

Where have all the semis gone?

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Key Takeaways

- Shortages have begun to plague the semiconductor industry and its customers. But the
 automotive industry has borne the brunt of these constraints due to a perfect storm of
 supply-chain whipsaws, much faster-than-expected demand recovery, and a channel that
 runs lean
- Other end markets have held up more resiliently through COVID than automotive, but are beginning to be impacted as well due to strong demand and tight capacity
- While these dynamics will raise concerns around sustainability, we believe the auto semi recovery itself has legs. Within our US coverage we recommend NXPI in particular as a good way to play the trend
- Infineon is also recommended for our European semi coverage



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Many auto OEMs have pointed to semiconductor shortages impacting production

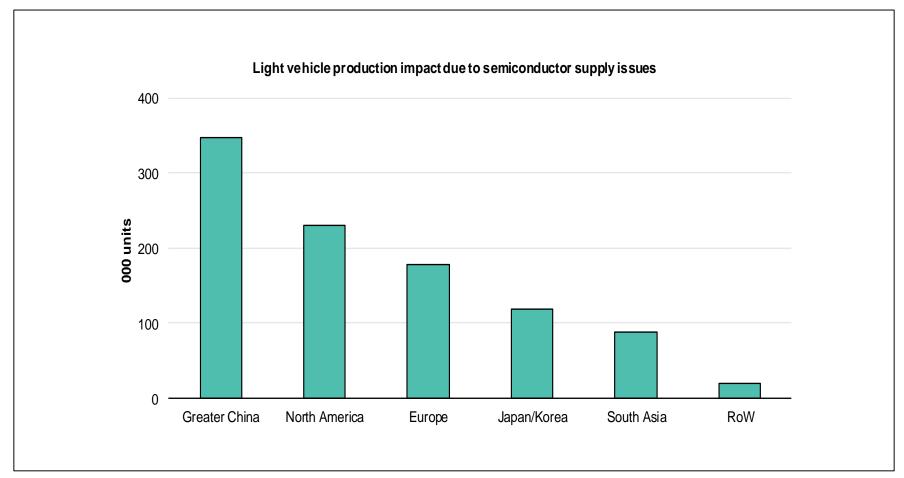
Company	Notes / Comments
GM	From an adjusted automotive free cash flow perspective, we estimate a 2021 impact from the Semiconductor shortage in the \$1.5 billion to \$2.5 billion range.
Honda	Honda is cutting production of its Civic and Accord sedans by roughly 2,200 cars this week in North America, down roughly a fifth from what had been originally scheduled
Ford	The situation is changing constantly, so it's premature to size what the shortage will mean for our full year results. However, right now, our current estimates from suppliers support a scenario, where we could lose 10% to 20% of our planned first quarter production . If that scenario is extended through the first half, this could adversely impact our full year adjusted EBIT by between \$1 billion and \$2.5 billion, net of reasonable cost recoveries and some production makeup in the second half of the year.
Nissan	Nissan lowered its target by 150,000 vehicles, or 3.6%, to 4.015 million units
Volkswagen	"It was hurting us already in December and we lost some 10,000 cars since then simply because we lost 50,000 cars in production in December because of some chips"
Daimler	Daimler will cut production and reduce working hours at a second factory , the latest automaker to suffer from a global shortage of semiconductors
Toyota	First of all, regarding semiconductors, I will explain about our situation. Semiconductors, there is a globally tight demand-supply situation. We are at a similar situation, but for the near term, we do not see any decrease in our production volume. Then, are we secured for the mid, long-term? No.
Chrysler	rationalizing its available semiconductor supply to build its most critical models. The company has delayed the restart of its Jeep Compass plant in Toluca, Mexico, and to idle the Brampton, Ontario plant where the Chrysler 300, Dodge Charger, and Dodge Challenger are built.

Source: Company reports, Bernstein analysis



Auto production will be impacted by 980K vehicles in Q1 due to semiconductor shortages

China appears to be the most impacted region, accounting for ~35% of global volume at risk, according to IHS Markit. It is followed by North America and Europe.

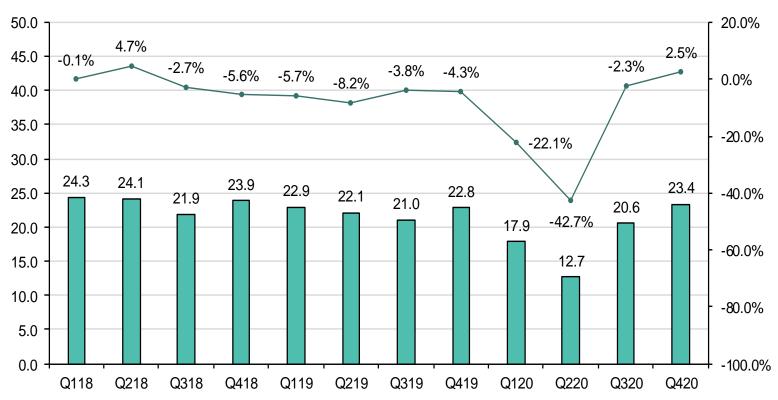


Note: Estimate as of February 19, 2021 Source: IHS and Bernstein analysis



Automotive demand was sharply impacted in the midst of COVID...

