

oil, 1.9 mill. barrels (+5% vs. '18); natural gas, 7.1 bill. cubic feet (+4% vs. '18). Daily refinery input, 1.6 million barrels (flat vs. '18). Daily sales of refinery products, 2.6 million barrels (-3% vs. '18). Proved reserves at 12/31/18: 12.1 billion barrels of oil equivalent,

Has approx. 51,900 employees. Vanguard owns 8.1% of stock; BlackRock, 6.8%; State Street, 6.0% (4/19 proxy). Chairman and CEO: Michael K. Wirth, Inc.: DE, Addr.: 6001 Bollinger Canvon Rd.. San Ramon, CA 94583. Tel.: 925-842-1000. www.chevron.com.

27171 Current Liab. 30233 ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '16-'18 of change (per sh) to '23-'25 Sales "Cash Flow" -4.0% -10.0% 5.0% 0.5% -6.5% 6.5% -9.0% 7.0% 8.0% -21.5% Earnings 13.5% 4.5% 2.5% 4.5% 1.0% Dividends Book Value QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.) Cal-Full Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year

28560

14565

27737

5192

34021

13953

5754 7464

33988

13230 7795

9208

Current Assets

Accts Payable Debt Due

endar 2017 33421 34480 36205 37616 41722 42236 2018 37764 43987 42352 66339 2019 135200 38850 36116 36350 46516 155000 2020 37000 39000 39000 40000 2021 38000 40000 40000 42000 160000 FARNINGS PER SHARE A Cal Full Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 endar Year 3.79 .58 2017 1.41 .77 1.03 7.74 2018 1.90 1.78 2.11 1.95 1.39 d3.51 1.54 2019 2.27 1.36 1.70 2020 6.75 1.60 1.70 1.75 2021 1.70 1.75 1.75 1.80 7.00 QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B. Calendar Mar.31 Jun.30 Sep.30 Dec.31 Year 2016 1.07 1.07 1.07 1.08 4.29 2017 1.08 1.08 1.08 1.08 4.32 2018 1.12 1.12 1.12 1.12 4.48 2019 1.19 1.19 1.19 1.19 4.76 2020 1.29

Chevron is generating middling results, prompted by an unimpressive operating environment. Measures such as returns on capital have been subpar, owing to lackluster oil prices of late. That was true in 2019 even if a large \$6.6 billion fourth-quarter charge to write off natural gas properties in the United States is excluded. Essentially, the fear that the drilling industry would create surplus supplies of crude oil and natural gas now that technology has unlocked highly productive shale reservoirs has come true. The ensuing adverse effect on pricing may well keep a lid on earnings per share for a couple of more years.

The company is nevertheless in good position internally, having completed a major overseas expansion. Chevron has addressed the industry theme of providing fuel to expanding markets in Asia through the construction of a pair of liquefied natural gas facilities in Australia. Add-ons to those plants, coupled with the major development push in the oil fields of Texas, are helping to boost combined oil and gas production (+4% in 2019)

in a cost-effective manner. Even so, Wall

Street has been cool towards the stock. given unexciting profit prospects.

Downstream operations are also forging ahead. Last year's purchase of a refinery in Texas and the pending acquisition of a network of terminals and service stations in Australia are pluses for that line. The expansion of chemical facilities stateside and in Qatar will boost volume capabilities, too. Presumably, industry margins will bounce back to a large degree and lift profits materially by 2023-2025

The company's business expertise shined through when it opted not to get into a bidding war for Anadarko a year earlier. Weaker operating conditions could still push some financially strapped drillers with good assets into Chevron's arms. Importantly, the chance of overpaying seems low.

This blue-chip stock provides high, secure income and solid comeback potential. Chevron's strong finances should see it through to better days. Therefore, conservative, dividend-oriented investors might look closer. But the shares are only neutrally ranked for Timeliness Robert Mitkowski February 28, 2020

(A) Based on diluted shares. Excludes non-recurring gain of \$1.06 in '17. Next earnings report due mid- to late April. (B) Dividends historically paid on or about 10th of March, June, September, and December. Dividend reinvestment plan available. (C) In millions, adj. for stock split.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A++ 75 Price Growth Persistence 20 **Earnings Predictability** 10