

## Huntington Bancshares (HBAN)

**\$18.14** (Stock Price as of 01/07/2026)

Price Target (6-12 Months): **\$18.75**

Long Term: 6-12 Months | **Zacks Recommendation:** **Neutral**  
(Since: 12/02/25)  
Prior Recommendation: Outperform

Short Term: 1-3 Months | **Zacks Rank:** (1-5) **3-Hold**  
Zacks Style Scores: VGM: F  
Value: C | Growth: F | Momentum: D

### Summary

Shares of Huntington have outperformed the industry in the past six months, reflecting solid financial and strategic progress. The acquisition of Veritex enhanced its balance sheet with about \$13 billion in assets, \$9 billion in loans, and \$11 billion in deposits. Further, the pending acquisition of Cadence Bank is expected to add \$53 billion in assets. These moves will help to gain significant market share, thus enhancing its overall profitability. Its earnings have surpassed estimates in three of the trailing four quarters and matched once. Moreover, its solid liquidity profile is another advantage. However, its ongoing investments in key growth initiatives are expected to keep expenses elevated. Also, a concentrated loan portfolio may weigh on its financials. Though mortgage rates are declining, it will take time to reflect on its financials.

### Data Overview

52 Week High-Low	\$18.35 - \$11.92
20 Day Average Volume (sh)	17,616,460
Market Cap	\$26.7 B
YTD Price Change	5.5%
Beta	0.95
Dividend / Div Yld	\$0.62 / 3.4%
Industry	<a href="#">Banks - Midwest</a>
Zacks Industry Rank	Top 39% (96 out of 244)

Last EPS Surprise	5.3%
Last Sales Surprise	4.6%
EPS F1 Est- 4 week change	0.2%
Expected Report Date	01/22/2026
Earnings ESP	-3.7%

P/E TTM	12.5
P/E F1	10.7
PEG F1	0.6
P/S TTM	2.2

### Price, Consensus & Surprise<sup>(1)</sup>



### Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)<sup>(1)</sup>



### Sales Estimates (millions of \$)<sup>(1)</sup>

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2026	2,199 E	2,281 E	2,349 E	2,416 E	9,245 E
2025	1,935 A	2,012 A	2,151 A	2,220 E	8,269 E
2024	1,767 A	1,816 A	1,887 A	1,968 A	7,438 A

### EPS Estimates<sup>(1)</sup>

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2026	0.38 E	0.40 E	0.43 E	0.46 E	1.70 E
2025	0.34 A	0.38 A	0.40 A	0.39 E	1.50 E
2024	0.28 A	0.30 A	0.33 A	0.34 A	1.24 A

\*Quarterly figures may not add up to annual.

(1) The data in the charts and tables, including the Zacks Consensus EPS and sales estimates, is as of 01/07/2026.

(2) The report's text and the price target are as of 12/22/2025.

## Overview

Headquartered in Columbus, OH, Huntington Bancshares Incorporated is a multi-state diversified regional bank holding company. Through its subsidiaries, including its banking subsidiary The Huntington National Bank, the company provides a comprehensive suite of banking, payments, wealth management, and risk management products and services.

It operates through four major segments. The Consumer and Business Banking segment includes Home Lending and Business Banking businesses. Under Home Lending, it originates and services consumers' loans and mortgages. Business Banking serves companies with revenues up to \$20 million.

Commercial Banking provides a variety of products and services to the middle market, large corporate clients, real estate, and government public sector customers. The segment is divided into six business units — Regional Commercial Banking, Specialty Banking, Asset Finance, Capital Markets, and Treasury Management.

