

| Cash Assets | 8705 | 6867 | 6756 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Receivables | 5624 | 5835 | 5614 |
| Inventory (LIFO) | 44469 | 43046 | 43783 |
| Other | 1441 | 1941 | 3511 |
| Current Assets | 60239 | 57689 | 59664 |
| Accts Payable | 38487 | 41433 | 46092 |
| Debt Due | 6004 | 3920 | 9662 |
| Other | 20128 | 21575 | 22767 |
| Current Liab. | 64619 | 66928 | 78521 |


| ANNUAL RATES <br> of change (per sh) <br> Sales <br> "Cash Flow" <br> Earnings <br> Dividends <br> Book Value |  |  | Past Est'd '14-'16 <br> 5 Yrs. to '21-23 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 7.5\% |  | $\text { Yrs. } \text { to }$ | 5.0\% |
|  |  | 7.5\% | 4.0\% |  | 6.5\% |
|  |  | 6.0\% | 3.0\% |  | 5.5\% |
|  |  | 12.5\% | 9.5\% |  | 8.0\% |
|  |  | 7.0\% 5. |  | 0\% | 4.0\% |
| Fiscal | QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.) ${ }^{\text {A }}$ |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Full } \\ & \text { Fiscal } \\ & \text { Year } \end{aligned}$ |
| Begins | Apr. 30 | Jul. 31 | Oct. 31 | Jan. 31 |  |
| 2015 | 114826 | 120229 | 117408 | 129667 | 482130 |
| 2016 | 115904 | 120854 | 118179 | 130936 | 485873 |
| 2017 | 117542 | 123355 | 123179 | 136267 | 500343 |
| 2018 | 120625 | 125250 | 123700 | 136425 | 506000 |
| 2019 | 125150 | 130000 | 128350 | 141500 | 525000 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Fiscal } \\ \text { Feal } \\ \text { Begins } \end{gathered}$ | EARNINGS PER SHARE A B |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Full } \\ & \text { Fiscal } \\ & \text { Year } \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Apr. 30 | Jul. 31 | Oct. 31 | Jan. 31 |  |
| 2015 | 1.03 | 1.08 | 1.03 | 1.43 | 4.57 |
| 2016 | . 98 | 1.07 | . 98 | 1.30 | 4.32 |
| 2017 | 1.00 | 1.08 | 1.00 | 1.33 | 4.42 |
| 2018 | 1.10 | 1.25 | 1.10 | 1.50 | 4.95 |
| 2019 | 1.15 | 1.30 | 1.15 | 1.65 | 5.25 |
| al- | QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID - ${ }^{\text {c }}$ |  |  |  | Full Year |
| endar | Mar. 31 | Jun. 30 | Sep. 30 | Dec. 31 |  |
| 2014 | . 48 | . 48 | . 48 | . 48 | 1.92 |
| 2015 | . 49 | . 49 | . 49 | . 49 | 1.96 |
| 2016 | . 50 | . 50 | . 50 | . 50 | 2.00 |
| 2017 | . 51 | . 51 | . 51 | . 51 | 2.04 |
| 2018 | . 52 |  |  |  |  |

BUSINESS: Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. owns the world's largest retail chain, operating 3,522 supercenters (includes grocery departments), 415 discount stores, 660 Sam's Clubs, and 735 Neighborhood Markets in the U.S., plus 6,363 foreign stores, many in Latin America, with the rest in Asia, Canada, and the U.K. as of $1 / 31 / 18$. Total store space: 1.164 billion square feet. Retail space is largely

## Walmart's stock has fallen back to

 earth. The shares were up over $60 \%$ in the 12 months leading up to the release of fiscal first-quarter results. That report did not go over well with investors, and the shares are down around $20 \%$ since the release. The bottom line was $\$ 0.04$ shy of the average Wall Street estimate. The company expedited the start of some initiatives to take advantage of tax reform, which increased expenses and drove part of the miss. Domestic same-store sales rose $2.6 \%$ on a $1.6 \%$ rise in traffic. New technologies and apps that manage markdown activity and help associates improve in-stock levels contributed to the solid result. The e-commerce business slowed with Web-initiated sales (indudes ship-to-home, ship-to-store, pick up today, online grocery, and transactions through Jet.com and smaller e-commerce brands) growing $23 \%$ versus $50 \%$ in the fiscal third quarter. The company anniversaried the J et.com acquisition and encountered an operational mishap that hindered results. Still, management is confident the growth rate will bounce back, resulting in a $40 \%$ advance for the Web business in 2018.owned, and most stores are within 400 miles of a distribution center. Groceries accounted for $56 \%$ of U.S. sales; sales per square foot in 2016: about $\$ 420$. Has $2,300,000$ employees. Off./dir. own $51.6 \%$ of shares (4/18 proxy). Chairman: Gregory B. Penner. CEO and Pres.: Doug McMillon. Inc.: DE. Addr.: 702 S.W. 8th St., Bentonville, AR 72716. Tel.: 479-273-4000. Internet: www.walmart.com.
Walmart is proving to be an omnichannel thought leader. The company was way ahead of rivals in establishing innovative ways to merge the online and instore shopping experiences. The most successful initiative has been grocery pickup, which rolled out to 1,100 locations over the past 18 months, and is expected to arrive at 1,000 more this year. New "pickup towers" at 118 locations make this process even faster and easier than going into a designated area of a supercenter. Notably, customers that regularly buy both in store and online spend about double the amount of conventional shoppers.
Although unfavorably ranked, the shares offer compelling risk-adjusted long-term price appreciation potential at current price levels. The financial strength of Walmart's core customer group - households making less than \$50,000 per year - is improving thanks to higher wages, relatively low unemployment, and tax reform. This, coupled with Walmart's pristine execution of its omnichannel strategy, should translate into steady earnings growth in coming years. Kevin Downing

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[^0]:    (A) Fiscal year ends Jan. 31st of following (losses)/gains: '01, (\$0.01); '05, \$0.03; '08, Mar., May, Aug., and Dec.■ Dividend reinvestcalendar year. Sales exclude rentals from li- (\$0.07); '09, \$0.04; '10, \$0.40; '11, \$0.03; '13, ment plan available. censed depts. (B) Based on diluted shares. (\$0.23); '15 (\$0.08). Next earnings report due (D) In millions. May not sum due to rounding. Excls. $n / r \mid$ mid-May. (C) Divds. historically paid in early
    Company's Financial Strength
    Stock's Price Stability
    Price Growth Persistence
    Earnings Predictability
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