

HIGH RISK REPORT Chesapeake Energy Corporation

March 16, 2020

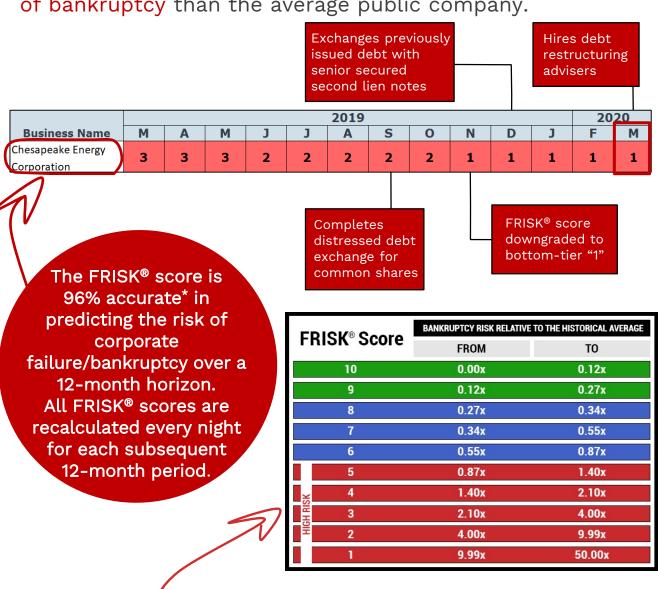


CreditRiskMonitor's assessment of Chesapeake Energy Corporation's ("Chesapeake") "high risk" status has been determined by a combination of factors:

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MONTHLY AVERAGE FRISK® SCORE

CreditRiskMonitor's proprietary FRISK® score signals that Chesapeake (NYSE: CHK) has a 10 to 50 times greater risk of bankruptcy than the average public company.



While the risk of bankruptcy varies at each FRISK® score, 96% of public companies that eventually go bankrupt enter the FRISK® "red zone" prior to filing. A FRISK® score of 5 or less is an important warning sign.

^{*} FRISK® score accuracy of 96% is based on backtesting of U.S. public companies; results may vary by country.

THE FRISK® SCORE COMPONENTS

At the core of the CreditRiskMonitor® process is our 96% accurate FRISK® score, which indicates a company's level of financial stress on a scale of 1 to 10, based on the probability of bankruptcy over a 12-month horizon. When available, the FRISK® score incorporates a number of powerful risk indicators including:

A "Merton" type model using stock market capitalization and volatility Financial ratios, including those used in the Altman Z"-Score Model

Bond agency ratings from Moody's, Fitch, & DBRS Morningstar

Crowdsourced CreditRiskMonitor® Usage Data

<u>Crowdsourcing</u> has enhanced the accuracy and timeliness of the FRISK® score. We collect and analyze data patterns from thousands of CreditRiskMonitor® subscribers, including professionals from more than 35% of the Fortune 1000 and other large corporations worldwide.

The crowdsourcing advantage is even more powerful in our FRISK® score since many of the professionals who use our service are credit managers:

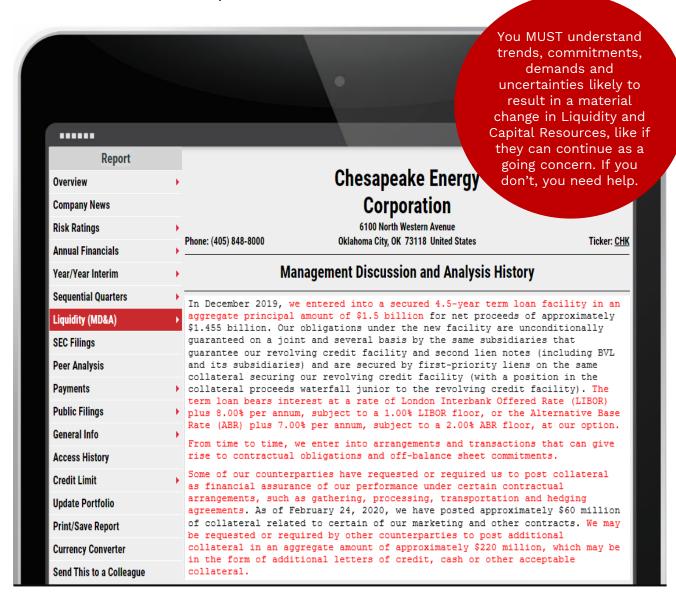
- Credit managers control one of the largest sources of working capital going into a company
- They are not held to the same "Fair Disclosure" restrictions that prevent non-disclosed information sharing on public companies
- Credit managers use a variety of non-public information sources such as their own company's management and sales representatives to be alerted to concerns in a public company's performance
- It is commonly known credit managers confidentially share information with other credit managers, thus collectively, their behavior helps to provide advanced insight to financial problems in public companies

