

Visa Inc. (V)

\$190.40 (As of 07/31/20)

Price Target (6-12 Months): **\$200.00**

Long Term: 6-12 Months

Zacks Recommendation:

Neutral

(Since: 10/01/18)

Prior Recommendation: Outperform

Short Term: 1-3 Months

Zacks Rank: (1-5)

3-Hold

Zacks Style Scores:

VGM:F

Value: D

Growth: D

Momentum: D

Summary

Visa's earnings of \$1.06 per share beat the Zacks Consensus Estimate by 3.92% and was down 23% year over year. Its shares have outperformed the industry in a year's time. Nonetheless, the company is likely to see a slowdown in cross-border business due to the coronavirus outbreak. However, numerous acquisitions and alliances plus technology upgrades paved the way for long-term growth and consistently drove revenues. Shift in payments to new methods such as mobile, cards, online and via wearables bodes well for the long haul. The acquisition of Visa Europe is a growth strategy as well. The company's strong cash position enables effective capital deployment measures for its shareholders. However, high operating expenses suppress operating margins. Ramped-up client initiatives will dent the top line.

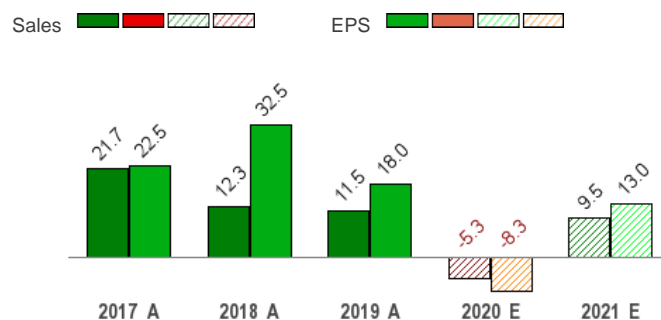
Price, Consensus & Surprise



Data Overview

52 Week High-Low	\$214.17 - \$133.93
20 Day Average Volume (sh)	7,102,219
Market Cap	\$370.0 B
YTD Price Change	1.3%
Beta	0.92
Dividend / Div Yld	\$1.20 / 0.6%
Industry	Financial Transaction Services
Zacks Industry Rank	Top 23% (57 out of 253)

Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)



Last EPS Surprise	3.9%
Last Sales Surprise	0.6%
EPS F1 Est- 4 week change	-0.3%
Expected Report Date	NA
Earnings ESP	0.5%
P/E TTM	35.4
P/E F1	38.2
PEG F1	2.3
P/S TTM	16.2

Sales Estimates (millions of \$)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	5,670 E	5,920 E	5,894 E	6,308 E	23,819 E
2020	6,054 A	5,854 A	4,837 A	5,052 E	21,752 E
2019	5,506 A	5,494 A	5,840 A	6,137 A	22,977 A

EPS Estimates

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	\$1.31 E	\$1.42 E	\$1.44 E	\$1.56 E	\$5.64 E
2020	\$1.46 A	\$1.39 A	\$1.06 A	\$1.09 E	\$4.99 E
2019	\$1.30 A	\$1.31 A	\$1.37 A	\$1.47 A	\$5.44 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

Incorporated in 2007 as a Delaware stock corporation and headquartered in San Francisco, CA, Visa Inc. operates retail electronic payments network worldwide. The company went public in March 2008 via an initial public offering (IPO).

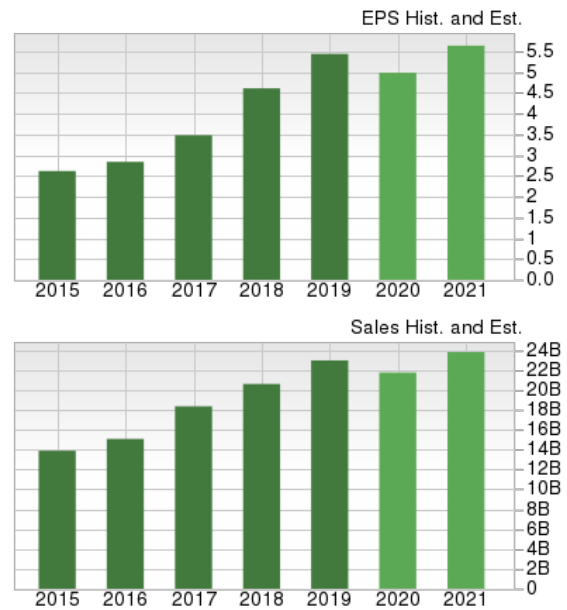
Though Visa has evolved and grown over the course of the last six decades:

