

Chevron Corporation (CVX)

\$91.39 (As of 07/22/20)

Price Target (6-12 Months): **\$105.00**

Long Term: 6-12 Months

Zacks Recommendation:

Outperform

(Since: 07/22/20)

Prior Recommendation: Neutral

Short Term: 1-3 Months

Zacks Rank: (1-5)

1-Strong Buy

Zacks Style Scores:

VGM:B

Value: C

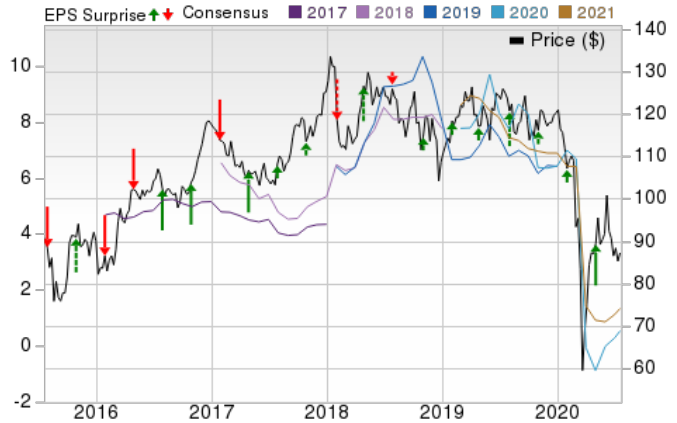
Growth: C

Momentum: A

Summary

Shares of Chevron have lost 24.1% year to date, less than the Zacks Oil & Gas International Integrated industry's decline of 39% during the same period. The company's worldwide production averaged a record 3,058 MBOE/d in 2019, reflecting an increase of 4.4% thanks to expansion in the lucrative Permian Basin. Chevron's proposed Noble Energy takeover deal is anticipated to expand its footprint in the DJ Basin and the Permian Basin along with cash-generating offshore assets in Israel. It also estimates potential annual cost savings of \$300 million within a year of the deal's closing. As of Mar 31, the San Ramon, CA-based company had total debt of \$32.4 billion, with a debt-to-total capitalization of a modest 18.4%. Chevron also carries high investment grade rating of AA from S&P, which translates into low borrowing rates.

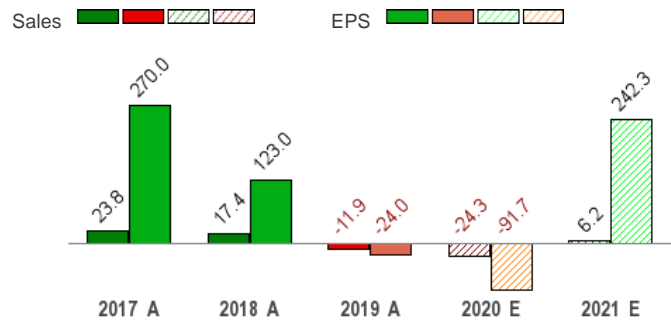
Price, Consensus & Surprise



Data Overview

52 Week High-Low	\$127.00 - \$51.60
20 Day Average Volume (sh)	7,668,655
Market Cap	\$170.6 B
YTD Price Change	-24.2%
Beta	1.29
Dividend / Div Yld	\$5.16 / 5.6%
Industry	Oil and Gas - Integrated - International
Zacks Industry Rank	Top 15% (37 out of 252)

Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)



Last EPS Surprise	101.6%
Last Sales Surprise	5.4%
EPS F1 Est- 4 week change	128.1%
Expected Report Date	07/31/2020
Earnings ESP	-2.8%
P/E TTM	13.8
P/E F1	175.8
PEG F1	28.1
P/S TTM	1.2

Sales Estimates (millions of \$)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	28,023 E	28,325 E	29,763 E	30,079 E	117,853 E
2020	31,501 A	19,598 E	23,463 E	25,252 E	110,928 E
2019	35,200 A	38,850 A	36,116 A	36,350 A	146,516 A

EPS Estimates

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	\$0.09 E	\$0.05 E	\$0.32 E	\$0.26 E	\$1.78 E
2020	\$1.29 A	-\$0.91 E	-\$0.21 E	-\$0.06 E	\$0.52 E
2019	\$1.39 A	\$2.27 A	\$1.59 A	\$1.49 A	\$6.27 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 07/22/2020. The reports text is as of 07/22/2020.

