

Regeneron Pharma (REGN)

\$599.88 (As of 10/08/20)

Price Target (6-12 Months): **\$630.00**

Long Term: 6-12 Months

Zacks Recommendation:

Neutral

(Since: 04/06/20)

Prior Recommendation: Outperform

Short Term: 1-3 Months

Zacks Rank: (1-5)

3-Hold

Zacks Style Scores:

VGM:A

Value: B

Growth: B

Momentum: B

Summary

Regeneron's performance has been impressive in the year so far, driven by the label expansion of Eylea, and strong Dupixent and Libtayo sales. Particularly, Dupixent sales have been strong for the approved indications. The company's efforts to expand the label of its approved drugs and concurrently develop its pipeline are encouraging. Its efforts to develop REGN-COV2 are laudable as well and a positive outcome should drive growth, given the need. Shares have outperformed the industry in the past year. However, Eylea's performance was disappointing in the first half. Moreover, the drug is likely to face stiff competition from the recently-approved therapies. Further, even though Dupixent saw a solid uptake, Regeneron is dependent on Eylea for a major chunk of its revenues. Additionally, pipeline setbacks are concerning.

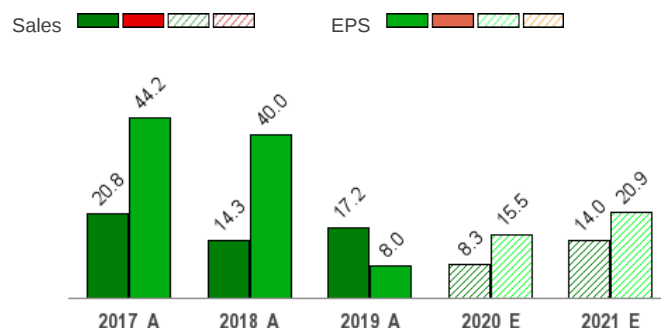
Price, Consensus & Surprise



Data Overview

52-Week High-Low	\$664.64 - \$288.98
20-Day Average Volume (Shares)	1,203,242
Market Cap	\$63.8 B
Year-To-Date Price Change	59.8%
Beta	0.51
Dividend / Dividend Yield	\$0.00 / 0.0%
Industry	Medical - Biomedical and Genetics
Zacks Industry Rank	Bottom 27% (185 out of 252)

Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)



Last EPS Surprise	14.9%
Last Sales Surprise	9.1%
EPS F1 Estimate 4-Week Change	0.0%
Expected Report Date	11/05/2020
Earnings ESP	-6.6%
P/E TTM	21.5
P/E F1	21.1
PEG F1	1.1
P/S TTM	8.0

Sales Estimates (millions of \$)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	2,142 E	2,197 E	2,295 E	2,406 E	9,708 E
2020	1,828 A	1,952 A	2,120 E	2,225 E	8,519 E
2019	1,712 A	1,934 A	2,048 A	2,170 A	7,863 A

EPS Estimates

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	\$7.37 E	\$8.06 E	\$8.26 E	\$8.79 E	\$34.45 E
2020	\$6.60 A	\$7.16 A	\$7.38 E	\$7.49 E	\$28.49 E
2019	\$4.45 A	\$6.02 A	\$6.67 A	\$7.50 A	\$24.67 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 10/08/2020. The reports text is as of 10/09/2020.

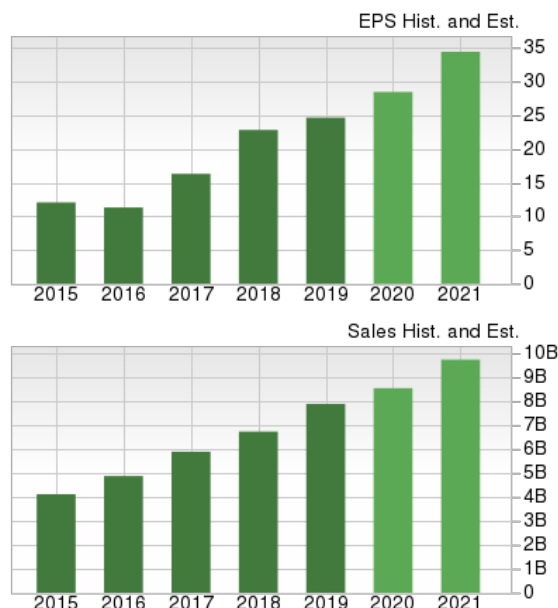
Overview

Tarrytown, NY-based Regeneron is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of treatments targeting serious medical conditions. The company's portfolio boasts about seven marketed drugs — Eylea (for several eye diseases), Dupixent (asthma, atopic dermatitis, and chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyposis), Praluent (heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia), Kevzara (moderately-to-severely active rheumatoid arthritis), Libtayo (metastatic or locally advanced cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma), Arcalyst and Zaltrap.