Read more in Credit Research Foundation's quarterly journal article, "Assessing Public Company Financial Risk by Crowdsourcing the Research of Credit Professionals"

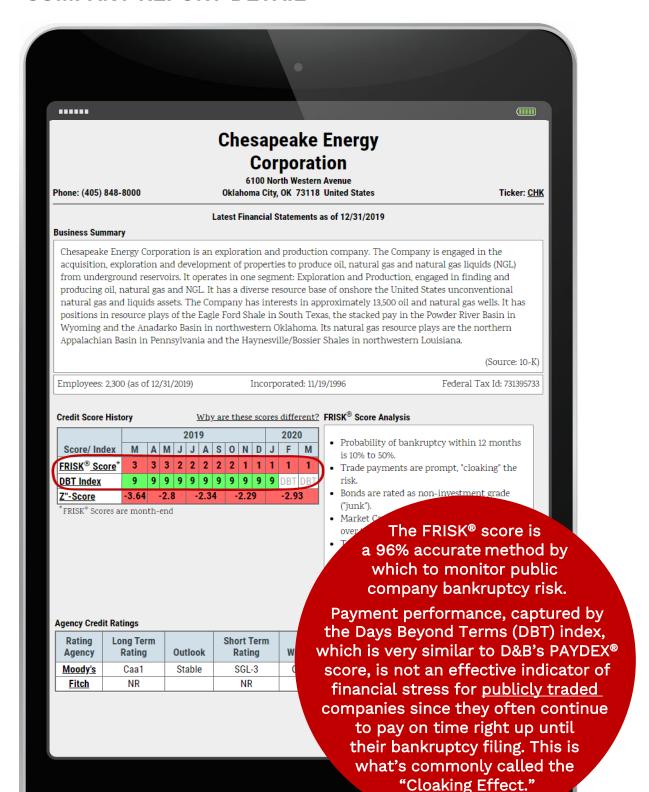
DO NOT MISS THIS - MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

Making misleading or fraudulent statements in an MD&A is <u>against the law</u> – and Sarbanes-Oxley subjects CEOs and CFOs to heavy fines or even <u>jail time</u> for doing so. A vital feature of the CreditRiskMonitor service is the ability to quickly access a Company's Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) history. Let it sink in: there are no two people in the world with better knowledge of a company's liquidity risk than the CEO and CFO. More than any credit manager. More than any trade group. And they're personally liable if they're lying.

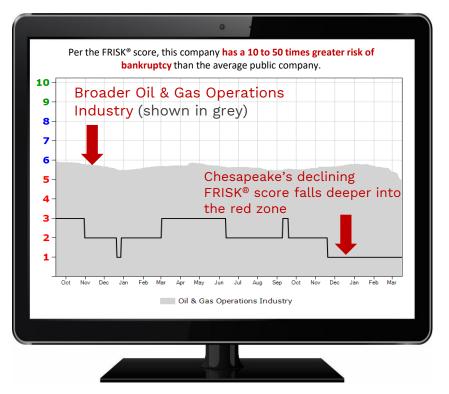
According to the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), "MD&A should provide a balanced presentation that includes both positive and negative information about the topics discussed."



