

TriplePoint Venture Growth BDC (TPVG)

Updated March 10th, 2024 by Nikolaos Sismanis

Key Metrics

Current Price:	\$9.83	5 Year CAGR Estimate:	15.1%	Market Cap:	\$369.8 M
Fair Value Price:	\$11.90	5 Year Growth Estimate:	0.0%	Ex-Dividend Date:	03/13/2024
% Fair Value:	83%	5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:	3.9%	Dividend Payment Date:	03/29/2023
Dividend Yield:	16.3%	5 Year Price Target	\$11.90	Years Of Dividend Growth	1: 2
Dividend Risk Score:	F	Retirement Suitability Score:	С	Rating:	Buy

Overview & Current Events

TriplePoint Venture Growth BDC Corp is a business development company specializing in providing capital and guiding companies during their private growth stage, before they eventually IPO to the public markets. TPVG offers debt financing to venture growth companies, proposing a less dilutive way to raise capital than raising additional equity while also helping with the businesses' acceleration and expansion. Its investment portfolio mainly consists of debt provision in 49 companies (91% of total portfolio's fair value), and \$71.9 million (9%) of warrants and equity investments with 105 companies. It is well-diversified amongst 20+ industries, with its highest exposure of 15.6 % in consumer products and services. The majority of its funds are allocated in the tech sector. The \$367 million company, based in Menlo Park, California, has helped finance some of the world's leading companies, including Facebook, Etsy, Fastly, Splunk, Square, Workday, Crowdstrike, and various other successful tech giants.

On March 6th, 2024, the company posted its Q4 and full-year results for the period ending December 31st, 2023. For the quarter, the company achieved a total investment income of \$33.0 million compared to \$34.9 million in Q4-2022. The decrease in total investment was primarily due to a lower weighted average principal amount outstanding on the BDC's income-bearing debt investment portfolio. Specifically, the number of portfolio companies fell from 57 last year to 49.

Nonetheless, the company's weighted average annualized portfolio yield came in at an impressive 15.6% for the quarter, up from 15.3% in the prior-year period. Further, during Q4, the company funded \$24.4 million in debt investments to six portfolio companies with an 18.8% weighted average annualized yield at origination.

Net investment income (NII) per share was \$0.47, compared to \$0.58 in Q4-2022. The decrease in net investment income between periods was driven primarily by lower total investment and other income and an increase in general and administrative expenses. For the year, NII/share was a record \$2.07. Based on the company's current portfolio composition, we forecast a FY2024 NII/share power of \$1.70.

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2029
NII/share	\$1.30	\$1.46	\$1.42	\$1.61	\$1.71	\$1.54	\$1.57	\$1.33	\$1.94	\$2.07	\$1.70	\$1.70
DPS	\$1.28	\$1.44	\$1.44	\$1.44	\$1.44	\$1.44	\$1.44	\$1.44	\$1.55	\$1.60	\$1.60	\$1.60
Shares ¹	9.9	15	16.2	16.3	20.5	24.8	30.6	30.9	35.3	37.6	37.6	50.0

Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Note that we are using Net Investment Income (NII) and Distributions per share (DPS) instead of earnings-per-share and dividends, as this better reflects the underlying nature of TriplePoint. During the company's brief history in the public markets, management has achieved a solid net income per share record, substantially covering its distributions. Due TriplePoint investing in companies carrying higher risks as well as the recent originations taking place at a slightly higher yield, we believe that its debt yields will remain above 14%, though this figure should be expected to fluctuate. We don't forecast any growth in the company's NII/ share and distributions in the medium-term as we are starting off a high NII/share base, and changes in rates could drive results either way in the coming years.

¹ 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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Valuation Analysis

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Now	2029
Avg. P/NII	11.9	8.42	7.7	8.5	7.6	11.0	7.0	12.4	7.0	5.0	5.8	7.0
Avg. Yld.	7.5%	9.8%	13.3%	10.9%	11.1%	9.4%	9.4%	8.7%	11.4%	15.6%	16.3%	13.4%

TriplePoint's valuation appears to be implying a discount relative to the rest of its BDC peers. The current multiple of 5.8 times our expected FY2024 net investment income likely undervalues the stock considerably, whose fair P/NII we have lowered to a prudent 7.0X. Rising rates have hampered investment activity, but also increased the company's investment spreads. NAV/share stood at \$9.21 as of December 31st, 2023. While this may imply that the BDC is overvalued relative to its NAV, it's crucial to note that NAV has declined lately mostly as a result of higher interest rates temporarily altering the discount rates applied to the company's investments. A pull-to-part effect over the medium-term could normalize NAV. Interestingly, shares are currently trading at a massive yield of 16.3%, which should magnetize investor interest.

Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

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Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2029
Payout		99%	101%	89%	84%	94%	92%	108%	80%	77%	94%	94%

While the payout ratio may seem alarming, especially during periods such as FY2021 when the payout ratio exceeded 100%, distributions should remain covered by the company's increase in net assets. Also, the estimated undistributed taxable earnings from net investment income currently stand at \$1.10 per share. Hence, we don't expect a cut. That being said, due to their obligatory distribution requirements, there is little to no margin for capital maneuverings. Still, while management's proficiency has helped it negotiate sky-high yields even during the low-rates environment a few years ago, future competition could squeeze this surplus. Another risk at this is that the company's sky-high dividend yield makes it almost prohibitive to issue shares to fund investments. Given that the company's outflows would surge in such a scenario, the company portfolio size may shrink moving forward. We saw this occur in 2023. Finally, a potential recession could adversely impact the company's results.

Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Shares of TriplePoint currently come attached to a massive dividend yield of 16.3%. We assess that payouts remain safe, and estimate that the stock can achieve annualized returns of 15.1% during the medium-term. This is to be driven by the hefty yield and the possibility of valuation tailwinds. Shares earn a buy rating, though we suggest that investors be aware of the risks attached to BDCs.



Total Return Breakdown by Year

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Income Statement Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Revenue			23	18	26	44	40	45	87	(9.5)
SG&A Exp.			4	4	4	5	6	7	6	6.7
Net Profit			16	11	19	37	32	35	77	(20)
Net Margin			68.9%	61.2%	73.8%	83.0%	79.0%	77.8%	88.5%	(211%)
Free Cash Flow			0	(92)	25	(18)	(188)	61	(145)	(101)

Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Assets		326	382	434	510	467	684	684	928	1015
Cash & Equivalents		7	32	8	4	3	20	38	51	51.5
Total Liabilities		326	382	434	510	467	684	283	493	595
Accounts Payable		7	32	8	4	3	20	3	0	0
Long-Term Debt			71	168	139	96	336	261	468	567
Shareholder's Equity		145	232	216	235	335	333	400	434	420
LTD/E Ratio			0.31	0.78	0.59	0.29	1.01	0.65	1.08	1.35

Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Return on Assets				2.7%	4.1%	7.5%	5.5%	5.2%	9.5%	(2.1%)
Return on Equity			8.2%	5.0%	8.5%	12.8%	9.5%	9.6%	18.3%	(4.7%)
ROIC				3.2%	5.1%	9.1%	5.8%	5.3%	9.8%	(2.1%)
Shares Out.		9.9	15	16.2	16.3	20.5	24.8	30.6	30.9	32.7
Revenue/Share			1.50	1.12	1.60	2.15	1.62	1.47	2.82	(0.29)
FCF/Share			0.01	(5.69)	1.54	(0.87)	(7.55)	1.98	(4.68)	(3.09)

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

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