

Best Buy Co., Inc.(BBY)

\$111.96 (As of 08/19/20)

Price Target (6-12 Months): **\$129.00**

Long Term: 6-12 Months

Zacks Recommendation: **Outperform**

(Since: 07/24/20)

Prior Recommendation: Neutral

Short Term: 1-3 Months

Zacks Rank: (1-5)

2-Buy

Zacks Style Scores:

VGM:A

Value: B

Growth: B

Momentum: A

Summary

Shares of Best Buy have outpaced the industry so far in the year given the company's sound fundamentals and strategic efforts. The company's focus on developing omni-channel capabilities, supply chain and cost-containment efforts along with strengthening partnerships with vendors bode well. Its 'Building the New Blue' strategy has also been progressing smoothly. It has also been gaining from digital experiences like curbside pickup service. Moreover, the company is making a significant headway into healthcare technology business. Impressively, Best Buy reported decent sales performance for fiscal second quarter-to-date through Jul 18 courtesy of robust consumer demand. The metric rose nearly 2.5% year over year buoyed domestic and international sales growth of 2% and 8%, respectively. Online sales rose 255% during the period.

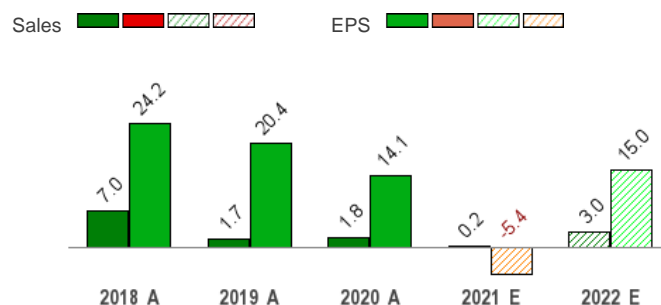
Price, Consensus & Surprise



Data Overview

52 Week High-Low	\$113.67 - \$48.11
20 Day Average Volume (sh)	2,016,046
Market Cap	\$28.8 B
YTD Price Change	27.5%
Beta	1.50
Dividend / Div Yld	\$2.20 / 2.0%
Industry	Retail - Consumer Electronics
Zacks Industry Rank	Top 37% (93 out of 252)

Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)



Last EPS Surprise	63.4%
Last Sales Surprise	5.1%
EPS F1 Est- 4 week change	14.2%
Expected Report Date	08/25/2020
Earnings ESP	2.0%
P/E TTM	19.4
P/E F1	19.5
PEG F1	2.2
P/S TTM	0.7

Sales Estimates (millions of \$)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2022	9,229 E	10,225 E	10,554 E	16,154 E	45,029 E
2021	8,562 A	9,687 E	10,058 E	15,430 E	43,728 E
2020	9,142 A	9,536 A	9,764 A	15,196 A	43,638 A

EPS Estimates

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2022	\$1.05 E	\$1.34 E	\$1.37 E	\$3.27 E	\$6.60 E
2021	\$0.67 A	\$1.06 E	\$1.15 E	\$2.82 E	\$5.74 E
2020	\$1.02 A	\$1.08 A	\$1.13 A	\$2.90 A	\$6.07 A

*Quarterly figures may not add up to annual.

The data in the charts and tables, including the Zacks Consensus EPS and Sales estimates, is as of 08/19/2020. The reports text is as of 08/20/2020.

Overview

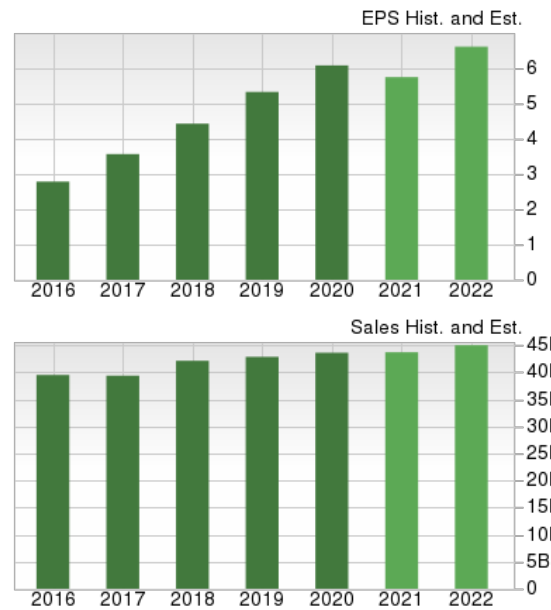
Incorporated in 1966 and headquartered in Richfield, MN, **Best Buy Company Inc.** (BBY) is a multinational specialty retailer of consumer electronics, home office products, entertainment software, communication, food preparation, wellness, health, security, appliances and related services. The company operates in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Both segments are engaged in the development of merchandise and service offerings, supply chain and procurement, pricing and promotions, online and mobile operations along with marketing and advertisements on omnichannel platforms. Moreover, Best Buy provides its customers with the option to pick a product at its store or to get the product directly delivered to their homes. The delivery of Best Buy's products is fulfilled through its distribution centers or retail stores. Further, the company's ship-from-store facility enables it to expedite the delivery process and improve product availability.

