

# Visa Inc. (V)

Updated August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 by Eli Inkrot

### **Key Metrics**

Current Price:	\$175	5 Year CAGR Estimate:	5.8%	Volatility Percentile:	5.8%
Fair Value Price:	\$117	5 Year Growth Estimate:	13.0%	Momentum Percentile:	88.2%
% Fair Value:	150%	5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:	-7.8%	Growth Percentile:	96.9%
Dividend Yield:	0.6%	5 Year Price Target	\$215	Valuation Percentile:	7.2%
Dividend Risk Score:	А	<b>Retirement Suitability Score:</b>	С	<b>Total Return Percentile:</b>	25.1%

## **Overview & Current Events**

Visa is the world's leader in digital payments, with activity in more than 200 countries. The stock went public in 2008 and its IPO has proven to be one of the most successful in U.S. history. Since its IPO, Visa has grown its earnings very rapidly. The stock is now worth 16 times the security's IPO price of \$11 and has significantly outperformed the market. Visa is headquartered in San Francisco, CA and trades with a \$396 billion market cap.

On July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 Visa reported Q3 fiscal 2019 results for the period ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (Visa's fiscal year ends September 30<sup>th</sup>). For the quarter Visa reported revenue of \$5.84 billion, which represented 11.5% growth compared to Q3 2018. This result was aided by continued growth in payments volume (up 5%), cross-border volume (up 2%) and processed transactions (up 12%). Net income came in at \$3.1 billion, a 33% increase on a reported basis (which included a litigation provision last year) or an 11% increase on an adjusted basis. Meanwhile, earnings-per-share equaled \$1.37 or a 14% year-over-year improvement, as strong bottom line results were helped by a lower share count. During the quarter Visa returned \$2.7 billion to shareholders via dividends and repurchases, with 12.9 million shares purchased. Visa also provided an updated full-year 2019 outlook. The company anticipates low double-digit revenue growth, an effective tax rate in the 19.5% to 20.0% range and adjusted earnings-per-share growth in the mid-to-high teens.

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2024
EPS	\$0.73	\$0.98	\$1.25	\$1.55	\$1.90	\$2.27	\$2.62	\$2.84	\$3.48	\$4.42	\$5.30	\$9.76
DPS	\$0.11	\$0.13	\$0.15	\$0.22	\$0.33	\$0.42	\$0.50	\$0.59	\$0.69	\$0.88	\$1.00	\$2.08
Shares <sup>1</sup>	3 <i>,</i> 036	2,956	2,828	2,712	2,624	2,524	2,215	2,133	2,076	2,031	2,000	1,800

## Growth on a Per-Share Basis

During the last decade, Visa has delivered very consistent earnings-per-share growth, as profits rose during every single year. The growth rate during that time frame was very impressive as well, as earnings-per-share rose by a factor of 6 between 2009 and 2018, for an annualized growth rate of 22%.

While we do not anticipate that sort of growth moving forward, the runway forward is clear. This year Visa is projecting "mid-to-high teens" adjusted earnings-per-share growth. Over the long-term we believe Visa has ample room to keep growing thanks to the global transition towards a cashless society. Last year, global digital payment volume exceeded cash for the first time in history. However, there are still about 2 billion people worldwide who lack access to cashless payments. Notably China and India, which have almost 1.4 billion people each, are still in the early phases of their transition towards a cashless economy. Therefore, the growth potential for Visa is immense in these two countries.

Through a combination of growing the amount of cards, a rising number of transactions per card holder, general economic expansion and share repurchases, Visa should be able to generate attractive earnings-per-share growth over the coming years. However, given the significant size of Visa it becomes more and more difficult to grow off of a larger and larger base. We are projecting earnings-per-share growth at 13% annually over the coming five years, instead of the 20%+ growth rates from the past.

1: In millions.



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### Valuation Analysis

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Now	2024
Avg. P/E	20.3	20.5	15.7	18.2	21.8	23.3	25.3	27.2	25.9	28.7	33.0	22.0
Avg. Yld.	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.6%	1.0%

During the past decade shares of Visa have traded hands with an average P/E ratio of between 22 and 23 times earnings. While the company's growth rate is anticipated to slow somewhat (from exceptional to still very solid), we believe that this continues to be a fair starting multiple; especially given the strong balance sheet of the company. Still, given that shares are presently trading north of 30 times our estimate for this year's earnings, this could create a valuation headwind that significantly offsets the growth prospects of the company.

