



# Genuine Parts Co. (GPC)

Updated May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, by Josh Arnold

## Key Metrics

<b>Current Price:</b>	\$140	<b>5 Year CAGR Estimate:</b>	8.4%	<b>Market Cap:</b>	\$19 B
<b>Fair Value Price:</b>	\$133	<b>5 Year Growth Estimate:</b>	7.0%	<b>Ex-Dividend Date:</b>	06/02/22
<b>% Fair Value:</b>	105%	<b>5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:</b>	-1.0%	<b>Dividend Payment Date:</b>	07/01/22
<b>Dividend Yield:</b>	2.6%	<b>5 Year Price Target</b>	\$187	<b>Years Of Dividend Growth:</b>	66
<b>Dividend Risk Score:</b>	A	<b>Retirement Suitability Score:</b>	A	<b>Rating:</b>	Hold

## Overview & Current Events

Genuine Parts Company was founded in 1928 and since that time, it has grown into a sprawling conglomerate that sells automotive and industrial parts, electrical materials, and general business products. Its global span reaches throughout North America, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe and is comprised of more than 3,000 locations. It has about 52,000 employees and trades with a market capitalization of \$19 billion, with about \$21 billion in annual revenue. Genuine Parts is also a Dividend King, having raised its dividend for an incredible 66 consecutive years.

Genuine Parts reported first quarter earnings on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022, and results were better than expected on both the top and bottom lines. Adjusted earnings-per-share came to \$1.86, which was an impressive 18 cents better than expected. Revenue soared 18.6% higher year-over-year to \$5.3 billion, up \$220 million on estimates as well.

The company noted the sales increase was due to a 12.3% increase in comparable sales, as well as an 8.1% benefit from acquisitions, which was partially offset by a 1.8% unfavorable impact from forex translation.

Adjusted net income was \$266 million, up 22% year-over-year. On a per-share basis, earnings came to \$1.86, up 24% year-over-year from \$1.50.

Operating cash flow was \$399 million, up from \$301 million a year ago. The company spent \$116 million on dividends, and repurchased \$73 million in stock. Free cash flow came to \$321 million.

The company now expects revenue growth of 10% to 12% for the year, and for free cash flow to be \$1.2 billion to \$1.4 billion. We've boosted our estimate of earnings-per-share to \$7.85 for this year after strong Q1 results.

## Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2027
<b>EPS</b>	\$4.14	\$4.19	\$4.61	\$4.63	\$4.59	\$4.71	\$5.68	\$5.69	\$5.27	\$6.91	<b>\$7.85</b>	<b>\$11.01</b>
<b>DPS</b>	\$1.98	\$2.11	\$2.30	\$2.46	\$2.63	\$2.70	\$2.88	\$3.05	\$3.16	\$3.28	<b>\$3.58</b>	<b>\$5.02</b>
<b>Shares<sup>1</sup></b>	155	154	153	150	148	147	147	146	144	142	<b>138</b>	<b>124</b>

Earnings-per-share growth has seen stops and starts but over the long-term, Genuine Parts delivers. The company's businesses are all what could be considered staples as it serves businesses and consumers in areas where there is likely to be demand for the long run. The company's acquisitions have led the way in terms of growth and will continue to do so moving forward. We are forecasting 7% annualized earnings-per-share growth for the next five years in a continuation of this trend, in addition to positive organic sales in the Automotive segment. The company's nearly constant acquisitions should help keep the top line moving, and we note margins have improved of late. In addition, the company's Industrial segment continues to struggle with COVID-related issues, but those seem to be abating somewhat, and results were outstanding in Q4, and indeed for the full-year of 2021. We note improving sales and margins should power earnings higher for 2022.