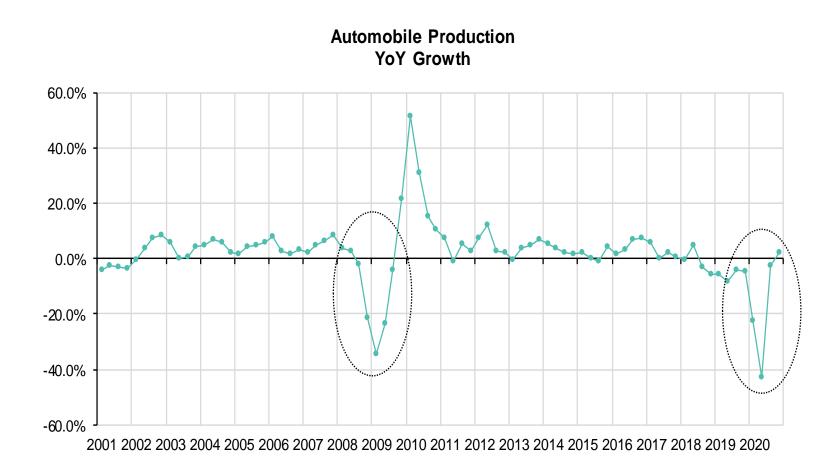
Light Vehicle Production (Millions) and YoY Growth



Source: IHS, Bernstein analysis



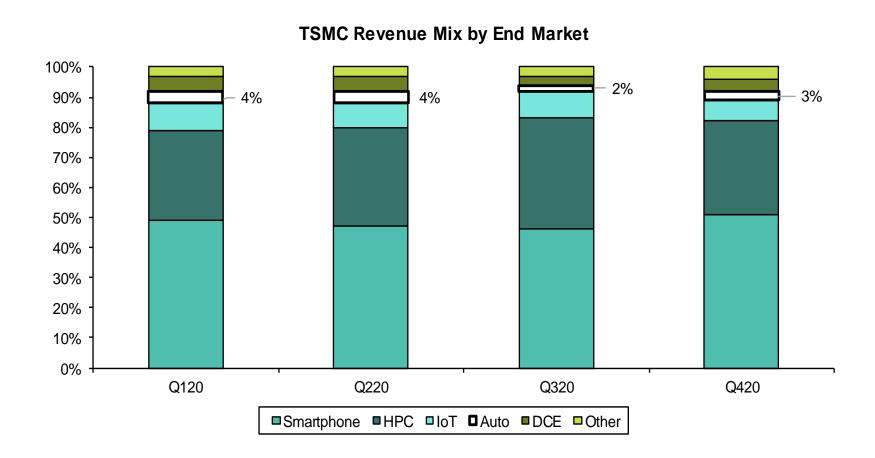
...falling more severely than what was seen in the global financial crisis, but also rebounding far more rapidly



Source: IHS, Bernstein analysis



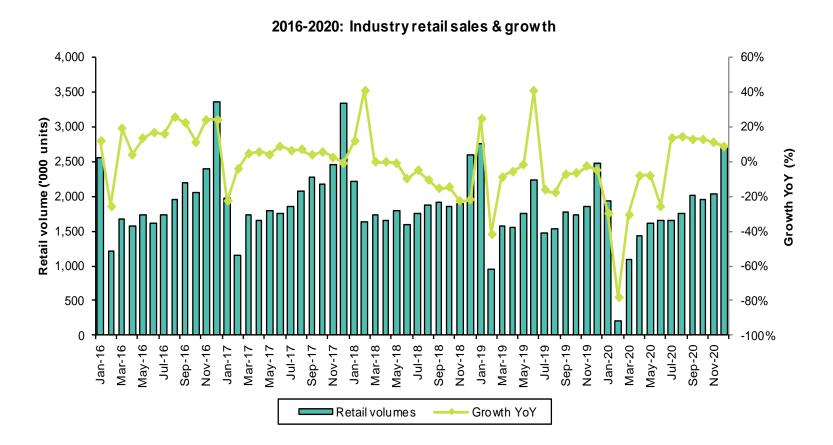
Automotive revenues at TSMC, not large to begin with, were pressured in 2020 amid COVID

