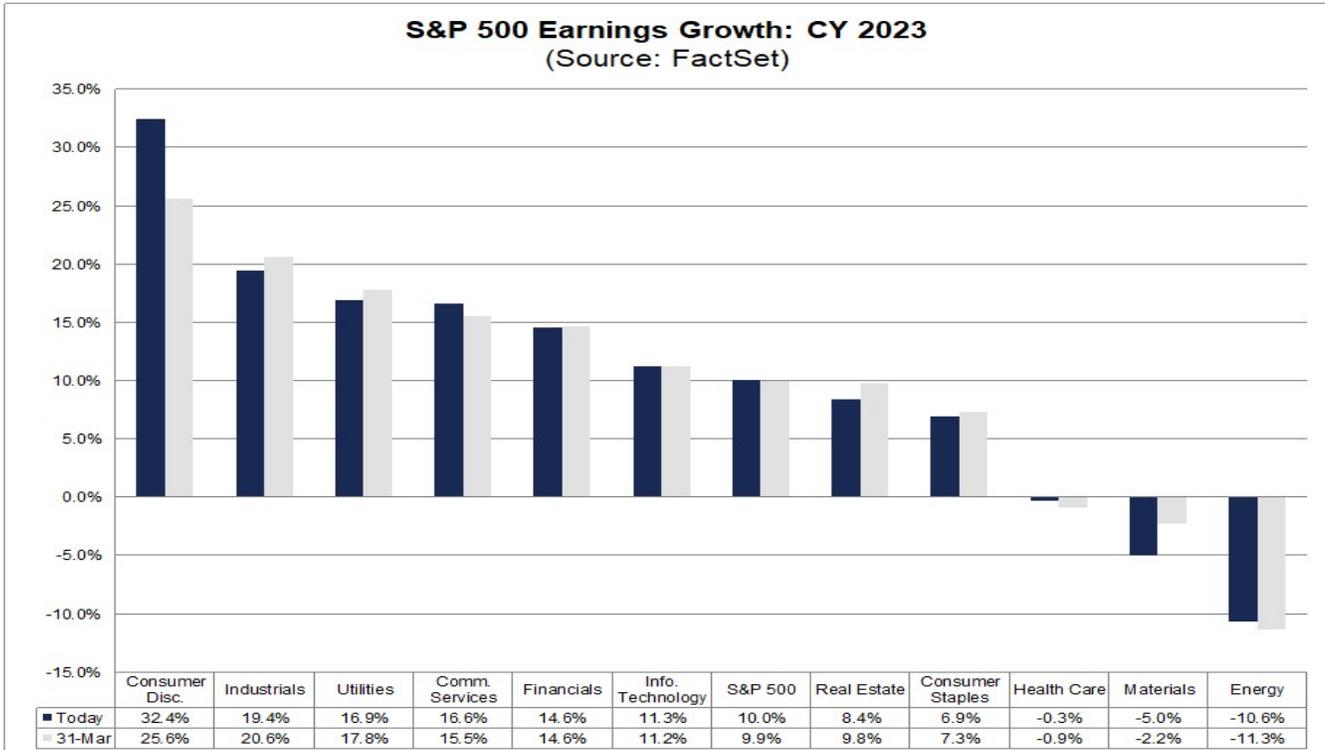
## Q2 2022: Growth



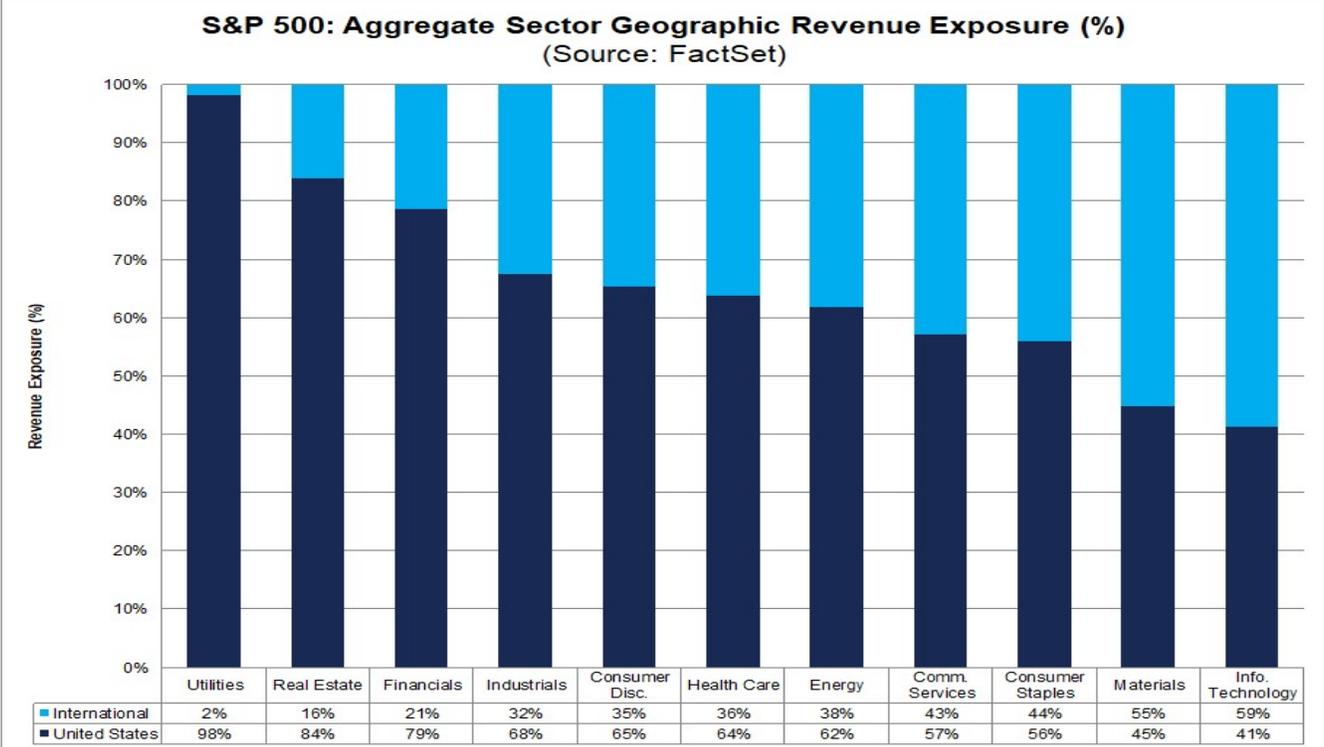
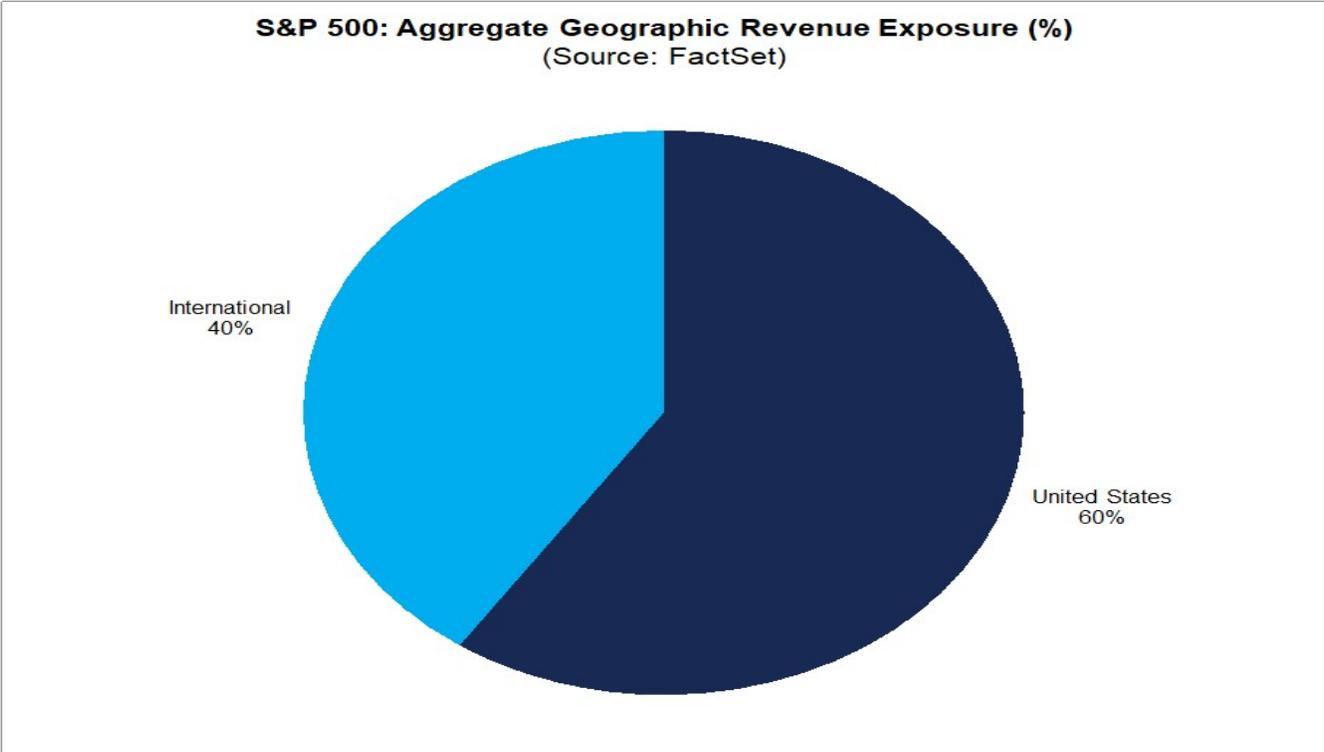
