Market Cap

19.75 USD Bil

ESG Risk Rating Assessment<sup>1</sup>

**0000** 

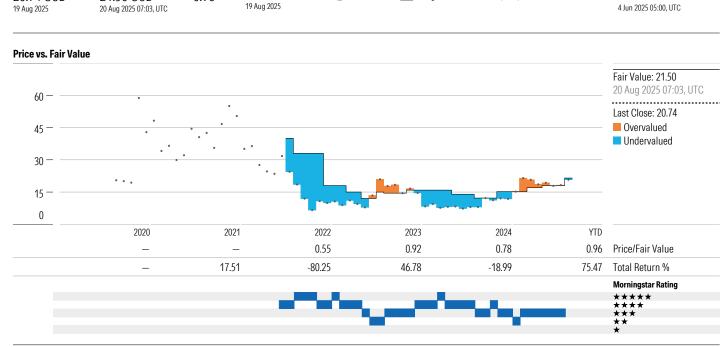
# XPeng Inc ADR XPEV ★★★ 20 Aug 2025 07:08, UTC

Price/FVE

0.96

**Fair Value Estimate** 

21.50 USD



**Economic Moat**<sup>™</sup>

(III) None

**Equity Style Box** 

Large Blend

**Capital Allocation** 

Standard

Uncertainty

Very High

Total Return % as of 19 Aug 2025. Last Close as of 19 Aug 2025. Fair Value as of 20 Aug 2025 07:03, UTC.

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**Last Price** 

20.74 USD

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#### Important Disclosure

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The primary analyst covering this company does not own its stock.

The ESG Risk Rating Assessment is a representation of Sustainalytics' ESG Risk Rating.

# XPeng Earnings: Beat Driven by Strong Vehicle Volume and Margin Recovery

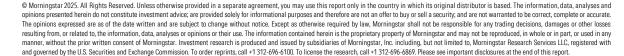
Analyst Note Vincent Sun, CFA, Senior Equity Analyst, 20 Aug 2025

XPeng's second-quarter revenue was close to the high end of guidance. Thanks to larger vehicle delivery volume and cost-cutting initiatives, vehicle margin further recovered to 14% from 10% in the first quarter.

**Why it matters:** Driven by record quarterly vehicle volumes, the vehicle margin improvement was stronger than we expected, despite pressure from price competition. We think the margin gain could be explained by the larger production scale and additional contribution from the new generation G6 and G9 models.

- ▶ To improve vehicle pricing, XPeng plans to launch new models targeting the higher price segment in 2026 by leveraging its leadership in autonomous driving technology. We maintain reservations about the success of brand upgrading.
- ▶ We raise the 2025-29 vehicle delivery forecast by 7%-9% to factor in the company's strong model cycle. With higher vehicle margin assumptions, we reduce our 2025 net loss forecast by 22% and lift 2026-29 net profit by 6%-16%.

**The bottom line:** We raise our fair value estimate to USD 21.50 per ADS (HKD 83.50 per share) from USD 18 (HKD 70), implying 1.9 times 2025 price/sales. With stock price up more than 70% year-to-date, shares are now trading in 3-star territory and fairly valued, in our view.





**Last Price** 20.74 USD 19 Aug 2025

Fair Value Estimate 21.50 USD 20 Aug 2025 07:03, UTC Price/FVE Market Cap
0.96 19.75 USD Bil
19 Aug 2025

Economic Moat™

™ None

Equity Style Box
Large Blend

Uncertainty Very High **Capital Allocation** Standard ESG Risk Rating Assessment<sup>1</sup>
(i) (i) (ii) (iii)
4 Jun 2025 05:00. UTC

Sector

Industry

Consumer Cyclical

Auto Manufacturers

#### **Business Description**

Founded in 2015, XPeng is a leading Chinese smart electric vehicle company that designs, develops, manufactures, and markets EVs in China. Its products primarily target the growing base of technology-savvy middle-class consumers in the midrange to high-end segment in China's passenger vehicle market. The company sold over 190,000 EVs in 2024, accounting for about 2% of China's passenger new energy vehicle market. It is also a leader in autonomous driving technology.

▶ Looking ahead, we believe volume will retain a robust momentum given XPeng's new model pipeline.

M03 stabilized at 15,000 units monthly delivery, and the company plans to launch the new generation

P7 in the third quarter and plug-in hybrid X9 MPV in the fourth quarter.

**Between the lines:** For the third quarter, management guided vehicle delivery to grow around 1.5 times year over year to 113,000-118,000 units. The guidance implies monthly sales of around 40,000 units in August and September, which we believe is above market expectations.

▶ Management maintains vehicle margin guidance of an expansion to the high teens in the second half, thanks to strong sales, and maintains the profit turnaround target in the fourth quarter.

#### Business Strategy & Outlook Vincent Sun, CFA, Senior Equity Analyst, 19 Mar 2025

XPeng is a leading electric vehicle manufacturer in China, targeting the midrange to high-end segment and tech-savvy consumers. It is mass producing eight pure electric models, including the G3/G3i compact sport utility vehicle, or SUV; P7 midsize sedan; P5 compact sedan; G9 midsize SUV; G6 compact SUV; X9 multipurpose vehicle and Mona 03 compact sedan. Retail prices of the current model portfolio range from CNY 120,000 to CNY 420,000 for popular trims, which offer a driving range of roughly 460-700 km. XPeng plans to launch at least 10 new cars for its new model pipeline in 2025-27.

XPeng has invested a lot of effort into research and development for its in-house developed full-stack autonomous driving technology, which has become a key selling point for its models. The Xpilot software is China's first Level 3 autonomous driving system, featuring a navigation-guided pilot for highway driving and advanced automated parking functions.

We see rapid new energy vehicle, or NEV adoption in China, being stimulated by regulatory push and improving charging infrastructure, among others. By 2028, we expect passenger NEVs to account for over 60% of total passenger car sales, from 16% in 2021. Riding on the vehicle electrification tailwind, we forecast XPeng's vehicle delivery to reach over 560,000 units in 2029 from 190,000 units in 2024, taking about 3% share in China's passenger NEV market. XPeng is still loss-making, but we forecast improving vehicle sales profit driven mainly by increased vehicle deliveries and lower unit production cost. As such, we expect it to turn profitable in 2026.

Its contract manufacturing arrangement with Haima Auto expired in 2021, so production was relocated to XPeng's own Zhaoqing plant in Guangdong with an annual designed capacity of 100,000 units. The firm expanded Zhaoqing capacity to 200,000 units in 2024 and built two additional production plants in Guangzhou and Wuhan, each with annual designed capacity of 100,000 units. As of 2024, XPeng has total production capacity of 400,000 units, with a maximum of 600,000 by adding shifts.

