Artisan Partners Asset Management (APAM)

Updated February 6th, 2026, by Josh Arnold

Key Metrics

Current Price:	$44	**5 Year CAGR Estimate:**	10.2%	**Market Cap:**	$3.6 B
Fair Value Price:	$46	**5 Year Growth Estimate:**	2.0%	**Ex-Dividend Date:**	02/13/26
% Fair Value:	96%	**5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:**	0.7%	**Dividend Payment Date:**	02/27/26
Dividend Yield:	9.2%	**5 Year Price Target**	$50	**Years Of Dividend Growth:**	3
Dividend Risk Score:	F	**Sector:**	Financials	**Rating:**	Hold

Overview & Current Events

Artisan Partners Asset Management Inc. is a global investment management firm that provides a broad range of high value asset investment strategies across several asset classes. Artisan executed its initial public offering on March 1st, 2013. The company has been a very shareholder-friendly allocator of capital since then, paying special dividends of $0.95 per share in 2015, $0.40 per share in 2016, $0.36 per share in 2017, $0.79 per share in 2018, $1.03 in 2019, $0.31 in 2020, $0.72 in 2021, $0.35 for 2022, $0.35 in 2023, $0.50 in 2024, and $0.57 in 2025 in addition to its ample quarterly dividend. Artisan generates nearly $1.2 billion in annual revenue and trades with a market capitalization of $3.6 billion.

Artisan posted fourth quarter and full-year earnings on February 4th, 2026, and results were better than expected on both the top and bottom lines. Earnings-per-share came to $1.32, which was 22 cents ahead of estimates. Revenue was up 13% year-on-year to $336 million, beating expectations by almost $12 million.

The company noted the weighted average fee rate for Q4 was 74 basis points, which includes strong performance fee revenue generation. Distributions not reinvested were $1.5 billion for the quarter and $2 billion for the year, which was $800 million worse than 2024.

Artisan ended the year with $214 million in cash and $80 million in excess capital after dividends and growth investments. The company paid out 98% of operating earnings for 2025 including the special dividend and all quarterly dividends.

Management noted 79% of assets under management outperformed benchmarks for the three-year period, 74% for the five-year period, and 92% for the ten-year period gross of fees. AUM ended the year at $180 billion, up 12% year-over-year.

We start the year with an estimate of $4.15 in adjusted earnings-per-share, but remind investors that Artisan's earnings visibility is chronically low given the nature of its business.

Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
EPS	$2.13	$2.41	$2.94	$2.67	$3.30	$5.03	$3.11	$2.89	$3.55	$3.93	***$4.15***	***$4.58***
DPS	$2.40	$2.40	$2.40	$2.36	$2.79	$3.92	$3.67	$2.66	$2.82	$3.13	***$4.04***	***$4.46***
Shares[1]	42	51	54	56	63	67	68	69	70	71	***72***	***75***

Artisan has failed to generate meaningful per-share growth since its initial public offering, due largely to a ballooning share count. Because of this, we are hesitant to expect significant growth from the firm moving forward. Our 5-year earnings-per-share growth estimate for Artisan is 2%, however, as we see the company's rising margins and focus on expense management as driving outsized earnings growth in the coming years, along with strong equity markets supporting higher AUM.

Income investors should note that the dividend figures listed in the above table exclude the numerous special dividends paid by the company since its IPO in 2013. Artisan pays a regular quarterly dividend, but it also pays out significant

[1] 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.

special dividends annually. The company's policy is to pay out 80% of the cash the company generates. At the end of the year, the board considers several factors, and determines a variable special dividend. For instance, the total yield in 202 was in excess of 8% including special dividends. For 2025, the dividend was much higher, with $3.63 in total dividends being declared.

Valuation Analysis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Now	2031
Avg. P/E	13.7	13.0	10.9	10.2	10.6	10.0	9.5	15.3	12.1	10.4	***10.6***	***11.0***
Avg. Yld.	8.3%	7.7%	7.5%	8.9%	8.0%	7.8%	12.3%	6.0%	6.6%	7.7%	***9.2%***	***8.8%***

Like many firms, Artisan traded at elevated levels for some time following its initial public offering. Because of this, we do not believe that the company's early historical valuation multiples are indicative of its fair value. Instead, we believe that a fair value for Artisan lies somewhere around 11 times earnings. The company is trading at a price-to-earnings ratio of 10.6 today. With the $4.04 annualized dividend, the stock is yielding 9.2%, excluding any special dividend received this year. We also note that because of Artisan's unusual policy of paying out most of its earnings on a variable basis, we could potentially see higher dividend payments than currently forecast if equity markets perform well. It works in the other direction, too, and actual dividends could be lower than forecast.

Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
Payout	113%	100%	82%	88%	85%	78%	118%	92%	79%	80%	***97%***	***97%***

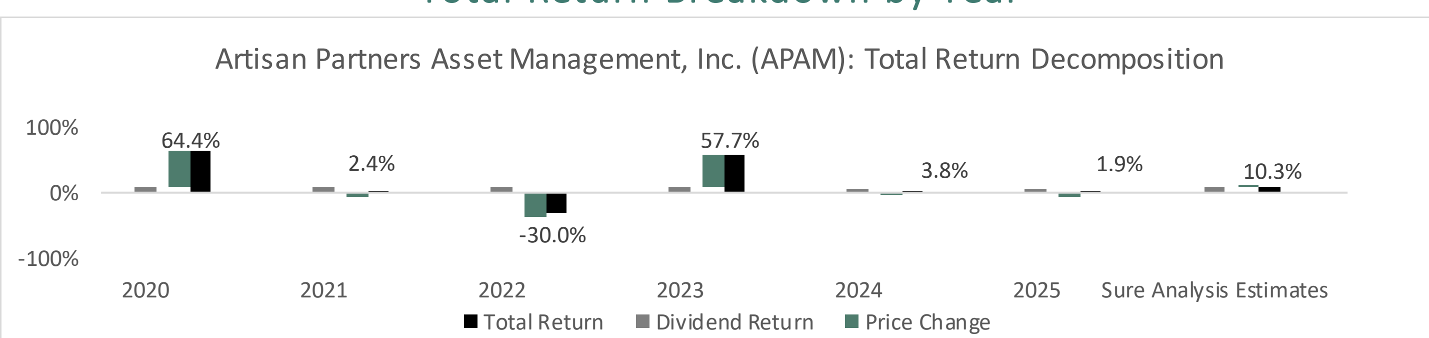
Artisan's payout ratio is 97% of earnings at current projections, but investors should keep in mind that Artisan generally pays special dividends at the end of the year, and that its quarterly dividend policy is variable. Thus, how the payout ratio performs depends significantly upon how much earnings the company can generate.

Artisan wasn't public during the Great Recession, but we expect the damage to earnings could be meaningful during a prolonged recession that brings with it lower equity prices. Artisan is a highly cyclical company, so investors looking for safety and defensiveness would look elsewhere. Adding to this risk, Artisan's competitive advantage of its well-performing funds hasn't resonated with customers. We do note that Artisan performed extremely well in 2020, and 2021 produced record earnings, but 2023 was back on track with historical results.

Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Artisan can be seen as a leveraged play on the equity markets. When markets are rising, the company will benefit from ballooning AUM due to market returns. Conversely, the company will likely perform very poorly during a bear market, as it did at the end of 2018, and indeed in 2022. We are reiterating the stock at a hold rating following Q4 results with a fairly attractive total return outlook. Returns should accrue from 2% earnings growth, the 9.2% yield, and little impact from the valuation.

Total Return Breakdown by Year



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Income Statement Metrics

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Revenue	721	796	829	799	900	1,227	993	975	1112	1285
SG&A Exp.	103	106	111	115	105	124	483	142	151	---
D&A Exp.	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	9	10	---
Operating Profit	234	286	305	283	358	541	344	304	367	488
Operating Margin	32.5%	36.0%	36.8%	35.5%	39.8%	44.0%	34.6%	31.1%	33.0%	38.0%
Net Profit	73	50	158	157	213	337	207	222	260	378
Net Margin	10.1%	6.2%	19.1%	19.6%	23.6%	27.4%	20.8%	22.8%	23.4%	29.4%
Free Cash Flow	263	220	319	275	316	393	293	244	368	---
Income Tax	51	421	48	28	61	107	63	72	91	111

Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Assets	936	837	805	934	1,152	1,208	1314	1406	1619	1577
Cash & Equivalents	157	159	175	144	199	189	115	141	201	214
Accounts Receivable	60	90	71	81	101	116	99	101	119	---
Total Liabilities	818	729	665	795	961	912	899	802	869	795
Accounts Payable	16	25	21	54	134	37	54	78	113	---
Long-Term Debt	199	199	199	199	199	199	199	199	199	310
Shareholder's Equity	132	110	135	133	180	296	279	351	422	---
LTD/E Ratio	1.51	1.81	1.48	1.50	1.10	0.67	0.71	0.57	0.47	0.65

Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Return on Assets	7.8%	5.6%	19.3%	18.0%	20.4%	28.5%	16.4%	16.8%	17.2%	23.6%
Return on Equity	55.8%	41.1%	129%	117%	136%	141%	74.4%	72.5%	38.4%	49.3%
ROIC	23.1%	15.9%	48.9%	46.2%	58.4%	76.0%	33.9%	31.4%	29.6%	35.3%
Shares Out.	42	51	54	56	63	67	62	69	70	71
Revenue/Share	18.90	17.82	16.96	15.63	16.18	18.79	14.59	14.13	15.79	18.12
FCF/Share	6.90	4.93	6.54	5.38	5.67	6.56	4.69	3.85	5.67	---

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