While Regeneron has co-developed Eylea with Bayer's HealthCare unit, Praluent was co-developed with Sanofi. Recently, the company restructured its agreement with Sanofi for the development of two candidates. In the United States, Regeneron is now solely responsible for the development and commercialization of Praluent and records net product sales.

Regeneron has been actively collaborating with other companies to fortify its portfolio. It collaborated with Bayer for the joint development and commercialization of co-formulated combinations of Eylea, rinucumab and nesvacumab for the treatment of ocular diseases or disorders outside the United States. Also, Regeneron has an immunoncology agreement with Sanofi. In September 2016, Regeneron and Teva announced a global agreement for the development and commercialization of the former's experimental nerve growth factor (NGF) antibody, fasinumab. Regeneron recently initiated an underwritten public secondary offering of its common stock, whereby its long-standing partner Sanofi will offload its stake in the former. Sanofi held approximately 23.2 million shares and plans to sell approximately 12.8 million. Regeneron will also repurchase approximately \$5 billion of common stock directly from Sanofi, following the close of the secondary offering.

Regeneron's revenues comprise collaboration revenues, net product sales and technology licensing and other revenues. Total revenues of \$7.9 billion in 2019 were up 17% from that in 2018. Eylea sales came in at \$4.6 billion in the United States.



Source: Zacks Investment Research

Reasons To Buy:

- ▲ **Share Price Performance:** Regeneron's stock has outperformed the industry in the past year. Price has inflated in the year so far as the company is one of the few biotech firms working on an antibody cocktail for the coronavirus as more and more cases are being reported on a daily basis.
- ▲ **Impressive Performance by Eylea:** Regeneron's key growth driver, Eylea, continues to generate revenues for the company. Eylea is approved in the United States, EU, Japan and other countries for the treatment of neovascular age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD), diabetic macular edema (DME), and macular edema following retinal vein occlusion that includes macular edema following central retinal vein occlusion and macular edema following branch retinal vein occlusion. Growth in the U.S. markets is being driven by demographic trends with an aging population and an overall increase in the prevalence of diabetes. Meanwhile, Regeneron is working on expanding the drug's label into additional indications. The FDA recently approved a 12-week dosing interval of Eylea injection in patients with wet AMD based on physician's assessment. Consequently, it is now the only anti-VEGF drug for the treatment of wet AMD that offers the flexibility to optimally treat patients, regardless of whether they require fixed-interval dosing of 4, 8 or 12 weeks. The FDA also approved the drug for the treatment of diabetic retinopathy on the basis of encouraging results from the phase III PANORAMA study. The FDA has also approved Eylea Injection in a prefilled syringe. The company has also initiated a phase II study exploring less frequent dosing intervals using a high-dose formulation in wet AMD. A phase III study in retinopathy of prematurity was initiated. Label expansion into additional indications would give Eylea access to a higher patient population and increase its commercial potential.
- ▲ **Strong Uptake of Dupixent:** The approval of Dupixent injection for the treatment of adults with moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis (AD) was a significant boost for the company. Per the company, this is the first and only biologic medicine approved for the treatment of adults suffering from AD. The uptake has been strong for both AD and asthma. The drug is now annualizing more than \$1 billion in net product sales in the United States alone. The drug was approved in Europe as well. Continued label expansion of the drug has boosted sales further. The FDA approved the drug as an add-on maintenance therapy in patients aged 12 years or older with moderate-to-severe asthma with an eosinophilic phenotype or oral corticosteroid-dependent asthma. Dupixent is also approved in the United States for adolescent patients aged 12-17 years with moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis. The FDA also approved the drug as an add-on maintenance treatment for adults with inadequately-controlled severe chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps (CRSwNP). The drug was also approved in Europe for the same. Regeneron is also working to expand Dupixent's label. The FDA recently approved Dupixent for the indication of moderate-to-severe AD in children aged 6-11 years. In May 2020, Regeneron and Sanofi announced positive results from Part A of the phase III study in patients 12 years and older with eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE). The trial met both of its co-primary endpoints, as well as all key secondary endpoints. A phase III study in pediatric patients with EoE was initiated. In June 2020, the FDA approved a 300 mg single-dose pre-filled pen for Dupixent. An ongoing phase III study in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) patients with evidence of Type 2 inflammation met a blinded, stringent early efficacy threshold for continuation. Based on this result, a second confirmatory phase III study in COPD was initiated.