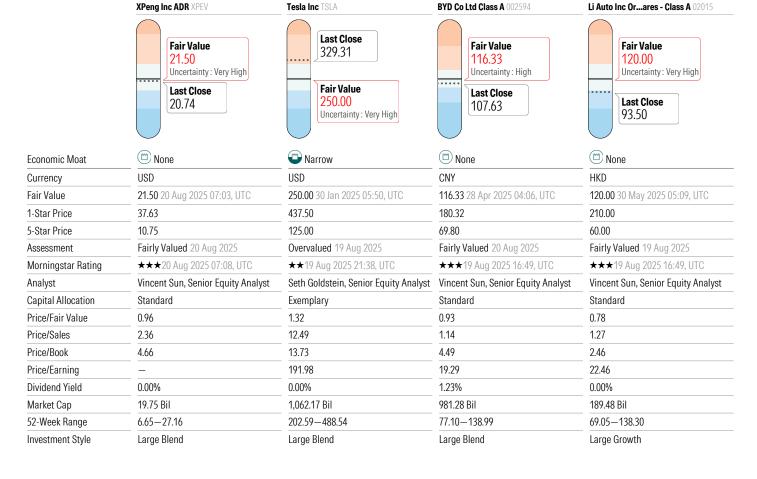
Bulls Say Vincent Sun, CFA, Senior Equity Analyst, 20 Aug 2025

► XPeng's leadership in autonomous driving technology will differentiate the company and help it defend



**Last Price Fair Value Estimate** Price/FVE **Economic Moat**™ **Equity Style Box Capital Allocation** ESG Risk Rating Assessment<sup>1</sup> Market Cap Uncertainty 19.75 USD Bil (III) None Large Blend Very High Standard **0000** 20.74 USD 21.50 USD 0.96 19 Aug 2025 4 Jun 2025 05:00, UTC 19 Aug 2025 20 Aug 2025 07:03, UTC

#### Competitors



its market share in the mass market segment amid intensifying competition.

- ► Chinese consumers' soaring demand for EV cars will benefit NEV carmakers such as XPeng. Advancing battery technology and charging solutions will ease range anxiety on electric cars and enable EVs to achieve cost parity with gasoline cars in the midterm.
- ➤ The strategic collaboration and share purchase agreement from Volkswagen Group removes investors' concern around the company's near-term liquidity.

Bears Say Vincent Sun, CFA, Senior Equity Analyst, 20 Aug 2025

- ► Rising competition among mass-market NEV models will place heavy pricing pressure on XPeng. As a mass-market brand, the company will need to offer aggressive promotions and discounts to consumers, which will weigh on its vehicle margin outlook.
- ► Rising competition in China's NEV market indicates legacy OEMs will defend their market share with aggressive new model launches.



**Last Price** 20.74 USD 19 Aug 2025

Fair Value Estimate 21.50 USD 20 Aug 2025 07:03, UTC Price/FVE 0.96 Market Cap 19.75 USD Bil 19 Aug 2025 Economic Moat™

None

Equity Style Box
Large Blend

Uncertainty Very High **Capital Allocation** Standard ESG Risk Rating Assessment<sup>1</sup>

(i) (i) (ii) (iii)

4 Jun 2025 05:00, UTC

► A higher level of vehicle autonomy still has a very long way to commercialize, considering regulations, infrastructure and technology development.

Economic Moat Vincent Sun, CFA, Senior Equity Analyst, 19 Mar 2025

While we like XPeng's current technology leadership, we are not convinced that this will allow it to maintain premium pricing over its competitors' products over at least a 10-year period. As such, we think XPeng has no moat. Generally, we see two moat sources in the auto sector from intangible assets such as brand equity, best exemplified by Ferrari, and from cost advantage. At this stage we do not yet see either moat source to be retained by XPeng.

We expect technology to play an increasingly important role for NEV makers to attract consumers from internal combustion engine, or ICE, vehicles and to differentiate themselves in competition among NEV models. XPeng leads its domestic peers in developing full-stack technology. Capitalizing on in-house research and development capabilities, the company rolled out Xpilot 3.0 through over-the-air firmware updates in 2021. Xpilot 3.0 is China's first Level 3 autonomous driving system, featuring navigation guided pilot, or NGP, for highway driving and advanced automated parking functions.

We like XPeng's proprietary autonomous driving algorithm and data capability. Instead of relying on third-party software suppliers for autonomous driving algorithms like other original equipment manufacturers, or OEMs, XPeng had dedicated much resources and effort in related R&D since inception. It is currently the only Chinese NEV maker to develop full-stack proprietary autonomous driving software. Leveraging its in-house development approach, Xpilot is tailored to specific road conditions in China. It enables better customer experience and higher adaptiveness to unique driving behavior, compared with solutions from global OEMs and autonomous driving suppliers.

The first-mover advantage also benefits XPeng regarding road-testing data accumulation for algorithm iteration, which will enhance its autonomous driving software capability. As a result, the improving technology experience would help XPeng sell more EVs for data and corner (unusual) case collection, which forms a closed loop for faster algorithm updates.

However, as the industry becomes increasingly competitive, it is still uncertain whether the technological lead that XPeng has will be retained over the long run to underpin a moat. Most of the elements of the technological advantages are likely to be replicated with time, given we are still in the early days of the industry. Legacy ICE manufacturing is highly competitive and capital-intensive. We expect the same in the NEV market over time. In addition, the company is still burning cash and we expect it is likely to do that for at least a couple more years, so the risk for the need to raise additional capital for capital-intensive investment is high, in our view.

Fair Value and Profit Drivers Vincent Sun, CFA, Senior Equity Analyst, 20 Aug 2025



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None

Equity Style Box
Large Blend

Uncertainty Very High Capital Allocation Standard ESG Risk Rating Assessment<sup>1</sup>
(1) (1) (1) (1)
4 Jun 2025 05:00, UTC

Our fair value estimate is USD 21.50 per ADS, based on our expectation for XPeng to continue gaining share from legacy automakers. Riding on the industry electrification trend and increasing consumer adoption of NEVs, we anticipate rising demand for the company's NEV models and improving profitability on economies of scale over the next few years. Our fair value estimate implies a forward 2025 price/sales ratio of 1.9 times.

We expect the company's revenue to expand at a CAGR of 31% in 2024-29, mainly driven by an expansion in vehicle delivery volume. We estimate an increasing NEV penetration rate, coupled with a demand shift to Chinese local brands, should lead to total volume growth of 34% CAGR over the next five years. Despite international and local automakers continuing to aggressively bring new NEV models to market, we believe XPeng enjoys clear leadership in vehicle autonomy technology. In light of competition in the mass market segment and a change in product mix, we anticipate an average 1% decline in average selling price yearly over the next five years.

Increasing scale effect would improve the company's profitability, in our view. We project the group's operating margin to expand to 7.5% in 2029, from negative 18.3% in 2024. While vehicle margins are under pressure in the short term, the diffusion of NEV technology and battery energy density will result in higher profitability over the longer term, reaffirming our improving margin assumptions. As a result, we anticipate the company's net loss to narrow at 63% CAGR during 2023-25, reaching breakeven in 2026 with CNY 2 billion in net profit.

#### Risk and Uncertainty Vincent Sun, CFA, Senior Equity Analyst, 19 Mar 2025

We have a Very High Morningstar Uncertainty Rating for XPeng because the company operates in a cyclical, capital-intense, and highly competitive auto manufacturing industry. These factors combined can drive huge swings in return on invested capital, even for pure-play NEV automakers. Heavy fixed costs induce fluctuating profitability from relatively small changes in demand, or from lost production due to supply shocks.

XPeng's key threats include escalating competition in China's mass-market NEV segment. Motivated by robust demand in electric vehicles, major automakers have accelerated their NEV product development in recent years. Whether Chinese or global, legacy automakers continue to bring new electric models onto the market and compete on prices. We believe it will be increasingly challenging for XPeng to increase its market share if it fails to differentiate XPeng models from those of peers.

The automotive industry is capital-intensive. XPeng will need significant capital to ramp up production capacity, expand its sales and service network, and conduct research and development. Its future capital needs may require the company to obtain external financing through additional equity or debt issuances that may dilute existing shareholders' interests or introduce covenants that may restrict its operations. In addition, such financing might not be available promptly or on acceptable terms, which



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None

Equity Style Box
Large Blend

Uncertainty Very High **Capital Allocation** Standard would delay its expansion plans.

Autonomous driving is a key factor differentiating XPeng's EVs from competing products. However, regulatory restrictions may affect the development of autonomous driving technology. Moreover, the technology is subject to risks, and accidents have occurred from time to time. To the extent accidents associated with autonomous driving systems occur, the company could be subject to liability, government scrutiny, and further regulation.

