

# DEARBORN PARTNERS

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Another Dearborn Partners Core Rising Dividend SMA Portfolio Increase: Costco Wholesale Corporation

On April 14, 2021, Costco Wholesale Corporation (COST) announced an increase in the Company's quarterly cash dividend per share to \$0.79 (\$3.16 annualized) from \$0.70 per share (\$2.80 annualized). This is a 12.9% increase from the dividend the Company paid a year earlier. The dividend is payable on May 14, 2021 to shareholders of record April 30, 2021. This is Costco's 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive annual dividend increase.

Costco currently operates 808 warehouses, including 559 in the United States and Puerto Rico, 105 in Canada, 39 in Mexico, 29 in the United Kingdom, 28 in Japan, 16 in Korea, 14 in Taiwan, 12 in Australia, three in Spain, and one each in Iceland, France, and China. Costco also operates e-commerce sites in the U.S., Canada, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Korea, Taiwan, Japan, and Australia.

Costco Wholesale Corporation is included in the Consumer Staples sector of our Dearborn Partners Core Rising Dividend separately managed account (SMA) portfolio. So far this year, 21 of 49 companies in our Core Rising Dividend portfolio have announced 21 dividend increases averaging about 11% more than these companies paid a year earlier. No companies in this portfolio have reduced dividends so far this year.

Thank you for your continued interest in our Dearborn Partners Rising Dividend Strategy.

*This dividend increase announcement is not a complete description of, nor a recommendation to invest in, any investment strategy (the "Strategy") mentioned herein. It is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer to sell nor a solicitation to buy, is not a recommendation regarding any securities transaction, nor is it an offer to provide advisory or other services by Dearborn Partners, L.L.C. The information contained in this writing should not be construed as financial or investment advice on any subject matter. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. There is no assurance the Strategy will be profitable, achieve its objectives, be suitable for you, or not incur losses. Some of the information herein has been obtained from third party sources. We believe such information is reliable but we have not in each case verified its accuracy or completeness. Any opinions herein are as of the date of this report and are subject to change without notice. Dividends are not guaranteed and must be authorized by the company's board of directors. There is no assurance that any Rising Dividend portfolio company will increase its dividend, or not reduce its dividend, or not have a significant decrease in its stock price. Dividend yield is one component of performance and should not be the only consideration for investment. Dearborn Partners L.L.C. is an investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. Registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training. For a complete list of all Dearborn Rising Dividend holdings that in the past year - increased their dividends, had no dividend increases, or had a dividend decrease, please contact the Dearborn Rising Dividend Team at [RD@dearbornpartners.com](mailto:RD@dearbornpartners.com). It should not be assumed that portfolio trades made in the future will be profitable, or will increase their dividends, or will equal the performance of the securities in this announcement.*