

(\$MILL.) Bonds 19435 19898 18685 Stocks Cash 172757 109255 248027 127997 245317 145273 Other 405884 423020 419921 707794 817729 829946 Total Assets **Unearned Prems** 18093 19782 22018 115460 253924 119827 268886 110292 Other 226909 **Total Liabilities** 355294 389166 410731

ANNUAL RATES Past Est'd '17-'19 Past 10 Yrs. 5 Yrs. to '23-'25 of change (per sh) 6.0% Nil 6.0% 12.0% Earnings p sh Dividends Book Value 10.0% 11.0% 6.0%

Cal- endar	NET P Mar.31		EARNED(Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2017	21753	12367	13349	13128	60597
2018	13373	14149	14333	15563	57418
2019	14319	14863	15323	16573	61078
2020	15748	15595	15913	16954	64210
2021	17200	17400	17750	18000	70350
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2017	1.65	1.73	1.65	1.40	6.43
2018	2.15	2.79	2.79	2.31	10.04
2019	2.26	2.50	3.21	1.79	9.76
2020	2.41	2.27	2.30	2.37	9.35
2021	2.20	2.40	2.55	2.65	9.80
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2018					
2019	NO DIVIDENDS				
2020	BFING PAID				

and reinsurance basis through GEICO, General Re and Berkshire Reinsurance. Other business activities include electric utilities, railroads, flight training services, candy manufacturing, ice cream, building products, newspapers, retailing, fine jewelry, etc. Also,

Berkshire Hathaway posted a sharp earnings decline during the third quarter. However, it should be noted that the company's results were up against difficult comparisons, as last year's thirdquarter results were robust. Looking at it with more granularity, most of the industry behemoth's divisions posted a yearover-year decline relative to 2019. Insurance underwriting results came in at a deficit of \$213 million, which compares unfavorably to a \$440 million profit last year. Investment income also declined substantially (from nearly \$1.5 billion last year to just over \$1.0 billion in 2020). The Railroad and Manufacturing, Service, and Retailing divisions also posted a moderate decline compared to 2019's level. On the other hand, the Utilities and Energy segment posted positive year-over-year results as earnings clocked in at nearly \$1.4 billion compared to just under \$1.2 billion last year.

We look for earnings-per-share comparisons to improve next year, assumthat economic conditions brighten. The broader P/C insurance industry has been hit quite hard by weather-

Officers & directors control 19.9% of voting power (3/20 proxy). Chrmn. & CEO: Warren E. Buffett. Vice Chrmn.: Charles T. Munger. Inc.: DE. Addr.: 3555 Farnam Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68131. Tel.: 402-346-1400. Internet: www.berkshirehathaway.com.

related catastrophes this year. This can be a bit of a double-edged sword for insurers because as catastrophes cut into profits as claims are paid out, they can give insurers increased bargaining power during policy renewal season. Investment income is another line item that bears watching, as reduced bond reinvestment rates have curtailed growth.

We wouldn't be surprised to see the company throw its hat in the acquisition ring. This has been a large part of Berkshire's growth strategy and a solid balance sheet makes it a distinct possibility moving forward.

we like Though the Berkshire Hathaway story, these shares are currently an unexciting choice. They are merely ranked to be market performers in the year ahead, while they are already trading within our 3- to 5-year Target Price Range. Acquisitions, which aren't included in our forecast until they are consummated, could add meaningfully to our long-term projections. Conservative accounts should also note the stock's topnotch Price Stability score (100 out of 100). Alan G. House December 4, 2020

(A) Based on diluted shares outstanding. Earnings include investment gains/(losses) and derivative gains and losses prior to 2018. Next earnings report due late Jan.

(B) Incl. goodwill and other intang. In 6/30/20, \$101.6 billion; \$42.53/share.

(C) In mill. Split B shares 50-to-1 in January 2010. Each B share is now worth 1/1500 of an A share.

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

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