



Sunoco LP (SUN)

Updated March 18th, 2026 by Jonathan Weber

Key Metrics

Current Price:	\$66	5 Year CAGR Estimate:	8.5%	Market Cap:	\$9B
Fair Value Price:	\$72	5 Year Growth Estimate:	2.0%	Ex-Dividend Date:	05/04/26 ¹
% Fair Value:	92%	5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:	1.6%	Dividend Payment Date:	05/19/26 ²
Dividend Yield:	5.7%	5 Year Price Target	\$79	Years Of Dividend Growth:	4
Dividend Risk Score:	D	Sector:	Energy	Rating:	Hold

Overview & Current Events

Sunoco is a master limited partnership that distributes a range of fuel products (wholesale and retail) and that is active in some adjacent industries such as pipelines. The wholesale unit purchases fuel products from refiners and sells those products to both its own and independently owned dealers. Sunoco was founded in 2012.

When Sunoco reported its fourth quarter earnings results, its revenues totaled \$8.6 billion for the period, which was 63% more than the revenues that Sunoco generated during the previous year's quarter. This was a much better year-over-year performance compared to the previous quarter. Fuel prices movements can result in meaningful ups and downs in Sunoco's revenues, but the majority of Sunoco's revenue growth during the most recent quarter came from M&A: Sunoco closed the acquisition of Parkland in October, boosting its revenues in the quarter.

Sunoco reported that its adjusted EBITDA was up 47% year over year, improving to \$646 million during the quarter. Sunoco's distributable cash flows totaled \$442 million during the quarter, which was higher compared to the previous year's quarter, and which equated to DCF of \$3.23 per share, which covered the dividend easily. Sunoco has also closed the acquisition of TanQuid in January, we will see the impact of that in the upcoming report.

Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
DCF/Share	\$4.14	\$4.83	\$5.48	\$5.42	\$6.23	\$6.45	\$7.65	\$7.81	\$9.08	\$10.01	\$11.00	\$12.14
DPS	\$3.26	\$3.30	\$3.30	\$3.30	\$3.30	\$3.30	\$3.30	\$3.35	\$3.47	\$3.61	\$3.73	\$4.32
Shares³	52	98	83	83	83	84	84	85	119	137	138	140

Sunoco does not have a very long history, as the company was created just a little more than a decade ago. Over the last decade, results showed relatively solid and mostly reliable growth, although there were times when cash flow-per-share pulled back a little. Over time, Sunoco's share count has risen quite a lot, as the company regularly issues new shares to fund acquisitions, such as the NuStar Energy takeover or the Parkland takeover. Despite the dilutive impact of these share repurchases, DCF-per-share has been growing over time, as company-wide growth was more pronounced than the headwind of a rising share count.

In Sunoco's industry, the company profits from significant scale advantages. In Texas, Sunoco is one of the largest independent fuel distributors, and Sunoco is also among the top distributors of branded motor fuel in the United States. In the fuel wholesale industry, scale is important, as increased scale allows for higher margins and a better negotiating position with suppliers. Total gasoline sales declined relatively steadily during the 2000s, but have since bottomed and started to rise again. In recent years, Sunoco has moved into some adjacent industries via several major takeovers, partially financed via the issuance of new shares, adding terminals, storage, and even some pipeline exposure. This could help further diversify the company's results and will possibly make Sunoco's cash flows more sustainable during future recessions. We do expect some, but not a lot of, DCF-per-share growth from Sunoco in the future.

¹ Estimated date

² Estimated date

³ In Millions

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Valuation Analysis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Now	2031
P/DCF	6.5	6.0	4.7	5.7	4.7	6.4	5.6	7.3	5.6	5.2	6.0	6.5
Avg. Yld.	9.8%	11.8%	12.7%	10.6%	11.4%	8.0%	7.7%	5.9%	6.9%	6.9%	5.7%	5.5%

Sunoco trades at an undemanding price-to-DCF multiple right now in absolute terms as well as in relative terms. Over the last decade, Sunoco's valuation has usually been in the mid-to-high-single-digits. We see some upside potential for its shares from the current level, while Sunoco also offers a very solid dividend yield of close to 6%.

Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
Payout	79%	68%	60%	61%	53%	51%	43%	43%	38%	36%	34%	36%

