

# Honda Motor (7267 JP)

## FUNDAMENTAL VIEW<sup>1</sup>

As of 27 May 2025

- Virtually all the company's FY26 profit headwinds stem from currency and tariffs that combined represent a 370 bp consolidated operating profit headwind. The currency headwind is related to the depreciation of emerging market currencies against the US dollar and, in our view, is rarely a consideration in the credit rating decision-making process. The tariff headwind is more concerning, although we note the company's tariff cost estimates are a worst-case scenario that includes tariffs on parts as the company works to complete the country-of-origin certification process to qualify for the USMCA tariff exemption. Still, we believe the weak guidance and uncertain trade environment may be enough for Moody's and Fitch to follow S&P's lead in revising Honda's outlook to negative.

## RISKS & CATALYSTS

As of 27 May 2025

- Management unveiled FY26 guidance that represented higher motorcycle wholesales, lower automobile wholesales, and a steep decline in consolidated operating income based on currency and tariff headwinds. Management expects FY26 motorcycle wholesales to increase 4%, with the change compared to FY25 driven primarily by Asia. It expects automobile wholesales in North America to increase 2% YoY; while management currently expects the North America automobile market size to be about the same as last year, it is concerned about the impact of tariffs on total demand.
- FY26 revenue is expected to decline by about 6% as price increases related to "improved product values" are expected to be offset by currency headwinds. Management predicts its FY26 consolidated operating margin would be the same as its FY25 margin of 6.2% when adjusted for warranty, currency, and tariff impacts. However, the expected impacts of currency and tariffs are expected to reduce Honda's consolidated operating income by 59% in FY26, or 370 bp of margin compression to 2.5%. The currency impacts are driven by projected depreciation of emerging market currencies against the US dollar

## CREDIT QUALITY SCORE (CQS)<sup>2</sup>

As of 11 Jul 2025

### CURRENT CQS

74

### CQS OUTLOOK<sup>3</sup>

NEGATIVE

STABLE

POSITIVE

### HISTORICAL RATINGS: AVERAGE AGENCY RATING (ACR)<sup>4</sup> VS CQS



## KEY METRICS

As of 27 May 2025

JPY BN	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Revenue	10,908	11,967	14,167	17,434	18,509
EBIT	576	741	612	1,219	899
EBIT Margin	5.3%	6.2%	4.3%	7.0%	4.9%
EBITDA	1,175	1,334	1,294	1,964	1,630
EBITDA Margin	10.8%	11.1%	9.1%	11.3%	8.8%
Total Liquidity	3,717	4,612	4,926	6,150	5,387
Net Debt	(2,048)	(2,481)	(2,751)	(3,762)	(3,216)
Total Debt	480	837	803	863	646
Gross Leverage	0.4x	0.6x	0.6x	0.4x	0.4x
Net Leverage	-1.7x	-1.9x	-2.1x	-1.9x	-2.0x

## BUSINESS DESCRIPTION

As of 27 May 2025

- Honda Motor Co., Ltd. engages in the manufacture and sale of automobiles, motorcycles, and power products. It operates through the following segments: Automobile, Motorcycle, Financial Services, and Power Product and Other Businesses. The Automobile segment manufactures and sells automobiles and related accessories. The Motorcycle segment handles all-terrain vehicles, motorcycle business, and related parts. The Financial Services segment provides financial and insurance services. The Power Products and Other Businesses segment offers power products and relevant parts.
- American Honda Finance Corporation (AHFC) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of American Honda Motor Co., Inc. (AHM or the Parent). Honda Canada Finance Inc. (HCFI) is a majority-owned subsidiary of AHFC. Non-controlling interest in HCFI is held by Honda Canada Inc. (HCI), an affiliate of AHFC. AHM is a wholly-owned subsidiary and HCI is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (HMC). Honda Motor Co. (HMC) maintains Keep Well (support) agreements with its North American finance subsidiaries, AHFC and HCFI. Under the Keep Well agreements, HMC agrees to (1) maintain at least 80% ownership in AHFC and HCFI, (2) ensure AHFC and HCFI maintain a positive net worth, and (3) ensure both AHFC and HCFI have sufficient liquidity to meet their debt payment obligations.

## GLOSSARY

<sup>1</sup> The **Fundamental View** is our current assessment of credit quality and our expectation of how credit quality will trend over the next year or longer.

<sup>2</sup> The **Credit Quality Score (CQS)** is a number between 5 and 100. It is a medium-term credit score for corporates and financial institutions that utilizes a combination of sector fundamental scores and equity market signals. Values of CQS above 50 generally indicate investment grade credit quality.

<sup>3</sup> The **Credit Quality Score (CQS) Outlook** is the near-term (3 month) outlook for the CQS, based on its trend, volatility and distance from the adjacent CQS risk bucket.

<sup>4</sup> The **Agency Composite Rating (ACR)** is the average senior unsecured rating from one or more major rating agencies.

Quantitative scores provided by CreditSights Analytics, LLC. Scores are shown are for the lesser of (1) 2 years and (2) date of CreditSights inception of quantitative coverage.

## DISCLAIMER

### Important Notice

This report ("Report") is for informational purposes only. Neither the information contained in this Report, nor any opinion expressed therein is intended as an offer or solicitation with respect to the purchase or sale of any security or as personalized investment advice. This Report is not intended to be distributed to anyone in any jurisdiction where the receipt of this Report by such person would be legally or regulatorily impermissible and any such distribution has not been authorized by CreditSights.

