



# Everest Re (RE)

Updated May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 by Jonathan Weber

## Key Metrics

|                             |       |                                            |       |                                  |                       |
|-----------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Current Price:</b>       | \$284 | <b>5 Year CAGR Estimate:</b>               | 5.6%  | <b>Market Cap:</b>               | \$11B                 |
| <b>Fair Value Price:</b>    | \$306 | <b>5 Year Growth Estimate:</b>             | 2.0%  | <b>Ex-Dividend Date:</b>         | 06/05/22 <sup>1</sup> |
| <b>% Fair Value:</b>        | 93%   | <b>5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:</b> | 1.5%  | <b>Dividend Payment Date:</b>    | 06/20/22 <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>Dividend Yield:</b>      | 2.2%  | <b>5 Year Price Target</b>                 | \$338 | <b>Years Of Dividend Growth:</b> | -                     |
| <b>Dividend Risk Score:</b> | B     | <b>Retirement Suitability Score:</b>       | B     | <b>Rating:</b>                   | Hold                  |

## Overview & Current Events

Everest Re Group is a holding company that provides insurance as well as reinsurance services. Everest Re provides reinsurance for property & casualty insurers as well as for special lines such as maritime and aviation. Everest Re operates in the US and through branches in Canada, Singapore and Bermuda. The company was founded in 1999, and is headquartered in Hamilton, Bermuda.

Everest Re reported its first quarter earnings results on April 28. The company earned revenues of \$2.9 billion during the quarter, which was 6% more than the revenues that Everest Re generated during the previous year's quarter. Everest Re beat the analyst consensus estimate for its top line number, as revenues came in ahead of estimates during the quarter. The company managed to grow its gross written premiums by 9% year over year, primarily in the insurance space (15%, versus 6% for reinsurance), which bodes well for future revenue growth in upcoming quarters. The company's attritional combined ratio stood at 87%, which was in line with the previous quarter.

Everest Re reported adjusted earnings-per-share of \$7.56 for the first quarter. The strong profitability was caused by lower-than-average catastrophe losses compared to the previous year's quarter. Catastrophes during the quarter included Australian floods and storms in Europe. 2021 was a strong year for the company profit-wise, and it is expected that earnings-per-share will rise to an even higher level during the current year.

## Growth on a Per-Share Basis

| Year                      | 2012    | 2013    | 2014    | 2015    | 2016    | 2017   | 2018   | 2019    | 2020   | 2021    | 2022           | 2027           |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|---------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>EPS</b>                | \$13.62 | \$21.47 | \$24.71 | \$25.04 | \$23.61 | \$9.10 | \$4.52 | \$21.34 | \$7.40 | \$28.90 | <b>\$34.00</b> | <b>\$37.54</b> |
| <b>DPS</b>                | \$1.92  | \$2.19  | \$3.20  | \$4.00  | \$4.70  | \$5.05 | \$5.30 | \$5.75  | \$6.20 | \$6.20  | <b>\$6.20</b>  | <b>\$7.91</b>  |
| <b>Shares<sup>3</sup></b> | 51.1    | 47.4    | 44.5    | 42.7    | 40.9    | 40.8   | 40.5   | 40.4    | 40.3   | 40.2    | <b>40.0</b>    | <b>38.5</b>    |

Everest Re's profitability has always been quite uneven. As a combined insurer/reinsurer, the company is significantly impacted by major events such as hurricanes, earthquakes, and wildfires. During 2018, for example, the wildfires in California and Hurricane Michael reduced Everest Re's profitability significantly. Since those events are relatively infrequent, the company's earnings generation is quite strong in most years. In the 10 years from 2006-2016, Everest Re grew its earnings-per-share by 6.5% a year, although its profits have not hit the levels seen a couple of years ago since, mainly due to two quite weak years in 2017 and 2018, when catastrophe losses were well above the norm.

Everest Re has managed to grow its net premiums at a steady pace in recent years, which positions the company well to reap benefits in the future. On top of that, Everest Re has repurchased shares at a very meaningful pace over the last decade, although repurchase activity has slowed down over the last couple of years. Rising investment income, which is currently responsible for about 40% of profits, has been a tailwind in the recent past, a trend that will likely persist in the long run. The combination of growing premiums, positive investment income growth, and some share repurchases should allow for some earnings-per-share growth, but profits will likely remain volatile on a year-over-year basis.

