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Apr 07, 2021

Huntington Bancshares (HBAN)

$16.10 (As of 04/06/21)

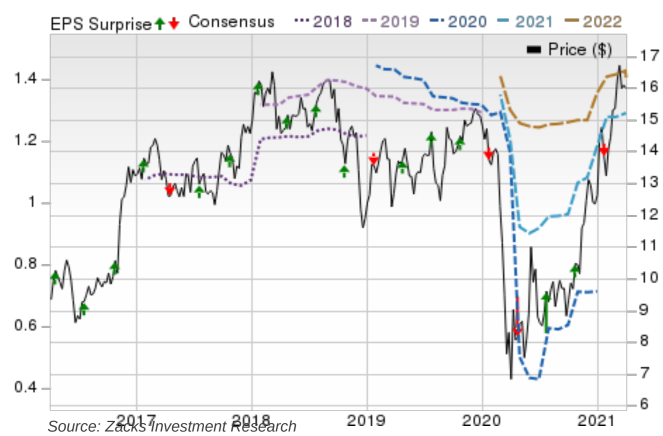
Price Target (6-12 Months): **$17.00**

Long Term: 6-12 Months	**Zacks Recommendation:** (Since: 02/05/21) Prior Recommendation: Outperform	**Neutral**
Short Term: 1-3 Months	**Zacks Rank:** (1-5)	**3-Hold**
	Zacks Style Scores:	VGM:C
	Value: B | Growth: F | Momentum: A	

Summary

Shares of Huntington have outperformed the industry over the past six months. Also, the company has a decent earnings surprise history, having surpassed the Zacks Consensus Estimate in two of the trailing four quarters. Huntington's efforts to expand footprint through strategic initiatives, and continued rise in loans and deposits are likely to lend support to revenues in the quarters ahead. Notably, in December 2020, Huntington entered into an all-stock merger deal with TCF Financial to form one of the top 10 U.S. regional banks. Also, the company's improving credit quality is a tailwind. However, shrinking margins due to the prevailing low interest rate environment is likely to deter bottom line growth. Also, significant exposure to commercial loans amid uncertain markets remains a concern. High debt burden keeps us apprehensive.

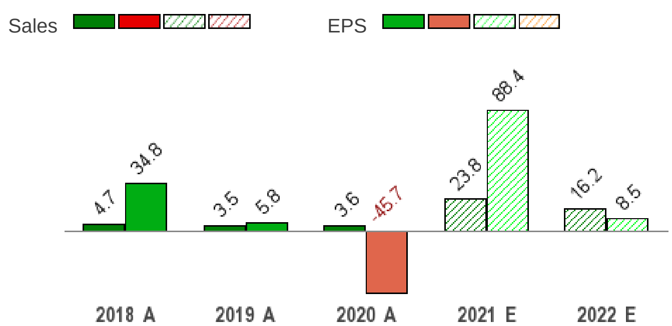
Price, Consensus & Surprise



Data Overview

52-Week High-Low	**$16.91 - $6.99**
20-Day Average Volume (Shares)	**11,507,322**
Market Cap	**$16.5 B**
Year-To-Date Price Change	**27.6%**
Beta	**1.38**
Dividend / Dividend Yield	**$0.60 / 3.7%**
Industry	**Banks - Midwest**
Zacks Industry Rank	**Top 25% (62 out of 253)**
Last EPS Surprise	**-10.0%**
Last Sales Surprise	**-0.9%**
EPS F1 Estimate 4-Week Change	**1.4%**
Expected Report Date	**04/22/2021**
Earnings ESP	**2.2%**
P/E TTM	**23.0**
P/E F1	**12.4**
PEG F1	**1.4**
P/S TTM	**3.1**

Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)



Sales Estimates (millions of $)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2022	1,702 E	1,727 E	1,750 E	1,762 E	6,958 E
2021	1,231 E	1,296 E	1,722 E	1,722 E	5,988 E
2020	1,157 A	1,188 A	1,252 A	1,239 A	4,836 A

EPS Estimates

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2022	$0.34 E	$0.34 E	$0.35 E	$0.35 E	$1.41 E
2021	$0.34 E	$0.29 E	$0.34 E	$0.35 E	$1.30 E
2020	$0.03 A	$0.13 A	$0.27 A	$0.27 A	$0.69 A

*Quarterly figures may not add up to annual.

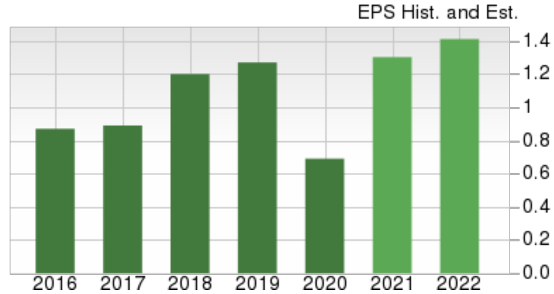
The data in the charts and tables, including the Zacks Consensus EPS and sales estimates, is as of 04/06/2021. The report's text and the analyst-provided price target are as of 04/07/2021.

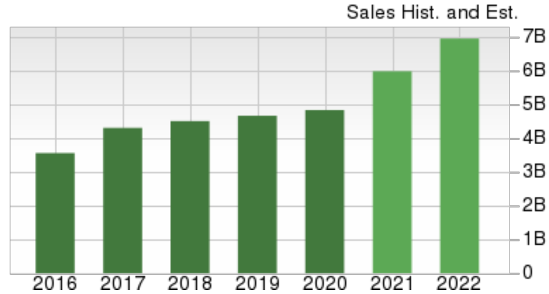
Overview

Headquartered in Columbus, OH, Huntington Bancshares Incorporated is a multi-state diversified regional bank holding company. Through its subsidiaries, including its banking subsidiary Huntington National Bank, the company provides full-service commercial and consumer banking services, mortgage banking services, equipment leasing, investment management, trust and brokerage services, and other financial products and services.

It operates through four major segments. Firstly, Consumer and Business Banking segment includes Home Lending which provides a wide array of financial products and services to consumer and small business customers. Business Banking serves companies with revenues up to $20 million. Under Home Lending, it originates and services consumer loans and mortgages for customers mainly located in primary banking markets.