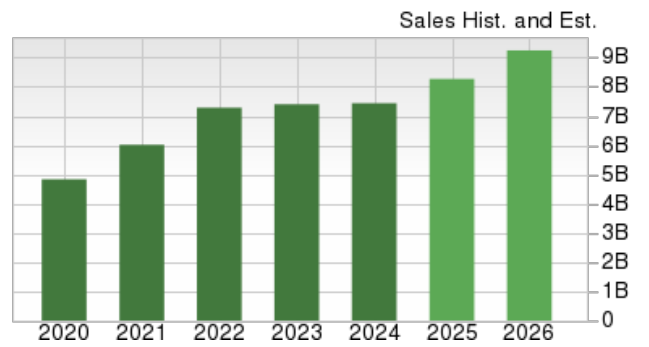
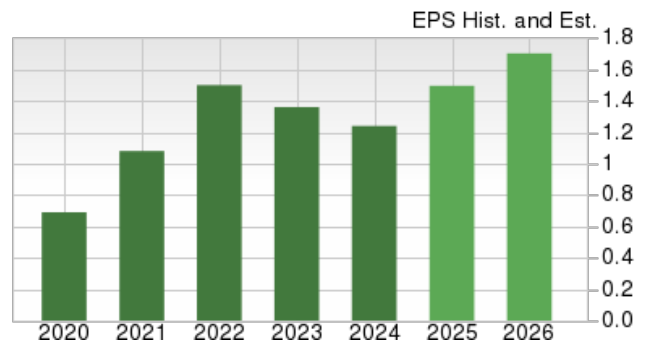
Vehicle Finance provides lending and other banking products and services to customers for the purchase of vehicles, and franchised dealerships for the acquisition of new and used inventory.

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

The Treasury/Other Group includes revenues and expenses related to assets, liabilities, and equity not directly allocated to any segment.

In October 2025, Huntington completed the acquisition of Veritex Holdings, Inc. in a \$1.9-billion all-stock transaction. In June 2022, Huntington completed the acquisition of Capstone Partners, an investment banking (IB) firm, to enhance its capital market business. In May 2022, Huntington acquired Torana to enhance its digital capabilities and enterprise payments strategy. In the fourth quarter of 2021, the company completed the TCF Financial Corporation integration, the acquisition of which was closed in June 2021.

As of Sept. 30, 2025, Huntington had total assets of \$210.2 billion, loans and leases of \$137.9 billion, deposits of \$165.2 billion, and shareholders' equity of \$22.5 billion.



