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Economic Value Added, Future Accounting Earnings, and Financial Analysts' Earnings Per Share Forecasts

Published: January 2002

Volume 18, pages 59–73, (2002) Cite this article



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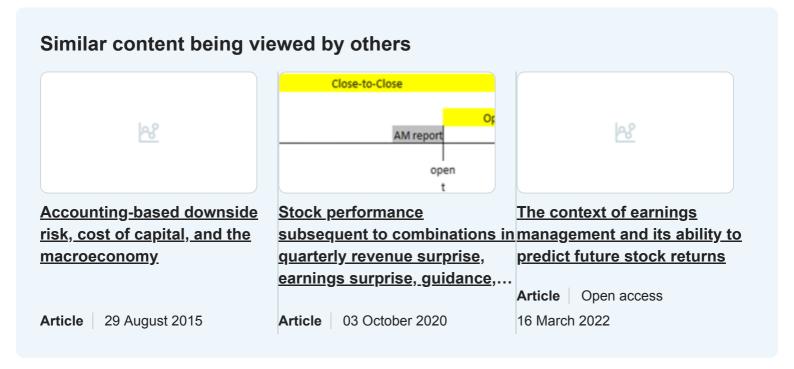
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Abstract

Empirical research to date on the relative effectiveness of Economic Value Added (EVA) and earnings per share (EPS) as measures of firm performance for stock valuation has been mixed. In contrast to prior research, which primarily focuses on the correspondence of these measures with shareholder value and changes therein, we examine their relative effectiveness in predicting future earnings and their role in enhancing the accuracy of analysts' forecasts. Our results indicate that EVA contains information that is incremental to EPS in predicting future earnings. In addition, we find that despite this potential for EVA to add incremental value to analysts' forecasts of future earnings, analysts do not use the information in reported EVA appropriately, but appear rather to overweigh it.



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Cite this article

Machuga, S.M., Pfeiffer, R.J. & Verma, K. Economic Value Added, Future Accounting Earnings, and Financial Analysts' Earnings Per Share Forecasts. *Review of Quantitative Finance and Accounting* **18**, 59–73 (2002). https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1013814328460

Issue Date

January 2002

DOI

https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1013814328460

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