February 26, 2020



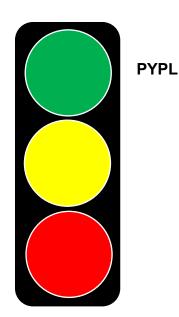
PayPal Holdings Inc.:
PayPal Extending Merchant
Footprint on Strong Product,
Service Pipeline
PYPL, SHOP

Secondary: AAPL, AMZN, FB, PINS, SPT, V Private: AfterPay Limited, BigCommerce Inc., Klarna Bank AB (KLAR)*, Stripe Inc. *Klarna Bank is currently pre-IPO

Phil Leggiere

(802) 258-0754 phil@vertintel.com

Claudia Geller (503) 869-0540 claudia@vertintel.com



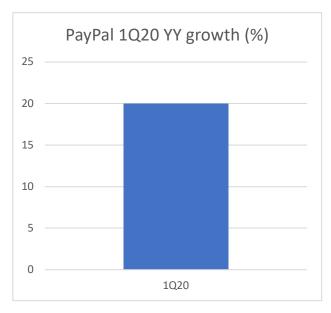
Usage of PayPal for in-store and in-app checkouts and sales continues to expand, with added functionality and acquisitions paving the way for continued strong YY growth.

- PayPal yy TPV at merchant checkouts increased in range of 15%-25%**
 during 1Q20, with yy growth expected to remain stable to slightly accelerating
 in 2Q20 and full year 2020.
- PayPal's superior size, scale and consumer loyalty driving increasing share of merchant checkout sales, though merchant concerns about security persist.
- Merchant interest in Venmo based payment solutions like Pay with Venmo and Venmo Rewards growing; PayPal also making progress in enhancing the platform for SMB businesses.
- ATW: Ecommerce merchants see major potential for Honey to help boost sales further in 2020 and beyond.
- ATW: Though PayPal is making strides at moving beyond payments, Shopify remains the dominant ecommerce platform and a tighter Shopify-Stripe integration could become a major competitive barrier for PayPal.

^{**}Data collected from merchant sources measuring in-store and in-app payments and does not include Venmo P2P growth.

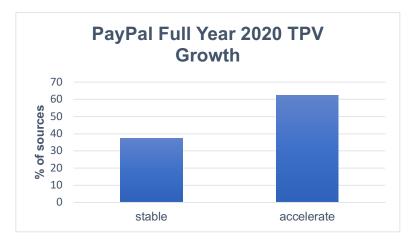
Solid TPV Growth Momentum

PayPal Holdings Inc. maintained its lead in 1Q20 versus competitive mobile wallet platforms, with ecommerce and brick and mortar merchant sources reporting their PayPal yy TPV growth increasing by an average of 15%-25%.



Note: 20% is the midpoint of the 15%-25% sources reported for YY growth in 1Q20 source: VMI interviews with 8 ecommerce merchants and consultants

Merchants expect point of sale checkout TPV yy growth to remain steady or even accelerate in 2Q20 and full year 2020. "Mobile payment processing is a big market segment and it will continue to grow despite newcomers entering the U.S. market. There is still more share to be had in the U.S.," said a source.



source: VMI interviews with 8 ecommerce merchants and consultants

Sources said PayPal has become a company with vision and a company that is more agile, responding quickly to the needs of their merchants. "Since Daniel Schulman came on as CEO a few years ago, I've seen a lot more vision coming from the company. They

are expanding into other areas that make sense and they are really working on new alliances and strengthening current ones," said a source. Sources said that for merchants offering multiple payment processors, PayPal payment processing accounts for anywhere from 5%-30% of processed payments.

Sources said PayPal take-rates in 1Q20 have declined slightly yy, and remained stable qq. Some, however, note that hidden costs related to implementation have historically put pressure ROI for some SMB's using the payment processor. "It's difficult to compare apples-to-apples for different payment options as the implementations can differ and the average order value can also play into it," said a source.