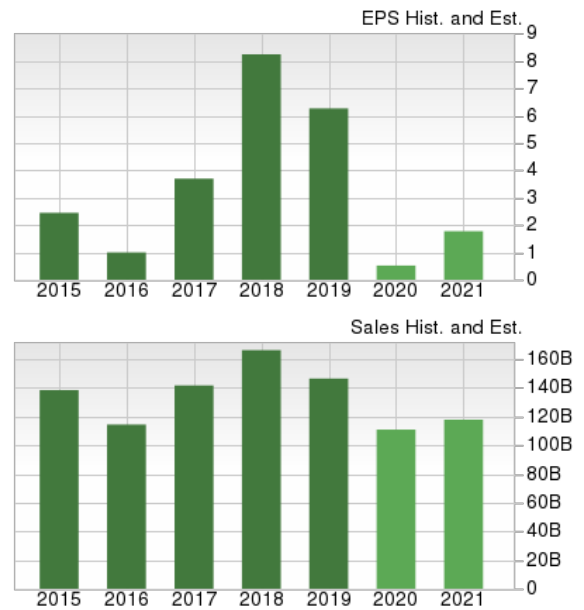
Overview

Chevron is one of the largest publicly traded oil and gas companies in the world with operations that span almost every corner of the globe. A component of the Dow Jones Industrial Average, San Ramon, CA-based Chevron is fully integrated, meaning it participates in every aspect related to energy – from oil production, to refining and marketing. The company generates more than \$146 billion in annual revenues and produces in excess of three million barrels per day of oil equivalent. Chevron currently churns out oil and natural gas at a 61/39 ratio. As of the end of 2019, the company had proved reserves of approximately 12.6 billion barrels of oil-equivalent.

While the energy sector downturn since mid-2014 has significantly impacted Chevron's stock price, it is still the 28-largest company in the S&P 500 Index. With its relatively low-risk energy business structure, robust financial health, and ample free cash flows, Chevron remains well positioned to navigate the weak oil and gas prices.

Being an integrated firm engaged in all aspects of the oil and gas business, Chevron often finds itself in the crossfire of political debates over climate change policy. Notwithstanding these distractions, Chevron has improved its cash from operations, allowing management to raise the dividend regularly. One of only two energy stocks on the list of Dividend Aristocrats, the supermajor's balance sheet is reasonably healthy indicating that the dividend should remain safe going forward.

Chevron has a market cap of more than \$160 billion and divides its operations into two main segments: Upstream (exploration & production) and Downstream (refining). In 2019, these two segments generated 51% and 49%, respectively, of the total earnings of the company. Chevron's other activities include transportation (pipelines, shipping) and chemicals (handled by Chevron Phillips Chemicals Company, a 50/50 joint venture with partner Phillips 66). Chevron's current oil and gas development project pipeline is among the best in the industry - projected to grow its output by 3% this year and at a 3-4% CAGR from 2018 until 2023. This production growth will primarily come from Chevron's showpiece Permian Basin assets, where it has substantial holdings of 2.2 million net acres.



Reasons To Buy:

- ▲ Chevron seems one of the best-placed global integrated oil companies to achieve sustainable production ramp-up. The company's 2019 production was a record 3,058 thousand oil-equivalent barrels per day (MBOE/d), up 4.4% from a year ago, thanks to expansion in the lucrative Permian Basin. Moreover, Chevron's production in the first quarter increased 6.5% from the year-earlier level to a record 3,235 MBOE/d (61% liquids) – the sixth successive quarter where volumes exceeded 3 million barrels per day. Notably, the first-quarter average production from the showpiece Permian Basin was 580 MBOE/d, up 48% year over year.
- ▲ Chevron is set to acquire Noble Energy for \$5 billion. Should the buyout go through, the addition of Noble Energy's assets is anticipated to expand Chevron's presence in the DJ Basin of Colorado and the Permian Basin across West Texas and New Mexico. The takeover is also estimated to generate potential annual cost savings of \$300 million within a year of the deal's closing. The company will have access to Noble Energy's low-cost, proven reserves along with cash-generating offshore assets in Israel – particularly the flagship Leviathan natural gas project - thereby boosting its footing in the Mediterranean.
- ▲ As of Mar 31, the San Ramon, CA-based company had \$8.5 billion in cash and cash equivalents and total debt of \$32.4 billion, with a debt-to-total capitalization ratio of a modest 18.4%. The company also carries high investment grade rating of AA from S&P, which translates into low borrowing rates.
- ▲ In 2019, the company generated \$27.3 billion of cash from operating activities (\$30.6 billion in 2018) while shelling out \$14.1 billion on capital expenditures (\$13.8 billion in 2018) for free cash flow of \$13.2 billion (a record \$16.8 billion in 2018). During the same period, Chevron paid out \$9 billion as cash dividends to its shareholders. In other words, despite the lower free cash flow, the company's dividend appears safe for the foreseeable future.

