Mastercard Inc / MA

Equity | Generated Sep 22, 2026 11:32 PM EDT

Current price	Daily move	Bid / Ask	Previous close
$556.81	**-10.84 -1.91%**	**-/-**	**$567.65**

Market	**NYSE**
Industry	**Financial Services**
Market data as of	**Sep 22, 2026 11:32 PM EDT**

JW Intelligence Report

Complete | 3 of 3 sections | Sep 22, 2026 7:50 PM EDT

JW Rank	Rank label	Confidence	IV percentile
56.0 / 100	**Balanced**	**high**	**21 / 100**

Model reference	Upside scenario	Risk reference	Wheel strategy fit
$555.00	**$582.00**	**$542.00**	**56 / 100**

Options stance	**neutral**
Tail-risk safety	**32 / 100**
JW Rank data coverage / as of	**100.0% | Sep 22, 2026 7:50 PM EDT**

Key insight

MA Option Market Shows Balanced Sentiment Despite Recent Price Drop

Market read

The US option market for Mastercard (MA) appears to be pricing in a neutral outlook despite a recent price drop. While the stock fell on September 22nd following news of SoFi's stablecoin settlement, the options market shows balanced sentiment with neither strong bullish nor bearish signals. Implied volatility is elevated at 20.71%, suggesting potential for significant price movement in either direction. The term structure exhibits backwardation, indicating a preference for near-term contracts over longer-dated ones.

Strategy context

MA's recent price action and the option market's neutral stance suggest a potential consolidation period. Traders may be waiting for further clarity on the impact of SoFi's stablecoin settlement and other macroeconomic factors.

JW AI conclusions

Short- and medium-term model interpretation

AI context bias	**Mixed**
AI analysis updated	**Sep 22, 2026 1:52 PM EDT**

Short-term scenario

Cautious tactical buy on weakness only, not a chase. 1-3 week bias is a bounce toward declining short-term averages if 550-556 holds; trend is still soft, so size small. This is not advice; levels can be invalidated by a broader risk-off move.

Three-month outlook

Base case is moderately constructive: quality payments compounder with low-double-digit revenue growth, high margins, ongoing buybacks, and Street targets well above spot, plus optionality from stablecoin settlement and agentic commerce. A hold of the mid-550s and a solid late-October print could support a grind back toward the high-580s to low-620s over three months, not a straight line to the ~$667 average target. Uncertainty is high: today's drop despite positive news, daily downtrend and possible head-and-shoulders, macro/consumer-spend sensitivity, interchange regulation, and the chance stablecoins or account-to-account rails pressure economics rather than expand them. A break and close below ~542 would weaken the bounce thesis and open a deeper retracement toward the 200-day. Not a forecast or a recommendation.

Market sentiment

Near-term X discussion on Sep 22 is dominated by the SoFi stablecoin go-live, generally constructive for Mastercard's role in regulated stablecoin and AI-agent payments rather than treating crypto rails as an immediate threat. Broader investor posts over recent weeks frame MA as a high-margin duopoly compounder (often vs Visa), with heavy buybacks, ~50%+ net margins, and a forward multiple seen as fair to modestly below its own history. Little high-engagement short-term trading panic; sentiment is fundamentally bullish but not euphoric, and today's price drop shows the news is not being bid aggressively. Sample is noisy and not a survey.

