



# Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV (BUD)

Updated March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 by Prakash Kolli

## Key Metrics

<b>Current Price:</b>	\$61	<b>5 Year CAGR Estimate:</b>	6.2%	<b>Market Cap:</b>	\$120.07B
<b>Fair Value Price:</b>	\$67	<b>5 Year Growth Estimate:</b>	3.0%	<b>Ex-Dividend Date:</b>	05/03/24 <sup>1</sup>
<b>% Fair Value:</b>	91%	<b>5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:</b>	2.0%	<b>Dividend Payment Date:</b>	06/14/24
<b>Dividend Yield:</b>	1.3%	<b>5 Year Price Target</b>	\$78	<b>Years Of Dividend Growth:</b>	1
<b>Dividend Risk Score:</b>	C	<b>Retirement Suitability Score:</b>	F	<b>Rating:</b>	Hold

## Overview & Current Events

Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV is the largest brewer in the world. The company was formed in 2008 by the merger of InBev and Anheuser-Busch and is majority owned by 3G Capital. It acquired SABMiller in 2016, sold Carleton (Australian unit) in 2019, and acquired Craft Brew Alliance in 2020. AB InBev also owns about 61.8% of Ambev S.A. Today, the firm produces, markets, and sells over 500 different beer brands around the world. The company has seven of the top ten beer brands and 18 brands with over \$1B in sales. Global brands include Budweiser, Stella Artois, Corona, and Michelob Ultra. Large regional brands include Aguila, Hoegaarden, Skol, and Brahma. The company has ~70% market share in Brazil and ~50% market share in the U.S. In 2023, revenue was ~\$59.4B. The company trades as an ADR on the NYSE.

AB InBev reported Q4 2023 and full-year results on February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024. For the quarter, revenue rose 6.2% to \$14,668M from \$14,473M as total volumes fell (-2.6%) and revenue per hl was up 9.3%. Total volumes fell (-2.6%) with own beer volumes down (-3.6%) and non-beer volumes grew +3.0%. Volumes were up in the Middle Americas (+0.7%) and Asia Pacific (+4.3%), but declined in EMEA (-0.8%), South America (-1.1%), and North America (-12.1%). Outside of their home markets, the four global brands performed well with combined revenues increasing 24.6%. Underlying EPS fell to \$0.82 from \$0.86 (accounting for adjustments).

Currently, the firm is facing difficulties from a customer boycott of its Bud Light brand in the United States in response to a marketing campaign. Volumes declined dramatically but have stabilized. Bud Light was the number one brand in the United States but was passed by Modelo. As a result, total market share, revenue, and EBITDA is now lower.

AB InBev's strategy of premiumization is being led by its four global brands. Premium brands continue to grow and are more profitable per hl. A second focus is Beyond Beer, which is the intersection of beer, spirits, and wine. Beyond Beer is more profitable per hl than beer.

## Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2029
<b>EPS</b>	\$5.54	\$4.96	\$0.72	\$3.15	\$2.17	\$4.62	\$0.70	\$2.33	\$2.97	\$3.05	<b>\$3.37</b>	<b>\$3.91</b>
<b>DPS</b>	\$3.24	\$3.95	\$4.00	\$4.08	\$3.30	\$2.01	\$0.57	\$0.60	\$0.53	\$0.82	<b>\$0.82</b>	<b>\$0.82</b>
<b>Shares<sup>2</sup></b>	1,608	1,608	2,019	2,019	2,019	2,019	1,972	1,975	2,050	2,054	<b>2,054</b>	<b>2,054</b>

AB InBev's earnings per share history is volatile given that it often made acquisitions and divestures. Top line growth will likely be low-to-mid single-digits coming from geographic expansion of brands, premiumization, innovation, acquisitions, and direct-to-consumer solutions. The company continues to take brands that are successful in their home markets and distribute them to customers across the world. AB InBev is now facing challenges with its important Bud Light brand because of a negative reaction to a marketing campaign. The company's dividend is now paid once per year, like most European companies. The firm has prioritized reaching its net debt-to-EBITDA ratio goal of 3.0X over dividend payments. That said, the dividend was bumped up in 2023. Also, it started a share buyback programs at \$1 billion for 2023 to 2024.

<sup>1</sup> Anheuser-InBev has not yet announced the next dividend. This is estimated based in prior history.