Best Buy operates through two business segments:

Domestic Operations (92.4% of Q121 total revenues): Best Buy's domestic operations comprises all store, call center and online operations, operating under the brand names Best Buy, bestbuy.com, Best Buy Direct, Best Buy Express, Best Buy Mobile, Geek Squad, Magnolia Audio Video and Pacific Sales.

International Operations (7.6% of Q121 total revenues): Best Buy's international operations consist of all store, call center and online operations in Canada under the brand names Best Buy, Best Buy Mobile, bestbuy.ca and Geek Squad. The company also carries out operations in Mexico under the brand names Best Buy, Best Buy Express, bestbuy.com.mx and Geek Squad.



Reasons To Buy:

▲ **Decent Q2-to-Date Performance:** Best Buy reported a decent sales performance for fiscal second quarter-to-date through Jul 18 courtesy of robust consumer demand. The metric rose nearly 2.5% year over year buoyed domestic and international sales growth of 2% and 8%, respectively. Online sales soared 255% during the period with the computing, appliance and tablet categories being leading contributors. For the period beginning Jun 15, when the company started reopening stores, through Jul 18, sales jumped approximately 15%, with online sales surging 185% in comparison with the year-earlier period. Nearly all of Best Buy's outlets were open as of Jun 22. Shares of Best Buy have increased 27.5% so far in the year against the industry's decline of 0.5%.

Best Buy's extensive investments to upgrade e-commerce operations with special focus on developing omni-channel capabilities and strengthening partnership with vendors are impressive.

▲ **Solid Surprise Trend:** Best Buy's first-quarter fiscal 2021 marked the 10th straight quarter of positive earnings surprise. Also, the company's top line surpassed the consensus mark for the third successive time. In the wake of the coronavirus outbreak, the company proactively shifted to a contactless curbside-only operating model for all its domestic stores on a temporary basis. This helped the company retain nearly 80% of last year's sales in the last six weeks of the quarter despite store closures. Furthermore, the company has resumed services like large product delivery, in-home installations and repairs in 96 about 80% of U.S. ZIP codes for new orders. Starting the fiscal second quarter, the company began operating stores, following strict social-distancing practices and use of protective gear. It currently has 700 stores (nearly 70%) operating in this format. Further, the company is evaluating additional changes, including increasing store hours and opening some stores beyond its current appointment-only model.

▲ **Robust Online Division:** Notably, Best Buy is focused on improving the buy online, pickup in store services. Moreover, the company has been innovating digital experiences to resonate well with customer needs online and physical shopping through curbside pickup and the in-store consultation process. Impressively, customer satisfaction scores for curbside pickup remained robust and Best Buy witnessed domestic online growth of 155.4% to \$3.34 billion during the first quarter of fiscal 2021. As a percentage of overall Domestic revenues, online revenues grew to 42.2% compared with 15.4% in the prior-year quarter.

▲ **Building the New Blue: Chapter Two:** Notably, under the next phase of its "Building the New Blue" program called "Building the New Blue: Chapter Two", Best Buy's top most priority will be to pursue growth opportunities, better execution in key areas, cost containment, and investing in people and systems. With regard to cost savings and increasing productivity, management targets \$600 million of cost reduction by fiscal 2021. Meanwhile, the company has been progressing well with programs like Total Tech Support, which provides support for fixing computers, laptops, appliances, smart home devices and connected devices. Further, Best Buy expanded its In-Home Advisor program that includes advisors, who guide customers to find out the right technology solutions and provide free in-home consultations.