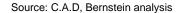


Source: Company reports, Bernstein analysis



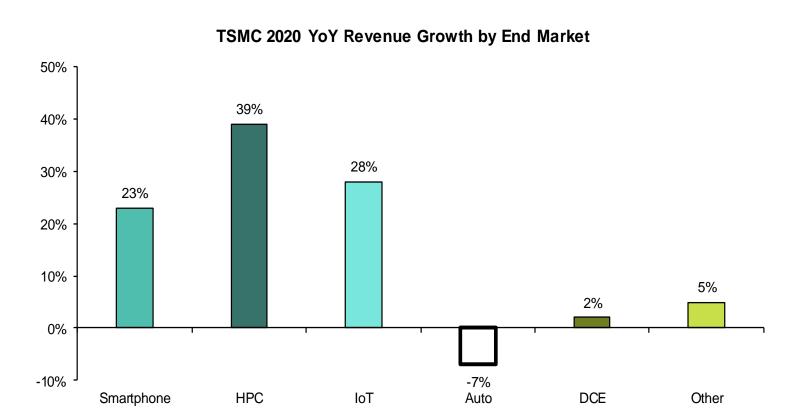
Auto volumes especially in areas like China recovered strongly in 2H20







Other end markets quickly absorbed capacity surrendered by automotive at TSMC





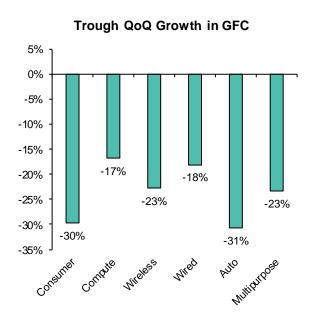


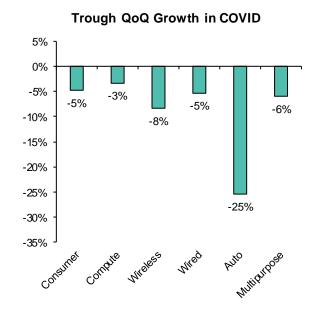
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Other end markets were less disrupted amid COVID vs automotive, but are starting to see the impact of shortages as well amid strong demand

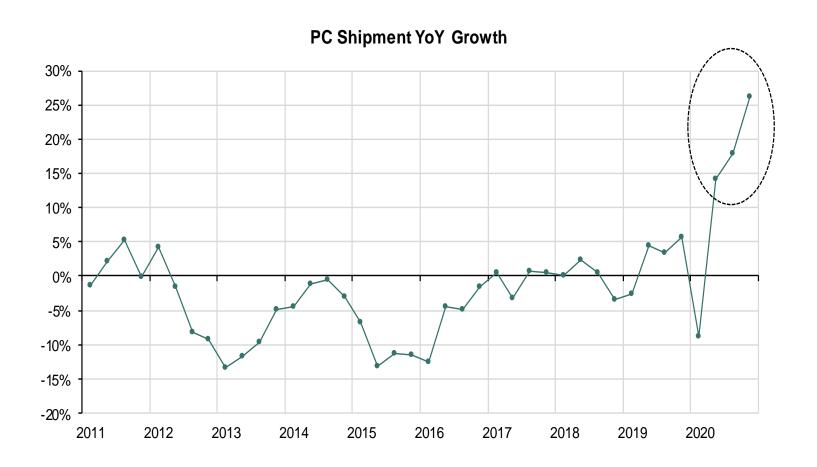




Source: WSTS, Bernstein analysis



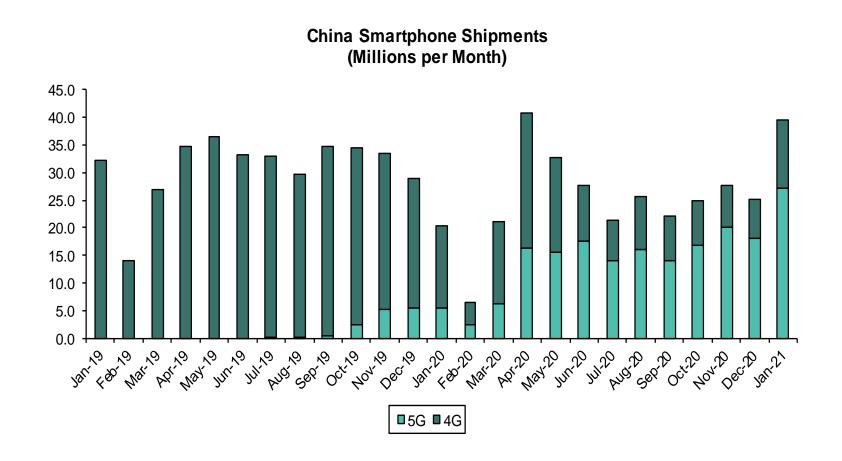
PC demand has been off the charts



Source: IDC, Bernstein analysis



Smartphones bounced back in China, particularly 5G (with higher semiconductor content)