Further, Commercial Banking provides a variety of products and services to the middle market, large corporate client base, real estate and government public sector customers. The segment is divided into six business units: Middle Market, Specialty Banking, Asset Finance, Capital Markets/Institutional Corporate Banking, Commercial Real Estate and Treasury Management.





Vehicle Finance provides lending and other banking products and services to customers for the purchase of vehicles and also to franchised dealerships for the acquisition of new and used inventory.

Regional Banking and The Huntington Private Client Group (RBHPCG) core business is The Huntington Private Bank, which consists of Private Banking, Wealth & Investment Management, and Retirement plan services.

Additionally, the Treasury/Other Group includes revenues and expenses related to assets, liabilities, and equity not directly allocated to any segment. Assets include investment securities and bank-owned life insurance.

In 2016, Huntington acquired FirstMerit Corporation. In 2018, the company acquired Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley & Co., a Chicago-based public finance investment bank and broker-dealer.

Source: Zacks Investment Research

Reasons To Buy:

Huntington's strategic initiatives, including expansion moves should bolster revenue growth. Moreover, growth in loans and deposits balance is expected to drive long-term growth of the company.

- Given its robust liquidity position, Huntington is well positioned to expand via acquisitions. Over the past few years, the company has expanded its footprint with a number of acquisitions. In 2018, Huntington completed its acquisition of Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley & Co., a leading public finance investment bank and broker-dealer, which resulted in a larger market presence. Notably, the company signed a deal to acquire TCF Financial in December 2020, to form one of the top 10 U.S. regional banks, along with having a rank 5 in approximately 70% of deposit markets. Therefore, we believe such efforts will help the company gain significant market share and thereby, enhance its profitability over the long run.

- We are impressed with the faster-than-expected improvement in the company's credit quality. Despite the macro pressure, Huntington's credit quality continues to normalize. Credit metrics have been gradually improving since the last quarter of 2009, except for the third quarter of 2012, as a result of the new regulatory guidance. In 2020, credit quality deteriorated due to the impacts of the coronavirus mayhem. Nevertheless, Huntington's credit quality is likely to witness improvement in the quarters ahead on the back of economic recovery.

- The company is focused on acquiring the industry's best deposit franchise. Huntington's total deposits recorded a three-year compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 8% in 2020. Moreover, driven by strong performance of the commercial and consumer portfolio, total loan balance recorded a three-year CAGR of 4.4% in 2020. We believe that both loan and deposit balances are poised to grow in an improving economy.

- Shares of Huntington have outperformed the industry over the past six months. With this favorable trend, the company's current-year earnings estimates have been revised 1.6% upward over the past 30 days. Therefore, given the solid fundamentals and positive estimates revision, the stock has decent upside potential.

Reasons To Sell:

Huntington's bottom line growth remains affected due to the pressure on margins from lower interest rates. Further, lack of diversification in loan portfolio remains a headwind for the company.

- With support from higher interest rates, margin pressure for Huntington eased in the three years (ended 2018), after witnessing a declining trend for years. However, net interest margin (NIM) declined in 2019 and 2020 on account of a decline in interest rates. Given, the Federal Reserve's accommodative monetary policy stance and lower yields, we expect the bank's key metric to remain under pressure in the quarters ahead.
- Huntington's rising cost base keeps us apprehensive. Non-interest expenses saw a CAGR of 7.7% over the last five years (ended 2020). Notably, the company intends to make investments in digital, data and technology enhancements, product differentiation and other initiatives, which will likely bolster its existing capabilities and infrastructure. Therefore, a rising expense base is expected to impede bottom-line growth of the company.
- As of Dec 31, 2020, the company held debt worth $8.4 billion, which witnessed a fall in the past few quarters. Also, cash and due from banks, as of same date, were $1.3 billion, which has increased from the past quarters but remained much below the debt level. Therefore, we believe Huntington carries higher likelihood of default of interest and debt repayments if the economic situation worsens.
- Majority of Huntington's loan portfolio – nearly 52% as of Dec 31, 2020 – comprises total commercial loans (commercial and business lending as well as commercial real estate lending). Such high exposure to commercial loans depicts lack of diversification which can be risky for the company amid challenging economy and competitive markets.
- Though Huntington's involvement in steady capital deployment activities is encouraging, its unfavorable liquidity position keeps us apprehensive. The company had increased its quarterly dividend by 7% in July 2019. Also, it had a share repurchase program in place, that was suspended mid-March following the coronavirus crisis. Further, the company's debt/equity ratio does not compare favorably with the broader industry. Thus, these capital deployment activities might not be sustainable in the long-term.

Last Earnings Report

Huntington Q4 Earnings Lag Estimates as Expenses Rise

Quarter Ending	12/2020
Report Date	Jan 22, 2021
Sales Surprise	-0.86%
EPS Surprise	-10.00%
Quarterly EPS	0.27
Annual EPS (TTM)	0.70

Huntington's fourth-quarter 2020 earnings per share of 27 cents lagged the Zacks Consensus Estimate of 30 cents. Also, the bottom line fell 3.6% from the prior-year quarter reported figure.

Increase in revenues aided by high net interest and non-interest income supported the results. Notably, rise in mortgage banking revenues and increase in average earnings assets acted as driving factors. Improvement in loans and deposits was another positive.

However, results were adversely impacted by higher credit provisioning due to the bleak economic conditions. Moreover, elevated expenses were an undermining factor.

The company reported net income of $316 million in the quarter, which slipped marginally year over year.

In full-year 2020, Huntington reported net income of $817 million or 69 cents per share compared with $1.42 billion or $1.27 in 2019. Also, full-year earnings missed the Zacks Consensus Estimate of 72 cents.

Revenues Up, Expenses Escalate, Loans & Deposits Rise

In 2020, revenues were $4.84 billion, up 3% year over year. Also, the top line marginally lagged the Zacks Consensus Estimate.

Total revenues climbed 7% year over year to $1.24 billion in the fourth quarter. However, the top line lagged the consensus estimate of $1.25 billion.
Net interest income (FTE basis) was $830 million, up 6% from the prior-year quarter. This upside resulted from an increase in average earnings assets, partly offset by a lower net interest margin (NIM), which contracted 18 basis points (bps) to 2.94%.