#### Capital Allocation Vincent Sun, CFA, Senior Equity Analyst, 19 Mar 2025

We have assigned a Standard Capital Allocation Rating to XPeng. The rating reflects our assessment of a sound balance sheet, fair investment and shareholder distributions. XPeng's balance sheet looks sound with a conservative level of debt in its book. The company has been in a net cash position since 2018. We think the balance sheet will remain sound, as its access to capital will likely remain solid amid automotive electrification tailwinds.

The company has not paid dividends since its founding in 2015. In addition, given the large capital expenditure required for NEV investments, dividends are unlikely to happen in the next five years. We believe this is an appropriate shareholder distribution strategy as management continues to expand its sales network and invest in related technologies.

He Xiaopeng, co-founder, chairman and chief executive officer of the company, built one of China's largest electric vehicle manufacturing enterprises from the ground up. He holds over 18% of XPeng's total issued share capital and over 60% voting rights in XPeng, indicating his significant vested interest in the firm's long-term success. Unlike the case for many other Chinese automakers, the government does not have a direct stake in the listed entity. Such a shareholding structure enables the company to prioritize shareholder interests and be nimbler when it comes to staying on top of the competition.

#### **Analyst Notes Archive**

**XPeng Earnings: Revenue in Line but Margin Improvement Disappoints on Price Pressure** Vincent Sun, CFA,Senior Equity Analyst,22 May 2025

XPeng's first-quarter revenue was at the high end of guidance. Thanks to larger vehicle delivery volume and cost-cutting initiatives, vehicle margin further recovered to 10.5% from 10.0% in the fourth quarter. Why it matters: Despite a record quarterly vehicle volume, the vehicle margin improvement was weaker than we expected due to a higher sales contribution from the lower-priced Mona M03, inventory provision and compensation to suppliers, and pressure from price competition. We raise our 2025-29 vehicle delivery forecast by over 30% to factor in the company's strong new model cycle, such as the Mona M03 and P7+ sedan. However, we only increase 2025-29 revenue estimates by 5%-9% due to lower vehicle price assumptions. With slightly lower vehicle margin assumptions, we reduce the 2025



**Last Price**20.74 USD
19 Aug 2025

Fair Value Estimate 21.50 USD 20 Aug 2025 07:03, UTC Price/FVE 0.96 Market Cap 19.75 USD Bil 19 Aug 2025 Economic Moat™

None

Equity Style Box
Large Blend

Uncertainty Very High **Capital Allocation** Standard net loss forecast by 12% and lift the 2026-29 net profit by 3%-7%. The bottom line: We raise our fair value estimate to USD 18 per ADS (HKD 70 per share), from USD 17 (HKD 66), implying a 1.8 times 2025 price/sales ratio. With the stock price up more than 70% year-to-date, shares are now trading in 3-star territory and fairly valued, in our view. Looking ahead, we believe volume will be robust given XPeng's new model pipeline. M03 ramped up to 15,000 units monthly delivery in the past few months. In addition, the company plans to introduce a new G7 in the third quarter and a plug-in hybrid G9 in the fourth quarter. We estimate the firm will record a net loss of CNY 1.8 billion in 2025 and break even in 2026 with CNY 1.9 billion net profit. Between the lines: For the second quarter, management guided vehicle delivery to more than triple year over year to 102,000-108,000 units. The guidance implies monthly sales of around 35,000 units in May and June, which we believe is slightly below market expectations. Management is confident in guiding vehicle margin expansion to high teens in the second half, thanks to strong sales, and is maintaining profitability in the fourth quarter.

**XPeng Earnings: Revenue In Line; Vehicle Margin Beat on Strong Vehicle Volume** Vincent Sun, CFA,Senior Equity Analyst,19 Mar 2025

XPeng's fourth-quarter revenue was near the high end of company guidance and in line with our expectations. Thanks to larger vehicle delivery volume and cost-cutting initiatives, vehicle margin further recovered to 10.0% from 8.6% in the third quarter. Why it matters: The margin improvement was stronger than we expected, despite pressure from price promotions amid competition. Furthermore, management is confident about guiding for further vehicle margin expansion in 2025, benefiting from strong sales and turning profitable in the fourth quarter of this year. Looking beyond, we believe volume will create robust momentum, given XPeng's new model pipeline. In the past few months, the Mona M03 sedan ramped up to 15,000 units of monthly delivery. In addition, the company launched the newgeneration G6 and G9 early this month, with strong initial order intakes. The bottom line: We raise our fair value estimate to USD 17.00 per ADS (HKD 66.00 per share) from USD 15.20 (HKD 59.00), implying a 1.9 times 2025 price/sales ratio. With the stock price having more than doubled year to date, shares are now trading in 2-star territory and overvalued, in our view. We raise our 2025-28 vehicle delivery forecasts by 22%-24% to factor in the company's strong new model cycle, such as the M03, P7+, and plug-in hybrid G9 later this year. Partly offset by lower vehicle price assumptions, we raise our 2025-28 revenue estimates by 14%-16%. We keep our vehicle margin assumptions but reduce our 2025 net loss forecast by 24% and lift 2026-28 net profit by 6%-13% to reflect positive operating leverage. We estimate the firm to record a net loss of CNY 2.1 billion in 2025 and break even in 2026 with CNY 1.8 billion in net profit. Between the lines: For the first quarter, management guided for vehicle delivery to more than triple year over year to 91,000-93,000 units. The guidance implies March monthly sales of over 31,000 units, which we believe aligns with market expectations.

XPeng Earnings: Revenue in Line; Vehicle Margin Slightly Missed but Guided to Further Expand



**Last Price** 20.74 USD 19 Aug 2025

Fair Value Estimate 21.50 USD 20 Aug 2025 07:03, UTC Price/FVE 0.96 Market Cap 19.75 USD Bil 19 Aug 2025 Economic Moat™

None

Equity Style Box
Large Blend

Uncertainty Very High **Capital Allocation** Standard ESG Risk Rating Assessment<sup>1</sup>
(i) (i) (ii) (iii)
4 Jun 2025 05:00. UTC

Vincent Sun, CFA, Senior Equity Analyst, 20 Nov 2024

XPeng's third-quarter revenue was 7% above the midpoint of guidance but largely in line with our expectations. Thanks to larger vehicle deliveries and lower battery costs, vehicle margin recovered further to 8.6% from 6.4% last quarter. Why it matters: The margin improvement was weaker than we expected, likely due to pressure from price promotions amid competition. However, management is confident the firm will continue to record margin recovery in the fourth quarter and next year benefiting from strong sales and cost-cutting. Looking beyond this quarter, we believe volume will stage a robust pickup given XPeng's new model pipeline. The Mona M03 sedan has ramped up to 10,000 units of monthly delivery only one month after launch. As well, the firm recently launched the P7+ midsize sedan with strong initial order intakes. The bottom line: We raise our fair value estimate to USD 15.20 per ADS (HKD 59.00 per share), from USD 12.20 (HKD 47.50), implying a 1.9 times 2025 price/sales ratio. Despite concern about first-quarter vehicle demand after the national subsidy expiration at year-end, shares are undervalued for long-term investors. We raise our 2024-28 vehicle delivery forecast by about 30% to factor in the firm's strong new model cycle, such as M03, P7+, and plug-in hybrid G9, next year. Partly offset by lower vehicle price assumptions, we raise 2024-28 revenue estimates by 17%-19%. With a lower vehicle margin, we increase the 2024-25 net loss forecast by 5%-11% but lift 2026-28 net profit forecast by 4%-8% to reflect positive operating leverage on larger deliveries. We estimate the firm to record a net loss of CNY 6.6 billion in 2024 and break even in 2026 with a net profit of CNY 1.6 billion. Between the lines: For the fourth quarter, management guided vehicle delivery to increase 45%-51% year over year to 87,000-91,000 units. The guidance implies monthly sales of over 32,000 units for November and December, which we believe is above market expectations.

