

Receivables 3052 8115 6752 13258 Other 9068 20380 22556 29935 Current Assets 19033 21287 25206 Accts Payable Debt Due 1969 6879 1399 7937 5767 8980 Other 27881 30623 39953 Current Liab.

ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '12-'14 Past 10 Yrs. to '18-'20 of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. Revenues "Cash Flow" 12.5% 11.5% 12.0% 12.0% 14.5% Earnings Dividends 14.0% 58.5% 13.0% 20.0% 105.0% 19.5% **Book Value** 12.5% 5.5%

	Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES ( Sep.30		Full Year
	2012	27282	27265	27302	28769	110618
	2013	30340	30408	30624	31117	122489
	2014	31708	32574	32759	33433	130474
	2015	35756	36263	41489	42652	156160
	2016	45000	45100	45750	46500	182350
	Cal-					
	endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
	2012	1.31	1.27	1.50	1.20	5.28
	2013	1.16	1.40	1.53	1.41	5.50
	2014	1.10	1.42	1.63	1.55	5.70
	2015	1.46	1.64	1.65	1.35	6.10
	2016	1.66	1.83	1.88	1.83	7.20
	Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B				Full
	endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
Ī	2011	.125	.1625	.1625	.1625	.61
	2012	.162	5 .212	.212	.2125	.80
	2013	.212	5 .28	.28	.28	1.05
	2014	.28	.375	.375	.375	1.41
	2015		.50			
(A) Diluted earnings. Excludes nonrecurring his						
						8, ber,
(55¢). Next earnings report due mid-January.						

through four segments: UnitedHealthcare (network-based health care benefits), OptumHealth, OptumInsight, and OptumRx (information and technology based health services, consulting, and PBM). Acquired Oxford 7/04; PacifiCare Health 12/05; Sierra Health Svcs.

UnitedHealth Group recently issued a guidance reduction for its 2015 earnings. Basically, the company announced that it was trimming its full-year bottom-line call by roughly \$0.25 a share after it failed to see the number of people signing up for health insurance on the public exchanges as was initially anticipated. Recall, originally UNH had held back, for the most part, from rushing in, to these exchanges set up after the onset of the Affordable Care Act but, of late, the company had began to make a push. Undoubtedly, substantial expenses were allotted for these moves, and that money is not generating the type of profit that management was looking for. We have trimmed our 2015 year-end estimate by a quarter, to \$6.10 a share. That amount equates to year-over-year growth of 7%. Also of note, on the day this news hit the wire, UNH shares slid 6% in value. That dip in price was recovered quickly, and the equity currently sits a couple of dollars above where it did at the time of our last review in September.

The effects of this announcement were felt industrywide. Not only did

(C) Includes intangibles. In '14, \$36.6 billion, \$38.38/share.

historically paid in late March, June, September, and December. (D) In millions, adjusted for stock split.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence

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UNH cut its earnings outlook, it also in-

timated that its involvement in the ex-

changes was under review, and the possi-

bility of a full withdrawal in 2017 was on

the table. This leads most to believe that

the numbers may be staggeringly low. Too,

other HMOs, like Aetna and Humana that

are big players in this space might well be

in the same boat. On top of this, hospital

chains, which have benefited immensely

from the ACA also saw their stocks take a

hit with the perception being the good times may be nearing an end. For what it's

worth, a handful of individual companies

released statements saying all is well, and

ly in the past three months, but we are not overly concerned yet. United is

a behemoth and has the wherewithal to

take on this kind of leverage. Debt to capi-

tal is now 44% versus 31% at midyear. And we think the amount will head lower

Momentum accounts are likely late to the party here. Too, those with an eye on

2018-2020 have better options elsewhere.

out to decade's end.

Erik M. Manning

many equities recouped the initial losses. The debt burden has risen significant-

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A++ 75 70 **Earnings Predictability** 100

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(B) Quarterly dividend initiated 6/10. Dividends © 2015 Value Line, Inc. All rights reserved. Factual material is obtained from sources believed to be reliable and is provided without warranties of any kind. THE PUBLISHER IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ERRORS OR OMISSIONS HEREIN. This publication is strictly for subscriber's own, non-commercial, internal use. No part of it may be reproduced, resold, stored or transmitted in any printed, electronic or other form, or used for generating or marketing any printed or electronic publication, service or product.