As of 01/07/2026



As of 01/07/2026

## Reasons To Buy:

- ▲ Huntington is one of the top 20 bank holding companies in the United States and remains focused on acquiring the industry's best deposit franchise. The company's total deposits saw a five-year (ended 2024) compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 14.6%, with the rising trend continuing in the first nine months of 2025. Moreover, driven by the strong performance of the commercial and consumer portfolios, the total loan balance saw a CAGR of 11.5% in the same time frame, with the trend continuing in the first nine months of 2025. The acquisition of Veritex added nearly \$9 billion in loans and \$11 billion in deposits. Going forward, an improving lending scenario, along with the acquisition of Veritex, will support loans and deposit growth in the upcoming period. Management expects loans to grow 8% and deposits to increase 5.5%, inclusive of Veritex in 2025. Additionally, Huntington projects mid to high single-digit loan growth in 2026, driven by expansion in high-growth markets like Texas and sustained operational efficiency.
- ▲ As the Federal Reserve hiked interest rates in 2022 and 2023, Huntington's net NII and net interest margin NIM witnessed improvement. NII recorded a four-year CAGR of 10.5% (2019-2024). Also, NIM improved to 3.25% in 2022 from 2.84% in 2021. However, the metric declined in 2024 from 2023 because of high funding costs. Nonetheless, both NII and NIM increased year over year in the first nine months of 2025. Though the Fed reduced rates by 50 basis points in 2025, it has signalled a cautious approach to further easing. Going forward, the company maintains modest asset sensitivity through down-rate protective hedging to support NIM and NII growth in a rate-cut scenario while still being able to take advantage of higher interest rates. Management expects 2025 NII to rise 10-11%, driven by better-than-expected loan growth and higher NIM.
- ▲ Over the past few years, Huntington has expanded its footprint and capabilities in several verticals through acquisitions. In October 2025, Huntington acquired Veritex Holdings, accelerating its strong organic growth in Texas by expanding its presence in Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston. In the same month, Huntington entered a definitive agreement to acquire Cadence Bank to expand its southern U.S. presence. In 2022, the company acquired Capstone Partners. (which enhanced the complementary capabilities of the capital markets business) and Torana (to enhance digital capabilities and enterprise payments strategy). In 2021, it completed the merger with TCF Financial to become one of the top 25 U.S. bank holding companies. The acquisition strengthened Huntington's position in existing markets, established its presence in new markets, and combined complementary businesses, which will further enable it to realize meaningful revenue synergies and fuel growth. Such inorganic efforts will help the company to gain significant market share and, thereby, enhance its profitability.
- ▲ Huntington is advancing its multi-year strategy to expand commercial banking in key growth markets. In 2023, it launched operations in Charlotte, establishing five units focused on middle market, SBA and healthcare lending as part of a broader effort to capture an estimated \$8 billion in long-term deposits. The bank plans to hire more than 350 employees and open 55 branches over the next five years, beginning in North and South Carolina. Expansion efforts have since extended to Texas (Dallas-Fort Worth) in early 2024 and Florida in May 2024. These moves are aimed at enhancing market reach, deepening capabilities and attracting client segments.
- ▲ As of Sept. 30, 2025, Huntington's liquidity, comprising cash and due from banks and interest-bearing deposits, aggregated \$13.2 billion. The company's largest source of liquidity is core deposits. It had a total long-term debt of \$17.4 billion, while it had only \$252 million of short-term borrowings during the same period. The company enjoyed senior unsecured notes ratings of A- from Standard & Poor's and Fitch and A3 from Moody's. This will likely enable the company to access the debt market at favorable rates. Hence, given the decent liquidity, the company is better suited to meet its debt obligations going forward.
- ▲ Huntington's shares have outperformed the industry in the past six months. Earnings estimates for 2025 have revised upward over the past 30 days. Given solid fundamentals, the stock has decent upside potential in the near term.

Huntington's accelerated loan growth, along with a rise in NII, supports its revenue growth. A solid balance sheet position, solid liquidity and improvement in credit quality are other positives.

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## Reasons To Sell:

- ▼ Huntington's rising cost base keeps us apprehensive. Non-interest expenses saw a CAGR of 10.9% over the last five years (ended 2024). The rising trend continued in the first nine months of 2025. This was due to higher personnel costs, outside data processing and other services expenses, and marketing expenses. Though efficiency initiatives are likely to reduce expenses to some extent, long-term investments in key growth markets and merger-related costs are likely to keep its expense base higher. Management expects to incur the majority of acquisition-related one-time expenses in the fourth quarter, with approximately \$125-\$150 million recognized at closing or shortly thereafter.
- ▼ The performance of Huntington's mortgage banking business continues to be dismal. Mortgage origination volume and mortgage banking income declined in 2022 and 2023. The primary reason was high mortgage rates, which weakened the demand for such loans and refinancing activities. The mortgage banking income increased in 2024 and in the first nine months of 2025. Although mortgage rates are declining lately, ongoing volatility in the mortgage market may hamper origination volumes and refinancing activities. This will keep the company's mortgage banking income under pressure in the near term.
- ▼ Though Huntington's steady capital distribution activities are encouraging (it increased quarterly dividends by 3.3% in October 2021), we note that its payout and debt/equity ratio compared with the industry average are unfavorable. In April 2025, the board of directors approved a repurchase authorization of up to \$1 billion of common shares with no expiration date. No shares have been repurchased under the current repurchase authorization, and it is unlikely to repurchase any in the upcoming period. Instead, the company will focus on investing in long-term organic growth efforts and improving its adjusted capital ratios.
- ▼ As of Sept. 30, 2025, commercial loans comprised 58.4% of Huntington's total loan portfolio, indicating a high level of concentration. This limited diversification poses a risk, especially in the current uncertain macroeconomic environment. The strain on commercial lending is already evident, with 71.4% of the company's non-performing assets tied to these loans (as of Sept. 30, 2025). The lack of diversification within the loan portfolio increases the company's susceptibility to sector-specific or broad economic stress, weakening its overall financial performance.
- ▼ Huntington's trailing 12-month return on equity (ROE) reflects its inefficiency in utilizing shareholders' funds. The company's ROE of 12.14% compares unfavorably with the S&P 500's 17.00%.