PayPal Well-Positioned in Mobile Wallet Share Competition

Sources said PayPal has a better growth trajectory and a solid business plan now that they have spun out of eBay, and with the acquisition of Braintree, PayPal has enabled Apple Inc.'s **Apple Pay** and **Visa Inc.'s** Visa Checkout. As a payment aggregator PayPal competes with Stripe and Square. But PayPal's recent launch of PayPal Credit, their new buy-now-pay-later program has put them in competition with **Splitit Ltd.**, **AfterPay Ltd.** and **Klarna Bank AB.** "PayPal has the ability and freedom to innovate and I think they are on a good track for growth," said a source.

One source said **Amazon.com Inc.**'s Amazon Pay is pressuring PayPal's Touch Payment for market share, but other sources said they don't see Amazon trying very hard to take over that market, and only making Amazon Pay available off the Amazon platform to gain consumer behavior data. While Amazon took a minimal amount of market share by entering the market, sources said they don't expect Amazon Pay to take additional share. "Amazon Pay is available, but Amazon is not really pushing it. From a consumer perspective, Amazon Pay is very easy to use, but so is PayPal," said a source.

PayPal's Braintree competes in the larger international enterprise space against **Stripe Inc.** and sources said PayPal has an edge over Stripe currently as PayPal is available in more countries.

Venmo Consumer to Business (CTB) Gaining Traction

Venmo has been one of the most successful P2P payment applications and PayPal is benefitting from Venmo's success. While there is still runway left in the U.S. P2P segment, successful expansion of Venmo into the online marketplace and in-store point of sale transaction segments as well as the introduction of Venmo Rewards is helping to secure the millennial consumer segment. Online payment using Venmo is available at limited online merchants, but the payment process is slightly more complicated than the PayPal payment process and take-rates for Venmo payments are slightly higher than PayPal take-rates. Both PayPal and Venmo have had security issues in the past, and while both platforms have addressed the issues, concerns among users and merchants persist.

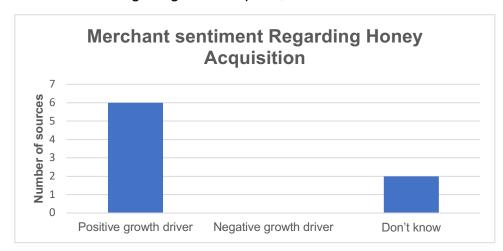
Sources anticipate PayPal will open Venmo to international regions, further extending the potential for growth. "Venmo is one of PayPal's better acquisitions, and one of their more profitable arms. The P2P segment is huge and it's still growing, especially cross-border, so there is a lot of potential for Venmo to continue their growth trajectory. PayPal is becoming more about moving money and not just taking money," said a source.

PayPal Making Strong Play for SMB Market

PayPal's Venmo P2P fund transfer and payment traction in the U.S. is helping extend its footprint and appeal among small and medium-sized businesses who are looking to attract the millennial consumer base. Though, as noted above, SMBs have had some friction historically in implementing and using PayPal as a payment solution, several said PayPal has introduced more toolsets for the SMB market and more recently has broadened their platform functionality to appeal to the mid-tier enterprise market, offering a buy-now-pay-later option via PayPal Credit where payments can be made over a five month period and they offer payments via **Facebook Inc.**, **Pinterest Inc.**, and more than likely will soon be on Instagram. "We've seen an uplift in sales since we started using PayPal. They have the size and the scale now that allows them to adapt as the landscape changes," said a source.

Merchants Enthusiastic about Honey

Sources see consumer loyalty as a big focus for PayPal, and their acquisition of Honey is a big step in the right direction. "PayPal saw the potential of how they could use Honey to scale their business, attract consumers via Honey that they didn't already have and offering a whole solution, not only processing payments, but also making sure the consumer is getting the best price," said a source.



Source: VMI interviews with 8 ecommerce merchants and consultants

Sources said in-store PayPal payment that allows consumers to use their PayPal balance is another step towards gaining loyal consumers. "The loyalty programs are becoming more and more important because they are competing for the consumers,

and when you can go into Home Depot and can use your PayPal balance, that's how you opt to pay rather than pulling out your credit card. And with that you gain consumer loyalty," said a source.

