

Ulta Beauty Inc. (ULTA)

\$192.99 (As of 07/31/20)

Price Target (6-12 Months): \$164.00

Long Term: 6-12 Months	Zacks Recommendation:	Underperform	
	(Since: 07/31/20)		
	Prior Recommendation: Neutral		
Short Term: 1-3 Months	Zacks Rank: (1-5)	5-Strong Sell	
	Zacks Style Scores:	VGM:D	
	Value: C Growth: F	Momentum: C	

Summary

Ulta Beauty has lagged the industry in the past three months. Though the company has re-opened stores in a phased manner, it recently unveiled plans to permanently shut 19 stores, which are expected to be carried out during the second and third quarter of fiscal 2020. Moreover, management now anticipates opening nearly 30 new stores in fiscal 2020, compared with 30-40 store openings expected earlier. These store closures are likely to affect the company's performance. In fact, the pandemic-led temporary store closures dented Ulta Beauty's first-quarter results, wherein earnings and sales fell year over year. We note that Ulta Beauty's makeup category is under pressure due to social distancing and delayed innovation. Nonetheless, its skincare category is well placed. Also, the company is benefiting from its online operations.

Data Overview

52 Week High-Low	\$355.36 - \$124.05
20 Day Average Volume (sh)	963,391
Market Cap	\$10.9 B
YTD Price Change	-23.8%
Beta	1.46
Dividend / Div Yld	\$0.00 / 0.0%
Industry	Retail - Miscellaneous
Zacks Industry Rank	Bottom 27% (185 out of 253)

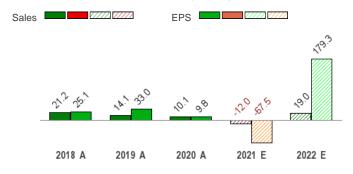
Last EPS Surprise	-354.6%
Last Sales Surprise	-2.2%
EPS F1 Est- 4 week change	-4.3%
Expected Report Date	08/27/2020
Earnings ESP	0.0%
P/E TTM	25.0

P/E TTM	25.0
P/E F1	49.9
PEG F1	2.7
P/S TTM	1.6

Price, Consensus & Surprise



Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)



Sales Estimates (millions of \$)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2022	1,676 E	1,650 E	1,806 E	2,525 E	7,747 E
2021	1,173 A	1,294 E	1,649 E	2,351 E	6,509 E
2020	1,743 A	1,667 A	1,683 A	2,306 A	7,398 A

EPS Estimates

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2022	\$3.50 E	\$2.41 E	\$2.55 E	\$2.21 E	\$10.81 E
2021	-\$1.12 A	\$0.43 E	\$0.21 E	\$1.68 E	\$3.87 E
2020	\$3.08 A	\$2.76 A	\$2.25 A	\$3.83 A	\$11.91 A

^{*}Quarterly figures may not add up to annual.

The data in the charts and tables, including the Zacks Consensus EPS and Sales estimates, is as of 07/31/2020. The reports text is as of 08/03/2020.

Overview

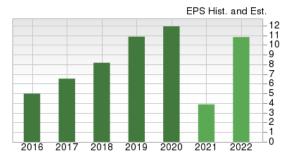
Bolingbrook, IL-based, Ulta Beauty Inc., previously known as Ulta Salon, Cosmetics & Fragrance, Inc., is a leading beauty retailer in the United States. Founded in 1990, the company changed its name to Ulta Beauty in January 2017.

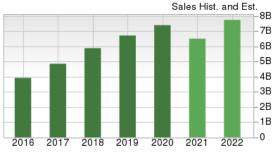
The company offers a wide range of products including cosmetics, fragrance, skincare, hair care, bath and body products, and salon styling tools in stores. It sells more than 25,000 products from about 500 well-established and emerging beauty brands across all categories and price points. We note that the company's skincare category has been standing out in particular for a while now, given consumers' rising consciousness.

