

erating 3,570 supercenters (includes grocery departments), 386 discount stores, 599 Sam's Clubs, and 813 Neighborhood Markets in the U.S., plus 5,993 foreign stores, many in Latin America, with the rest in Asia, Canada, and the U.K. as of 1/31/19. Total store space: 1.129 billion square feet. Retail space is largely owned, and

accounted for 56% of U.S. sales; sales per square foot in 2018: about \$455. Has 2,200,000 employees. Off./dir. own 50.2% of shares (4/19 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

ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '16-'18 Past 10 Yrs. to '22-'24 of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. Sales "Cash Flow" 6.0% 5.5% 4.0% 1.5% 4.5% 6.0% 7.0% 7.5% 3.5% Earnings Dividends -1.5% 4.5% 3.5% Book Value

3511

59664

46092

78521

**Current Assets** 

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

Other

3623

61897

47060

2605 27812

2391

61739

45110 6727 28051

Fiscal Year Begins	QUA Apr.30	RTERLY S Jul.31	ALES (\$ m Oct.31	nill.) A Jan.31	Full Fiscal Year
2016	115904	120854	118179	130936	485873
2017	117542	123355	123179	136267	500343
2018	122690	128028	124894	138793	514405
2019	123925	130750	129000	145250	528925
2020	129180	134800	132875	149965	546820
Fiscal Year	EARNINGS PER SHARE A B Full				
Begins	Apr.30	Jul.31	Oct.31	Jan.31	Fiscal Year
2016	.98	1.07	.98	1.30	4.32
2017	1.00	1.08	1.00	1.33	4.42
2018	1.14	1.29	1.08	1.41	4.91
2019	1.13	1.23	1.07	1.42	4.85
2020	1.16	1.27	1.12	1.50	5.05
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID = C				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2015	.49	.49	.49	.49	1.96
2016	.50	.50	.50	.50	2.00
2017	.51	.51	.51	.51	2.04
2018	.52	.52	.52	.52	2.08
2019	.53	.53			

Walmart reported solid results for the fiscal first quarter. The top line grew 2.5% year over year to \$125.8 billion in constant-currency terms. Earnings per share of \$1.13 were well ahead of our estimate of \$1.02, but fell short of last year's \$1.14, as the company continues to invest in infrastructure, e-commerce, and wages. Walmart U.S. had a strong same-store sales performance, with that important metric rising 3.4%. The growth came despite SNAP (food stamp benefits) being pulled forward in the prior year quarter. That figure included e-commerce growth of 37%, which was in line with its performance over the last several years. The number of transactions increased 1.1%, while the average ticket was 2.3% higher.

Comparisons are getting more diffi**cult.** The company faces tougher sales comparisons in the fiscal second quarter, due to the timing of weather related benefits last year. Too, currency is expected to remain a headwind during the period.

We think tariffs will hinder Walmart's results over the near term. The company will continue to actively manage pricing/margins and execute mitigation stra-

tegies. That said, due to its size and breadth of product we think there will be some financial repercussions for Walmart. Development of the omnichannel is coming along. Walmart now has 2,450 stores in the U.S. with grocery pickup, and provided same-day grocery delivery in nearly 1,000 locations at quarter end. The company expects 1,600 stores to offer same-day delivery by year-end. Too, by the end of 2019, 75% of the country will be covered by next-day delivery for much of Walmart.com's inventory. The company also recently announced an in-home grocery delivery service (InHome) where associates wearing body cams will gain access to customers' homes via smart lock devices and then stock fridges and pantries with goods. The service will be rolled out in three market this fall.

These shares are an average choice. The recent run up in price has limited the company's long-term price appreciation potential. Too, exposure to tariffs makes Walmart somewhat less insulated from an ongoing trade war with China than many other large cap stocks outside retail. Kevin Downing July 26, 2019

(A) Fiscal year ends Jan. 31st of following calendar year. Sales exclude rentals from licensed depts. (B) Based on diluted shares. May not sum due to rounding. Excls. n/r

(losses)/gains: '05, \$0.03; '08, (\$0.07); '09, Aug., and Dec.■ Dividend reinvestment plan \$0.04; '10, \$0.40; '11, \$0.03; '13, (\$0.23); '15 available. (\$0.08). Next earnings report due mid-August. (**D**) In millions. (C) Divds. historically paid in early Mar., May,

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 

A++ 95 95