Intel

Intel Corporation · INTC · NASDAQ

Q4 revenue guidance of $15.0B–$16.0B, below Q3's $16.5B, drove a 35% two-day drop; data center growth supports the story while valuation stays rich

Overall Verdict
HOLD
Bull 3 · Bear 4 · Deferred 0

Price at Issue	External Average Target Price	52-Week Low · High	Next Earnings
$59.37	$91.12	$32.89 ~ $142.35	TBD
Nov 9, 2026 close · +5.5%	+53.5% · 43 analysts	vs. high −58.3%	Q4 2026 earnings

01 4 Key Data Points

Data center and AI revenue $7.3B, +78% YoY
Q3 segment revenue · server chips drove growth, unlike client computing at $8.1B (−5%)

CEO bought 150,000 shares, $9.7M
Open-market purchase on Nov 2 at $64.73 · no insider sales in the past 60 days

Q4 revenue guidance $15.0B–$16.0B
Below Q3's $16.5B, with non-GAAP gross margin guided to 38.0% from 44.1%

Forward P/E 34.0x vs 17.4x peer median
PEG of 1.7 · the multiple remains high relative to growth even after the 35% drop

02 Research Team Debate — 6 Issues

Q4 guidance ×2	Bear	The question is whether the margin drop is temporary. With the company saying the PC slowdown could run through 1H 2027, pressure likely extends past Q4. Data center growth is confirmed, but guidance far below consensus outweighs it. Judged for the Bear side.
Data center demand	Bull	The question is whether the growth engine has shifted to servers; in Q3 numbers, server growth far exceeded the PC decline. The weaker Q4 outlook is handled in a separate issue. Judged for the Bull side.
CEO buys 150,000 shares	Bull	The question is whether insider action is a meaningful signal. The amount is small, but a CEO buying with no insider selling is a directional signal; allowing for its size, the call is a light Bull. Judged for the Bull side.
Foundry	Bear	The question is whether foundry turns into external revenue; with no named customer it is still unproven. With no set announcement date, the call rests on current evidence. Judged for the Bear side.
$23B equity raise	Bull	The question is whether there is enough cash to hold up; the move to net cash and positive operating cash flow are confirmed. Dilution is a cost already in the price. Judged for the Bull side.
Valuation	Bear	The question is whether 20.4% growth justifies 34.0x; a PEG of 1.7 is not low. Earnings estimates may fall further on the weaker Q4 outlook. Judged for the Bear side.

The overall call is HOLD. Data center growth, the CEO purchase and net cash are confirmed, but weak Q4 guidance and a high forward P/E offset them by one vote. The call reopens with Q4 earnings in late January.

03 Conditions That Change the Verdict

▲ Upgrade Conditions

Q4 earnings (late Jan)
Revenue near the $16B top of guidance and non-GAAP gross margin above 38.0% would weaken the Bear case

Foundry external customer
A named 14A customer and its scale would flip the foundry issue to Bull

Price trend
A close above the 20-day average ($80.98) would signal the downtrend is ending

▼ Downgrade Conditions

Q4 earnings (late Jan)
Revenue below the $15B low end of guidance would strengthen the Bear case

Price targets
An average target falling below $80 from $91.12 would show expectations resetting lower

Price trend
A close below the Nov 5 low of $52.25 would signal wider selling pressure

04 Quarterly Results Unit: $B

	Q3 2025	Q4	Q1 2026	Q2	Q3
Revenue	13.7	13.7	13.6	16.1	**16.5**
Operating Income	0.9	0.6	0.9	2	**2.6**
Net Income	4.1	-0.6	-3.7	-11	**3.3**
Operating Margin	6.3%	4.0%	6.9%	12.2%	**15.6%**

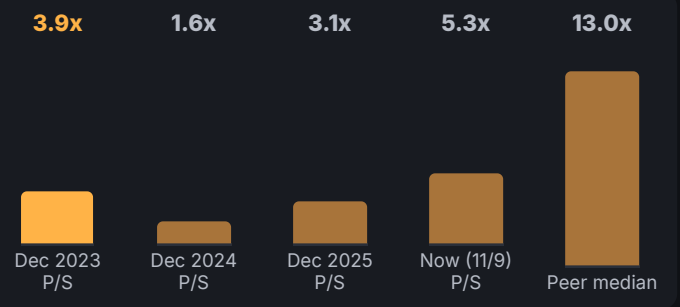
Gross margin
43.0%
Year ago 38.2%

Operating margin
15.6%
Year ago 6.3%

Net margin
20.1%
Year ago 29.8%

Operating cash flow margin
30.8%
Year ago 18.6%

05 P/S trend (TTM EPS is negative)



06 Street Opinions

Buy 14 Hold 34 Sell 1 Avg $91.12 · High $160.00 · Low $63.00

UBS	**$80**	Lowered
Freedom Broker	**$90**	Lowered
JP Morgan	**$80**	Lowered
Citigroup	**$100**	Lowered

07 Financial Strength

Cash and short-term investments (9/26)
$54.0B
$30.9B → +74.6%

Debt (9/26)
$50.1B
$46.6B → +7.7%

Net cash (cash & investments − debt)
$3.9B
−$15.6B → —

08 Recent News

11/9 +5.5% in a chip rebound; Evercore ISI target $133 → $131
Rebound after an AI-chip sell-off week · Evercore ISI change per MT Newswires headline

11/2 CEO Lip-Bu Tan buys 150,000 shares in the open market, $9.7M
$64.73 per share · Yahoo Form 4 summary · the stock fell 8.8% that day

10/30 Q4 revenue guidance of $15.0B–$16.0B sends shares down 28.6%
Earnings after the Oct 29 close · gross margin guided to 38.0%, volume 456M shares

09 Upcoming Events

Nov 13 (Fri) · Weekly options expiry
Most-traded call strike $75 (57K contracts), put strike $90 (26K) [S5]

Nov 20 (Fri) · Monthly options expiry
The Nov 13 and Nov 20 expiries account for 48.9% of options volume[S5]

Late January (TBD) · Q4 2026 earnings
Not confirmed by the company; Yahoo estimates Jan 28; results will be compared with Q4 guidance of $15.0B–$16.0B[S2]

10 Key Risks

PC slowdown lasting through 1H 2027
Impact High · Likelihood High · Watch 1H 2027

Q4 gross margin falling to 38.0%
Impact High · Likelihood Medium · Watch Q4 earnings, late Jan

No confirmed foundry external customer
Impact High · Likelihood Medium · Watch Customer announcement

11 Checkpoints

★★★ Q4 earnings in late January
Whether revenue lands within $15.0B–$16.0B and non-GAAP gross margin tops 38.0%

★★★ Foundry external customer announcement
Whether a 14A customer name and scale are disclosed

★★☆ PC demand direction
Whether the slowdown the company expects through 1H 2027 ends sooner