

What Can Investors Expect From Maple Leaf Foods Inc.'s 3rd-Quarter Results?

Description

Maple Leaf Foods Inc. (TSX:MFI), headquartered in Mississauga and a leading provider of consumer meats and protein, will release third-quarter results today. How is the company faring ahead of its earnings release? And what are the analyst expectations for this week's results? Let's take a look.

What second-quarter results looked like

Maple Leaf released second-quarter results on July 27 and reported adjusted earnings per share of \$0.41. This beat analyst estimates of \$0.37 per share. These results also beat 2016's second-quarter results by 28.13%.

The company currently has a net profit margin of 5.14%, putting it among the leaders for profit in its peer group. As a comparison, **High Liner Foods Inc.** (TSX:HLF) has a current profit margin of 2.66%. Over the previous three years, revenue growth at Maple Leaf averaged 4.08% annually — behind the industry average of 8.17%.

Maple Leaf is currently trading a few dollars shy of its 52-week high of \$35.37. Analysts believe it will trade in the \$37 range over the next 12 months, giving it only a little room for growth in the short term if they are correct. The stock's current indicated annual dividend sits at \$0.44 per share for a yield of 1.35%.

What has Maple Leaf been up to this past quarter?

There hasn't been a whole lot of news about Maple Leaf since its last quarterly report. The company has announced no major changes or deals, and there hasn't been any negative news about the company this quarter. Everything seems to be status quo right now.

What are the expectations for third-quarter results?

The consensus seems to be the same as those for Maple Leaf's second quarter. Overall, analysts are looking for earnings of \$0.37 per share. No one is expecting any shockwaves this earnings period. Tune in later to find out if analysts were right.

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