Impact of COVID-19 on Private Company Valuations

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Impact of Covid-19 on Valuations

- Still possible, but harder to do
- Established methodologies still apply

The biggest changes

- Inputs
- Risk



Typical components

- Historical operating results
- Projected:
 - Revenue, Costs, Expenses
 - Working capital
 - Capital expenditures



More consideration given to

- Normalizing historical
- Impact on growth rates and margins on future
- Adjusting multiples
- Scenarios



Market trends

- Don't slavishly link, but don't isolate
- Consider differentiating factors and mitigation



Discount rates

- <u>Uncertainty</u> a key component of risk
- Risk is a key component of discount rate
- De-risked cash flows and a lower discount rate



When considering other transactions

- Price v. Value
- Compulsion
- Is the implied metric applicable?



DIY

"... method of building, modifying, or repairing things by oneself without the direct aid of professionals or certified experts"



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Getting it wrong

- Penalties Gross negligence
- Extended period for reassessment
- Increased POD
- Attribution rules
- Different allocation of purchase price
- Double taxation



IF DIY

• IC 89-3 (Policy Statement on Business Equity Valuations)



DIY

- Start with the numbers but make sure you have a story that supports them
- Prepare a memo (be aware of format expected)
- Watch out for
 - Latent taxes
 - Control discounts



Discounts (Private Company Valuations)

- Minority discounts (Control discount)
- CRA
 - Rebuttable presumption that family group acts in concert to control
 - Ratable valuation applies



Summary

Covid-19

- More thought about
 - Historical results, Inputs, Risks
 - Disc rates, Market trends
 - Going concern (high debt levels)

DIY

 It can be done, but ask yourself if it's worth the risk