Moreover, it is making a significant headway into healthcare technology business by undertaking strategic buyouts in the space. Recently, the company entered into a partnership with Validic, an industry-leading technology platform. Validic collects data from connected devices, processes it and then offers meaningful insights. This partnership will aid the company in bringing innovative monitoring solutions to efficiently control chronic health conditions in the home. Other series of purchases include GreatCall, and Critical Signal Technologies that provides personal emergency response systems and telehealth monitoring services for seniors at home. It has also acquired BioSensics, a provider of wearable sensor technologies for clinical research and medical applications.

▲ **Long-Term Goal:** Best Buy is aiming high, banking on plans to exploit areas of potential to the fullest. The key growth initiatives underlined by the company are Best Buy Health and supply-chain transformation. Naturally, it is committed toward strengthening partnerships with vendors, focusing on offering services and solutions to meet varied customer needs, and optimizing costs. These endeavors are expected to lift the company's top line and overall profitability. The company's long-term financial goal is the testimony to the same. Management continues to envision enterprise revenues of approximately \$50 billion with adjusted operating income rate of 5% by fiscal 2025. The consumer electronics retailer also intends to reduce costs by about \$1 billion by the said period.

▲ **Debt Analysis:** Best Buy's long-term debt of \$621 million as of May 2, 2020 decreased 50.6% sequentially. In addition, Best Buy had cash and cash equivalents of \$3,919 million as of May 2, which increased 75.8% from the previous quarter and is higher than the company's long-term debt. Moreover, the company's times interest earned ratio stands at 30.9, higher than the industry's ratio of 15.4. The times-interest-earned ratio is very important for some companies, as it measures a company's ability to meet its debt obligations based on its current income. As of May 22, 2020, the company's corporate credit ratings from Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service are BBB (stable outlook) and Baa1 (stable outlook), respectively.

▲ **Shareholder-Friendly Moves:** Best Buy paid a quarterly cash dividend of 55 cents per share on Jul 2, 2020, to shareholders of record as on Jun 11. We note that Best Buy looks well placed on the dividend-payout front. Notably, the company's current annualized dividend rate of \$2.20 a share reflects a 10% increase from the year-ago period. It has a dividend payout of 38.1%, dividend yield of 2.3% and free cash flow yield of 10.5%. With an annual free cash flow return on investment of 53.53%, ahead of the industry's nearly 17.3%; the dividend payment is likely to be sustainable.

Risks

- **Top & Bottom Line Fall Y/Y in Q1:** Although Best Buy reported better-than-expected results in the first quarter of fiscal 2021, both the top and the bottom line declined year over year due to coronavirus and the resulting change in operating model. While the bottom line declined 34.3% year over year on lower sales and soft margins, the top line fell 6.3% on soft enterprise comparable sales (comps). Comps were down 5.3% in the fiscal first quarter against a 1.1% rise recorded in the prior-year quarter. Segment-wise, Domestic segment revenues declined 6.7% and International segment revenues dropped 2.1%. While Domestic revenues were hurt by a decline of 5.7% in comps and loss of revenues due to store closures in the past year, International revenues were affected by the unfavorable impact of foreign currency to the tune of approximately 320 bps.
 - **Soft Margins:** Best Buy continued to witness soft margins during the first quarter of fiscal 2021. The company recorded gross profit of \$1,965 million, down 9.4% year over year, with gross margin contracting 70 bps to 23%. Further, adjusted operating income dropped 28.8% to \$250 million, with adjusted operating margin contraction of 90 bps to 2.9%. Moreover, the Domestic segment's gross margin contracted 70 bps year over year to 23% due to higher supply chain costs on increased mix of online revenues. Also, the International segment's gross margin contracted 190 bps to 22.3%, mostly due to lower mix of high-margin services revenues and higher supply chain costs on increased online revenue mix in Canada. During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2020, gross margin contracted 90 bps to 21.3% and adjusted operating margin fell 20 bps to 6.5%.
 - **Stock Appears Overvalued:** Considering Price-to-Earnings (P/E) ratio, Best Buy looks overvalued when compared with the industry. The stock has a trailing 12-month P/E of 16.78x, compared with 14.7x for the industry. We note that the company's trailing 12-month P/E is above the median level of 12.99x and slightly below the high level of 16.84x, scaled over a year.
 - **Competitive Pressure:** We believe that challenging retail landscape, aggressive promotional strategies and waning store traffic might hurt Best Buy's performance. The company faces intense competition from a diverse group of competitors, especially online retailers such as Amazon, Wal-Mart and other consumer electronics retailers, mass merchants, mobile phone service carriers, specialty home office retailers, and numerous direct-to-consumer websites. This may adversely impact its sales.
 - **Dip in Consumer Sentiment May Impact Sales:** Any dip in consumer confidence – a key determinant of the economy's health – may have serious bearing on spending. The company's customers remain sensitive to macroeconomic factors including interest rate hikes, increase in fuel and energy costs, credit availability, unemployment levels, and high household debt levels, which may negatively impact their sentiment. For now, the novel coronavirus has wreaked havoc. The retail sector, in particular, remains under pressure. Again, job losses as well as lower disposable income due to this catastrophe are making things worse. Consumers are avoiding discretionary spending and focusing on necessities for the time being.
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Last Earnings Report

