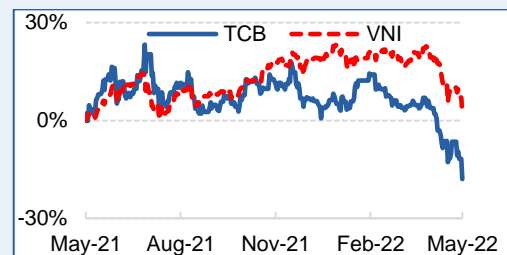




Techcombank (TCB) [BUY +92.3%]

Update Report

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Industry: | Banking | | 2021A | 2022F | 2023F | 2024F |
| Report Date: | May 13, 2022 | | | | | |
| Current Price: | VND36,300 | PPOP y/y | 40.7% | 17.8% | 16.8% | 15.7% |
| Target Price: | VND69,800 | NPAT y/y | 46.4% | 23.2% | 15.3% | 16.0% |
| Last Target Price: | VND71,000 | EPS y/y | 46.2% | 23.3% | 15.4% | 16.1% |
| Upside to TP: | 92.3% | NIM | 5.71% | 5.75% | 5.79% | 5.73% |
| Dividend Yield: | 0.0% | NPL | 0.66% | 0.74% | 0.84% | 0.84% |
| TSR: | 92.3% | CIR | 30.1% | 31.5% | 33.0% | 33.0% |
| | | P/B | 1.4x | 1.1x | 0.9x | 0.7x |
| | | P/E | 7.1x | 5.7x | 5.0x | 4.3x |



| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Market Cap: | USD5.5bn | | TCB | Peers | VNI |
| Foreign Room: | USD0 | P/E (ttm) | 6.5x | 8.3x | 13.5x |
| ADTV30D: | USD16mn | P/B (curr) | 1.3x | 1.6x | 2.1x |
| State Ownership: | 0% | ROE | 22.0% | 21.6% | 15.8% |
| Outstanding Shares: | 3.511 bn | ROA | 3.6% | 1.7% | 2.6% |
| Fully Diluted Shares: | 3.511 bn | | | | |

Company overview

Incorporated in 1993, Techcombank is the fifth largest bank in our coverage universe as calculated by total assets; however, it ranked second in terms of absolute net income in 2021. TCB's mortgages/gross loans is among the highest in the sector. The bank listed shares in June 2018.

Valuation still favors TCB as best long-term growth play

- We cut our target price for TCB by 1.7% to VND69,800/share but maintain our BUY rating.
- Our lower TP is mainly driven by a lower valuation produced by both the residual income and target P/B approaches that is derived from (1) a 6.4% aggregate decrease in our projection for 2022-2026F NPAT-MI and (2) downward revision in our target P/B for TCB from 2.1x to 1.95x, which are partly offset by the positive effect of rolling over our TP to mid-2023.
- We decrease our 2022F NPAT-MI by 1.0% to VND22.3tn (USD969mn; +23.4% YoY) vs our previous forecast as a result of (1) a 5.5% decrease in projected pure NFI that is derived from our assumed decreases in fees from card services, banca sales and brokerage services and (2) a 35.1% decrease in 2022F net gains from trading and investment securities, which are partly offset by a 14.8% YoY decrease in provision expenses.
- We cut our average 2022-2024F credit growth from 22.0% to 20.0% as we see a potential higher credit quota for the peer group participating in the rehabilitation of zero-dong banks. However, 20% credit growth p.a. remains high compared to expected system-wide credit growth at ~14%-15% p.a.
- Downside risks to our positive view: Lower-than-expected credit quota; failure to maintain CASA ratio; higher-than-expected NPLs arising from loans and corporate bonds.

TCB stands by its long-term strategy in the real estate segment and bond market. The current actions of the Government to increase scrutiny on the corporate bond market and real estate sector have increased investor concerns surrounding TCB as the bank is one of the largest players in these two segments. However, TCB has reaffirmed its view that it supports the Government's actions and has stated these actions actually benefit TCB over the long run. As Vietnam is still a frontier market with great growth opportunities, we believe the actions of the Government are necessary to protect investors and the future sustainable development of the economy. We see a slight short-term impact to TCB's credit growth outlook over the next three years — partially from a potential higher credit growth quota from its peer group participating in the rehabilitation of zero-dong banks. However, we maintain our view that TCB has a superior beta to Vietnam's economic growth.

Draft supplement to Decree 153 could impact TCB in the short term but should support long-term growth. The draft to supplement and amend Decree 153 could tighten regulations for bond raising activities at companies and regulations for individual investors to be qualified as a professional investor to purchase bonds. We believe the promulgation of the draft could produce downward pressure over the short term on the number of bonds issued but should support sustainable growth of the bond sector over the long run. We take a more conservative view in our forecast for TCB's fees from its underwriting business as we cut 2023-2024F growth of fees in this business but raise growth for 2025-2026F.

We view TCB's valuation as attractive at a 2022F P/B of 1.11x vs the peer median of 1.38x with 2022F ROE of 21.6% vs the peer median of 20.5%.

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Q1 2022 Recap: Higher NIM counteracts weakness in NOI

