

14324 9568 12026 Receivables 8152 12452 11388 Other 33879 37084 38692 Current Assets 15180 Accts Payable 13361 16705 Debt Due 7193 28698 2857 32426 1973 34531 Other 50463 Current Liab. 49252 53209

ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '16-'18 Past 10 Yrs. to '22-'24 of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. Revenues "Cash Flow" 13.5% 12.5% 14.0% 14.5% 9.0% 13.0% Earnings Dividends 15.0% 28.5% 14.0% 13.0% 12.5% Book Value 11 5% 10.0% 10.0%

Cal-	QUAR	TERLY RE	VENUES (Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30		Year
2016	44527	46485	46293	47535	184840
2017	48723	50053	50322	52061	201159
2018	55188	56086	56556	58417	226247
2019	59690	60760	61500	62500	24445 0
2020	64700	65800	66340	68000	26484 0
Cal-	E/	ARNINGS F	PER SHAR	E ^A	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2016	1.81	1.96	2.17	2.11	8.05
2017	2.37	2.46	2.66	2.58	10.07
2018	3.04	3.14	3.41	3.28	12.87
2019	3.60	3.45	3.85	3.75	14.65
2020	4.10	3.95	4.35	4.25	16.65
Cal-	QUAF	RTERLY DI	VIDENDS I	PAID B	Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2015 2016 2017 2018 2019	.375 .50 .625 .75	.50 .625 .75 .90	.50 .625 .75 .90	.50 .625 .75 .90	1.88 2.38 2.88 3.45

BUSINESS: UnitedHealth Group is a diversified health/well-being company. It offers products/services to individuals 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. 2/08; Unison

UnitedHealth Group is apt to post annual earnings growth in the vicinity of 15% in 2019. The company bested expectations to close out 2018 and struck a positive tone with its guidance for this year. The legacy healthcare business is chugging along at a handsome growth rate, and its Optum branches remain at the cutting edge of all the areas where medical services have now expanded to. There is a reason UNH is the bellwether for the sector as a whole, and its scope is part of that. Acquisitions and international expansion have paid off in the recent past, and the business is growing at solid paces on a number of vital fronts.

We are introducing a share-net target for 2020 of \$16.65. Membership growth has been on an upward trajectory for some time, and when that figure does show a drop in a certain segment it is usually by UNH's choice. The company is quick to exit operating segments that management views as not profitable enough or too risky for future gains. On the Optum side of the coin, its pharmacy benefits piece is the gold standard for the sector, and shines in the hottest subdivision of the medical field

about 260,000 employees. BlackRock owns 7.1% of common; Vanguard, 6.9%; FMR LLC, 5.4%; offs. & dirs., 0.9% (4/18 Proxy). CEO: David Wichmann; CFO: John F. Rex. Inc.: Minnesota. Address: 9900 Bren Road East, Minnetonka, MN 55343. Telephone: 952-936-1300. Web: www.unitedhealthgroup.com.

at this time. We do not expect any of this to change in the next couple of years.

While business is booming, we think external risks are the ones that need to be monitored. A consolidation trend in this space shows that rivals are coming for UNH's crown, particularly with the CVS Health/Aetna merger. Too, the Trump Administration's plan to end drug rebates is not a good thing for PBMs like the Optum one, and a huge company like UnitedHealth can look like the bad guy when arguing its case in these matters.

This blue chip equity looks to be fairly valued in the current market. There is a lot to like here, we just do not think the entry point at this time is ideal. The stock is neutrally ranked for year-ahead relative price performance, and 3- to 5-year capital appreciation potential is subpar versus the *Value Line* median, even with our now significantly higher Target Price Range out to 2022-2024. Also, we have ratcheted up our dividend projections in each of the coming years. However, the yield is still not large enough to merit investment consideration on its own. *Erik M. Manning March 8, 2019*

(A) Diluted earnings. Excludes nonrecurring gains/(losses): '07, (8¢); '08, (55¢); '16, 80¢; '17, 65¢; '18, 68¢. May not sum due to rounding or change in share count. Next earnings

report due mid-April. (B) Quarterly dividend initiated 6/10. Dividends historically paid in late March, June, September, and December.

(C) Includes intangibles. In '18, \$68.2 billion, \$71.07/share.

(D) In millions, adjusted for stock split

Company's Financial Strength A++
Stock's Price Stability 90
Price Growth Persistence 95
Earnings Predictability 90