Best Buy Q1 Earnings & Sales Beat Estimates, Down Y/Y

Best Buy reported robust first-quarter fiscal 2021 results, wherein the top and the bottom line surpassed the Zacks Consensus Estimate. Notably, this marked the 10th straight quarter of earnings beat. However, earnings and sales declined year over year due to the impacts of the coronavirus outbreak and the resulting change in operating model.

In the wake of the coronavirus outbreak, the company closed all stores across North America by mid-March. On Mar 22, the company proactively shifted to a contactless curbside-only operating model for all its Domestic stores on a temporary basis. This helped the company to retain nearly 80% of last year's sales in the last six weeks of the quarter, despite store closures. On Apr 27, the company resumed services like large product delivery, in-home installations and repairs in about 80% of U.S. ZIP codes for new orders.

Starting the fiscal second quarter, on May 4, the company began operating stores, following strict social distancing practices and use of protective gear. It currently has 700 stores (nearly 70%) operating in this format. Further, the company is evaluating additional changes, including increasing store hours and opening some stores beyond its current appointment-only model.

Let's Delve Deeper

This consumer electronics retailer's adjusted earnings per share of 67 cents surpassed the Zacks Consensus Estimate of 41 cents. However, the bottom line declined 34.3% year over year.

On a GAAP basis, earnings per share came in at 61 cents, down 37.8% from the year-ago quarter.

The company's Enterprise revenues declined 6.3% year over year to \$8,562 million but beat the consensus mark of \$8,149 million. Enterprise comparable sales were down 5.3% compared with 1.1% growth recorded in the prior-year quarter.

Moreover, the company recorded gross profit of \$1,965 million, down 9.4% year over year. Also, gross margin contracted 70 basis points (bps) to 23%. Further, adjusted operating income dropped 28.8% to \$250 million with adjusted operating margin contraction of 90 bps to 2.9%.

Segment Details

Domestic segment revenues declined 6.7% year over year to \$7,915 million, owing to decline in comparable sales and loss of revenues due to store closures in the past year. The segment's comparable sales declined 5.7% as a result of declines in sales of home theater, mobile phones, digital imaging and services, partly negated by growth in computing and gaming.

Meanwhile, comparable online sales at this division increased 155.4% to \$3.34 billion, mainly owing to higher traffic and conversion rates. As a percentage of overall Domestic revenues, online revenues grew by a substantial 2,680 bps to 42.2% compared with 15.4% recorded in the prior-year quarter.

However, the segment's gross margin contracted 70 bps year over year to 23% due to higher supply chain costs due to higher mix of online revenue.

International segment revenues decreased 2.1% to \$647 million, mainly owing to the unfavorable impact of foreign currency to the tune of approximately 320 bps, offset by revenue gains from new stores opened in Mexico in the past year. Also, the company recorded comparable sales increase of 0.2%. The segment's gross margin contracted 190 bps to 22.3%, mostly due to lower mix of high-margin services revenues and higher supply chain costs due to increased online revenue mix in Canada.

Other Financial Details

Best Buy ended the quarter with cash and cash equivalents of \$3,919 million, long-term debt of \$621 million and total equity of \$3,410 million. In the fiscal first quarter, the company returned about \$203 million to shareholders via share buybacks of \$62 million and dividend payouts of \$141 million.

In addition, the company's board of directors approved a quarterly dividend of 55 cents per share. The dividend will be paid out on Jul 2, to shareholders of record as on Jun 11. However, the company had suspended all share repurchases on Mar 21, as part of its efforts to preserve liquidity amid the coronavirus crisis.

Quarter Ending **04/2020**

Report Date	May 21, 2020
Sales Surprise	5.07%
EPS Surprise	63.41%
Quarterly EPS	0.67
Annual EPS (TTM)	5.78

Recent News

Best Buy Updates on Sales Performance & Employee Pay – Jul 21, 2020

Best Buy reported a decent sales performance for fiscal second quarter-to-date through Jul 18 courtesy of robust consumer demand. The metric rose nearly 2.5% year over year buoyed domestic and international sales growth of 2% and 8%, respectively. Online sales soared 255% during the period with the computing, appliance and tablet categories being leading contributors.

