

and overseas under the McDonald's banner (as of 6/30/19). About 93% are operated by franchisees or affiliates, with the remainder under the control of the company. Foreign operations contributed 64% of systemwide sales and 54% of consolidated operating in-

Has about 210,000 employees. Officers/directors own less than 1% of common stock (4/19 Proxy). CEO: Steve Easterbrook. Inc.: Delaware. Address: 110 North Carpenter Street, Chicago, Illinois 60607. Telephone: 630-623-3000. Internet: www.mcdonalds.com

**ANNUAL RATES** Past Est'd '16-'18 Past 10 Yrs. 4.0% 8.0% 8.5% 5 Yrs. 1.0% 4.5% 4.5% of change (per sh) to '22-'24 4.0% 7.0% 8.5% Revenues "Cash Flow" Earnings Dividends Book Value 8.5% NMF 11.0% 6.5%

5327.2

924.8

1965.<u>8</u>

2890.6

4053.2

1207.9

1765.6

2973.5

3915.4

2443.2 3240.0

796.8

**Current Assets** 

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

Cal- endar	QUART Mar.31	TERLY RE\ Jun.30	/ENUES (\$ Sep.30		Full Year
2016	5903	6265	6424	6028	24621
2017	5675	6049	5754	5340	22820
2018	5139	5354	5369	5163	21025
2019	4956	5341	5430	5253	20980
2020	5025	5375	5500	5350	21250
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE AE				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
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	2.10	1.97	7.90
2019	1.72	2.05	2.17	2.01	7.95
2020	1.95	2.20	2.35	2.15	8.65
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B =				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
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	1.01	1.16	4.19
2019	1.16	1.16			

McDonald's reported strong secondquarter financials. The top line was essentially flat with the year-earlier tally. The stagnant figure reflects refranchising initiatives and foreign currency headwinds and is not investors' primary concern. Of much more importance are systemwide sales (up 8% on a constant-currency basis) and global comparable-store sales, which climbed 6.5%. The latter was nicely ahead of Wall Street's consensus forecast, which was something closer to growth of 5.3%. It also reflected broad-based geographic also reflected broad-based geographic strength. Breaking it down further, the highly scrutinized U.S. comp figure rose 5.7% (4.4% was the consensus expectation), thanks to successful national and local promotions, including the *2 for \$5 Mix* and *Match* deal. Classic menu items also did well, and management's ongoing efforts regarding menu innovation, modernizing restaurants, offering delivery services, cutting wait times, and incorporating mobile ordering/payment functionality clearly resonated with diners. The International Operated segment was also solid, posting a same-store sales advance of 6.6%, with notable strength in the United

Kingdom, France, and Germany, Numbers were even better in the International Developmental Licensed segment, where comps were up 7.9%. All told, adjusted earnings rose 3% from a year earlier, to \$2.05 a share, matching our estimate.

Looking ahead, we think McDonald's will continue to execute well. Indeed, leadership appears to have a firm grasp on what customers want and is careful to never lose sight of what matters most, which is the combination of value, convenience, and taste. That said, the restaurant operator certainly faces challenges, including stiff competition and a tight labor market, which drives up labor costs and makes it harder to lure and retain employees. Foreign exchange will likely remain a headwind, as well.

As for McDonald's stock, we continue to think that it has some appeal for conservative accounts. While the recent quotation limits its long-term capital gains potential, a respectable dividend yield and top marks for Safety, Price Stability, and Financial Strength make it more enticing for the risk-averse crowd.

Matthew E. Spencer, CFA

August 23, 2019

(A) Based on diluted shares. Excl. nonrecur. gain/(loss): '03, (25¢); '04, (6¢); '05, 3¢; '06, 53¢; '07, (93¢); '08, 9¢; '09, 13¢; '10, (2¢); '15, (17¢); '16, (27¢); '17, (29¢); '18, (16¢); '19,

(8¢). Excl. cum. effect of accting change: '03, (3¢); '04, (8¢). Incl. tax benefit: '04, 7¢. Excl. tax benefit '05, 4¢. Next egs. report due late

■ Div'd. reinvestment plan available. (C) Incl. intang. At 12/31/18: \$2,331.5 mill., \$3.04/share. (D) In mill., adj. for splits. Oct. (B) Div'ds paid mid-Mar., Jun., Sep., Dec. (E) May not sum due to rounding.

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