Dupixent has also been approved for various indications in Europe — add-on maintenance treatment for severe asthma with type 2 inflammation and add-on maintenance treatment for severe asthma. The EC also approved the drug for use in adolescents aged 12-17 years with moderate-to-severe AD, who are candidates for systemic therapy. The drug is also being evaluated for the chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) indication.
- ▲ **New Drug Approvals To Boost Sales:** We are impressed by Regeneron's efforts to bring additional products to the market following its success with Eylea. Kevzara (sarilumab), an anti-interleukin (IL)-6 receptor monoclonal antibody was approved in the United States for the treatment of adult patients with moderate to severely active rheumatoid arthritis, who have an inadequate response to or intolerance to one or more biologic or non-biologic Disease-Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drugs. In September 2018, the FDA approved Libtayo for the treatment of patients with metastatic or locally advanced cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma (CSCC) who are not candidates for curative surgery or curative radiation. The initial uptake of the drug is strong and Regeneron is working to expand its label further which should further boost sales. It is also being developed for non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). The primary endpoint was met in the phase III study of Libtayo as monotherapy in first-line NSCLC. Libtayo also demonstrated clinically-meaningful and durable responses in a pivotal, single-arm, open-label study in patients with advanced basal cell carcinoma. A possible approval will be a significant boost, given the market potential.
- ▲ **Developing Treatments For Coronavirus:** Regeneron's investigational two-antibody "cocktail" for the treatment and prevention of COVID-19 shows promise and investors are banking on the successful development of the candidate as it will generate a new stream of revenues for the company, given the widespread outbreak. The company recently announced encouraging first data from a descriptive analysis of a phase I/II/III trial of REGN-COV2, which showed that the candidate reduced viral load and the time to alleviate symptoms in non-hospitalized patients suffering from COVID-19. REGN-COV2 also showed positive trends in reducing medical visits. In addition, REGN-COV2 is currently being studied in a phase II/III clinical study for the treatment of COVID-19 in hospitalized patients, the phase III open-label RECOVERY study of hospitalized patients in the U.K. and a phase III study for the prevention of COVID-19 in household contacts of infected individuals. Regeneron submitted a request to the FDA for an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for its experimental COVID-19 treatment, REGN-COV2.
- ▲ **Pipeline Looks Promising:** Regeneron has a deep pipeline including fully human monoclonal antibodies generated using the Veloclimune technology. Promising candidates in the pipeline include fasinumab (osteoarthritis pain and phase III for chronic low back pain), and evinacumab (homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia and severe forms of hyperlipidemia and HoFH). The FDA accepted for Priority Review the Biologics License Application (BLA) for evinacumab as an adjunct to other lipid-lowering therapies in patients with homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH). In December 2019, Regeneron announced positive top-line results on pozelimab from a phase II study in paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH). Meanwhile, a randomized, controlled trial evaluating four investigational therapies for the

Regeneron's Eylea and Dupixent have been performing well. Label expansion into additional indications should further increase the commercial potential of the drugs.

Ebola virus infection was stopped early because REGN-EB3 was superior to ZMapp (the control arm of the trial since it was considered standard-of-care) in preventing death. The successful development and commercialization of these candidates will be a significant boost for the company.

- ▲ **Deals and Collaborations:** We are encouraged by Regeneron's strategy of signing deals to boost its portfolio and pipeline. The company is collaborating with Bayer for the global development and commercialization of Eylea outside the United States. Bayer markets and records revenue on sales of Eylea outside the United States, and in countries other than Japan, the companies share profits and losses equally from Eylea's sales. Regeneron has a global strategic collaboration with Sanofi for the discovery, development and commercialization of fully human monoclonal antibodies. Under the agreement, Regeneron has exercised the option to co-promote Praluent, Dupixent and Kevzara in the United States. While profits and losses on sales within the United States will be shared equally, Regeneron is entitled to receive sales milestone payments.