Figure 1: TCB's Q1 2022 results

| VND bn | Q1 2021 | Q1 2022 | YoY | % of 2022F Old | VCSC comments |
|---|---------|---------|-----------|----------------|--|
| Net interest income (NII) | 6,124 | 8,111 | 32.5% | 24.2% | * Q1 2022 NII increased 24.2% YoY to VND8.1tn thanks to (1) a 7-bp YoY expansion in NIM and (2) faster pace of Q1 2022 loan growth relative to deposit growth (5.3% and 4.5%, respectively). * Q1 2022 credit growth was 7.9% with corporate bonds growing 22.2%. In 2021, TCB's QoQ loan growth was among the top five highest in our coverage universe through all four quarters; however, TCB's Q1 2022 loan growth was among the lowest in our coverage banks. * Q1 2022 loan growth was driven by the retail and SME segments — QoQ growth from SME was the highest (+8% QoQ). |
| Net fee income (NFI) (includes FX) | 1,391 | 1,827 | 31.4% | 21.4% | * Q1 2022 pure NFI grew 35.3% YoY to VND1.8tn following (1) a 14.5% YoY increase in net fees from banking services, (2) 133% YoY increase in net fees from underwriting securities and (3) 144% YoY increase in income from the securities brokerage service. These were partly offset by a 12.6% YoY drop in income from the banca business. * TCB reported a gain from FX trading of VND34bn in Q1 2022 (-48.1% YoY). |
| Total Non-interest income (NOII) | 2,808 | 2,001 | -28.8% | 16.7% | * Net gains from trading securities incurred a VND96bn loss in Q1 2022 vs a gain of VND134bn in Q1 2021, while net gains from investment securities incurred a VND219bn loss in Q1 2022 vs a gain of VND611bn in Q1 2021. TCB explained these results were derived from unrealized losses in its G-bond portfolio following a widening of credit spreads. These bonds are held to maintain the liquidity of the bank. The bank could reverse these unrealized losses in Q2 2022 following the promulgation of Circular 24/2022 that come into effect in May 2022. * Net other income decreased 27.2% YoY in Q1 2022, which was derived from decreased income from other derivatives as well as recovery from written-off bad debts. |
| TOI | 8,932 | 10,112 | 13.2% | 22.2% | |
| OPEX | (2,563) | (3,108) | 21.3% | 21.7% | |
| Pre-provision operating profits (PPOP) | 6,369 | 7,004 | 10.0% | 22.5% | |
| Provision expenses | (851) | (218) | -74.3% | 9.4% | * The sharp decrease in Q1 2022 provision expenses was mainly thanks to the recovery of businesses as COVID-19 subsided, according to TCB. |
| NPAT-MI | 4,397 | 5,505 | 25.2% | 24.4% | |
| NIM* | 5.85% | 5.92% | 7.0 bps | | |
| Interest-earning asset (IEA) yields* | 7.79% | 7.80% | 1.0 bps | | |
| Cost of funds (COF)* | 2.24% | 2.15% | -9.0 bps | | |
| CASA ratio** | 44.2% | 50.4% | 6.2 ppts | | * TCB maintained a high CASA ratio of 50.4% (vs 50.5% in Q4 2021), which was impressive given the slight rise in deposit rates that we have observed at several private banks in our coverage universe. The portion of CASA coming from retail customers remained above 60%. |
| CASA** with term deposits in foreign currencies | 46.0% | 51.6% | 5.6 ppts | | |
| CIR | 28.7% | 30.7% | 2.0 ppts | | |
| NPL ratio | 0.38% | 0.67% | 29.0 bps | | |
| Loan growth (3M) | 6.8% | 5.3% | -1.5 ppts | | * TCB continued to focus on diversifying its corporate loan book in Q1 2022. Loans to ReCoM witnessed the lowest QoQ growth while higher growth was experienced in the FMCG, utilities, telco and financial services segments. |
| Deposit growth (3M) | 3.6% | 4.5% | 0.9 ppts | | |

Source: TCB; VCSC. (*) NIM, IEA, COF are calculated with Q1 2020 / Q1 2021 - Q1 2021 / Q1 2022 average denominators; (**) CASA consists of demand, specific purposes and margin deposits.

2022 Outlook: Lower provision forecast offsets NOII cuts

Figure 2: VCSC's 2022 forecasts

| | 2021 | 2022F New | 2022F Old | 2022F New vs 2021 | VCSC comments |
|-------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|---|
| Net interest income | 26,699 | 33,766 | 33,504 | 26.5% | * We leave our forecast for 2022F NII relatively unchanged as we raise our NIM projection by 8 bps and cut our assumption for 2022F credit growth from 25.4% to 22.8% mainly due to our 3-ppt cut in our loan growth assumption. * As banks participating in the State Bank of Vietnam's (SBV) rescue of zero-dong banks (e.g., VCB and MBB) could receive a higher credit quota, we believe the credit quota at the remaining banks could be lower in order to control system-wide credit growth at a reasonable level. |
| Net fee income (including FX) | 6,614 | 8,088 | 8,551 | 22.3% | * We cut 2022F pure NFI by 5.5% relative to our previous report mainly because of (1) an 11.5% decrease in fees from banca following weak Q1 2022 results as a result of intense competition in the banca segment — especially from CTG and VCB — (2) 14.3% decrease in fees from credit cards following lower-than-expected Q1 2022 results and (3) 5.7% decrease in securities brokerage services following our conservative assumption on market turnover. These are partly offset by an 8.7% increase in fees from the underwriting business. * We maintain our 2022F FX trading projection at VND162bn (-30 YoY). |
| Total NOII | 10,378 | 10,781 | 11,978 | 3.9% | * We revise down our projection for 2022F NOII by 10.0%, which apart from the cut in pure NFI, was partly due to our 35.1% downward revision in gains from trading and investment securities. |
| TOI | 37,076 | 44,547 | 45,481 | 20.1% | |
| OPEX | (11,173) | (14,032) | (14,327) | 25.6% | * We maintain our assumption for 2022F CIR at 31.5%. |
| PPOP | 25,903 | 30,515 | 31,155 | 17.8% | |
| Provision expenses | (2,665) | (1,986) | (2,332) | -25.5% | * We lower our forecast for 2022F provision expenses by 14.8% YoY following our 3-ppt cut in our loan growth assumption on the back of an unchanged assumption for NPL ratio as well as our expectation for a reversal from provision expenses booked for restructured loans to continue in future quarters. * We maintain our assumption for the write-off rate/gross loans at 0.3%. |
| NPAT-MI | 18,052 | 22,281 | 22,517 | 23.4% | |
| NIM | 5.71% | 5.75% | 5.68% | 4.0 bps | * We raise our projection for 2022F NIM by 8 bps mainly because of a 17-bp increase in our forecast in IEA yield that outweighs an 11-bp increase in COF. |
| IEA yield | 7.59% | 7.74% | 7.57% | 15.0 bps | |
| Cost of funds | 2.16% | 2.30% | 2.19% | 14.0 bps | * We maintain our view that the deposit rate will increase in 2022 as the economy recovers; however, the magnitude will be less than or equal to 50 bps to support the economy. * However, we raise our projection for 2022F COF by 11 bps relative to our previous report mainly because of an upward revision to our assumption for the lending yield in interbank market and a downward revision in our CASA ratio assumption. |
| CASA ratio** | 50.5% | 51.0% | 52.0% | 53.0 bps | * While TCB succeeded in maintaining its CASA ratio above 50% in Q1 2022, we are cautious in our projection for 2022F CASA ratio and cut forecast by 1 ppt following the recent increase in deposit rates at several private banks. |
| CIR | 30.1% | 31.5% | 31.5% | 136.0 bps | |
| NPL ratio | 0.66% | 0.74% | 0.74% | 8.0 bps | |
| Gross loans | 347,342 | 427,231 | 437,651 | 23.0% | * We believe SME and retail segments will be the key drivers for loan growth this year. TCB has not had a strong focus on SME in the past; however, with its aim to diversify its lending portfolio, we believe growth from the SME segment will be higher this year. |
| Customer deposits | 314,753 | 380,851 | 387,146 | 21.0% | |
| Valuable papers | 33,680 | 40,416 | 40,416 | 20.0% | |
| Total assets | 568,729 | 684,331 | 690,946 | 20.3% | |
| Total equity | 92,195 | 114,429 | 114,686 | 24.1% | |
| ROAA | 3.6% | 3.6% | 3.6% | -2.0 bps | |
| ROAE | 21.7% | 21.6% | 21.8% | -0.1 ppts | * We assume no dividend to be paid for 2021 in 2022. |
| Regulated LDR | 75.4% | 77.0% | 78.0% | 1.6 ppts | |

