20 High Yield Dividend Aristocrats
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For dividend investors, an attractive dividend yield is essential, but it's important not to get caught up in extreme yields that are not sustainable. Below is a list of the highest yielding companies that have raised their dividend every year for at least 25 years (and some over 50 years).

Altria

Like many companies in the tobacco industry, Altria (MO) offers a great dividend yield for investors. Founded in 1919, MO has been raising its dividend every year since 1970 at an average growth rate of 8% per year. The company declares an increased dividend payout every August.

Universal Corp

Established in 1888, tobacco company Universal Corp (UVV) has been raising its dividend every year since 1972. The company announces its increased dividend payouts every November and usually raises its dividend around 2%.

Leggett & Platt

Home furniture store, Leggett & Platt (LEG) was founded in 1883 and has been lifting its quarterly dividend since 1972. Every August, LEG announces a dividend increase, which is typically a penny higher than its previous quarterly dividend.
Clorox

Cleaning product provider, Clorox Co. (CLX) was established in 1913 and has been increasing its dividend since 1978. CLX announces dividend increases every year in May and usually raises its payout about 9%.

Procter & Gamble

Personal products company Procter & Gamble (PG) was founded in 1905 and has been consecutively raising its dividend for over 50 years – since 1957. PG has also raised its dividend for more years than any other Dow 30 stock. The company announces dividend raises every April and usually raises its dividend about 9%.

HCP Inc.

Healthcare focused real estate investment trust (REIT) HCP, Inc. (HCP) was founded in 1985 and has been raising its dividend every year since 1986. As a REIT, the company is required to distribute 90% of its earnings to its shareholders in the form of dividends. HCP announces dividend increases in January and usually raises its dividend by about 2%.

United Bankshares

Established in 1982, financial services company United Bankshares (UBSI) has been lifting its dividend since 1974. The company usually raises its dividend by about 1% every year.
Old Republic International Corp

Insurance underwriting company Old Republic International Corp (ORI) was established in 1923 and has been raising its dividend since 1982. The company typically raises its dividend by about 1.5% and announces its increases in February.

Cincinnati Financial

Founded in 1950, insurance company Cincinnati Financial (CINF) has been boosting its dividend every year since 1961. The company usually raises its dividend by around 1% every year.

Community Trust Bancorp

Community Trust Bancorp, Inc. (CTBI) was established in 1903 and had been increasing its dividend since 1981. The company declares increased dividends in July every year and typically raises its dividend less than 2%.

WGL Holdings

Gas company WGL Holdings (WGL) was established in 1848 and has been lifting its quarterly dividend since 1977. Raising its dividend an average of 3% per year, WGL typically announces dividend increases every February.
Consolidated Edison

Founded in 1823, Consolidated Edison (ED) has been boosting its dividend every year since 1975. The company’s annual increases are usually less than 1%, but the company still offers an impressive yield. Investors can expect dividend increase announcements each January.

Northwest Natural Gas

Northwest Natural Gas Company (NWN) was established in 1959 and has been raising its dividend since 1956. The company tends to raise its dividend by 2%-5% every year and announces increases every October.

Middlesex Water Co.

Water company Middlesex Water Co. (MSEX) was founded 1987 and has been lifting its dividend every year since 1973. Although the company is a micro-cap stock, it has managed to pay a consistent dividend for over 40 years. MSEX declares dividend increases in October and usually raises its dividend by about 1%.

Piedmont Natural Gas

Piedmont Natural Gas (PNY) was established in 1949 and has been boosting its dividend since 1979. The company’s dividend increases are announced in March and usually increase by about 3%.

Vectren Corporation

Vectren Corporation (VVC) was founded in 1912 and has been increasing its dividend since 1960. VVC raises its dividend every November, usually by around 1.5%.
McDonald’s

Fast food giant McDonald’s Corporation (MCD) was founded in 1940 and has been lifting its quarterly dividend every year since 1977. The company tends to reward shareholders with significant dividend increases each year. MCD will declare its next dividend increase sometime in September.

Sysco

Food company Sysco Corp (SYY) was established in 1969 and has been raising its dividend consistently since 1971. Every November, the company announces its annual dividend increase.

AT&T

Communications company AT&T Inc. (T) was founded in 1883 and has been increasing its dividend every year since 1985. Although the company’s yield appears low when compared to its competitors, T is the highest yielding Dow component. The company announces small dividend increases every year in November or December.
AbbVie

AbbVie (ABBV) was spun off from Abbott Laboratories (ABT) in 2013. ABT has been raising its dividend every year since 1973. ABBV raises its dividend in February.

The Bottom Line

Although none of these companies have extremely high yields, they all have proven that they are committed to offering a reliable dividend to shareholders. For more information of finding the right stocks and industries for your investment objective, check out Comparing Dividend Stock Sectors by Yield.