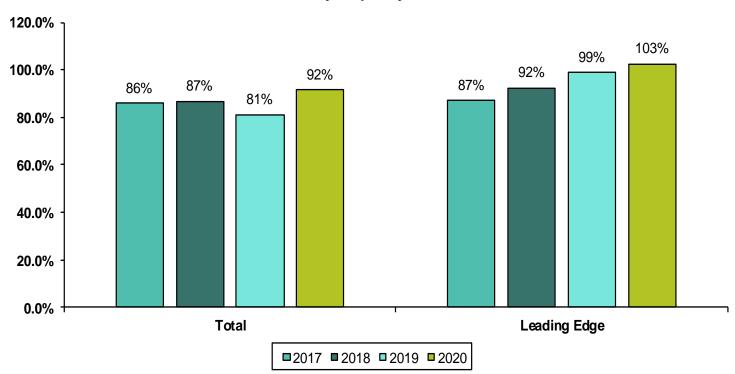


Source: China Academy for Telecommunication Research, Bernstein analysis



Overall foundry capacity utilization is high, and leading-edge capacity appears sold-out

Global Foundry Capacity Utilization Rate

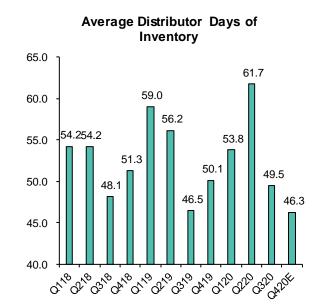


Source: Gartner, Bernstein analysis



Channel inventories have generally become tighter in recent quarters





Not all distributors in the sample have reported CQ420 results yet; in that case inventories have been assumed to be unchanged from Q3 (hence this analysis likely overstates Q420 inventory levels in the channel, and hence represents a best-case situation)

Source: Company reports, Bloomberg, Bernstein analysis



Semiconductor companies have now begun to talk of strong demand exceeding supply more broadly

Company	Commentary
QCOM 2/4/2021 - Q121 Earnings	"Notably, our strong performance and outlook would have been even stronger had we not been supply constrained."
MCHP 2/5/2021 - Q321 Earnings	" A robust overall business environment, accentuated by rising demand from the automotive, industrial and consumer markets combined with low levels of inventory in the distribution channel resulted in constraints in practically all of our internal and external factories."
	"We expect that the constraints we are currently seeing are likely to continue through much of calendar year 2021 and possibly into calendar year 2022. As a result, we have seen our lead time stretch out for many of our products where the constraints are most acute. We have also experienced increases in material and subcontracted manufacturing costs and have taken steps to secure capacity for 2021"
NXPI 2/3/2021 - Q420 Earnings	"I think at the moment from anything we can see, the supply chains through the auto world are empty. And I say that because I know that every single product we are shipping is immediately built into a car. And so there is just nothing going on the sideline. It all goes through into production immediately. That's why we also clearly said we are supply constrained for the first quarter."
	"We are also impacted by the tightness of supply in our industrial business."
AMD 1/27/2021 - Q420 Earnings	"It's fair to say that the overall demand exceeded our planning. And as a result, we did have some supply constraints as we ended the year. Those were primarily, I would say, in the PC market, the low end of the PC market and in the gaming markets.
	That being said, I think we're getting great support from our manufacturing partners. The industry does need to increase the overall capacity levels. And so we do see some tightness through the first half of the year, but there's added capacity in the second half."
NVDA 1/13/21 - JPMorgan Tech/Auto Forum	"So supply does remain tight at this time. We expect the overall channel inventories, meaning the inventories that are with our AIC partners as well as in our Etail and retail channels will likely remain lean throughout Q1. Our overall capacity has not been able to keep up with that overall strong demand that we have seen.
	We've seen in terms of constraints, constraints really from the overall global surge of compute and the overall capacity, capacity that may be necessary for assembly and test and/or substrates as well. But again, we remain focused on this and working each day to improve our overall supply situation."
AVGO 12/13/2020 - Q420 earnings	"supply constraint continues from when we first touched on it 6 months ago"
12/13/2020 - Q420 earnings	"Our lead times is now beyond 6 months to answer your question. So, and just to add a further thought, we have a policy in this company that [] any orders placed on us we do not allow to be canceled."

