MPLX, LP (MPLX)

Updated May 12th, 2026, by Aristofanis Papadatos

Key Metrics

Current Price:	$54	**5 Year CAGR Estimate:**	6.8%	**Market Cap:**	$55 B
Fair Value Price:	$44	**5 Year Growth Estimate:**	3.0%	**Ex-Dividend Date:**	5/8/26
% Fair Value:	122%	**5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:**	-3.9%	**Dividend Payment Date:**	5/15/26
Dividend Yield:	8.0%	**5 Year Price Target**	$51	**Years Of Dividend Growth:**	13
Dividend Risk Score:	F	**Sector:** MLPs		**Rating:**	Hold

Overview & Current Events

MPLX, LP is a master limited partnership that was formed by Marathon Petroleum (MPC) in 2012. The business operates in two segments: Logistics and Storage – which relates to crude oil and refined petroleum products – and Gathering and Processing – which relates to natural gas and natural gas liquids (NGLs). On July 30th, 2019, MPLX acquired Andeavor Logistics LP. The $55 billion limited partnership generated $5.8 billion in distributable cash flow in 2025.

On October 28th, 2025, MPLX announced a quarterly distribution of $1.0765 per unit, which marks a 12.5% raise.

In early May, MPLX reported (5/5/26) financial results for the first quarter of fiscal 2026. Adjusted EBITDA dipped -2% while distributable cash flow (DCF) per share declined -5% over the prior year's quarter. The MLP reported higher tariff rates but was hurt by hedging losses and higher interest expense. MPLX maintained a decent consolidated debt to adjusted EBITDA ratio of 3.7x and a healthy distribution coverage ratio of 1.3x. The recently acquired assets in the Utica and Permian basins have begun to generate cash flows. We thus expect all-time high DCF per share of $5.90 this year.

Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
DCF	$1.42	$2.48	$3.99	$4.52	$4.12	$4.70	$4.93	$5.28	$5.59	$5.70	***$5.90***	***$6.84***
DPU	$2.03	$2.21	$2.49	$2.65	$2.75	$2.77	$2.89	$3.18	$3.51	$3.95	***$4.31***	***$5.00***
Units[1]	369	415	761	907	1,051	1,019	1,003	1,003	1,019	1,017	***1,015***	***1,000***

Ideally you would use distributable cash flow as a leading metric for a master limited partnership, but MPLX's DCF history is skewed by the general partner's (GP) incentive distribution rights (IDRs). In February of 2018 the parent company, Marathon Petroleum Corporation, dropped down assets and exchanged its GP interest, including IDRs, for a larger portion of MPLX (MPC's interest now equals ~63%). Moving forward this should make the reporting clearer, but for now we have elected to show historical cash flow per share (which is not a perfect measure either). For 2018 (and moving forward) we are reporting DCF.

In general, pipelines tend to have a stronghold in terms of extracting economic rents. Building pipelines requires years of approvals and ongoing regulation. As such, the incumbent positions enjoy "toll-booth" type business models, with a good portion of their revenue fixed via fee-based and "take or pay" agreements. MPLX in particular has a strong position in the Marcellus / Utica region, with long-term contracts from Marathon.

The COVID-19 pandemic and significant drop in commodity prices in 2020 impacted all energy companies, but pipelines were better insulated from the volatility. We expect 3% average annual growth of DCF per unit over the next five years.

Valuation Analysis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Now	2031
Avg P/CF	24.4	14.3	8.5	6.5	4.2	5.8	6.5	6.6	7.8	9.0	***9.2***	***7.5***
Avg. Yld.	6.5%	6.3%	7.4%	9.1%	16.0%	10.1%	9.0%	9.1%	8.1%	7.7%	***8.0%***	***9.7%***

[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.

MPLX, LP (MPLX)

Updated May 12th, 2026, by Aristofanis Papadatos

MPLX does not lend itself to a nice average historical valuation, especially with both cash flow per share and the share price jumping around significantly. With the elimination of the IDRs, the cash available to unit holders should be a more accurate reflection of value moving forward. We assume a fair price-to-DCF ratio of 7.5 for MPLX, in line with the 4-year average of the stock. MPLX is currently trading at a price-to-DCF ratio of 9.2. If the stock trades at its fair valuation level in five years, it will incur a -3.9% annualized drag.

Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
Payout	143%	89%	62%	59%	67%	59%	59%	60%	63%	69%	***73%***	***73%***

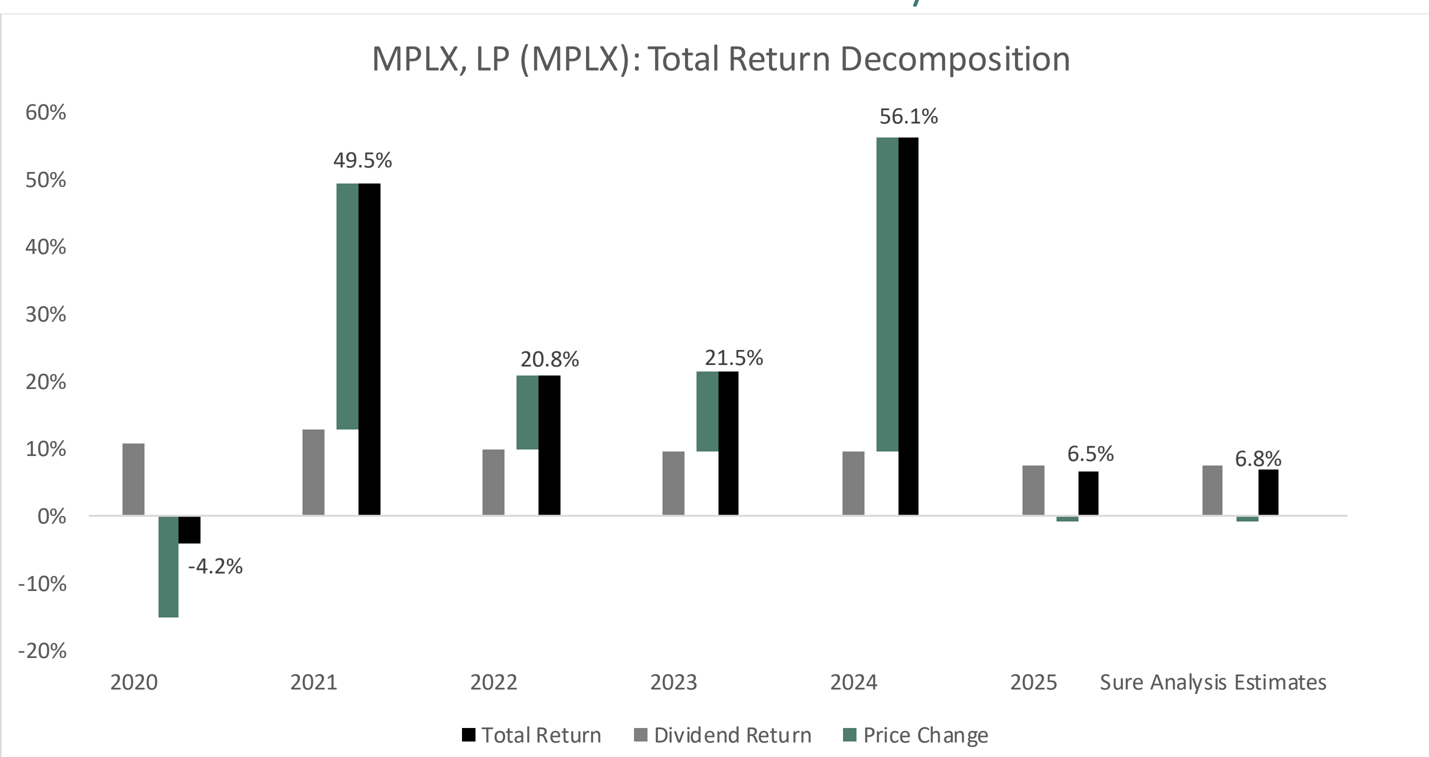
MPLX's industry generally holds competitive advantages as a result of the toll-booth model of pipelines. While growth potential may be limited, the need for the company's infrastructure is certainly present.