Non-interest income climbed 10% year over year to $409 million. This upside mainly stemmed from an increase mortgage banking income, capital markets fees along with trust and investment management services income.

Non-interest expenses rose 8% on a year-over-year basis to $756 million. This was chiefly due to higher professional services costs, outside data processing and other service costs, occupancy and equipment expenses, and marketing expenses.

Efficiency ratio was 60.2%, up from the prior-year quarter's 58.4%. A rise in ratio indicates a fall in profitability.

As of Dec 31, 2020, average loans and leases at Huntington increased 1% on a sequential basis to $81.1 billion. Moreover, average total deposits increased 2% from the prior quarter to $96.6 billion.

Credit Quality Disappoints

Net charge-offs were $112 million or an annualized 0.55% of average total loans in the reported quarter, up from the $73 million or an annualized 0.39% recorded in the prior year. Furthermore, the quarter-end allowance for credit losses rose significantly to $1.87 billion.

Provision for credit losses went up 30.4% on a year-over year basis to $103 million. In addition, total non-performing assets totaled $563 million as of Dec 31, 2020, up 13.1%.

Capital Ratios

Common equity tier 1 risk-based capital ratio and regulatory Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio were 10% and 12.47%, respectively, compared with the 9.88% and 11.26% reported in the year-ago quarter.

Tangible common equity to tangible assets ratio was 7.16%, down from 7.88% as of Dec 31, 2019. Return on average assets and average common equity was 1.04% and 10.4%, respectively, compared with the 1.15% and 11.1% recorded in the prior-year quarter.

Outlook for 2021 (excluding acquisition of TCF Financial)

Revenues are expected to increase about 1-3% from 2020. Net interest income is anticipated to be flat to modestly up, driven by average earning asset growth and a relatively stable NIM compared with the fourth quarter of 2020 level.The company assumes the positive impact from the acceleration of PPP fees in the first half of 2021 before settling back down in the second half.

Non-interest income is expected to be flat to modestly down due to the challenging mortgage banking comparisons, partially offset by continued growth in capital markets, cards and payments and wealth and investment management business lines.

Non-interest expenses are anticipated to be up 3-5% year over year. Expense growth in 2021 is expected to be driven by ongoing investments in digital and technology development, marketing and select personnel ads directly related to the company's strategic initiatives. Management seeks to bring the expense run rate to a level that is lower than the growth rate of revenue during the second half of 2021.

Management expects average loans and leases to climb 2% to 4% year over year, reflecting modestly higher commercial loans (inclusive of PPP) and mid???single digit growth in consumer loans. Excluding PPP, mid???single digit growth in both commercial and consumer loans is expected.

Average total deposits are expected to jump 5-7%, due to the elevated levels of commercial and consumer core deposits, which the company expects to persist for several more quarters. Compared to the fourth-quarter 2020 average balances, management expects modest deposit growth, primarily among consumers during the first half of 2021 before stabilizing in the second half.

Asset quality is anticipated to remain strong. Net charge-offs are expected to be 35-55 bps, with some moderate quarterly volatility.

The effective tax rate for 2021 is expected to be in the range of 16% to 17%.

Recent News

Huntington & TCF Shareholders Approve Merger Deal - Mar 25, 2021

Shareholders of Huntington Bancshares and TCF Financial have approved the all-stock acquisition deal. The transaction, announced on December 2020, is expected to close in the second quarter of 2021, subject to regulatory consents.

Moody's Affirms Huntington Ratings, TCF Under Review – Dec 14, 2020

Following the merger announcement with TCF Financial, Moody's Investors Service affirmed all the ratings of Huntington Bancshares. The bank's long-term senior unsecured debt rating has been affirmed at Baa1. Also, the rating firm's outlook for the bank has been maintained at "stable".

Huntington National Bank, the main bank operating entity's long-term deposit rating has been affirmed at Aa3 and the stand-alone baseline credit assessment (BCA) of a3 has been affirmed.

However, Huntington National Bank's long-term deposit, senior unsecured debt and issuer ratings has been downgraded to negative from stable by the rating firm. Per Moody's, growth in deposits and transformation in the banks' balance sheet due to the recent acquisition might result in reduced unsecured debt on Huntington's balance sheet. Notably, the rating firm considers debt as a main factor in its Loss Given Failure analysis.

Additionally, all long-term ratings of TCF Financial have been placed on review for upgrade by Moody's. Further, the long-term ratings and assessments, including the baa1 BCA, of the lead bank, TCF National Bank and long-term deposits at A2 are under review. Though the bank's Prime-2(cr) short-term counterparty risk assessment has been placed under review for upgrade, other short-term ratings were affirmed.

"With the TCF acquisition, Huntington will become one of the largest regional banks in the US, gaining market positions in its key Midwest market and strengthening the banks' national lending businesses" said Rita Sahu, vice president — senior credit officer. "Although the acquisition introduces significant operational and integration risks, we have affirmed Huntington's ratings based on the bank's credit fundamentals and strong acquisition track record," Sahu added.

Rationale Behind Ratings

Per Moody's, the proposed merger with TCF Financial, acquiring significant operational and integration risks, is a large milestone for Huntington with the former's total assets equalling around 40% of the latter's assets as of Sep 30, 2020. Notably, both companies have a good track record of integrations in the past.

Nevertheless, prior to the completion of integration, Huntington will have a heightened risk profile as the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic is not yet certain. Therefore, due to the continued impact of the pandemic leading to uncertain operating conditions, Moody's might re-evaluate its assessment on the companies' performance prior to the deal's closure.

Following the ratings affirmation, Huntington National Bank's long-term deposit, senior unsecured debt and issuer ratings has been downgraded to negative from stable by the rating firm. Per Moody's, growth in deposits and transformation in the banks' balance sheet due to the recent acquisition might result in reduced unsecured debt on Huntington's balance sheet. Notably, the rating firm considers debt as a main factor in its Loss Given Failure analysis.