- It provides transaction processing services (primarily authorization, clearing and settlement) to financial institutions and merchant clients through VisaNet, its global processing platform.
- It offers a wide range of Visa-branded payment products, which its financial institution clients would develop and offer core business solutions, credit, debit, prepaid and cash access programs for account holders (individuals, businesses and government entities).
- It provides other value-added services to its clients including fraud and risk management, debit issuer processing, loyalty services, dispute management, digital services like tokenization as well as consulting and analytics.
- It manages and promotes its brands to the benefit of its clients and partners through advertising, promotional and sponsorship initiatives with the Olympic Games, FIFA and the National Football League among others.

In recent years, the company has evolved its organization to accelerate the migration of digital payments across new channels including ecommerce, mobile and wearables.

- The company has adopted new digital payment and security technologies, such as contactless and tokenization.
- It has accelerated the pace of change in digital payments by making application programming interfaces (APIs) available in an effort to increase access to its network, products and services, offering innovation opportunities at its 10 global innovation network locations and building partnerships with new players, such as financial technology companies, commonly known as fintechs.

The primary revenue segments are: **Service revenues** (36% of gross revenues in fiscal 2019), **Data Processing revenues** (34%), **International Transaction revenues** (25%) and **Other revenues** (5%).



Reasons To Buy:

- ▲ **Share Price Movement:** Visa's shares have outperformed its industry, in a year's time. Given the company's robust fundamentals, share price is expected to perform well in the coming quarters.
- ▲ **Consistent Revenue Growth:** Revenues have been growing consistently over the years witnessing 10-year CAGR (2009-2019) of 12.8%. In the first nine months of 2020, the same was, however, down 1% year over year. We believe that the company will get back its revenue growth in the coming quarters on the back of its strong market position and attractive core business that continues to be driven by new deals, renewed agreements, accretive acquisitions, increasing spending via cards, shift to digital form of payments and expansion of service offerings. Though the COVID -19 will likely create some pressure on the revenues, the metric should maintain its rising trend once normalcy returns.
- ▲ **Visa Europe Acquisition Delivering Strong Value:** Visa acquired Visa Europe in June 2016. Reuniting with Visa Europe was one of its most important long-term growth strategies. The company expects to gain a competitive edge from a robust business model and increased scale with the acquisition of Visa Europe as it projects Europe to be a \$3.3 trillion payments market and high growth region in the future. The deal has been accretive to the company, having contributed to its top line by bolstering payments volume, cross-border volume and processed transactions.
- ▲ **Inorganic Growth:** For Visa, mergers and acquisitions, partnerships, and minority investments are some of the ways to achieve growth. These moves have helped the company to maintain its leading position in the payment network space with 50% more payments volume than its closest competitor, Mastercard. Recently, Visa has acquired Earthport, Payworks, Verifi, and the ticketing and token services business of Rambus. These acquisitions and investments will accelerate its progress and extend the boundaries of its capabilities and network. The company is on track to acquire Plaid, which will be closed by the end of 2020.
- ▲ **Technological Innovations:** Visa continues to invest in technology to further boost its already leading position in the payments market and to minimize the impact of fraud, and protect consumer and merchant information. One of the main purviews of Visa is to ensure security of payments as these move from physical to digital environments. VisaNet, Visa Token Service, Visa Direct, and Visa Checkout are some of the platforms that have been developed by the company in the recent years to advance its digital platform. The company is also pushing technologies, including contactless and scan-to-pay, tap-to-pay, and secure remote commerce, which should be the main modes of payment in the near future. With only 15% of global payments occurring digitally, Visa has a huge runway for growth in the emerging payments industry in the years to come.
- ▲ **Strong Balance Sheet Position:** Visa enjoys a strong cash and available-for-sale investment position along with strong free cash flow. Its strong balance sheet enables it to make acquisition and fund capital expenditure that drives long-term growth. Backed by its strong cash position, the company remains committed to boost shareholders' value. Visa has increased its dividend each year since 2009, with the latest being a 20% hike in October 2019.
- ▲ **Strong Solvency Position:** Visa's total debt is 50% of its total equity, down from 48.2% as of Sep 30, 2019 and lower than the industry average of 59.72%. Though its long-term debt as of Jun 30, 2020 was \$17.88 billion, lower than its cash and cash equivalents \$13.89 billion, it has ample liquidity with access to the commercial paper market on favorable terms, and a \$5-billion revolver credit facility that remains undrawn. Thus, the company is well-equipped with sufficient resources to service its indebtedness. Also, its interest coverage ratio of 30.42 is substantially higher than its industry average of 21.58 and further improved 33.2 from its last-quarter level. Thus, the company's solvency status looks impressive.