Moreover, Regeneron expanded its agreement with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS") to develop treatments for the coronavirus, named 2019-nCoV.

The company also collaborated with Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc. to discover, develop and commercialize new RNA interference (RNAi) therapeutics for a broad range of diseases by addressing disease targets expressed in the eye and central nervous system (CNS), in addition to a select number of targets expressed in the liver. The collaboration with Alnylam will give Regeneron an option to have a pipeline based on RNAi technology. The company recently restructured its agreement with Sanofi for the development of two candidates. In September 2016, Regeneron and Teva struck a collaboration agreement for the development and commercialization of fasinumab globally. The deal saw Regeneron receiving an upfront payment of \$250 million. Regeneron is further eligible to receive development and regulatory milestone payments, plus additional payments based on net sales.

The company also expanded its existing collaboration with Intellia Therapeutics, Inc. Per the terms, the companies will co-develop potential hemophilia A and B treatments using their jointly-owned targeted transgene insertion capabilities. Regeneron will gain rights to develop products for additional in vivo CRISPR/Cas9-based therapeutic targets.

- ▲ **Praluent Holds Long-Term Potential:** Regeneron received a major boost when Praluent became the first PCSK9 inhibitor to be approved (July 2015) in the United States. The drug has also been approved in the EU (September 2015). The FDA has also approved Praluent to reduce the risk of heart attack, stroke and unstable angina requiring hospitalization of adults with an established cardiovascular disease. The going has been good for Praluent after a lousy start.
- ▲ **Favorable Debt Profile:** As of Jun 30, 2020, Regeneron's total debt to total capital ratio stood at 19.7X, which compares favorably with the industry's 50.4X. A lower ratio indicates reduced financial risk and vice versa. The company enjoys a sound cash position with cash, equivalents and marketable securities worth \$5.7 billion and a long-term debt of \$1.5 billion.
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Reasons To Sell:

- ▼ **Overdependence on Eylea:** With Eylea accounting for the majority of revenues, Regeneron relies heavily on the drug for growth. Moreover, it is likely to face stiff competition from Novartis' Beovu. Sub-par performance of the product will hurt the stock as Eylea is Regeneron's key growth driver.
- ▼ **Pipeline Setbacks:** Regeneron is no stranger to pipeline setbacks and has in fact suffered a string of pipeline setbacks. In Sep 2016, Regeneron reported disappointing top-line data from a phase II study (CAPELLA) evaluating Eylea, in combination with rinucumab, in patients with wet AMD. In Oct 2016, Regeneron and Sanofi suffered a regulatory setback with the FDA issuing a complete response letter (CRL) for sarilumab. Similar setbacks will weigh on the company's shares.
- ▼ **Competition May Affect Sales:** Regeneron's key product, Eylea, faces competition from other drugs like Novartis/Roche's Lucentis and Roche's Avastin (off-label). Competitors are also developing eye-drop formulations, oral therapies and gene/cell therapies for various indications that, if approved, may weigh on Eylea sales in the future. Although Praluent is the first PCSK9 drug for hypercholesterolemia to get FDA approval, Amgen's Repatha is also approved in the United States, the EU and Japan. Dupixent faces competition from Eucrisa, Xolair and Fasenna, among others. Kevzara faces competition from Actemra and Orencia, among others.
- ▼ **Praluent Sales Disappointing:** Prospects of PCSK9 inhibitors, a new class of cholesterol-lowering treatments with blockbuster potential, gained instant popularity even before hitting the market. However, sales of Praluent have failed to impress as the drug is facing significant payer utilization management restrictions in the United States. and limited market access in Europe, which is resulting in a low volume of prescriptions being dispensed.

Regeneron depends heavily on Eylea for sales growth. Pipeline setbacks are a concern too.

Last Earnings Report

Regeneron's Q2 Earnings & Sales Surpass Estimates

Regeneron reported earnings of \$7.16 per share in the second quarter, comfortably beating the Zacks Consensus Estimate of \$6.23 and increasing from \$6.02 in the year-ago quarter.