With MPLX in particular we are encouraged by the company self-funding on the equity side and getting rid of the IDRs. In the last five years, MPLX has had distribution coverage ratios of 1.64x, 1.6x, 1.6x, 1.5x and 1.3x. Meanwhile, the company's total debt to adjusted EBITDA has been 3.7x, 3.5x, 3.3x, 3.1x and 3.7x during the same time period (generally MLP's are shooting for a ratio under 5x). In addition, the revenues of MPLX are reliable thanks to the long-term contracts with parent company Marathon. Overall, the 8.0% distribution of MPLX is not likely to be cut in the absence of a severe recession.

Final Thoughts & Recommendation

The stock of MPLX has rallied 32% in the last two years. While we are cautious with the anticipated growth rate and note the MLP structure for tax purposes, the dividend yield looks attractive. The stock could offer a 6.8% average annual return over the next five years thanks to its 8.0% distribution yield and its 3% growth rate, partly offset by a -3.9% valuation headwind. The stock maintains its hold rating.

Total Return Breakdown by Year



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.

MPLX, LP (MPLX)

Updated May 12th, 2026, by Aristofanis Papadatos

Income Statement Metrics

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Revenue	3,010	3,691	6,652	8,625	8,246	9,575	10,541	10,434	10,904	11,817
Gross Profit	1,071	1,310	2,774	3,659	3,593	4,055	4,289	6,140	4,817	5,345
Gross Margin	35.6%	35.5%	41.7%	42.4%	43.6%	42.3%	40.7%	58.8%	44.2%	45.2%
SG&A Exp.	227	241	316	388	378	353	335	379	427	446
D&A Exp.	591	683	867	1,254	1,377	1,287	1,230	1,213	1,283	1,351
Operating Profit	887	1,113	2,481	3,284	3,349	3,713	4,435	4,300	4,486	4,762
Operating Margin	29.5%	30.2%	37.3%	38.1%	40.6%	38.8%	42.1%	41.2%	41.1%	40.3%
Net Profit	233	794	1,818	1,033	(720)	3,077	3,944	3,928	4,317	4,952
Net Margin	7.7%	21.5%	27.3%	12.0%	-8.7%	32.1%	37.4%	37.6%	39.6%	41.9%
Free Cash Flow	178	496	960	1,674	3,338	4,911	5,019	4,460	5,946	4,101
Income Tax	(12)	1	8	---	2	1	8	11	10	8

Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Assets	17,509	19,500	39,325	40,430	36,414	35,507	35,665	36,529	37,511	43,005
Cash & Equivalents	234	5	77	15	15	13	238	1,048	1,519	2137
Accounts Receivable	299	292	611	593	452	654	737	823	720	750
Inventories	55	65	98	110	118	142	148	159	180	172
Goodwill & Int. Ass.	2,737	2,698	11,375	10,806	8,616	8,488	8,350	8,299	8,163	10152
Total Liabilities	6,399	9,527	21,594	23,817	23,397	23,455	23,119	22,945	23,704	28477
Accounts Payable	140	151	266	242	152	172	224	153	147	108
Long-Term Debt	4,422	6,945	17,922	19,713	20,139	18,571	19,796	20,431	21,389	26107
Shareholder's Equity	11,092	9,827	17,575	16,364	12,772	12,052	12,546	12,689	13,807	14,527

Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Return on Assets	1.4%	4.3%	6.2%	2.6%	-1.9%	8.6%	11.1%	10.9%	11.7%	12.3%
Return on Equity	2.2%	7.6%	13.3%	6.1%	-4.9%	24.8%	31.2%	62.0%	31.5%	34.7%
Shares Out.	369	415	761	907	1,051	1,019	1,010	1,002	1,017	1,019
Revenue/Share	8.91	9.51	8.74	9.51	7.85	9.32	10.44	10.41	10.72	11.60
FCF/Share	0.53	1.28	1.26	1.85	3.18	4.78	4.97	4.45	5.85	4.02

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