COMPANY REPORT DETAIL



FRISK® DEEP DIVE



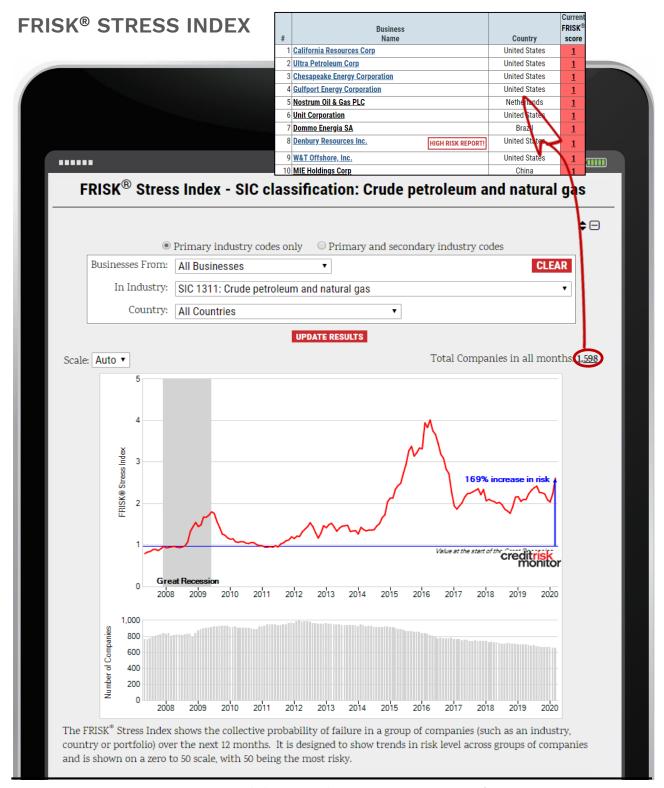
The FRISK® score relative to the broader Oil & Gas Operations industry raises an additional red flag signaling heightened risk relative to peers, as well...

MAKING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED.

ADJUSTED MARKET CAP VOLATILITY

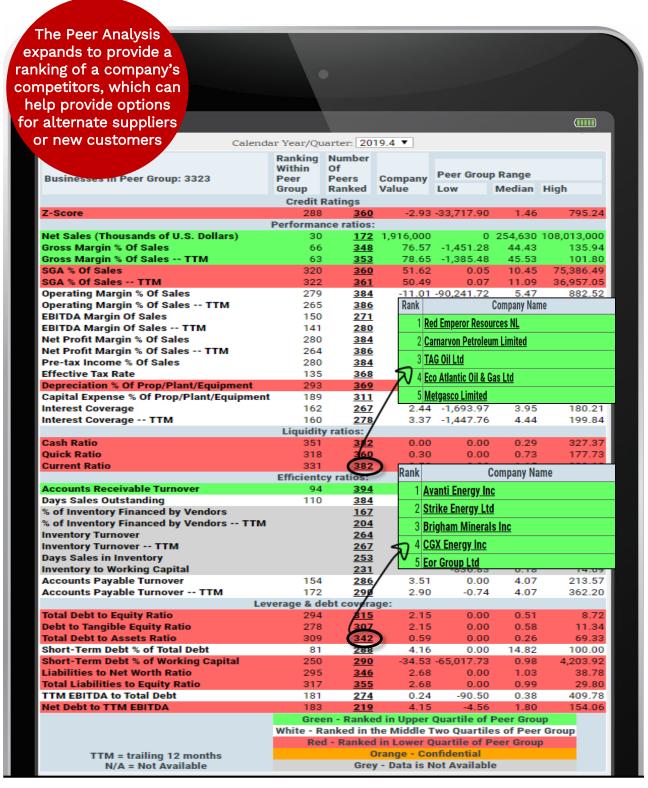


One of the inputs of the FRISK® score is a company's market cap volatility, adjusted for dividends, over the course of a year. Incorporating this information allows us to capture the "wisdom of markets" on a daily basis. This ensures our subscribers are getting the most up to date view of the risks they face since stocks tend to be more liquid and faster moving than bond prices and ratings.



The average probability of failure for SIC code 1311 (Crude petroleum and natural gas) has increased 169% since 2007. Chesapeake is among the weakest names in the industry as evidenced by its FRISK® score of 1.

PEER ANALYSIS ON ALTERNATE SUPPLIERS AND CUSTOMERS



Chesapeake demonstrates bottom quartile ranking in key financial ratios (shown in red) versus its industry peers.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE RATIOS