# XPeng Earnings: Revenue in Line; Vehicle Margin Remains Under Pressure Despite Volume Recovery Vincent Sun, CFA, Senior Equity Analyst, 21 Aug 2024

XPeng's second-quarter revenue was 3% above the midpoint of its guidance. Thanks to a better product mix and lower battery cost, the vehicle margin further recovered to 6.4% from negative 8.6% in the second quarter of last year. But the margin improvement was weaker than we expected due likely to pressure from price promotions amid competition. Management is confident the company will continue to record margin recovery for the rest of the year. However, with lower volume, softer vehicle margin, and higher operating expense assumptions, we increase our net loss forecast for 2024-25 and cut net profit estimates for outer years. As a result, we reduce our fair value estimate to USD 12.20 per ADS (HKD 47.30 per share), from USD 14.00 per ADS (HKD 54.90 per share), which implies a forward 2025 price/sales ratio of 1.8 times. XPeng is undervalued, but our preferred pick in the China auto space is Geely, based on valuation grounds and market share gains from its new energy vehicle product, Zeekr.Looking beyond the second quarter, we believe volume will recover sequentially, and growth will be skewed toward the last few months, given the company's new model pipeline. The first sedan model



**Last Price**20.74 USD
19 Aug 2025

Fair Value Estimate 21.50 USD 20 Aug 2025 07:03, UTC Price/FVE 0.96 Market Cap 19.75 USD Bil 19 Aug 2025 Economic Moat™

None

Equity Style Box
Large Blend

Uncertainty Very High **Capital Allocation** Standard ESG Risk Rating Assessment<sup>1</sup>
(i) (i) (ii) (iii)
4 Jun 2025 05:00. UTC

under the Mona brand, M03, will start delivery in August. In addition, the firm will launch a midsize sedan, the P7 Plus, in the fourth quarter. Despite retail price discounts amid continued market competition, we believe vehicle margin will continue to record sequential recovery in the second half, benefiting from recovering sales and higher technical service income. For the third quarter, management guided vehicle delivery to increase by 2%-12% year over year to 41,000-45,000 units and total revenue to increase by 7%-15% year over year to CNY 9.1 billion-CNY 9.8 billion. The midpoint of the delivery guidance implies a monthly sales volume of around 16,000 units for August and September, which we believe is slightly below market expectation, given Mona M03 delivery will start this month.

Tariffs of Up to 25% on Chinese EV Manufacturers Won't Change Our Growth Outlook Vincent Sun, CFA, Senior Equity Analyst, 12 Jun 2024

Shares of Chinese electric vehicle manufacturers fell 4%-9% on June 12 in Hong Kong on news that the European Commission will provisionally apply additional tariffs of up to 25% on imported electric vehicles made in China starting next month, compared with the 10% standard import duties on EVs. The European Union launched an investigation in October 2023 into subsidies given to EV automakers in China. The EU accused Chinese automakers of unfairly benefiting from incentives and support from the Chinese government and such subsidies have raised overcapacity concerns. The commission alleged that subsidized car imports posed an economic threat to the healthy development of the EV industry in the EU.The move is modest compared with the stiff 100% tariffs on Chinese EV imports into the US, hiked from 25% last month, by the Joe Biden administration and the 25% provisional duties are in line with market expectations of 20%-25%, in our view. Unlike the US market where imports of China-made EVs have been negligible, we believe the import levies imposed by the EU will put pressure on sales for Chinese EV manufacturers in the near term. However, we think Chinese producers are still competitive compared with their rivals. The commission estimates that prices of Chinese EVs are typically 20% lower than prices of EU-made equivalent models. With additional tariffs, Chinese cars are at similar prices, but with more attractive designs and vehicle technology. In addition, the tariffs will apply not only to Chinese carmakers including BYD and Geely, but also to global automakers such as Tesla and BMW, which export EVs from China to Europe. In the medium term, we do not think the import levies will derail Chinese EV manufacturers' expansion plans to set up factories in Europe. The increase in local production in the EU could largely offset the impact of tariffs. For example, BYD announced last year it would build a new manufacturing plant in Hungary for localized production.

XPeng Earnings: Results Beat on Vehicle Margin and Technical Service Income; Growth Bottomed Out Vincent Sun, CFA,Senior Equity Analyst,22 May 2024

XPeng's first-quarter revenue was 6% above the high end of its guidance. Thanks to a better product mix and lower battery cost, the vehicle margin recovered to 5.5% from negative 2.5% in the first quarter of last year. The margin improvement was stronger than we expected, considering pressure from price



**Last Price** 20.74 USD 19 Aug 2025

Fair Value Estimate 21.50 USD 20 Aug 2025 07:03, UTC Price/FVE 0.96 Market Cap 19.75 USD Bil 19 Aug 2025 Economic Moat™

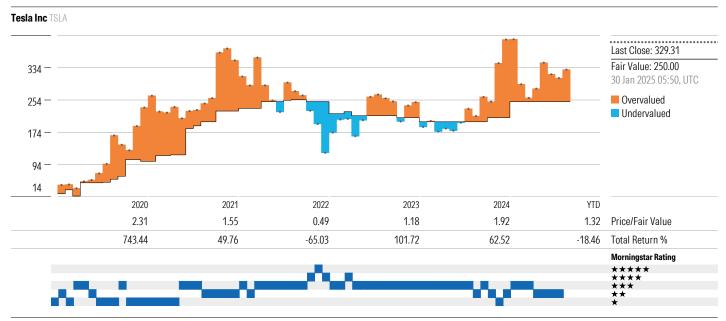
™ None

Equity Style Box
Large Blend

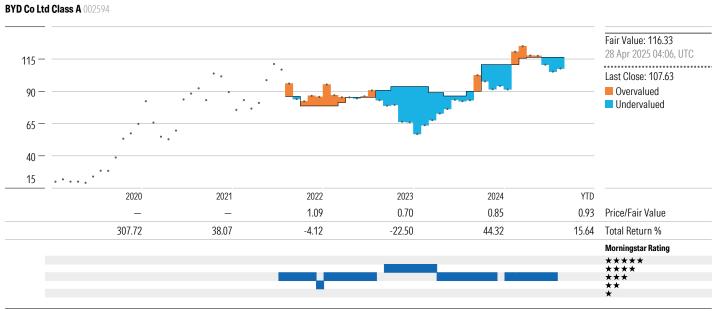
Uncertainty Very High Capital Allocation Standard ESG Risk Rating Assessment<sup>1</sup>
(i) (i) (ii) (iii)
4 Jun 2025 05:00, UTC

promotions amid competition. Management is confident the company will continue to record margin recovery for the rest of the year. We trim our 2024-26 vehicle delivery forecast by 33%-36% to factor in year-to-date sales run-rate and expect XPeng to sell 160,000 vehicles in 2024. With lower volume, better margin, and higher operating expense assumptions, as the company accelerates overseas development, we reduced our net loss forecast for 2024-25. Still, we cut net profit estimates for outer years. As a result, we reduced our fair value estimate to USD 14.00 per ADS (HKD 54.90 per share) from USD 15.90 (HKD 61.70), which implies a forward 2024 price/sales ratio of 2.5 times. For the second quarter, management guided vehicle delivery to increase by 25%-38% year over year to 29,000-32,000 units and for total revenue to grow 48%-64% year over year to CNY 7.5 billion-CNY 8.3 billion. The midpoint of the delivery guidance implies a monthly sales volume of around 10,500 units for May and June, which we believe is in line with the lukewarm market expectation. We remain positive on the name as we believe growth momentum has bottomed out. In our view, investors focus on whether the company can resume delivery growth with new launches and improve profitability in a challenging pricing environment. Looking beyond the first quarter, we believe volume will recover sequentially, and growth will be skewed toward the second half, given the company's new model pipeline. The first sedan model under the Mona brand will be released in June, with delivery in the third quarter. In addition, the company will launch the P6 midsize sedan built on the Sepa platform in the fourth quarter. III