Source: Company reports, Bernstein analysis



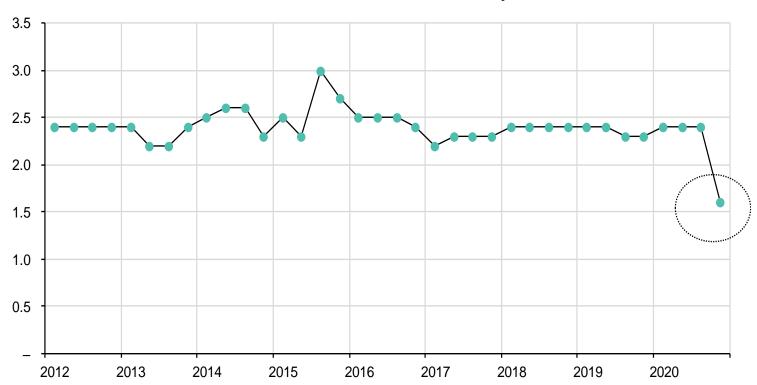
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The auto semi channel appears bone-dry

NXPI Months of Channel Inventory

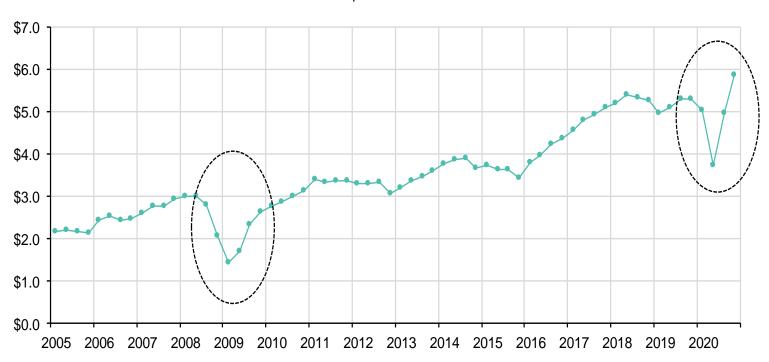


Source: Company reports, Bernstein analysis



The recovery itself is just getting started

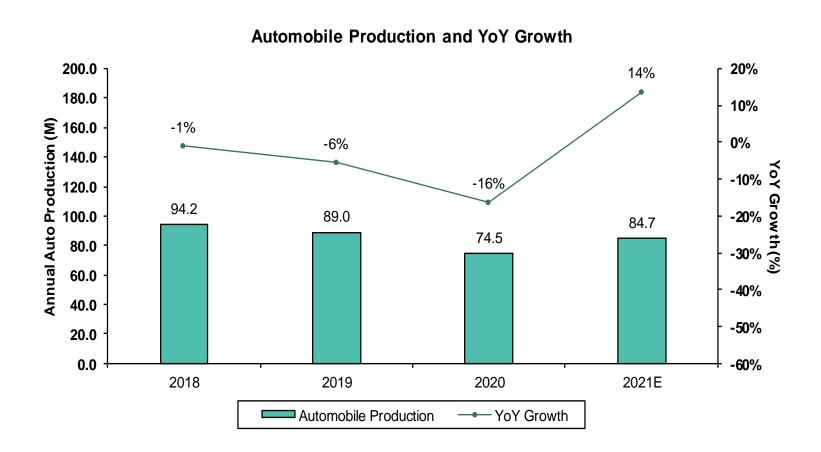
Automotive Semiconductors Application-Specific Sales \$ Billions

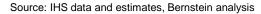


Source: WSTS, Bernstein analysis



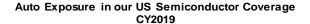
Auto recovery forecasts appear conservative, below pre-COVID levels

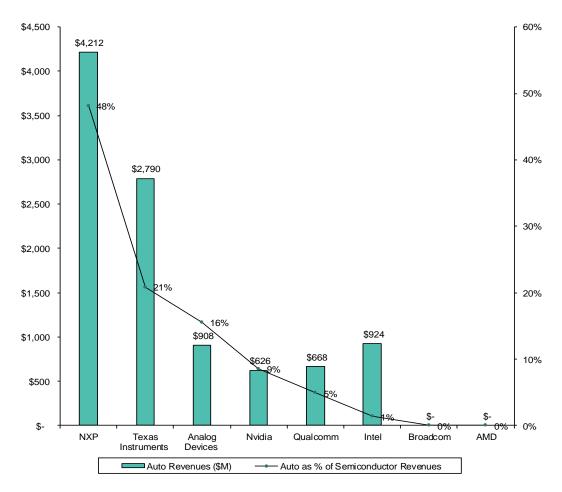






In our US coverage, we recommend NXPI in particular as a good way to invest in this trend





- High automotive exposure (~ half of revenues)
- Extremely lean channel
- Emerging growth narrative, both in and out of auto
- Attractively valued vs peers

