

Team 16 – UNC Alpha Challenge 2025

Long Recommendation – Brinker International (NYSE: EAT)



Brinker International (NYSE: EAT) Company Overview



Company Summary

- Brinker International is a restaurant company Brinker operates the "Chili's Grill and Bar" & "Maggiano's Little Italy" brands
- Brinker is a market-leader and best-in-class restaurant operator; Chili's is the #1 casual dining brand in North America



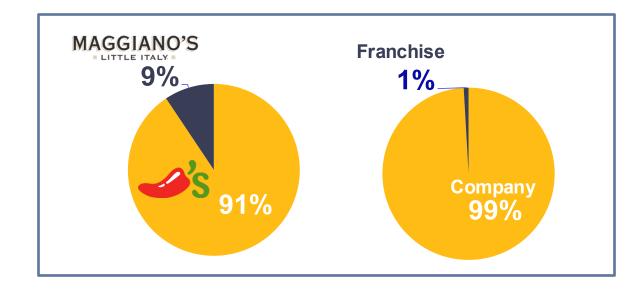
Kevin Hochman, CEO Joined: 2022



Mika Ware, CFO Joined: 1988



George Felix, CMO Joined: 2022



Recommendation and Price Target

We recommend a **LONG** position

6/30/27 Price Target	\$178.69
Unaida/Dayraaida	22.40/
Upside/Downside	32.4%
IRR	19.1%
Currrent Share Price	\$134.96
Market Cap	\$6.0B
TEV	\$7.9B
Short Interest	12% Float / 2.9 Days
As Of	11/21/202

Historical Financials							
June FYE (\$mm) Revenue	2021 3,338	2022 3,804	2023 4,133	2024 4,415	2025 5,384		
COGs Labor Other 4-Wall Margin	868 1,108 859 445	1,049 1,288 968 407	1,146 1,389 1,098	1,108 1,467 1,213 583	1,351 1,717 1,334 934		
Margin%	13.3%	10.7%	11.1%	13.2%	17.3%		
Operating Profit Margin%	218.9 6.6%	191.2 5.0%	177.5 <i>4.3%</i>	272.8 6.2%	553.8 10.3%		
Adj. EBITDA Margin%	368.5 11.0%	355.1 9.3%	345.6 8.4%	443.6 10.0%	760.4 14.1%		
Diluted EPS	\$3.13	\$3.09	\$2.85	\$4.13	\$8.90		

EAT Share Price Performance and Current Valuation

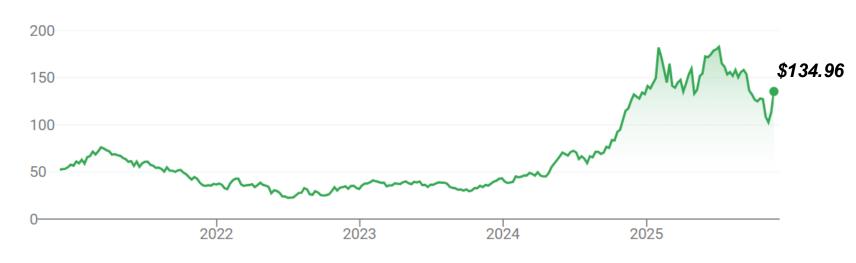




Significant Recent Increase

- Team 16 initiated a LONG recommendation on EAT on 11/2 (share price of \$108.66)
- EAT shares have since appreciated meaningfully and are ~+24% in the intervening period
- Regardless, we believe there is still room to run

Brinker International 5-Year Share Price Performance



Valuation Metrics

- LTM TEV / EBITDA: 7.4x

Peer Median: 14.8x

NTM P/E: 12.8x

Peer Median: 19.8x

Investment Thesis



1

Chili's is the #1 casual dining brand in the USA and is poised to continue robust traffic growth despite a weaker outlook for the broader QSR/Casual dining industry

2

Maggiano's Little Italy is an overlooked "diamond-in-the-rough" that is primed to beat consensus expectations as Brinker's veteran management turns their focus to turnaround efforts

(3)

The Market meaningfully underestimates Chili's new restaurant opening expansion opportunity with significant whitespace in Northeast / West markets



Street Is Underestimating Chili's Traffic Growth



Historical traffic trends consistently point to materially higher growth than consensus, indicating Street estimates are too low even under conservative assumptions and without requiring Chili's to repeat peak momentum.

Underestimated Momentum

Historical traffic averages imply meaningfully higher growth than consensus across Y26–Y28, regardless of whether a 2-yr, 3-yr, or 5-yr trend is applied

Market share Capture

We forecast Chili's sustaining ~5% traffic growth through FY27, **driving an estimated ~\$400M** (~7%) revenue beat vs. consensus, ~4% of our EPS upside vs consensus. This outperformance is supported by continued share gains from (1) lower-income casual diners trading down into value, (2) QSR/fast casual guests trading up as price gaps narrow, and (3) heightened Gen Z/millennial demand amplified by Chili's superior social and viral reach

Chili's Sustainable Traffic Growth Strategy

Value-Led Share Capture

Three-for-Me remains the sector's most compelling value platform: The \$10.99 bundle continues to anchor Chili's differentiated "full-service at fast-casual prices" positioning, driving incremental weekday traffic and widening the value gap vs peers

Advantageous Consumer Mix With 88–93% of <\$70K households moving to lower-priced dining, Chili's is outperforming peers as <\$60K becomes its fastest-growing cohort, reinforcing its position as the category's value leader

Sticky Repeat Customers Chili's has 25% of its customers in the millennial/Gen Z demographic vs. a 15% peer average. Chili's outperforms the entire restaurant peer set on virality, pairing one of the highest share rates with above-average view engagement

Monthly tokenized cohorts show stable repeat frequency, with new guests returning at the same rate as existing guests. Incremental visits persist beyond the first trip, disproving a promotional or one-time lift