<sup>2</sup> Share count in millions.

*Disclosure: This analyst has no position in the security discussed in this research report, and no plans to initiate one in the next 72 hours.*



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## Valuation Analysis

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Now	2029
Avg. P/E	19.6	24.2	---	36.2	44.0	18.5	--	27.8	20.3	21.1	<b>18.1</b>	<b>20.0</b>
Avg. Yld.	3.0%	3.3%	3.3%	3.6%	3.5%	2.4%	1.1%	0.9%	0.7%	1.3%	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>

AB InBev's stock price is down slightly since our last report. Sales and earnings are rising but volumes are lower. We set our earnings estimate at consensus. Our estimated fair value multiple is 20X, accounting for global economic uncertainty, inflation, and foreign exchange headwinds. Our fair value estimate is \$67. Our 5-year price target is \$78.

## Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2029
Payout	58%	80%	556%	130%	152%	44%	81%	26%	18%	27%	<b>24%</b>	<b>21%</b>

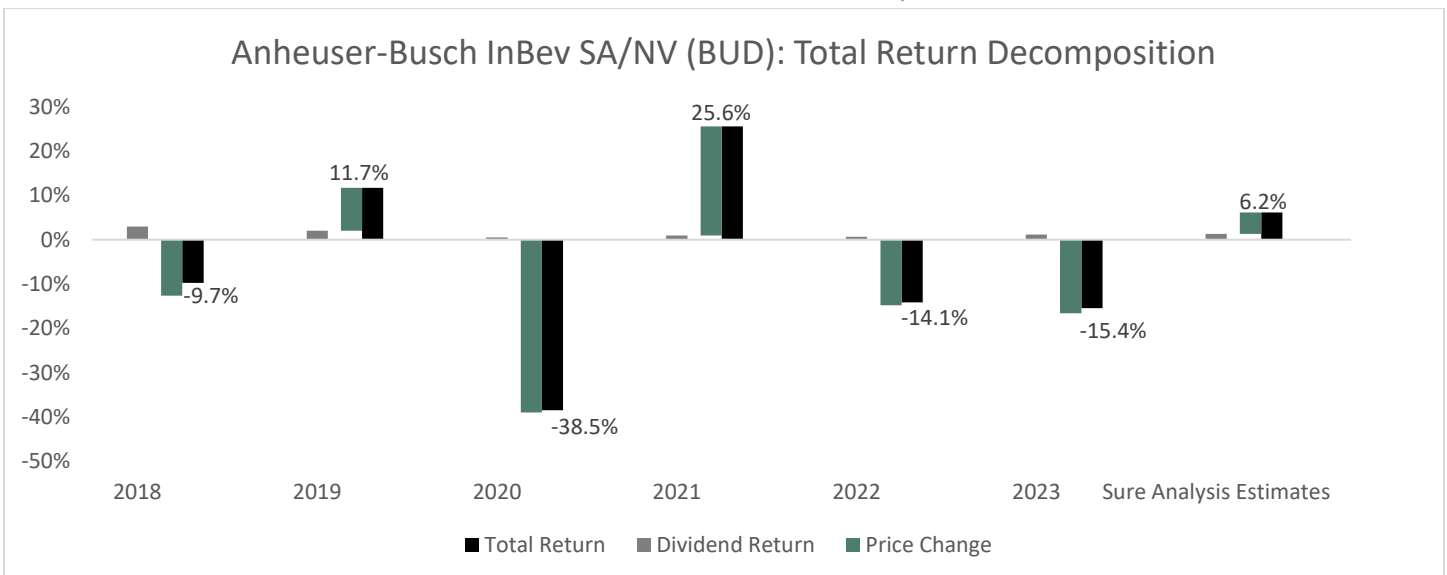
AB InBev's competitive advantages are its global brands and supply chain that gives the company unmatched reach and capacity in the world. The brewer owns seven of the top 10 most valuable beer brands. AB InBev is also successfully leveraging its direct-to-consumer technology platforms to transition to digital solutions. The company faces risks in commodity pricing, adverse reactions to marketing, and foreign exchange due to its global footprint. The company is not recession resistant as alcoholic beverages are largely a consumer discretionary purchase.