## CY 2022: Growth



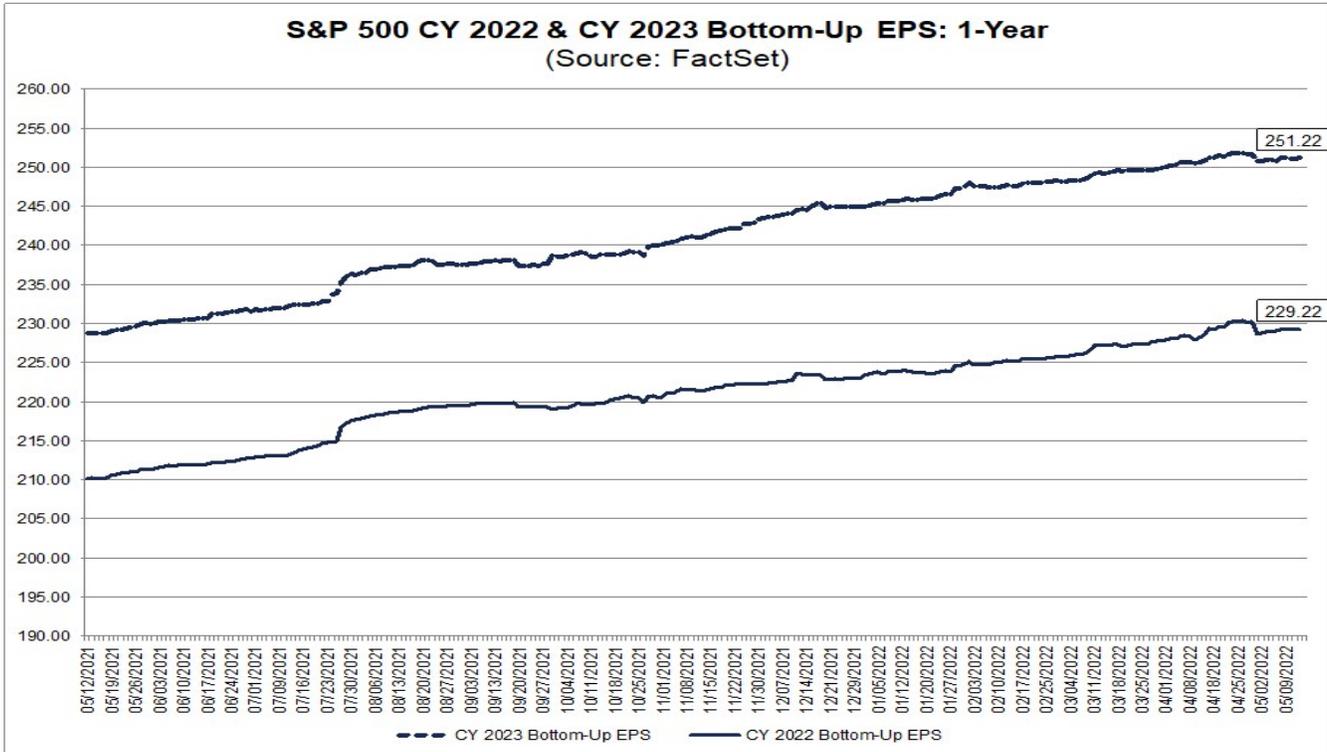
## CY 2023: Growth



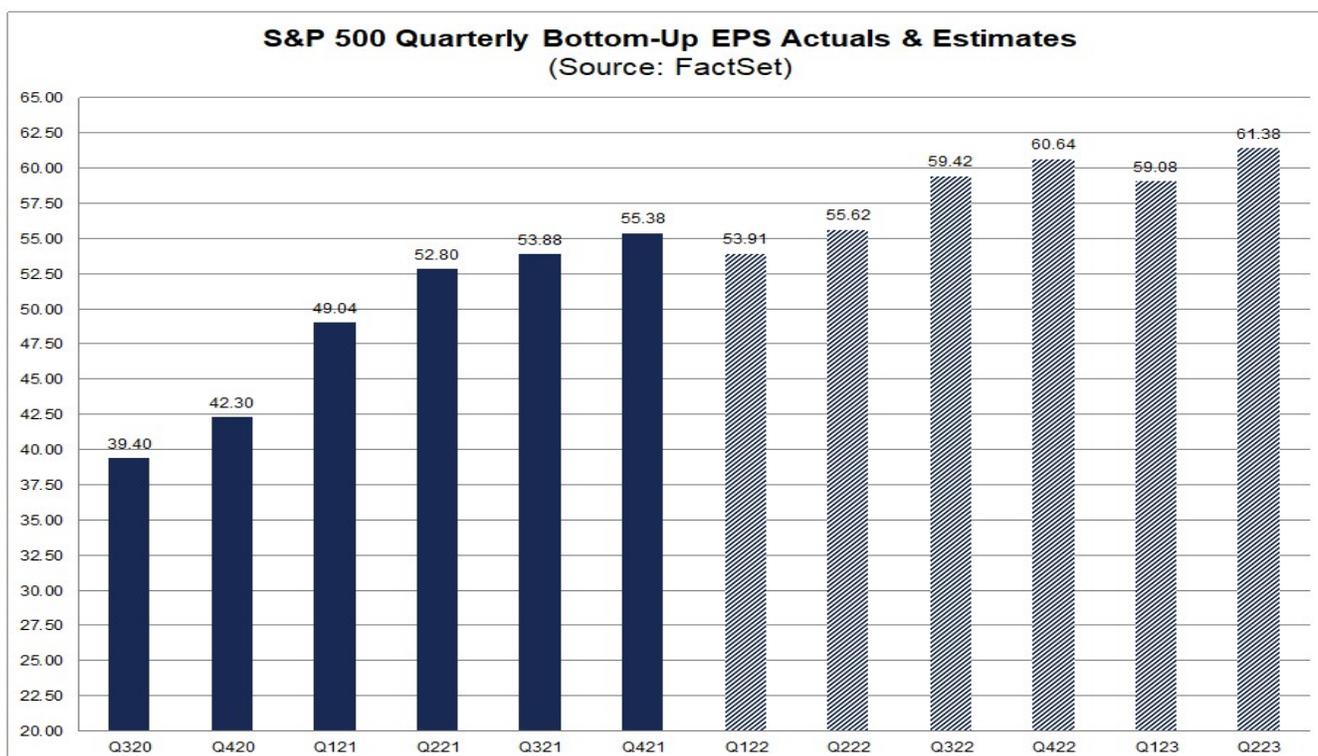