Street Is Underestimating Traffic Growth



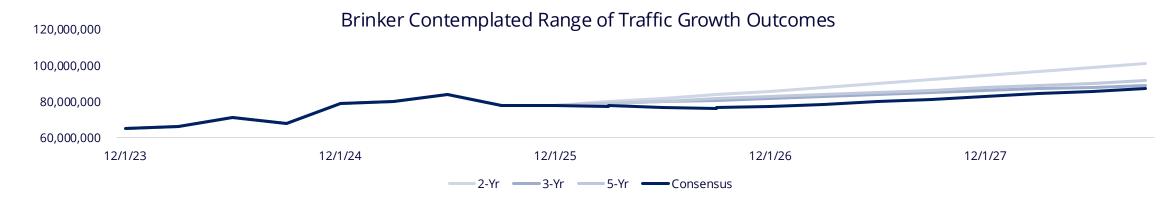
Historical traffic trends consistently point to materially higher growth than consensus, indicating Street estimates are too low even under conservative assumptions and without requiring Chili's to repeat peak momentum.

Chili's Average Traffic Rates				
	Yearly	Quarterly		
2-Yr Avg. YoY	10%	2%		
3-Yr Avg. YoY	5%	1%		
5-Yr Avg. YoY	6%	1%		

Estimated Chili's Traffic Scenarios						
	FY26	FY27	FY28			
Consensus	308,830	316,964	339,441			
2-Yr Avg. YoY	323,005	355,306	390,836			
3-Yr Avg. YoY	317,336	333,203	349,863			
5-Yr Avg. YoY	318,479	337,587	357,843			

Consensus Underappreciates Momentum

- Historical traffic averages imply meaningfully higher growth than consensus across Y26–Y28, regardless of whether a 2-yr, 3-yr, or 5-yr trend is applied.
- Consensus embeds a deceleration that is not reflected in historical traffic patterns, even when smoothed over longer 3–5 year periods.
- Even conservative long-term averages (5–6% YoY) generate traffic levels above Street expectations.
- Y27 and Y28 remain materially above consensus under all three historical scenarios, suggesting estimates are too low.
- Chili's does not need to repeat peak momentum for the model to outperform Street numbers.



Source: BBG data

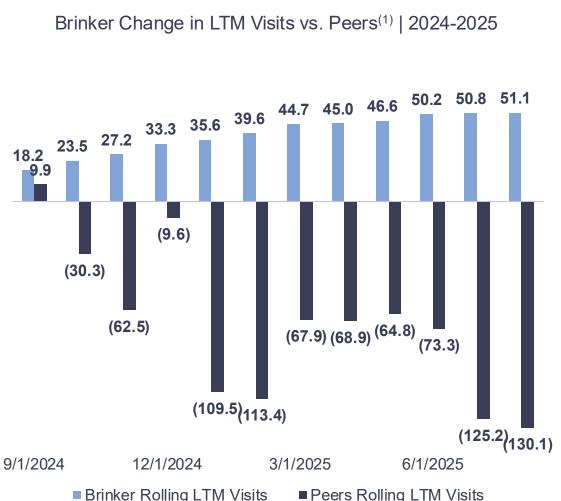


As Fast Casual and QSR Meal Prices Converge Brinker Takes Market Share



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Chili's is poised to gain meaningful share as QSR traffic softens, with ~5% sustained traffic growth through FY27 driven by value trade-down, QSR trade-up as prices converge, and strong Gen Z/millennial pull—creating a clear path to revenue and EPS upside vs. consensus.



Brinker Rolling LTM Visits	■ Peers Rolling LTM Visits
1): Peers include: CAKE_MCD_YLIM_OSR_BLM	IN and DRI

Thesis #1 Variance vs. Consensus

		FY2026E			
	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY2026E	FY2027E
Total Revenue	1,432,814	1,528,443	1,572,213	5,882,669	6,450,215
YoY Growth %	5.5%	7.3%	7.5%	9.3%	9.6%
Consensus	1,411,273	1,472,861	1,521,791	5,755,125	6,077,780
YoY Growth %	3.9%	3.4%	4.1%	6.9%	5.6%
Variance	+1.5%	+3.8%	+3.3%	+2.2%	+6.1%
4-Wall Margin	268,322	295,746	296,076	1,089,027	1,213,553
% of Sales	18.7%	19.3%	18.8%	18.5%	18.8%
EBIT	158,348	174,764	172,796	623,913	716,406
% of Sales	11.1%	11.4%	11.0%	10.6%	11.1%
EPS	\$ 2.68	\$ 2.91	\$ 2.84	\$ 10.35	\$ 12.38
Consensus	\$2.64	\$2.81	\$2.74	\$10.12	\$11.65
Variance	+1.6%	+3.9%	+3.4%	+2.3%	+6.2%

Source: BBG data

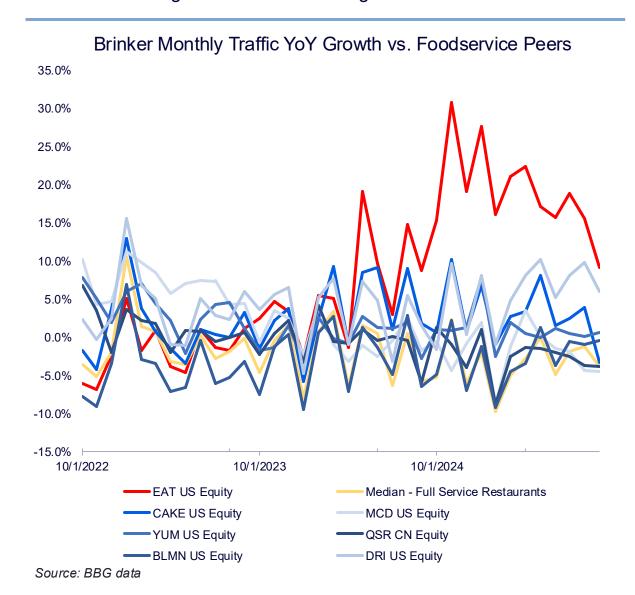


As Fast Casual and QSR Meal Prices Converge Brinker Takes Market Share



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Brinker's traffic has broken sharply away from peers, operating at a clear step-function higher level, and this outperformance positions Chili's to continue taking share from weakening QSR traffic.



