

and overseas under the McDonald's banner (as of 6/30/18). About 92% are operated by franchisees or affiliates, with the remainder under the control of the company. Foreign operations contributed 65% of systemwide sales and 58% of consolidated operating in-

Has about 235,000 employees. Officers/directors own less than 1% of common stock (4/18 Proxy). CEO: Steve Easterbrook. Inc.: Delaware. Address: 110 North Carpenter Street, Chicago, Illinois 60607. Telephone: 630-623-3000. Internet: www.mcdonalds.com

Current Liab. **ANNUAL RATES** Est'd '15-'17 Past Past 10 Yrs. 5.0% 8.5% 9.0% 5 Yrs. 2.5% 3.5% 2.5% to '21-'23 2.5% 8.0% 10.0% 7.0% NMF of change (per sh) Revenues "Cash Flow" Earnings Dividends Book Value 13.0% 7.5%

4848.6

756.0 77.2

3468.3

5327.2

924.8

1965.8

2890.6

4355.6

917.9

292 2

1760.2

2970.3

**Current Assets** 

Accts Payable Debt Due

Cal- endar	QUAR1 Mar.31	ERLY RE\ Jun.30	/ENUES (\$ Sep.30	mill.) E Dec.31	Full Year
2015	5958	6497	6615	6341	25413
2016	5904	6265	6424	6029	24622
2017	5676	6050	5755	5340	22820
2018	5139	5354	5387	5300	21180
2019	5000	5300	5500	5300	21100
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE AE				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2015	1.01	1.26	1.40	1.30	4.97
2016	1.23	1.45	1.62	1.43	5.71
2017	1.47	1.70	1.76	1.71	6.66
2018	1.79	1.99	2.01	1.91	7.70
2019	1.85	2.05	2.20	2.10	8.20
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B =				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2014	.81	.81	.81	.85	3.28
2015	.85	.85	.85	.89	3.44
2016	.89	.89	.89	.94	3.61
2017	.94	.94	.94	1.01	3.83
2018	1.01	1.01			

McDonald's reported solid secondquarter results that were in line with our forecasts. Comparable-store sales in the United States were slightly weaker than expected due to stiff competition, but strength in other corners of the globe helped pick up the slack. Specifically, comps rose 2.6% in the United States, thanks to a higher average check, which was the result of menu price increases and favorable product mix shifts. Foundational markets posted the best comp increase at 6.8%, but the bigger story was the 4.9% gain in the International Lead segment. This figure was much better anticipated and reflected broad broad-based strength, with the United Kingdom and France leading the charge. The High Growth segment rounded things out with a 2.4% comp gain, as a strong performance in Italy was partially offset by weakness in South Korea. All told, global comparablestore sales rose 4.0% in the June quarter, a solid showing in our view. Systemwide sales were up 5% in constant currencies, but the top line fell 12% from a year earlier, nearly matching our \$5.350 billion forecast. The year-to-year decline stemmed

from efforts to convert more companyowned restaurants into franchised locations, so we are not concerned by the dip. On the bottom line, share earnings were \$1.99 (excluding \$0.09 a share of restructuring charges), up 17% from a year ear-lier and a penny ahead of our call. The higher comp, combined with a lower share count and more favorable tax rate, enabled the heady share-net advance.

Competition is fierce, but we believe that McDonald's is executing well with its growth initiatives. These include restaurant remodels, menu innovation, mobile order/pay capabilities, and the rollout of delivery services. Costs associated with these endeavors should ease in the back half of the year, as should commodity cost inflation.

We think McDonald's stock has appeal conservative accounts. Capital gains potential is not vast, but it looks better on a risk-adjusted basis, given MCD's top marks for Safety and Price Stability, as well as the company's A++ (Highest) rank for Financial Strength. An aboveaverage dividend yield sweetens the pot. Matthew E. Spencer, CFA August 24, 2018

(A) Based on diluted shares. Excl. nonrecur. gain/(loss): '02, (55¢); '03, (25¢); '04, (6¢); '05, 3¢; '06, 53¢; '07, (93¢); '08, 9¢; '09, 13¢; '10, (2¢); '15, (17¢); '16, (27¢); '17, (29¢); '18,

(16¢). Excl. cum. effect of accting change: '02, (7¢); '03, (3¢); '04, (8¢). Incl. tax benefit: '04, 7¢. Excl. tax benefit '05, 4¢. Next egs. report due late Oct. (B) Div'ds paid mid-Mar., Jun.,

Sep., Dec. **Div'd.** reinvestment plan available. **(C)** Incl. intang. At 12/31/17: \$2,379.7 mill., \$3.00/share. **(D)** In mill., adj. for splits. (E) May not sum due to rounding.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A++ 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 85