Rising costs might limit Huntington's bottom-line growth. Weak mortgage business on higher rates is likely to ail fee income. Unsustainable capital distributions and loan concentration are woes.

## Last Earnings Report

### Huntington Q3 Earnings Beat Estimates, NII & Fee Income Rise Y/Y

Huntington reported third-quarter 2025 adjusted earnings per share (EPS) of 40 cents, which surpassed the Zacks Consensus Estimate of 38 cents. In the prior-year quarter, the company reported EPS of 33 cents.

Results reflected improvements in net interest income and non-interest income. Also, an increase in loan and deposit balances was a tailwind. However, higher non-interest expenses acted as a spoilsport.

The result excluded 1 cent of the after-tax impact of notable Items. After considering this, the net income attributable to common shareholders (GAAP basis) was \$629 million in the quarter, which increased from \$517 million reported in the prior-year quarter.

**FY Quarter Ending** **12/31/2025**

Earnings Reporting Date	Oct 17, 2025
Sales Surprise	4.55%
EPS Surprise	5.26%
Quarterly EPS	0.40
Annual EPS (TTM)	1.46

### Revenues & Expenses Increase

Total quarterly revenues (on a fully taxable-equivalent or FTE basis) increased 13.9% year over year to \$2.15 billion in the third quarter. The top line surpassed the Zacks Consensus Estimate of \$2.06 billion.

NII (FTE basis) was \$1.52 billion, up 11.6% from the prior-year quarter's tally. The increase was primarily due to a rise in average earning assets and net interest margin (NIM). NIM jumped 15 basis points to 3.13% in the reported quarter.

Non-interest income moved up 20.1% year over year to \$628 million.

Non-interest expenses were up 10.3% year over year to \$1.24 billion. The rise was mainly due to an increase in almost all cost components except for deposit and other insurance expenses.

The efficiency ratio was 57.4%, down from the year-ago quarter's 59.4%. A fall in the efficiency ratio indicates an increase in profitability.

### Loans and Deposits Increase

As of Sept. 30, 2025, average loans and leases at Huntington inched up 2.1% sequentially to \$135.9 billion. Average total deposits increased nearly 1% to \$164.8 billion.

### Credit Quality: Mixed Bag

Net charge-offs were \$75 million, down from \$93 million reported in the prior-year quarter. The quarter-end allowance for credit losses increased 5.2% to \$2.56 billion from the prior-year quarter. Total non-performing assets were \$821 million as of Sept. 30, 2025, up 4.7% from the prior-year quarter.

Net charge-offs/average total loans and leases were 0.22%, down from 0.30% in the prior-year quarter.

In the third quarter, the company recorded a provision for credit losses of \$122 million, which increased 15.1% from the year-ago quarter.

### Capital Ratios Improve

The common equity tier 1 risk-based capital ratio was 10.6% in the third quarter, up from 10.4% in the year-ago period.

The regulatory Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio was 12.4%, up from 12.1% in the comparable period in 2024.

The tangible common equity to tangible assets ratio in the third quarter was 6.8%, which increased from 6.4% in the year-ago quarter.