Meanwhile, the beauty products retailer also provides private label products comprising Ulta Beauty Collection branded cosmetics, skincare, and bath products. Additionally, the company operates a full-service salon in every store offering hair, skin and brow services. Additionally, it offers products through its Website, ulta.com, as well as mobile applications. The products offered by the company include the prestige and mass beauty brands.

As part of its value proposition, Ulta Beauty provides a range of loyalty programs through its Customer Relationship Management platform. It also offers frequent promotions, coupons, in-store events and gifts. The company also makes use of a range of media platforms to advertise products as well as generate awareness. The company strives to boost

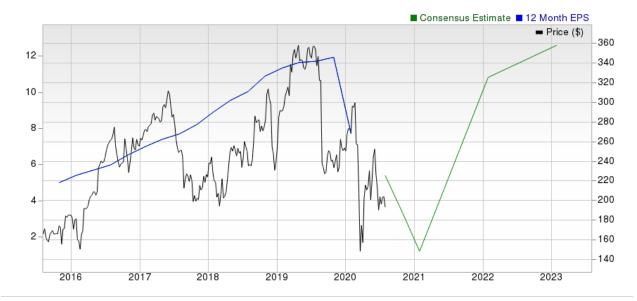
distribution center capabilities to better support store footfall and online demand.





The company has a strong vendor base and holds partnerships with companies such as Estee Lauder, L'Oréal and Shiseido. Ulta Beauty works closely with vendors to provide improved growth platforms for new and existing brands.

The company ended the first quarter of fiscal 2020 with 1,264 stores. In fiscal 2020, the company intends to open 30-40 stores and undertake nearly three relocation projects.



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Reasons To Sell:

Coronavirus-Led Woes Hurt Q1 Results, 19 Stores to Close: Shares of Ulta Beauty have dropped 10.4% in the past three months, against the industry's growth of 22.2%. The company recently provided an update related to its store closures. The company informed that it will permanently shut 19 stores. These closures are expected to be carried out during the second and third quarter of fiscal 2020. Moreover, management now anticipates opening nearly 30 new stores in fiscal 2020. Earlier, the company had envisioned opening 30-40 stores in fiscal 2020. Apart from this, the company posted dismal results for first-quarter fiscal 2020, as both top and bottom lines deteriorated year over year and fell short of the Zacks Consensus Estimate. The quarter started on a solid note with higher comparable store sales (comps), market share gains and growth in the Ultamate Rewards loyalty program until mid-March. However, the coronavirus outbreak and its rising spread considerably harmed operations.

Management stated that it expects challenges in the makeup category to persist in the near term due to increased social distancing, usage of masks and delayed innovations. Also, cost concerns linger.

Net sales of this beauty retailer slumped 32.7% year over year to \$1,173.2 million and missed the Zacks Consensus Estimate of \$1,199 million. Sales were hurt by coronavirus-led store closures. Comparable sales or comps (including stores temporarily closed due to the pandemic and e-commerce sales) plummeted 35.3% against 7% growth recorded in the prior-year quarter. Further, Ulta Beauty posted an adjusted loss of \$1.12 per share against earnings of \$3.08 reported in the year-ago period. The Zacks Consensus Estimate for earnings stood at 44 cents. The dismal performance can be accountable to lower sales and margins.

▼ High SG&A Costs a Concern: Ulta Beauty has been struggling against rising selling, general and administrative expenses (SG&A) expenses for a while. This is a limiting factor for the company's operating margin. In first-quarter fiscal 2020, the company posted an operating loss of \$101.5 million against an operating income of \$237.5 million in the year-ago quarter. Notably, SG&A expenses (as a percentage of sales) escalated from 23.1% to 32.5% on account of a deleverage stemming from lower sales due to COVID-19. Pre-opening expenses grew 9.5% to \$4.6 million. Also, gross margin collapsed from 37% to 25.9% due to fixed store cost deleverage, unfavorable channel mix shifts and deleverage of salon costs due to lower sales.

