



# Goldman Sachs BDC, Inc. (GSBD)

Updated February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 by Nikolaos Sismanis

## Key Metrics

<b>Current Price:</b>	\$15.46	<b>5 Year CAGR Estimate:</b>	9.9%	<b>Market Cap:</b>	\$2.64 B
<b>Fair Value Price:</b>	\$15.82	<b>5 Year Growth Estimate:</b>	0.0%	<b>Ex-Dividend Date:</b>	03/27/2024
<b>% Fair Value:</b>	98%	<b>5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:</b>	0.5%	<b>Dividend Payment Date:</b>	04/26/2024
<b>Dividend Yield:</b>	11.6%	<b>5 Year Price Target</b>	\$15.82	<b>Years Of Dividend Growth:</b>	N/A
<b>Dividend Risk Score:</b>	F	<b>Retirement Suitability Score:</b>	C	<b>Rating:</b>	Buy

## Overview & Current Events

Goldman Sachs BDC is a closed-end management investment company that has elected to be regulated as a BDC (Business Development Company). In 2020, the company merged with Goldman Sachs Middle Market Lending Corp. Post-merger GSBD provides specialty finance lending to U.S.-based middle-market companies, which generate EBITDA in the range of \$5-\$200 million annually, primarily through “unitranche” first-lien loans. The company will usually make investments that have a maturity between three and ten years and in size between \$10 million and \$75 million. Its investment advisor is Goldman Sachs’ very own Asset Management Team, “GSAM”. Goldman Sachs BDC generates over \$350 million in annual total investment income and is based in New York, New York.

On February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, GSBD announced its Q4 and full-year results for the period ending December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. For the three-month period, the company achieved a total investment income of \$115.4 million, compared to \$120.1 million in the previous quarter. The decrease in investment income was mainly driven by a decline in repayments and the related accretion of discounted positions.

Net investment income (NII) also declined from \$72.9 million in Q3 to \$61.8 million in Q4. On a per-share basis, NII came in at \$0.56, down from \$0.67 in the previous quarter.

As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, GSBD’s portfolio comprised 144 companies with a fair value of around \$3.41 billion. The investment portfolio was comprised of 97.2% senior secured debt, including 95.3% in first lien investments. The portfolio’s amortized yield at cost comes in at 11.8%. GSBD’s investments are well-diversified, with Software, Healthcare Providers, and Professional Services accounting for 17.4%, 12.4%, and 9.9% of its total portfolio, respectively. Net asset value per share was essentially flat, rising from \$14.61 to \$14.62 sequentially. We now expect FY2024 NII/share of \$2.26.

## Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2029
<b>NII</b>	\$1.77	\$2.14	\$2.10	\$2.07	\$2.06	\$1.98	\$2.04	\$2.33	\$2.24	\$2.28	<b>\$2.26</b>	<b>\$2.26</b>
<b>DPS</b>	\$1.69	\$1.80	\$1.80	\$1.80	\$1.80	\$1.80	\$1.80	\$1.80	\$1.80	\$1.80	<b>\$1.80</b>	<b>\$1.80</b>
<b>Shares<sup>1</sup></b>	29.7	34.8	36.3	38.6	40.2	40.3	53.9	101.6	102.3	108.3	<b>108.3</b>	<b>150.0</b>

Since 2015, when GSBD went public, the company has been producing very stable results. While its portfolio yield may be inferior to industry peers, who often enjoy yields in the low double-digits, the company has maintained a robust investment spread. The recent merger should reduce borrowing costs, and being a larger firm, GSBD should enjoy higher-quality deal flow amid its scale and reputation. Rising rates could boost NII/share over the medium-term, though we continue to expect stable results ahead until GBDC proves it can sustain its borrowing costs low.

In terms of its dividend, GSBD’s dividends have been very consistent, in line with its investment income performance. Unlike many of its industry peers, the company does not have significant exposure in equity investments, with preferred and common stocks accounting for roughly 1% of its portfolio each. Hence, no meaningful, extraordinary gains have occurred historically. We don’t expect the core dividend to grow in the medium-term, though sporadic special payouts

<sup>1</sup> Share count is 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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are likely. Investors should continue to expect shares issuance over time as GSBD utilizes both equity and debt to grow its investment portfolio.

## Valuation Analysis

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Now	2029
Avg. P/NII		8.6	10.2	10.8	10.4	9.9	7.5	8.2	7.3	5.4	<b>6.8</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Avg. Yld.		9.8%	8.4%	8.0%	8.4%	9.1%	11.7%	9.4%	11.0%	14.6%	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>11.4%</b>

Since the company's IPO, the stock has retained a valuation in line with its industry peers in the high-single to low-double digits. Investors should keep in mind that the company's relatively higher yield to its industry peers should translate to more expensive financing going forward. The lack of equity investments, which usually tend to yield higher returns, also warrants a lower multiple. Nevertheless, we believe shares are slightly undervalued at their current levels. We have set our fair P/NII at 7.0, implying the possibility for a soft valuation tailwind ahead.

