



Key Facts

Business address: **Palo Alto, California, United States**
 Industry: **Automobile Manufacturing** (NAICS 336111)
 SEC filer status: **Large Accelerated Filer** as of Dec 2020
 Index member: **S&P 500, Russell 1000**
 Market Cap: **\$756b** as of Feb 18, 2021
 Annual revenue: **\$31.5b** as of Dec 31, 2020

Corporate Governance

CEO: **Elon Musk** since 2008
 CFO: **Zachary Kirkhorn** since 2019 1st level

Board Chairman: **Robyn M. Denholm** since 2018
 Audit Committee Chair: **Robyn M. Denholm** 2nd level

Auditor: **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP** since 2004
 Outside Counsel (most recent): **Charis Lex PC** 3rd level

SEC Reviewer: **(unknown)** 4th level

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Information in this report is effective Feb 19, 2021 and is taken from the company's public financial and regulatory filings. Latest filing 10-K filed 02/08/2021. Over 75 accounting and data analysts scrutinize and review crucial information, footnotes, disclosures, etc., from these filings. Material facts are captured and processed using our proprietary methods which identify key risk factors our readers need to know. Each Watchdog Report represents 30 or more hours of analysis and processing.

Accounting and financial disclosure data from [Audit Analytics](#).
 Executive compensation data from [Shore Group and Intrinio](#).
 Data from [Sharadar](#).
[Data from Barchart via Quandl](#).
[Data from Exchange Data International via Quandl](#).

Feb 19, 2021 Jan 1, 2020 Jan 1, 2016

RECENT PERIOD HISTORICAL PERIOD

10-K filed on Feb 8, 2021 for period ending Dec 2020

Reporting Irregularities

RECENT		HISTORICAL
✓	Financial Restatements	✓
✓	Revisions	✓
✓	Out of Period Adjustments	✓
✓	Late Filings	✓
✓	Impairments	!
✓	Changes in Accounting Estimates	✓
✓	Disclosure Controls	!
✓	Internal Controls	✓
!	Critical / Key Audit Matters	✓

Anomalies in the Numbers

RECENT		HISTORICAL
✓	Benford's Law	✓
✓	Beneish M-Score	!
!	Accounting Disclosure Complexity	!

Securities & Exchange Commission Concerns

RECENT		HISTORICAL
✓	SEC Oversight	✓
✓	SEC Letters to Management	!
✓	Revenue Recognition	!
✓	Non-GAAP Measures	✓

Litigation & External Pressures

RECENT		HISTORICAL
✓	Significant Litigation	!
✓	Class Actions	!
✓	Securities Law	!
✓	Shareholder Activism	✓
✓	Cybersecurity	!

Management Review

RECENT		HISTORICAL
✓	CEO Changes	✓
✓	CFO Changes	!
!	Insider Sales	!
✓	Mergers & Acquisitions	!
✓	Sales of Assets	✓