Total revenues in the reported quarter increased 24% year over year to \$1.9 billion and comfortably beat the Zacks Consensus Estimate of \$1.8 billion. The year-over-year growth was driven by strong Dupixent sales.

Quarter Ending 06/2020

Report Date	Aug 05, 2020
Sales Surprise	9.05%
EPS Surprise	14.93%
Quarterly EPS	7.16
Annual EPS (TTM)	27.93

Quarterly Highlights

Net product sales increased to \$1.22 billion in the quarter under review, up from \$1.2 billion in the year-ago quarter. Lead drug Eylea's sales in the United States were \$1.114 billion compared with \$1.160 billion in the year-ago quarter. Sales in the United States were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Total revenues also included Sanofi and Bayer's collaboration revenues of \$513 million compared with \$353 million in the year-earlier quarter. The increase was primarily owing to higher net product sales of Dupixent.

Notably, Regeneron records net product sales of Libtayo in the United States. Sanofi records net product sales of Libtayo outside the country and global net product sales of Dupixent, Kevzara and Zaltrap. Regeneron records its share of profits/losses in connection with sales of Libtayo outside the United States, and global sales of Dupixent and Kevzara, within collaboration revenues.

Dupixent's sales summed \$945 million, up from \$557.3 million in the year-ago quarter. Kevzara recorded sales of \$68.3 million, up from \$58.5 million in the year-earlier quarter.

Praluent's global net sales totaled \$86.6 million in the reported quarter, up from \$73.7 million in the prior-year quarter.

Libtayo sales in the quarter totaled \$80 million, up from \$40.8 million in the prior-year quarter.

R&D expenses increased to \$580 million from \$426 million, while SG&A expenses grew to \$301 million during the quarter from \$252 million in the year-ago quarter.

COVID-19 Update

Regeneron initiated studies on REGN-COV2, a novel investigational antibody "cocktail" treatment designed to prevent and treat the SARS-CoV-2 virus. A phase III study to evaluate REGN-COV2's ability to prevent infection among uninfected people who have had close exposure to a COVID-19 patient (such as the patient's housemate) was initiated following review of the REGN-COV2 phase I safety results by the Independent Data Monitoring Committee (IDMC). The study is being run jointly with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). In addition, REGN-COV2 moved into the phase II/III portion of two adaptive phase I/II/III studies testing the cocktail's ability to treat hospitalized and non-hospitalized patients with COVID-19. Regeneron plans to report initial virology and biomarker results from the REGN-COV2 treatment trials in September 2020.

Regeneron and partner Sanofi reported that the U.S phase III study of Kevzara 400 mg in COVID-19 patients requiring mechanical ventilation, led by the former, did not meet its primary and key secondary endpoints. Based on the results, the U.S.-based trial has been stopped.

Pipeline Update

Phase III studies evaluating frequent dosing intervals, using a high-dose formulation of Eylea in neovascular age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD) and diabetic macular edema (DME), were initiated.

In May 2020, the FDA approved Dupixent as the first biologic medicine for children aged 6 to 11 years with moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis. Results from Part A of the phase III studies in patients 12 years and older with eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) were also announced. The study met both co-primary endpoints as well as all key secondary endpoints. A late-stage study in pediatric patients with EoE was initiated.

In June, the FDA approved a 300-mg, single-dose, pre-filled pen for Dupixent.

Recent News

EUA Request for Coronavirus Treatment – Oct 7

Regeneron submitted a request to the FDA for an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for its experimental COVID-19 treatment, REGN-COV2. REGN-COV2 is a combination of two monoclonal antibodies (REGN10933 and REGN10987) and was designed specifically to block the infectivity of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. It is being evaluated for both treatment and prevention of COVID-19.

Regeneron's Antibody Taken by President – Oct 5

Regeneron confirmed the White House statement that it provided a single 8 gram dose of its experimental COVID-19 therapy REGNCOV2 to be administered to the president.

Encouraging Data on REGN-COV2 – Sep 29

Regeneron announced that showed REGN-COV2 reduced viral load and the time to alleviate symptoms in non-hospitalized patients suffering from COVID-19. REGN-COV2 also showed positive trends in reducing medical visits.

REGN-COV2 Selected for RECOVERY Study – Sep 14

Regeneron and the University of Oxford announced that RECOVERY (Randomised Evaluation of COVid-19 tHERapY) will evaluate the former's investigational anti-viral antibody cocktail, REGN-COV2.