Moreover, TCF Financial's ratings under review for upgrade indicate Moody's belief of creditors getting benefit from the merger. TCF Financial's BCA reflects solid balance sheet, including huge low-cost funding base, enhanced liquidity, stable asset quality and sufficient capitalization. Furthermore, the bank recorded profits despite margin pressure and increased expenses associated with the merger between TCF Financial and Chemical in August 2019.

Notably, the review is likely to conclude on the deal's closure expected in the second quarter of 2021after getting all regulatory approvals.

Factors Behind an Upgrade or Downgrade of The Ratings

For Huntington, ratings could be upgraded on enhanced capitalization or rise in levels of profitability compared with peers, along with improved market funding and liquid assets. However, a downgrade is possible due to certain factors, including unsuccessful integration with TCF Financial, significant rise in problems loans or credit losses, and weak underwriting standards.

For TCF Financial, Moody's is focused on the benefits to creditors of the proposed merger under review for upgrade.

Huntington and TCF Financial to Merge With $168B in Assets – Dec 13, 2020

Huntington Bancshares entered into an all-stock acquisition deal with Detroit-based TCF Financial Corporation, per which the former will merge with the latter with a total market value of about $22 billion. The combined entity will operate under the name and brand of Huntington with two headquarters in Detroit, MI and Columbus, OH, and maintain its operating presence in all the existing markets.

The deal, approved by the boards of both banks, on completion will be listed as one of the top 10 U.S. regional banks, along with having a rank 5 in approximately 70% of deposit markets. Also, the combined entity with the largest branch share will be positioned at the second in Consumer Deposits in the footprint. Huntington will expand in Minnesota, Colorado, Wisconsin, and South Dakota, along with strengthening its presence in Chicago.

The combined entity is aimed at capturing market opportunities and boosting the client base through a distinctive, "People-First, Digitally-Powered" customer experience. Moreover, the companies' expanded scale, technological advancement and increased product offerings will help capitalize its market share.

"This merger combines the best of both companies and provides the scale and resources to drive increased long-term shareholder value. Huntington is focused on accelerating digital investments to further enhance our award-winning people-first, digitally powered customer experience," chief executive officer Stephen D. Steinour of Huntington said. "We look forward to welcoming the TCF Team Members. Together we will have a stronger company better able to support our customers and drive economic growth in the communities we serve," Steinour further added.

Terms of the Deal

Columbus-based Huntington, with around $120 billion in assets, and TCF Financial, with $48 billion in assets, will create the combined entity with $168 billion in assets, $134 billion in deposits and $117 billion in loans. Strategically, the combined entity will enhance through advanced technologies, expanded distribution and product offerings, along with providing stellar revenue growth opportunities.

Also, the alliance will strengthen commercial, consumer, wealth and business banking businesses with diversified products. On completion, Huntington, maintaining a strong working culture, aims to offer superior client services. Additionally, TCF Financial's national inventory and equipment finance businesses will enhance Huntington's current commercial exposure.

Per the deal, the Commercial Bank division will be headquartered in Detroit, with 800 employees of the combined company. Further, the holding company and the Consumer Bank will have headquarters in Columbus.

Members from both Huntington and TCF Financial will lead the combined entity. The organization's boards will include five directors from TCF Financial. Post-closure, Stephen D. Steinour will head as the chairman, president, and CEO of the holding company as well as CEO and president of the bank. Additionally, Gary Torgow will operate as chairman of the bank's board of directors.

Financial Benefits

Cost synergies are anticipated to approximate around $490 million, or 37% of TCF Financial's non-interest expense.

Per Huntington's expectations, the deal is likely to be 18% accretive to earnings by year-end 2022, including the fully phased-in transaction cost synergies.

Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC, acted as financial advisor for Huntington, while Keefe, Bruyette& Woods acted as financial advisor for TCF Financial.

Dividend Update

On Jan 22, Huntington's board of directors announced a quarterly cash dividend of 15 cents per share. The dividend was paid out on Apr 1, to its shareholders on record as of Mar 18.

Valuation

Huntington's shares are up 27.4% so far this year and 82.7% over the trailing 12-month period. Stocks in the Zacks sub-industry and the Zacks Finance sector are up 25.3% and 12.1%, respectively, in the last six months. Over the past year, the Zacks sub-industry and sector are up 66.5% and 53%, respectively.

The S&P 500 Index is up 9.1% in the last six months and 56.3% in the past year.

The stock is currently trading at 12.19X forward 12 months earnings, which compares to 14.2X for the Zacks sub-industry, 17.12X for the Zacks sector and 22.97X for the S&P 500 index.

Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 17.87X and as low as 5.6X, with a 5-year median of 11.62X. Our Neutral recommendation indicates that the stock will perform in line with the market. Our $17 price target reflects 12.87X forward earnings.

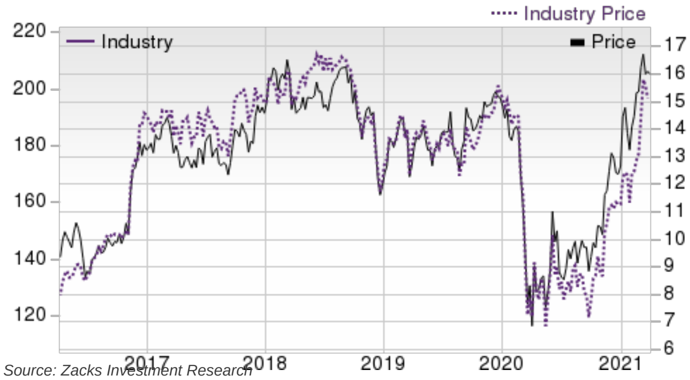
The table below shows summary valuation data for HBAN

Valuation Multiples - HBAN

		Stock	Sub-Industry	Sector	S&P 500
P/E F12M	Current	12.19	14.2	17.12	22.97
	5-Year High	17.87	16.92	17.16	23.83
	5-Year Low	5.6	9.51	11.6	15.3
	5-Year Median	11.62	13.54	14.81	18
P/TB TTM	Current	1.99	3.1	3.63	17.37
	5-Year High	2.6	3.93	4.06	17.39
	5-Year Low	0.87	1.65	2.05	8.07
	5-Year Median	1.9	2.97	3.55	11.26
P/S F12M	Current	2.64	4.35	7.89	4.71
	5-Year High	4.17	6.04	7.89	4.71
	5-Year Low	1.48	3.15	5.03	3.21
	5-Year Median	3.06	4.79	6.16	3.71