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

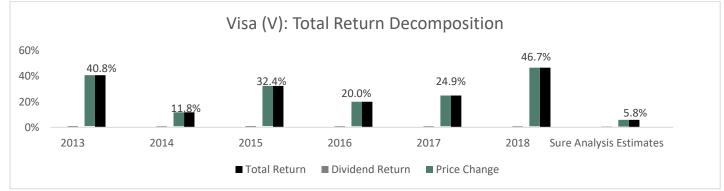
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2024
Payout	15%	13%	12%	14%	17%	19%	19%	21%	20%	20%	19%	21%

Visa has tremendous competitive advantages, as it is one of the largest payment processors in the world. Visa has built a strong brand and it continues to invest in major sponsorships to further enhance its brand strength. Visa spends very low amounts on capital expenditures, giving it large free cash flows to either return to shareholders through share repurchases or dividends, or to reinvest in acquisitions. However, Visa is not a highly recession-resistant business. Since Visa's profits depend on the total amount of transactions worldwide, they would be affected by an economic crisis, which would result in lower consumer spending, and thus lower transaction volumes.

As of the most recent quarterly report Visa held \$7.9 billion in cash, \$18.3 billion in current assets and \$70.2 billion in total assets (39% of which were intangible assets) against \$10.8 billion in current liabilities and \$35.3 billion in total liabilities. Long-term debt stood at \$16.7 billion compared to \$10+ billion in underlying annual earnings power.

## Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Shares are up 8% since our last report. Visa has produced outstanding growth during the last decade, including significant profit, dividend, and share price gains. Going forward we believe the 20%+ earnings-per-share growth rate will not be maintained, but Visa nevertheless has a very strong earnings growth outlook. We see 5.8% total annual return potential, stemming from 13% growth and a 0.6% dividend yield, offset by the potential for a -7.8% valuation headwind. This idea could be too conservative if investors are willing to pay a much higher valuation over the long-term, but we are not yet ready to make that speculation. Visa earns a hold rating at the current quotation.



## Total Return Breakdown by Year

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#### 1: In millions.

Disclosure: This analyst has no position in the security discussed in this research report, and no plans to initiate one in the next 72 hours.



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### **Income Statement Metrics**

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Revenue	6911	8065	9188	10421	11778	12702	13880	15082	18358	20609
Gross Profit	5290	6418	7372	8281	9378	10320	11327	12318	15110	16753
Gross Margin	76.5%	79.6%	80.2%	79.5%	79.6%	81.2%	81.6%	81.7%	82.3%	81.3%
SG&A Exp.	1524	1609	1621	1709	1739	1735	1755	2054	2391	2579
D&A Exp.	226	265	288	333	397	435	494	502	556	613
<b>Operating Profit</b>	3540	4589	5456	2139	7239	7697	9064	9760	12144	12954
<b>Operating Margin</b>	51.2%	56.9%	59.4%	20.5%	61.5%	60.6%	65.3%	64.7%	66.2%	62.9%
Net Profit	2353	2966	3650	2144	4980	5438	6328	5991	6699	10301
Net Margin	34.0%	36.8%	39.7%	20.6%	42.3%	42.8%	45.6%	39.7%	36.5%	50.0%
Free Cash Flow	252	2450	3519	4633	2551	6652	6170	5051	8501	11995
Income Tax	1648	1674	2010	65	2277	2286	2667	2021	4995	2505

## **Balance Sheet Metrics**

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Assets	32281	33408	34760	40013	35956	38569	39367	64035	67977	69225
Cash & Equivalents	4617	3867	2127	2074	2186	1971	3518	5619	9874	8162
Acc. Receivable	444	476	560	723	761	822	847	1041	1132	1208
Goodwill & Int.	21091	22925	23104	23101	23032	23164	23186	42300	42958	42752
Total Liabilities	9088	8394	8323	12383	9086	11156	9525	31123	35217	35219
Accounts Payable	156	137	169	152	184	147	127	203	179	183
Long-Term Debt	56	44	0	0	0	0	0	15882	18367	16630
Total Equity	23189	25011	26437	27630	26870	27413	29842	27195	27234	28536
D/E Ratio	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.48	0.56	0.49

## **Profitability & Per Share Metrics**

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Return on Assets</b>	7.0%	9.0%	10.7%	5.7%	13.1%	14.6%	16.2%	11.6%	10.1%	15.0%
<b>Return on Equity</b>	10.4%	12.3%	14.2%	7.9%	18.3%	20.0%	22.1%	21.0%	24.6%	36.9%
ROIC	10.3%	12.3%	14.2%	7.9%	18.3%	20.0%	22.1%	15.2%	13.4%	20.2%
Shares Out.	3036	2956	2828	2712	2624	2524	2215	2133	2076	2031
Revenue/Share	2.28	2.73	3.25	3.84	4.49	5.03	5.65	6.25	7.67	8.85
FCF/Share	0.08	0.83	1.24	1.71	0.97	2.64	2.51	2.09	3.55	5.15

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

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