Genuine Parts' pipeline of new acquisitions should keep the trend of higher revenue in place for the foreseeable future, with sales growth being the primary driver of earnings-per-share growth moving forward, in concert with a small

<sup>1</sup> Share count in millions

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amount of share repurchases. Gross margins continued to gradually improve in 2021 and operating margins were strong as a result. We note very strong Q1 results and guidance have us more bullish on the stock.

## Valuation Analysis

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Now	2027
Avg. P/E	15.2	18.6	19.3	19.5	20.8	19.2	17.0	17.8	17.1	17.7	17.8	17.0
Avg. Yld.	3.2%	2.7%	2.6%	2.7%	2.8%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.5%	2.7%	2.6%	2.7%

Genuine Parts' price-to-earnings ratio rose steadily in the period from 2009 to 2017, moving from 13.8 to 19.2 in that time frame. The stock now trades for 17.8 times our earnings estimate for this year as the stock has come down while earnings estimates have risen. With the price-to-earnings ratio now ahead of our long-term fair value estimate at 17, we see an annual headwind to total returns from the valuation.

Genuine Parts is famous for its dividend, as its 60+ consecutive years of increases makes it a Dividend King. The current yield of 2.6% is quite good by historical norms, and we expect the yield to remain near or under 3% for the foreseeable future.

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

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2027
Payout	46%	50%	49%	52%	56%	57%	51%	54%	60%	47%	46%	46%

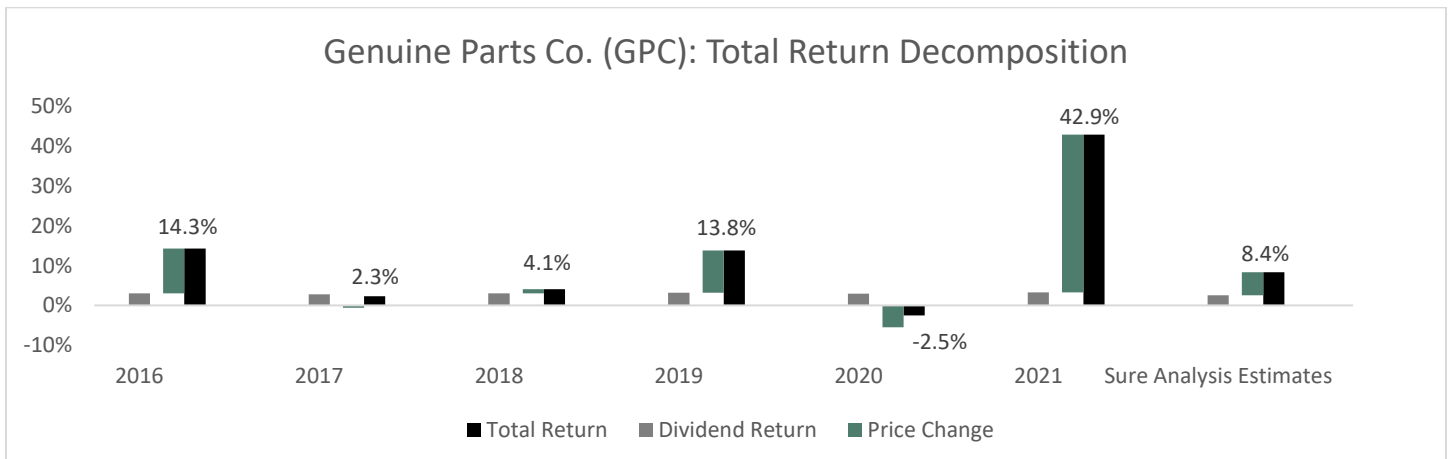
Genuine Parts' payout ratio has been quite steady between 50% and 60% of earnings for many years, but is below that today. We see the dividend rising slightly slower than earnings, keeping the payout ratio at around half of earnings in the years to come, consistent with the past decade.

Genuine Parts' competitive advantages include its wide array of industries and customers served, geographic reach and the fact that it sells what amount to industrial staples. Genuine Parts is still prone to earnings declines during recessions but performs relatively well; this is a defensive stock for a retailer/wholesaler.

## Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Overall, Genuine Parts Company looks slightly overvalued based upon both its current valuation and dividend yield. Given this, we are expecting total annual returns of 8.4% for the next five years. Returns could accrue from the current 2.6% yield and 7% earnings growth, as well as a headwind from the valuation. Given this total return outlook, we're moving the stock from buy to hold.

## Total Return Breakdown by Year



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## Income Statement Metrics

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Revenue</b>	13,014	14,078	15,342	15,280	15,340	16,309	16,832	17,522	16,537	18,871
<b>Gross Profit</b>	3,778	4,220	4,594	4,556	4,600	4,906	5,520	5,860	5,655	6,634
<b>Gross Margin</b>	29.0%	30.0%	29.9%	29.8%	30.0%	30.1%	32.8%	33.4%	34.2%	35.2%
<b>SG&amp;A Exp.</b>	2,657	3,028	3,314	3,277	3,392	3,726	4,241	4,578	4,387	5,163
<b>D&amp;A Exp.</b>	98	134	148	142	147	168	228	257	273	291
<b>Operating Profit</b>	1,015	1,049	1,124	1,124	1,049	999	1,035	1,011	972	1,163
<b>Op. Margin</b>	7.8%	7.5%	7.3%	7.4%	6.8%	6.1%	6.1%	5.8%	5.9%	6.2%
<b>Net Profit</b>	648	685	711	706	687	617	810	621	(29)	899
<b>Net Margin</b>	5.0%	4.9%	4.6%	4.6%	4.5%	3.8%	4.8%	3.5%	-0.2%	4.8%
<b>Free Cash Flow</b>	804	933	682	1,050	785	658	919	614	1,866	992
<b>Income Tax</b>	371	359	406	418	387	393	245	213	216	302

## Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Total Assets</b>	6,807	7,680	8,246	8,145	8,859	12,412	12,683	14,646	13,440	14,352
<b>Cash &amp; Equivalents</b>	403	197	138	212	243	315	334	277	990	715
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	1,490	1,665	1,872	1,822	1,939	2,422	2,494	2,440	1,557	1,798
<b>Inventories</b>	2,603	2,946	3,044	3,000	3,210	3,771	3,609	3,444	3,506	3,890
<b>Goodwill &amp; Int. Ass.</b>	498	1,289	1,387	1,362	1,575	3,554	3,540	3,786	3,416	3,322
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	3,799	4,322	4,934	4,986	5,652	8,948	9,211	10,950	10,222	10,849
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	1,682	2,270	2,555	2,822	3,081	3,635	3,996	3,948	4,128	4,805
<b>Long-Term Debt</b>	500	765	765	625	875	3,245	3,143	3,426	2,677	2,409
<b>Shareholder's Equity</b>	2,998	3,349	3,301	3,147	3,194	3,412	3,450	3,675	3,205	3,491
<b>D/E Ratio</b>	0.17	0.23	0.23	0.20	0.27	0.95	0.91	0.93	0.84	0.69

## Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Return on Assets</b>	10.0%	9.5%	8.9%	8.6%	8.1%	5.8%	6.5%	4.5%	-0.2%	6.5%
<b>Return on Equity</b>	22.6%	21.6%	21.4%	21.9%	21.7%	18.7%	23.6%	17.4%	-0.8%	26.8%
<b>ROIC</b>	19.2%	18.0%	17.3%	18.0%	17.5%	11.4%	12.2%	9.0%	-0.4%	15.2%
<b>Shares Out.</b>	155	154	153	150	148	147	147	146	144	142
<b>Revenue/Share</b>	83.20	90.41	99.38	100.20	102.40	110.42	114.31	119.67	113.96	130.84
<b>FCF/Share</b>	5.14	5.99	4.42	6.88	5.24	4.46	6.24	4.19	12.86	6.88

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

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