As of 04/06/2021 *Source: Zacks Investment Research*

Industry Analysis **Zacks Industry Rank:** Top 25% (62 out of 253)



Source: Zacks Investment Research

Top Peers

Company (Ticker)	Rec	Rank
Associated BancCorp **(ASB)**	Neutral	3
Commerce Bancshares, Inc. **(CBSH)**	Neutral	2
Comerica Incorporated **(CMA)**	Neutral	3
KeyCorp **(KEY)**	Neutral	3
M&T Bank Corporation **(MTB)**	Neutral	3
Regions Financial Corporation **(RF)**	Neutral	3
UMB Financial Corporation **(UMBF)**	Neutral	3
U.S. Bancorp **(USB)**	Neutral	3

The positions listed should not be deemed a recommendation to buy, hold or sell.

Industry Comparison Industry: Banks - Midwest

				Industry Peers		
	HBAN	**X Industry**	**S&P 500**	**CBSH**	**KEY**	**MTB**
Zacks Recommendation (Long Term)	Neutral	-	-	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Zacks Rank (Short Term)	3	-	-	2	3	3
VGM Score	C	-	-	D	B	C
Market Cap	16.47 B	491.10 M	29.96 B	9.11 B	19.48 B	19.71 B
# of Analysts	10	3	12	7	10	8
Dividend Yield	3.72%	2.24%	1.29%	1.35%	3.65%	2.87%
Value Score	B	-	-	C	B	C
Cash/Price	0.41	0.41	0.06	0.34	0.93	1.33
EV/EBITDA	12.93	6.74	16.88	10.93	8.67	-0.44
PEG F1	1.37	1.60	2.38	1.84	NA	0.93
P/B	1.52	1.18	3.99	2.68	1.23	1.32
P/CF	13.83	10.26	16.85	19.89	13.78	11.65
P/E F1	12.38	13.86	22.08	21.41	10.71	12.48
P/S TTM	3.14	2.87	3.42	6.61	2.65	3.14
Earnings Yield	8.07%	7.20%	4.45%	4.67%	9.31%	8.01%
Debt/Equity	0.77	0.30	0.66	0.00	0.85	0.29
Cash Flow ($/share)	1.16	2.94	6.78	3.91	1.47	13.13
Growth Score	F	-	-	D	D	D
Historical EPS Growth (3-5 Years)	1.61%	10.64%	9.39%	10.27%	6.94%	11.83%
Projected EPS Growth (F1/F0)	88.99%	9.39%	15.29%	24.84%	50.32%	23.49%
Current Cash Flow Growth	-34.11%	4.13%	0.44%	-6.60%	-32.66%	-24.48%
Historical Cash Flow Growth (3-5 Years)	2.11%	12.46%	7.37%	6.18%	4.49%	6.06%
Current Ratio	0.89	0.89	1.39	0.66	0.91	1.06
Debt/Capital	39.13%	23.35%	41.26%	0.02%	43.26%	21.30%
Net Margin	15.60%	22.38%	10.59%	25.68%	17.58%	21.54%
Return on Equity	7.65%	9.36%	14.86%	10.87%	8.09%	9.24%
Sales/Assets	0.04	0.05	0.51	0.05	0.04	0.05
Projected Sales Growth (F1/F0)	23.72%	0.00%	7.36%	1.30%	0.59%	-0.56%
Momentum Score	A	-	-	A	A	A
Daily Price Change	-0.06%	0.00%	0.05%	-0.04%	0.15%	-0.12%
1-Week Price Change	-0.62%	-1.24%	0.35%	-1.62%	0.60%	-1.27%
4-Week Price Change	0.25%	-0.40%	5.11%	-0.33%	-0.68%	-0.01%
12-Week Price Change	8.05%	11.64%	8.79%	7.58%	7.86%	2.25%
52-Week Price Change	98.03%	64.98%	60.17%	50.55%	94.45%	47.67%
20-Day Average Volume (Shares)	11,507,322	51,235	2,103,543	398,489	11,911,008	970,784
EPS F1 Estimate 1-Week Change	1.04%	0.00%	0.00%	1.56%	2.99%	2.17%
EPS F1 Estimate 4-Week Change	1.38%	1.18%	0.00%	1.64%	3.22%	2.29%
EPS F1 Estimate 12-Week Change	9.51%	20.22%	2.24%	12.00%	27.03%	18.52%
EPS Q1 Estimate Monthly Change	0.19%	0.00%	0.00%	0.66%	3.04%	1.85%

Source: Zacks Investment Research

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 maintain a 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	F
Momentum Score	A
VGM Score	C

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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Additional Disclosure

This material represents an assessment of the market and economic environment at a specific point in time and is not intended to be a forecast of future events, or a guarantee of future results. Forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties. Any statements that refer to expectations, projections or characterizations of future events or circumstances, including any underlying assumptions, are forwardlooking statements. Actual results, performance, or achievements may differ materially from those expressed or implied.

Returns quoted represent past performance which is no guarantee of future results. Investment returns and principal value will fluctuate so that when shares are redeemed, they may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be higher or lower than the performance shown.

Investing involves risk; principal loss is possible. There is no guarantee that companies that can issue dividends will declare, continue to pay or increase dividends.

Glossary of Terms and Definitions

52-Week High-Low: The range of the highest and lowest prices at which a stock has traded during the past year. This range is determined based on the stock's daily closing price which may differ from the intra-day high or low. Many investors use it as a technical indicator to determine a stock's current value and future price movement. The idea here is that if price breaks out from the 52-week range, in either direction, the momentum may continue in the same direction.

20-Day Average Volume (Shares): The average number of shares of a company traded in a day over the last 20 days. It is a direct indication of a security's overall liquidity. The higher the average daily trading volume, the easier it is to enter or exit the stock at a desired price with more buyers and sellers being available.