Cumulative operating and net losses over last four fiscal quarters

Declining interest coverage ratio & negative free cash flow

Performance Ratios - Sequential Quarters (Thousands of U.S. Dollars)

| | (1110usallus | or o.s. Donars) | | | |
|--|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Period Ended | 3 mos 12/31/2019 | 3 mos 9/30/2019 | 3 mos 6/30/2019 | 3 mos 3/31/2019 | 3 mos 12/31/2018 |
| Net Sales \$ | \$1,916,000 | \$2,074,000 | \$2,385,000 | \$2,177,000 | \$3,084,000 |
| % change | -7.62% | -13.04% | 9.55% | -29.41% | 26.71% |
| Gross Margin \$ | \$1,467,000 | \$1,614,000 | \$1,908,000 | \$1,737,000 | \$2,591,000 |
| % change | -9.11% | -15.41% | 9.84% | -32.96% | 36.08% |
| % of sales | 76.57% | 77.82% | 80.00% | 79.79% | 84.01% |
| change as % of incremental sales | n/m | n/m | 82.21% | n/m | 105.69% |
| SG&A\$ | \$989,000 | \$967,000 | \$1,029,000 | \$1,333,000 | \$1,422,000 |
| % change | 2.28% | -6.03% | -22.81% | -6.26% | 7.81% |
| % of sales | 51.62% | 46.62% | 43.14% | 61.23% | 46.11% |
| change as % of incremental sales | n/m | n/m | -146.15% | n/m | 15.85% |
| Operating margin \$ | (\$211,000) | \$116,000 | \$255,000 | (\$183,000) | \$749,000 |
| % change | -281.90% | -54.51% | 239.34% | -124.43% | 5,250.00% |
| % of sales | -11.01% | 5.59% | 10.69% | -8.41% | 24.29% |
| change as % of incremental sales | n/m | n/m | 210.58% | n/m | 113.08% |
| EBITDA \$ | \$390,000 | \$692,000 | \$853,000 | \$345,000 | \$1,156,000 |
| % change | -43.64% | -18.87% | 147.25% | -70.16% | 172.00% |
| % of sales | 20.35% | 33.37% | 35.77% | 15.85% | 37.48% |
| change as % of incremental sales | n/m | n/m | 244.23% | n/m | 112.46% |
| EBIT \$ | (\$202,000) | \$119,000 | \$273,000 | (\$174,000) | \$754,000 |
| % change | -269.75% | -56.41% | 256.90% | -123.08% | 3,670.00% |
| % of sales | -10.54% | 5.74% | 11.45% | -7.99% | 24.45% |
| change as % of incremental sales | n/m | n/m | 214.90% | n/m | 112.92% |
| Pre-tax income \$ | (\$340,000) | (\$62,000) | \$98,000 | (\$335,000) | \$603,000 |
| % change | -448.39% | -163.27% | 129.25% | -155.56% | 515.86% |
| % of sales | -17.75% | -2.99% | 4.11% | -15.39% | 19.55% |
| change as % of incremental sales | n/m | n/m | 208.17% | n/m | 115.08% |
| Net income (loss) \$ | (\$324,000) | (\$61,000) | \$98,000 | (\$21,000) | \$604,000 |
| % change | -431.15% | -162.24% | 566.67% | -103.48% | 513.70% |
| % of sales | -16.91% | -2.94% | 4.11% | -0.96% | 19.59% |
| change as % of incremental sales Tax expense \$ | n/m | n/m | 57.21% | n/m | 115.38% |
| Effective tax rate | (\$16,000) 4.71% | (\$1,000) 1.61% | \$0 0.00% | (\$314,000) 93.73% | (\$2,000) -0.33% |
| Depreciation expense \$ | \$592,000 | \$573,000 | \$580,000 | \$519,000 | \$402,000 |
| % of sales | 30.90% | 27.63% | 24.32% | 23.84% | 13.04% |
| % of capital expenses | 104.78% | 96.63% | 100.87% | 97.92% | 87.20% |
| % of PP&E, net (annualized) | 15.97% | 15.41% | 15.56% | 16.12% | 14.66% |
| Capital expenditures \$ | \$565,000 | \$593,000 | \$575,000 | \$530,000 | \$461,000 |
| % change | -4.72% | 3.13% | 8.49% | 14.97% | -7.98% |
| % of PP&E, net (annualized) | 15.24% | 15.95% | 15.43% | 16.46% | 16.81% |
| % of working capital (annualized) | -216.68% | -266.37% | -191.59% | -148.56% | -121.72% |
| Interest coverage ratio | 2.44 | 3.82 | 4.87 | 2.14 | 6.84 |
| % change | -36.24% | -21.56% | 127.46% | -68.67% | 204.18% |
| Free cash flow \$ | (\$124,000) | (\$264,000) | (\$178,000) | (\$74,000) | (\$126,000) |
| % change | 53.03% | -48.31% | -140.54% | 41.27% | -121.05% |
| Source: | 10-K | 10-Q | 10-Q | 10-Q | 10-K |
| | 2/27/2020 | 11/5/2019 | 8/6/2019 | 5/9/2019 | 2/27/2020 |
| | | | | | |