Auditor Assessment

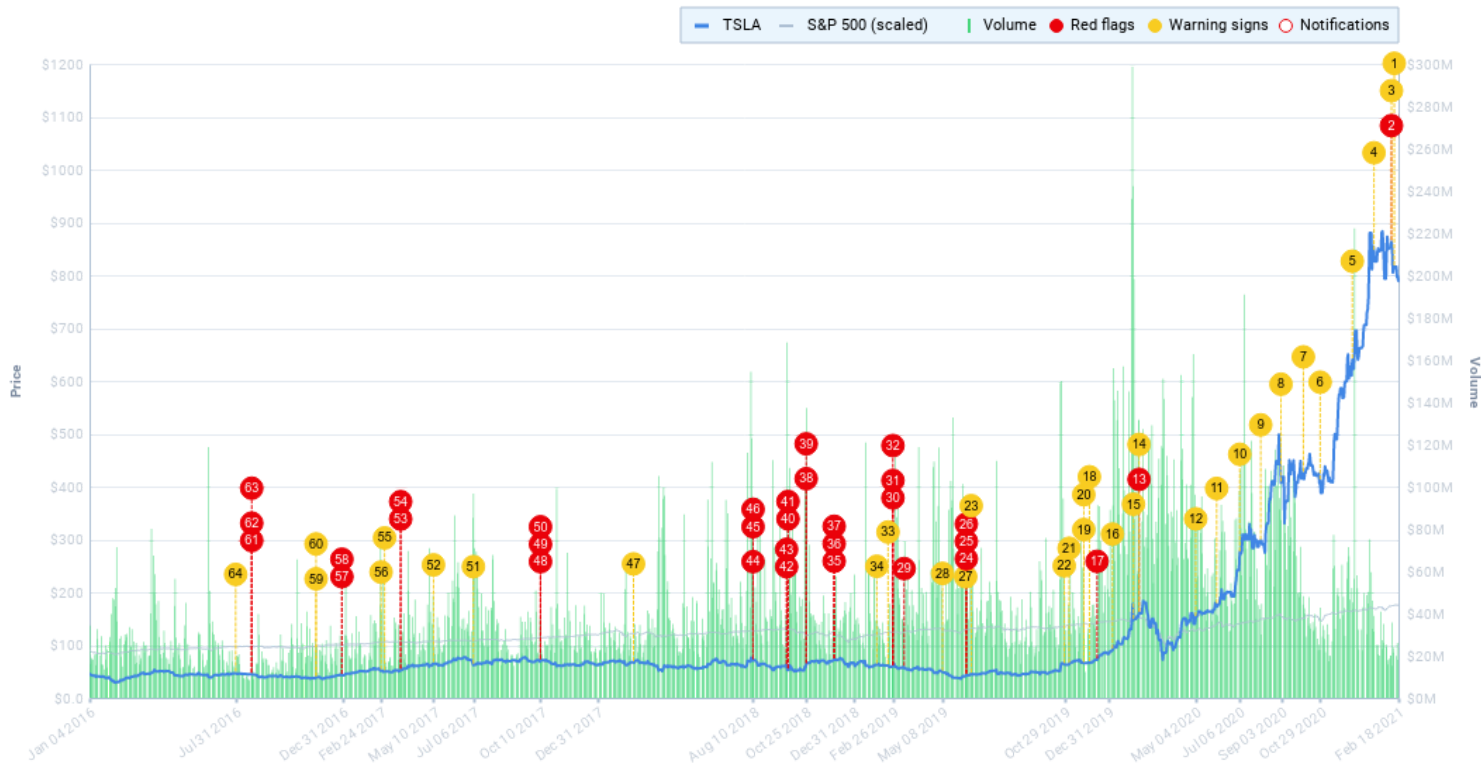
RECENT		HISTORICAL
✓	Auditor Changes	✓
✓	Auditor Experience	✓
✓	Auditor Tenure	✓
✓	Audit Fees	!
✓	Non-Audit Fees	✓



Overview

Price and Volume History

This graph shows the price and trading history for Tesla. Warning signs and red flags are marked on the graph according to their disclosure dates.



- 1 Feb 12, 2021 - Insider Sale
- 2 Feb 8, 2021 - Critical / Key Audit Matters
- 3 Feb 8, 2021 - Critical / Key Audit Matters
- 4 Jan 14, 2021 - Insider Sale
- 5 Dec 14, 2020 - Insider Sale
- 6 Oct 29, 2020 - Insider Sale
- 7 Oct 5, 2020 - Insider Sale
- 8 Sep 3, 2020 - Insider Sale
- 9 Aug 5, 2020 - Insider Sale
- 10 Jul 6, 2020 - Insider Sale
- 11 Jun 3, 2020 - Insider Sale
- 12 May 4, 2020 - Insider Sale
- 13 Feb 13, 2020 - Critical / Key Audit Matters
- 14 Feb 13, 2020 - Critical / Key Audit Matters
- 15 Feb 5, 2020 - Insider Sale
- 16 Jan 6, 2020 - Insider Sale
- 17 Dec 15, 2019 - Lawsuit: Doe 1 et al v. Apple Inc et al
- 18 Dec 4, 2019 - Insider Sale
- 19 Nov 26, 2019 - SEC letters to management
- 20 Nov 26, 2019 - Revenue Recognition
- 21 Nov 5, 2019 - Insider Sale
- 22 Oct 29, 2019 - Insider Sale
- 23 Jun 18, 2019 - SEC letters to management
- 24 Jun 11, 2019 - Lawsuit: Duffy v. Maxwell Technologies Inc et al
- 25 Jun 11, 2019 - Class Actions Lawsuit: Duffy v. Maxwell Technologies Inc et al
- 26 Jun 11, 2019 - Securities Law Lawsuit: Duffy v. Maxwell Technologies Inc et al
- 27 Jun 10, 2019 - SEC letters to management
- 28 May 8, 2019 - SEC letters to management
- 29 Mar 14, 2019 - Change in CFO
- 30 Feb 26, 2019 - Lawsuit: Leggett v. Maxwell Technologies Inc et al
- 31 Feb 26, 2019 - Class Actions Lawsuit: Leggett v. Maxwell Technologies Inc et al
- 32 Feb 26, 2019 - Securities Law Lawsuit: Leggett v. Maxwell Technologies Inc et al
- 33 Feb 19, 2019 - Impairment
- 34 Feb 3, 2019 - Mergers & Acquisitions
- 35 Dec 4, 2018 - Lawsuit: Inter-Local Pension Fund GCC/IBT v. Tesla Inc et al
- 36 Dec 4, 2018 - Class Actions Lawsuit: Inter-Local Pension Fund GCC/IBT v. Tesla Inc et al
- 37 Dec 4, 2018 - Securities Law Lawsuit: Inter-Local Pension Fund GCC/IBT v. Tesla Inc et ...
- 38 Oct 25, 2018 - Lawsuit: In re Tesla Inc Shareholder Derivative Litigation