Apart from this, Ulta Beauty's expenses are usually allocated toward increasing store labor and greater spending on growth initiatives and innovation. Further, higher costs of investments toward digital channels, salon services, infrastructure, personalization efforts, brands and initiatives to enhance customer experience may to result in higher corporate overheads. This might weigh on the operating margin and affect the company's overall profitability.

- ▼ Soft Makeup Trends: The U.S. beauty market has been struggling with soft makeup sales trend, which remains a concern for Ulta Beauty. Makeup has witnessed a number of up and down cycles in the United States. The most recent downside started in 2017 and accelerated in the late 2018 as a result of absence of innovations and newer products in the makeup category. This trend continued through fiscal 2019. In its first-quarter earnings call, management stated that it expects challenges in the makeup category to persist in the near term due to increased social distancing, usage of masks and delayed innovations for this year. In the quarter, the share of makeup sales (as a percentage of sales) contracted 400 bps to 49%.
- ▼ Change in Customer Preferences: One major concern with consumer-driven industries like the cosmetics and apparel is that the trend changes rapidly. Hence, failure to stay up to date on product mix by continually searching for new products and anchoring new supplier agreements may result in becoming obsolete. Further, new trends like "all-natural" among women (who are the primary customers for the cosmetics industry) may reduce the demand for makeup products, resulting in lower sales for these companies.
- ▼ Stiff Competition in the Beauty Realm: Ulta Beauty competes with a diverse group of retailers like department stores, mass merchandisers, specialty retailers, drug stores, high-end and discount salon chains, locally-owned beauty retailers and salons, online retailers as well as pureplay e-commerce companies amongst others. Many competitors have greater financial resources and business strength to capture opportunities in the beauty space. This is likely to pose threats to Ulta Beauty's footing in the industry. Also, the availability of a number of cheaper beauty alternatives is a limiting factor.

Risks

- Strength in Loyalty Program: Ulta Beauty's loyalty program has been a key business driver. Despite the store closures, the company's active members for its Ultamate Rewards loyalty program rose 2% to 33.1 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2020. This can be accountable to the company's excellent marketing and merchandising endeavors. Moreover, the credit card program has been yielding well, backed by robust store associate engagement, acquisition campaigns, effective integration into the loyalty calendar and solid support from partners. The company is focused on personalization efforts through relevant product recommendations and replenishment to boost the loyalty program. Markedly, growth in the company's credit card program contributed to the top line in fiscal fourth quarter. In fiscal 2019, Ulta Beauty's number of card holders in its ultimate rewards credit card program jumped 40%, backed by both store and digital teams.
- Omni-channel Growth: Ulta Beauty is known for its strategy of striking the right balance between online and physical stores. This is probably one of the reasons behind garnering goodwill in a short span. Amid the rising online competition, Ulta Beauty has managed to grow both e-commerce and in-store sales. In first-quarter fiscal 2020, Ulta Beauty opened 11 stores and relocated, ending the quarter with 1,264 stores. Management anticipates opening 30-40 stores in fiscal 2020 alongside undertaking nearly three relocation projects.

The company is undertaking measures to strengthen its omni-channel presence. In fiscal 2019, omnichannel penetration increased and ecommerce sales grew in strong double digits. Further, the company concluded the rollout of the buy online, pickup in store initiative across all stores, refreshed its mobile app and introduced "Afterpay" to ease online purchases. Also on Apr 23, the company launched buy online and pickup curbside at 70 stores in nine states – which is generating solid results. Other than this, Ulta Beauty's store-to-door strategy has been yielding results. Apart from this, the company converted its Romeoville distribution center into a Fast Fulfillment Center. These efforts along with improved productivity in full-service facilities have helped the company speed up e-commerce order processing and ensure seamless and faster deliveries to stores. We note that amid the pandemic, which led Ulta Beauty to temporarily close stores, the company's e-commerce channel remained strong. In fact, e-commerce sales accelerated and more than doubled in the first quarter as the company was operating as a digital-only business.