Daily Price Change: This is the percentage difference between a trading day's closing price and the prior trading day's closing price. This item is updated at 9 p.m. EST each day.

1-Week Price Change: This is the percentage change in a stock's closing price over the last 5 trading days. This change reflects the collective buying and selling sentiment over the 1-week period.

A strong weekly price increase for the stock, especially when accompanied by increased volume, is an indication of it gaining momentum.

4-Week Price Change: This is the percentage change in a stock's closing price over the last 20 trading days or past 4 weeks. This is a mediumterm price change metric and an indication of the stock gaining momentum.

12-Week Price Change: This is the percentage change of a stock's closing price over the last 60 trading days or past 12 weeks. Similar to 4-week price change, this is a medium-term price change metric. It shows whether a stock has been enjoying strong investor demand, or if it has been in consolidation, or distress over this period.

52-Week Price Change: This is the percentage change in a stock’s closing price over the last 260 trading days or past 52 weeks. This long-term price change metric is a good reference point for investors. Some investors seek stocks with the best percentage price change over the last 52 weeks, expecting the momentum to continue.

Market Cap: The number of outstanding common shares of a company times its latest price per share. This figure represents a company's size, which indicates various characteristics, including price stability and risk, in which investors could be interested.

Year-To-Date Price Change: Change in a stock's daily closing price in the period of time beginning the first day of the current calendar year through to the previous trading day.

# of Analysts: Number of EPS estimates used in calculating the current-quarter consensus. These estimates come from the brokerage analysts tracking this stock. However, the number of such analysts tracking this stock may not match the number of estimates, as all brokerage analysts may not come up with an estimate or provide it to us.

Beta: A measure of risk commonly used to compare the volatility of a stock to the overall market. The S&P 500 Index is the base for calculating beta and carries a value of 1. A stock with beta below 1 is less risky than the market as a whole. And a stock with beta above 1 is riskier.

Dividend: The portion of earnings a company is expected to distribute to its common shareholders in the next 12 months for each share they own. Dividends are usually paid quarterly. Dividend payments reflect positively on a company and help maintain investors' trust. Investors typically find dividend-paying stocks appealing because the dividend adds to any market price appreciation to result in higher return on investment (ROI). Moreover, a steady or increasing dividend payment provides investors a cushion in a down market.

Dividend Yield: The ratio of a company's annual dividend to its share price. The annual dividend used in the ratio is calculated based on the mostrecent dividend paid by the company. Dividend yield is an estimate of the dividend-only return from a stock in the next 12 months. Since dividend itself doesn’t change frequently, dividend yield usually changes with a stock’s price movement. As a result, often an unusually high dividend yield is a result of weak stock price.

S&P 500 Index: The Standard & Poor's 500 (S&P 500) Index is an unmanaged group of securities considered to be representative of the stock market in general. It is a market-capitalization-weighted index of stocks of the 500 largest U.S. companies. Each stock’s weight in the index is proportionate to its market value.

Industry: One of the 250+ groups that Zacks classifies all stocks into based on the nature of business. These groups are termed as expanded (aka "X") industries and map to their respective (economic) sectors; Zacks has 16 sectors.

Zacks Industry Rank: The Zacks Industry Rank is determined by calculating the average Zacks Rank for all stocks in the industry and then assigning an ordinal rank to it. For example, an industry with an average Zacks Rank of 1.6 is better than an industry with an average Zacks Rank of 2.3. So, the industry with the better average Zacks Rank would get a better Zacks Industry Rank. If an industry has the best average Zacks Rank, it would be considered the top industry (1 out of 250+), which would place it at the top 1% of Zacks-ranked industries. Studies have shown that roughly half of a stock's price movement can be attributed to the industry group it belongs to. In fact, the top 50% of Zacks-ranked industries outperforms the bottom 50% by a factor of more than 2 to 1.

Last EPS Surprise: The percentage deviation of a company's last reported earnings per share from the Zacks Consensus Estimate. Companies with a positive earnings surprise are more likely to surprise again in the future (or miss again if they recently missed).

Last Sales Surprise: The percentage deviation of a company's last reported sales from the Zacks Consensus Estimate.

Expected Report Date: This is an estimated date of a company's next earnings release. The information originated or gathered by Zacks Investment Research from its information providers or publicly available sources is the basis of this estimate.

Earnings ESP: The Zacks Earnings ESP compares the Most Accurate Estimate to the Zacks Consensus Estimate for the yet-to-be reported quarter. The Most Accurate Estimate is the most recent version of the Zacks Consensus EPS Estimate. The idea here is that analysts revising their estimates closer to an earnings release have the latest information, which could potentially be more accurate than what they and others contributing to the consensus had predicted earlier. Thus, a positive or negative Earnings ESP reading theoretically indicates the likely deviation of the actual earnings from the consensus estimate. However, the model's predictive power is significant for positive ESP readings only. A positive Earnings ESP is a strong predictor of an earnings beat, particularly when combined with a Zacks Rank #1 (Strong Buy), #2 (Buy) or #3 (Hold). Our research shows that stocks with this combination produce a positive surprise nearly 70% of the time.

Periods:

TTM: Trailing 12 months. Using TTM figures is an effective way of analyzing the most-recent financial data in an annualized format that helps neutralize the effects of seasonality and other quarter-to-quarter variation.

F1: Current fiscal year. This period is used to analyze the estimates for the ongoing full fiscal year.

F2: Next fiscal year. This period is used to analyze the estimates for the next full fiscal year.

F12M: Forward 12 months. Using F12M figures is an effective way of analyzing the near-term (the following four unreported quarters) estimates in an annualized manner. Instead of typically representing estimates for the full fiscal year, which may not represent the nitty-gritty of each quarter, F12M figures suggest an all-inclusive annualized estimate for the following four quarters. The annualization helps neutralize the potential effects of seasonality and other quarter-to-quarter variations.

P/E Ratio: The price-to-earnings ratio measures a company's current market price per share relative to its earnings per share (EPS). Usually, the trailing-12-month (TTM) EPS, current-fiscal-year (F1) EPS estimate, or forward-12-month (F12M) EPS estimate is used as the denominator. In essence, this ratio shows what the market is willing to pay today for each dollar of EPS. In other words, this ratio gives a sense of what the relative value of the company is at the already reported level of earnings or at a future level of earnings.