Supporting evidence

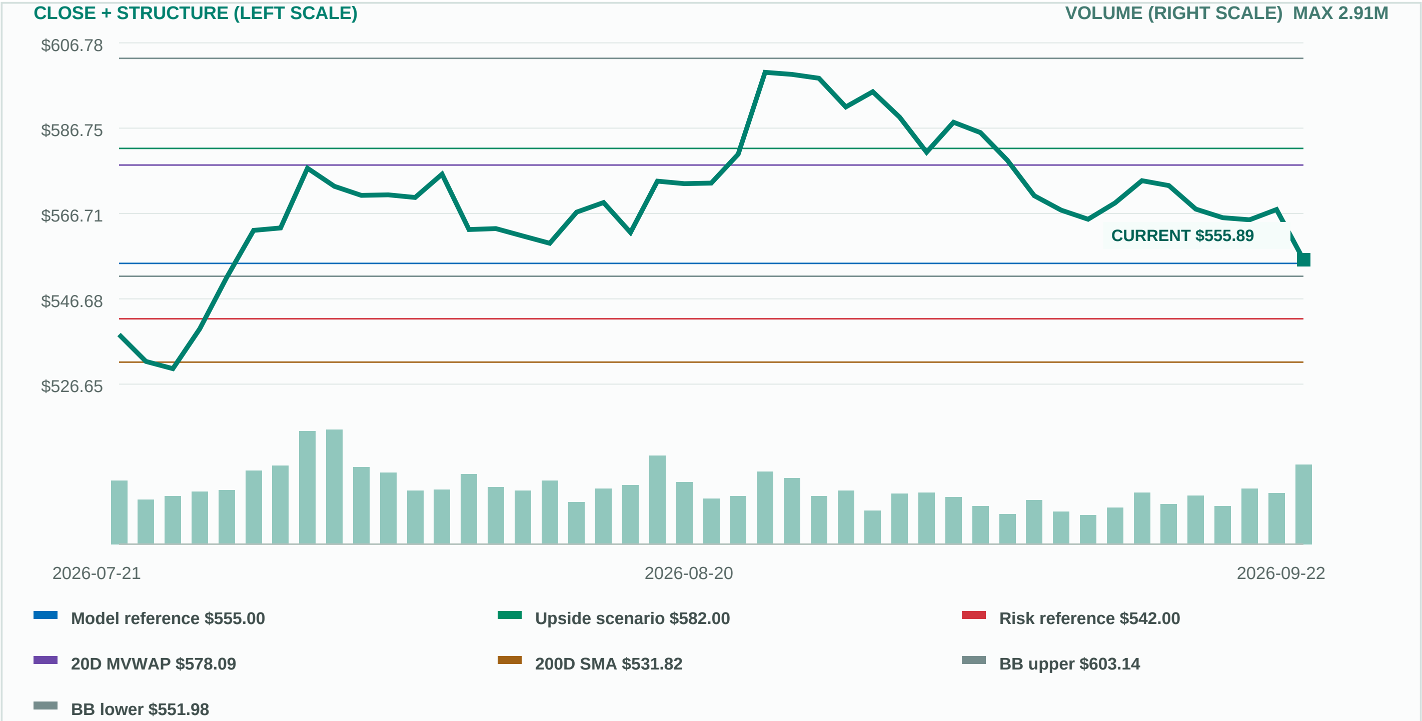
The stock's recent decline was not aggressively bid up by buyers, suggesting the market is not overly concerned about the news. | Implied volatility is elevated at 20.71%, reflecting potential for significant price movement in either direction. | The term structure shows backwardation, with near-term options more expensive than longer-dated ones, indicating a preference for shorter-term trades.

Risk watch

Macroeconomic uncertainty could impact MA's revenue growth and profitability.

Enhanced price structure

45 trading days with volume, model levels and current technical reference bands



45 complete trading-session observations

JW Rank factors

Score, source coverage and interpretation for each decision factor

JW RANK FACTOR PROFILE	COVERAGE	Score (0–100)
Liquidity	100.0%	86.9
Strategy Fit	100.0%	56.4
Technical Trend	100.0%	48.6
Market Tail Risk	100.0%	32.0
Fundamental Quality	100.0%	77.2
Volatility Pressure	100.0%	51.0

Decision summary

Primary model reads before the detailed indicator appendix

Momentum	Institutional flow	Structure	Volatility
bullish_recovery	**Below MVWAP**	**Above 200D trend**	**low**

Decision indicators

Detailed momentum, institutional and structural observations

Momentum kinematics

Direction, velocity and oscillator state

Current read	**BULLISH RECOVERY | neutral | MACD decelerating**
Trend signal	**BULLISH RECOVERY**
RSI signal	**neutral**
RSI (7 / 14 / 21)	**25.94 / 38.45 / 44.99**
RSI velocity	**-2.06**
MACD line / signal / histogram	**-1.76 / - / 1.37**
MACD acceleration	**-0.72**
Stochastic K / D	**11.84 / 11.33**

Institutional footprints

Volume-weighted cost, price location and flow

Current read	**Below institutional MVWAP | Distribution bias**
Institutional flow	**-1.41**
20-day MVWAP	**$578.09**
Price vs 20-day MVWAP	**-3.68%**
Daily reference VWAP	**$560.12**
Price vs daily reference	**-0.59%**
Volume	**2.02M**

Structural context

Long-term trend and volatility boundaries

Current read	**Above 200-day trend | Negative macro velocity**
Macro velocity	**-1.09**
20-day / 200-day SMA	**$577.56 / $531.82**
Bollinger range	**$551.98 - $603.14**
Bollinger position	**0.076**