Management announced a 4%-raise in hourly rate, replacing the short-term incentive compensation for store employees below leadership level. Even after this increase, employees who will not receive the \$15-minimum hourly wage will get their pay increased to \$15.

Around 51,000 domestic hourly store employees, including almost all part-time staff, were temporarily furloughed on Apr 19. On Jun 15, the company started bringing back its furloughed staff, and about 50% of the same have returned. Notably, Best Buy has extended health benefits without any cost through Sep 5 for the rest of the furloughed employees enrolled in the company's health plan.

Valuation

Best Buy shares are up 27.5% in the year-to-date period and 65% over the trailing 12-month period. Stocks in the Zacks sub-industry are down 0.5% but the Zacks Retail-Wholesale sector is up 21.7% in the year-to-date period. Over the past year, the Zacks sub-industry and the sector are up 25% and 26.8%, respectively.

The S&P 500 index is up 4.7% in the year-to-date period and 15.6% in the past year.

The stock is currently trading at 18.42X forward 12-month earnings, which compares to 23.6X for the Zacks sub-industry, 33.8X for the Zacks sector and 22.78X for the S&P 500 index.

Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 18.42X and as low as 7.95X, with a 5-year median of 12.91X. Our Outperform recommendation indicates that the stock will perform better than the market. Our \$129 price target reflects 21.22X forward 12-month earnings.

The table below shows summary valuation data for BBY

Valuation Multiples - BBY					
		Stock	Sub-Industry	Sector	S&P 500
P/E F12M	Current	18.42	23.6	33.8	22.78
	5-Year High	18.42	23.6	34.78	22.78
	5-Year Low	7.95	8.32	19.08	15.25
	5-Year Median	12.91	11.52	23.47	17.58
P/S F12M	Current	0.65	0.51	1.27	3.7
	5-Year High	0.65	0.51	1.27	3.7
	5-Year Low	0.22	0.21	0.82	2.53
	5-Year Median	0.41	0.31	0.97	3.05
EV/EBITDA TTM	Current	9.76	6.39	20.55	12.76
	5-Year High	9.76	6.39	20.64	12.85
	5-Year Low	3.26	2.73	11.14	8.25
	5-Year Median	6	4.13	12.95	10.91

As of 08/19/2020

Industry Analysis Zacks Industry Rank: Top 37% (93 out of 252)



Top Peers

Company (Ticker)	Rec	Rank
Aarons, Inc. (AAN)	Outperform	1
Systemax Inc. (SYX)	Outperform	2
Amazon.com, Inc. (AMZN)	Neutral	3
Conn's, Inc. (CONN)	Neutral	4
Costco Wholesale Corporation (COST)	Neutral	2
GameStop Corp. (GME)	Neutral	4
Target Corporation (TGT)	Neutral	2
Walmart Inc. (WMT)	Neutral	3