Chevron is set to acquire Noble Energy for \$5 billion which is anticipated to expand its presence in the DJ Basin and the Permian Basin.

Risks

- Oil prices recently fell to historic lows the historic oil market crash and the coronavirus-induced demand destruction for oil. In conjunction with the crude collapse, Chevron stock have been sold off together with a host of other energy sector names. The supermajor – with 61% oil-weighted production – is highly exposed to oil price fluctuations. As expected, Chevron's upstream segment bore the brunt of the commodity price plunge. In the most recent quarter, income from the E&P division came in at \$2.9 billion, 6.5% lower than the year-ago period.
 - Chevron has suspended its \$5-billion share buyback program to weather the bearish environment. Moreover, due to the cut in capital expenditure, the company's Permian production by this year end is predicted to see a 20% drop from the earlier guidance to 125,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day. This might hamper Chevron's earnings and cash flows.
 - Over the past few years, oil and gas supermajors have struggled to replace reserves as new energy resources become less accessible. Given their large asset bases, achieving growth in the production of oil and natural gas has been a challenge for many years. In this context, Chevron's 2019 oil reserve replacement ratio (RRR) of just 44% is indicative of the company's inability to add proved reserves to its reserve base to the amount of oil and gas produced.
-

Last Earnings Report

Chevron Q1 Earnings Beat on Permian Production Strength

Chevron reported adjusted first-quarter earnings per share of \$1.29, above the Zacks Consensus Estimate of 64 cents. The beat was driven by strong production from the Permian Basin and higher margins on refined products.

However, the bottom line was below the year-earlier quarter's earnings of \$1.39 per share due to lower oil and natural gas price realizations.

The company generated revenue of \$31.5 billion. The sales figure beat the Zacks Consensus Estimate of \$29.9 billion but was down 10.5% year over year.

In view of the historic oil market crash and the coronavirus-induced demand destruction for oil, Chevron now expects to spend \$14 billion for the year, compared to its previously lowered estimate of \$16 billion and 30% less than its initial projection. The company is also targeting \$1 billion in operating cost cuts.

Meanwhile, Chevron said that it would keep paying shareholders a quarterly dividend of \$1.29.

Segment Performance

Upstream: Chevron's production of crude oil and natural gas increased 6.5% from the year-earlier level to a record 3,235 thousand oil-equivalent barrels per day/MBOE/d (61% liquids) – the sixth successive quarter where volumes exceeded 3 million barrels per day.

Contribution from the shale assets in the prolific Permian Basin more than offset the effects of normal field declines, and the impact of asset dispositions. The first-quarter average production from the showpiece Permian Basin was 580 MBOE/d, up 48% year over year.

The U.S. output rose 20.4% year over year to 1,064 MBOE/d while the company's international operations (accounting for 67% of the total) edged up 0.8% to 2,171 MBOE/d.

Despite all-time high production volumes, Chevron's upstream segment income was down 6.5% year over year to \$2.9 billion – mainly due to lower oil and gas realizations.

Downstream: Chevron's downstream segment achieved earnings of \$1.1 billion, significantly higher than the profit of \$252 million last year. The surge primarily underlined a rise in refined products sales margins.

Cash Flows, Capital Expenditure

America's No. 2 energy producer recorded \$4.7 billion in cash flow from operations, down from \$5.1 billion a year ago. The decrease in cash flow could be attributed to falling lower price realizations in the upstream business.

In the first quarter, Chevron paid \$2.4 billion in dividends.

The company spent \$4.4 billion in capital and exploratory expenditures during the quarter, down from the year-ago period's \$4.7 billion. More than 88% of the total outlays pertained to upstream projects.

Balance Sheet

As of Mar 31, the San Ramon, CA-based company had \$8.5 billion in cash and cash equivalents and total debt of \$32.4 billion, with a debt-to-total capitalization ratio of about 18.4%.

Quarter Ending 03/2020

Report Date	May 01, 2020
Sales Surprise	5.43%
EPS Surprise	101.56%
Quarterly EPS	1.29
Annual EPS (TTM)	6.64

Recent News

Chevron Inks \$5B Acquisition Deal With Noble Energy

On **Jul 20** Chevron Corporation has reached an agreement to acquire Noble Energy in an all-stock deal worth \$5 billion.

The U.S. supermajor agreed to pay \$10.38 per share of Noble, was accounting for a 7.6% premium to the latter's last closing price prior to the deal's announcement. The takeover, which is one of the largest energy deal wins since the beginning of the pandemic, will also include Noble Energy's hefty debt load and hence will be valued at approximately \$13 billion. This strategic move will provide the to-be-acquired company's stockholders with 0.1191 shares of Chevron for each share held.