• Efforts to Boost offerings: Ulta Beauty has created a niche market on the back of solid mix of beauty products it offers. The company's stores are a one-stop shop for beauty enthusiasts, featuring prestige and discount beauty brands, as well as offering salon products and services, all under one roof. This business model, focused on "All Things Beauty, All in One Place", makes Ulta Beauty a go-to destination for cosmetics and beauty product lovers

Further, the company remains keen on enhancing beauty products offerings, while also improving store traffic with superior services. In sync with this, the company frequently innovates products to cater to consumers' evolving beauty needs. This is evident from the company's recent alliance with Credo Beauty. Exclusivity, relevance and speed are some of the key elements that Ulta Beauty pays attention to while undertaking efforts to boost merchandise. The company's initiative to be the partner for digitally-native brands like Morphe and Kylie cosmetics are delivering impressive results and driving store traffic. In fiscal 2019, the company widened the distribution of its iconic brands like Mac, Lancome, Clinique and Estee Lauder. Brand launches and rollouts are likely to continue driving the company's top line.

- Strong Skincare Category: Ulta Beauty has been seeing market share gains in major beauty categories for a while now, with skincare standing out. Skincare recorded the highest growth in fiscal 2019, among all other categories and remained Ulta Beauty's fastest-growing category. During the fiscal, the skincare portfolio was bolstered by 47 new brands like The Ordinary, Sunday Riley and Urban Skin RX. Moreover, management increased selling space and stores alongside improving its marketing efforts to support skincare growth. Skincare category also remained well placed in the first quarter of fiscal 2020 despite the pandemic. Though comps fell across all categories after March owing to store closures, skin care rose as a percentage of sales.
- Debt Analysis: Though Ulta Beauty's long-term debt (including operating lease liabilities) of \$2,548 million as of the end of the first quarter of fiscal 2020 (May 2, 2020), shows an increase of 50% sequentially, the company's debt-to-capitalization ratio is better than the industry. Incidentally, Ulta Beauty's debt-to-capitalization ratio 0.61 stands lower than the industry's ratio of 0.66. Further, the company had cash and cash equivalents of \$1,154 million as of the first-quarter end, while its current debt stood at approximately \$241 million. During the quarter, the company withdrew \$800 million under its revolver facility worth \$1 billion as part of its measures to preserve financial flexibility amid the pandemic.

Last Earnings Report

Ulta Beauty Q1 Earnings & Revenues Miss Estimate

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Net sales of this beauty retailer slumped 32.7% year over year to \$1,173.2 million and missed the Zacks Consensus Estimate of \$1,199 million. Sales were hurt by coronavirus-led store closures. Comparable sales or comps (including stores temporarily closed due to the pandemic and e-commerce sales) plummeted 35.3% against 7% growth recorded in the prior-year quarter. Comps

Quarter Ending	04/2020
Report Date	May 28, 2020
Sales Surprise	-2.15%
EPS Surprise	-354.55%
Quarterly EPS	-1.12
Annual EPS (TTM)	7.72

rose 4% in the preceding quarter. During the quarter, the company registered a transaction increase of 38.6%, partly made up by a rise in average ticket of 3.3%.

Gross margin collapsed from 37% to 25.9% due to fixed store cost deleverage, unfavorable channel mix shifts and deleverage of salon costs due to lower sales. This was somewhat offset by reduced promotions.

The company posted an operating loss of \$101.5 million against an operating income of \$237.5 million in the year-ago period. Notably, SG&A expenses (as a percentage of sales) escalated from 23.1% to 32.5% on account of a deleverage stemming from lower sales due to COVID-19. Pre-opening expenses grew 9.5% to \$4.6 million.

The company, which had withdrawn its fiscal 2020 guidance on Mar 17, did not offer any earnings guidance at this juncture.