Brinker Takes Market Share

- Double-digit YoY price increases across QSR chains have driven most SSS growth at take-out competitors (e.g., MCD)
- Over the same period, Chili's delivered 31% YoY SSS growth driven primarily by ~19% traffic, capturing an estimated 5–10% of QSR traffic declines
- Forecasts call for continued ~1% QSR traffic decline through 2027, and consensus underestimates Chili's ability to capture this shift as well as broader gains from value-focused casual diners, and strong Gen Z/millennial pull
- We project Chili's traffic moderating to ~5% through the forecast period, driving ~\$400M (~7%) of revenue variance vs. FY27 consensus, equating to ~4% EPS upside relative to consensus

Brinker Intl Market Share Analysis Summary	
Competitor Visit Loss (June 2027)	201,986,701
Share of Brinker Capture	15.0%
Brinker Capture (Annual)	30,298,005
Brinker Capture (Monthly)	2,524,834
LTM Avg Monthly Visits (9/30/25)	26,770,577
PF RR Monthly Visits	29,295,411
% Change	9.4%
Months to Achieve	21
Visit Count CAGR (Thru end of FY27)	5.3%



A Value-Forward Menu Set to Accelerate Traffic and Repeat Visits



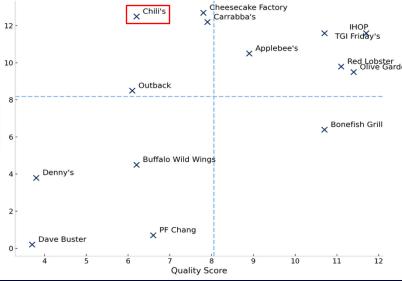
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Chili's value platform is driving incremental traffic while premium mix strengthens on quality upgrades. A proven barbell strategy and multi-year menu pipeline support sustained traffic momentum and increasing guest stickiness.

Menu Momentum

- Product quality upgrades are translating into measurable repeat gains: The July rib upgrade (+35% lift; +1% mix) and other quality improvements are improving craveability and reinforcing return-visit behavior
- Multi-year innovation pipeline provides visibility into sustained traffic momentum:
 Upcoming menu programs Chicken Sandwich (F2H26), Steak (F27), Salad (F27) create a consistent cadence of quality news designed to deepen guest stickiness and support durable traffic growth through FY26–27

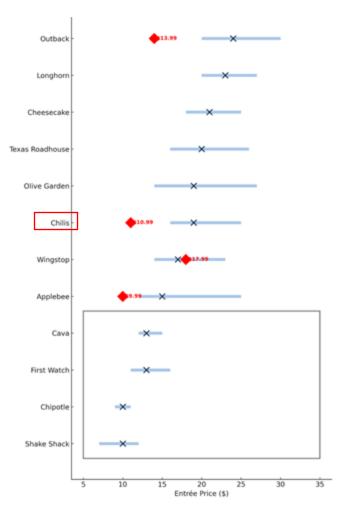
Restaurants: Value vs Quality



Chili's Value Proposition

- Three-for-Me remains the sector's most compelling value platform: The \$10.99 bundle continues to anchor Chili's differentiated "full-service at fast-casual prices" positioning, driving incremental weekday traffic and widening the value gap vs peers
- Value mix stability underscores healthy traffic quality: The \$10.99 tier slipped modestly from ~8% to ~7%, indicating value is attracting incremental guests without over-mixing or pressuring average checks
- Barbell menu architecture broadens daypart and occasion coverage: Value tiers pull weekday utility
 visits, while upgraded proteins and beverages capture weekend, celebratory, and higher-check occasions,
 diversifying total traffic drivers

Restaurants: Value vs Quality



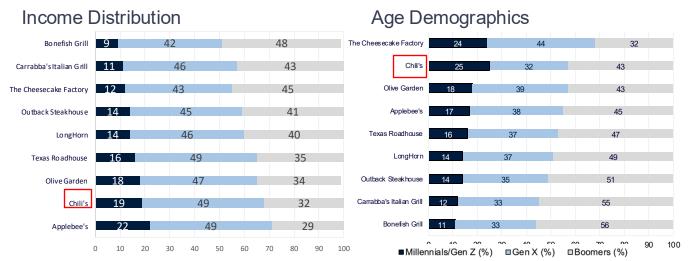


Customer Segmentation Creates a Structural Traffic Tailwind for Chili's

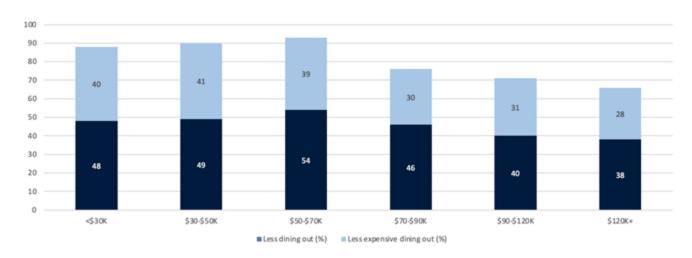


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Chili's is winning value-seeking consumers as low-income households trade down. The brand is also gaining younger guests, boosted by strong social momentum and above-peer Gen Z/millennial mix.



Reduced "Dining Out" Intentions Amongst Lower Income Cohort



Chili's Strategically Positioned Customer Base

- Chili's has 22% of its customers in the lowincome cohort vs. the casual dining peer average of 14.4%.
- Lower-income consumers are not exiting restaurants—they're trading into value, and Chili's is capturing that shift.
- With 88–93% of <\$70K households moving to lower-priced dining, Chili's is outperforming peers as <\$60K becomes its fastest-growing cohort, reinforcing its position as the category's value leader.
- Chili's has 25% of its customers in the millennial/Gen Z demographic vs. a 15% peer average.
- Chili's is gaining momentum with younger consumers, supported by sustained TikTok and social activation that is pulling in Gen Z and young urban guests with repeat rates comparable to older cohorts.