### 2025 Outlook

The company now projects average loan growth of 8% on a standalone basis while expecting the metric to grow 9-9.5% including Veritex. (Up from 6-8% previously guided). It reported \$124.5 billion in 2024.

Management now expects average deposit growth to be 5.5% on a standalone basis and 6.5-7% including Veritex (up from 4-6% stated previously) from the \$155.1 billion reported in 2024.

NII is projected to rise 10-11% (up from 8-9% previously guided) from the \$5.34 billion registered in 2024.

Adjusted non-interest income, excluding notable items, is expected to grow 7% (up from 4-6% previously stated) from the \$2.08 billion reported in 2024.

Adjusted non-interest expenses, excluding notable items, are anticipated to grow 6.5% (up from 5-6% previously stated) from the \$4.51 billion reported in 2024.

NCOs are estimated to be 20-30 bps.

For 2025, operating leverage is now expected to be more than 2.5% points of efficiency ratio improvement, significantly wider than the original

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expectation of nearly 1%.

The effective tax rate is projected to be 17.5-18% for 2025.

### **Medium Term Target**

The company expects to achieve a pre-provision net revenue (PPNR) CAGR of 6-9% by 2027.

Management envisions a 16-17% return in tangible common equity (ROTCE).

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## Recent News

### Huntington to Expand South U.S. Presence With Cadence Bank Buyout – Oct 27, 2025

Huntington has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Cadence Bank, a regional financial institution with \$53 billion in assets headquartered in Houston, Texas and Tupelo, MS.

The all-stock transaction, valued at approximately \$7.4 billion, establishes Huntington's strategic presence across the South with immediate scale in Texas and Mississippi.

#### Terms & Financial Details

Under the agreement, Cadence shareholders will receive 2.475 shares of Huntington common stock for each share of Cadence common stock. Based on Huntington's closing price of \$16.07 on Oct. 24, 2025, the deal implies a value of \$39.77 per Cadence share.

The transaction is expected to be 10% accretive to Huntington's earnings per share, mildly dilutive to regulatory capital at close, and 7% dilutive to tangible book value per share, with an earn-back period of about three years, including merger expenses.

The deal, subject to regulatory and shareholder approvals, is anticipated to close in the first quarter of 2026, with system conversion expected in the second quarter of 2026. Following completion, Cadence Bank's teams and branches will transition to the Huntington brand.

#### Rationale Behind the Deal

The acquisition represents a pivotal step in Huntington's long-term strategy to build a nationwide, customer-centered banking franchise focused on high-growth markets.

With more than 390 locations across Texas and the South, the addition of Cadence enhances Huntington's scale and market depth. The combined company will rank fifth by deposit market share in both Dallas and Houston, and eighth by deposit market share across the state of Texas. Huntington will also become a top-10 bank in Alabama and Arkansas by deposits.

The deal expands Huntington's footprint across several high-growth markets, including Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, Atlanta, Nashville, Orlando, and Tampa, providing a strong foundation for organic investment and long-term growth. Following completion, Huntington will have a strategic footprint in 12 of the 25 largest U.S. metropolitan areas, including six of the 10 fastest-growing regions.

### Huntington Strengthens Texas Presence With Veritex Acquisition – Oct. 20, 2025

Huntington completed its merger with Veritex Holdings, Inc. in a \$1.9 billion all-stock transaction, strengthening its commitment to the Texas market.

Both Huntington and Veritex customers will continue to bank as normal at their existing branches. Veritex customer accounts will be converted to Huntington's systems in the first quarter of 2026.

#### Strategic Implications

The merger with Veritex represents Huntington's strategic plan to accelerate its strong organic growth in Texas by expanding its presence in Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston.

The combined company has nearly \$223 billion in assets, \$176 billion in deposits and \$148 billion in loans. With Veritex's 31 branches in Texas, Huntington will have more than 1,000 branches in its network. Huntington plans to maintain Veritex's branch network and invest in growing it over time.