- 39 Oct 25, 2018 - Securities Law Lawsuit: In re Tesla Inc Shareholder Derivative Litigation
- 40 Sep 29, 2018 - Lawsuit: United States Securities and Exchange Commission v. Tesla Inc
- 41 Sep 29, 2018 - Securities Law Lawsuit: United States Securities and Exchange Commis...
- 42 Sep 27, 2018 - Lawsuit: United States Securities and Exchange Commission v. Musk
- 43 Sep 27, 2018 - Securities Law Lawsuit: United States Securities and Exchange Commis...
- 44 Aug 10, 2018 - Lawsuit: In re Tesla Inc Securities Litigation
- 45 Aug 10, 2018 - Class Actions Lawsuit: In re Tesla Inc Securities Litigation
- 46 Aug 10, 2018 - Securities Law Lawsuit: In re Tesla Inc Securities Litigation
- 47 Feb 20, 2018 - Cybersecurity
- 48 Oct 10, 2017 - Lawsuit: Wochos v. Tesla Inc et al
- 49 Oct 10, 2017 - Class Actions Lawsuit: Wochos v. Tesla Inc et al
- 50 Oct 10, 2017 - Securities Law Lawsuit: Wochos v. Tesla Inc et al
- 51 Jul 6, 2017 - SEC letters to management
- 52 May 10, 2017 - Disclosure Controls
- 53 Mar 24, 2017 - Lawsuit: In re Tesla Inc Stockholder Litigation
- 54 Mar 24, 2017 - Securities Law Lawsuit: In re Tesla Inc Stockholder Litigation
- 55 Mar 1, 2017 - Disclosure Controls
- 56 Feb 24, 2017 - Change in CFO
- 57 Dec 30, 2016 - Lawsuit: Ji Chang Son et al v. Tesla Motors Inc
- 58 Dec 30, 2016 - Class Actions Lawsuit: Ji Chang Son et al v. Tesla Motors Inc
- 59 Nov 23, 2016 - SEC letters to management
- 60 Nov 23, 2016 - Revenue Recognition
- 61 Aug 23, 2016 - Lawsuit: In re Solar City Corporation Securities Litigation
- 62 Aug 23, 2016 - Class Actions Lawsuit: In re Solar City Corporation Securities Litigation
- 63 Aug 23, 2016 - Securities Law Lawsuit: In re Solar City Corporation Securities Litigation
- 64 Jul 31, 2016 - Mergers & Acquisitions

Notifications

Important notifications related to the company are listed here. Notifications may come from the SEC, exchanges such as the NYSE or NASDAQ, or Watchdog Research. Examples of notifications include announcements of bankruptcy proceedings, company name changes, and noncompliance with SEC regulations or exchange rules.

There are no notifications for Tesla at least since 2016.

Peer Group

Peer groups are used by companies to benchmark executive compensation and performance. Each company identifies its own peer group. Peer groups vary from company to company.