#### **Competitors Price vs. Fair Value**



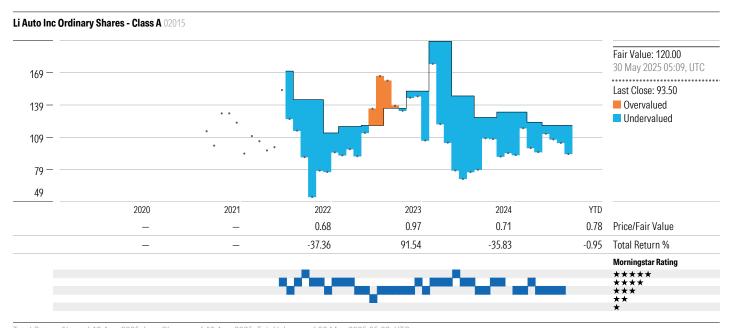
Total Return % as of 19 Aug 2025. Last Close as of 19 Aug 2025. Fair Value as of 30 Jan 2025 05:50, UTC.



Total Return % as of 19 Aug 2025. Last Close as of 19 Aug 2025. Fair Value as of 28 Apr 2025 04:06, UTC.



#### **Competitors Price vs. Fair Value**



Total Return % as of 19 Aug 2025. Last Close as of 19 Aug 2025. Fair Value as of 30 May 2025 05:09, UTC.



**Last Price Fair Value Estimate** Price/FVE Market Cap Economic Moat™ **Equity Style Box** Uncertainty **Capital Allocation** ESG Risk Rating Assessment<sup>1</sup> **00000** 20.74 USD 21.50 USD 0.96 19.75 USD Bil Mone Large Blend Very High Standard 19 Aug 2025 4 Jun 2025 05:00, UTC 19 Aug 2025 20 Aug 2025 07:03, UTC

Morningstar Valuation Model Summary										
Financials as of 20 Aug 2025	A	Actual			Forecast					
Fiscal Year, ends 31 Dec	<del>-</del>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	
Revenue (CNY Mil)		26,855	30,676	40,866	75,811	95,515	117,404	138,480	156,394	
Operating Income (CNY Mil)		-8,815	-11,384	-7,482	-3,964	425	4,437	7,927	11,731	
EBITDA (CNY Mil)		-9,009	-9,405	-4,731	-898	2,707	6,957	10,721	14,847	
Adjusted EBITDA (CNY Mil)		-9,094	-8,800	-4,704	-898	2,707	6,957	10,721	14,847	
Net Income (CNY Mil)		-9,139	-10,376	-5,790	-1,442	1,992	6,272	10,150	14,425	
Adjusted Net Income (CNY Mil)		-7,910	-10,430	-6,374	-2,646	1,791	6,072	9,949	14,224	
Free Cash Flow To The Firm (CNY Mil)		4,107	-5,375	1,295	-2,431	-1,682	-652	-216	58	
Weighted Average Diluted Shares Outstanding (Mil)		1,713	1,741	1,891	1,884	1,884	1,884	1,884	1,884	
Earnings Per Share (Diluted) (CNY)		-5.34	-5.96	-3.06	-0.77	1.06	3.33	5.39	7.66	
Adjusted Earnings Per Share (Diluted) (CNY)		-4.62	-5.99	-3.37	-1.40	0.95	3.22	5.28	7.55	
Dividends Per Share (CNY)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Margins & Returns as of 20 Aug 2025				Forecast						
•	3 Year Avg	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	5 Year Avg
Operating Margin %	-30.4	-32.8	-37.1	-18.3	-5.2	0.4	3.8	5.7	7.5	2.9
EBITDA Margin % Adjusted EBITDA Margin %	_ _	-33.6 -33.9	-30.7 -28.7	-11.6 -11.5	-1.2 -1.2	2.8 2.8	5.9 5.9	7.7 7.7	9.5 9.5	5.0
Net Margin %	-27.3	-34.0	-33.8	-14.2	-1.2	2.0	5.3	7.3	9.2	4.4
Adjusted Net Margin %	-26.4	-29.5	-34.0	-15.6	-3.5	1.9	5.2	7.2	9.1	4.0
Free Cash Flow To The Firm Margin %	0.3	15.3	-17.5	3.2	-3.2	-1.8	-0.6	-0.2	0.0	-1.1
Growth & Ratios as of 20 Aug 2025	A	Actual			Forecast					
	3 Year CAGR	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	5 Year CAGE
Revenue Growth %	24.9	28.0	14.2	33.2	85.5	26.0	22.9	18.0	12.9	30.8
Operating Income Growth %	3.3	29.7	29.2	-34.3	-47.0	-110.7	943.7	78.7	48.0	
EBITDA Growth %	12.7	83.3 62.8	4.4	-49.7 -46.6	-81.0	-401.3 -401.3	157.0	54.1 54.1	38.5	-46.5
Adjusted EBITDA Growth % Earnings Per Share Growth %	-5.6 1.1	80.3	-3.2 11.7	-48.6	-80.9 -75.0	-401.3	157.0 214.9	61.8	38.5 42.1	-225.9
Adjusted Earnings Per Share Growth %	1.1	23.5	29.7	-43.8	-73.0 -58.3	-236.1	239.0	63.9	43.0	_
Valuation as of 20 Aug 2025		Actual	27.1	15.0	Forecast	107.7	257.0	03.7	15.0	
	_	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	
Price/Earning		-7.5	-8.6	-12.8	-53.2	78.4	23.1	14.1	9.9	
Price/Sales		2.2	3.2	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.1	1.0	0.9	
Price/Book		1.6	2.5	2.6	4.7	4.4	3.7	2.9	2.2	
Price/Cash Flow		_					_	_		
EV/EBITDA		-3.9	-9.4	-15.3	-133.4	44.3	17.2	11.2	8.1	
EV/EBIT		-4.0	-7.2	-9.6	-30.2	281.9	27.0	15.1	10.2	
Dividend Yield % Dividend Payout %		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Free Cash Flow Yield %		_					_	_		
Operating Performance / Profitability as of 20 Aug 2025	Д	Actual			Forecast					
Fiscal Year, ends 31 Dec	=	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	
ROA %		-12.8	-12.3	-7.0	-1.4	1.7	4.6	6.3	7.7	
ROE%		-24.8	-28.6	-18.5	-4.8	6.3	16.5	21.0	23.0	
ROIC %		-160.3	-47.8	2.9	17.5	20.6	19.7	20.3	20.3	

