

FedEx Corporation (FDX)

\$131.15 (As of 05/28/20)

Price Target (6-12 Months): **\$139.00**

Long Term: 6-12 Months

Zacks Recommendation:

Neutral

(Since: 02/19/20)

Prior Recommendation: Underperform

Short Term: 1-3 Months

Zacks Rank: (1-5)

4-Sell

Zacks Style Scores:

VGM:A

Value: A

Growth: A

Momentum: C

Summary

Shares of FedEx underperformed its industry in a year's time, mainly due to high expenses and weakness of FedEx Express, the major revenue-generating unit. Evidently, segmental revenues declined 3% in the first nine months of fiscal 2020. Sluggish global trade and industrial production are affecting the Express unit's performance. The coronavirus pandemic is also a setback for the company and hurt its third-quarter fiscal 2020 results. In fact, the company suspended its earnings outlook for fiscal 2020 due to the coronavirus-led uncertainty. However, solid e-commerce growth is a major positive. The buyout of Cargex, that has strengthened its Latin American footprint, is also commendable. Increase in FedEx Ground revenues (up 7% in the first nine months of fiscal 2020) mainly due to residential delivery volume growth are also encouraging.

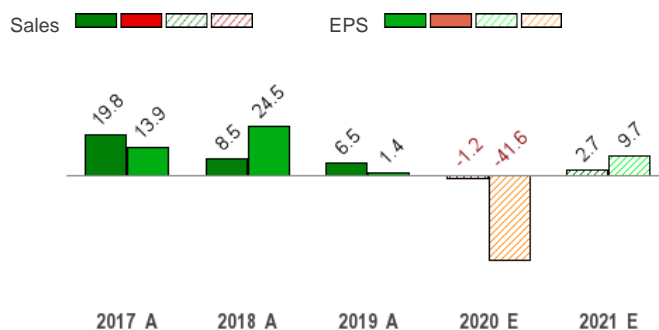
Price, Consensus & Surprise



Data Overview

52 Week High-Low	\$178.50 - \$88.69
20 Day Average Volume (sh)	2,433,721
Market Cap	\$34.3 B
YTD Price Change	-13.3%
Beta	1.32
Dividend / Div Yld	\$2.60 / 2.0%
Industry	Transportation - Air Freight and Cargo
Zacks Industry Rank	Top 17% (43 out of 254)

Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)



Last EPS Surprise	-5.4%
Last Sales Surprise	2.5%
EPS F1 Est- 4 week change	-2.1%
Expected Report Date	06/30/2020
Earnings ESP	-21.7%
P/E TTM	11.0
P/E F1	14.5
PEG F1	1.1
P/S TTM	0.5

Sales Estimates (millions of \$)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	16,483 E	17,220 E	17,867 E	18,222 E	70,670 E
2020	17,048 A	17,324 A	17,487 A	16,904 E	68,845 E
2019	17,052 A	17,824 A	17,010 A	17,807 A	69,693 A

EPS Estimates

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	\$1.39 E	\$1.97 E	\$1.93 E	\$3.81 E	\$9.94 E
2020	\$3.05 A	\$2.51 A	\$1.41 A	\$2.27 E	\$9.06 E
2019	\$3.46 A	\$4.03 A	\$3.03 A	\$5.01 A	\$15.52 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 05/28/2020. The reports text is as of 05/29/2020.

Overview

Based in Memphis, TN, FedEx Corporation is the leader in global express delivery services. The company, founded in 1971, provides a broad portfolio of transportation, e-commerce and business services through companies competing collectively, operating independently and managed collaboratively, under the FedEx brand.

The company is currently reporting, primarily through the FedEx Express (including TNT Express acquired in 2016), FedEx Ground and FedEx Freight segments. These segments contributed 53.6%, 29.4% and 10.9% respectively to the company's total revenues in fiscal 2019.

FedEx Express offers time-definite delivery to more than 220 countries and territories, connecting markets that comprise almost the entire gross domestic product of the world.

FedEx Express employs approximately 227,000 employees and has approximately 100,000 drop-off locations (including FedEx Office stores and FedEx OnSite locations), 670 aircraft and approximately 90,000 vehicles across the globe.