Source: VCSC; units are in VND bn unless otherwise stated; *CASA volume includes demand and margin deposits.

We maintain our view that TCB is the best long-term play to capture future economic growth despite recent concerns surrounding the real estate sector and bond market. The current actions of the Government to increase scrutiny on the corporate bond market and real estate sector have increased investor concerns on TCB as the bank is one of the largest players in these two segments.

Regarding the real estate sector, both the chairman and the CEO shared at the recent AGM and analyst meeting that the message from the Government is very clear: bonds/loans raised to speculate on the real estate sector will be squeezed. Meanwhile, loans to those with real needs to buy houses to live in will be appraised via the usual process. The chairman emphasized that the real estate sector's outsized position in the economy — especially in a frontier-market country like Vietnam — is normal. In addition, he stated the development of the real estate sector is good for the economy because it creates jobs and value to citizens while also contributing tax. However, there are currently a number of projects hoarding land, which is a speculative activity and brings no value to society; as such, the recent actions of the Government are to target this activity.

Regarding the bond sector, the chairman shared that the Government is not aiming to limit the bond market (or capital market in general) but instead wants to clean the capital market and reduce prohibited activities, thereby making the capital market become more transparent and in turn support the healthy development of the capital market moving forward. TCB supports these actions of the Government and believes the recent signals of the Government actually open opportunities for Techcom Securities (TCBS) to offer high-quality bonds to investors, which should benefit both TCB and TCBS over the long term. TCB shared that its corporate bond book breakdown is somewhat similar to its corporate loan book (~70% from ReCoM). TCB reviews its issuers on a weekly basis, so it is confident that the corporate bond book has low probability of default. In conclusion, TCB believes in its long-term strategy for the real estate and bond segments. In our view, TCB is well positioned to capture growth of Vietnam in the long run with this strategy.

Additionally, concerns have arisen from the draft to supplement and amend Decree 153, which regulates the private placement and trading of privately placed corporate bonds in the domestic market and offering of corporate bonds in the international market. One important point from the draft is that it requires companies to specify the purpose of the bond issuance: the bond raised must be linked to a specific project, and companies can no longer raise capital to increase working capital as per Decree 153. This point is in line with Circular 16, which prohibits banks from buying bonds of companies with the purpose to increase working capital. However, the impact of the draft could be larger if it comes into effect because while the Circular 16 has limited the demand for bonds raised to increase working capital, the draft could limit the supply, in our view. The draft also has stricter rules for retail investors to be qualified as a professional investor (i.e., the Law on Securities regulates that (retail) professional investors are those who (1) hold securities professional certifications, (2) hold a quantity of listed or registered securities that is worth at least VND2bn as confirmed by the securities company and (3) taxable income in the latest year is at least VND1bn according to his/her submitted tax return or tax deduction documents of his/her income payer. The draft requires retail investors to maintain a list of listed and registered securities held (excluding securities from escrow accounts and securities for purchase and sale with a term) with a minimum value specified in the Law on Securities **for at least two consecutive years before making a transaction**).

The draft is still under review and has been adjusted five times. Some have commented that the draft is too strict and could limit the funding channels of good companies. We believe that the Government will make an appropriate adjustment to Decree 153 so that good companies can approach funding through the bonds channel.

However, we take a more conservative view in our forecast for TCB's fees from its underwriting business following the potential promulgation of the draft. We lower our projection for growth of fees from the underwriting business in 2023-2024F from positive growth of 15% to negative growth of 10%. Meanwhile, we raise our 2025-2026F growth from the underwriting business from 5%-10% to 10%-15%.

We also run a sensitivity analysis to see the impact of loss on the corporate bond market and loss on loans to ReCoM (as of Q1 2022, loans to ReCoM accounted for 34.4% of TCB's total loan book) on our target price. Our assumption for the lending rate (for these bonds and loans) is 10%. Note that this is a

simple analysis. In reality, when we move down the axis, the collateral backing most loans at TCB would also be negatively impacted, but this is not simulated in the table below.