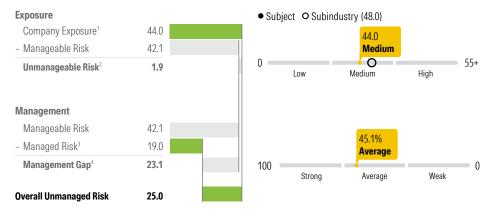


<b>Last Price</b> 20.74 USD 19 Aug 2025	Fair Value Estimate 21.50 USD 20 Aug 2025 07:03, UTC	Price/FVE 0.96	<b>Market Cap</b> 19.75 USD 19 Aug 2025	D Bil Mone		Equity Styl Large			Capital Allocation Standard	<b>60</b>	ESG Risk Rating Assessment <sup>1</sup> (I) (I) (I) (II) (II) 4 Jun 2025 05:00, UTC	
Financial Levera	ge (Reporting Currency)			Actual			Forecast					
Fiscal Year, ends 31	Dec			2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	
Debt/Capital %				60.4	52.9	58.2	9.1	9.8	10.3	10.7	10.9	
Assets/Equity				1.9	2.3	2.6	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.0	
Net Debt/EBITDA				2.0	2.5	3.5	31.2	-12.5	-6.5	-5.5	-5.1	
Total Debt/EBITDA				-1.4	-1.7	-3.4	-16.8	6.7	3.0	2.3	1.8	
EBITDA/ Net Intere	•			9.8	8.9	4.6	0.7	-2.0	-4.3	-5.4	-6.1	
	<b>ns</b> as of 20 Aug 2025			2025		:	2026		2027			
Prior data as of 21 M	May 2025 te Change (Trading Currer	nov)		<b>Currer</b> 21.5		<b>Prior</b> 17.96			Prior	Curren		
Revenue (CNY Mil	•	юу		75,81		66,117	95,		82,556	117,404		
Operating Income				-3,96		-4,310		425	408	4,437		
EBITDA (CNY Mil)				-89	8	-1,268	2,	707	2,618	6,957	6,212	
Net Income (CNY	Mil)			-2,64	6	-3,050	1,	791	1,670	6,072	5,309	
Earnings Per Shar	e (Diluted) (CNY)			-0.7	7	-0.98	,	.06	0.99	3.33	3 2.92	
Adjusted Earnings	Per Share (Diluted) (CNY	)		-1.4	.0	-1.62	(	).95	0.89	3.22	2.82	
Dividends Per Sha	are (CNY)			0.0	0	0.00	(	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Key Valuation Dr	ivers as of 20 Aug 2025		;	Discounted Cash	n Flow Valu	uation as o	f 20 Aug 2025					
Cost of Equity %	, and the second		9.0								CNY Mil	
Pre-Tax Cost of De				Present Value Sta	0						-2,582	
	e Cost of Capital %			Present Value Sta	U						9,088	
Long-Run Tax Rat			-	Present Value Sta	ige III						106,498	
Stage II EBI Growt				Total Firm Value							113,004	
Stage II Investment	it ndte 70		10.0 11	Daah and En. 1 -1							20.004	
,			Cash and Equival Debt	ents						32,081 12,132		
Additional estimates and	scenarios available for download at h	tps://pitchbook.com/		Debl Other Adjustmen	te						5,018	
			-	Equity Value							137,970	
			ı	Projected Diluted	Shares						1.884	
				air Value per Shar							21.50	



**Last Price Fair Value Estimate** Price/FVE Market Cap **Economic Moat**™ **Equity Style Box Capital Allocation** ESG Risk Rating Assessment<sup>1</sup> Uncertainty 20.74 USD 19.75 USD Bil (III) None Large Blend Very High Standard **@@@@** 21.50 USD 0.96 19 Aug 2025 4 Jun 2025 05:00, UTC 19 Aug 2025 20 Aug 2025 07:03, UTC

#### **ESG Risk Rating Breakdown**



- ► Exposure represents a company's vulnerability to ESG risks driven by their business model
- ► Exposure is assessed at the Subindustry level and then specified at the company level
- Scoring ranges from 0-55+ with categories of low, medium, and high-risk exposure
- Management measures a company's ability to manage ESG risks through its commitments and actions
- Management assesses a company's efficiency on ESG programs, practices, and policies
- Management score ranges from 0-100% showing how much manageable risk a company is managing

#### ESG Risk Rating Assessment<sup>5</sup>











ESG Risk Rating is of Jun 04, 2025. Highest Controversy Level is as of Aug 08, 2025. Sustainalytics Subindustry: Automobiles. Sustainalytics provides Morningstar with company ESG ratings and metrics on a monthly basis and as such, the ratings in Morningstar may not necessarily reflect current Sustainalytics' scores for the company. For the most up to date rating and more information, please visit: sustainalytics.com/esg-ratings/.



ESG Risk Ratings measure the degree to which a company's value is impacted by environmental, social, and governance risks, by evaluating the company's ability to manage the ESG risks it faces.

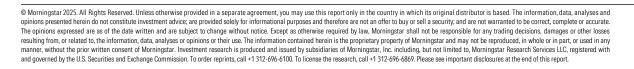
1. A company's Exposure to material ESG issues 2. Unmanageable Risk refers to risks that are inherent to a particular business model that cannot be managed by programs or initiatives 3. Managed Risk = Manageable Risk multiplied by a Management score of 45.1% 4. Management Gap assesses risks that are not managed, but are considered manageable 5. ESG Risk Rating Assessment = Overall Unmanaged Risk = Management Gap plus Unmanageable Risk

Peer Analysis 04 Jun 2025	Peers are selected f	rom the company's Susta	the closest market cap values	ı			
Company Name	Exposure		Management		ESG Risk Rating		
XPeng Inc	44.0   Medium	0	55+ 45.1   Average	100 0	25.0   Medium 0	40+	
BYD Co Ltd	47.4   Medium	0	55+ 42.8   Average	100 0	28.1   Medium 0	<del></del>	
Tesla Inc	41.7   Medium	0	55+ 42.4   Average	100 0	24.8   Medium 0	40+	
NIO Inc	44.8   Medium	0	55+ 41.1   Average	1000	27.2   Medium 0	40+	
Li Auto Inc	47.0   Medium	0	55+ 52.0   Strong	100 0	23.8   Medium 0	40+	

# **Appendix**

# Historical Morningstar Rating

		0005.07.07.11	Τ0								
XPeng Inc A	. <b>DR</b> XPEV 20 Au	g 2025 07:06, U	IC								
Dec 2025	Nov 2025	Oct 2025	Sep 2025	Aug 2025	Jul 2025	Jun 2025	May 2025	Apr 2025	Mar 2025	Feb 2025	Jan 2025
—	—	—	—	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★
Dec 2024	Nov 2024	Oct 2024	Sep 2024	Aug 2024	Jul 2024	Jun 2024	May 2024	Apr 2024	Mar 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024
★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★★
Dec 2023	Nov 2023	Oct 2023	Sep 2023	Aug 2023	Jul 2023	Jun 2023	May 2023	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	Feb 2023	Jan 2023
★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★
Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	Sep 2022	Aug 2022	Jul 2022	Jun 2022	May 2022	Apr 2022	Mar 2022	Feb 2022	Jan 2022
★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★★	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dec 2021	Nov 2021	Oct 2021	Sep 2021	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Jun 2021	May 2021	Apr 2021	Mar 2021	Feb 2021	Jan 2021
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dec 2020	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Sep 2020	Aug 2020	Jul 2020	Jun 2020	May 2020	Apr 2020	Mar 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tesla Inc TS	LA 19 Aug 2025	21:38, UTC									
Dec 2025	Nov 2025	Oct 2025	Sep 2025	Aug 2025	Jul 2025	Jun 2025	May 2025	Apr 2025	Mar 2025	Feb 2025	Jan 2025
—	—	—	—	★★	★★	★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★
Dec 2024	Nov 2024	Oct 2024	Sep 2024	Aug 2024	Jul 2024	Jun 2024	May 2024	Apr 2024	Mar 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024
★	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
Dec 2023	Nov 2023	Oct 2023	Sep 2023	Aug 2023	Jul 2023	Jun 2023	May 2023	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	Feb 2023	Jan 2023
★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★★
Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	Sep 2022	Aug 2022	Jul 2022	Jun 2022	May 2022	Apr 2022	Mar 2022	Feb 2022	Jan 2022
★★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★
Dec 2021	Nov 2021	Oct 2021	Sep 2021	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Jun 2021	May 2021	Apr 2021	Mar 2021	Feb 2021	Jan 2021
★★	★★	★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★	★	★	★	★
Dec 2020	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Sep 2020	Aug 2020	Jul 2020	Jun 2020	May 2020	Apr 2020	Mar 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020
★	★	★★★	★	★	★	★★	★★★	★★★	★	★★	★
BYD Co Ltd (	<b>Class A</b> 002594	19 Aug 2025 16	5:49, UTC								
Dec 2025	Nov 2025	Oct 2025	Sep 2025	Aug 2025	Jul 2025	Jun 2025	May 2025	Apr 2025	Mar 2025	Feb 2025	Jan 2025
—	—	—	—	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	—
Dec 2024	Nov 2024	Oct 2024	Sep 2024	Aug 2024	Jul 2024	Jun 2024	May 2024	Apr 2024	Mar 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024
★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★★
Dec 2023	Nov 2023	Oct 2023	Sep 2023	Aug 2023	Jul 2023	Jun 2023	May 2023	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	Feb 2023	Jan 2023
★★★★	★★★	★★★	—	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★
Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	Sep 2022	Aug 2022	Jul 2022	Jun 2022	May 2022	Apr 2022	Mar 2022	Feb 2022	Jan 2022
★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dec 2021	Nov 2021	Oct 2021	Sep 2021	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Jun 2021	May 2021	Apr 2021	Mar 2021	Feb 2021	Jan 2021
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dec 2020	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Sep 2020	Aug 2020	Jul 2020	Jun 2020	May 2020	Apr 2020	Mar 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—