Peer Group

Company	Ticker	Market Cap
Tesla, Inc.	TSLA	\$756b
Toyota Motor Corp. *	TM	\$214b
NIO Inc. *	NIO	\$84.9b
General Motors Co. *	GM	\$76.8b
Honda Motor Co. Ltd. *	HMC	\$49.6b
Ferrari N.V. *	RACE	\$46.3b
Ford Motor Co. *	F	\$45.5b
XPENG INC. *	XPEV	\$29b
Li Auto Inc. *	LI	\$24.9b
Tata Motors Ltd. *	TTM	\$13.5b

Companies Who Named Tesla as a Peer

Company	Ticker	Market Cap
Microsoft Corp.	MSFT	\$1,840b
Tesla, Inc.	TSLA	\$756b
Nvidia Corp.	NVDA	\$367b
Intuit Inc.	INTU	\$109b
Uber Technologies, Inc.	UBER	\$104b
General Motors Co.	GM	\$76.8b
Ford Motor Co.	F	\$45.5b
Lyft, Inc.	LYFT	\$18.1b

* Suggested by Watchdog.



Peer Flag Comparison

The return to a company's stock is not the only measure of executive performance. Ethics matter, and growth can quickly reverse and gains evaporate if a company's accounting and financial reporting processes are not fundamentally sound and trustworthy. How does Tesla's accounting quality compare to its peer group?

	TSLA	PEER GROUP FLAGS		
Reporting Irregularities				
Financial Restatements	✓	9		
Revisions	✓	9		
Out of Period Adjustments	✓	9		
Impairments	!	6	3	
Changes in Accounting Estimates	✓	7	2	
Disclosure Controls	!	5	2	2
Internal Controls	✓	7		2
Critical / Key Audit Matters	!		4	3
Anomalies in the Numbers				
Benford's Law	✓	4		3
Beneish M-Score	!	3	1	
Accounting Disclosure Complexity	!		4	3
Securities & Exchange Commission Concerns				
SEC Oversight	✓	2	2	5
SEC Letters to Management	!		3	6
Revenue Recognition	!	6	3	
Non-GAAP Measures	✓	9		

	TSLA	PEER GROUP FLAGS		
Litigation & External Pressures				
Significant Litigation	!	4		5
Class Actions	!	4		5
Securities Law	!	6		3
Shareholder Activism	✓	8		1
Cybersecurity	!	7	2	
Management Review				
CEO Changes	✓	1	1	
CFO Changes	!			2
Insider Sales	!	7	1	1
Mergers & Acquisitions	!	9		
Sales of Assets	✓	9		
Auditor Assessment				
Auditor Changes	✓	7	2	
Auditor Experience	✓	9		
Auditor Tenure	✓	7	2	
Audit Fees	!	1	6	
Non-Audit Fees	✓	5	2	



About Watchdog Research, Inc.

Watchdog Research, Inc. is an independent research provider and publisher of Watchdog Reports. Watchdog Reports identify red flags, issues, and other anomalies in financial reporting. Our reports contain warning signs, red flags, material disclosures, and peer analysis for use in valuation, risk analysis, due diligence research, and idea generation.

Watchdog Reports are designed to assist investment professionals fulfill their fiduciary or suitability obligations and to help investors, executives, board members, regulators and educators learn what they need to know about publicly traded companies.

The company is headquartered in Ave Maria, FL. Watchdog Research, Inc. utilizes over 75 specialists and analysts to provide accurate and timely information to our readers.

Our management team is:

CEO: Brian Lawe. Brian has been part of the corporate staff at The New York Times Company and IBM. He has created and operated several technology companies including MyStoreCredit, OnPage Ideas and HelloCampus. He holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and a BBA from Texas Christian University. He and his wife have four children and live in the Naples, FL area.

CTO: Radu Cugut. Radu has led the award-winning technology team that developed the Watchdog Report and services. He, his wife and son split their time between his home in Ave Maria, FL and his home in Timisoara, Romania where he oversees five talented development professionals. Radu has a bachelors in Computer Science and a masters in Banking and Financial Information Systems, both from the West University of Timisoara.

Chief Content Officer: Joseph Burke, Ph.D. is responsible for the content development, analysis, and quality control for the Watchdog Report. Joseph worked previously as a professor of economics at Ave Maria University. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and resides with his family in the Naples area.

Director of Research: John Cheffers. John is responsible for writing our blogs and for our press relationships. He received his bachelors from Washington University in St. Louis, and has worked for Audit Analytics and Ave Maria University. He graduated Ave Maria University School of Law where his research was selected for publication in the Law Review. He currently lives in Pennsylvania with his wife and two children.



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