Rationale Behind the Deal

The buyout of Noble Energy's assets is anticipated to expand Chevron's presence in the DJ Basin of Colorado and the Permian Basin across West Texas and New Mexico. Particularly, Noble Energy has a total of 92,000 acres in the United States' number one basin, Permian. The acquisition will also generate potential annual cost savings of \$300 million within a year of the deal's closing.

Further, this transaction will expand Chevron's international footprint. The company will have access to Noble Energy's low-cost, proven reserves along with cash-generating offshore assets in Israel, especially the flagship Leviathan natural gas project, thereby boosting its base in the Mediterranean. Lest we forget, Chevron will also gain Noble Energy's interests in its midstream partnership, Noble Midstream Partners LP.

The transaction is expected to close by the fourth quarter of 2020 and is contingent on pending approvals and customary conditions. Upon the completion of the deal, Chevron will issue 58 million shares and Noble Energy stakeholders will possess 3% of the consolidated company.

Valuation

Chevron shares are down 24.1% in the year-to-date period and 27.3% over the trailing 12-month period. Stocks in the Zacks sub-industry and the Zacks Oil-Energy sector are down 39% and 37.5% in the year-to-date period, respectively. Over the past year, the Zacks sub-industry and sector are down 42.7% and 39.7%, respectively.

The S&P 500 index is up 1.3% in the year-to-date period and up 9% in the past year.

The stock is currently trading at 1.54X forward 12-month sales, which compares to 0.59X for the Zacks sub-industry, 0.71X for the Zacks sector and 3.61X for the S&P 500 index.

Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 1.94X and as low as 0.82X, with a 5-year median of 1.39X. Our Neutral recommendation indicates that the stock will perform in-line with the market. Our \$105 price target reflects 1.77X F12M sales.

The table below shows summary valuation data for CVX

Valuation Multiples - CVX					
		Stock	Sub-Industry	Sector	S&P 500
P/S F12M	Current	1.54	0.59	0.71	3.61
	5-Year High	1.94	0.87	1.46	3.61
	5-Year Low	0.82	0.56	0.59	2.53
	5-Year Median	1.39	0.75	0.99	3.02
EV/EBITDA TTM	Current	4.36	3.83	3.97	12.1
	5-Year High	14.38	9.88	10.45	12.86
	5-Year Low	2.72	2.85	3.04	8.25
	5-Year Median	8.02	6.04	6.49	10.88
P/B TTM	Current	1.18	0.73	0.89	4.46
	5-Year High	1.7	1.48	1.54	4.56
	5-Year Low	0.71	0.51	0.52	2.83
	5-Year Median	1.41	1.21	1.31	3.71

As of 07/21/2020

Industry Analysis Zacks Industry Rank: Top 15% (37 out of 252)



Top Peers

Company (Ticker)	Rec	Rank
Royal Dutch Shell PLC (RDS.A)	Outperform	2
BP p.l.c. (BP)	Neutral	3
ConocoPhillips (COP)	Neutral	3
Eni SpA (E)	Neutral	3
Occidental Petroleum Corporation (OXY)	Neutral	3
Phillips 66 (PSX)	Neutral	3
TOTAL S.A. (TOT)	Neutral	2
Exxon Mobil Corporation (XOM)	Neutral	3