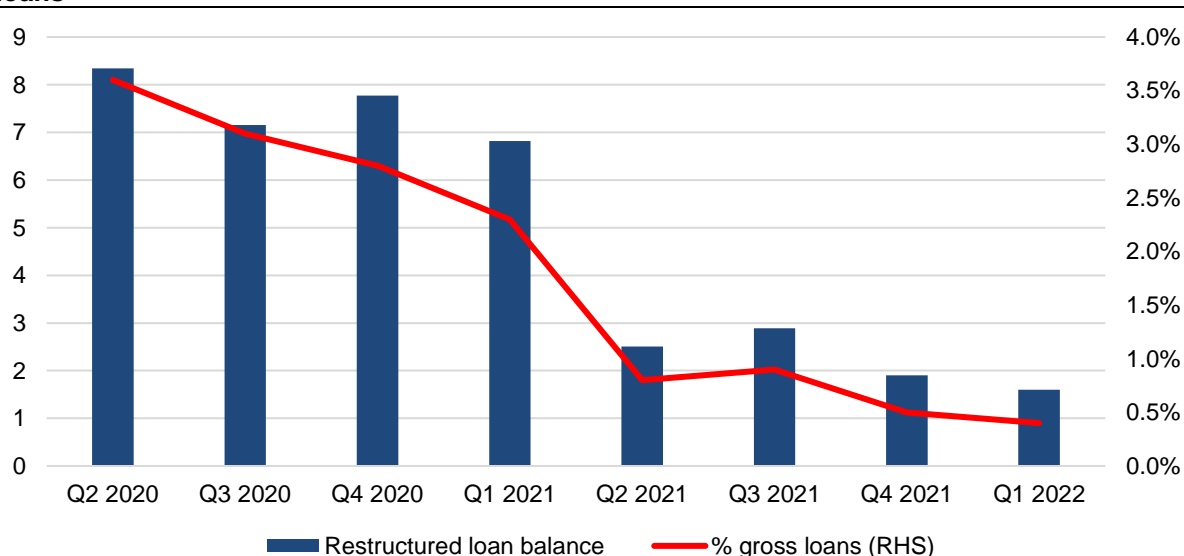
Figure 3: Sensitivity of loss from corporate bond and loss on ReCoM loans to target price assuming no recovery of written off debt (unit: VND)

| % loss on ReCoM (x-axis) / % loss on corporate bond book (y-axis) | 10.0% | 20.0% | 30.0% | 40.0% | 50.0% |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 5.0% | 66,100 | 65,000 | 63,800 | 62,600 | 61,500 |
| 10.0% | 64,400 | 63,200 | 62,000 | 60,900 | 59,700 |
| 15.0% | 62,600 | 61,400 | 60,200 | 59,100 | 57,900 |
| 20.0% | 60,800 | 59,600 | 58,400 | 57,300 | 56,100 |

Source: VCSC

Restructured loans decreased in Q1 2022. TCB's restructured loan balance decreased 15.8% QoQ to VND1.6tn in Q1 2022. On a relative basis to gross loans, restructured loans experienced a 10-bp QoQ decrease to 0.40% in Q1 2022 from 0.50% in Q4 2021. Q1 2022 restructured loans were the lowest since the first wave of COVID-19 on both an absolute and relative basis. We believe there should be no concern on restructured loans at TCB as the bank has already booked all additional provision expenses for restructured loans. Although Circular 14 does not allow for new restructuring after June 30, 2022, we see no pressure on the NPL ratio as the economy is recovering as the impact from COVID-19 has faded. We maintain our assumption for the 2022F NPL ratio at 0.74%.

Figure 4: Restructured loan balance (VND tn) and restructured loans as a percentage of gross loans



Source: TCB, VCSC compilation

Key Figures of TCB

Figure 5: NIM (%) and NII (VND tn) (2019-2024F)

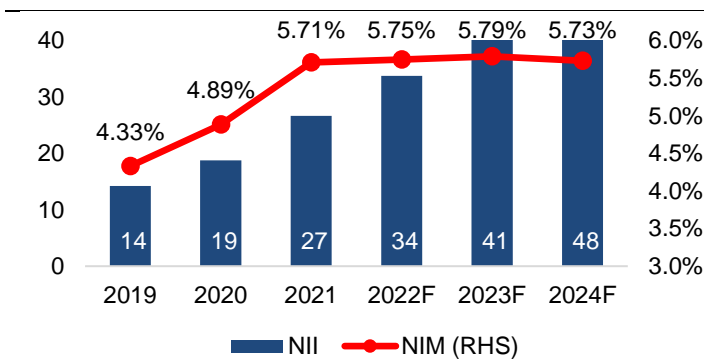
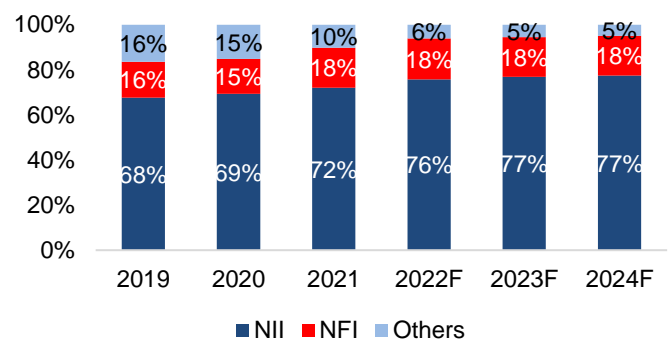


Figure 6: TOI components (2019-2024F)



Source: TCB, VCSC

Source: TCB, VCSC

Figure 7: OPEX, provision expenses and PBT as % of TOI (2019-2024F)

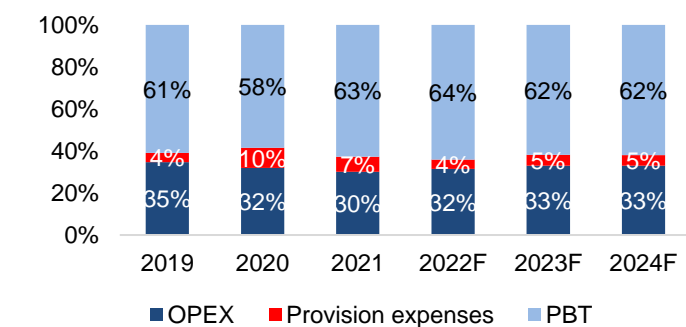
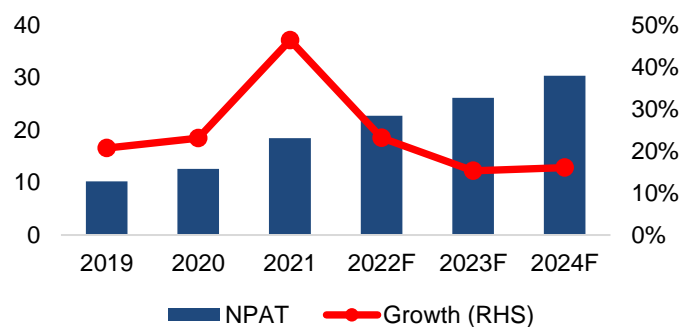


Figure 8: NPAT (VND tn) and growth (%) (2019-2024F)



Source: TCB, VCSC

Source: TCB, VCSC

Figure 9: Lending market share in our coverage universe (2019-2024F)

