



# MasterCard, Inc (MA)

Updated May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 by Nathan Parsh

## Key Metrics

<b>Current Price:</b>	\$250	<b>5 Year CAGR Estimate:</b>	7.8%	<b>Volatility Percentile:</b>	15.5%
<b>Fair Value Price:</b>	\$168	<b>5 Year Growth Estimate:</b>	15.0%	<b>Momentum Percentile:</b>	89.3%
<b>% Fair Value:</b>	149%	<b>5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:</b>	-7.7%	<b>Growth Percentile:</b>	98.1%
<b>Dividend Yield:</b>	0.5%	<b>5 Year Price Target</b>	\$338	<b>Valuation Percentile:</b>	7.6%
<b>Dividend Risk Score:</b>	A	<b>Retirement Suitability Score:</b>	D	<b>Total Return Percentile:</b>	45.8%

## Overview & Current Events

MasterCard is a world leader in electronic payments. The company partners with 25,000 financial institutions around the world to provide an electronic payment network. MasterCard currently has more than 2.4 billion credit and debit cards in use and has a market capitalization of \$260 billion. The company generates nearly \$17 billion in annual revenues.

MasterCard reported financial results for the first quarter on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The company's adjusted earnings-per-share totaled \$1.78 in the first quarter, which was \$0.12 above expectations and a 19% improvement from the previous year. Share repurchases contributed \$0.04 or ~3% of this growth. Revenue grew 8.6% to \$3.9 billion, which beat estimates by \$32 million. Revenues grew 13% on a constant currency basis.

Volume and transaction growth were the primary reasons for the increase in net revenues. Gross dollar volumes climbed 12% in constant currency. Growth in the U.S. reached 8%, while international markets increased 13%. Switched transactions improved 17% overall, with Europe and the U.S. singled out as areas of strength. Cross border volumes were higher by 13%. Credit card volumes were up 9% while debit volumes improved 6%. A lower tax rate (15.5% Q1 2019 vs 17.3% Q1 2018) aided results as well. Expenses declined to \$1.7 billion from \$1.8 billion. MasterCard repurchased 8.7 million shares at an average price of \$207. From the end of the first quarter through April 25<sup>th</sup>, MasterCard repurchased another 2 million shares at an average price of \$234. Both average purchase prices are below the current level and the company has \$4.5 billion remaining under its current repurchase authorization.

We maintain our forecast for adjusted earnings-per-share of \$7.53 per share for the year, which would represent 16% growth from 2018 if achieved.

## Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2024
<b>EPS</b>	\$1.12	\$1.41	\$1.87	\$2.19	\$2.56	\$3.10	\$3.35	\$3.69	\$4.58	\$6.49	<b>\$7.53</b>	<b>\$15.15</b>
<b>DPS</b>	\$0.06	\$0.06	\$0.06	\$0.12	\$0.29	\$0.44	\$0.64	\$0.76	\$0.88	\$1.00	<b>\$1.28</b>	<b>\$2.57</b>
<b>Shares</b>	1297.7	1309	1280	1250	1211	1165	1116	1081	1054	1040	<b>1035</b>	<b>1000</b>

MasterCard has grown earnings-per-share at a rate of almost 18% per year over the last decade. Erring on the side of caution, we project that the company can continue to grow earnings by at least 15% annually through 2024. This growth will come primarily through an increase in revenue. If the company is able to hit our projections, then MasterCard could earn \$15.15 based off of 2019 earnings estimates.

It is estimated by some research firms that a little more than 20% of point-of-sale purchase were made with cash in the U.S. This trend is similar to other industrialized countries. Consumers are also turning towards online shopping to make their purchases, making a credit card essential to them. The conversion from cash to credit and debit cards should allow MasterCard an opportunity for growth for the foreseeable future.

MasterCard has increased its dividends for the last 8 years, and has paid an uninterrupted dividend since 2006. We see the dividend nearly doubling to \$2.57 per share by 2024 as the payout ratio is quite low and earnings growth is outstanding.

*Disclosure: This analyst has a long position in the security discussed in this research report.*



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## Valuation Analysis

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Now	2024
Avg. P/E	16.8	16.3	15.9	19.7	24.1	25	27.6	26.0	27.8	30	<b>33.2</b>	<b>22.3</b>
Avg. Yld.	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%	0.6%	0.7%	0.8%	0.7%	0.5%	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>

MasterCard's share price has increased \$36, or 17%, since our February 4<sup>th</sup> update. Based off of 2019 earnings-per-share estimates, shares have a current price-to-earnings ratio, or P/E, of 33.2. MasterCard have an average P/E ratio of 22.3 over the past ten years. If shares were to revert to their historical P/E, then valuation would be a 7.7% headwind to annual returns over this time period.

MasterCard is one of the lower yielding stocks in our coverage universe, but we feel that the stock shouldn't be ignored by dividend growth investors. MasterCard increased its dividend 32% for the February 8<sup>th</sup> payment, which is very much in line with the company's average growth rate over the past decade. This level of dividend growth can help raise the annual dividend growth rate within an investor's diversified portfolio.

## Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

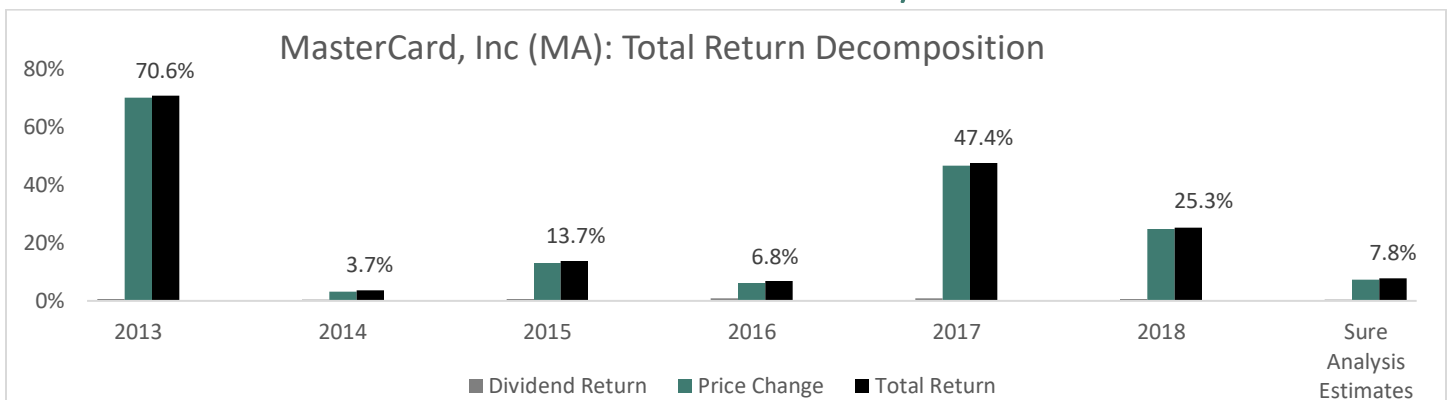
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2024
Payout	5%	4%	3%	6%	11%	14%	19%	21%	19%	15%	<b>17%</b>	<b>17%</b>

MasterCard was able to grow earnings during the last recession. Consumers will likely cut back on spending if/when the economy weakens, but they will still need to buy items like gas, groceries and clothes. While total spending may fall, consumers' habits of using credit and debit cards to make purchases will likely remain the same if not increase in the future. This is one of the key competitive advantages that MasterCard possess. As one of the largest companies in the electronic payment space, MasterCard is likely to benefit from increased use of debit and credit cards as a form of payment for goods and services. In addition, the company discussed several partnerships on the first quarter conference call with different corporations. For example, iPhone users will be able to access a digital version of their MasterCard in their Apple Wallet, making it easy and convenient to shop and spend.

## Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Shares of MasterCard are up more than 30% since the beginning of 2019, which has removed some of our total expected return going forward. We now forecast shares of the company can offer a total annual return of 7.8% through 2024, down from 10.9% previously. MasterCard had a very good first quarter, showing strong results on most metrics. That being said, the stock now earns a hold rating due to the reduction in expected total returns. We encourage investors to wait for a pullback before purchasing shares of MasterCard.

## Total Return Breakdown by Year



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## Income Statement Metrics

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Revenue</b>	5099	5539	6714	7391	8312	9441	9667	10776	12497	14950
<b>SG&amp;A Exp.</b>	2691	2352	2700	2778	3057	3506	3598	3793	4444	6081
<b>D&amp;A Exp.</b>	141	148	194	230	258	321	366	373	437	459
<b>Operating Profit</b>	2267	2755	3470	3984	4600	5076	5057	5912	6743	8410
<b>Operating Margin</b>	44.5%	49.7%	51.7%	53.9%	55.3%	53.8%	52.3%	54.9%	54.0%	56.3%
<b>Net Profit</b>	1463	1846	1906	2759	3116	3617	3808	4059	3915	5859
<b>Net Margin</b>	28.7%	33.3%	28.4%	37.3%	37.5%	38.3%	39.4%	37.7%	31.3%	39.2%
<b>Free Cash Flow</b>	1238	1546	2507	2730	3836	3073	3759	4153	5132	5719
<b>Income Tax</b>	755	910	842	1174	1384	1462	1150	1587	2607	1345

## Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Total Assets</b>	7470	8837	10693	12462	14242	15329	16250	18675	21329	24860
<b>Cash &amp; Equivalents</b>	2055	3067	3734	2052	3599	5137	5747	6721	5933	6682
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	995	1147	1409	2042	2317	2161	2147	2509	3344	4728
<b>Goodwill &amp; Int. Ass.</b>	724	1207	1679	1764	1794	2236	2694	2478	4155	3895
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	3958	3621	4816	5533	6747	8505	10188	12991	15832	19442
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	768	908	1059	1421	1771	1561	1338	1555	2276	2726
<b>Long-Term Debt</b>	22	0	0	0	0	1494	3268	5180	5424	6334
<b>Shareholder's Equity</b>	3504	5205	5868	6917	7484	6790	6028	5656	5468	5395
<b>D/E Ratio</b>	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.54	0.92	0.99	1.17

## Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Return on Assets</b>	21.0%	22.6%	19.5%	23.8%	23.3%	24.5%	24.1%	23.2%	19.6%	25.4%
<b>Return on Equity</b>	53.9%	42.4%	34.4%	43.2%	43.3%	50.7%	59.4%	69.5%	70.4%	108%
<b>ROIC</b>	51.9%	42.2%	34.4%	43.1%	43.2%	45.7%	43.2%	40.2%	35.9%	51.7%
<b>Shares Out.</b>	1297.7	1309	1280	1250	1211	1165	1116	1081	1054	1040
<b>Revenue/Share</b>	3.92	4.23	5.23	5.88	6.84	8.08	8.50	9.79	11.66	14.28
<b>FCF/Share</b>	0.95	1.18	1.95	2.17	3.16	2.63	3.31	3.77	4.79	5.46

Note: All figures in millions of U.S. Dollars unless per share or indicated otherwise.

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