Source: Gartner, Bernstein analysis



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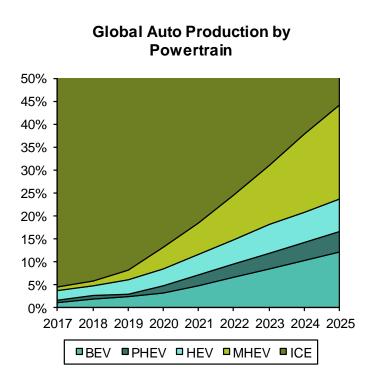


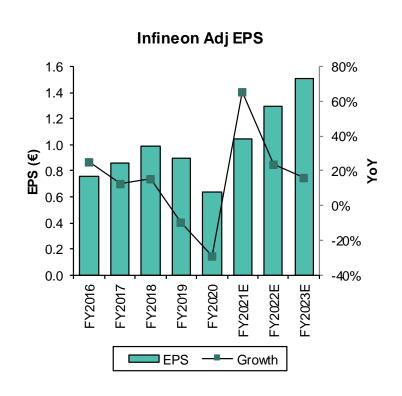
Infineon will benefit because of internal capacity, accelerated EV adoption & Cypress merger

- Digital & MCU chips are more produced externally & hence have more supply shortage.
- Analog, RF, sensor & power semiconductors are mostly produced internally and are scaling up quickly to meet the swift recovery of end demands.
- With ~70% of the revenue from these chips, Infineon will enjoy higher revenue, and the margin expansion as internal fabs are being filled with these chips.
- Additionally, Infineon also benefits from accelerated secular transition to EV, and the merger with Cypress. EPS CAGR is 35% in the next 3 years.



We estimate a 35% EPS CAGR for Infineon in the next 3 years.





Source: IHS, Company reports, Bernstein estimates and analysis



Foundry, OSAT & semicap won't see a notable swing

- As auto represents only a small part of the business (low single digits for TSMC), the shortage of auto semis can be addressed in 1-2 quarters with a mild re-allocation of existing capacity.
- Capacity expansion will be limited in the near term, but probably slightly more in the long term, as different regions/countries build safety capacity for redundancy.
- Hence for semicap companies, probably marginally positive in the long term.
- Smaller customers (e.g. FocalTech (3545 TT; not covered)) of foundry/OSAT may lose capacity or suffer a price hike.



Ticker Table

			Mar 01, 2021				EF	S Reported	ı	P/I	E Adjusted	
			Closing	Target	Rel.							
Ticker	Rating		Price	Price	Perf.		2020A	2021E	2022E	2020A	2021E	2022E
ADI	М	USD	158.59	165.00	13.4%	USD	4.91	6.05	6.74	32.33	26.20	23.51
AMD	M	USD	86.39	90.00	57.9%	USD	1.28	1.95	2.24	67.41	44.39	38.49
AVGO	0	USD	489.58	480.00	47.5%	USD	22.15	26.10	28.23	22.11	18.76	17.34
INTC	U	USD	62.88	43.00	(18.8)%	USD	5.30	4.68	4.27	11.86	13.44	14.72
NVDA	0	USD	553.67	625.00	72.9%	USD	10.00	13.14	14.53	55.37	42.14	38.10
NXPI	0	USD	187.30	205.00	32.7%	USD	6.12	9.25	10.31	30.62	20.25	18.16
QCOM	0	USD	139.49	175.00	46.1%	USD	4.19	6.94	7.42	33.28	20.11	18.79
TXN	M	USD	177.67	165.00	23.6%	USD	5.96	6.67	6.98	29.81	26.62	25.47
IFX.GR	0	EUR	35.78	43.00	82.9%	EUR	0.64	1.13	1.36	56.34	31.61	26.33
2330.TT (TSMC)	0	TWD	606.00	800.00	56.2%	TWD	19.98	21.61	24.49	8.50	7.46	6.48
TSM	0	USD	129.13	149.00	107.8%	USD	3.39	3.83	4.34	10.25	8.97	7.79
2303.TT (UMC)	M	TWD	54.20	41.00	216.7%	TWD	0.82	1.92	2.10	3.08	2.98	2.93
UMC	M	USD	10.06	7.30	273.6%	USD	0.13	0.34	0.37	3.43	3.13	3.08
981.HK (SMIC)	U	HKD	26.75	14.90	37.1%	USD	0.05	0.09	0.03	3.08	1.81	1.78
1347.HK (Hua Hong)	M	HKD	52.60	39.00	167.8%	USD	0.13	0.04	0.08	3.89	3.71	3.59
5347.TT (Vanguard)	M	TWD	116.00	105.00	18.1%	TWD	3.58	3.75	4.59	6.44	6.40	5.95
3711.TT (ASE)	0	TWD	103.50	94.00	8.9%	TWD	3.96	5.86	6.83	26.16	17.65	15.16
ASX	0	USD	7.71	6.70	35.5%	USD	0.26	0.41	0.48	29.94	18.61	15.98
ASML.NA	M	EUR	480.95	435.00	86.5%	EUR	8.50	10.13	12.42	56.59	47.49	38.72
ASML	M	USD	583.55	520.00	78.8%	USD	9.70	11.56	14.18	60.15	50.47	41.15
8035.JP (Tokyo)	0	JPY	44,460	46,000	63.9%	JPY	1,155.86	1,504.59	1,776.68	38.46	29.55	25.02
BMW.GR	0	EUR	72.06	90.00	15.8%	EUR	8.94	6.23	9.98	8.06	11.57	7.22
DAI.GR	0	EUR	66.65	90.00	70.0%	EUR	4.72	8.24	9.49	14.11	8.09	7.02
RNO.FP	0	EUR	37.64	42.00	34.7%	EUR	(0.52)	(27.74)	1.79	(73.01)	(1.36)	21.02
VOW.GR	M	EUR	195.30	190.00	21.7%	EUR	29.89	15.78	25.42	6.53	12.38	7.68
MSDLE15			1,632.51				68.22	94.35	109.58	23.93	17.30	14.90
MXAPJ			706.00				31.26	39.54	45.82	22.59	17.86	15.41
MXJP			1,168.56				47.38	64.75	74.56	24.67	18.05	15.67
SPX			3,901.82				133.38	164.89	192.58	29.25	23.66	20.26

