

## Constellation Brands Inc. (STZ)

Updated April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 by Quinn Mohammed

### **Key Metrics**

<b>Current Price:</b>	\$185	5 Year CAGR Estimate:		17.6%	Market Cap:	\$33 B
Fair Value Price:	\$255	5 Year Growth Estimate	:	9.0%	Ex-Dividend Date:	04/29/25
% Fair Value:	73%	5 Year Valuation Multip	le Estimate:	6.6%	Dividend Payment Date:	05/15/25
Dividend Yield:	2.2%	5 Year Price Target		\$392	Years Of Dividend Growth:	10
Dividend Risk Score:	С	Sector:	Consumer S	taples	Rating:	Hold

#### **Overview & Current Events**

Constellation Brands was founded in 1945. The \$33 billion market cap company produces and distributes alcoholic beverages including beer, wine, and spirits. It is the third largest beer company in the U.S., and imports and sells beer brands such as Corona, Modelo Especial (the #1 Beer in U.S.), Modelo Negra, and Pacifico. In addition, Constellation has many wine brands including Robert Mondavi and Kim Crawford, as well as spirits brands including Casa Noble Tequila, and High West Whiskey. The company also has a stake in cannabis company Canopy Growth.

Constellation Brands declared a \$1.02 quarterly dividend on April 9th, 2025, which represented a 1% increase.

In mid-April, Constellation announced its divestiture of some of its wine and spirits brands to The Wine Group. The brands it will divest include Woodbridge, Meiomi, Robert Mondavi Private Selection, Cook's, SIMI, and J. Roget sparkling wine, as well as its inventory, facilities, and vineyards. Constellation is retaining its high-end wine and spirits brands.

On April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Constellation Brands reported fourth quarter fiscal 2025 results for the period ending February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025. For the quarter, the company recorded \$2.16 billion in net sales, up by 1% compared to the same prior year period. Beer sales were flat year-over-year, while wine and spirits sales rose by 5%. Comparable earnings-per-share equaled \$2.63 for the quarter, which was 14% higher compared to Q4 2024, and \$0.36 ahead of analyst estimates.

Constellation Brands provided its fiscal 2026 outlook. The company expects adjusted earnings-per-share of \$12.60 - \$12.90 for the full fiscal year. For fiscal 2027, leadership expects mid-single digit to low-double digit EPS growth, and in 2028, it expects low-single digit to mid-single digit EPS growth.

#### Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
EPS	\$5.43	\$6.76	\$8.72	\$9.28	\$9.12	\$9.97	\$10.20	\$10.65	\$12.06	\$13.78	<i>\$12.75</i>	\$19.62
DPS	\$1.24	\$1.60	\$2.08	\$2.96	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.04	\$3.20	\$3.56	\$4.04	\$4.08	\$5.46
Shares <sup>1</sup>	199.0	195.0	191.0	191.0	195.0	196.0	191.0	185.0	183.0	179.9	176.0	155.0

Constellation Brands has set together an impressive record in the last decade, growing earnings-per-share by 10.9% per year. However, EPS growth has slowed somewhat, standing at 8.6% in the trailing five years. 2020 proved to be a down year amid the COVID-19 pandemic, but the company rebounded swiftly and strongly, and it continues to achieve record results. We are forecasting 9% annual EPS growth over the intermediate term.

In a highly competitive U.S. beer, wine, and spirits market, Constellation Brands has differentiated itself with a focus on what the company describes as "premiumization" trends. This means the company is pursuing growth in the high-end of the beer, wine, and spirits categories.

In 2023, Constellation Brands divested its craft beers business, including Funky Buddha and Four Corners, to focus on its core portfolio. And in January 2025, it divested its SVEDKA Vodka business.

Constellation is expecting to invest \$2 billion between fiscal 2026 and fiscal 2028 on expanding capacity in Mexico. These investments will support future growth for the company's high-end Mexican beer portfolio.

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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In millions.



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Share repurchases also aided EPS growth over the long-term. Furthermore, it has recently approved a new \$4 billion share repurchase authorization for FY26 to FY28. In management's medium term outlook, it expects an outstanding share count of approximately 166 million shares by FY 2028.

#### Valuation Analysis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Now	2031
Avg. P/E	23.6	23.3	22.7	22.2	21.1	18.4	22.7	21.2	20.0	18.1	14.5	20.0
Avg. Yld.	1.0%	1.1%	1.4%	1.6%	1.6%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	2.2%	1.4%

From 2021 through 2025, shares of Constellation Brands traded hands on average at 20.1 times earnings. We are using 20.0 times earnings as a fair value multiple. With shares presently trading at 14.5 times our earnings forecast, this implies the potential for a meaningful valuation tailwind.