AB InBev is leveraged with net debt of about \$67.6B at end of Q4 2023, down from \$122.6B at end of 2016. The company has about \$10.5B of cash. The leverage ratio is elevated at ~3.38X compared to a target of 3.0X. However, the company's deleveraging progress is being recognized and the credit agencies have raised their ratings.

## Final Thoughts & Recommendation

At present, we expect total annualized returns of 6.2% for the next five years from a dividend yield of 1.3%, 3.0% EPS growth, and 2.0% P/E multiple expansion. AB InBev's momentum has slowed as consumers step back from discretionary purchases. Also, inflation is affecting commodity and supply chain costs. The firm is now experiencing lower volumes for leading brands because of negative perception around a marketing campaign. The focus of capital allocation is growth, deleveraging, selective M&A, and then returning of capital. We rate this stock a hold.

## Total Return Breakdown by Year



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## Income Statement Metrics

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Revenue</b>	47063	43064	45517	56444	54619	52329	46881	54304	57786	59380
<b>Gross Profit</b>	28307	25927	27714	35058	34260	31967	27247	31207	31481	31984
<b>Gross Margin</b>	60.1%	60.2%	60.9%	62.1%	62.7%	61.1%	58.1%	57.5%	54.5%	53.9%
<b>SG&amp;A Exp.</b>	14385	13732	15171	18099	17118	16421	15369	17575	17555	18173
<b>D&amp;A Exp.</b>	3353	3153	3477	4276	4260	4657	4829	5052	5078	5411
<b>Operating Profit</b>	15269	13146	13168	17591	17402	16169	12185	14146	14264	14260
<b>Op. Margin</b>	32.4%	30.5%	28.9%	31.2%	31.9%	30.9%	26.0%	26.0%	24.7%	24.0%
<b>Net Profit</b>	9218	7732	1240	7995	4370	9171	1405	4670	5969	5341
<b>Net Margin</b>	19.6%	18.0%	2.7%	14.2%	8.0%	17.5%	3.0%	8.6%	10.3%	9.0%
<b>Free Cash Flow</b>	9749	9372	5131	10689	9577	8222	7110	9159	8138	8627
<b>Income Tax</b>	2499	2594	1613	1920	2839	2786	1932	2350	1928	2234

## Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Assets (\$B)</b>	142.55	134.64	258.38	246.13	232.10	236.65	226.41	217.63	212.94	219.34
<b>Cash &amp; Equivalents</b>	8357	6923	8579	10472	7074	7238	15252	12019	9973	10332
<b>Acc. Receivable</b>	3363	3241	4562	4752	4412	4046	3284	3465	3637	4347
<b>Inventories</b>	2888	2759	3824	4018	4111	4322	4391	5284	6525	5463
<b>Goodwill/Int. (\$B)</b>	100.68	94.74	181.10	186.81	178.14	170.57	162.50	156.23	153.22	158329
<b>Total Liab. (\$B)</b>	88.29	88.92	176.96	165.91	160.20	152.10	148.06	138.29	128.67	126664
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	10913	11616	14071	15240	15512	15876	15898	17810	18589	17729
<b>LT Debt (\$B)</b>	50.99	49.34	122.51	116.29	109.71	101.02	96.33	86.50	77.50	75339
<b>Total Equity</b>	49972	42137	71339	72585	64486	75722	68024	68669	73398	81848
<b>LTD/E Ratio</b>	1.02	1.17	1.72	1.60	1.70	1.33	1.42	1.26	1.06	0.92

## Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Return on Assets</b>	6.5%	5.6%	0.6%	3.2%	1.8%	3.9%	0.6%	2.1%	2.8%	2.5%
<b>Return on Equity</b>	18.4%	16.8%	2.2%	11.1%	6.4%	13.1%	2.0%	6.8%	8.4%	6.0%
<b>ROIC</b>	8.8%	7.7%	0.8%	4.0%	2.3%	5.0%	0.8%	2.7%	3.6%	3.2%
<b>Shares Out.</b>	1,608	1,608	2,019	2,019	2,019	2,026	2,037	2,045	2,050	2,054
<b>Revenue/Share</b>	28.27	25.82	25.94	28.08	27.16	25.83	23.01	26.55	28.19	28.91
<b>FCF/Share</b>	5.86	5.62	2.92	5.32	4.76	4.06	3.49	4.48	3.97	4.20

Note: All figures in millions of U.S. Dollars unless per share or indicated otherwise.

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