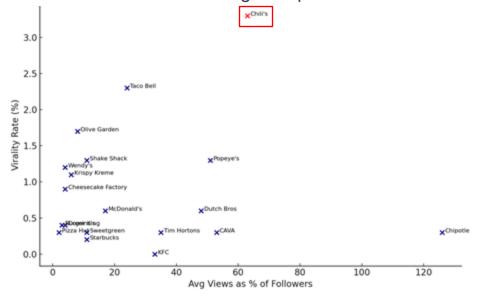


Cohort Data Shows Chili's Traffic Is Highly Sticky

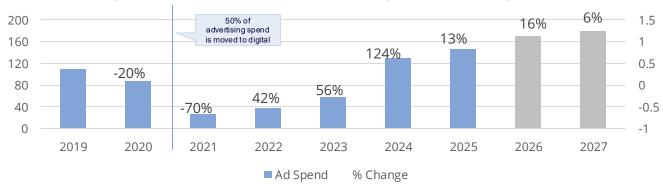


Chili's traffic is uniquely "sticky," driven by superior social media virality, consistent value-focused messaging, and a sustained digital advertising pivot that continues to outperform peers in both guest acquisition and retention.

Chili's Social Media Advertising is Superior to Peers



Chili's Strategic Pivot in 2020 to Accelerate Digital Advertising



Chili's Virality Brings "Sticky" Customer

- Cohort data confirms Chili's traffic lift is structural: Monthly tokenized cohorts show stable repeat frequency, with new guests returning at the same rate as existing guests
- Traffic gains are being retained, not fading: Incremental visits persist beyond the first trip, disproving a promotional or one-time lift
- Consistent brand messaging amplifies retention: Chili's has sustained a unified value message across TV and social for over two years
- Higher marketing spend supports stickier traffic: Stronger media investment paired with an improved in-restaurant experience delivers repeat visits competitors' episodic discounting fails to capture
- Competitors' later value/digital pivots haven't matched Chili's retention: Industry panel data shows other chains that copied Chili's value messaging and digital push 1–2 years later still trail Chili's repeat rates and traffic stability, underscoring Chili's execution advantage

Note: Grey bars reflect management's guided spending



Maggiano's is Fundamentally a Beloved Brand Despite Recent Weakness



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Despite weaker recent performance the Maggiano's segment is a diamond-in-the-rough; customer ratings are meaningfully higher than similar peers. Customers cite food quality, service, ambience and other factors as superior.

Maggiano's Location	Google Rating
Annapolis, MD	4.4
Atlanta, GA	4.5
Austin, TX	4.4
Baybrook, TX	4.5
Boca Raton, FL	4.3
Boston, MA	4.5
Buckhead, GA	4.5
:	
:	
Springfield, VA	4.4
Tampa, FL	4.5
Troy, MI	4.4
Median Google Rating	4.5
Average Gooogle Rating	4.5
N = 42 Locations	
Illustrative Comparables	4.0
Chilis	4.0
Cheesecake Factory	4.2
Olive Garden	4.3
Longhorn Stakehouse	3.7
Yard House	4.2

Maggiano's is a beloved brand with thousands of 5-star and 4star reviews across the system



Prutha Patel

Local Guide · 15 reviews · 12 photos



★★★★★ a month ago

Dinner | \$30-50

I had an absolutely wonderful experience at Maggiano's.



Jay Hollingsworth

Local Guide : 104 reviews : 6 photos

★★★★★ 3 months ago

Dinner | \$50-100

This place is amazing, from the hostess to the waiter, it was one of the best restaurants we have been to on our trip to Boston - we came twice because it was so amazing. The hostess wrote down all the restaurants they have in Texas because ... More



Stephanie Daley

Local Guide · 125 reviews · 126 photos

★★★★★ 2 months ago

Listen everything here was great! This is the your of service and atmosphere you desire to achieve when fine dining. This is not your average family dining place. The good, service and atmosphere were excellent, I highly recommend. Just to ... More

Source: Google reviews



Boosting Maggiano's Performance is a Key Focus of Management



Brinker Management is keenly focused on turning around Maggiano's performance; the team is well-positioned to do so following a successful turnaround of Chilis post-covid.

"Back to Maggiano's" Turnaround Plan

- Getting back to classic recipes and scratch-made guest favorites
- Improving speed and quality of service
- Repairs and maintenance of guest-facing areas
- Reinvigorating pride in Maggiano's among local leadership teams

Chili's Ops Mastermind has Moved to Maggiano's



Rich Kissel COO, Maggiano's Little Italy

Source: Bloomberg, LinkedIn, Filings

Experience



Vice President / COO at Maggiano's Little Italy

Brinker International · Full-time Aug 2025 - Present · 4 mos

United States · Hybrid

Vice President of Operations

Jan 1994 - Aug 2025 · 31 yrs 8 mos Miami/Fort Lauderdale Area

Chili's Turnaround Case Study: The Precedent!

Key Drivers:



- 1. 25% Menu Streamline
- 2. Focus on mitigating management and staff turnover
- 3. Reinvestment into Chili's appearance/maintenance
- 4. Putting value on the menu "3 for me" for \$10.99
- Focusing on boosting Chili's cultural relevance (ex. Boyz II Men jingle reboot)

Results:

17 Quarters of consecutive revenue growth

~600 bps Operating margin expansion (2022-2025)

#1 Casual dining brand in the USA



Maggiano's Will Benefit from Uplift Analogous to Chilis Turnaround



The Maggiano's turnaround will drive upside to consensus earnings over the coming years.