O - Outperform, M - Market-Perform, U - Underperform, N - Not Rated

2303.TT,UMC,981.HK,1347.HK,5347.TT,3711.TT,ASX,BMW.GR,RNO.FP,VOW.GR base year is 2019;NVDA base year is 2021;.

 $ADI, AMD, AVGO, NVDA, NXPI, QCOM, IFX.GR, BMW.GR, DAI.GR, RNO.FP, VOW.GR\ eps\ type\ is\ EPS\ Adjusted;.$

2330.TT,TSM,2303.TT,UMC,981.HK,1347.HK,5347.TT valuation type is P/B;INTC,TXN,3711.TT,ASX,ASML.NA,ASML,8035.JP valuation type is P/E Reported;. 2330.TT,2303.TT,5347.TT,3711.TT close date is 02/26/2021;.





Disclosure Appendix



Disclosure Appendix - Valuation Methodology

U.S. Semiconductors

We value companies in our coverage using a combination of Enterprise Value to Sales, Enterprise Value to EBITDA and Price to EPS multiples.

Asian and European Semiconductors and Equipment

We use Price to NTM tangible book value to value foundries and Price to One-Year Forward Earnings to value design, OSAT & equipment companies.

Asian Autos

We value Chinese automotive companies based on one/two year forward multiples. Based on the point in the cycle, these can vary between PE, EV/Sales and EV/EBITDA. In some cases we will also use sum-of-the-parts valuations.

European Autos

We value EU automotive companies based on one/two year forward multiples. Based on the point in the cycle, these can vary between PE, EV/sales and EV/EBITDA. In some cases we will also use sum-of-the-parts valuations. Our EV multiples are for the industrial (autos) operations and we value captive Financial Services operations separately with their book value. Truck makers and super sport niche makers are valued with respect to their industrials and luxury goods peer groups.



Disclosure Appendix - Risks

U.S. Semiconductors

The greatest sector-wide risk that could affect all of the stocks in our coverage is the macroeconomic environment. Upside risk to our targets exist if global GDP growth is quicker than we currently anticipate, which would result in stronger semiconductor industry growth than we currently forecast. Conversely, if GDP growth is slower than expected, this would result in slower growth for the industry and semiconductor companies. Recent increasingly negative rhetoric around trade and tariffs, and of course the coronavirus pandemic, represent further potential risks to our broad coverage.

Asian and European Semiconductors and Equipment

The Asian & European Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment sector is exposed to general macroeconomic risks which ultimately influence end-market demand and can positively or negatively affect the entire electronics supply chain. In addition to the effects of macroeconomic factors, the semiconductor industry has historically been subject to seasonal and cyclical demand fluctuations for its products or services. These industry downturns have been characterized by diminished product demand, excess manufacturing capacity, subsequent erosion of average selling prices, etc. Any factors affecting the semiconductor industry can impose an upside or a downside risk to our forecasts. We highlight some important risks below:

FX Risk. Exchange rate fluctuation poses substantial risk to Asian semiconductor companies' revenue and profit. This is because their products and services are mostly denominated in US dollars but some of their cost components are denominated in NT dollars, Japanese yen or other domestic currencies. A strong domestic currency and a weakening US dollar will impose pressure on the company's revenue and profitability and hence would affect earnings on the downside.

