
Dividend Tax Advocacy: Facts

- ✓ The typical electric utility shareholder is over the age of 65 with a length of ownership greater than 10 years.
- ✓ U.S. shareholder-owned electric utilities paid \$40.4 billion in common stock dividends over the last three years (2003-2005).
- ✓ For the period of June 1, 2003, through December 31, 2005, electric utilities outperformed the broader market indices with the following returns, based on change in share price (all are increases):
 - Dow Jones Utilities Average = 64.93%
 - Dow Jones Industrial Average = 21.10%
 - S&P 500 = 29.55%
- ✓ The percentage of electric utilities that increased dividends rose from 30.4 percent in 2001 to 41.5 percent in 2003 to 55.4 percent in 2005. The 55.4 percent of increases in 2005 is the industry's largest percentage increase since 1993.
- ✓ When dividends are factored in for a total shareholder return, electric utilities outperformed the broader market indices (from 6/1/03 – 12/31/05) by the following:
 - Dow Jones Utilities Average = 80.87%
 - Dow Jones Industrial Average = 28.17%
 - S&P 500 = 35.65%
- ✓ With a payout ratio of 66.5 percent for 2005, electric utilities continue to pay out a higher proportion of earnings than any other U.S. business sector.