Options and volatility intelligence

Structure, premium conditions and principal risks

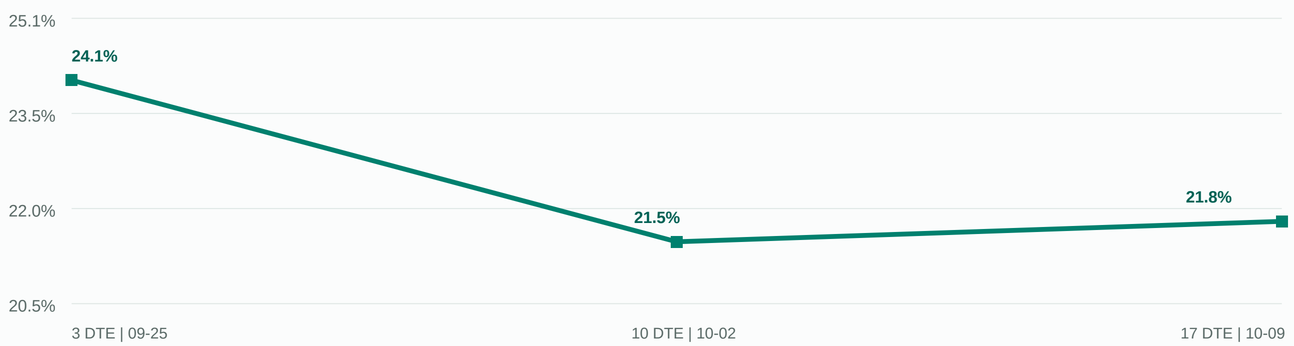
IV rank	IV percentile	VVIX	SKEW
29 / 100	20 / 100	81.95	142.19

Market regime	**DANGER ZONE**
Tail-risk regime	**NORMAL TAIL RISK**
Term structure	**backwardation**
Term slope	**-2.28 pts**
Skew read	**balanced**
Liquidity / quote coverage	**99.3%**
Options Snapshot IV sources	**ATM: option chain | Rank/percentile: fundamentals**
Options Snapshot IV observed at	**Sep 22, 2026 2:39 PM EDT**
Options data quality	**Coverage 88.9%**

Option term structure

ATM implied-volatility curve by days to expiration

ATM IV CURVE



Downward-sloping ATM volatility term structure

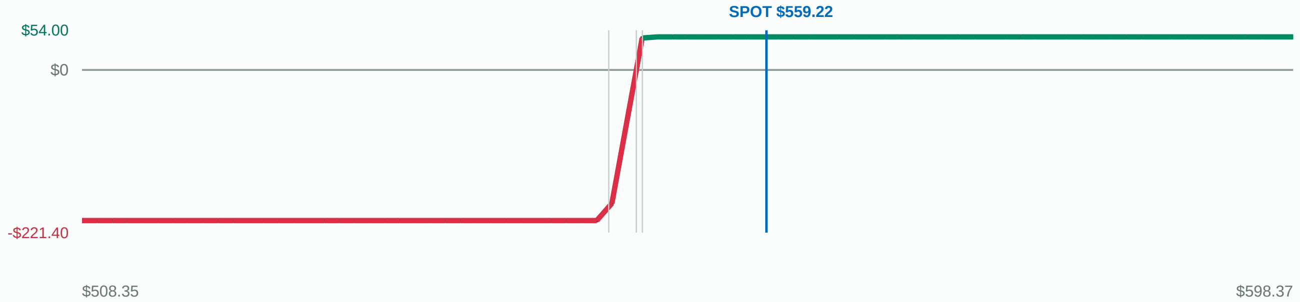
EXPIRATION	DTE	ATM IV	STATE
2026-09-25	3	24.1%	-
2026-10-02	10	21.5%	-
2026-10-09	17	21.8%	-

Reference spread payoff

Illustrative expiry profit/loss per one-lot structure, including quoted net credit