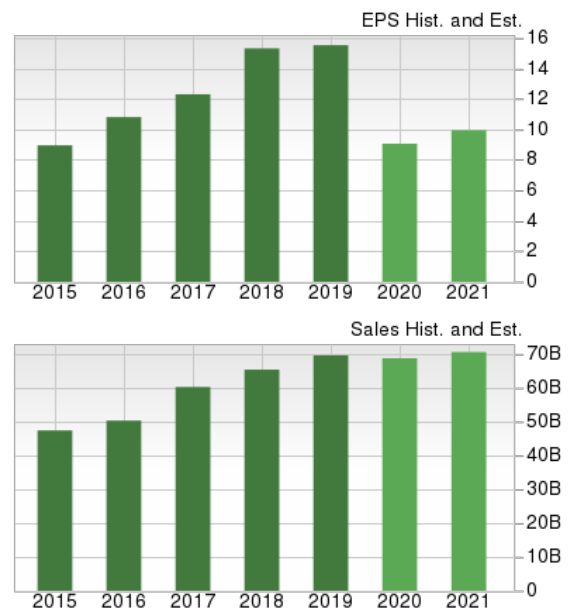
FedEx Ground offers low-cost, day-certain service to any business address in the United States and Canada, as well as residential delivery in the United States through its FedEx Home Delivery service.

FedEx SmartPost is also an offering of the FedEx Ground segment that focuses in the consolidation and delivery of high volumes of low-weight, less time-sensitive business-to-consumer packages.

Through the FedEx Freight segment, the company offers less-than-truckload ("LTL") freight services in the United States. The division also offers freight delivery service to destinations in Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. At the end of fiscal 2019 (ended May 31, 2019), the segment operated approximately 28,000 vehicles and 373 service centers.

Through the FedEx Services segment, which includes FedEx office and print services, the company offers various services like sales, marketing, information technology, billing and collection.

Moreover, the FedEx Logistics (formerly known as FedEx Trade Networks) operating segment offers services pertaining to customs brokerage, and global ocean and air freight forwarding through FedEx Trade Networks Transport & Brokerage. Notably, results of the FedEx Logistics unit are reported under "Corporate, other and eliminations."



Reasons To Buy:

▲ FedEx is being aided by e-commerce growth and a buoyant U.S. economy. In December 2018, the company launched FedEx Extra Hours, a service aimed at boosting the company's e-commerce delivery chain by allowing e-commerce orders to be fulfilled in the evening as well as receive late pickups by FedEx Express. The service is a boon for both online shoppers as well as the retailers. Moreover, due to the exponential growth in e-commerce, FedEx plans to hand off some of its Express packages to its Ground unit for residential deliveries. This new strategy to integrate the two networks for delivery of selective day-definite residential Express shipments will initially be rolled out at Greensboro, NC in March. It will be extended to other markets in phases through the rest of the year.

▲ We are positive on the increase in FedEx Ground revenues (up 7% in the first nine months of fiscal 2020). Residential delivery volume growth has aided segmental results. As FedEx Ground is the second-highest revenue contributor, strong performance of the segment bodes well for the company.

▲ We are positive on FedEx's acquisition of Cargex. The buyout has strengthened FedEx's Latin American footprint. In another decision aimed toward expanding its footprint in Latin America, FedEx Express announced a roundtrip Colombia-to-Miami flight in 2019 to enhance connectivity with the Latin American market.

Growth in e-commerce is a huge positive for FedEx. We are also impressed by the company's efforts to reward shareholders through dividends and buybacks.

Reasons To Sell:

- ▼ The coronavirus pandemic is a huge setback to the company. It is one of the factors responsible for the 53.5% decline in the bottom line in the third quarter of fiscal 2020. Management at FedEx is not sure about the duration of the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on the global economic scenario. Consequently, fourth-quarter results (will be released on Jun 30) are also expected to get affected. In fact, the company suspended its earnings outlook for fiscal 2020 due to the coronavirus-led uncertainty.
- ▼ FedEx's persistent below-par performance on account of weak global economy due to the trade tensions between the United States and China are quite concerning. The slowdown in global economy is affecting its primary revenue-generating segment, FedEx Express, significantly. Even though the situation improved, particularly due to tariff relief following the signing of the U.S.-China Phase 1 trade deal, significant growth in terms of freight volumes is not expected at least in the near term.
- ▼ FedEx investing significantly in facility upgrades, capital expenses are on an upswing. Additionally, integration expenses pertaining to TNT Express are perking up costs. Moreover, higher costs at the Ground unit due to expanded service offerings are also limiting bottom-line growth. Notably, segmental operating expenses increased 12% in the first nine months of fiscal 2020. Again, the cash and cash equivalents at FedEx at the end of the fiscal third quarter was \$176.6 million, way below the short term debt figure of \$223.7 million, implying that not the company doesn't have enough cash to meet even its short-term debt burden.

Weakness in global trade is a cause for concern. Escalated costs at its Ground unit are also worrisome.

