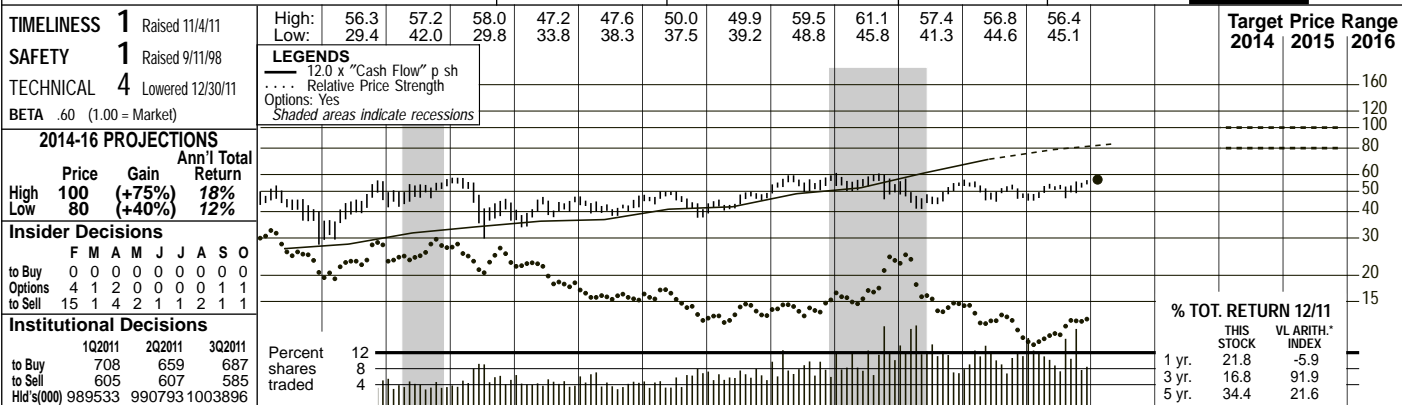


# ABBOTT LABS. NYSE-ABT

RECENT PRICE **56.72** P/E RATIO **11.7** (Trailing: 12.6; Median: 18.0) RELATIVE P/E RATIO **0.81** DIV'D YLD **3.4%** VALUE LINE



1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	© VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	14-16
6.36	7.11	7.78	8.14	8.61	8.89	10.48	11.31	12.45	12.49	14.51	14.62	16.72	19.40	19.82	22.73	<b>25.10</b>	<b>26.35</b>	Sales per sh	<b>29.85</b>
1.43	1.66	1.85	2.03	2.23	2.34	2.65	2.83	3.01	3.05	3.42	3.51	4.05	4.32	5.09	5.90	<b>6.60</b>	<b>7.00</b>	"Cash Flow" per sh	<b>7.85</b>
1.06	1.21	1.34	1.51	1.66	1.78	1.88	2.06	2.21	2.27	2.50	2.52	2.84	3.03	3.72	4.17	<b>4.65</b>	<b>5.00</b>	Earnings per sh <sup>A</sup>	<b>6.00</b>
.42	.48	.54	.60	.66	.74	.82	.94	.98	1.04	1.10	1.18	1.30	1.44	1.60	1.76	<b>1.88</b>	<b>2.00</b>	Div'ds Decl'd per sh <sup>B</sup>	<b>2.20</b>
.60	.61	.66	.65	.64	.67	.75	.83	.79	.82	.78	.87	1.07	.85	.70	.66	<b>.85</b>	<b>.75</b>	Cap'l Spending per sh	<b>.90</b>
2.79	3.11	3.27	3.73	4.85	5.54	5.83	6.82	8.27	9.09	9.37	9.14	11.47	11.48	14.73	14.47	<b>17.05</b>	<b>18.40</b>	Book Value per sh <sup>C</sup>	<b>20.50</b>
1574.6	1548.9	1528.2	1533.8	1530.7	1545.9	1554.5	1563.1	1580.2	1575.1	1539.2	1537.2	1549.9	1522.4	1551.9	1547.0	<b>1555.0</b>	<b>1550.0</b>	Common Shs Outst'g <sup>D</sup>	<b>1535.0</b>
18.1	18.7	23.1	27.1	26.3	23.5	26.6	22.3	18.7	18.7	18.1	17.9	19.2	18.3	13.0	12.2	<b>11.0</b>		Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	<b>15.0</b>
1.21	1.17	1.33	1.41	1.50	1.53	1.36	1.22	1.07	.99	.96	.97	1.02	1.10	.87	.79	<b>.69</b>		Relative P/E Ratio	<b>1.00</b>
2.2%	2.1%	1.7%	1.5%	1.5%	1.8%	1.6%	2.0%	2.4%	2.5%	2.4%	2.6%	2.4%	2.6%	3.3%	3.5%	<b>3.7%</b>		Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	<b>2.3%</b>

CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 9/30/11				16285	17685	19681	19680	22338	22476	25914	29528	30765	35167	39000	40850	Sales (\$mill)	45800
Total Debt \$16.7 bill. Due in 5 Yrs \$6.5 bill.				27.0%	28.9%	27.0%	28.2%	27.6%	28.2%	26.2%	25.5%	28.8%	30.3%	<b>30.9%</b>	<b>31.3%</b>	Operating Margin	<b>31.0%</b>
LT Debt \$13.1 bill. LT Interest \$0.5 bill. (39% of Capital)				1168.0	1177.3	1274.0	1288.7	1358.9	1558.8	1854.9	1838.8	2089.3	2624.3	<b>2950</b>	<b>3070</b>	Depreciation (\$mill)	<b>2850</b>
Pension Assets-12/10 \$7.5 bill. Oblig. \$8.6 bill.				2944.1	3242.4	3479.2	3522.8	3908.5	3841.8	4429.3	4734.2	5805.2	6501.1	<b>7290</b>	<b>7800</b>	Net Profit (\$mill)	<b>9200</b>
Preferred Stock None				8.4%	24.5%	22.0%	21.4%	24.3%	23.5%	19.3%	19.2%	17.0%	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	Income Tax Rate	<b>17.0%</b>	
Common Stock 1,557,795,578 shares				18.1%	18.3%	17.7%	17.9%	17.5%	17.1%	17.1%	16.0%	18.9%	18.5%	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>19.1%</b>	Net Profit Margin	<b>20.0%</b>
MARKET CAP: \$88 billion (Large Cap)				492.4	2119.6	2650.9	3908.9	3970.5	6669.3	4939.4	5450.7	10264	5055.1	<b>7200</b>	<b>7750</b>	Working Cap'l (\$mill)	<b>10300</b>
CURRENT POSITION				4335.5	4274.0	3452.3	4787.9	4571.5	7009.7	9487.8	8713.3	11266	12524	<b>12800</b>	<b>10800</b>	Long-Term Debt (\$mill)	<b>9000</b>
CASH ASSETS				9059.4	10665	13072	14326	14415	14054	17779	17480	22856	22388	<b>26550</b>	<b>28500</b>	Shr. Equity (\$mill)	<b>31500</b>
RECEIVABLES				22.8%	22.3%	21.5%	18.8%	21.0%	18.8%	17.0%	18.8%	17.5%	19.1%	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	Return on Total Cap'l	<b>23.0%</b>
INVENTORY				32.5%	30.4%	26.6%	24.6%	27.1%	27.3%	24.9%	27.1%	25.4%	29.0%	<b>27.5%</b>	<b>27.5%</b>	Return on Shr. Equity	<b>29.0%</b>
CURRENT LIAB.				18.5%	17.0%	15.0%	13.4%	15.4%	14.7%	13.9%	14.6%	14.8%	17.1%	<b>16.5%</b>	<b>16.5%</b>	Retained to Com Eq	<b>18.0%</b>
OTHER ASSETS				43%	44%	44%	45%	43%	46%	44%	46%	42%	41%	<b>40%</b>	<b>39%</b>	All Div'ds to Net Prof	<b>37%</b>

**BUSINESS:** Abbott Laboratories operates four segments: Pharmaceutical Products (56.5% of '10 sales) develops, manufactures, and sells a broad line of adult and pediatric pharmaceuticals, which are sold primarily on the prescription, or recommendation, of physicians; Diagnostic Products (10.8%) diagnostic systems and tests for blood banks, hospitals, labs, physicians' offices, etc.; Nutritional Products (15.7%) a wide range of adult and pediatric nutritional products; Vascular products (9.1%) coronary, vessel-closure, and endovascular devices; Other (7.9%). '10 R&D: \$3.7 billion. Employs about 69,000. Chairman & CEO: Miles D. White. Incorporated: IL. Address: 100 Abbott Park Road, Abbott Park, IL 60064. Telephone: 847-937-6100. Internet: www.abott.com.

**Abbott Laboratories has made the strategic decision to split into two separate publicly traded companies.** The breakup would result in the creation of two separate entities; a diversified medical products company and a proprietary pharmaceuticals company. Under terms of the plan, ABT will spin off its pharmaceuticals unit to shareholders in a tax-free transaction. The pharma business includes the company's branded drug portfolio, led by blockbuster drug *Humira*, and a diversified development pipeline. The remaining part of Abbott, which will retain the company name, will be comprised of its devices, diagnostics, nutritional, and branded generics businesses. Although many details have yet to be released, the transaction is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

**The split makes strategic sense for Abbott, and should help unlock value for shareholders.** The separation is a logical step in the ongoing evolution of the diversified company. Indeed, the two units have very different characteristics and growth profiles. The pharmaceutical business, which was on track to generate approximately \$18 billion in sales (45% of total) in 2011, is a mature business that is dominated by *Humira*. The flagship \$8 billion drug has actually been an impediment to share price improvement, due to investor concerns regarding its future growth rate/competition. Investors had been penalizing ABT with a low P/E multiple (both on a historical and industry basis) because of the overhang from *Humira* concerns, without properly valuing the diversified medical products business. Notably, the medical products group of businesses has a significantly higher growth profile, with a large focus on emerging markets. Indeed, approximately 40% of segment sales come from these regions. Thus, the separation of the higher-growth medical products business from the pharmaceutical unit should help unlock value. Importantly, both companies are expected to pay dividends, with a combined total that is equal to the current payout.

**This timely stock has performed well over the past few months.** Moreover, it remains an attractive choice for total return potential out to 2014-2016.

*Joel Schwed* January 13, 2012

(A) Primary earnings thru '96, diluted earnings thereafter. Excludes nonrecurring gain/losses: '99, (9c); '01, (89c); '02, (28c); '03, (46c); '04, (21c); '05, (34c); '06, (\$1.40); '07, (53c); '08, 19c; '10, (\$1.21). Next earnings report due late January. (B) Dividends historically paid in February, May, August, and November. ■ Dividend reinvestment plan available. (C) Includes intangibles. In '10: \$28.1 billion, in 2011: \$18.15 a share. (D) In millions.	Company's Financial Strength	A++
	Stock's Price Stability	100
	Price Growth Persistence	40
	Earnings Predictability	100