QUARTERLY LEVERAGE RATIOS

Total debt to assets remains highly elevated, leaving little degree of protection for creditors

Short term debt to working capital deficit widens, indicative of refinancing risk

Leverage Ratios - Sequential Quarters

| Creditors | (Thousands of | U.S. Dollars) | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| nod Ended | 12/31/2019 | 9/30/2019 | 6/30/2019 | 3/31/2019 | 12/31/2018 |
| Total debt \$ | \$9,476,000 | \$9,360,000 | \$9,722,000 | \$9,571,000 | \$7,722,000 |
| % change | 1.24% | -3.72% | 1.58% | 23.94% | -21.30% |
| Stockholders' equity \$ | \$4,401,000 | \$4,735,000 | \$4,230,000 | \$4,138,000 | \$2,133,000 |
| % change | -7.05% | 11.94% | 2.22% | 94.00% | 5,569.23% |
| Total debt to equity ratio | 2.15 | 1.98 | 2.30 | 2.31 | 3.62 |
| % change | 8.92% | -13.99% | -0.64% | -36.11% | n/a |
| Tangible net worth \$ | \$4,401,000 | \$4,735,000 | \$4,230,000 | \$4,138,000 | |
| % change | -7.05% | 11.94% | 2.22% | 94.00% | 5,569.23% |
| Total debt to tangible net worth | 2.15 | 1.98 | 2.30 | 2.31 | 3.62 |
| % change | 8.92% | -13.99% | -0.64% | -36.11% | n/a |
| Total assets \$ | \$16,193,000 | \$16,579,000 | \$16,540,000 | \$16,637,000 | \$12,735,000 |
| % change | -2.33% | 0.24% | -0.58% | 30.64% | 0.60% |
| Total debt to assets ratio | 0.59 | 0.56 | 0.59 | 0.58 | 0.61 |
| % change | 3.65% | -3.95% | 2.17% | -5.13% | -21.76% |
| Tangible assets \$ | \$16,193,000 | \$16,579,000 | \$16,540,000 | | \$12,735,000 |
| % change | -2.33% | 0.24% | -0.58% | 30.64% | 0.60% |
| Short-term debt \$ | \$394,000 | \$217,000 | \$9,000 | \$389,000 | \$381,000 |
| % change | 81.57% | 2,311.11% | -97.69% | 2.10% | -11.81% |
| Short-term debt % of total debt | 4.16% | 2.32% | 0.09% | 4.06% | 4.93% |
| % change | 79.34% | 2,403.67% | -97.72% | -17.62% | |
| Short-term debt % of working capital | -34.53% | -22.96% | -1.08% | -24.86% | -29.56% |
| % change | -50.38% | -2,032.92% | 95.67% | 15.91% | -19.12% |
| Total liabilities \$ | \$11,792,000 | \$11,844,000 | | | |
| % change | -0.44% | -3.79% | -1.51% | 17.89% | -16.51% |
| Total liabilities to equity ratio | 2.68 | 2.50 | 2.91 | 3.02 | 4.97 |
| % change | 7.12% | -14.05% | -3.65% | -39.23% | n/a |
| Total liabilities to tangible net worth ratio | 2.68 | 2.50 | 2.91 | 3.02 | 4.97 |
| % change | 7.12% | -14.05% | -3.65% | -39.23% | n/a |
| Total debt to EBITDA ratio (annualized) | 6.07 | 3.38 | 2.85 | 6.94 | 1.67 |
| % change | 70 | 18.67% | -58.92% | 315.30% | -71.07% |
| Source: | | | 10-Q | 10-Q | 10-Q |
| | Elevate | ed debt | 8/6/2019 | 5/9/2019 | 5/9/2019 |