The integration is expected to generate about \$20 million in core PPNR benefits, which equates to about 1 cent of earnings per share in the fourth quarter of 2025. Further, the company expects efficiency ratio improvement of around 1 percentage point and a 30-basis-point lift in ROTCE for 2025, with greater opportunity anticipated from revenue growth synergies.

#### Dividend Update

On Oct. 17, 2025, Huntington's board of directors announced a quarterly cash dividend of 16 cents per share. The dividend will be paid out on Jan. 2, 2026, to shareholders of record as of Dec. 18, 2025.

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## Valuation

Huntington's shares are up 10% in the past six-month period and up 8.6% over the trailing 12-month period. Stocks in the Zacks sub-industry and Zacks Finance sector are up 8.9% and up 10%, respectively, in the past six months. Over the past year, the Zacks sub-industry is up 16.9% whereas the Zacks Finance sector is up 7.2%.

The S&P 500 index is up 16.2% in the past six-month period and up 16.4% in the trailing 12-month period.

The stock is currently trading at 10.42X forward 12-months earnings, which compares to 10.41X for the Zacks sub-industry, 17.30X for the Zacks sector, and 23.27X for the S&P 500 Index.



Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 13.75X and as low as 6.56X, with a 5-year median of 10.36X. Our Neutral recommendation indicates that the stock will perform in line with the market. Our \$18.75 price target reflects 11.04X forward earnings.

The table below shows summary valuation data for HBAN.

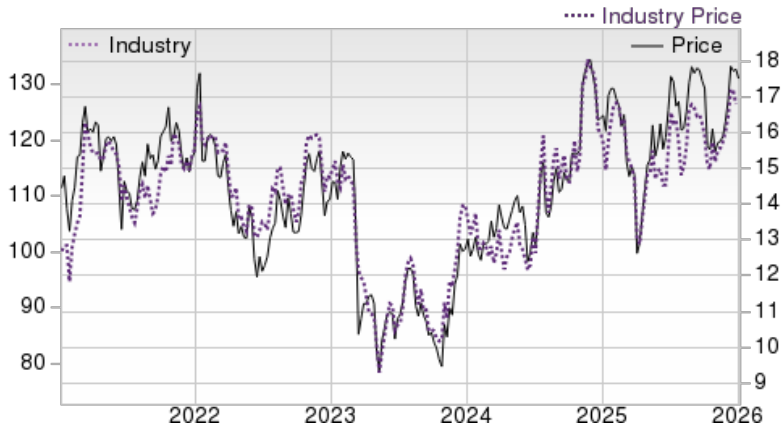
Valuation Multiples - HBAN					
		Stock	Sub-Industry	Sector	S&P 500
P/E F12M	Current	10.42	10.41	17.30	23.27
	5-Year High	13.75	14.34	18.28	23.78
	5-Year Low	6.56	7.61	12.36	15.73
	5-Year Median	10.36	10.53	16.12	21.22
P/TB TTM	Current	1.97	3.00	6.03	12.82
	5-Year High	2.62	4.10	6.06	16.54
	5-Year Low	1.23	2.01	3.45	10.51
	5-Year Median	1.90	3.01	4.75	13.62
P/S F12M	Current	2.80	4.44	9.08	5.35
	5-Year High	4.06	5.42	10.06	5.50
	5-Year Low	1.78	3.18	6.69	3.82
	5-Year Median	2.71	4.45	8.40	5.04

As of 12/19/2025

Source: Zacks Investment Research



## Industry Analysis<sup>(1)</sup> Zacks Industry Rank: Top 39% (96 out of 244)



## Top Peers<sup>(1)</sup>

Company (Ticker)	Rec	Rank
Associated Banc-Corp (ASB)	Neutral	3
Commerce Bancshares, Inc. (CBSH)	Neutral	4
Comerica Incorporated (CMA)	Neutral	3
KeyCorp (KEY)	Neutral	2
M&T Bank Corporation (MTB)	Neutral	3
Regions Financial Corporation (RF)	Neutral	2
UMB Financial Corporation (UMBF)	Neutral	3
U.S. Bancorp (USB)	Neutral	3