PayPal Going After Ecommerce Space, but Shopify Moat Wide

PayPal has partnered with **BigCommerce Inc.** to move beyond payments and offer a full-scale ecommerce merchant services platform, offering competitive take rates that decline as sales increase. And through PayPal Working Capital small and medium sized ecommerce businesses can get a line of credit, a space that often finds traditional credit difficult to obtain.

But Shopify remains a dominant player in the ecommerce segment, and their partnership with Stripe has strengthened that position. Sources sing the praises of Shopify, saying the platform is very easy to use and the company is very focused, very transparent and very approachable. "When it comes to starting a new business, you can't beat Shopify. It's fast and easy to get up and running, has everything you need, and their customer service is excellent," said a source. And while the platform is designed primarily for drop-shipping, they are now moving into order fulfillment and delivery, making it easy for the SMB's that need that added service, a service that is not currently offered by PayPal or BigCommerce.

Ecommerce Product Offerings: PayPal vs. Shopify

	Payment gateway	Ecommerce platform	Buy-now, Pay-later	Order Fulfillment	Business Ioans	Branded POS hardware	POS via partner
PayPal	Х	Х	Х		Х		Х
Shopify	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х

Source: VMI aggregated from PayPal and Shopify websites

Disclaimer

Certifications: I, Claudia Geller, hereby certify that the views, if any, expressed in the foregoing report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject securities and issuers as of the date of this report. I further certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be directly, or indirectly, related to the views contained in this report.

Neither I, Claudia Geller, nor a member of my household, holds a position in or has purchased the securities (or derivatives thereof) which are the subject of this report. Neither I, nor any member of my household, is an officer, director, or advisory board member of the issuers or has another significant affiliation with the issuers that are the subject of this report. I do not know or have reason to know at the time of this publication of any other material conflict of interest. Disclosures. The Vertical Market Intelligence Group, LLC, (hereinbelow, "Vertical Market Intelligence") is a New York domiciled limited liability company that publishes investigative reports on issuers and securities. Vertical Market Intelligence is not a registered investment advisor and is not acting as a broker dealer under any federal or state securities laws.

Vertical Market Intelligence reports are intended to provide general and impersonalized business and financial information and commentary and are prepared without regard to the financial circumstances or objectives of any particular person. Such reports are not intended to be a complete analysis of the securities discussed therein and, accordingly, are insufficient by themselves upon which to base an investment decision. The appropriateness of a particular security or strategy will depend on an investor's individual circumstances and objectives, and the securities and strategies discussed in this publication may not be suitable for any particular investor. Investors should independently evaluate particular securities and strategies with the assistance of their own financial advisers.

Vertical Market Intelligence reports are not intended to be a recommendation of or the solicitation for the purchase, sale or otherwise trading of any particular security. The use of the terms "bullish" and "bearish" when referring to an issuer or security is intended to convey the contributors' general impression of the of the issuer or security and is not intended to represent a buy or sell recommendation.

Vertical Market Intelligence reports are for the sole use of their intended recipients, all of whom are institutional investors who are knowledgeable of the securities industry and able to adequately assess the information provided as it applies to their investment decision-making process.

Vertical Market Intelligence strives to ensure that the information provided in its reports is accurate as of the publication date. However, Vertical Market Intelligence and its employees make no representation that the information provided therein is accurate or complete. Further, Vertical Market Intelligence has no obligation to update its reports should such information subsequently change.

Vertical Market Intelligence as well as its affiliates, managers, members, officers, and employees, other than contributors, editors, and other individuals with access to Vertical Market Intelligence reports prior to their publication, may from time to time (a) maintain long or short positions in, (b) act as a market maker or principally trade in, or (c) buy and sell the securities (or derivatives securities thereof) covered in Vertical Market Intelligence reports.

Vertical Market Intelligence is an affiliate of the registered broker-dealer The Vertical Trading Group, LLC, dba The Vertical Group, a FINRA member firm registered as a broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission and certain state securities regulators. Vertical Market Intelligence employees are not registered representatives of The Vertical Group. Vertical Market Intelligence reports are reviewed before publication by a licensed supervisory analyst of The Vertical Group. Under a licensing agreement, The Vertical Group is authorized to distribute Vertical Market Intelligence reports to its institutional clients.

© The Vertical Market Intelligence Group, LLC. All rights reserved.