- We anticipate Maggiano's turnaround efforts will drive incremental growth and margin expansion in the business; this is predicated on the fact that the team is using a similar playbook as contemplated during the successful Chili's turnaround
- We underwrite:

Return to LSD-traffic growth (2.5-3.0%) 600bps of operating margin expansion in Y2

Consensus Views Maggiano's as a "Write Off"

				FY26E			
(\$mm)	FY24A	FY25A	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	495	501	128	111	117	455	488
Growth %	1.8%	1.1%	(14.1%)	(8.3%)	(4.5%)	(9.1%)	7.3%
SSS	3.5%	1.4%	(10.5%)	(4.5%)	(2.5%)	(7.0%)	2.0%
AWS	190	193	205	177	185	181	185
YoY AWS Growth	3.3%	1.3%	(10.5%)	(4.5%)	(2.5%)	(6.1%)	2.1%

Maggiano's Turnaround Drives Brinker EPS Uplift

		FY2026	E		
	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY2026E	FY2027E
Total Revenue	1,411,273	1,482,1	38 1,528,969	5,771,581	6,113,217
YoY Growth %	3.9%	4.	0% 4.6%	6 7.2%	5.9%
Consensus	1,411,273	1,472,8	61 1,521,791	5,755,125	6,077,780
YoY Growth %	3.9%	3.	4% 4.1%	6.9%	5.6%
Variance	+0.0%	+0.	.6% +0.5%	+0.3%	+0.6%
4-Wall Margin	259,525	281,8	51 274,989	1,037,471	1,129,601
% of Sales	18.6%	19.	.2% 18.1%	4 18.1%	18.6%
EBIT	164,052	177,2	15 168,712	634,081	714,452
% of Sales	11.6%	12.	.0% 11.0%	4 11.0%	11.7%
EPS	\$ 2.79	\$ 2.	96 \$ 2.77	\$ 10.53	\$ 12.34
Consensus	\$2.64	\$2.	81 \$2.74	\$10.12	\$11.65
Variance	+5.5%	+5.	4% +0.8%	44.1%	+5.9%

Source: Consensus Estimates, Bloomberg

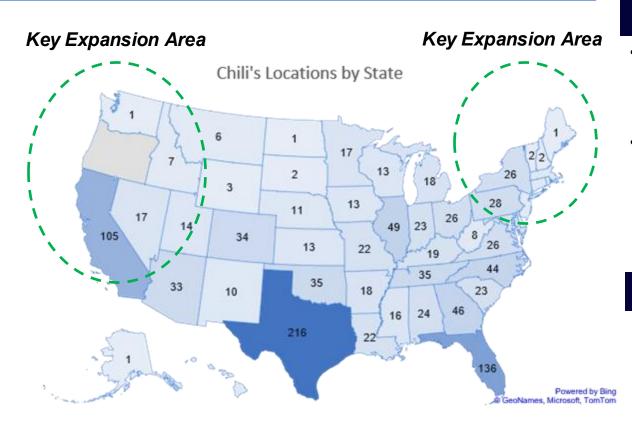


Chili's Is Poised to Undergo Meaningful Unit Expansion in Coming Years



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Current Chili's average AUV of ~\$4.5mm represents a greater than 1:1 sales-to-investment ratio, a key turning point for new unit development; our variant view calls for Chili's new restaurant openings (NRO) in states that are meaningfully under-penetrated.



Management Teases Accelerated Unit Expansion

- "I don't have the exact number yet that we're prepared to share, but we do know that we can build a lot more Chili's and we think we can build more Maggiano's"
 - Kevin Hochman, CEO, Q1 26' Earnings
- "Richard spent over two decades working in development at a large convenience store chain that built a lot of new stores over a long period of time, and we are confident Richard will be able to do the same at Brinker"

-Kevin Hochman, referencing the hire of Richard Ingram, VP of Restaurant Development, Q4 25'

Consensus Points to Net-Closure Next 3Y





Consensus Underappreciates the Chili's Unit Expansion Opportunity



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Mapping Chili's unit density from well-penetrated states shows meaningful room for white-space expansion particularly in the focus areas guided by management: the U.S. Northeast and Western states; traffic growth sustains positive AUV/Investment Ratio to support unit growth.

Key Focus Area #1 - Northeast							
	Currrent Units	Current Pop/Unit	Pot. New Units				
New York	26	776,923	53				
New Jersey	5	1,776,000	30				
Michigan	18	555,556	21				
Massachusetts	10	689,000	17				
Virginia	26	332,308	8				
Minnesota	17	331,765	5				
Maine	1	1,350,000	4				
New Hampshire	2	680,000	3				
Subtotal Northeast			141				
Key Focus Area #2 - W	est Region						
California	105	376,305	50				
Washington	1	7,610,000	29				
Subtotal PNW			78				
Other							
Other			74				
Total New Unit Opport	unity		293				

Brinker New Restaurant Openings	("NROs	") Case		
Consensus	2024	2025	2026	2027
Company-Owned				
BOP	1,135	1,121	1,109	1,103
Net Opens	(14)	(12)	(6)	0
Net New Stores	1,121	1,109	1,103	1,103
Variant Forecast				
Company-Owned				
BOP	1,135	1,121	1,109	1,119
Net Opens	(14)	(12)	10	25
Net New Stores	1,121	1,109	1,119	1,144
Chilis Revenue (Company Owned)	3,876	4,835	5,253	5,600
Chilis AUV (\$mm)	3.5	4.4	4.7	4.9
Typical New Build Cost	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9
AUV / Investment Ratio	0.9x	1.2x	1.2x	1.2x
EPS			\$10.13	\$11.77
Consensus			\$10.12	\$11.65
Variance			+0.1%	+1.1%

Memo: Median Pop. per Unit

255,714

Valuation



We call for an undiscounted 6/30/27 price target of \$178.69 using current valuation multiples; multiple re-rate could drive share price to more than double.