Except as expressly set forth herein, user shall not transfer, sell, license, sublicense, publish, transmit, redistribute or disseminate this Report or any other CreditSights research reports or any summary or portion thereof (collectively, the "Products") in any manner or in any media or release or otherwise provide access to the Products or any portion thereof to any other person without the prior written consent of CreditSights. Any such unauthorized distribution of such material is prohibited by law and can result in prosecution. In addition, user shall not alter, modify, adapt or create derivative works based on the Products or any portion thereof.

All proprietary rights in relation to the Products (including, without limitation, all copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets and other intellectual property rights) are and remain the sole and exclusive property of CreditSights and/or its third party licensors and nothing herein shall transfer any right to or interest in the Products, in any data included therein or component thereof, or in any proprietary rights pertaining thereto.

The Products contain information and data which are compiled from sources believed by CreditSights to be accurate and reliable and are presented for general information use only. However, CreditSights disclaims any and all liability with respect to the truth, accuracy or completeness of the information and data conveyed. Accordingly, the products are being provided to user on an "as is" basis, exclusive of any express or implied warranty or representation of any kind, including as to the accuracy, timeliness, completeness, or merchantability or fitness for any particular purpose of the Products and of any such information or data. Furthermore, CreditSights does not warrant that the Products will meet any user's requirements.

Investing in fixed income securities may involve certain risks, including the credit quality of individual issuers, possible prepayments, market or economic developments, inflation, and yield and price changes due to fluctuations in interest rates. When interest rates go up, bond prices typically drop, and vice versa; this effect can be more pronounced with longer term securities. Any fixed income security sold or redeemed prior to maturity may be subject to a loss.

Neither CreditSights nor its affiliates ("CreditSights Parties") will be responsible for or have any liability for any injuries or damages, including injuries or damages that may result from (i) the reliance of any person upon any information or opinion provided or (ii) any errors, inaccuracies, omissions in, or any other failure of, the Products, from whatever cause. To the fullest extent provided by law, CreditSights shall not be liable for direct, indirect or incidental, special or consequential damages resulting from the information in the Report and/or from decisions taken or not taken by an investor on the basis of such information, regardless of whether such damages were foreseeable or unforeseeable.

Any statements that are not factual in nature constitute only current opinions, which are subject to change without notice. CreditSights does not recommend the purchase or sale of financial products or securities, and does not give investment advice and does not provide any legal, auditing, accounting, appraisal, valuation or actuarial services. Recommendations made in a report may not be suitable for all investors and do not take into account any individual user's investment risk tolerance, return objectives, asset allocation, investment horizon, or any other factors or constraints. The Products are created for use by CreditSights clients and any other recipient who receives this report will be receiving it after it has been distributed to such clients, who may have traded based on information contained in the report; however, the Products are intended only to provide general and preliminary information to investors and shall not be construed as the basis for any investment decision. CreditSights may issue or may have issued other reports that are inconsistent with or may reach different conclusions than those represented in this Report, and all opinions are reflective of judgments made on the original date of publication. CreditSights is under no obligation to ensure that other reports are brought to the attention of any recipient of the Products.

Information included in any report that includes analysis of documents, agreements, controversies, or proceedings is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. To the extent the Products contain summaries of other documents, such as indentures, reference is made to such other documents for a complete statement of the terms thereof. No attorney client relationship is created between any reader and CreditSights as a result of the publication of any research report, or any response provided by CreditSights (including, but not limited to, the ask an analyst feature or any other analyst interaction) or as the result of the payment to CreditSights of subscription fees. The material included in a report may not reflect the most current legal developments.

Certain data appearing in this Report is owned by, and used under license from, certain third parties. Please see "Legal Notices" at [www.creditsights.com](http://www.creditsights.com) for such information. Terms and conditions are also available at Terms & Conditions.

CreditSights, Inc. is an independent investment research provider whose affiliate, CreditSights Ltd, is authorized and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA"). CreditSights Products are not intended for use in the UK by Retail Customers, as defined by the FCA. CreditSights Risk Products, including its Credit Quality Scores and related information, to the extent incorporated in any Products, are provided by CreditSights Analytics, LLC, an affiliate of CreditSights.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this Report, please contact CreditSights at [legal@creditsights.com](mailto:legal@creditsights.com).

This document is made available to clients under an agreement between Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co. ("Metrobank") and CreditSights, Inc., an independent investment research provider. It is for information purposes only and does not constitute any offer, recommendation or solicitation to any person to enter into any transaction or adopt any hedging, trading or investment strategy, nor does it constitute any prediction of likely future movements in rates or prices or any representation of any future market movements.

This document is for general guidance only. It is not intended to be the sole basis of any evaluation or treatment of any financial instrument. Past performances are not necessarily an indication much less a guarantee of any future performance.

Metrobank does not make any representation as to the accuracy or completeness of the information provided herein. You should consult your own professional advisers prior to entering into any agreement. You acknowledge that Metrobank is not in the business of providing legal, accounting, auditing or appraisal advice. Metrobank assumes no responsibility whatsoever for the consequence of any investment, trading or business decision that is taken on the basis of the information in this document.

Metrobank is a commercial bank whose businesses include active trading and market making in foreign exchange, securities and derivatives. The Bank's traders, investing, lending and sales personnel may make investment decisions, or may provide oral or written market commentary or trading strategies that contradict the views expressed herein.