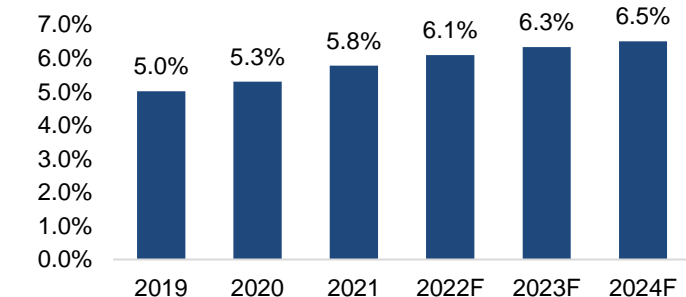
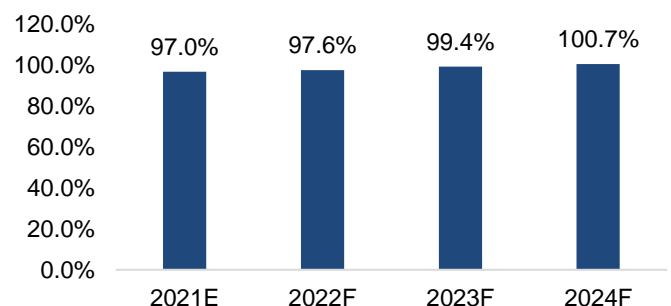


Figure 10: RWAs as % of total assets (2021-2024F)



Source: Company data, VCSC

Source: TCB, VCSC

Figure 11: NPL ratio, annualized write-offs over gross loans and LLR of banks under coverage (Q1 2022)**

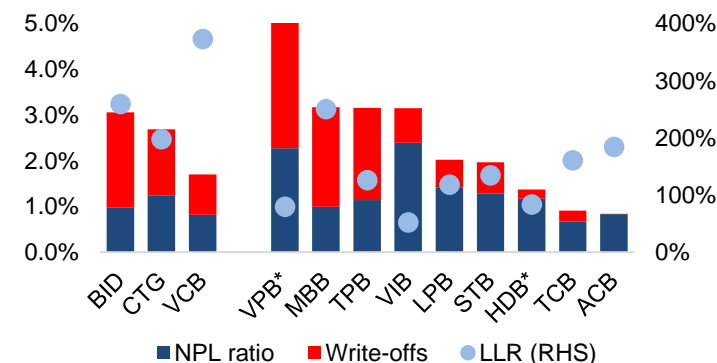
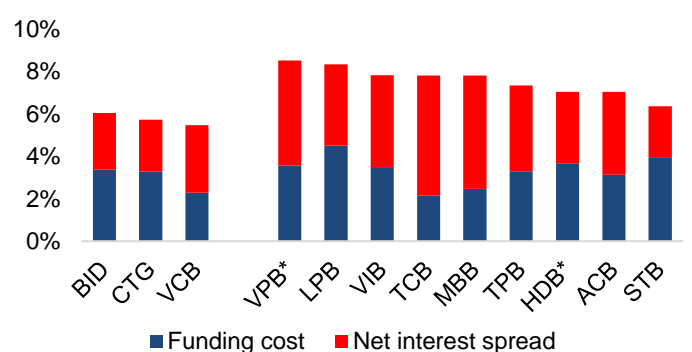


Figure 12: Annualized interest-earning asset yields of banks under coverage (Q1 2022)



Source: Company data, VCSC; * standalone bank only; ** LLR is percentage of total provision balance over NPLs.

Source: Company data, VCSC; * standalone bank only

Valuation

We utilize two valuation methodologies to reach our estimated target price for mid-2023, including (1) the residual income method with 50% weighting and target P/B method with 50% weighting.

In this Update Report, we cut our target price by 1.7% to VND69,800/share mainly due to a lower valuation produced by both the residual income and target P/B approaches that is derived from (1) a 6.4% aggregate decrease in our projection for 2022-2026F NPAT-MI and (2) a downward revision in our target P/B for TCB from 2.1x previously to 1.95x, which are partly offset by the positive effect of rolling over our TP to mid-2023. The decrease in our NPAT-MI forecasts is mainly driven by (1) a 3.0% aggregate decrease in NII as we are more cautious on TCB's credit growth given that the receivers of the zero-dong banks could receive higher-than-peer credit growth, (2) a 9.3% aggregate decrease in pure NFI partly because we lower our forecast for 2023-2026F fees from underwriting securities following our expectation for the promulgation of the draft to Decree 153, which could increase the transparency as well as quality of bonds issued but could decrease the size of bond issuance over the short term, in our view, and (3) a 43.1% aggregate decrease in trading and investment securities following the increase in bond yields.

Figure 13: Valuation summary

| (VND bn) | Fair value | Weighting | Contribution |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Residual income | 241,707 (USD10.51bn) | 50% | 120,854 |
| Target P/B @ 1.95x average 2022/23F | 248,146 (USD10.79bn) | 50% | 124,073 |
| Composite valuation | | | 244,926 (USD10.65bn) |
| Number of shares outstanding (bn) | | | 3.511 |
| Target price (VND) | | | 69,800 |
| Current price (VND) | | | 36,300 |
| Upside | | | 92.3% |
| Dividend yield | | | 0% |
| TSR | | | 92.3% |
| 2022F P/B at TP | | | 2.14x |
| RATING | | | BUY |

Source: VCSC; units are in VND bn unless otherwise stated.

Residual income model

Figure 14: Residual income model

| (VND bn) | 2022F | 2023F | 2024F | 2025F | 2026F |
|---|--------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| ROE (Beginning period equity) | 24.6% | 22.8% | 21.7% | 19.7% | 18.2% |
| COE | 12.5% | 12.5% | 12.5% | 12.5% | 12.5% |
| Economic Margin | 12.1% | 10.3% | 9.2% | 7.2% | 5.7% |
| Equity value (Beginning period) | 92,195 | 114,429 | 140,080 | 169,863 | 202,750 |
| Residual income (RI) | 5,578 | 11,841 | 12,819 | 12,255 | 11,461 |
| PV of residual income | 5,259 | 9,923 | 9,550 | 8,115 | 6,746 |
| Sum PV of RI | | | | | 39,593 |
| PV of terminal value (8% intermediate growth rate for 10 years and 3% perpetual growth) | | | | | 98,802 |
| Beginning EV (average book value 2021/22F) | | | | | 103,312 |
| Current equity value | | | | | 241,707 |
| Number of shares outstanding (bn) | | | | | 3.511 |
| Fair value per share (VND) | | | | | 68,844 |

Source: VCSC; units are in VND bn unless otherwise stated.