<sup>1</sup> Estimated date

<sup>2</sup> Estimated date

<sup>3</sup> In Millions

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## Valuation Analysis

| Year      | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | Now         | 2027        |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|-------------|
| Avg. P/E  | 7.4  | 6.3  | 6.5  | 8.1  | 8.1  | 26.7 | 47.8 | 13.0 | 31.6 | 9.5  | <b>8.4</b>  | <b>9.0</b>  |
| Avg. Yld. | 1.9% | 1.6% | 2.0% | 2.2% | 2.5% | 2.1% | 2.6% | 2.1% | 2.6% | 2.3% | <b>2.2%</b> | <b>2.3%</b> |

Everest Re has been valued at a relatively low valuation throughout the majority of the last decade. In 2017, 2018, and 2020, Everest Re's price-to-earnings ratio was well above the usual level, though, due to lower-than-normal profits. We believe that the price to earnings ratio will normalize going forward, as future profits are expected to be much higher compared to these below-average years. Shares do trade slightly below our fair value estimate right now.

## Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

| Year   | 2012  | 2013  | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018 | 2019  | 2020  | 2020  | 2022         | 2027         |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Payout | 14.1% | 10.2% | 13.0% | 16.0% | 19.9% | 55.5% | 116% | 26.9% | 83.8% | 21.5% | <b>18.2%</b> | <b>21.1%</b> |

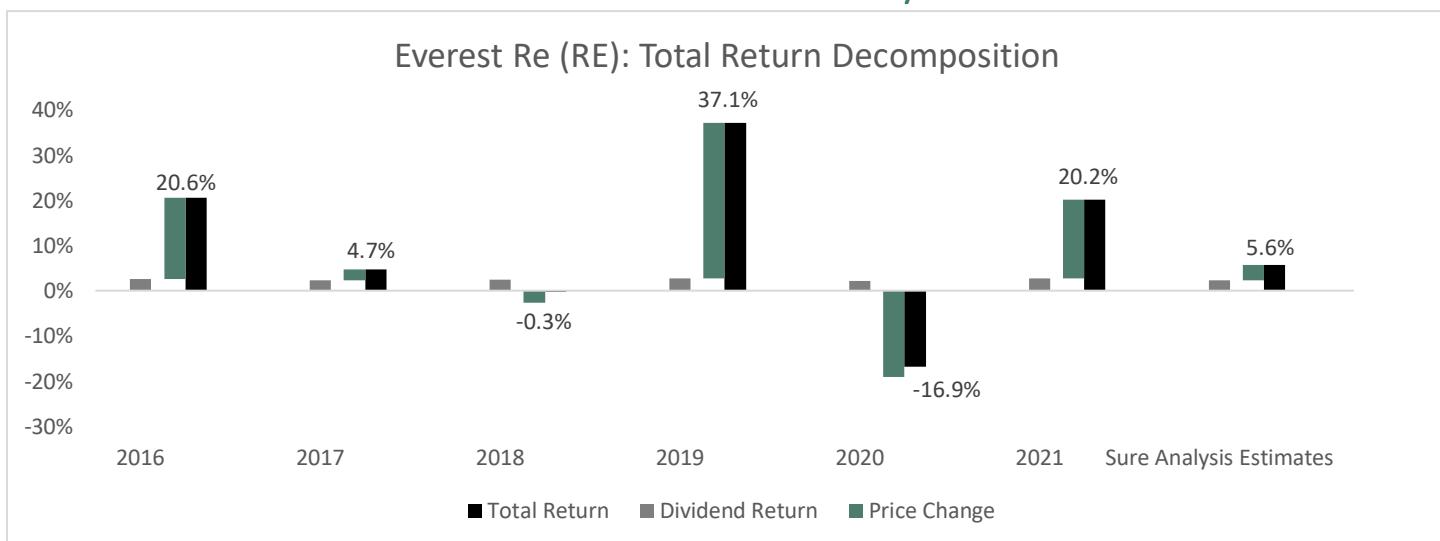
Everest Re's dividend payout ratio was very low during the majority of the last decade. In years when earnings were below average, or nonexistent, such as in 2018 and 2020, Everest Re's payout ratio rose to a high level. Due to the cash reserves that the company has, Everest Re was nevertheless able to maintain, and even grow, its dividend during those years. We believe that the risk of a dividend cut is not very high.

Everest Re is not operating in a business that is impacted by recessions, since people and corporations still need insurance, and insurers still need reinsurers, regardless of economic conditions. Everest Re's results are certainly still cyclical, though. An above-average amount of catastrophic events, or a single exceptionally large catastrophic event, such as a major hurricane, leads to increased payouts, however. Such events can therefore hurt Everest Re's profitability to a significant degree. Everest Re's results can thus still swing up and down widely on a year-over-year basis.

## Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Everest Re is an insurer/reinsurer that has recorded attractive business growth over the last decade, although there were large swings in its profitability. Everest Re did have a strong fiscal 2021 as catastrophe losses declined versus 2020. Everest Re is forecasted to generate even higher earnings-per-share in 2021, although catastrophes such as hurricanes could lead to lower-than-expected profits. We rate Everest Re a hold at current prices.

## Total Return Breakdown by Year



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## Income Statement Metrics

| Year                  | 2012  | 2013  | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2021   |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| <b>Revenue</b>        | 4,923 | 5,641 | 5,679 | 5,677 | 5,794 | 6,622 | 7,268 | 8,125 | 9,485 | 11,301 |
| <b>SG&amp;A Exp.</b>  | 24    | 25    | 23    | 23    | 27    | 26    | 31    | 33    | 41    | 68     |
| <b>Net Profit</b>     | 829   | 1,259 | 1,199 | 978   | 996   | 483   | 89    | 1,009 | 514   | 1,379  |
| <b>Net Margin</b>     | 16.8% | 22.3% | 21.1% | 17.2% | 17.2% | 7.3%  | 1.2%  | 12.4% | 5.4%  | 12.2%  |
| <b>Free Cash Flow</b> | 695   | 1,098 | 1,055 | 1,108 | 1,384 | 1,163 | 610   | 1,852 | 2,874 | 3,833  |
| <b>Income Tax</b>     | 111   | 290   | 188   | 134   | 104   | (63)  | (331) | 90    | 71    | 167    |

## Balance Sheet Metrics

| Year                          | 2012   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Total Assets</b>           | 19,778 | 19,808 | 20,818 | 20,545 | 21,322 | 23,592 | 24,751 | 27,324 | 32,712 | 38,185 |
| <b>Cash &amp; Equivalents</b> | 537    | 611    | 437    | 284    | 482    | 635    | 656    | 808    | 802    | 1,441  |
| <b>Acc. Receivable</b>        | 1,897  | 1,994  | 2,069  | 2,377  | 2,504  | 3,193  | 3,971  | 4,023  | 4,675  | 5,347  |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>      | 13,044 | 12,840 | 13,367 | 12,937 | 13,246 | 15,223 | 16,890 | 18,191 | 22,985 | 28,046 |
| <b>Accounts Payable</b>       | 163    | 116    | 140    | 173    | 191    | 218    | 218    | 292    | 294    | 450    |
| <b>Long-Term Debt</b>         | 1,009  | 488    | 638    | 633    | 633    | 633    | 634    | 634    | 1,910  | 3,089  |
| <b>Total Equity</b>           | 6,733  | 6,968  | 7,451  | 7,609  | 8,075  | 8,369  | 7,861  | 9,133  | 9,726  | 10,139 |
| <b>LTD/E Ratio</b>            | 0.15   | 0.07   | 0.09   | 0.08   | 0.08   | 0.08   | 0.08   | 0.07   | 0.20   | 0.30   |

## Profitability & Per Share Metrics

| Year                    | 2012  | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   |
|-------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Return on Assets</b> | 4.3%  | 6.4%   | 5.9%   | 4.7%   | 4.8%   | 2.1%   | 0.4%   | 3.9%   | 1.7%   | 3.9%   |
| <b>Return on Equity</b> | 12.9% | 18.4%  | 16.6%  | 13.0%  | 12.7%  | 5.9%   | 1.1%   | 11.9%  | 5.5%   | 13.9%  |
| <b>ROIC</b>             | 11.3% | 16.6%  | 15.4%  | 12.0%  | 11.8%  | 5.5%   | 1.0%   | 11.1%  | 4.8%   | 11.1%  |
| <b>Shares Out.</b>      | 51.1  | 47.4   | 44.5   | 42.7   | 40.9   | 40.8   | 40.5   | 40.4   | 40.3   | 40.2   |
| <b>Revenue/Share</b>    | 94.55 | 114.99 | 123.99 | 129.62 | 139.19 | 162.14 | 179.08 | 201.02 | 238.72 | 287.53 |
| <b>FCF/Share</b>        | 13.34 | 22.39  | 23.03  | 25.31  | 33.24  | 28.47  | 15.03  | 45.82  | 72.32  | 97.53  |

*Note: All figures in millions of U.S. Dollars unless per share or indicated otherwise.*

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