Last Earnings Report

FedEx Misses on Earnings in Q3

The company's third-quarter fiscal 2020 adjusted earnings (excluding 21 cents from non-recurring items) of \$1.41 per share fell short of the Zacks Consensus Estimate by 8 cents. Moreover, the bottom line plunged 53.5% year over year. Results were hurt by factors like the coronavirus pandemic, weak macroeconomic conditions, higher costs at the Ground unit due to expanded service offerings, loss of business with Amazon, shift to lower-yielding services and a highly competitive pricing scenario.

Quarterly revenues inched up 2.8% year over year to \$17,487 million and also surpassed the Zacks Consensus Estimate of \$17,068.7 million despite coronavirus-related woes. Operating income (on an adjusted basis) plunged 50.9% year over year to \$483 million in the reported quarter due to sluggish global economy and elevated costs. Operating margin (adjusted) also deteriorated to 2.8% from 5.8% in the year-ago period.

Quarter Ending **02/2020**

Report Date	Mar 17, 2020
Sales Surprise	2.45%
EPS Surprise	-5.37%
Quarterly EPS	1.41
Annual EPS (TTM)	11.98

Segmental Performance

Quarterly revenues at FedEx Express (including TNT Express) dipped 1% to \$8,924 million due to 5% decline in freight revenues as a result of the slowdown in global economy and certain other factors. Segmental operating income (adjusted) decreased to \$199 million from \$445 million a year ago. Also, segmental operating margin contracted to 2.2% from 4.9% in third-quarter fiscal 2019, on an adjusted basis.

FedEx Ground revenues rose 11% year over year to \$5,845 million in the period under consideration owing to residential delivery volume growth. Operating income came in at \$355 million, slumping 39% year over year due to 17% increase in segmental operating expenses. Segmental operating margin shrank to 6.1% from 11.1% in the prior-year quarter.

FedEx Freight revenues slipped 1% year over year to \$1,738 million due to softness in volume growth. The segment's operating income increased 16% to \$113 million, driven by lower operating expenses. Moreover, operating margin expanded to 6.5% from 5.5% in the year-ago quarter.

Moreover, the company suspended its earnings outlook for fiscal 2020 due to the coronavirus-led uncertainty.

Recent News

FedEx to Place Coronavirus-Induced Surcharge on Global Shipments - Mar 31, 2020

In a bid to tackle the limited air cargo capacity due to the coronavirus pandemic, FedEx has decided to temporarily impose surcharges on international shipments (parcel as well as freight) beginning Apr 6, 2020. Notably, the surcharges are levied by FedEx's main revenue generating unit, FedEx Express, which includes the TNT Express operations.

Management at FedEx stated that with global supply-chain disruption in the wake of the coronavirus spread, it decided to enforce surcharges of 45 cents per pound on international shipments to/from China and also between countries in the Asia Pacific region. International shipments elsewhere will attract surcharge in the 5-10 cents a pound range. Surcharges apart, the minimum charge per shipment is applicable as well.

Valuation

FedEx shares have been down 13.7% and 17% year to date and over the past year, respectively. Stocks in the Zacks sub-industry have shed 8.5% and gained 3.5% of value so far this year and in a year's time each. Stocks in the Zacks Transportation sector have declined 18.6% and 11.6% year to date and in the past year, respectively.

The S&P 500 Index has lost 5.9% and gained 8.5% year to date and in the past 12 months, respectively.

The stock is currently trading at 10.95X trailing 12-month price to earnings, which compares to 13.67X for the Zacks sub-industry, 14.89X for the Zacks sector and 19.51X for the S&P 500 index.

Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 22.32X and as low as 7.55X, with a 5-year median of 15.51X. Our Neutral recommendation indicates that the stock will perform in-line with the market. Our \$139 price target reflects 11.61X forward 12-month earnings.

The table below shows summary valuation data for FDX

Valuation Multiples - FDX					
		Stock	Sub-Industry	Sector	S&P 500
P/E TTM	Current	10.95	13.67	14.89	19.51
	5-Year High	22.32	20.85	19.58	22.23
	5-Year Low	7.55	11.51	11.63	15.96
	5-Year Median	15.51	17.47	15.58	19.04
EV/EBITDA TTM	Current	6.37	8.52	7.32	11.21
	5-Year High	13.04	12.98	11.16	12.86
	5-Year Low	4.74	6.76	5.44	8.26
	5-Year Median	7.98	9.47	7.34	10.8
P/S F 12M	Current	0.48	0.99	1.15	3.42
	5-Year High	1.1	1.5	1.42	3.44
	5-Year Low	0.33	0.84	0.84	2.53
	5-Year Median	0.81	1.21	1.2	3.01