Figure 15: Cost of equity

| Cost of equity | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Risk free rate | 5.5% |
| Beta | 1.0 |
| Market risk premium | 7.0% |
| Cost of equity | 12.5% |

Source: VCSC

We maintain our assumption for an intermediate growth rate for 10 years after the explicit forecast at 8.0%, which equals our assumption for VCB. In addition, we maintain our assumption for a perpetual growth rate at 3.0%. Currently, there are several events that could have a short-term impact on TCB's growth outlook (as presented on page 4). However, we believe in the long-term strategy of TCB, and we view TCB's well-capitalized equity buffers to offer capabilities to capture growth opportunities over the long run. TCB has delivered consistent progress in lifting its CASA ratio from 24% as of YE2017 to 50.4% as of Q1 2022 — the highest level in Vietnam's banking industry — together with the increased use of international syndicated loans to optimize its funding cost. We believe TCB's ROA will remain at the highest level in the industry for the foreseeable future.

Target P/B

TCB is trading at a slight discount of 13.0% relative to the peer median 2022F P/B of 1.38x (**Figure 16**). Our observation suggests that TCB has traded at a discount of 2.2% to the peer median trailing P/B over the past 12 months. TCB's valuation gap with peers has widened since the beginning of the year, which we believe is partly because of concerns surrounding the risks from corporate bonds and rumors regarding the potential tightening of the real estate sector. However, we believe TCB should trade at a premium relative to the peer group for the following reasons:

- TCB's CASA level is now at the top of the industry and is driven largely by the retail segment. However, the bank still targets for an increase in its CASA ratio to 55% by 2025, which could help the bank to continue outperform its peers on the liabilities side and thereby improve its ROE.
- Syndicated loans of USD500mn and USD800mn raised by TCB in 2020 and 2021, respectively, will also help the bank to deliver competitive COF in the sector, thereby supporting increased exposure to wholesale banking.
- TCB has consistently delivered strong performances since 2013 with a net income CAGR in 2013-2020 of 52%. TCB has a strong relationship with Vingroup and a strategic partnership with Masan — the latter of which has a 15% stake in TCB. As a result, the bank has advantages to leverage the customer bases of these two companies.
- TCB is operating under a well-capitalized condition with low financial leverage of 6.1x as of Q4 2021 vs the median level at ~12x. Even so, TCB's TTM ROE was 22.0% against a domestic peer median at 22.0% as of Q1 2022. We believe TCB's business could provide ~20% ROE over the next five years.
- TCB has a strong position in the corporate bond business as well as the local stock market, which is supported by its securities company TCBS. TCBS has a leading market share in terms of corporate bond brokerage on HOSE (38.87% as of 2021) and ranks in sixth place for market share in terms of stock brokerage on HOSE (4.57% as of 2021). We believe there could be a slowdown in the corporate bonds issued in the next two years; however, in the long run, we believe corporate bonds will remain to be an important capital raising channel for companies in Vietnam.

We set our target P/B for TCB at 1.95x vs the peer median target P/B at ~1.7x. We remain comfortable to set a higher target P/B relative to peers as we believe that the current actions of the Government will support long-term sustainable growth of both the real estate sector and bond market, which is beneficial to TCB in the long run given its synergies; moreover, any negative impacts will remain short-term impacts only.

Figure 16: Bloomberg consensus forecasts for Vietnamese banks

| Bloomberg Ticker | Market Cap. (USD bn) | P/E | | | P/B | | | ROE | | | ROA | Equity Multiplier | NPL ratio |
|------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | | 2021 | 2022F | 2023F | 2021 | 2022F | 2023F | 2021 | 2022F | 2023F | TTM | 2021 | 2021 |
| ACB VN | 3.60 | 7.9 | 6.4 | 5.5 | 1.72 | 1.44 | 1.16 | 24.2% | 24.6% | 23.2% | 2.1% | 11.75 | 0.77% |
| BID VN | 7.59 | 15.2 | 13.0 | 9.4 | 2.01 | 1.83 | 1.47 | 13.8% | 17.2% | 20.2% | 0.7% | 20.41 | 1.00% |
| CTG VN | 5.27 | 9.8 | 6.1 | 5.1 | 1.24 | 1.09 | 0.95 | 13.0% | 20.1% | 20.9% | 0.8% | 16.35 | 1.26% |
| MBB VN | 4.31 | 7.2 | 6.4 | 5.2 | 1.55 | 1.31 | 1.07 | 23.7% | 24.1% | 23.4% | 2.4% | 9.72 | 0.90% |
| VCB VN | 16.06 | 16.0 | 14.2 | 11.3 | 3.15 | 2.73 | 2.11 | 21.1% | 20.9% | 21.7% | 1.7% | 12.96 | 0.64% |
| VPB VN | 6.16 | 8.2 | 9.1 | 7.6 | 1.62 | 1.46 | 1.22 | 24.0% | 16.7% | 17.1% | 3.4% | 6.34 | 4.57% |
| STB VN | 1.95 | 11.3 | 10.3 | 6.1 | 1.26 | 1.16 | 0.99 | 11.9% | 13.9% | 17.8% | 0.7% | 15.21 | 1.50% |
| HDB VN | 2.02 | 7.1 | 6.4 | 5.3 | 1.48 | 1.25 | 1.01 | 23.1% | 22.4% | 21.9% | 1.8% | 12.17 | 1.65% |
| TPB VN | 2.18 | 9.6 | 7.4 | 6.0 | 1.83 | 1.55 | 1.26 | 22.0% | 23.0% | 22.6% | 1.9% | 11.27 | 0.82% |
| VIB VN | 2.64 | 9.1 | 7.8 | 5.9 | 2.33 | 1.96 | 1.46 | 29.5% | 28.1% | 27.4% | 2.3% | 12.74 | 2.32% |
| LPB VN | 1.39 | 6.6 | 5.2 | 4.8 | 1.16 | 0.98 | 0.81 | 18.5% | 18.1% | 19.6% | 1.1% | 17.21 | 1.37% |
| Median | 3.12 | 8.6 | 6.9 | 5.7 | 1.59 | 1.38 | 1.11 | 21.6% | 20.5% | 21.3% | 1.7% | 12.45 | 1.13% |
| TCB VN | 5.90 | 7.1 | 6.3 | 5.2 | 1.39 | 1.20 | 0.97 | 21.7% | 21.0% | 20.6% | 3.6% | 6.11 | 0.66% |

Source: Bloomberg as of May 9, 2022, VCSC

Figure 17: Sensitivity analysis of 2022F P/B for TCB derived from ROE and terminal growth rate using the Gordon Growth Model, ceteris paribus.