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

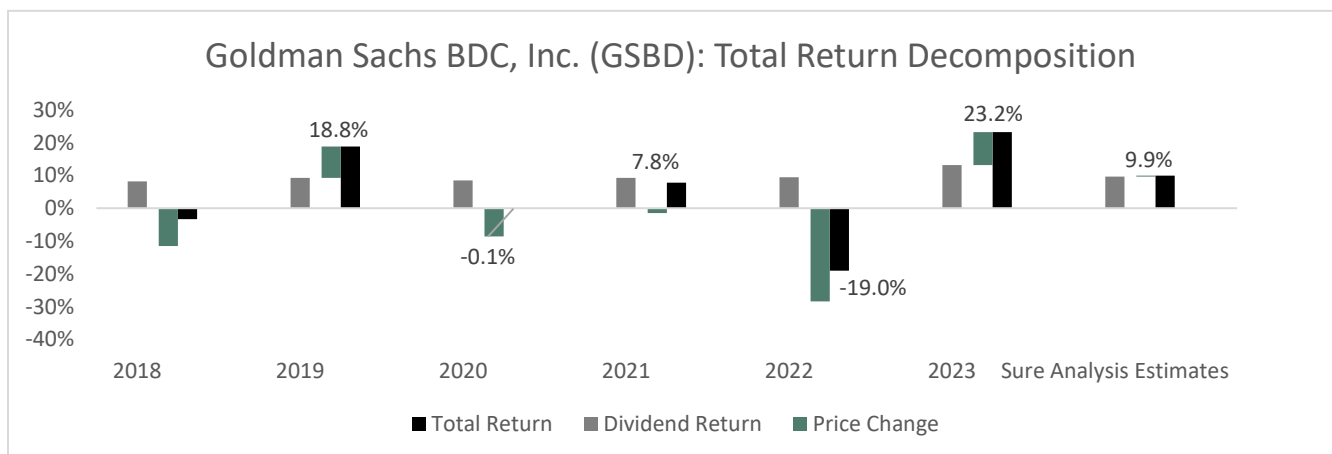
Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2029
Payout	95%	84%	86%	87%	87%	91%	88%	77%	80%	79%	<b>80%</b>	<b>80%</b>

Goldman Sachs BDC's dividend could be considered relatively safe, since the company has maintained its current \$1.80 rate for years, adequately covered by its net investment income generation. Its performance has remained consistent over time, displaying its portfolio's resiliency. Additionally, the merger with Goldman Sachs Middle Market Lending Corp in 2022 has elevated the company's ability to strike better deals and hopefully lower its financing costs. This could be considered a competitive advantage in an industry (BDCs) in which competitive advantages are rare. That being said, the company has not been tested under a prolonged recession due to its IPO taking place only eight years ago. However, the company displayed robust results during the ongoing pandemic, while being backed by Goldman Sachs itself could be potentially proven life-saving if such a recession were to occur.

## Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Overall, Goldman Sachs BDC is a quality company backed by the namesake asset management itself. While the stock's yield is on the higher-end amongst its peers, which reflects the underlying risks mentioned earlier, dividend coverage remains robust. We estimate annualized returns of around 9.9% going forward, powered by the stock's hefty dividend yield and the possibility of a slight valuation tailwind. We maintain our buy rating for Goldman Sachs BDC.

## Total Return Breakdown by Year



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## Income Statement Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Revenue	22	41	53	48	56	62	43	147	170	57
SG&A Exp.	2	4	5	6	5	6	6	6	8	9
Net Profit	18	37	47	41	50	54	36	176	192	55
Net Margin	83.0%	89.6%	88.7%	85.0%	88.3%	86.4%	83.5%	120%	113%	96.5%
Free Cash Flow	(539)	(280)	(121)	(31)	(49)	(49)	(35)	166	(30)	27
Income Tax	1	0	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	5

## Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Assets	630	967	1,133	1,191	1,299	1,397	1,475	3,312	3,551	3,591
Cash & Equivalents	7	9	23	5	12	6	9	32	34	40
Total Liabilities	22	393	444	525	573	687	799	1,697	1,937	2,089
Accounts Payable	12	36	17	18	20	21	20	56	61	60
Long-Term Debt	-	350	419	498	543	659	770	1,627	1,861	2,013
Shareholder's Equity	608	575	689	665	726	710	676	1,615	1,614	1,502
LTD/E Ratio	-	0.61	0.61	0.75	0.75	0.93	1.14	1.01	1.15	1.34

## Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Return on Assets		4.6%	4.4%	3.5%	4.0%	4.0%	2.5%	7.4%	5.6%	1.5%
Return on Equity	5.5%	6.2%	7.4%	6.0%	7.1%	7.5%	5.2%	15.4%	11.9%	3.5%
ROIC		4.8%	4.6%	3.6%	4.1%	4.1%	2.6%	7.5%	5.7%	1.6%
Shares Out.	23.8	29.7	34.8	36.3	38.6	40.2	40.3	53.9	101.69	102.3
Revenue/Share	0.73	1.39	1.51	1.32	1.45	1.55	1.07	2.72	1.67	0.55
FCF/Share	(18.1)	(9.40)	(3.49)	(0.86)	(1.28)	(1.23)	(0.87)	3.07	(0.29)	0.27

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

## Disclaimer

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