Visa continues to benefit from Visa Europe acquisition, increasing business volumes, investment in digital technology and a solid balance sheet.

Reasons To Sell:

- ▼ **Weakness in Cross Border Business:** The coronavirus outbreak is likely to impact Visa's cross-border e-commerce growth. Visa's cross-border volumes were negatively impacted by the coronavirus outbreak. International transaction revenues were down 12% in the first nine months of 2020. We expect the company's cross border business to remain under pressure for the next few quarters.
- ▼ **Higher Client Incentives:** Visa has been facing increased client incentives, which are paid to financial institutions, merchants and strategic partners to build payments volumes, increase Visa's product acceptance, win merchant routing transactions over its network and drive innovation. The same was up 10.8% in the first nine months of 2020 formed 29% of total revenues. Increase in client incentives, which is a contra revenue item, will be a drag on the top line.
- ▼ **Foreign Exchange Headwinds:** Visa derives nearly half of its revenues from its international markets, which expose it to currency volatility. Currency volatility will likely remain a headwind. The company expects nearly 1% of negative impact on its revenues for fiscal 2020.
- ▼ **Increasing Operating Expenses:** Visa has been witnessing a flare-up in operating expenses over the last many quarters and the same is weighing on its operating margin expansion. Operating expenses in the first nine months of fiscal 2020 were up 4%, primarily due to higher personnel-related expenses. The company undertook measures to control expenses to save margins. Cost-saving measures include scaling back hiring plan, redeploying existing resources to high-priority areas, reducing and re-implementing marketing spends, prioritizing projects to lower professional fees, and optimally using external resources.

Higher client incentives, increase in operating expenses, foreign exchange volatility remain some headwinds for Visa.

Last Earnings Report

Visa Q3 Earnings Beat Estimates

Visa Inc. reported third-quarter fiscal 2020 earnings of \$1.06 per share, which beat the Zacks Consensus Estimate by 3.92%. However, the bottom line declined 23% year over year.

Further, net operating revenues of \$4.8 billion surpassed the Zacks Consensus Estimate by 0.62%. Nevertheless, the top line fell 17% year over year.

Contraction in payments volume and processed transaction, and lower cross-border revenues primarily attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the company's results. However, the top line was partially driven by decline in client incentives, which is a contra revenue item.

Quarter Ending 06/2020

Report Date	Jul 28, 2020
Sales Surprise	0.62%
EPS Surprise	3.92%
Quarterly EPS	1.06
Annual EPS (TTM)	5.38

Strong Financial Performance

On a constant-dollar basis, payments volume in the quarter was down 10% year over year. Processed transactions declined 13% from the prior-year quarter to 30.7 billion.

Visa's cross-border volumes including transactions within Europe (which drives its international transaction revenues) plunged 37% year over year on a constant-dollar basis.

Service revenues remained flat year over year at \$2.4 billion on lower payments volume. On a year-over-year basis, data processing revenues declined 5% to \$2.5 billion and international transaction revenues plunged 44% to \$1.1 billion. Other revenues fell 8% year over year to \$314 million.

Client incentives of \$1.5 billion decreased 2% year over year.

Total operating expenses declined 5% year over year to \$1.8 billion, primarily due to lower marketing, and general and administrative expenses.

Interest expense increased 10.9% year over year to \$142 million.

Solid Balance Sheet

Cash and cash equivalents were \$13.9 billion as of Jun 30, 2020, up 77.3% from the level as of Sep 30, 2019.

Total assets were \$77.9 billion as of Jun 30, 2020, up 7.3% from the prior-year comparable period.