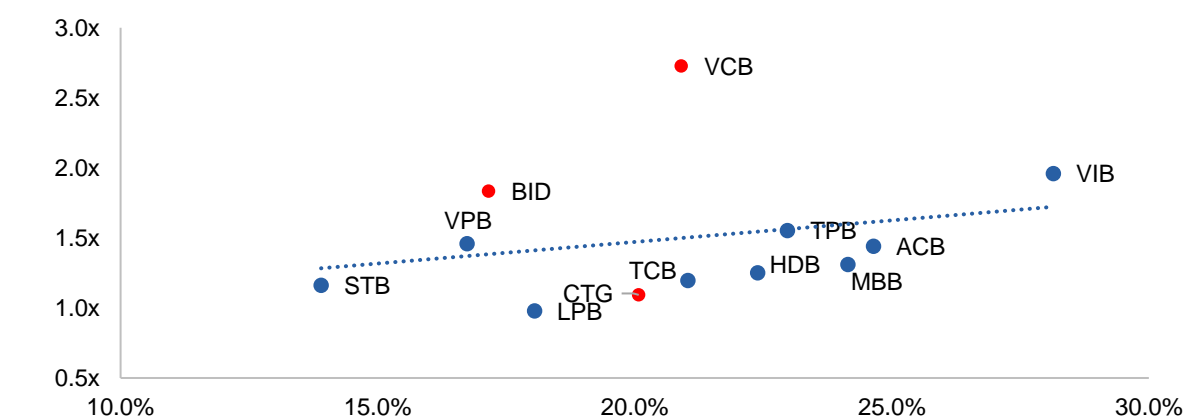
| Terminal growth (g) | Average ROE during 2016-2026F | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| | 15.9% | 17.9% | 19.9% | 21.9% | 23.9% | |
| | 1.5% | 1.31 | 1.50 | 1.68 | 1.86 | 2.04 |
| | 2.0% | 1.33 | 1.52 | 1.71 | 1.90 | 2.09 |
| | 2.5% | 1.34 | 1.54 | 1.74 | 1.94 | 2.14 |
| | 3.0% | 1.36 | 1.57 | 1.78 | 1.99 | 2.20 |
| | 3.5% | 1.38 | 1.61 | 1.83 | 2.05 | 2.27 |
| | 4.0% | 1.41 | 1.64 | 1.88 | 2.11 | 2.35 |

Source: VCSC

The above sensitivity matrix illustrates a fair value P/B multiple for TCB at 1.78x using the Gordon Growth Model (GGM) with our average ROE in 2016-2026F at 19.9%, cost of equity at 12.5% (**Figure 17**) and terminal growth assumption of 3%.

The P/B multiple derived from the GGM is 9% lower than our 2022F target P/B multiple of 1.95x because our projected ROEs reflect the negative impact of low leverage. Despite a large retained earnings base, TCB is currently not enthusiastic about paying a cash dividend.

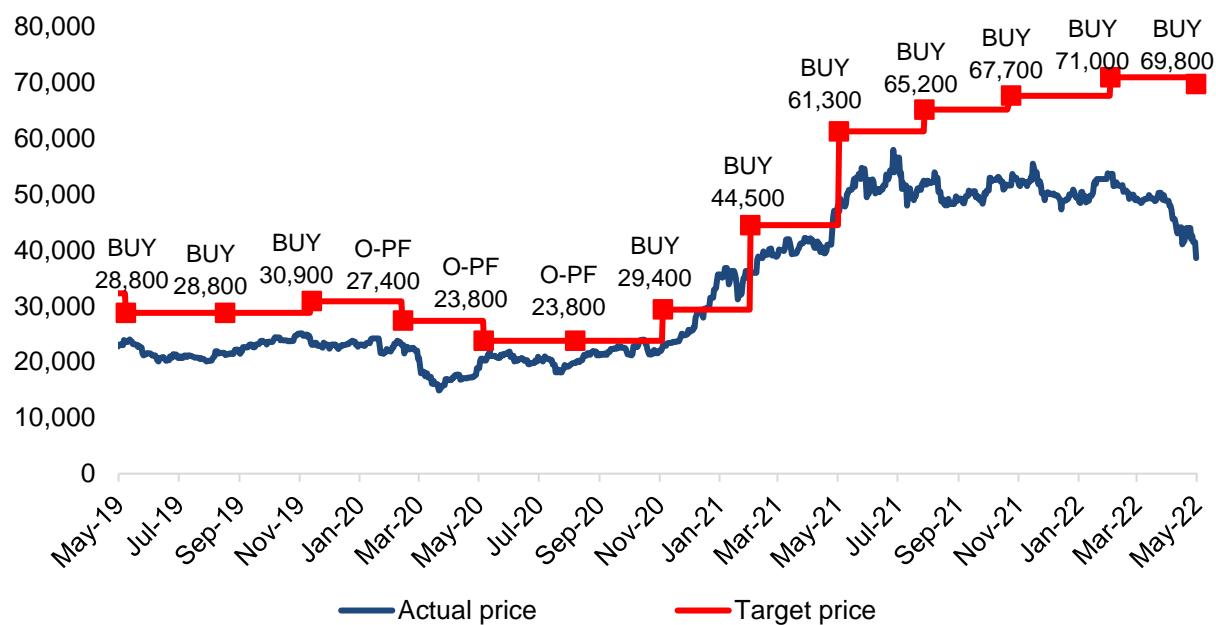
Potential downside risks to our positive view: TCB may fail to meet our earnings and profitability forecasts either due to its failure to execute on its business model and/or failure to receive credit quota as high as our expectation and/or risks arising from their corporate bonds.