Li Auto Inc	Ordinary Shar	es - Class A 020	15 <b>19 Aug 202</b> 5	5 16:49, UTC							
Dec 2025	Nov 2025	Oct 2025	Sep 2025	Aug 2025	Jul 2025	Jun 2025	May 2025	Apr 2025	Mar 2025	Feb 2025	Jan 2025
—	—	—	—	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	—
Dec 2024	Nov 2024	Oct 2024	Sep 2024	Aug 2024	Jul 2024	Jun 2024	May 2024	Apr 2024	Mar 2024	Feb 2024	Jan 2024
★★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★★
Dec 2023	Nov 2023	Oct 2023	Sep 2023	Aug 2023	Jul 2023	Jun 2023	May 2023	Apr 2023	Mar 2023	Feb 2023	Jan 2023
★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★
Dec 2022	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	Sep 2022	Aug 2022	Jul 2022	Jun 2022	May 2022	Apr 2022	Mar 2022	Feb 2022	Jan 2022
★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dec 2021	Nov 2021	Oct 2021	Sep 2021	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Jun 2021	May 2021	Apr 2021	Mar 2021	Feb 2021	Jan 2021
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dec 2020	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Sep 2020	Aug 2020	Jul 2020	Jun 2020	May 2020	Apr 2020	Mar 2020	Feb 2020	Jan 2020



#### Overview

At the heart of our valuation system is a detailed projection of a company's future cash flows, resulting from our analysts' research. Analysts create custom industry and company assumptions to feed income statement, balance sheet, and capital investment assumptions into our globally standardized, proprietary discounted cash flow, or DCF, modeling templates. We use scenario analysis, indepth competitive advantage analysis, and a variety of other analytical tools to augment this process. Moreover, we think analyzing valuation through discounted cash flows presents a better lens for viewing cyclical companies, high-growth firms, businesses with finite lives (e.g., mines), or companies expected to generate negative earnings over the next few years. That said, we don't dismiss multiples altogether but rather use them as supporting cross-checks for our DCF-based fair value estimates. We also acknowledge that DCF models offer their own challenges (including a potential proliferation of estimated inputs and the possibility that the method may miss shortterm market-price movements), but we believe these negatives are mitigated by deep analysis and our longterm approach.

Morningstar's equity research group ("we," "our") believes that a company's intrinsic worth results from the future cash flows it can generate. The Morningstar Rating for stocks identifies stocks trading at a discount or premium to their intrinsic worth—or fair value estimate, in Morningstar terminology. Five-star stocks sell for the biggest risk adjusted discount to their fair values, whereas 1-star stocks trade at premiums to their intrinsic worth.

Four key components drive the Morningstar rating: (1) our assessment of the firm's economic moat, (2) our estimate of the stock's fair value, (3) our uncertainty around that fair value estimate and (4) the current market price. This process ultimately culminates in our singlepoint star rating.

#### 1. Economic Moat

The concept of an economic moat plays a vital role not only in our qualitative assessment of a firm's long-term investment potential, but also in the actual calculation of our fair value estimates. An economic moat is a structural feature that allows a firm to sustain excess profits over a

long period of time. We define economic profits as returns on invested capital (or ROIC) over and above our estimate of a firm's cost of capital, or weighted average cost of capital (or WACC). Without a moat, profits are more susceptible to competition. We have identified five sources of economic moats: intangible assets, switching costs, network effect, cost advantage, and efficient scale.

Companies with a narrow moat are those we believe are more likely than not to achieve normalized excess returns for at least the next 10 years. Wide-moat companies are those in which we have very high confidence that excess returns will remain for 10 years, with excess returns more likely than not to remain for at least 20 years. The longer a firm generates economic profits, the higher its intrinsic value. We believe low-quality, no-moat companies will see their normalized returns gravitate toward the firm's cost of capital more quickly than companies with moats.

When considering a company's moat, we also assess whether there is a substantial threat of value destruction, stemming from risks related to ESG, industry disruption, financial health, or other idiosyncratic issues. In this context, a risk is considered potentially value destructive if its occurrence would eliminate a firm's economic profit on a cumulative or midcycle basis. If we deem the probability of occurrence sufficiently high, we would not characterize the company as possessing an economic moat.

#### 2. Estimated Fair Value

Combining our analysts' financial forecasts with the firm's economic moat helps us assess how long returns on invested capital are likely to exceed the firm's cost of capital. Returns of firms with a wide economic moat rating are assumed to fade to the perpetuity period over a longer period of time than the returns of narrow-moat firms, and both will fade slower than no-moat firms, increasing our estimate of their intrinsic value.

Our model is divided into three distinct stages:

#### Stage I: Explicit Forecast

In this stage, which can last five to 10 years, analysts make full financial statement forecasts, including items such as revenue, profit margins, tax rates, changes in workingcapital accounts, and capital spending. Based on these projections, we calculate earnings before interest,

after taxes (EBI) and the net new investment (NNI) to derive our annual free cash flow forecast.

#### Stage II: Fade

The second stage of our model is the period it will take the company's return on new invested capital—the return on capital of the next dollar invested ("RONIC")-to decline (or rise) to its cost of capital. During the Stage II period, we use a formula to approximate cash flows in lieu of explicitly modeling the income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow statement as we do in Stage I. The length of the second stage depends on the strength of the company's economic moat. We forecast this period to last anywhere from one year (for companies with no economic moat) to 10-15 years or more (for wide-moat companies). During this period, cash flows are forecast using four assumptions: an average growth rate for EBI over the period, a normalized investment rate, average return on new invested capital (RONIC), and the number of years until perpetuity, when excess returns cease. The investment rate and return on new invested capital decline until a perpetuity value is calculated. In the case of firms that do not earn their cost of capital, we assume marginal ROICs rise to the firm's cost of capital (usually attributable to less reinvestment), and we may truncate the second stage.