Share Buyback and Dividend Update

During the quarter, the company made share repurchases to the tune of \$0.9 billion.

On Jul 20, 2020, the company declared a quarterly cash dividend of 30 cents per share, payable Sep 1, 2020 to its shareholders of record as of Aug 14, 2020.

Developments During the Quarter

On Apr 2, 2020, Visa issued fixed-rate senior notes worth \$4 billion, the proceeds from which will be utilized for general corporate purposes.

Recent News

Visa, TerraPay Team Up to Provide Real-Time Payment Service – Jun 23, 2020

Visa has forged a relationship with TerraPay, a global payments infrastructure company. The deal is in line with the company's long-term strategy to grow its Fintech Fast Track Program. The program enables fintech partners to develop new commerce experiences leveraging the reach, capabilities and security that VisaNet, the company's global payment network, offers. Visa and TerraPay will develop and deliver solutions to drive repeat usage of the mobile wallets and digital currency for e-payments.

Visa Lends Digital Support to Small and Micro Businesses – Jun 22, 2020

In an effort to give some relief to the worse-affected business group, the small and micro business (SMBs), Visa has come forward to provide the same with a much-needed digital support in such times of unprecedented crisis. In April, Visa committed two programs worth \$210 million to support small and micro businesses. Pursuant to this commitment, the company will be backing nearly 50 million small and micro businesses worldwide, which are severely hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Visa Unveils Digital Tool to Fight Fraudulent Practices – Jun 22, 2020

Visa recently introduced a digital tool named Advanced Identity Score that will enable U.S. financial institutions fight new account and synthetic fraud, which induces loss running into billions of dollars for banks and credit unions. The innovative tool combines the company's AI and predictive machine-learning abilities with application and identity-related data to generate a risk score for new account applications. This will likely decrease fraudulent activities, such as new accounts opened with stolen identities, and protect customers against fake ID or account takeover fraud.

Visa, Facebook Enable Payment Services Via WhatsApp in Brazil – Jun 15, 2020

Visa has joined Facebook to enable the new payments feature on the WhatsApp in Brazil. The company's trusted payment technology will strengthen the WhatsApp payment service in Brazil using Facebook Pay, the e-payments service launched by Facebook last year. Through Facebook Pay, users will be able to swiftly and securely send and receive money to family and friends. They will also be able to make purchases from small businesses on the chat application.

Valuation

Visa's shares are up 1.33% in the year to date period and 12.75% over the trailing 12-month period. Stocks in the Zacks sub-industry and the Zacks Business Service sector are up 0.08% but down 0.4% in the year-to-date period, respectively. Over the past year, the Zacks sub-industry and the sector is up 5.9% and 9.9%, respectively.

The S&P 500 index is up 1.5% in the year-to-date period and 15.5 % in past year.

The stock is currently trading at 34.35x forward 12-month earnings, which compares to 29.76x for the Zacks sub-industry, 28.7x for the Zacks sector and 21.54x for the S&P 500 index.

Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 36.33x and as low as 20.76x with a 5-year median of 26.12x. Our Neutral recommendation indicates that the stock will perform in-line with the market. Our \$200 price target reflects 36.13x forward earnings.

Valuation Multiples - V					
		Stock	Sub-Industry	Sector	S&P 500
P/E F12M	Current	34.41	30.74	29.83	22.64
	5-Year High	36.33	31.68	29.83	22.64
	5-Year Low	20.76	20.78	18.7	15.25
	5-Year Median	26.12	23.25	20.93	17.55
P/S F12M	Current	15.75	11.11	4.71	3.59
	5-Year High	16.71	11.28	6.72	3.59
	5-Year Low	8.86	7.18	3.28	2.53
	5-Year Median	11.54	8.74	5.22	3.04
P/B TTM	Current	12.24	7.69	4.71	4.47
	5-Year High	14.06	12.78	6.72	4.58
	5-Year Low	5.04	5.22	3.28	2.83
	5-Year Median	8.69	8.08	5.22	3.72

As of 07/31/2020

Industry Analysis Zacks Industry Rank: Top 23% (57 out of 253)