Figure 18: Vietnam banks P/B (y-axis) and ROE (x-axis) (2022F)


Source: Bloomberg, VCSC — red dots signify SOCBs; priced on May 10, 2022.

History of Recommendations

Figure 19: Historical VCSC target price vs share price (VND/share)



Source: Bloomberg, VCSC

Financial Statements

| P&L (VND bn) | 2021 | 2022F | 2023F | 2024F |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Interest inc. | 35,503 | 45,433 | 55,682 | 66,650 |
| Interest exp. | (8,805) | (11,667) | (14,773) | (18,946) |
| Net interest inc. | 26,699 | 33,766 | 40,909 | 47,704 |
| Fee & commission inc. | 6,382 | 7,926 | 9,224 | 10,593 |
| Other non-interest inc. | 3,995 | 2,855 | 3,076 | 3,288 |
| Total non-interest inc. | 10,378 | 10,781 | 12,300 | 13,881 |
| Total operating inc. | 37,076 | 44,547 | 53,210 | 61,586 |
| Non-interest exp. | (11,173) | (14,032) | (17,559) | (20,323) |
| Other G&A exp. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total operating exp. | (11,173) | (14,032) | (17,559) | (20,323) |
| PPOP | 25,903 | 30,515 | 35,650 | 41,263 |
| Provision exp. | (2,665) | (1,986) | (2,764) | (3,113) |
| Other inc./exp. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pre-tax profit | 23,238 | 28,529 | 32,886 | 38,150 |
| Taxes | (4,823) | (5,848) | (6,742) | (7,821) |
| Net profit | 18,415 | 22,680 | 26,144 | 30,329 |
| Minorities/pref divs | (363) | (399) | (439) | (483) |
| Attributable net profit | 18,052 | 22,281 | 25,705 | 29,846 |
| Adj shares, wt avg (mn) | 3,507 | 3,511 | 3,511 | 3,511 |
| EPS (VND) | 5,148 | 6,346 | 7,321 | 8,501 |
| DPS (VND) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| RATIOS (%) | 2021 | 2022F | 2023F | 2024F |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Growth | | | | |
| Loan growth | 25.2 | 23.0 | 20.0 | 18.0 |
| Deposit growth | 13.4 | 21.0 | 19.0 | 18.0 |
| TOI growth | 37.1 | 20.1 | 19.4 | 15.7 |
| PPOP growth | 40.7 | 17.8 | 16.8 | 15.7 |
| NPAT growth | 46.4 | 23.2 | 15.3 | 16.0 |
| Asset quality | | | | |
| Group 2 / loans | 0.62 | 0.70 | 0.80 | 0.70 |
| NPL ratio | 0.66 | 0.74 | 0.84 | 0.84 |
| LLR / NPLs | 162.9 | 133.6 | 123.0 | 121.8 |
| Provision exp. / loans | 0.77 | 0.46 | 0.54 | 0.51 |
| Liquidity | | | | |
| CAR under BASEL II | 15.0 | 15.3 | 15.6 | 15.9 |
| Regulated LDR | 75.4 | 77.0 | 79.0 | 79.6 |

| BS (VND bn) | 2021 | 2022F | 2023F | 2024F |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Cash & equivalents | 3,579 | 4,280 | 5,049 | 5,914 |
| Balances with SBV | 4,909 | 5,779 | 6,930 | 8,255 |
| Due from FIs | 70,515 | 98,124 | 111,575 | 141,627 |
| ST investments | 102,457 | 118,107 | 133,037 | 146,063 |
| Net customer loans | 343,606 | 422,991 | 507,361 | 598,747 |
| HTM | 200 | (506) | (506) | (506) |
| Long term investments | 13 | 13 | 14 | 14 |
| Property & equipment | 8,313 | 9,909 | 11,441 | 12,689 |
| Other assets | 35,138 | 25,634 | 28,197 | 30,248 |
| Total assets | 568,729 | 684,331 | 803,097 | 943,051 |
| Borrowings from SBV | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| IB deposits & borrowings | 112,459 | 133,732 | 147,106 | 161,816 |
| Other borrowed funds | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Customer deposits | 314,753 | 380,851 | 453,212 | 534,790 |
| Other financial int. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Valuable papers | 33,680 | 40,416 | 48,499 | 63,049 |
| Other liabilities | 14,796 | 14,056 | 13,353 | 12,685 |
| Shareholders' equity | 92,195 | 114,429 | 140,079 | 169,862 |
| MI | 847 | 847 | 847 | 847 |
| Liabilities & equity | 568,729 | 684,331 | 803,097 | 943,051 |

| RATIOS (%) | 2021 | 2022F | 2023F | 2024F |
|--------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Profitability | | | | |
| NIM | 5.71 | 5.75 | 5.79 | 5.73 |
| Int-earning asset yields | 7.59 | 7.74 | 7.88 | 8.01 |
| Funding costs | 2.16 | 2.30 | 2.45 | 2.69 |
| CIR | 30.1 | 31.5 | 33.0 | 33.0 |

| ROE decomposition (as % avg total assets) | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| NII | 5.30 | 5.39 | 5.50 | 5.46 |
| Provisions | -0.53 | -0.32 | -0.37 | -0.36 |
| Post-provision NII | 4.77 | 5.07 | 5.13 | 5.11 |
| Non-Interest inc. | 2.06 | 1.72 | 1.65 | 1.59 |
| Operating exp. | -2.22 | -2.24 | -2.36 | -2.33 |
| Taxes & MI | -1.03 | -1.00 | -0.97 | -0.95 |
| ROAA | 3.58 | 3.56 | 3.46 | 3.42 |
| Equity Mult. (x) | 6.1 | 6.1 | 5.8 | 5.6 |
| ROAE | 21.7 | 21.6 | 20.2 | 19.3 |

Source: Company data, VCSC



VCSC Rating System

Stock ratings are set based on projected total shareholder return (TSR), defined as (target price – current price)/current price + dividend yield, and are not related to market performance.

| Equity rating key | Definition |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| BUY | If the projected TSR is 20% or higher |
| OUTPERFORM | If the projected TSR is between 10% and 20% |
| MARKET PERFORM | If the projected TSR is between -10% and 10% |
| UNDERPERFORM | If the projected TSR is between -10% and -20% |
| SELL | If the projected TSR is -20% or lower |
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