## Industry Comparison<sup>(1)</sup> Industry: Banks - Midwest

	HBAN	X Industry	S&P 500	CBSH	KEY	MTB
Zacks Recommendation (Long Term)	Neutral	-	-	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Zacks Rank (Short Term)	3	-	-	4	2	3
VGM Score	F	-	-	D	F	F
Market Cap	26.71 B	820.57 M	40.27 B	7.13 B	23.57 B	32.48 B
# of Analysts	6	3	22	7	10	7
Dividend Yield	3.39%	2.44%	1.35%	2.04%	3.80%	2.84%
Value Score	C	-	-	C	C	B
Cash/Price	0.52	0.29	0.04	0.56	0.71	0.60
EV/EBITDA	8.30	7.74	14.84	3.96	18.49	6.18
PEG Ratio	0.62	0.95	2.06	4.60	0.54	0.90
Price/Book (P/B)	1.37	1.14	3.44	1.89	1.34	1.23
Price/Cash Flow (P/CF)	10.26	10.40	15.60	11.90	16.14	11.17
P/E (F1)	10.62	9.89	18.94	12.60	12.21	11.31
Price/Sales (P/S)	2.17	2.13	3.12	3.36	2.29	2.45
Earnings Yield	9.29%	10.12%	5.28%	7.94%	8.21%	8.84%
Debt/Equity	0.89	0.19	0.57	0.00	0.62	0.49
Cash Flow (\$/share)	1.78	3.21	8.98	4.52	1.34	18.91
Growth Score	F	-	-	C	F	F
Hist. EPS Growth (3-5 yrs)	2.92%	2.35%	8.24%	4.63%	-13.52%	6.25%
Proj. EPS Growth (F1/F0)	20.97%	5.97%	9.18%	8.01%	27.59%	12.23%
Curr. Cash Flow Growth	-11.52%	-5.71%	7.00%	6.49%	-8.86%	-4.50%
Hist. Cash Flow Growth (3-5 yrs)	7.60%	3.41%	7.49%	3.41%	-9.13%	7.07%
Current Ratio	0.92	0.91	1.19	0.77	0.83	0.97
Debt/Capital	43.72%	15.86%	38.14%	0.24%	35.19%	31.03%
Net Margin	18.06%	18.38%	12.77%	26.48%	10.08%	20.91%
Return on Equity	12.14%	10.82%	17.03%	15.73%	10.14%	10.62%
Sales/Assets	0.06	0.06	0.53	0.07	0.06	0.06
Proj. Sales Growth (F1/F0)	11.20%	7.56%	5.29%	5.70%	15.40%	4.30%
Momentum Score	D	-	-	D	F	F
Daily Price Chg	2.35%	0.06%	0.62%	1.03%	0.94%	0.90%
1 Week Price Chg	-1.47%	-2.04%	0.70%	-1.36%	-0.99%	-1.56%
4 Week Price Chg	7.71%	1.45%	1.52%	3.32%	7.96%	6.92%
12 Week Price Chg	11.99%	5.40%	4.52%	-8.61%	19.77%	12.99%
52 Week Price Chg	10.57%	11.27%	17.53%	-13.74%	25.48%	10.05%
20 Day Average Volume	17,616,460	118,285	2,426,458	915,592	12,017,700	893,972
(F1) EPS Est 1 week change	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
(F1) EPS Est 4 week change	0.17%	0.00%	0.00%	-0.12%	0.74%	-0.12%
(F1) EPS Est 12 week change	5.71%	0.66%	0.44%	-1.46%	1.73%	-0.12%
(Q1) EPS Est Mthly Chg	0.52%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.15%	-0.65%

## 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	C
Growth Score	F
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.

## Disclosures

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