Other Financials

Ulta Beauty ended the quarter with cash and cash equivalents of \$1,043.5 million and total stockholders' equity of approximately \$1,754 million. Net merchandise inventories summed \$1,340.6 million at the end of the quarter, increasing 7.2% from the year-ago period. Average inventory per store rose 1.5% year over year. Net cash used in operating activities was \$24,318 million in the first quarter.

Ulta Beauty bought back 326,970 shares for \$73 million in the reported quarter. The company had shares worth \$1.58 billion outstanding, as of May 2, 2020, under its \$1.6-billion share repurchase plan announced in March 2020. On Apr 2, the company announced that it suspended its buyback program to protect financial position amid the crisis. Moreover, the company has curtailed its capital expenditure plan and now anticipates spending \$200-\$210 million in this regard in fiscal 2020. Apart from this, in the first quarter, the company drew down \$800 million from its credit facility of \$1 billion as a safety measure amid the pandemic.

During the quarter, Ulta Beauty opened 11 stores, relocated one and permanently closed another. The company ended the quarter with 1,264 stores. Owing to the current situation, management has lowered its store opening and relocation plans. It now anticipates opening 30-40 stores in fiscal 2020 alongside undertaking nearly three relocation projects. Earlier, the company expected to open about 75 stores, remodel or relocate roughly 15 and refresh nearly 42.

Update on COVID-19

We note that the company has been taking all steps to ensure the safety of its customers and employees amid the pandemic. In this regard, it temporarily closed all stores on Mar 19, though it kept its important online operations active. The company also furloughed many store and salon workers temporarily on Apr 19. Additionally, it is curtailing several costs and undertaking measures like suspending share buybacks and reducing store openings, among others, to protect its financial flexibility amid the pandemic.

Notably, Ulta Beauty has started reopening stores and has 333 stores open for visitors and 840 stores offering curbside pickup as of today. The company is seeing greater-than-expected sales in reopened stores. Management plans to continue reopening stores and extend services in a phased manner, per the regulatory guidelines. However, the company, which had withdrawn its fiscal 2020 guidance on Mar 17, did not offer any earnings guidance at this juncture.

Recent News

Coronavirus Hits Ulta Beauty, 19 Stores to Shut Permanently - Jul 21, 2020

Ulta Beauty recently informed that it will permanently shut 19 stores. These closures are expected to be carried out during the second and third quarter of fiscal 2020. Moreover, management now anticipates opening nearly 30 new stores in fiscal 2020. Notably, Ulta Beauty will restart new-store openings in August. Earlier, the company had envisioned opening 30-40 stores in fiscal 2020. Additionally, Ulta Beauty expects to open more stores in the United States and Canada sometime in fiscal 2021.

Further, Ulta Beauty informed that its phased reopening of stores is now complete, as coronavirus induced lockdowns are being lifted. The company called back nearly 50% of its staff who were temporarily furloughed in April amid coronavirus-led store closures. Apart from shopping in stores, customers can opt for Buy Online Pickup in Store or Curbside Pickup. Also, shoppers can keep purchasing online via Ulta Beauty app or ulta.com.

Ulta Beauty Launches New Sustainability Initiative - Jul 14, 2020

In association with other strategic partners, Ulta Beauty announced the launch of a comprehensive initiative called 'Conscious' Beauty at Ulta Beauty'. The program reflects Ulta Beauty's transparent and sustainable approach toward customers.

Under this initiative brands will be accredited in five key categories namely Clean Ingredients, Cruelty Free, Vegan, Sustainable Packaging and Positive Impact. The program is expected to be rolled out by this fall.

Under the Clean Ingredients pillar, the brands will be certified to be made free of more than 25 types of chemical categories as well as parabens and phthalates. This certification will be provided by ClearForMe, a prominent independent ingredient authority. Further, brands will be marked as Cruelty-free guarantee that they have never engaged in animal testing. Third-party organizations like People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and Choose Cruelty-Free and Leaping Bunny will provideCruelty-free certification to the brands.