Top Peers

Company (Ticker)	Rec	Rank
Alliance Data Systems Corporation (ADS)	Neutral	4
American Express Company (AXP)	Neutral	4
Diebold Nixdorf, Incorporated (DBD)	Neutral	2
Discover Financial Services (DFS)	Neutral	4
Fidelity National Information Services, Inc. (FIS)	Neutral	3
Fiserv, Inc. (FISV)	Neutral	2
Mastercard Incorporated (MA)	Neutral	3
The Western Union Company (WU)	Neutral	2

Industry Comparison Industry: Financial Transaction Services				Industry Peers		
	V	X Industry	S&P 500	ADS	FIS	MA
Zacks Recommendation (Long Term)	Neutral	-	-	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Zacks Rank (Short Term)	3	-	-	4	3	3
VGM Score	F	-	-	C	B	C
Market Cap	370.04 B	2.46 B	22.59 B	2.11 B	90.40 B	309.68 B
# of Analysts	16	7	14	7	14	16
Dividend Yield	0.63%	0.00%	1.83%	1.89%	0.96%	0.52%
Value Score	D	-	-	A	D	D
Cash/Price	0.04	0.07	0.07	2.34	0.02	0.04
EV/EBITDA	23.64	16.28	12.94	0.41	33.03	26.76
PEG Ratio	2.32	1.94	3.04	1.55	2.02	3.78
Price/Book (P/B)	12.24	4.24	3.17	1.83	1.84	47.66
Price/Cash Flow (P/CF)	28.86	13.79	12.51	1.81	17.99	32.36
P/E (F1)	38.16	29.20	21.87	7.54	27.09	47.11
Price/Sales (P/S)	16.17	4.56	2.44	0.40	7.96	19.09
Earnings Yield	2.62%	3.36%	4.31%	13.26%	3.69%	2.12%
Debt/Equity	0.59	0.46	0.75	3.03	0.39	1.92
Cash Flow (\$/share)	6.60	2.39	6.94	24.48	8.13	9.53
Growth Score	D	-	-	D	B	C
Hist. EPS Growth (3-5 yrs)	21.17%	18.08%	10.85%	3.50%	18.33%	23.08%
Proj. EPS Growth (F1/F0)	-8.36%	-7.79%	-7.75%	-64.94%	-3.72%	-15.71%
Curr. Cash Flow Growth	14.82%	13.06%	5.39%	-34.53%	57.47%	13.13%
Hist. Cash Flow Growth (3-5 yrs)	8.28%	14.80%	8.55%	0.58%	26.53%	15.42%
Current Ratio	1.55	1.26	1.31	1.13	1.05	1.95
Debt/Capital	33.48%	34.80%	44.32%	75.21%	27.85%	65.88%
Net Margin	51.37%	7.63%	10.44%	1.73%	1.45%	45.12%
Return on Equity	40.65%	16.87%	14.73%	42.34%	7.89%	129.52%
Sales/Assets	0.31	0.48	0.52	0.21	0.16	0.55
Proj. Sales Growth (F1/F0)	-5.33%	-4.64%	-1.95%	-19.76%	19.90%	-8.00%
Momentum Score	D	-	-	F	B	B
Daily Price Chg	-2.28%	-0.48%	-0.92%	-2.05%	0.32%	-0.10%
1 Week Price Chg	0.03%	0.49%	0.37%	4.47%	2.30%	0.94%
4 Week Price Chg	-2.69%	1.79%	3.81%	1.51%	6.97%	2.02%
12 Week Price Chg	4.20%	17.65%	11.93%	-2.51%	13.03%	10.79%
52 Week Price Chg	6.27%	-6.42%	-1.92%	-71.57%	11.51%	12.54%
20 Day Average Volume	7,102,219	467,257	1,887,986	1,198,509	2,760,805	3,495,101
(F1) EPS Est 1 week change	-0.50%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.19%
(F1) EPS Est 4 week change	-0.25%	0.00%	0.38%	-22.66%	-1.49%	0.78%
(F1) EPS Est 12 week change	-0.46%	-0.96%	-0.07%	-22.66%	-3.78%	1.76%
(Q1) EPS Est Mthly Chg	-1.94%	0.00%	0.16%	-39.07%	0.46%	0.92%

Zacks Stock Rating System

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

Zacks Recommendation

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

Zacks Rank

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

Zacks Style Scores

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

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

Value Score	D
Growth Score	D
Momentum Score	D
VGM Score	F

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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