Industry Comparison Industry: Oil And Gas - Integrated - International				Industry Peers		
	CVX	X Industry	S&P 500	BP	RDS.A	XOM
Zacks Recommendation (Long Term)	Outperform	-	-	Neutral	Outperform	Neutral
Zacks Rank (Short Term)	1	-	-	3	2	3
VGM Score	B	-	-	D	A	B
Market Cap	170.62 B	14.05 B	22.70 B	81.34 B	130.50 B	188.79 B
# of Analysts	5	2	14	6	3	3
Dividend Yield	5.65%	3.11%	1.81%	10.38%	3.25%	7.79%
Value Score	C	-	-	C	A	B
Cash/Price	0.05	0.29	0.06	0.34	0.27	0.06
EV/EBITDA	5.22	2.68	13.09	4.04	2.98	5.25
PEG Ratio	28.12	10.62	3.03	NA	12.16	NA
Price/Book (P/B)	1.18	0.66	3.12	0.90	0.74	1.00
Price/Cash Flow (P/CF)	4.20	2.83	12.23	2.93	2.99	6.60
P/E (F1)	175.75	30.56	22.36	NA	60.78	NA
Price/Sales (P/S)	1.19	0.42	2.42	0.30	0.40	0.73
Earnings Yield	0.57%	0.57%	4.31%	-2.57%	1.65%	-2.87%
Debt/Equity	0.16	0.43	0.75	0.71	0.43	0.17
Cash Flow (\$/share)	21.74	6.00	6.94	8.23	11.18	6.76
Growth Score	C	-	-	D	B	C
Hist. EPS Growth (3-5 yrs)	44.17%	13.36%	10.82%	21.77%	13.36%	-1.79%
Proj. EPS Growth (F1/F0)	-91.71%	-81.04%	-9.08%	-121.13%	-86.39%	-157.04%
Curr. Cash Flow Growth	16.70%	3.73%	5.51%	-1.45%	3.73%	-28.10%
Hist. Cash Flow Growth (3-5 yrs)	2.67%	-1.55%	8.55%	0.30%	-0.82%	-10.50%
Current Ratio	1.01	1.11	1.31	1.01	1.11	0.78
Debt/Capital	14.04%	30.19%	44.41%	41.44%	30.19%	14.44%
Net Margin	2.71%	0.76%	10.54%	-1.19%	3.00%	4.42%
Return on Equity	8.28%	3.97%	15.38%	8.53%	7.35%	5.15%
Sales/Assets	0.58	0.58	0.54	0.96	0.82	0.72
Proj. Sales Growth (F1/F0)	-24.29%	-22.96%	-2.40%	-31.29%	-28.39%	-28.14%
Momentum Score	A	-	-	D	A	C
Daily Price Chg	7.18%	1.52%	0.86%	5.01%	3.15%	5.06%
1 Week Price Chg	2.30%	1.70%	3.82%	3.52%	2.17%	2.04%
4 Week Price Chg	-0.05%	-2.05%	3.42%	-0.33%	-4.07%	-4.39%
12 Week Price Chg	1.65%	7.76%	9.22%	-0.29%	-7.14%	-0.71%
52 Week Price Chg	-27.36%	-37.43%	-3.38%	-38.97%	-47.59%	-40.76%
20 Day Average Volume	7,668,655	89,944	2,069,527	8,842,746	4,955,584	19,763,186
(F1) EPS Est 1 week change	111.38%	0.00%	0.00%	-361.73%	75.53%	-3.77%
(F1) EPS Est 4 week change	128.07%	9.26%	0.13%	-246.30%	85.39%	-3.77%
(F1) EPS Est 12 week change	157.96%	1.50%	-3.85%	-2,593.33%	1,600.00%	-32.69%
(Q1) EPS Est Mthly Chg	61.05%	23.08%	0.00%	21.21%	79.49%	32.50%

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	C
Growth Score	C
Momentum Score	A
VGM Score	B

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

This report contains independent commentary to be used for informational purposes only. The analysts contributing to this report do not hold any shares of this stock. The analysts contributing to this report do not serve on the board of the company that issued this stock. The EPS and revenue forecasts are the Zacks Consensus estimates, unless indicated otherwise on the reports first page. Additionally, the analysts contributing to this report certify that the views expressed herein accurately reflect the analysts personal views as to the subject securities and issuers. ZIR certifies that no part of the analysts compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendation or views expressed by the analyst in the report.

Additional information on the securities mentioned in this report is available upon request. This report is based on data obtained from sources we believe to be reliable, but is not guaranteed as to accuracy and does not purport to be complete. Any opinions expressed herein are subject to change.

ZIR is not an investment advisor and the report should not be construed as advice designed to meet the particular investment needs of any investor. Prior to making any investment decision, you are advised to consult with your broker, investment advisor, or other appropriate tax or financial professional to determine the suitability of any investment. This report and others like it are published regularly and not in response to episodic market activity or events affecting the securities industry.

This report is not to be construed as an offer or the solicitation of an offer to buy or sell the securities herein mentioned. ZIR or its officers, employees or customers may have a position long or short in the securities mentioned and buy or sell the securities from time to time. ZIR is not a broker-dealer. ZIR may enter into arms-length agreements with broker-dealers to provide this research to their clients. Zacks and its staff are not involved in investment banking activities for the stock issuer covered in this report.

ZIR uses the following rating system for the securities it covers. **Outperform-** ZIR expects that the subject company will outperform the broader U.S. equities markets over the next six to twelve months. **Neutral-** ZIR expects that the company will perform in line with the broader U.S. equities markets over the next six to twelve months. **Underperform-** ZIR expects the company will underperform the broader U.S. equities markets over the next six to twelve months.

No part of this report can be reprinted, republished or transmitted electronically without the prior written authorization of ZIR.