	Valuation l	Methodology				Sensitivity		
EV / EBITDA Method		P/E Method			EV /	EBITDA V	aluation Ma	ıtrix
Brinker EV / EBITDA	7.4x	EPS - 2028	\$ 14.62				Historical	
Peer Median BEst Brinker Avg	14.8x 9.5x	Consensus	\$11.65		Current		Avg.	
(#000 -)		Current NTM P/E Ratio	12.8x		7.5x	8.5x	9.5x	10.5x
(\$000s) <u>EBITDA Build</u>		BEst Average NTM P/E Peer Median	16.3x 19.8x		\$172.50	\$195.13	\$217.75	\$240.38
6/30/2027 EBIT	763,166			Upside %	27.8%	44.6%	61.3%	78.1%
(+) D&A	247,655	Active P/E	12.8x	•	_	_		_
EBITDA	1,010,821	Chara Drias	¢40 7 42	IRR	16.5%	25.9%	34.8%	43.4%
Brinker Mult	7.4x	Share Price	\$187.13					
Brinker TEV	7,480,077					P/E Valuat	ion Matrix	
		,						Peer
(-) Net Debt	124,916 7,604,993	Current Share Price	124.06		Current			Median
Equity Value	7,004,993	Date - End	134.96 I 6/30/2027 I			4.4.0	40.0	
FDSO	44,673	_	11/23/2025		12.8x	14.8x	16.8x	19.8x
3 •	, 3	Yearfrac	2_		\$187.13	\$216.37	\$245.61	\$289.47
Share Price	\$170.24	Price Target	\$178.69	Upside %	38.7%	60.3%	82.0%	114.5%
				IRR	22.6%	34.2%	45.3%	61.0%

Source: Bloomberg, S&P Capital IQ.

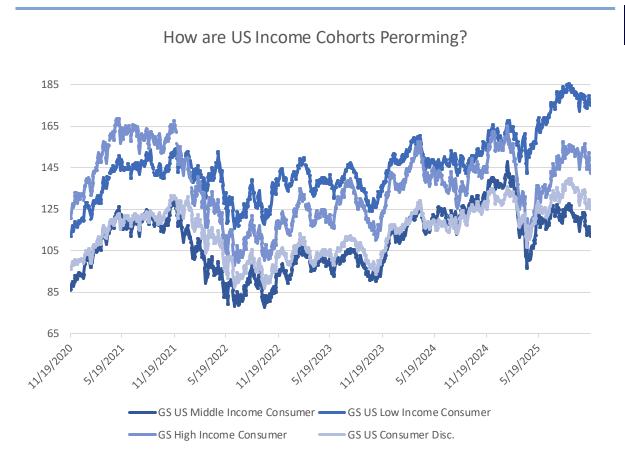


	Jun-23	un-23 Jun-23 Jun-24 Jun-25			FY2026E				
	4Q 23	2023	2024	2025	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY2026E	FY2027E
Company Revenue	1,064,800	4,093,200	4,371,100	5,335,300	1,419,272	1,526,040	1,570,733	5,851,446	6,498,799
Franchise	10,700	40,000	44,000	48,900	12,960	12,947	13,864	53,572	57,895
Total Revenue	1,075,500	4,133,200	4,415,100	5,384,200	1,432,232	1,538,987	1,584,598	5,905,018	6,556,695
YoY Growth %			6.8%	21.9%	5.5%	8.0%	8.4%	9.7%	11.0%
Consensus	1,075,500	4,133,200	4,415,100	5,384,200	1,411,273	1,472,861	1,521,791	5,755,125	6,077,780
YoY Growth %			6.8%	21.9%	3.9%	3.4%	4.1%	6.9%	5.6%
Variance					+1.5%	+4.5%	+4.1%	+2.6%	+7.9%
4-Wall Margin	142,600	460,100	583,300	933,500	263,450	292,869	285,148	1,061,832	1,210,624
% of Sales	13.4%	11.2%	13.3%	17.5%	18.6%	19.2%	18.2%	18.1%	18.6%
D&A	42,200	168,100	170,800	206,600	54,425	59,071	61,799	228,922	247,655
% of Sales	3.9%	4.1%	3.9%	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	3.9%	3.9%	3.8%
General and Adminis	38,800	154,500	183,700	222,000	55,505	62,745	62,451	237,958	257,698
% of Sales	3.6%	3.7%	4.2%	4.1%	3.9%	4.1%	3.9%	4.0%	3.9%
EBIT	72,300	177,500	272,800	553,800	166,480	184,000	174,761	648,523	763,166
% of Sales	6.7%	4.3%	6.2%	10.3%	11.6%	12.0%	11.0%	11.0%	11.6%
FDSO	44,800	44,650	45,450	46,075	45,162	45,651	45,956	45,642	44,673
EPS	\$ 1.41	\$ 2.85	\$ 4.13	\$ 8.90	\$ 2.83	\$ 3.08	\$ 2.87	\$ 10.79	\$ 13.22
Consensus	\$1.41	\$2.85	\$4.13	\$8.90	\$2.64	\$2.81	\$2.74	\$10.12	\$11.65
Variance					+7.1%	+9.7%	+4.7%	+6.6%	+13.5%

US Macro Macro Backdrop: Stable by Value-Driven Consumer



Macro data shows resilient current spending but softening labor and income trends into 2025 before a gradual recovery in 2026.



The GS Middle Income Discretionary Basket consists of US consumer stocks in the low and middle-income consumer space diversified across apparel, restaurants, leisure, and parks that may be exposed to trade down risk.

The GS US Consumer Disc basket is composed of US listed equities diversified across Retail, Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods, Hotels, Restaurants, Household Durables, Autos, & Leisure. The basket excludes airlines and internet retailers to provide a genuine exposure to the Consumer Disc sector.

US Consumer: Strong spending despite weaker labor market

Casual Dining Macro Backdrop: Data points to steady but value-conscious demand, supportive for chains with strong <\$15 offerings and resilient lower-income traffic, but challenging for higher-check concepts until 2026's expected recovery.