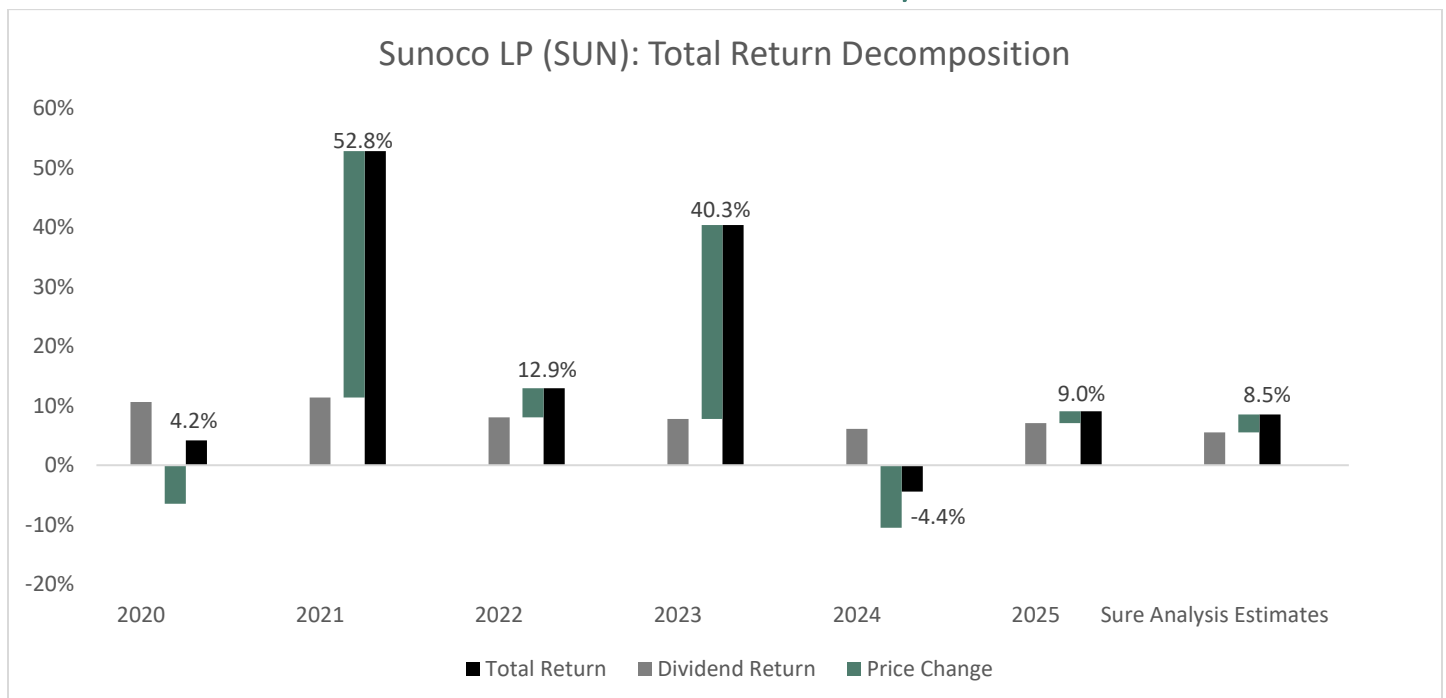
Sunoco's dividend payout ratio has moved in a wide range throughout its existence, as its cash flow has seen some ups and downs. The company has never cut its dividend, but it didn't increase the dividend regularly, either. The current yield provides ample income, but we forecast a rather low dividend growth rate, which hurts the dividend risk score, especially in combination with the relatively short dividend growth track record.

Sunoco is one of the largest fuel wholesalers in Texas, which provides competitive advantages in terms of size and scale. It is also a key distributor for Exxon and Chevron branded fuels, and the company has good relationships with these energy giants. Via tuck-in acquisitions, Sunoco could increase its scale advantage further over the coming years.

Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Sunoco is a mid-sized fuel wholesale and energy infrastructure player. While this isn't a high-growth industry, Sunoco's business is throwing off a lot of cash that can be used for M&A and dividends. The company weathered the coronavirus crisis well and has grown its DCF-per-share at a solid pace in the recent past, including thanks to takeovers. The company trades slightly below our fair value estimate right now. We rate the company a hold at current prices.

Total Return Breakdown by Year



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Income Statement Metrics

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Revenue	12,430	9,986	11,723	16,994	16,596	10,710	17,596	25,729	23,068	22,693
Gross Profit	830	980	939	940	1,033	867	1,173	1,186	1,178	1,730
Gross Margin	6.7%	9.8%	8.0%	5.5%	6.2%	8.1%	6.7%	4.6%	5.1%	7.6%
SG&A Exp.	205	236	221	213	197	173	168	183	194	349
Operating Profit	150	176	169	182	183	189	177	193	187	368
Operating Margin	253	370	343	364	532	419	735	665	628	836
Net Profit	2.0%	3.7%	2.9%	2.1%	3.2%	3.9%	4.2%	2.6%	2.7%	3.7%
Net Margin	190	(406)	149	(207)	235	135	446	397	311	716
Free Cash Flow	1.5%	-4.1%	1.3%	-1.2%	1.4%	1.3%	2.5%	1.5%	1.3%	3.2%
Income Tax	200	390	297	(142)	287	378	369	375	385	205

Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Assets	8,842	8,701	8,344	4,879	5,438	5,267	5,815	6,830	6,826	14,375
Cash & Equivalents	73	103	28	56	21	97	25	82	29	94
Accounts Receivable	161	361	285	299	337	239	428	755	703	1,058
Inventories	467	423	426	374	419	382	534	821	889	1,068
Goodwill & Int. Ass.	4,371	2,325	2,198	2,267	2,201	2,152	2,110	2,189	2,143	2,024
Total Liabilities	3,579	6,505	6,097	4,095	4,680	4,635	5,004	5,888	5,848	10,307
Accounts Payable	434	616	559	412	445	267	515	966	828	1,255
Long-Term Debt	1,958	4,514	4,290	2,985	3,071	3,112	3,255	3,571	3,486	7,486

Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Return on Assets	2.5%	-4.6%	1.7%	-3.1%	4.6%	2.5%	8.0%	6.3%	4.6%	6.8%
Return on Equity	4.2%	-10.9%	6.7%	-13.7%	30.5%	19.4%	61.8%	45.3%	32.4%	28.4%
Shares Out.	50	52	98	83	83	83	84	84	85	119
Revenue/Share	247.19	106.68	117.55	200.35	198.63	127.93	208.39	303.39	271.09	190.15
FCF/Share	3.98	4.17	2.98	(1.67)	3.44	4.52	4.37	4.42	4.52	1.72

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

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