STOCK MARKET
DAILY

7 “Safe Haven” Retirement Stocks that Pay at Least 5% Dividends

(including 1 that pays close to 7%)

Retirement is not as easy as it used to be.

No longer can you work one job your whole life and collect a pension until you die.

No longer can you count on a public or private pension — even if you have one.

No longer can you depend on Social Security to pay you the benefits you were promised... or even pay you at all.

This is because all of the “sure things” your parents counted on are either gone, bankrupt, or soon to be bankrupt.

To give you an idea of just how bad it is, look no further than Harvey, Illinois.

Harvey is a small town of 25,000 people, yet it’s facing a pension crisis that is a harbinger of things to come.

Unable to pay their bills (or file bankruptcy because state law prevents it), Harvey has been forced to lay off 25% of their police employees and 40% of their firefighters.

Even this dramatic workforce reduction is a temporary solution. Ultimately, the city’s money will run out and they won’t be able to fund their pensions any longer.

Hundreds of cities and and states all over the U.S. are facing similar situations. The writing is on the wall, but nobody wants to read it.

Since you’re reading this report, I know you’re the type of person who understands the importance of facing the facts and having a plan to fund your own retirement — regardless of what’s happening in the rest of America.

With that in mind, let me share with you 7 stocks that are paying at least 5% dividends. These are low-risk dividend stocks that have a history of paying solid dividends. You should have some or all these in your portfolio for safe retirement income.

Let’s get started...

Dividend Stock #1: Enbridge (NYSE: ENB)

Yield: 6.59%

Canadian oil pipeline giant Enbridge has been paying dividends to its investors for more than 64 years. Even better, the company has increased the payout for the last 23, which puts it just a couple of years shy of entering the elite ranks of the Dividend Aristocrats. The company fully expects to join that group, since it has already announced its intentions to increase the dividend by 10% in both 2019 and 2020.

With its latest increase, Enbridge's stock yields an impressive 6.8%, which like the company's outlook shows, is both sustainable and heading higher. Several factors support this view. First, the company's financials are on solid ground, since 96% of its earnings come from stable sources like fee-based contracts. Furthermore, the company has an investment-grade credit rating and only pays out about 65% of its cash flow to support the dividend.

Those last two factors provide Enbridge with the financial flexibility to invest in high-return growth projects that will increase cash flow. Currently, the company has 22 billion Canadian dollars' ($17 billion) worth of expansions under way, which should fuel 10% annual growth in cash flow per share through 2020, fully supporting its dividend growth outlook. That visible growth, combined with the company's rock-solid financial position, makes Enbridge the perfect dividend stock for retirement.

1) 3 Dividend Stocks that Are Perfect for Retirement

Dividend Stock #2: Ventas (NYSE: VTR)

Yield: 5.9%

One of the biggest investment themes over the next decade is America's growing senior population. According to the Pew Research Center, 10,000 boomers are turning Medicare-eligible each day, and the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid projects healthcare spending to grow 5.8% per year on average between 2014 and 2024.

Ventas has positioned itself to ride the healthcare demographic wave. The real estate investment trust (REIT) owns a portfolio of more than 1,200 properties consisting primarily of senior housing communities, medical office buildings and life science centers.

2) 9 Safe Dividend Stocks to Buy for Timely Retirement Yield

Continued...

An evolving healthcare landscape and increasing new senior housing supply has slowed the company's net operating income growth rate to a low-single-digit clip, but Ventas' favorable long-term positioning remains intact. In fact, Morningstar equity analyst Brad Schwer commented, "We think Ventas' in-place business enjoys tailwinds despite questions over what healthcare delivery will eventually look like."

Dividend Stock #3: W.P. Carey (NYSE: WPC)

Yield: 6.17%

W.P. Carey is a real estate investment trust that owns 890 net lease properties serving industrial, office, retail and warehouse needs in the U.S. and Europe.

The company also has an asset management business that invests in non-traded REITs and generates 19% of the company's adjusted funds from operations (AFFO), an important measure of a real estate investment trust's health. However, management has decided to focus on the company's core net lease assets and gradually will shut down this division.