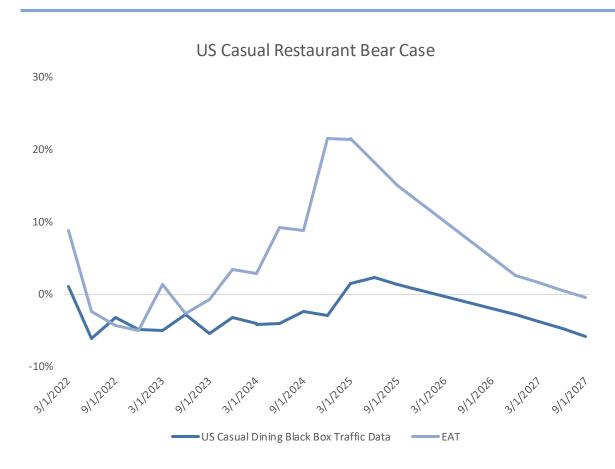
- **Spending:** Retail sales remain resilient (core +0.7%; real +0.6% 08.25). Real spending expected to slow to 1.2% in 2025, then recover to 1.9% in 2026.
- **Employment:** Unemployment up to 4.3% (08.25); job growth very weak (+29k 3-mo avg). Unemployment forecast to peak at 4.5% in 2025.
- **Income:** Real disposable income growing ~2% YoY (07.25) but expected to slow to 1.7% in 2025.
- Wealth: Net worth growth accelerating (6.1% YoY 2Q25); savings rate stable at 4.4% (07.25).
- Debt: Credit growth soft (+2.2% YoY 07.25); credit-card delinquencies leveling but 90-day bucket still elevated (08.25).
- Consumer Confidence: UMich sentiment low at 55.4 (09.25);
 Conference Board softer at 97.4 (08.25).
- Income-cohort baskets: Show middle- and low-income discretionary stocks lagging broader Consumer Discretionary basket in 2024–25, underscoring rising trade-down pressure in lower-income segments.

Source: BBG consumer discretionary data

Bear Scenario: US Casual Restaurant Softness



With industry traffic running -3% for three years and core consumers weakening, out bear case assumes casual dining falls to -4.3% in 2026 and Chili's retains only ~60% of its historical outperformance



Scenario: Assume casual dining traffic softens w/ labor market

- U.S. casual dining traffic has averaged –3% YoY since 3/31/22 (Black Box data).
- Starting 4Q26, US casual dining traffic reverts to -3% YoY and falls ~1% per quarter as consumer confidence weakens, value sensitivity rises, and QSR/fast casual take more share.
- This produces a 2026 sector traffic average of –4.3% YoY, consistent with a multi-quarter demand downturn.
- Chili's historically outperformed the sector by ~+9% YoY since Q1 22, but in a broad macro-driven decline the spread compresses; under the bear case Chili's retains only ~60% (~+5%) of that advantage.
- This yields a **Chili's bear-case avg 2026 traffic trend of** ~1%YoY, reflecting relative resilience but significant moderation as sector conditions deteriorate.

Source: BBG consumer discretionary data

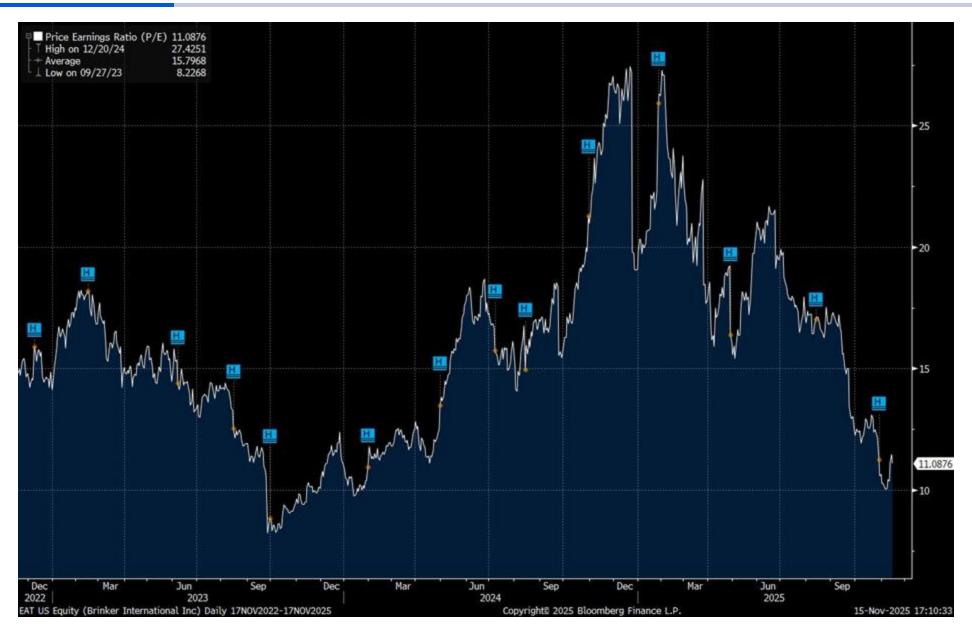


Company Comp Set		
Company Name	TEV/EBITDA LTM - Latest	NTM Forward P/E (Capital IQ)
Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (NasdaqGS:TXRH)	15.0x	26.86x
Domino's Pizza, Inc. (NasdaqGS:DPZ)	17.3x	21.75x
Darden Restaurants, Inc. (NYSE:DRI)	11.7x	16.18x
The Cheesecake Factory Incorporated (NasdaqGS:CAKE)	7.2x	11.53x
Yum! Brands, Inc. (NYSE:YUM)	18.5x	23.85x
Bloomin' Brands, Inc. (NasdaqGS:BLMN)	5.2x	6.59x
Restaurant Brands International Inc. (NYSE:QSR)	14.6x	17.91x
Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc. (NYSE:CMG)	15.2x	27.13x
The Wendy's Company (NasdaqGS:WEN)	10.2x	9.81x
McDonald's Corporation (NYSE:MCD)	17.0x	23.88x
Brinker International, Inc. (NYSE:EAT)	7.4x	12.84x
Summary Statistics	TEV/EBITDA LTM - Latest	NTM Forward P/E (Capital
Liberta	10 Ev	IQ) 27.13x
High Low	18.5x 5.2x	6.59x
Mean	13.2x	18.55x
Median	13.2x 14.8x	19.83x
III V WIWII	14.0	19.03%