Bull Put Spread reference

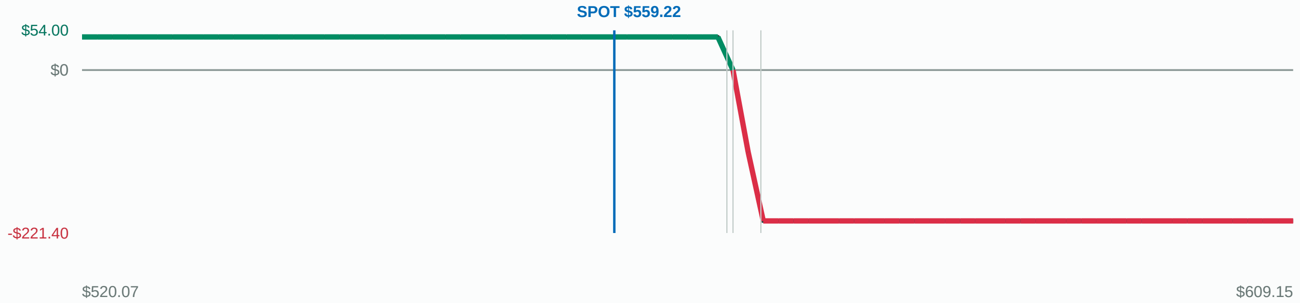
Short $550.00 | Long $547.50 | Width $2.50 | Net credit $0.45



Max profit $45.00 | Max loss -$205.00 | Break-even $549.55 | Per contract at expiry

Bear Call Spread reference

Short $567.50 | Long $570.00 | Width $2.50 | Net credit $0.45



Max profit $45.00 | Max loss -$205.00 | Break-even $567.95 | Per contract at expiry

Event and tail-risk context

Known event windows and broad volatility conditions

Next earnings date	**2026-10-29**
Earnings IV-crush risk	**NOT MEASURED**
VIX	**14.26**
VVIX	**81.95**
SKEW index	**142.19**
Observation confidence	**high**
Option quote quality	**reliable**
Contracts observed	**144**

Event and tail-risk context (continued)

Known event windows and broad volatility conditions

FIELD	VALUE
Contracts with quotes	**143**

Strategy fit

Generalized structure fit; not a personalized recommendation

Market structure

The US option market for Mastercard (MA) appears to be pricing in a neutral outlook despite a recent price drop. While the stock fell on September 22nd following news of SoFi's stablecoin settlement, the options market shows balanced sentiment with neither strong bullish nor bearish signals. Implied volatility is elevated at 20.71%, suggesting potential for significant price movement in either direction. The term structure exhibits backwardation, indicating a preference for near-term contracts over longer-dated ones.

Options context

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Wheel context

MA's recent price action and the option market's neutral stance suggest a potential consolidation period. Traders may be waiting for further clarity on the impact of SoFi's stablecoin settlement and other macroeconomic factors.

Observed evidence

The stock's recent decline was not aggressively bid up by buyers, suggesting the market is not overly concerned about the news. | Implied volatility is elevated at 20.71%, reflecting potential for significant price movement in either direction. | The term structure shows backwardation, with near-term options more expensive than longer-dated ones, indicating a preference for shorter-term trades.

Principal risks to monitor

Macroeconomic uncertainty could impact MA's revenue growth and profitability.

Fundamentals and events

Business quality, valuation and upcoming event context

Market capitalization **$497.27B**	P/E (TTM) **30.41**
ROE **232.5%**	Revenue growth **13.8%**
EPS growth **17.3%**	Operating margin **58.3%**
Net profit margin **46.3%**	Gross margin **-**
Free cash flow CAGR **20.3%**	Debt / equity **2.46**
Dividend yield **0.6%**	Beta **0.81**
52-week range **$464.52 - $601.62**	

Company or fund profile

Issuer identity and classification

Name **Mastercard Inc**	Market **NYSE**
Industry **Financial Services**	Country **US**
Currency **USD**	IPO date **2006-05-25**
Shares outstanding **883.58M**	52-week return **-3.6%**
Book value per share **$6.39**	Revenue per share **$39.73**

Website	**mastercard.us**

Latest strategy observation

Most recent shared general market signal available when this report was generated

MA Covered Call signal

Sep 22, 2026 1:18 PM EDT

Covered Call | 2026-09-25

At signal $558.62 | Current $556.81

SHORT **Option $542.50 B $16.10 / A $18.40**

High turnover | CR $17.25

Complete technical details

Full supporting indicator set used by the symbol detail experience

Volatility and options market

Price movement and premium conditions

ATR	**$9.43**
ATR as % of price	**1.7%**
Volatility environment	**low**
Current IV	**20.8%**
IV rank	**30 / 100**
IV percentile	**21 / 100**
Technical Snapshot IV source	**Private fundamentals snapshot**
Technical Snapshot IV observed at	**Sep 22, 2026 3:50 PM EDT**

Technical health and risk radar

Derived indicator health and event context

Overall health	**73 / 100**
Trend health	**78 / 100**
Momentum health	**70 / 100**
Volatility health	**85 / 100**
Structure health	**58 / 100**
Earnings risk / date	**low | 2026-10-29**
Macro risk	**unknown**
Volatility risk	**low**
Structure risk	**medium**