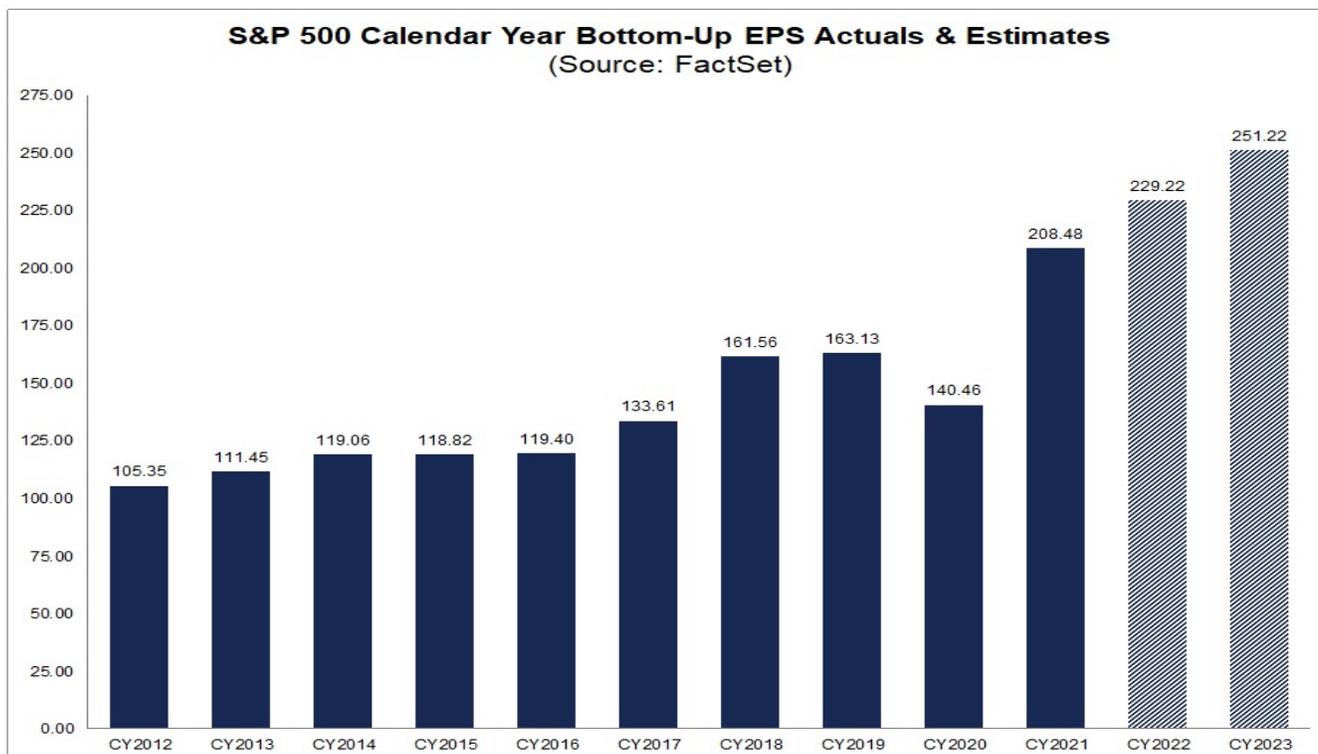
# Geographic Revenue Exposure



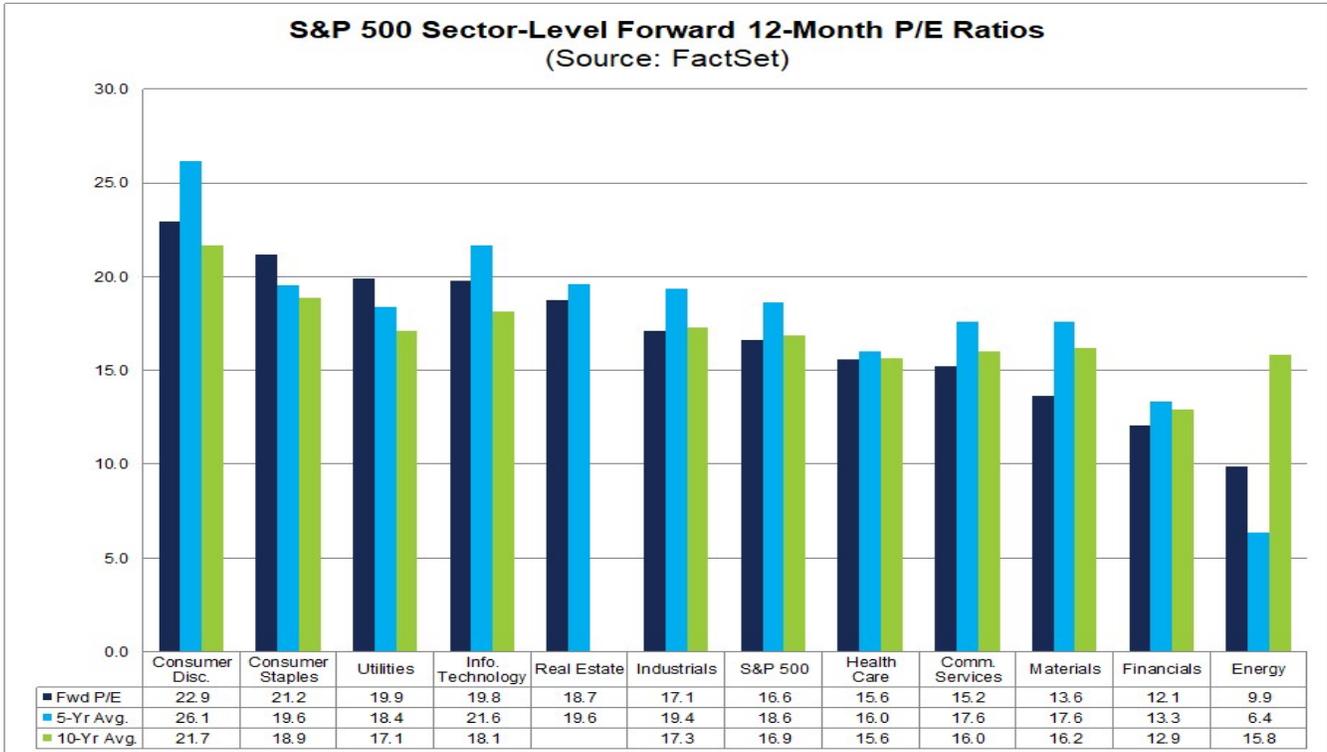