It is one of the most widely-used multiples for determining the value of a company and helps comparing its valuation with that of a competitor, the industry group or a benchmark.

PEG Ratio: The price/earnings to growth ratio is a stock's P/E ratio using current fiscal year (F1) EPS estimate divided by its expected EPS growth rate over the coming 3 to 5 years. This ratio essentially determines a stock's value by factoring in the company's expected earnings growth and is thus believed to provide a more complete picture than just the P/E ratio, particularly for faster-growing companies.

P/S Ratio: The price-to-sales ratio is calculated as a company's current price per share divided by trailing 12 months (TTM) sales or revenues per share. This ratio shows what the market is willing to pay today for each dollar of TTM sales per share. The P/S ratio is at times the only valuation metric when the company has yet to become profitable.

Cash/Price Ratio: The cash-to-price ratio or Cash Yield is calculated as cash and marketable securities per share divided by the company's current share price. Like the earnings yield, which shows the anticipated yield (or return) on a stock from earnings for each dollar invested, the cash yield does the same, with cash being the source of return instead of earnings. For example, a cash/price ratio of 0.08 suggests a return of 8% or 8 cents for every $1 investment.

EV/EBITDA Ratio: The EV/EBITDA ratio, also known as Enterprise Multiple, is calculated as a company's enterprise value (market capitalization + value of total long-term debt + book value of preferred shares - cash and marketable securities) divided by EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization). Usually, trailing-12-month (TTM) or forward-12-month (F12M) EBITDA is used as the denominator.

EV/Sales Ratio: The enterprise value-to-sales ratio is calculated as a company's enterprise value (market capitalization + value of total long-term debt + book value of preferred shares - cash and marketable securities) divided by annual sales. It is an expansion of the P/S valuation, which uses market value instead of enterprise value. The EV/Sales ratio is perceived as more accurate than P/S, in part, because the market capitalization does not take a company's debt into account when valuing it.

EV/CF Ratio: The enterprise value-to-cash flow ratio is calculated as a company's enterprise value (market capitalization + value of total long-term debt + book value of preferred shares - cash and marketable securities) divided by the trailing-12-month (TTM) operating cash flow. It's a measure of how long it would take to buy the entire business if you were able to use all the company's operating cash flow.

The EV/CF ratio is perceived as more accurate than the P/CF ratio, in part, because the market price does not take a company's debt into account when valuing it.

EV/FCF Ratio: The enterprise value-to-free cash flow metric compares a company's enterprise value to its trailing-12-month (TTM) free cash flow (FCF). This metric is very similar to the EV/CF ratio, but is considered a more exact measure owing to the fact that it uses free cash flow, which subtracts capital expenditures (CAPEX) from a company's total operating cash flow, thereby reflecting the actual cash flow available for funding growth activities and payments to shareholders.

P/EBITDA Ratio: The P/EBITDA ratio is calculated as a company's per share market value divided by EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization). This metric is very similar to the EV/EBITDA ratio, but is considered a little less exact measure as it uses market price, which does not take a company's debt into account. However, since EBITDA is often considered a proxy for cash income, the metric is used as a measure of what the market is willing to pay today for each dollar of the company’s cash profitability in the trailing 12 months (TTM) or forward 12 months (F12M).

P/B Ratio: The price-to-book ratio is calculated as a company's current price per share divided by its book value (total assets – liabilities – preferred stocks) per share. In short, the book value is how much a company is worth. In other words, it reflects the total value of a company's assets that its common shareholders would receive if it were to be liquidated. So, the P/B ratio indicates whether you're paying higher or lower than what would remain if the company went bankrupt immediately. Investors typically use this metric to determine how a company's stock price stacks up to its intrinsic value.

P/TB Ratio: The price-to-tangible-book value ratio is calculated as a the per share market value of a company divided by the value of its tangible assets (total assets – liabilities – preferred stocks – intangible assets) per share. Tangible book value is the same thing as book value except it excludes the value of intangible assets to get a step closer to the baseline value of the company.

P/CF Ratio: The price-to-cash flow ratio measures a company’s per share market price relative to its trailing-12-month (TTM) operating cash flow per share. This metric is used to determine whether a company is undervalued or overvalued relative to another stock, industry or sector. And like the P/E ratio, a lower number is typically considered better from the value perspective.

One of the reasons why P/CF ratio is often preferred over P/E ratio is the fact that operating cash flow adds back non-cash expenses such as depreciation and amortization to net income. This feature helps valuing stocks that have positive cash flow but are not profitable because of large noncash charges.

P/FCF Ratio: The price-to-free cash flow ratio is an extension of P/CF ratio, which uses trailing-12-month (TTM) free cash flow per share instead of operating cash flow per share. This metric is considered a more exact measure than P/CF ratio, as free cash flow subtracts capital expenditures (CAPEX) from a company's total operating cash flow, thereby reflecting the actual cash flow available for funding activities that generate additional revenues.

Earnings Yield: The earnings yield is calculated as current fiscal year (F1) EPS estimate divided by the company’s current share price. The ratio, which is the inverse of the P/E ratio, measures the anticipated yield (or return) from earnings for each dollar invested in a stock today.

For example, earnings yield for a stock, which is trading at $35 and expected to earn $3 per share in the current fiscal year (F1), would be 0.0857 (3/35 = 0.0857) or 8.57%. In other words, for $1 invested in the stock today, the yield from earnings is anticipated to be 8.57 cents.

Investors most commonly compare the earnings yield of a stock to that of a broad market index (such as the S&P 500) and prevailing interest rates, such as the current 10-year Treasury yield. Since bonds and stocks compete for investors’ dollars, stock investors typically demand a higher yield for the extra risk they assume compared to investors of U.S. Treasury-backed securities that offer virtually risk-free returns. This additional return is referred to as the risk premium.

Debt/Equity Ratio: The debt-to-equity ratio is calculated as a company's total liabilities divided by its shareholder equity. This metric is used to gauge a company's financial leverage. In other words, it is a measure of the degree to which a company is financing its operations through debt versus its own funds. The higher the ratio, the higher the risk for shareholders.

