

states & Washington, D.C.; a wireless presence in 50 states & D.C.; operations in 19 countries. 2018 revenue breakdown: wireline, 23%; domestic wireless, 69%; corporate & other, 8%. Has about 144,500 employees. Chairman: Lowell McAdam; CEO: Hans Vestberg. Inc.: Delaware. Addr.: 1095 Avenue of the Americas, NY, NY 10036. Tel.: 212-395-1000. Internet: www.verizon.com.

ANNUAL RATES	Past	Past E	st'd '16-'18
of change (per sh)	10 Yrs.	5 Yrs.	to '22-'24
Revenues	-0.5%	-3.0%	1.5%
"Cash Flow"	1.0%	1.5%	2.0%
Earnings	5.0%	8.0%	4.5%
Dividends	3.0%	3.0%	2.0%
Book Value	-5.0%	-2.5%	5.5%

21232

33037

3453

22501 7190

37930

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

Other

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	Full Year			
		Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	
2016	32171	30532	30937		125980
2017	29814	30548	31717	33955	126034
2018	31772	32203	32607	34281	130863
2019	32128	32071	32780	34571	131550
2020	32600	32600	33000	35000	133200
Cal-	EA	Full			
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2016	1.06	.94	1.01	.86	3.87
2017	.95	.96	.98	.85	3.74
2018	1.17	1.20	1.22	1.12	4.71
2019	1.20	1.23	1.23	1.14	4.80
2020	1.22	1.25	1.25	1.18	4.90
Cal-	QUAR'	Full			
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2015	.55	.55	.565	.565	2.23
2016	.565	.565	.58	.58	2.29
2017	.58	.58	.58	.59	2.33
2018	.59	.59	.59	.6025	
2019	.6025				,
	.0020	.0020	.0020		

We have upped our 2019 and 2020 earnings estimates for Verizon. The telecommunications giant and Dow-30 component reported June-interim earnings of \$1.23 a share, three cents above our estimate and the year-ago result, on a relatively flat top-line comparison. Beginning in the second quarter, Verizon will report financial and operational results under its new reporting structure, Verizon 2.0. Under this structure, there are two reportable segments: Consumer and Business. Verizon previously reported results for its Wireless and Wireline segments, so for comparison purposes this quarter, we will defer to the old system. Verizon Wireless posted a 1.0% uptick in year-over-year revenues, and service revenues, which were in decline last year, were up a solid 3.1%, thanks to customer step-ups to higher priced plans, contributions from strong retail postpaid additions, and an increase in connections per account. What's more, VZ Wireless added 451,000 retail postpaid net additions during the June interim (compared to 531,000 such additions this time last year), bringing Verizon's total number of retail connections to 113.9 million, up 2.0% year over year. All told, we look for the company to post 2019 earnings of \$4.80 a share, up a nickel from our earlier call, with a \$0.10-a-share advance likely in the cards for next year.

Competition is likely to continue to take a toll on the top-line growth. Indeed, elevated competition in a mature industry may stymie the company's ability to attract new customers. Nevertheless, an ongoing cost reduction program aimed at \$10 billion in total cash savings by 2021 augurs well for the bottom line. Thus far, the initiative has yielded \$4.1 billion in cash savings. At the end of June, Verizon completed the third and final phases of its Voluntary Separation Program and has realized \$480 million in expense savings year to date.

At the recent quotation, this blue-chip equity offers worthwhile capital-appreciation potential through the early years of the coming decade. Moreover, VZ stock could well be the darling of the income-seeking set, as its dividend yield is well above that of the Value Line median.

Kenneth A. Nugent Sept

September 13, 2019

(A) Based diluted shares. Excl. n/r gains (losses): '03, (\$1.51): '04, \$0.08; '06, (\$0.42). Next earnings report late October. (B) Div'd paid in early Feb., May, Aug. & Nov. ■ Div'd

reinv. plan avail. (C) In mill. (D) Including financial subsidiary. (E) ${\rm ^{10}}$ MCI pro forma.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability 95
Price Growth Persistence 35
Earnings Predictability 65