# Bottom-up EPS Estimates: Revisions



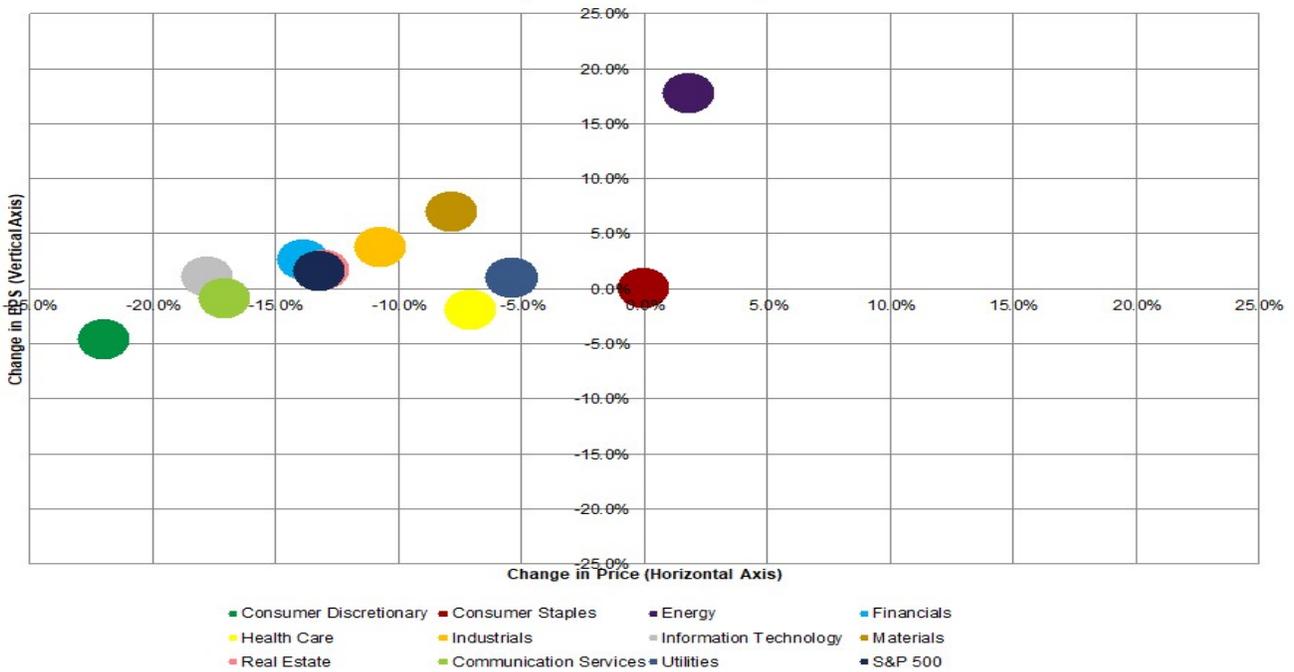
## Bottom-up EPS Estimates: Current & Historical



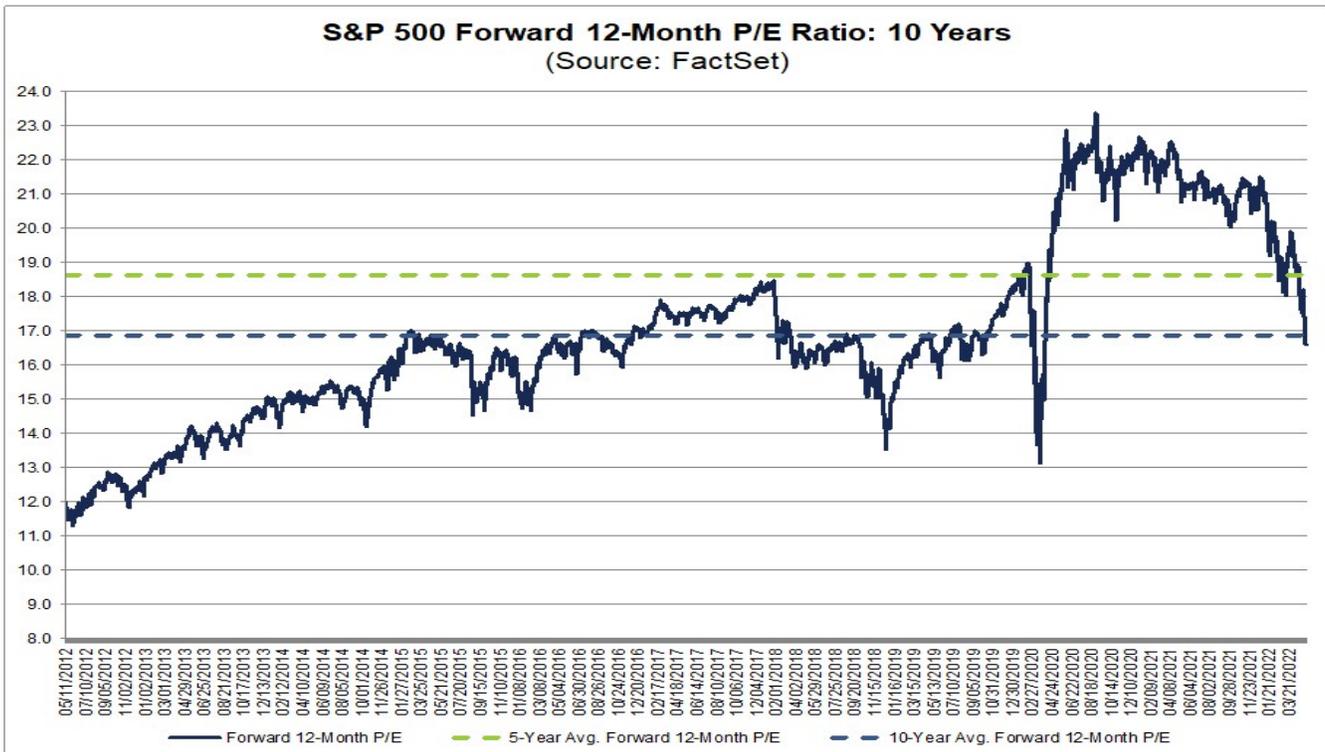
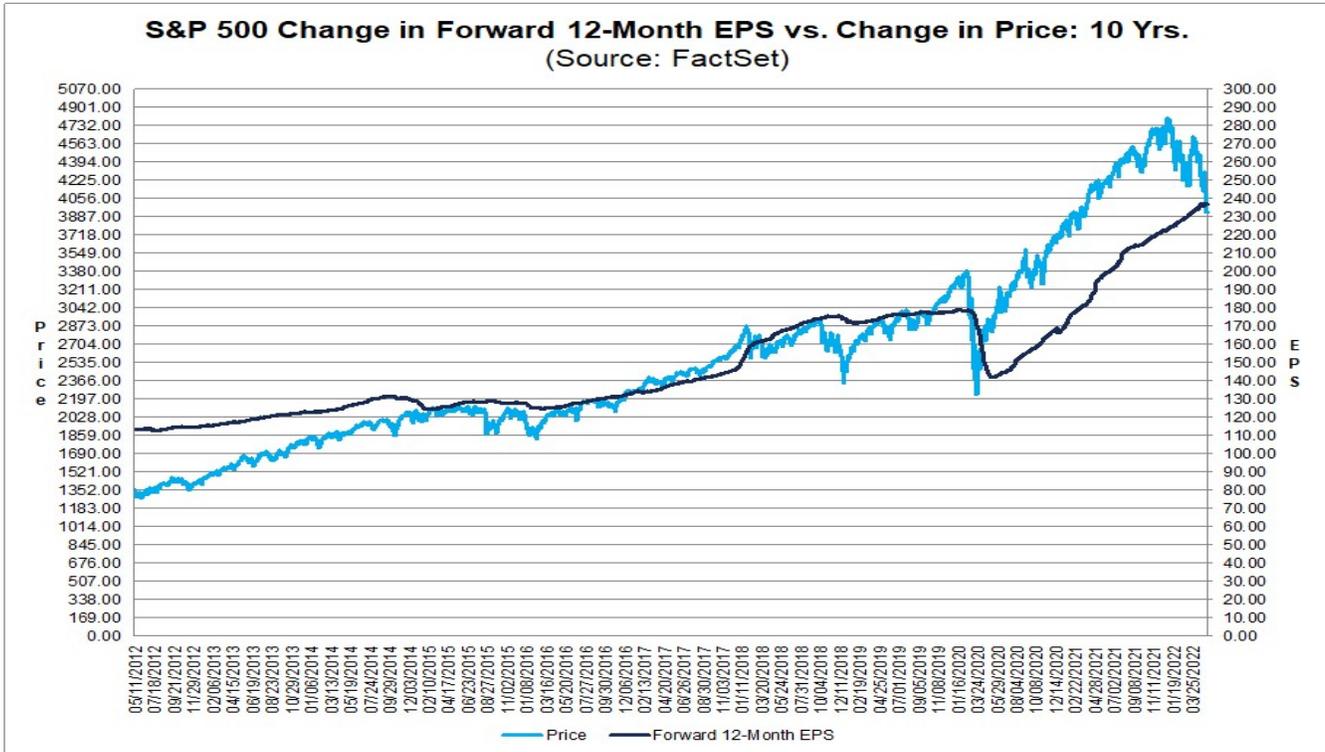
# Forward 12M P/E Ratio: Sector