Further, the company's Vegan category will list beauty items that do not contain animal products, animal by-products or animal derivatives. Positive impact pillar will support brands that believe in giving back as well as advocate meaningful matters. Talking about sustainable packaging, Ulta Beauty will recognize brands that use recyclable, reduced or refillable packaging. Effective today, management made commitments that 50% of the company's packaging, even for the Ulta Beauty Collection, will be produced using recycled or bio-sourced materials, or will be recyclable or refillable by 2025.

Ulta Beauty Teams With Credo to Offer Clean Beauty Items - Jun 16, 2020

Ulta Beauty is focused on enhancing its clean beauty business, which is evident from its partnership with Credo Beauty— a leading clean beauty retailer. Per the deal, an exclusive collection of eight clean beauty brands will be available for Ulta Beauty customers, starting this fall.

The assortment, which will be created by clean beauty experts, will include brands like Innersense Organic Beauty, EleVen by Venus Williams x Credo SPF and One Love Organics. Moreover, the company aims to maintain complete transparency with regards to ingredients, sourcing and fragrances of these products. The collection will be made available in 100 Ulta Beauty stores as well as online via Ulta.com. Ulta Beauty's alliance with Credo is a step closer to propagate the need for sustainable beauty in the cosmetic industry. Also, the company stated that 90% of Gen-Z customers are likely to purchase clean beauty products in the coming year. Therefore, the newly announced partnership with Credois likely to solidify Ulta Beauty's footing in the clean beauty space.

Ulta Beauty Reopens Stores, Introduces Curbside Pickup - May 7, 2020

With restrictions to check the coronavirus outbreak being lifted, Ulta Beauty announced the reopening of 180 stores in various states. Also, the company has introduced curbside pickup in over 700 locations amid the coronavirus-led crisis.

Valuation

Ulta Beauty shares are down 23.7% in the year-to-date period and 41.6% over the trailing 12-month period. Stocks in the Zacks sub-industry are down 5.5% and the Zacks Retail-Wholesale sector are up 24.7% in the year-to-date period. Over the past year, the Zacks sub-industry is down 5.3%, whereas the sector gained 40%.

The S&P 500 index is up 1.7% in the year-to-date period and 15.4% in the past year.

The stock is currently trading at 26.12X forward 12-month earnings, which compares to 21.85X for the Zacks sub-industry, 34.657X for the Zacks sector and 22.64X for the S&P 500 index.

Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 42.32X and as low as 9.93X, with a 5-year median of 25.44X. Our Underperform recommendation indicates that the stock will perform worse than the market. Our \$164 price target reflects 22.2X forward 12-month earnings.

The table below shows summary valuation data for ULTA

Valuation Multiples - ULTA						
		Stock	Sub-Industry	Sector	S&P 500	
	Current	26.12	21.85	34.65	22.64	
P/E F12M	5-Year High	42.32	24.2	34.65	22.64	
	5-Year Low	9.93	11.52	19.07	15.25	
	5-Year Median	25.44	15.96	23.44	17.55	
	Current	1.52	0.78	1.24	3.59	
P/S F12M	5-Year High	3.5	1.11	1.24	3.59	
	5-Year Low	0.91	0.51	0.82	2.53	
	5-Year Median	2.39	0.9	0.97	3.04	
	Current	14.3	12.09	18.54	12.15	
EV/EBITDA TTM	5-Year High	22.33	12.39	18.54	12.85	
	5-Year Low	7.43	6.44	11.12	8.25	
	5-Year Median	16.08	9.55	12.92	10.89	

As of 07/31/2020

Industry Analysis Zacks Industry Rank: Bottom 27% (185 out of 253)

■ Industry Price Industry Price -360

Top Peers

Company (Ticker)	Rec R	Rank
Helen of Troy Limited (HELE)	Outperform	1
Nu Skin Enterprises, Inc. (NUS)	Outperform	1
Regis Corporation (RGS)	Outperform	2
Sally Beauty Holdings, Inc. (SBH)	Outperform	3
Coty Inc. (COTY)	Neutral	3
The Estee Lauder Companies Inc. (EL)	Neutral	3
Inter Parfums, Inc. (IPAR)	Neutral	3
The Michaels Companies, Inc. (MIK)	Neutral	4