W.P. Carey's owned real estate portfolio has several attractions. It boasts a 99.8% occupancy rate, is well-diversified with more than 200 tenants (none greater than 5.3% of total rent) and enjoys predictable cash flow thanks to its long-term leases. No more than 5% of the company's leases expire through 2020 as well.

While fears of rising inflation are weighing on many slow-growing REITs, W.P. Carey has somewhat insulated since 99% of its leases have contractual rent increases, including 69% linked to the Consumer Price Index, which is a proxy for inflation.

When combined with its investment grade balance sheet and long track record of increasing its dividend every year since going public in 1998, W.P. Carey's relatively high yield looks particularly interesting today.

Dividend Stock #4: Enterprise Product Partners L.P. (NYSE: EPD)

Yield: 6.03%

Enterprise Product Partners L.P. is one of the largest midstream master limited partnerships (MLPs) in the country, with 50,000 miles of pipelines used to transport and store natural gas, crude oil, refined products and more. The company essentially connects major energy-producing regions with end users of almost every type of fossil fuel.

The pipeline business is very capital-intensive and must comply with strict regulations, resulting in fairly high barriers to entry. Demand tends to be stable as well given the non-discretionary nature of many products that require refined oil and gas, and long-term fixed-fee contracts provide another layer of security to Enterprise's cash flow.

Enterprise Product Partners also enjoys one of the highest credit ratings of any MLP (BBB+ from Standard & Poor's) and maintains a safe distribution coverage ratio of 1.2x. The partnership's conservatism has allowed it to raise its distribution for more than 50 consecutive quarters.

Management's conservatism can be seen in Enterprise's growth plans, too. Since MLPs distribute much of their cash flow to investors, they typically depend heavily on issuing new units and debt to fund their growth projects.

Enterprise has decided to retain more of its distributable cash flow to self-fund the equity portion of its organic growth projects scheduled for 2019. As a result, investors face less risk of being diluted, and the company's cost of capital also will decrease, helping protect it from rising interest rates.

Overall, Enterprise Products Partners is arguably one of the most conservative MLPs in the market – and is taking steps to further improve its risk-adjusted growth profile.

Dividend Stock #5: China Mobile (NYSE: CHL)

Yield: 6.15%

I have to admit, I do love both AT&T (T) and Verizon (VZ) for their dividend yield and size of market share they control. What's nice about China Mobile is that it is not only the largest telecom operator in China with close to 900 million subscribers, but it's also the largest in the world with 63% of the total wireless market. Add in it's hefty yield of 6.15%, and investors get both international diversification with a nice payday.

Dividend Stock #6: Brookfield Renewable Partners L.P. (NYSE: BEP)

Yield: 6.18%

I truly believe the future of energy will be found across hydroelectric, solar, and wind power. 80% of BEP portfolio is focused on hydroelectric power. The company has power plants across North America, South America, Europe, and Asia. BEP enjoys large scale capital and expertise to manage its projects across the world. Management aims at a 5-9% annual distribution increase for years to come.

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Dividend Stock #7: AT&T (NYSE:T)

Yield: 6.19%

There's no denying AT&T Inc. has had its struggles. Wireless telecom as well as broadband have become commodities, and cable television is no longer just available through a literal cable.

Its recent effort to acquire Time Warner Inc (NYSE:TWX) has also run into some political pitfalls. When it's all said and done though, T stock is entrenched in the markets it needs to be entrenched in, and it's got the size and cash-stash to buy what it needs to buy to remain competitive.

It's not going anywhere.

That said, whether its revenue growth is impressive or not, nobody can deny that AT&T is one heck of a reliable dividend payer. It has been paid out every quarter like clockwork since the mid-80's, and grown the whole time. Newcomers are going to enjoy a 6.19% yield on their investment.

5) Best Dividend Stock For Retirement Income In 2018

6) My Top 10 Retirement Stocks

7) 10 Retirement Stocks That You Should Already Own

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