Level



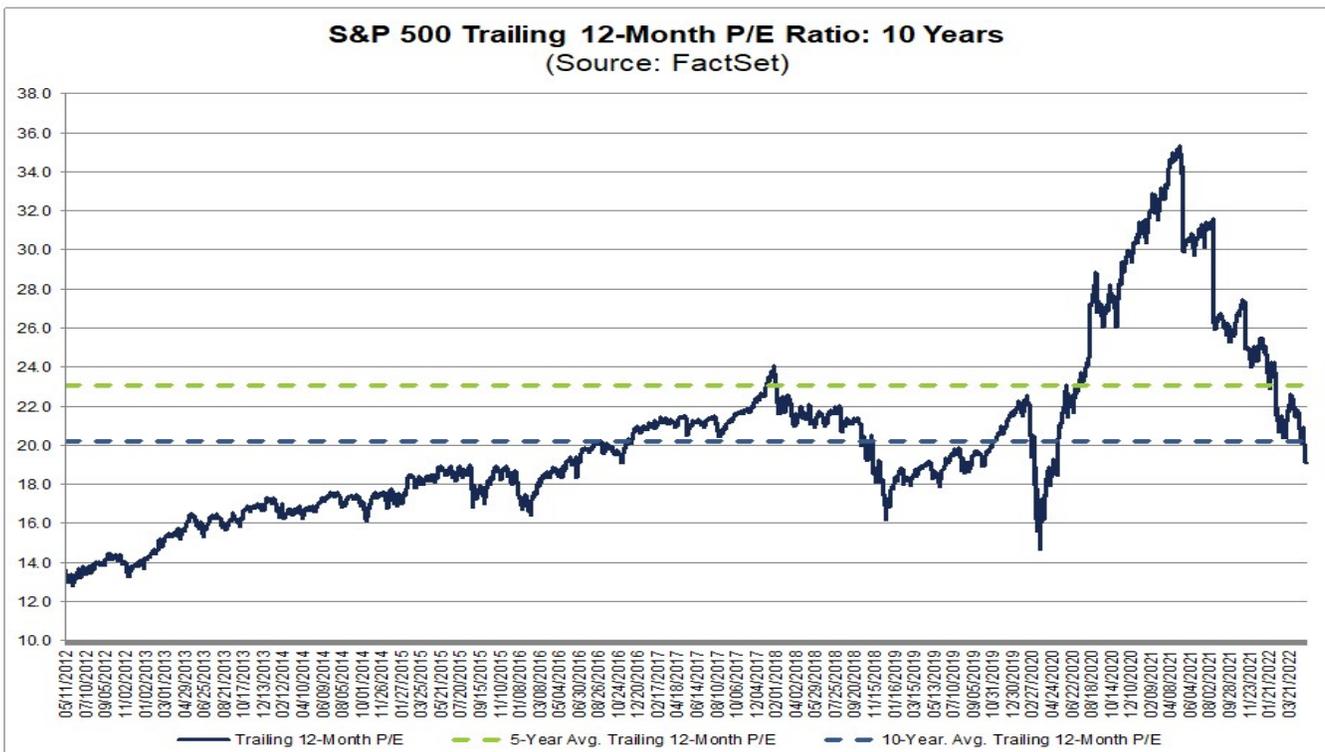
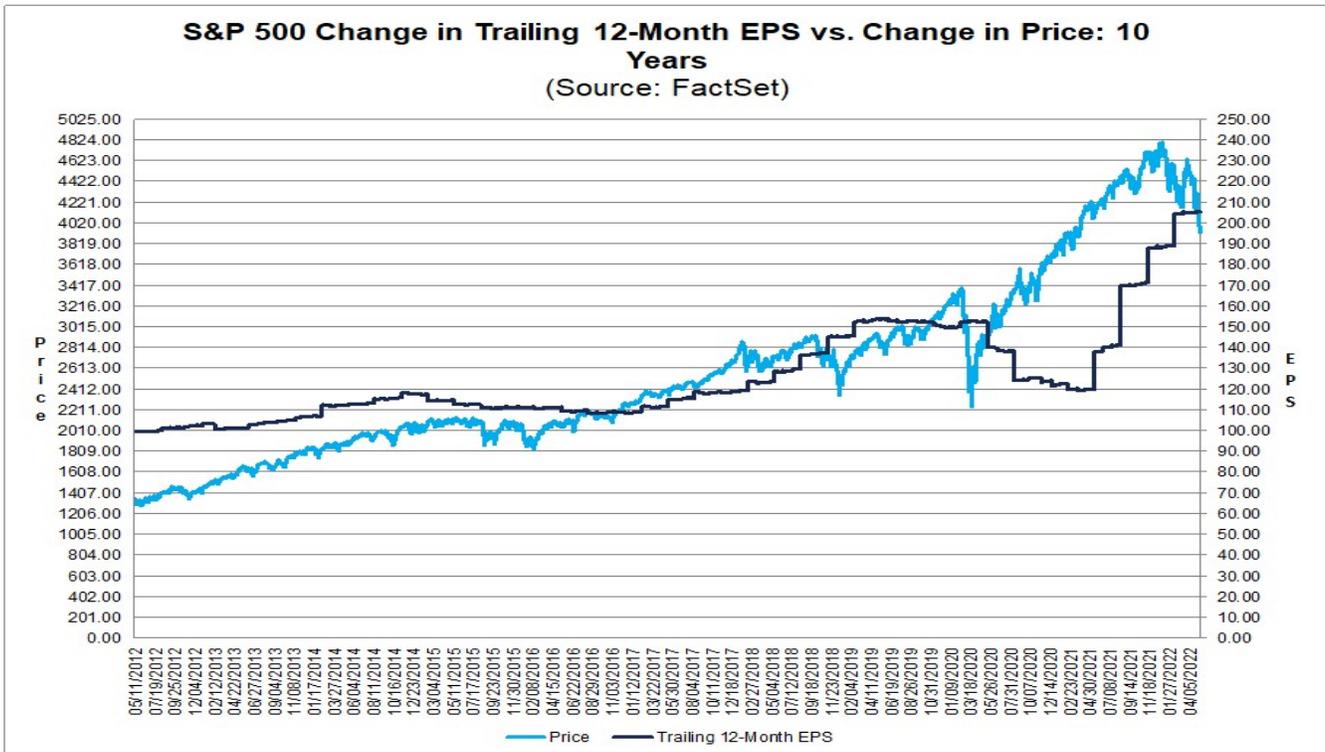
**Sector-Level Change in Fwd. 