

Following the release of Oatly's fourth-quarter earnings report for the 2023 fiscal year, the company has received mixed reviews from financial analysts and business media concerning Oatly's stock performance and the company's future trajectory. Despite reporting a 4.6% increase in revenue and a 7.5% rise in profit margin compared to the previous year, Oatly's net loss for the quarter amounted to \$298.7 million, more than double the net loss reported in the fourth quarter of 2022 and overshadowing the news of its 2023 quarter-four revenue of \$204.1 million. Oatly attributes \$176.6 million of this net loss to its decision to discontinue construction on production facilities in the U.K. and U.S., and has expressed optimistic projections for consistent profit growth in the upcoming fiscal year (Oatly, 2024).

Despite its volatile stock and some discouraging numbers in its fourth-quarter report, some business media outlets remain optimistic about the future of Oatly. An article from Investing.com maintains a positive outlook on Oatly's place in the stock market, anticipating increased gross profit, cost reduction initiatives, and organizational changes within the next fiscal year (Angelica, 2024). Both Yahoo! Finance and Business Insider have released articles that advocate for investing in Oatly while the stock price is low due to the potential for the global oat milk market to continue growing. Financial journalist Josh Enomoto argues that if Oatly meets its projected growth trajectory, its sales could climb to \$906.29 million by 2025 (Enomoto, 2024). Similarly, Business Insider has released an article acknowledging the unpredictable nature of Oatly stock while still operating under the sentiment that Oatly will thrive in the years to come (Cooper, 2024).

However, not all business media outlets share the same confidence regarding Oatly's ability to recover from its current state. An article from Market Watch points out that Oatly stock has fallen 42% in the last year, and despite Oatly's confidence in its sales outlook, the negatives of its latest quarterly report overshadow the positives (Linnane, 2024). MarketBeat echoes this uncertainty and adds that Oatly's negative 37.94 % return on equity and negative net margin of 53.22% render it unprofitable and unattractive for investors at its current state (MarketBeat 2024). Nevertheless, both Market Watch and

MarketBeat air on the side of caution and recommend that investors continue to hold their Oatly stock and wait out the storm.

Financial analysts also have mixed opinions on the current state of Oatly stock. The overall consensus among both business media and financial analysts teeters between holding and buying with analysts like Brian Holland from D.A. Davidson issuing a strong buy rating for Oatly and analysts like Dara Mohsenian from Morgan Stanley and Nik Modi from RBC Capital urging for a hold. (Stock Analysis, 2024). In essence, Oatly's current financial condition is not likely to attract droves of new investors without being able to demonstrate that the company has successfully decreased its losses while maintaining its projected revenue growth throughout the 2024 fiscal year.