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

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
Payout	23%	24%	24%	32%	33%	30%	30%	30%	30%	29%	<i>32%</i>	28%

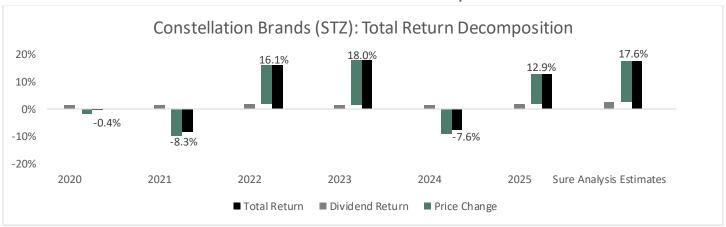
Constellation Brands has several competitive advantages. Its long list of strong brands gives the company pricing power. Its strong distributor network provides an effective route-to-market for the company's strategy in premium categories. Another benefit of Constellation Brands' business is that it can withstand downturns very well. Alcoholic beverages are generally resistant to recessions. During the Great Recession, Constellation Brands reported earnings-per-share of \$1.68, \$1.44, \$1.60, and \$1.91 during the 2006 through 2009 stretch. Results improved in 2021 and 2022 as well following the COVID pandemic.

As of the most recent report, Constellation Brands held \$68 million in cash and cash equivalents, \$3.7 billion in current assets (39% of which was inventory) and \$21.7 billion in total assets against \$4.0 billion in current liabilities and \$14.5 billion in total liabilities. Long-term debt stood at \$9.3 billion. Constellation maintained its net leverage at 2.9X, which is below its target of 3.0X.

### Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Constellation Brands' share price has suffered in the trailing one year, declining by 31%. The company has been restructuring its portfolio to focus on its high-end brands while divesting its non-core brands. And Constellation is investing heavily in brewery expansions over the next few years to drive growth. We are forecasting 17.6% total return potential stemming from 9.0% EPS growth, a 2.2% starting dividend yield, and a potential valuation tailwind. Constellation Brands maintains its buy rating.

## Total Return Breakdown by Year



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#### **Income Statement Metrics**

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Revenue	6,028	6,548	7,321	7,580	8,116	8,344	8,615	8,821	9,453	9,962
<b>Gross Profit</b>	2,579	2,942	3,519	3,813	4,080	4,152	4,466	4,707	4,769	5,018
Gross Margin	42.8%	44.9%	48.1%	50.3%	50.3%	49.8%	51.8%	53.4%	50.4%	50.4%
SG&A Exp.	1,078	1,177	1,392	1,533	1,668	1,622	1,665	1,711	1,926	1,848
D&A Exp.	202	180	238	294	333	327	294	337	384	428
Operating Profit	1,500	1,765	2,127	2,280	2,412	2,530	2,801	2,996	2,843	3,170
<b>Operating Margin</b>	24.9%	27.0%	29.0%	30.1%	29.7%	30.3%	32.5%	34.0%	30.1%	31.8%
Net Profit	839	1,055	1,529	2,303	3,436	-12	1,998	-40	-71	1,727
Net Margin	13.9%	16.1%	20.9%	30.4%	42.3%	-0.1%	23.2%	-0.5%	-0.8%	17.3%
Free Cash Flow	362	522	789	874	1,360	1,825	1,942	1,679	1,722	1,511
Income Tax	343	441	550	23	686	-967	511	309	422	457

#### **Balance Sheet Metrics**

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Assets	15093	16965	18,602	20,539	29,232	27,323	27,105	25,856	24,660	25,690
Cash & Equivalents	110	83	177	90	94	81	461	199	134	152
Accounts Receivable	599	733	737	776	847	865	785	899	902	833
Inventories	1,827	1,852	1,955	2,084	2,130	1,374	1291	1,573	1,899	2,078
Goodwill & Int. Ass.	9,389	10542	11,298	11,388	11,287	10,476	10,526	10,618	10,650	10,710
Total Liabilities	9,212	10273	11,718	12,547	16,394	14,849	13,176	13,808	15,930	15,630
Accounts Payable	286	429	560	592	617	558	460	899	942	1,107
Long-Term Debt	7,297	8,081	9,238	10,187	13,617	12,185	10,442	10,417	12,460	11,880
Shareholder's Equity	5,771	6,560	6,891	7,975	12,551	12,132	13,599	11,732	8,414	9,743
LTD/E Ratio	1.26	1.23	1.34	1.28	1.08	1.00	0.77	0.89	1.48	1.22

## Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Return on Assets	5.7%	6.6%	8.6%	11.8%	13.8%	0.0%	7.3%	-0.2%	-0.3%	6.9%
Return on Equity	15.6%	17.1%	22.7%	31.0%	33.5%	-0.1%	15.5%	-0.3%	-0.7%	18.4%
ROIC	6.7%	7.5%	9.9%	13.4%	15.4%	0.0%	8.2%	-0.2%	-0.3%	8.0%
Shares Out.	200	199	195	191	191	195	196	191	193	184
Revenue/Share	29.96	32.13	35.87	37.76	41.51	43.54	44.11	46.27	49.09	54.15
FCF/Share	3.05	1.80	2.56	3.86	4.35	6.96	9.52	9.94	8.80	8.21

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

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