12-Month EPS vs. Price: Since Mar. 31**  
(Source: FactSet)



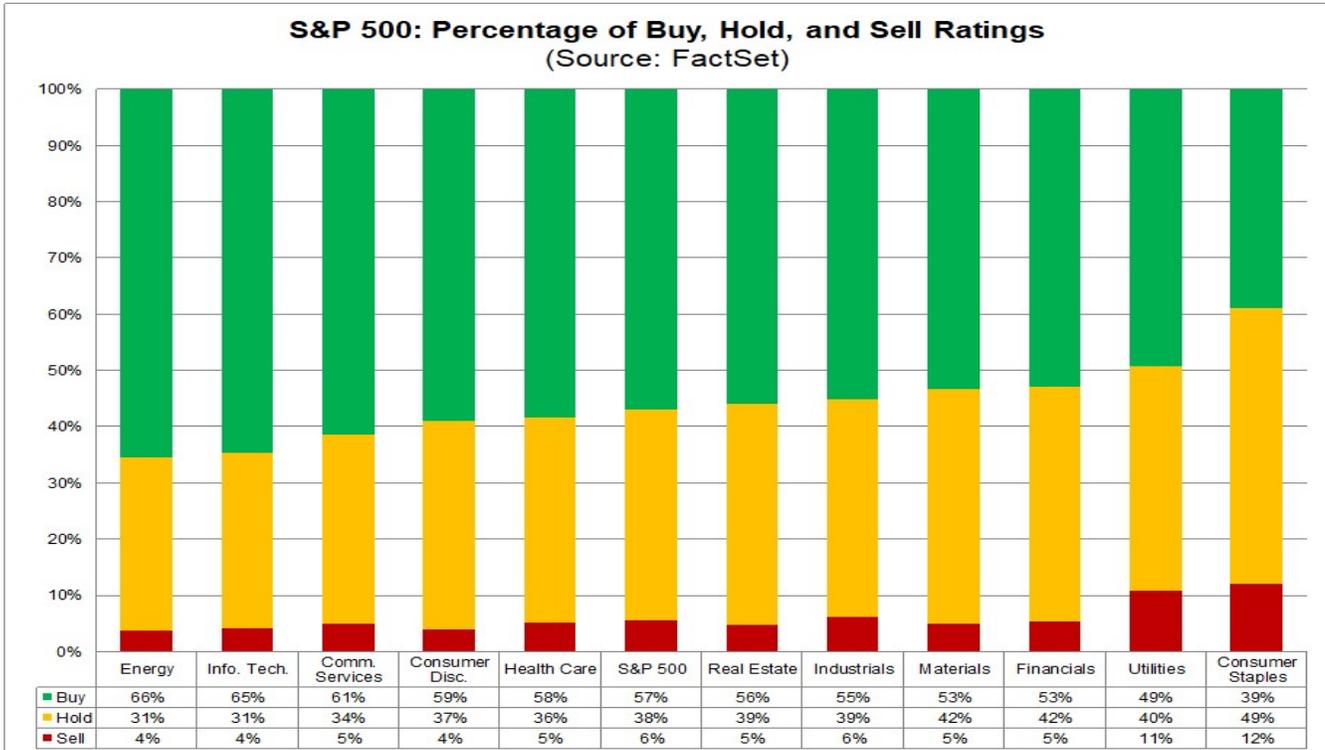
# Forward 12M P/E Ratio: 10-Years



# Trailing 12M P/E Ratio: 10-Years



## Targets & Ratings



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