However, this ratio is difficult to compare across industry groups where ideal amounts of debt vary. Some businesses are more capital intensive than others and typically require higher debt to finance their operations. So, a company's debt-to-equity ratio should be compared with other companies in the same industry.

Cash Flow ($/share): Cash flow per share is calculated as operating cash flow (after-tax earnings + depreciation + other non-cash charges) divided by common shares outstanding. It is used by many investors as a measure of a company's financial strength. Since cash flow per share takes into consideration a company's ability to generate cash by adding back non-cash expenses, it is regarded by some as a more accurate measure of a company's financial situation than earnings per share, which could be artificially deflated.

Current Ratio: The current ratio or liquidity ratio is a company's current assets divided by its current liabilities. It measures a company's ability to pay short-term obligations. A current ratio that is in line with the industry average or slightly higher is generally considered acceptable. A current ratio that is lower than the industry average would indicate a higher risk of distress or default. A higher number is usually better. However, a very high current ratio compared to the industry average could be an indication of inefficient use of assets by management.

Debt/Capital Ratio: Debt-to-capital ratio is a company's total debt (interest-bearing debt + both short- and long-term liabilities) divided its total capital (interest-bearing debt + shareholders' equity). It is a measure of a company's financial leverage. All else being equal, the higher the debt-to-capital ratio, the riskier the stock.

However, this ratio can vary widely from industry to industry, the ideal amount of required debt being different. Some businesses are more capital intensive than others and typically require higher debt to finance their operations. So, a company's debt-to-capital ratio should be compared with the same for its industry.

Net Margin: Net margin is calculated as net income divided by sales. It shows how much of each dollar in sales generated by a company translates into profit. For example, if a company's net margin is 15%, its net income is 15 cents for every $1 of sales it makes.

A change in margin can reflect either a change in business conditions, or a company's cost controls, or both. If a company's expenses are growing faster than sales, its net margin will decline. However, different net margin rates are considered good for different industries, so it's better to compare net margin rates of companies in the same industry group.

Return on Equity: Return on equity (ROE) is calculated as trailing-12-month net income divided by trailing-12-month average shareholder equity (including reinvested earnings). This metric is considered a measure of how effectively management is using a company's assets to generate profits. For example, if a company's ROE is 10%, it creates 10 cents profits for every $1 shareholder equity, which is basically the company's assets minus debt. A company's ROE deemed good or bad depends on what's normal for its peers or industry group.

Sales/Assets Ratio: The sales-to-assets ratio or asset utilization ratio or asset turnover ratio is calculated as a company's annual sales divided by average assets (average of assets at the beginning of the year and at the year's end). This metric helps investors understand how effectively a company is using its assets to generate sales. For example, a sales-to-assets ratio of 2.5 indicates that the company generated $2.50 in sales for every $1 of assets on its books.

The higher the sales-to-assets ratio, the better the company is performing. However, similar to many other ratios, the asset turnover ratio tends to be higher for companies in certain industries/sectors than in others. So, a company's sales-to-assets ratio should be compared with the same for its industry/sector.

Historical EPS Growth (3-5 Years): This is the average annual (trailing-12-month) EPS growth rate over the last 3-5 years. This metric helps investors see how a company's EPS has grown from a long-term perspective.

Note: There are many factors that can influence short-term numbers — a recession will reduce this number, while a recovery will inflate it. The longterm perspective helps smooth out short-term events.

Projected EPS Growth (F1/F0): This is the estimated EPS growth rate for the current financial year. It is calculated as the consensus estimate for the current fiscal year (F1) divided by the reported EPS for the last completed fiscal year (F0).

Current Cash Flow Growth: It measures the latest year-over-year change in operating cash flow. Cash flow growth tells an investor how quickly a company is generating inflows of cash from operations. A positive change in the cash flow is desired and shows that more 'cash' is coming in than going out.

Historical Cash Flow Growth (3-5 Years): This is the annualized change in cash flow over the last 3-5 years. The change in a longer period helps put the current reading into proper perspective. By looking at the rate, rather than the actual dollar value, the comparison across the industry and peers becomes easier.

Projected Sales Growth (F1/F0): This metric looks at the estimated sales growth for the current year. It is calculated as sales estimate for the current fiscal year (F1) divided by the reported sales for the last completed fiscal year (F0).

Like EPS growth, a higher rate is better for sales growth. A look at a company's projected sales growth instantly tells you what the outlook is for their products and services. However, different sales growth rates are considered good for different industries, so it's better to compare sales growth rates of companies in the same industry group.

EPS F1 Estimate 1-Week Change: The percentage change in the Zacks Consensus EPS estimate for the current fiscal year over the past week. The change in a company's consensus EPS estimate (or earnings estimate revision) has proven to be strongly correlated with the near-term price movement of its shares. It is an integral part of the Zacks Rank.

If a stock's consensus EPS estimate is $1.10 now versus $1.00 a week ago, that will be reflected as a 10% upward revision. If, on the other hand, it went from $1.00 to 90 cents, that would be a 10% downward revision.

EPS F1 Estimate 4-Week Change: The percentage change in the Zacks Consensus EPS estimate for the current fiscal year over the past four weeks.

A stock's earnings estimate revision in a 1-week period is important. But it's more meaningful to look at the longer-term revision. And, of course, the 4-week change helps put the 1-week change into proper perspective.

EPS F1 Estimate 12-Week Change: The percentage change in the Zacks Consensus EPS estimate for the current fiscal year over the past 12 weeks.

This metric essentially shows how the consensus EPS estimate has changed over a period longer than 1 week or 4 weeks.

EPS Q1 Estimate Monthly Change: The percentage change in the Zacks Consensus EPS estimate for the current fiscal quarter over the past four weeks.

While the revision in consensus EPS estimate for the current fiscal year is strongly correlated with the near-term price movement of its shares, the estimate revision for the current fiscal quarter is an important metric as well, especially over the short term, and particularly as a stock approaches its earnings date. If a stock's Q1 EPS estimate decreases ahead of its earnings release, it's usually a negative sign, whereas an increase is a positive sign.