Demand Risk. Macroeconomic environment will seriously affect the semiconductor industry as the industry is more volatile and cyclical in general. This risk mostly manifests itself in a change in end market demand first and then gradually ripples throughout the electronics supply chain and eventually impacts the upstream players such as foundry, OSAT or fabless companies. This can be either an upside or a downside risk to our forecasts.

Supply Risk. Disruption and imbalance in the electronics supply chain - either on a semiconductor company, on its suppliers/distributors, or on its customers - will create a chain effect and impact the company's ability to fully utilize its capacity and deliver its financial performance as planned. This risk can be shown in the raw material supply as it sometimes accounts for a large portion of the manufacturing costs and any supply shortage can lead to reduced shipments or increased costs.

Technology Risk. Delay or acceleration in the development and commercialization of new technologies will impact the competitive landscape of the semiconductor industry. For instance, some companies may lose or gain market share; the price premium or discount vs. competitors may narrow or widen.



Disclosure Appendix - Risks

Competition Risk. Competition, especially any accelerated capacity expansion, will lead to spare capacity in the semiconductor industry. As competitors may cut price in order to grab demand to fill idle capacity, a company might suffer lower price and margin as a result. On the other hand, if the capacity expansion from competitors takes place more slowly than expected, the company is likely to enjoy better price and margin, leading to an upside risk to our forecasts and target price.

Product Risk. Any major delay in the company's new product launches can result in a downside risk to our forecasts. This risk is especially remarkable for IC design companies as the market window for them is often very narrow. Missing the market window due to product delays can result in much smaller market share and inferior pricing.

Asian Autos

The risks to our views on our Chinese auto OEM stocks and our share price targets are mainly macroeconomic in nature. Auto sales in China correlate well with liquidity growth and earnings, and equity value could be severely tested in the event of economic contractions in major end markets like China, the US, Europe, and emerging markets. The individual companies are at risk of specific product and project failure, while the ability of financial services businesses to remain viable could also be tested in an environment where liquidity becomes very scarce, and/or access to the capital markets becomes restricted.

European Autos

The risks to our views on our European auto stocks and our share price targets are mainly macroeconomic in nature. Earnings, liquidity and equity value could be severely tested in the event of economic contractions in major end markets and a slowdown in vehicle demand. The individual companies are at risk of specific product and project failure, while the ability of financial services businesses to remain viable could also be tested if the global financial system deteriorates, restricting capital market access. Our forecasts are also sensitive to moves in the euro versus the US dollar and the UK sterling as well as Latin American and Asian currencies.



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- On and after close of business on December 31, 2020, as part of an internal reorganisation of the corporate group, Sanford C. Bernstein Limited transferred its business to its affiliate Autonomous Research LLP. Subsequent to this transfer, Autonomous Research LLP changed its name to Bernstein Autonomous LLP. As a result of the reorganisation, the research activities formerly conducted by Sanford C. Bernstein Limited were assumed by Bernstein Autonomous LLP, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FRN 500498) and now publishes research under the Bernstein Research Brand.
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Ticker	Rating Changes		
1347.HK	M (RC) 04/03/18		
2303.TT	M (RC) 06/11/18		
2330.TT	O (RC) 01/12/21	M (RC) 01/30/12	
3711.TT	O (IC) 05/19/18		
5347.TT	M (IC) 11/17/15		
8035.JP	O (IC) 09/13/16		
981.HK	U (RC) 08/10/17		
ADI	M (RC) 03/25/19		
AMD	M (RC) 09/20/16		
ASML	M (RC) 07/29/20	O (RC) 03/12/20	M (IC) 06/19/18
ASML.NA	A M (RC) 07/29/20	O (RC) 03/12/20	M (IC) 06/19/18
ASX	O (IC) 05/19/18		
AVGO	O (IC) 10/04/16		
BMW.GR	O (IC) 09/08/20	M (DC) 02/28/20	
DAI.GR	O (IC) 09/08/20	M (DC) 01/13/20	
IFX.GR	O (IC) 06/19/19		
INTC	U (RC) 07/24/20	M (RC) 03/26/20	U (RC) 06/26/18
NVDA	O (RC) 02/18/20		
NXPI	O (RC) 07/27/18		
QCOM	O (RC) 08/03/20	M (RC) 06/30/16	
RNO.FP	O (IC) 09/08/20	M (DC) 02/28/20	
TSM	O (RC) 01/12/21	M (RC) 01/30/12	
TXN	M (RC) 03/25/19		
UMC	M (RC) 06/11/18		
VOW.GR	M (RC) 12/15/20	U (IC) 09/08/20	O (DC) 02/28/20

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