Industry Comparison Industry: Retail - Consumer Electronics				Industry Peers		
	BBY	X Industry	S&P 500	AAN	GME	SYX
Zacks Recommendation (Long Term)	Outperform	-	-	Outperform	Neutral	Outperform
Zacks Rank (Short Term)	2	-	-	1	4	2
VGM Score	A	-	-	A	F	A
Market Cap	28.83 B	601.92 M	23.61 B	3.83 B	305.66 M	843.41 M
# of Analysts	10	4.5	14	6	5	1
Dividend Yield	1.97%	0.00%	1.65%	0.28%	0.00%	2.49%
Value Score	B	-	-	A	F	A
Cash/Price	0.14	0.25	0.07	0.08	1.85	0.07
EV/EBITDA	8.90	8.13	13.36	1.74	-0.78	12.00
PEG Ratio	2.22	1.68	2.99	0.97	NA	NA
Price/Book (P/B)	8.45	1.43	3.16	2.51	0.70	5.67
Price/Cash Flow (P/CF)	11.87	10.18	12.71	1.62	2.70	15.61
P/E (F1)	19.51	16.79	21.82	14.37	NA	16.79
Price/Sales (P/S)	0.67	0.79	2.47	0.93	0.05	0.90
Earnings Yield	5.13%	-4.08%	4.37%	6.95%	-31.78%	5.96%
Debt/Equity	0.18	0.29	0.76	0.19	1.14	0.39
Cash Flow (\$/share)	9.43	1.44	6.94	35.14	1.75	1.44
Growth Score	B	-	-	B	C	C
Hist. EPS Growth (3-5 yrs)	21.61%	21.61%	10.44%	16.56%	-26.21%	40.36%
Proj. EPS Growth (F1/F0)	-5.47%	4.22%	-5.97%	1.88%	-783.64%	-3.60%
Curr. Cash Flow Growth	7.58%	-20.22%	5.22%	13.84%	-66.61%	5.05%
Hist. Cash Flow Growth (3-5 yrs)	9.16%	10.50%	8.52%	15.48%	-26.81%	49.91%
Current Ratio	1.02	1.34	1.33	3.04	0.93	1.65
Debt/Capital	15.41%	21.82%	44.50%	15.82%	53.17%	27.82%
Net Margin	3.33%	1.14%	10.13%	-6.80%	-10.83%	5.22%
Return on Equity	45.89%	4.18%	14.67%	16.23%	-14.93%	31.03%
Sales/Assets	2.73	1.70	0.51	1.32	2.08	2.41
Proj. Sales Growth (F1/F0)	0.21%	0.10%	-1.54%	4.43%	-11.04%	2.55%
Momentum Score	A	-	-	C	D	C
Daily Price Chg	1.30%	0.00%	-0.38%	0.60%	-1.87%	-1.06%
1 Week Price Chg	6.40%	0.00%	1.09%	7.03%	14.18%	-3.28%
4 Week Price Chg	15.00%	14.84%	2.23%	28.22%	14.84%	18.05%
12 Week Price Chg	41.58%	48.44%	6.91%	48.44%	0.64%	9.33%
52 Week Price Chg	64.99%	-6.36%	2.28%	-11.23%	33.33%	5.98%
20 Day Average Volume	2,016,046	70,385	1,899,976	1,003,050	3,392,814	90,562
(F1) EPS Est 1 week change	3.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
(F1) EPS Est 4 week change	14.18%	10.10%	1.70%	22.55%	0.00%	21.82%
(F1) EPS Est 12 week change	14.62%	10.32%	3.08%	52.14%	-125.15%	21.82%
(Q1) EPS Est Mthly Chg	33.81%	18.55%	0.83%	53.21%	0.00%	37.93%

Zacks Stock Rating System

We offer two rating systems that take into account investors' holding horizons: Zacks Rank and Zacks Recommendation. Each provides valuable insights into the future profitability of the stock and can be used separately or in combination with each other depending on your investment style.

Zacks Recommendation

The Zacks Recommendation aims to predict performance over the next 6 to 12 months. The foundation for the quantitatively determined Zacks Recommendation is trends in the company's estimate revisions and earnings outlook. The Zacks Recommendation is broken down into 3 Levels; Outperform, Neutral and Underperform. Unlike many Wall Street firms, we have an excellent balance between the number of Outperform and Neutral recommendations. Our team of 70 analysts are fully versed in the benefits of earnings estimate revisions and how that is harnessed through the Zacks quantitative rating system. But we have given our analysts the ability to override the Zacks Recommendation for the 1200 stocks that they follow. The reason for the analyst over-rides is that there are often factors such as valuation, industry conditions and management effectiveness that a trained investment professional can spot better than a quantitative model.

Zacks Rank

The Zacks Rank is our short-term rating system that is most effective over the one- to three-month holding horizon. The underlying driver for the quantitatively-determined Zacks Rank is the same as the Zacks Recommendation, and reflects trends in earnings estimate revisions.

Zacks Style Scores

The Zacks Style Score is as a complementary indicator to the Zacks rating system, giving investors a way to focus on the highest rated stocks that best fit their own stock picking preferences.

Academic research has proven that stocks with the best Value, Growth and Momentum characteristics outperform the market. The Zacks Style Scores rate stocks on each of these individual styles and assigns a rating of A, B, C, D and F. We also produce the VGM Score (V for Value, G for Growth and M for Momentum), which combines the weighted average of the individual Style Scores into one score. This is perfectly suited for those who want their stocks to have the best scores across the board.

Value Score	B
Growth Score	B
Momentum Score	A
VGM Score	A

As an investor, you want to buy stocks with the highest probability of success. That means buying stocks with a Zacks Recommendation of Outperform, which also has a Style Score of an A or a B.

Disclosures

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