

software. It develops and sells software products for a wide range of computing environments in consumer and enterprise markets. Hardware products include the Xbox video game console and Surface laptops. Revenue sources in fiscal 2021: Productivity & Business Processes, 32%; Intelligent Cloud, 36%; More Personal Com-

6/30/21. Stock owners: Offs. & dirs., less than 1%; The Vanguard Group, 8.1%; BlackRock, Inc., 6.8%. (10/21 proxy). Chairman & CEO: Satya Nadella. Incorporated: Washington. Addr.: One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399. Telephone: 425-882-8080. Internet: www.microsoft.com.

ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '19-'21 Past 10 Yrs. to '24-'26 of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. Revenues "Cash Flow 10.0% 12.0% 11.0% 17.5% 16.0% 15.5% 11.0% 14.0% 11.0% 17.5% 13.0% 17.0% Earnings Dividends Book Value 18.0% 10.0%

181915

12530

36000 20031

72310

3749

184406

15163

41525 23897

88657

8072

174188

15314

34001 23197

4998

Current Assets

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab

Unearned Revenue Other

DOOK Value 11.0% 9.5% 17.0%					7.070
Fiscal Year Ends	QUART Sep.30	ERLY REV Dec.31	ENUES (\$ Mar.31	mill.) A Jun.30	Full Fiscal Year
2018	24538	28918	26819	30085	110360
2019	29084	32471	30571	33717	125843
2020	33055	36906	35021	38033	143015
2021	37154	43076	41706	46152	168088
2022	45317	51728	49000	54205	200250
Fiscal					
Year Ends	Sep.30	Dec.31	Mar.31	Jun.30	Fiscal Year
2018	.84	.96	.95	1.13	3.88
2019	1.14	1.10	1.14	1.37	4.75
2020	1.38	1.51	1.40	1.46	5.76
2021	1.82	2.03	2.03	2.17	8.05
2022	2.27	2.48	2.20	2.35	9.30
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID E■ Full				
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018	.42	.42	.42	.46	1.72
2019	.46	.46	.46	.51	1.89
2020	.51	.51	.51	.56	2.09
2021	.56	.56	.56	.62	2.30
2022	.62				

Microsoft reported strong financial results for its fiscal second quarter. (Years end June 30th.) The momentum that was established at the beginning of fiscal 2020 was once again evident in the latest interim, keeping revenues and earnings on a rapid upward trajectory and benefiting from dynamic performances from the company's commercial business and the move to cloud services. In addition, most of the important performance metrics continued to show improvement in the Deperiod. revenue cember Meanwhile, growth from the Azure platform remained rapid, extending the strong performances from the previous four quarters. The upward trend in consumption-based services was again a positive factor in this regard, underpinning the demand for Azure and the prospects that the platform will continue expanding at a fast pace. Elsewhere, revenue from Office 365 and cloud services progressed nicely in both the commercial and consumer arenas. Finally, Dynamics 365 continued to make headway in the enterprise application business, while LinkedIn benefited from an active employMicrosoft has agreed to acquire game publisher Activision Blizzard. \$68.7 billion, all-cash deal is the company's largest to date. The transaction, which is subject to regulatory review (including the likelihood of close antitrust scrutiny) and the usual shareholder approvals, would greatly enhance Microsoft's position in the gaming market, placing it in keener competition with game makers Sony and Tencent. The deal is expected to close in fiscal 2023, with Activision becoming part of Microsoft's gaming business. What about Microsoft stock? As we

have mentioned in previous reviews, the company's prospects have not gone unnoticed, with the shares continuing to be accorded a generous relative valuation, despite the recent decline in price that has affected many other technology issues. Although a growing dividend and the ongoing stock repurchase program are certainly supportive, new commitments to this high-quality equity are still best made carefully, in our view. If the shares are already held in a long-term portfolio, we would continue to hold the position. Charles Clark February 4, 2022

(A) Fiscal year ends June 30th.
(B) Diluted earnings. Quarters may not add to total. Excl. nonrec. items: '05, d4¢; '12, d72¢; '13, d7¢; '15, d\$1.17; '16, d70¢; '17, d37¢;

(D) Includes intangibles. In fiscal 2021: \$49.7 billion, \$6.28 a share.

ment market.

'18, d\$1.75; '19, d33¢; '22, 43¢. Next earnings report late April. (C) In mill. (E) Dividends historically paid in March, June, Sept., and Dec. ■Dividend reinvestment plan

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A++ 100 Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 95