#### Stage III: Perpetuity

Once a company's marginal ROIC hits its cost of capital, we calculate a continuing value, using a standard perpetuity formula. At perpetuity, we assume that any growth or decline or investment in the business neither creates nor destroys value and that any new investment provides a return in line with estimated WACC.

Because a dollar earned today is worth more than a dollar earned tomorrow, we discount our projections of cash flows in stages I, II, and III to arrive at a total present value of expected future cash flows. Because we are modeling free cash flow to the firm—representing cash available to provide a return to all capital providers—we discount future cash flows using the WACC, which is a weighted average of the costs of equity, debt, and preferred stock (and any other funding sources), using expected future proportionate long-term, market-value weights.

#### 3. Uncertainty Around That Fair Value Estimate

Morningstar's Uncertainty Rating is designed to capture the range of potential outcomes for a company's intrinsic value. This rating is used to assign the margin of safety required before investing, which in turn explicitly drives our stock star rating system. The Uncertainty Rating is aimed at identifying the confidence we should have in assigning a fair value estimate for a given stock.

Our Uncertainty Rating is meant to take into account anything that can increase the potential dispersion of future

#### **Morningstar Equity Research Star Rating Methodology**



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outcomes for the intrinsic value of a company, and anything that can affect our ability to accurately predict these outcomes. The rating begins with a suggested rating produced by a quantitative process based on the trailing 12-month standard deviation of daily stock returns. An analyst overlay is then applied, with analysts using the suggested rating, historical rating data, and their own knowledge of the company to inform them as they make the final Uncertainty Rating decision. Ultimately, the rating decision rests with the analyst. Analysts take into account many characteristics when making their final decision, including cyclical factors, operational and financial factors such as leverage, companyspecific events, ESG risks, and anything else that might increase the potential dispersion of future outcomes and our ability to estimate those outcomes.

Our recommended margin of safety—the discount to fair value demanded before we'd recommend buying or selling the stock—widens as our uncertainty of the estimated value of the equity increases. The more uncertain we are about the potential dispersion of outcomes, the greater the discount we require relative to our estimate of the value of the firm before we would recommend the purchase of the shares. In addition, the Uncertainty Rating provides guidance in portfolio construction based on risk tolerance.

Our Uncertainty Ratings are: Low, Medium, High, Very High, and Extreme.

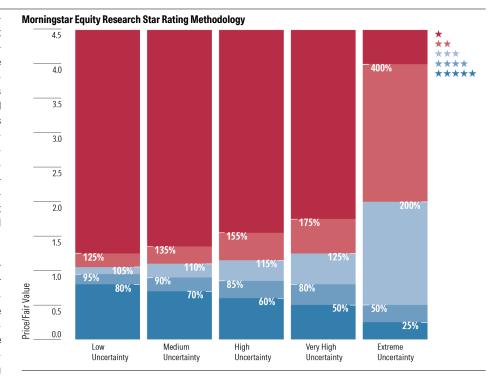
	Margin of Safety	
Qualitative Analysis Uncertainty Ratings	****Rating	<b>★</b> Rating
Low	20% Discount	25% Premium
Medium	30% Discount	35% Premium
High	40% Discount	55% Premium
Very High	50% Discount	75% Premium
Extreme	75% Discount	300% Premium

Our uncertainty rating is based on the interquartile range, or the middle 50% of potential outcomes, covering the 25th percentile–75th percentile. This means that when a stock hits 5 stars, we expect there is a 75% chance that the intrinsic value of that stock lies above the current market price. Similarly, when a stock hits 1 star, we expect there is a 75% chance that the intrinsic value of that stock lies below the current market price.

#### 4. Market Price

The market prices used in this analysis and noted in the report come from exchange on which the stock is listed which we believe is a reliable source.

For more details about our methodology, please go to https://shareholders.morningstar.com



#### **Morningstar Star Rating for Stocks**

Once we determine the fair value estimate of a stock, we compare it with the stock's current market price on a daily basis, and the star rating is automatically re-calculated at the market close on every day the market on which the stock is listed is open. Our analysts keep close tabs on the companies they follow, and, based on thorough and ongoing analysis, raise or lower their fair value estimates as warranted.

Please note, there is no predefined distribution of stars. That is, the percentage of stocks that earn 5 stars can fluctuate daily, so the star ratings, in the aggregate, can serve as a gauge of the broader market's valuation. When there are many 5-star stocks, the stock market as a whole is more undervalued, in our opinion, than when very few companies garner our highest rating.

We expect that if our base-case assumptions are true the market price will converge on our fair value estimate over time generally within three years (although it is impossible to predict the exact time frame in which market prices may adjust).

Our star ratings are guideposts to a broad audience and individuals must consider their own specific investment goals, risk tolerance, tax situation, time horizon, income needs, and complete investment portfolio, among other factors.

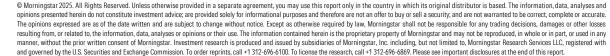
The Morningstar Star Ratings for stocks are defined below:

- \*\*\*\*
   We believe appreciation beyond a fair risk adjusted return is highly likely over a multiyear time frame. Scenario analysis developed by our analysts indicates that the current market price represents an excessively pessimistic outlook, limiting downside risk and maximizing upside potential.
- ★★★★ We believe appreciation beyond a fair risk-adjusted return is likely.
- ★★★ Indicates our belief that investors are likely to receive a fair risk-adjusted return (approximately cost of equity).
- ★★ We believe investors are likely to receive a less than fair risk-adjusted return.
- ★ Indicates a high probability of undesirable risk-adjusted returns from the current market price over a multiyear time frame, based on our analysis. Scenario analysis by our analysts indicates that the market is pricing in an excessively optimistic outlook, limiting upside potential and leaving the investor exposed to Capital loss.

#### **Other Definitions**

**Last Price:** Price of the stock as of the close of the market of the last trading day before date of the report.

Capital Allocation Rating: Our Capital Allocation (or Stewardship) Rating represents our assessment of the quality of management's capital allocation, with particular emphasis on the firm's balance sheet, investments,





and shareholder distributions. Analysts consider companies' investment strategy and valuation, balance sheet management, and dividend and share buyback policies. Corporate governance factors are only considered if they are likely to materially impact shareholder value, though either the balance sheet, investment, or shareholder distributions. Analysts assign one of three ratings: "Exemplary", "Standard", or "Poor". Analysts judge Capital Allocation from an equity holder's perspective. Ratings are determined on a forward looking and absolute basis. The Standard rating is most common as most managers will exhibit neither exceptionally strong nor poor capital allocation.

Capital Allocation (or Stewardship) analysis published prior to Dec. 9, 2020, was determined using a different process. Beyond investment strategy, financial leverage, and dividend and share buyback policies, analysts also considered execution, compensation, related party transactions, and accounting practices in the rating.

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Sustainalytics analyzes over 1,300 data points to assess a company's exposure to and management of ESG risks. In other words, ESG Risk Ratings measures a company's unmanaged ESG Risks represented as a quantitative score.

Unmanaged Risk is measured on an open-ended scale starting at zero (no risk) with lower scores representing less unmanaged risk and, for 95% of cases, the unmanaged ESG Risk score is below 50.

Based on their quantitative scores, companies are grouped into one of five Risk Categories (negligible, low, medium, high, severe). These risk categories are absolute, meaning that a 'high risk' assessment reflects a comparable degree of unmanaged ESG risk across all subindustries covered.

The ESG Risk Rating Assessment is a visual representation of Sustainalytics ESG Risk Categories on a 1 to 5 scale. Companies with Negligible Risk = 5 Globes, Low Risk = 4, Medium Risk = 3 Globes, High Risk = 2 Globes, Severe Risk = 1 Globe. For more information, please visit sustainalytics.com/esg-ratings/

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