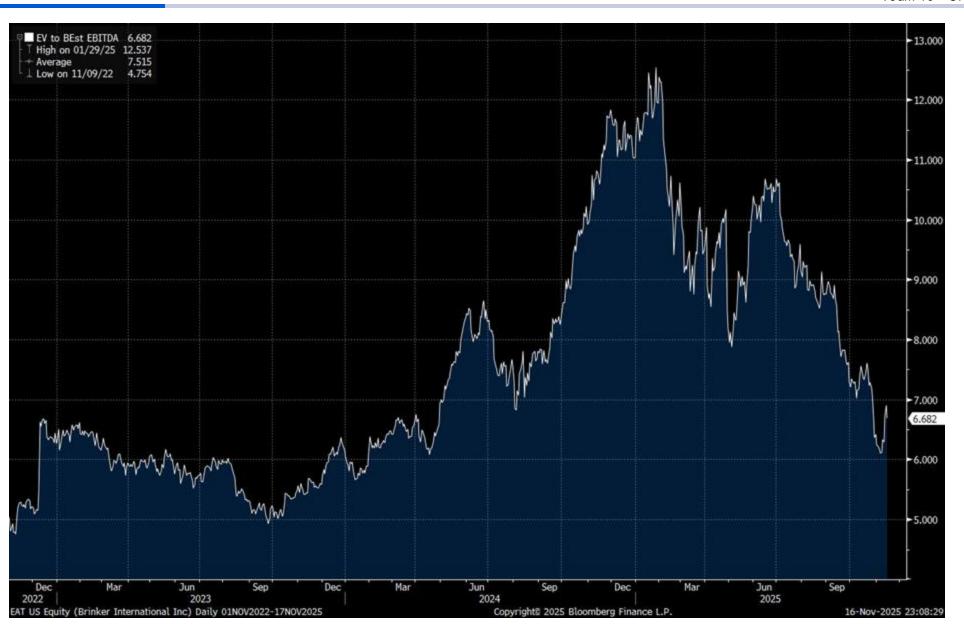
Comparable Company Operating Metrics



Company Comp Set					
Company Name	LTM Gross Margin %	LTM EBITDA Margin % LTM	Total Revenues, 1 Yr	LTM EBITDA, 1 Yr Growth	5 Year Beta
			Growth %	%	
Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (NasdaqGS:TXRH)	17.8%	12.3%	14.40%	13.60%	0.9
Domino's Pizza, Inc. (NasdaqGS:DPZ)	28.6%	20.4%	3.92%	7.38%	1.15
Darden Restaurants, Inc. (NYSE:DRI)	21.8%	15.8%	8.30%	9.17%	0.66
The Cheesecake Factory Incorporated (NasdaqGS:CAKE)	40.2%	8.8%	4.90%	17.45%	0.95
Yum! Brands, Inc. (NYSE:YUM)	46.2%	35.0%	11.60%	8.05%	0.68
Bloomin' Brands, Inc. (NasdaqGS:BLMN)	13.6%	8.5%	7.72%	(2.98%)	1.14
Restaurant Brands International Inc. (NYSE:QSR)	33.5%	29.2%	16.82%	8.30%	0.62
Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc. (NYSE:CMG)	40.2%	19.9%	7.31%	4.54%	1.0
The Wendy's Company (NasdaqGS:WEN)	35.6%	23.5%	(0.21%)	3.00%	0.39
McDonald's Corporation (NYSE:MCD)	57.4%	54.4%	1.25%	3.22%	0.52
Brinker International, Inc. (NYSE:EAT)	18.7%	14.3%	23.18%	74.07%	1.39
Brinker international, inc. (NIOLLAT)	10.1 70	14.070	20.1070	74.0770	1.00
Summary Statistics	LTM Gross Margin %	LTM EBITDA Margin % LTM	Total Revenues, 1 Yr		5 Year Beta
			Growth %	%	
High	57.4%	54.4%	16.82%	17.45%	1.15
Low	13.6%	8.5%	(0.21%)	(2.98%)	0.39
Mean	33.5%	22.8%	7.60%	7.17%	0.8
Median	34.6%	20.1%	7.52%	7.71%	0.79



EV/EBITDA Ratio | 3Y Lookback



	Holder Name	% Of Stock Holding	Latest Chg as a % of Holding
1	Blackrock Inc	15%	3%
2	Vanguard Group Inc/The	11%	4%
3	FMR LLC	8%	2%
4	DE Shaw & Co LP	4%	33%
5	State Street Corp	4%	2%
6	Two Sigma Investments LP	4%	26%
7	UBS AG	4%	34%
8	Renaissance Technologies LLC	3%	7%
9	Arrowstreet Capital LP	3%	18%
10	Geode Capital Management LLC	2%	1%
11	Dimensional Fund Advisors LP	2%	2%
12	Samlyn Capital LLC	2%	34%
13	Citadel Advisors LLC	2%	13%
14	Goldman Sachs Group Inc/The	2%	6%
15	Charles Schwab Corp/The	1%	15%
16	Morgan Stanley	1%	28%
17	Squarepoint Ops LLC	1%	3%
18	Point72 Asset Management LP	1%	22%
19	Capital Group Cos Inc/The	1%	25%
20	Invesco Ltd	1%	11%
21	Millennium Management LLC/NY	1%	36%
22	Norges Bank	1%	41%
23	Macquarie Group Ltd	1%	16%
24	Man Group PLC/Jersey	1%	38%