Elevated debt to EBITDA commensurate with highly leveraged borrower

QUARTERLY LIQUIDITY RATIOS AND RATES OF RETURN

| Recurring working capital | | | | | Meager cash, quick and curren | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| deficit | Liquidity Rati | os - Seque usands of U.S. Do | | ers | ratios | | |
| Period Ended | 12/31/2019 | 9/30/2019 | 6/30/2019 | 3/31/2019 | 12/31/2018 | | |
| Current assets \$ | \$1,251,000 | \$1,403,000 | \$1,384,000 | \$1,365,000 | \$1,598,000 | | |
| % change | -10.83% | 1.37% | 1.39% | -14.58% | 29.39% | | |
| % of short-term debt | 317.51% | 646.54% | 15,377.78% | 350.90% | 419.42% | | |
| Current liabilities \$ | \$2,392,000 | \$2,348,000 | \$2,220,000 | \$2,930,000 | \$2,887,000 | | |
| % change | 1.87% | 5.77% | -24.23% | 1.49% | -2.99% | | |
| Working capital \$ | (\$1,141,000) | (\$945,000) | (\$836,000) | (\$1,565,000) | (\$1,289,000) | | |
| % change | -20.74% | -13.04% | 46.58% | -21.41% | 25.96% | | |
| % of sales (annualized) | -14.89% | -11.39% | -8.76% | -17.97% | -10.45% | | |
| Cash \$ | \$6,000 | \$14,000 | \$4,000 | \$8,000 | \$4,000 | | |
| % change | -57.14% | 250.00% | -50.00% | 100.00% | 0.00% | | |
| % of short-term debt | 1.52% | 6.45% | 44.44% | 2.06% | 1.05% | | |
| Cash ratio | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| % change | -58.33% | 233.33% | -33.33% | 92.86% | 7.69% | | |
| Quick assets \$ | \$722,000 | \$637,000 | \$665,000 | \$875,000 | \$963,000 | | |
| % change | 13.34% | -4.21% | -24.00% | -9.14% | 17.87% | | |
| % of short-term debt | 183.25% | 293.55% | 7,388.89% | 224.94% | 252.76% | | |
| Quick ratio | 0.30 | 0.27 | 0.30 | 0.30 | 0.33 | | |
| % change | 11.24% | -9.42% | 0.30% | -10.49% | 21.53% | | |
| Current ratio | 0.52 | 0.60 | 0.62 | 0.47 | 0.55 | | |
| % change | -12.47% | -4.15% | 33.81% | -15.83% | 33.37% | | |
| Source: | 10-K 2/27/2020 | 10-Q 11/5/2019 | 10-Q 8/6/2019 | 10-Q 5/9/2019 | 10-Q 5/9/2019 | | |

| Poor turns on | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| quity and assets | Rate of Return - | Sequentia ds of U.S. Dollar | | | |
| Period Ended | 3 mos 12/31/2019 | 3 mos 9/30/2019 | 3 mos 6/30/2019 | 3 mos 3/31/2019 | 3 mos 12/31/2018 |
| Return on equity | -6.84% | -1.44% | 2.37% | -0.98% | n/a |
| % change | -374.50% | -160.89% | 340.56% | n/a | n/a |
| Return on net tangible equity | -6.84% | -1.44% | 2.37% | -0.98% | n/a |
| % change | -374.50% | -160.89% | 340.56% | n/a | n/a |
| Return on total assets | -1.98% | -0.37% | 0.59% | -0.14% | 4.76% |
| % change | -436.73% | -162.36% | 513.15% | -103.01% | 507.28% |
| Return on tangible assets | -1.98% | -0.37% | 0.59% | -0.14% | 4.76% |
| % change | -436.73% | -162.36% | 513.15% | -103.01% | 507.28% |
| Source: | 10-K 2/27/2020 | 10-Q 11/5/2019 | 10-Q 8/6/2019 | 10-Q 5/9/2019 | 10-K 2/27/2020 |

ABOUT THIS REPORT/CONTACT CREDITRISKMONITOR®



CreditRiskMonitor® is a financial risk analysis and news service that helps credit, supply chain and financial professionals stay ahead of and manage risk quickly, accurately and cost effectively. More than 35% of the Fortune 1000, plus over a thousand other large corporations worldwide, rely on our financial risk coverage of over 56,000 global public companies.

CreditRiskMonitor's High Risk Reports feature companies that are exhibiting a significantly high level of financial distress, as indicated by our proprietary FRISK® score.

The ultimate goal of the High Risk Report series is two-part: provide an early warning for those doing business with an increasingly distressed company and inform of the many signals that should be examined when assessing financial risks.

Request a Personalized Demo and Risk Assessment

Read more Bankruptcy Case Studies, High Risk Reports and other resources

Contact us at: 845.230.3000 creditriskmonitor.com/contact-us