Structural indicator levels

Moving averages, volatility bands and observed trading ranges

SMA (20 / 50 / 200)	**$577.56 / $567.45 / $531.82**
EMA (9 / 21)	**$567.10 / $571.09**
Bollinger upper / middle / lower	**$603.14 / $577.56 / $551.98**

Structural indicator levels (continued)

Moving averages, volatility bands and observed trading ranges

FIELD	VALUE
Bollinger %B	**0.076**
True high / low	**$571.35 / $553.11**
5-day true high / low	**$573.27 / $553.11**

Three-day indicator history

Short-horizon change and the underlying three-session observations

INDICATOR	3-DAY CHANGE	SESSION 1 / 2 / 3
SMA20	-1.093	**-**
SMA50	0.674	**-**
MVWAP20	-1.412	**-**
MACD	-0.722	**-**
RSI	-2.055	**-**
Volume	350525.000	**-**
ATR	0.122	**-**
T1	-	**-0.58 / 580.96 / 569.39 / 562.36**
T2	-	**-0.26 / 581.65 / 568.43 / 561.90**
T3	-	**0.40 / 582.33 / 569.86 / 564.07**

Detailed options evidence

Supporting option-chain, execution and data-quality observations

Underlying price at observation	**$559.22**
Options Snapshot IV sources	**ATM: option chain | Rank/percentile: fundamentals**
Options Snapshot IV observed at	**Sep 22, 2026 2:39 PM EDT**
Options data coverage	**88.9%**
SKEW regime	**HIGH TAIL RISK SKEW**
VVIX regime	**VVIX FALLING**
Front expiration / DTE	**2026-09-25 | 3 DTE**
Front at-the-money IV	**24.1%**
25-delta skew	**2.03**
Put / Call 25-delta	**$550.00 Delta -0.230 / $567.50 Delta 0.257**
Median option bid/ask spread	**20.2%**
Bid/ask spread	**-**
Contracts observed / quoted	**144 / 143**

Price context

Last Price: 559.22 | Bid: 559.18 | Ask: 559.22 | Previous Close: 567.65 | Change: -8.43 | Daily change: -1.49% | Update Time: 2026-09-22T14:39:59.472482-04:00 | Latest History Date: 2026-09-22 | Latest History Price: 559.22

Historical context

Trading-day sample: 60 sessions | First Date: 2026-06-29 | Latest Date: 2026-09-22 | Latest Price: 559.22 | Max Drawdown 60d Percent: -6.77%

Fundamental context

Current Iv Percent: 20.71% | Iv Rank: 28.96 | Iv Percentile: 20.32 | Next Earnings Date: 2026-10-29 | Ex Dividend Date: 2026-07-08

Important disclosures

Scope, limitations, risk and permitted interpretation

General market information only

This report is general quantitative research and market commentary. It is not investment, legal, tax or accounting advice; it is not an offer, solicitation, order, recommendation or promise of performance. It does not consider any reader's holdings, objectives, financial circumstances, risk tolerance or suitability.

Model observations - not instructions

JW Rank, strategy fit, model reference, upside scenario and risk reference levels are model observations. They are not entries, price targets, stops, position sizes or instructions to buy, sell, open, close or hold a security or option. A higher score does not imply lower risk or a guaranteed favorable outcome.

Data, AI and model limitations

Prices, volumes, fundamentals, options data, news-derived context and model outputs reflect the timestamps shown and may be delayed, incomplete, revised or inaccurate. AI-generated explanations can omit context or produce errors. Models can fail when volatility, liquidity, correlations or market regimes change.

Performance and scenario limitations

Past, hypothetical, back-tested, simulated and model-derived results are not indicative of future results. Strategy statistics may exclude commissions, fees, taxes, slippage, early assignment, execution constraints and other costs unless expressly stated. Actual outcomes may differ materially.

Options risk

Options are complex and are not suitable for all investors. They may involve total or substantial loss, assignment, early exercise, margin calls, liquidity and spread risk, volatility and Greek exposure, event risk, regime shifts and expiration risk. Multi-leg positions may not execute or close at modeled prices.

Investor responsibility and ODD

Use current market information, assess suitability independently and consult qualified professionals when appropriate. Before trading listed options, read Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options (ODD) available from the Options Clearing Corporation at theocc.com.

Reference documents

Official product terms and standardized options disclosure

Jason Wheel	**jasonwheel.com**
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Options Disclosure Document	**theocc.com / Options Disclosure Document**