Market Commentary Blog

# Cash Flow *and Carey*


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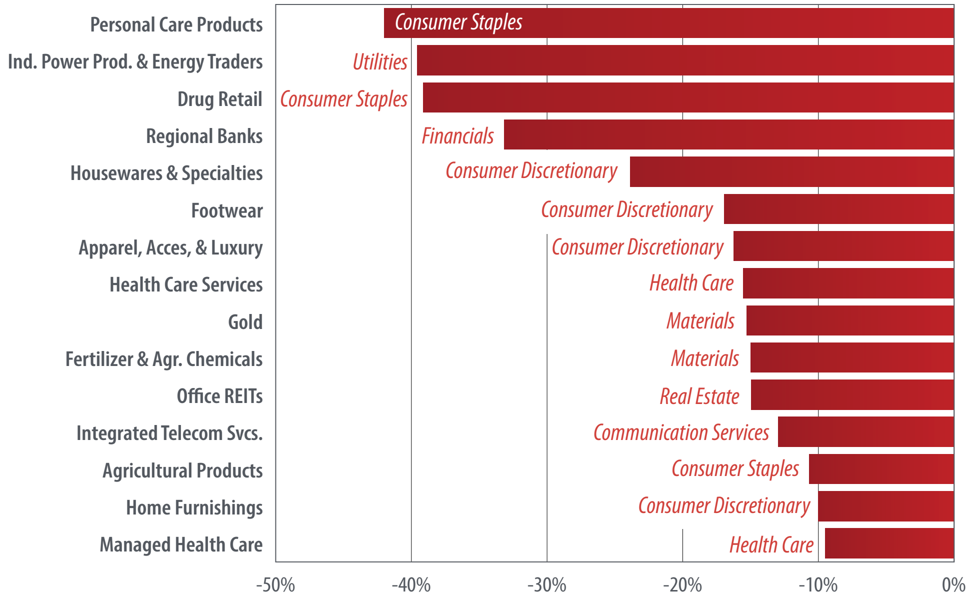
## Worst-Performing S&P 500 Index Subsectors YTD (Thru 9/12)

### Bottom 15 S&P 500 Index Subsector Total Returns (12/30/22 – 9/12/23)




Source: Bloomberg. **Past Performance is no guarantee of future results.**

### View from the Observation Deck

Today's blog post is for those investors who want to drill down below the sector level to see what is not performing well in the stock market. The S&P 500 Index was comprised of 11 sectors and 126 subsectors as of 9/8/23, according to S&P Dow Jones Indices. The 15 worst-performing subsectors in today's chart posted total returns ranging from -9.51% (Managed Health Care) to -42.01% (Personal Care Products) over the period. Click here to view our last post on the worst performing subsectors.

- As indicated in the chart above, four of the 15 worst-performing subsectors came from the S&P 500 Index Consumer Discretionary sector. Consumer Staples was next, with three subsectors represented. Personal Care Products, a subsector of the Consumer Staples sector was the worst performer, posting a total return of -42.01% for the period.
- With respect to the 11 sectors that comprise the S&P 500 Index, Utilities posted the worst total return for the period, falling by 8.51%, according to data from Bloomberg. The second-and third-worst performers were Health Care and Consumer Staples, with total returns of -1.49% and -1.47%, respectively. The S&P 500 Index posted a total return of 17.55% for the period.
- Notably, while four of the subsectors in today's chart come from the S&P 500 Consumer Discretionary Index, the broader sector posted the third-highest total return (35.69% through 9/12/23) of the 11 sectors that make up the S&P 500 Index.
- The most heavily weighted sector in the S&P 500 Index was Information Technology at 27.92% as of 9/8/23, according to S&P Dow Jones Indices. For comparison, the Communication Services sector had a weighting of 8.85%.
- Of the 11 sectors that comprise the S&P 500 Index, Energy had the lowest estimated year-end price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio (11.86 as of 8/31/23), followed by Financials with a P/E ratio of 12.86.

### Takeaway

The Consumer Discretionary and Consumer Staples sectors account for seven of the fifteen worst-performing subsectors in today's chart. Year-to-date through 9/12/23, Utilities, Health Care, and Consumer Staples have seen the worst total returns of the 11 sectors, having declined by 8.51%, 1.49%, and 1.47%, respectively over the period. As always, there are no guarantees, but there could be some potential deep value opportunities in this group of subsectors. For those investors who have interest, there are a growing number of packaged products, such as exchange-traded funds, that feature S&P 500 Index subsectors.