As of 05/28/2020

Industry Analysis Zacks Industry Rank: Top 17% (43 out of 254)



Top Peers

Company (Ticker)	Rec	Rank
Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings (AAWW)	Outperform	1
Amazon.com, Inc. (AMZN)	Neutral	3
C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc. (CHRW)	Neutral	4
CSX Corporation (CSX)	Neutral	3
Expeditors International of Washington, Inc. (EXPD)	Neutral	3
Union Pacific Corporation (UNP)	Neutral	3
United Parcel Service, Inc. (UPS)	Neutral	4
XPO Logistics, Inc. (XPO)	Underperform	5

Industry Comparison Industry: Transportation - Air Freight And Cargo				Industry Peers		
	FDX	X Industry	S&P 500	AAWW	CHRW	UPS
Zacks Recommendation (Long Term)	Neutral	-	-	Outperform	Neutral	Neutral
Zacks Rank (Short Term)	4	-	-	1	4	4
VGM Score	A	-	-	A	C	B
Market Cap	34.26 B	1.13 B	21.49 B	1.02 B	10.88 B	85.98 B
# of Analysts	12	3	14	2	11	12
Dividend Yield	1.98%	0.00%	1.98%	0.00%	2.52%	4.05%
Value Score	A	-	-	A	B	B
Cash/Price	0.06	0.11	0.06	0.23	0.03	0.11
EV/EBITDA	13.86	6.32	12.50	-86.20	13.86	11.91
PEG Ratio	1.10	1.82	2.87	NA	3.15	2.43
Price/Book (P/B)	1.82	1.73	2.95	0.55	6.86	25.90
Price/Cash Flow (P/CF)	4.58	4.37	11.81	2.21	16.14	9.59
P/E (F1)	14.00	14.52	21.33	4.60	28.39	17.87
Price/Sales (P/S)	0.49	0.44	2.28	0.38	0.71	1.15
Earnings Yield	6.91%	6.89%	4.50%	21.72%	3.52%	5.60%
Debt/Equity	1.66	1.66	0.76	1.37	0.69	8.06
Cash Flow (\$/share)	28.66	6.69	6.96	17.63	5.01	10.39
Growth Score	A	-	-	A	D	B
Hist. EPS Growth (3-5 yrs)	11.78%	10.29%	10.87%	7.45%	6.73%	8.80%
Proj. EPS Growth (F1/F0)	-41.66%	-25.80%	-10.48%	61.26%	-32.02%	-25.90%
Curr. Cash Flow Growth	-2.30%	4.64%	5.39%	-3.18%	-11.01%	4.64%
Hist. Cash Flow Growth (3-5 yrs)	9.78%	19.15%	8.55%	15.30%	5.98%	7.12%
Current Ratio	1.21	1.21	1.29	0.72	1.44	1.22
Debt/Capital	62.37%	70.51%	44.54%	57.76%	40.77%	88.96%
Net Margin	-0.50%	1.32%	10.59%	-8.88%	3.21%	5.73%
Return on Equity	17.05%	17.05%	16.26%	7.15%	29.94%	152.81%
Sales/Assets	1.06	1.06	0.55	0.48	3.27	1.33
Proj. Sales Growth (F1/F0)	-1.22%	0.20%	-2.53%	7.37%	-3.97%	0.41%
Momentum Score	C	-	-	B	B	C
Daily Price Chg	0.55%	-0.74%	-0.65%	-0.74%	0.87%	0.10%
1 Week Price Chg	8.82%	8.82%	4.99%	10.74%	7.39%	6.25%
4 Week Price Chg	3.46%	4.48%	4.28%	18.42%	14.05%	5.35%
12 Week Price Chg	0.94%	4.09%	-3.05%	62.83%	21.81%	7.24%
52 Week Price Chg	-17.00%	-12.83%	0.01%	2.96%	2.63%	4.15%
20 Day Average Volume	2,433,721	518,030	2,425,602	634,954	1,805,715	3,984,827
(F1) EPS Est 1 week change	-0.18%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
(F1) EPS Est 4 week change	-2.13%	-2.13%	-1.70%	27.16%	-13.55%	-11.16%
(F1) EPS Est 12 week change	-16.27%	-16.27%	-16.00%	48.77%	-23.01%	-29.34%
(Q1) EPS Est Mthly Chg	-8.13%	0.00%	-3.25%	48.20%	-20.40%	-14.60%

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	A
Growth Score	A
Momentum Score	C
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

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.