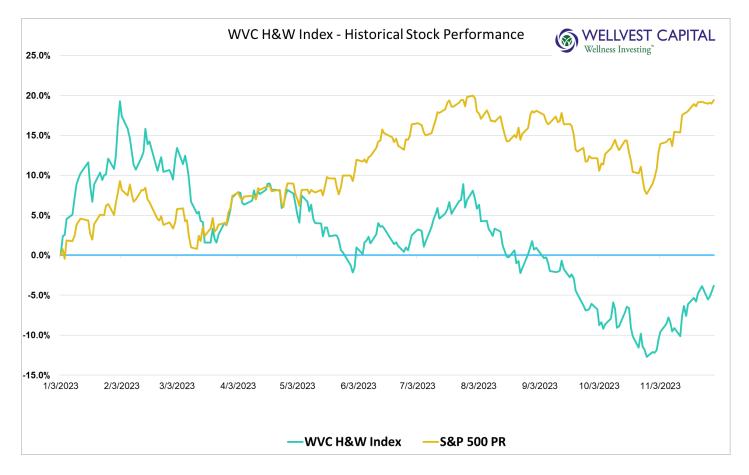


# Wellness Investing<sup>™</sup>

## WELLVEST CAPITAL'S HEALTH AND WELLNESS PUBLIC COMPANY INDEX

The WVC H&W Index 2023

November 2023



### **HIGHLIGHTS**

The macro narrative around interest rates, inflation, employment, and geo-political concerns pivoted to fuel a strong market rally in November. The downward trend that started in August reversed course generating an 8.9% increase to the S&P500 for the month leaving the index up 19.5% year to date, excluding dividends. The WVC H&W Index held its own against the S&P500, increasing 8.6% for the month, bringing the YTD performance to a negative 3.8%, excluding dividends. The big drop in yields on the 10-year Treasury Bond from about 5.0% to 4.3% at month end was a predominate driver.

For The WVC H&W Index, the big question now is, "was November just a 'Dead Cat Bounce' or the start of a sustainable rally?". Many of this year's biggest losers including Oatley, Honest Company, Peloton, and Beyond Meat had large upside moves for the month, ranging from about 20% to 100%+. The near-death experience for some of these innovators may be the catalyst needed to course correct for growth and profitability.

#### THE WINNERS and THE WINNERS

In sports the final score does not always tell the real story, same for the stock market. The WVC H&W Index this month had numerous winners, for some this was the acceleration of historical strong performance, for others it was a reversal from a dismal year. The top performers all have strong brand awareness and well-run businesses. Lifeway Foods (LWAY) kept right on trucking adding to its exceptional 2023 with a 31.1% jump in November, and 152.1% YTD. BellRing Brands (BRBR) increased shareholder value with 21.0% share price increase for the month bringing the YTD increase to 106.3%. Natural Grocers (NGVC) had a great month, up 24.8%, increasing the YTD return to 71.7%. The proverbial "dead cat bounce" bucket included some familiar names, such as Peloton (PTON), Oatly (OTLY), The Honest Company (HNST) and Jamieson Vitamins (TSE:JWEL). As a group they were up a blistering 61.4% for the month. Even with this exceptional gain the sub-set is down nearly 30% YTD. Only time will tell if this is a value trap or the start of something real for these laggards.

#### **H&W INDEX WINNERS and LOSERS - YTD**

• Top Five Winners

0	Thorne Research (THRN)*	181.0%
0	Lifeway Foods (LWAY)	152.1
0	BellRing Brands (BRBR)	106.3
0	WW International (WW)	86.8
0	Natural Grocers (NGVC)	71.7

Top Five Losers

0	Smart of Life (SMFL)	-93.1%
0	RiceBran Technologies (RIBT)	-75.7
0	United Natural Foods (UNFI)	-62.4
0	Nautilus (BFX)	-59.8
0	Nu Skin (NUS)	-59.6

Data sources: Pitchbook, Y Charts Copyright: Wellvest Capital 2023 \*Taken private Oct 2023 by L Catterton

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