RECOVERY is one of the world's largest studies to find effective COVID-19 treatments. The trial is being coordinated by researchers at the University of Oxford, which acts as the sponsor for the research.

REGN-COV2 is the first specifically designed COVID-19 therapy being evaluated by RECOVERY. The open-label phase III study will assess the impact of adding REGN-COV2 to the usual standard-of-care versus only standard-of-care. Both safety and efficacy of the candidate will be tested. Other endpoints include the impact on hospital stay and the need for ventilation. Approximately 2,000 patients will be randomly allocated to receive REGN-COV2 plus usual standard-of-care, and results will be compared with at least 2,000 patients who receive standard-of-care alone.

Regeneron, Roche Collaborate For COVID-19 – Aug 19

Regeneron announced that it has collaborated with Swiss pharma giant Roche to develop, manufacture and distribute REGN-COV2, its experimental dual antibody cocktail, which is under mid-to-late-stage evaluation for the prevention and treatment of COVID-19. Per the agreement, Regeneron will be responsible for distributing REGN-COV2 in the United States while Roche will lead the distribution in the ex-U.S. markets. The alliance is expected to increase the supply of REGN-COV2 by at least three-and-half times with the potential of a further expansion.

REGN-COV2 is currently being evaluated in two phase II/III studies for the treatment of COVID-19 and in a phase III study for the prevention of COVID-19 in household contacts of infected individuals. Both Regeneron and Roche will bear its own distribution expenses in their respective territories. Notably, the antibody cocktail approach may have long-term some utility for the elderly and immuno-compromised patients who often do not respond well to vaccines.

BLA for Cholesterol Drug Accepted by the FDA – Aug 12

Regeneron announced that the FDA has accepted for Priority Review a Biologics License Application (BLA) for pipeline candidate, evinacumab.

The company is seeking FDA approval for the candidate as an adjunct to other lipid-lowering therapies in patients with homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH).

The agency has set a target action date of Feb 11, 2021.

The BLA was supported by positive results from a late-stage study, which evaluated the efficacy and safety of evinacumab in patients with HoFH.

Evinacumab is an investigational fully-human monoclonal antibody that binds to and blocks the function of ANGPTL3 and currently being studied in patients with HoFH (ongoing phase III extension trial), refractory hypercholesterolemia (phase II) and severe hypertriglyceridemia (phase II).

Meanwhile, regulatory submissions for evinacumab are also progressing in the European Union. In June 2020, the European Medicines Agency's Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) recommended an accelerated assessment for the candidate based on the high unmet medical need and therapeutic innovation demonstrated by the product.

Valuation

Regeneron's shares are up 60.6% in the year-to-date period and 101.9% over the trailing 12-month period. Stocks in the Zacks sub-industry and sector are up 2.2% and 0.4%, respectively in the year-to-date period. Over the past year, the Zacks sub-industry is up 24.3% while the sector is up 14.2%.

The S&P 500 Index is up 7.1% in the year-to-date period and up 17.6% in the past year.

The stock is currently trading at 18.87X forward 12-month earnings per share which compares to 53.64X for the Zacks sub-industry, 22.35X for the Zacks sector and 22.52X for the S&P 500 Index.

Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 60.85X and as low as 13.74X, with a 5-year median of 22.58X. Our Neutral recommendation indicates that the stock will perform in-line with the market. Our \$630.00 price target reflects 19.82X forward 12-month earnings

per share.

The table below shows summary valuation data for REGN

Valuation Multiples -REGN					
		Stock	Sub-Industry	Sector	S&P 500
P/E F12M	Current	18.87	53.64	22.35	22.52
	5-Year High	60.85	65.17	23.12	23.47
	5-Year Low	13.74	21.02	15.87	15.27
	5-Year Median	22.58	38.76	18.99	17.7
P/S F12M	Current	6.84	2.67	2.81	4.14
	5-Year High	12.82	3.27	3.26	4.3
	5-Year Low	3.69	1.94	2.24	3.18
	5-Year Median	6.59	2.67	2.85	3.67
P/B TTM	Current	7.05	3.5	3.89	5.99
	5-Year High	18.53	5.54	5.08	6.2
	5-Year Low	2.87	2.08	2.96	3.75
	5-Year Median	6.61	3.84	4.3	4.89