Industry Comparison Industry: Retail - Miscellaneous				Industry Peers		
	ULTA	X Industry	S&P 500	MIK	RGS	SBF
Zacks Recommendation (Long Term)	Underperform	-	-	Neutral	Outperform	Outperform
Zacks Rank (Short Term)	5	-	-	4	2	3
VGM Score	D	-	-	D	F	Α
Market Cap	10.87 B	1.24 B	22.59 B	1.06 B	273.59 M	1.31 E
# of Analysts	7	5.5	14	4	1	3
Dividend Yield	0.00%	0.13%	1.83%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Value Score	С	-	-	В	В	Α
Cash/Price	0.10	0.26	0.07	0.89	0.87	0.25
EV/EBITDA	10.20	8.14	12.94	6.43	66.05	4.90
PEG Ratio	2.71	3.60	3.04	5.68	NA	2.47
Price/Book (P/B)	6.20	1.26	3.17	NA	1.38	NA
Price/Cash Flow (P/CF)	11.18	5.50	12.51	2.35	3.25	3.65
P/E (F1)	49.87	13.23	21.87	7.16	15.67	10.16
Price/Sales (P/S)	1.59	0.37	2.44	0.22	0.32	0.37
Earnings Yield	2.01%	6.58%	4.31%	13.93%	6.38%	9.82%
Debt/Equity	1.45	0.98	0.75	-2.62	5.21	-26.70
Cash Flow (\$/share)	17.27	3.12	6.94	3.06	2.36	3.18
Growth Score	F	-	-	F	F	C
Hist. EPS Growth (3-5 yrs)	22.48%	8.20%	10.85%	6.28%	141.04%	8.20%
Proj. EPS Growth (F1/F0)	-67.48%	-47.43%	-7.75%	-52.49%	-58.47%	-49.45%
Curr. Cash Flow Growth	5.84%	6.68%	5.39%	-14.92%	23.56%	0.84%
Hist. Cash Flow Growth (3-5 yrs)	20.48%	2.61%	8.55%	1.68%	-2.98%	2.83%
Current Ratio	2.49	1.39	1.31	1.20	1.51	1.88
Debt/Capital	59.23%	57.66%	44.32%	NA	83.89%	99.86%
Net Margin	6.37%	3.18%	10.44%	3.59%	-12.08%	3.18%
Return on Equity	24.36%	9.84%	14.73%	-13.67%	14.17%	-305.73%
Sales/Assets	1.36	1.26	0.52	1.22	0.65	1.29
Proj. Sales Growth (F1/F0)	-12.02%	-4.57%	-1.95%	-5.06%	-21.42%	-9.75%
Momentum Score	С	-	-	D	F	Α
Daily Price Chg	-2.17%	-1.18%	-0.92%	-2.24%	0.26%	-12.16%
1 Week Price Chg	0.35%	2.06%	0.37%	6.85%	-3.22%	-8.09%
4 Week Price Chg	-5.21%	3.60%	3.81%	4.82%	-5.07%	-11.24%
12 Week Price Chg	-13.13%	23.01%	11.93%	162.04%	-23.66%	17.04%
52 Week Price Chg	-44.14%	9.95%	-1.92%	9.95%	-56.06%	-14.38%
20 Day Average Volume	963,391	477,090	1,887,986	3,628,179	477,090	1,512,008
(F1) EPS Est 1 week change	-0.28%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	-1.80%
(F1) EPS Est 4 week change	-4.29%	0.34%	0.38%	0.00%	0.00%	3.70%
(F1) EPS Est 12 week change	-45.21%	-8.78%	-0.07%	-25.33%	-39.51%	34.45%

Zacks Stock Rating System

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

Zacks Recommendation

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

Zacks Rank

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

Zacks Style Scores

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

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



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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