As of 10/08/2020

Source: Zacks Investment Research

Industry Analysis Zacks Industry Rank: Bottom 27% (185 out of 252)



Top Peers

Company (Ticker)	Rec	Rank
Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (ALXN)	Neutral	3
Amgen Inc. (AMGN)	Neutral	3
BioMarin Pharmaceutical Inc. (BMRN)	Neutral	4
CSL Limited Sponsored ADR (CSLLY)	Neutral	3
Incyte Corporation (INCY)	Neutral	3
SINO PHARMACEUT (SBMFF)	Neutral	2
Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated (VRTX)	Neutral	2
illumina, Inc. (ILMN)	Underperform	4

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

Industry Comparison Industry: Medical - Biomedical And Genetics				Industry Peers		
	REGN	X Industry	S&P 500	ALXN	AMGN	VRTX
Zacks Recommendation (Long Term)	Neutral	-	-	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Zacks Rank (Short Term)	3	-	-	3	3	2
VGM Score	A	-	-	A	A	B
Market Cap	63.82 B	291.53 M	24.20 B	26.99 B	140.62 B	69.94 B
# of Analysts	11	3	14	15	12	12
Dividend Yield	0.00%	0.00%	1.6%	0.00%	2.67%	0.00%
Value Score	B	-	-	A	B	C
Cash/Price	0.05	0.25	0.07	0.12	0.08	0.08
EV/EBITDA	23.00	-4.01	13.53	10.04	12.93	41.67
PEG F1	1.11	1.73	2.90	0.95	2.12	1.33
P/B	7.05	4.18	3.54	2.57	13.19	9.30
P/CF	24.77	18.87	13.37	10.54	12.70	56.35
P/E F1	21.11	27.01	21.94	11.04	15.34	27.62
P/S TTM	7.98	15.75	2.66	4.87	5.79	12.95
Earnings Yield	4.75%	-13.35%	4.31%	9.05%	6.52%	3.62%
Debt/Equity	0.08	0.00	0.70	0.22	3.20	0.07
Cash Flow (\$/share)	24.22	-1.09	6.92	11.68	18.91	4.77
Growth Score	B	-	-	A	B	A
Historical EPS Growth (3-5 Years)	32.23%	19.03%	10.45%	27.70%	9.69%	183.54%
Projected EPS Growth (F1/F0)	15.46%	15.06%	-3.01%	5.94%	5.61%	82.38%
Current Cash Flow Growth	10.30%	11.49%	5.47%	28.27%	-2.47%	52.02%
Historical Cash Flow Growth (3-5 Years)	23.75%	7.03%	8.50%	20.68%	5.06%	31.70%
Current Ratio	2.12	6.07	1.35	4.79	2.18	3.72
Debt/Capital	7.33%	0.00%	42.90%	18.06%	76.20%	6.49%
Net Margin	37.30%	-209.67%	10.28%	15.28%	30.04%	38.51%
Return on Equity	26.71%	-58.27%	14.79%	22.57%	91.98%	28.55%
Sales/Assets	0.54	0.19	0.51	0.33	0.40	0.62
Projected Sales Growth (F1/F0)	8.34%	0.90%	-0.62%	14.86%	8.78%	43.17%
Momentum Score	B	-	-	A	A	C
Daily Price Change	1.38%	0.00%	1.28%	-1.75%	-6.82%	1.02%
1-Week Price Change	-1.61%	0.00%	2.13%	-2.52%	0.65%	-2.75%
4-Week Price Change	9.05%	4.76%	4.49%	16.16%	-0.23%	5.04%
12-Week Price Change	-5.11%	-3.10%	6.74%	12.49%	-5.92%	-7.58%
52-Week Price Change	101.06%	25.18%	6.65%	25.21%	20.84%	57.76%
20-Day Average Volume (Shares)	1,203,242	296,499	2,121,744	2,642,259	2,714,793	1,201,903
EPS F1 Estimate 1-Week Change	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.10%	0.05%	0.00%
EPS F1 Estimate 4-Week Change	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.10%	0.06%	0.00%
EPS F1 Estimate 12-Week Change	19.93%	0.41%	3.47%	2.38%	0.59%	15.01%
EPS Q1 Estimate Monthly Change	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	3.06%	0.00%	0.00%

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	B
Momentum Score	B
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.

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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 medium-term 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 most recent 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.