> Annual Report

## Corporate Profile

Since 1972, Credit Acceptance has offered automobile dealers financing programs that enable them to sell vehicles to consumers, regardless of their credit history. Our financing programs are offered through a nationwide network of automobile dealers who benefit from sales of vehicles to consumers who otherwise could not obtain financing; from repeat and referral sales generated by these same customers; and from sales to customers responding to advertisements for our product, but who actually end up qualifying for traditional financing.

Without our financing programs, consumers are often unable to purchase a vehicle or they purchase an unreliable one. Further, as we report to the three national credit reporting agencies, an important ancillary benefit of our programs is that we provide our consumers with an opportunity to improve their lives by improving their credit score and move on to more traditional sources of financing. Credit Acceptance is publicly traded on the NASDAQ under the symbol CACC. For more information, visit creditacceptance.com.


We needed a new car for our family, but didn't believe anyone would give us credit. It meant a lot when Credit Acceptance gave us an approval for a reliable vehicle. Credit Acceptance treated us respectfully and with understanding to help us improve our financial (and emotional) situation.

## SHAREHOLDER LETTER

## A message from our Chief Executive Officer

During 2015, we completed our $23^{\text {rd }}$ full year as a public company. Over those 23 years, GAAP net income per share (diluted) has grown at a compounded annual rate of $20.4 \%$, with an average annual return on equity of $22.0 \%$. We have done even better over the last 15 years: GAAP net income per share (diluted) has grown at a compounded annual rate of $25.9 \%$, with an average annual return on equity of $26.1 \%$.

Last year, GAAP net income per share (diluted) grew $19.8 \%$ to $\$ 14.28$, with a return on equity of $35.4 \%$.

## BACKGROUND

Credit Acceptance was founded in 1972 by our current Chairman and significant shareholder, Don Foss. Don learned early in his career that many people who needed a vehicle were unable to acquire one because of their credit standing. Even more important, he realized that most people in this situation were misjudged by traditional lending sources, who assumed that the applicants' less-than-perfect credit histories made them undeserving of a second chance. Don started Credit Acceptance to enable these individuals to purchase a vehicle and establish or reestablish a positive credit history, thereby moving their financial lives in a positive direction.

Our company is unique. We allow the dealer to finance any customer, regardless of his or her credit history. This gives the dealer the ability to sell a vehicle to a customer that, without us, the dealer wouldn't be able to help. The incremental sale creates incremental profit for the dealer, and the potential for incremental repeat and referral business. Equally important, we allow the dealer to share in the cash flows from the loan. This is a critical element of our success, as it creates an alignment of interests. The dealer benefits if the customer is successful in repaying his loan and reestablishing his credit. Therefore, the dealer has an incentive to sell a vehicle that will last the term of the loan, and to help the customer after the sale if there are issues with the vehicle.

## IMPACT OF BUSINESS CYCLES ON OUR PERFORMANCE

It is important for shareholders to understand the impact of the external environment on our performance. Both competitive cycles and economic cycles have affected our results historically and are likely to do so in the future.

## Competitive cycles

We have gone through several cycles of competition. From 1972 through the early 1990s, there were very few companies attempting to serve the market segment that Don had identified. As a result, during this period we had an almost unlimited opportunity to write new business at very high levels of profitability. Following our initial public stock offering in 1992, we began to see more companies entering our market, and by 1995 we faced an unprecedented level of competition. Because we had not experienced high levels of competition previously, we were not prepared to operate successfully in this new environment. We put too much importance on loan volume and did not have the right tools in place to monitor the profitability of the loans we were originating. As a result, the loans we originated during this period produced a return less than our cost of capital. Our competitors fared much worse, however, and by 1997 most had exited our market. Although the results we produced during this period were unsatisfactory, we learned many valuable lessons that allowed us to navigate the next competitive cycle with much greater success.

That next cycle began in 2003. The environment became increasingly difficult as it became easier for competitors to obtain capital. The cycle came to a halt toward the end of 2007, when capital markets tightened.

In contrast to the unsatisfactory results we delivered during the first cycle, we produced very good ones during the 2003-2007 cycle. We had improved many important aspects of our business between the first and second cycles, including our ability to predict loan performance, deploy riskadjusted pricing, monitor loan performance and execute key functions consistently. In addition, we gave a high priority to ensuring that we originated new loans with a large margin of safety, so that even if the loans did not perform as we expected, they would still very likely produce acceptable financial results.

As a result of the increasingly difficult competitive environment, and our reluctance to increase the money we advanced to dealers for the loans (since larger advances would have diminished our margin of safety), volume per dealer declined $41.7 \%$ from 2003 to 2007. In order to grow, we focused on increasing the number of active dealers. This strategy was successful-the number of active dealers in 2007 was triple the number in 2003, and GAAP net income per share (diluted) more than tripled, to \$1.76 in 2007 from \$0.57 in 2003.

When the cycle ended in late 2007, we were able to decrease the advance and write a significant volume of new loans at very high levels of per loan profitability. Although capital constraints did not allow us to write as much business in 2008-2009 as we would have liked, the improvements in per loan profitability allowed us to significantly improve our financial results in both of those years.

Starting in late 2009, we were able to complete a number of financing transactions that put us in position to increase unit volumes by $23.2 \%$ in 2010 and $30.2 \%$ in 2011 , with per loan profitability near the high end of the historical range. This period of limited competition allowed us to produce very strong financial results-GAAP net income per share (diluted) grew to \$7.07 in 2011 from \$1.76 in 2007.

With interest rates low and capital widely available, we began to see competition return to the market in 2011. While unit volume growth remained strong in 2011, a pattern familiar from earlier cycles began to emerge. Competitors were willing to accept low returns on capital and operate with little margin of safety. As a result, our volume per dealer again began to decline. As we had done in the prior cycle, we focused on growing the number of active dealers. But we also recognized that this strategy would be more difficult than it had been in the previous cycle, since the number of active dealers had grown significantly since then. At the start of the previous cycle, in 2003, we had had only 950 active dealers. By 2011 , the number had grown to 3,998 . We knew that expanding the dealer base rapidly would be beyond our capability unless we significantly increased the size of our field sales team.

Whereas we had been modestly increasing the size of our sales team in each previous year, in 2011 we significantly accelerated this effort, increasing the number of field representatives to 225 in 2013 from 133 in 2011 . We found it difficult to maintain productivity while rapidly increasing the size of our sales team, however. As a result, unit volume per sales representative fell $32.9 \%$ during 2012-2013. It was also difficult to hire the right people and so we experienced higher than normal levels of turnover. In 2013, we stopped expanding the sales team and began to focus on improving its quality. To reduce turnover, we improved our hiring and training processes and adjusted our compensation plans. The changes had the desired impact, and unit volume per sales representative improved, by $9.2 \%$ in 2014 and $27.1 \%$ in 2015.

Although this current competitive cycle has not yet ended, so far our strategy has again produced impressive results. While volume per dealer declined $26.1 \%$ from 2011 to 2015 , the number of active dealers grew $126.7 \%$. During this same period, we were able to produce strong returns on capital, maintain a large margin of safety and grow our loan volume by $67.5 \%$. In spite of an increasingly difficult environment, GAAP net income per share (diluted) grew to \$14.28 in 2015 from $\$ 7.07$ in 2011.

In last year's letter, I expressed caution about our near-term prospects as long as capital continues to be available to our industry. While our results this past year exceeded my expectations, as long as the current cycle continues, it will be challenging to grow profits at the same rate we did in 2015. With a larger number of active dealers, it will be increasingly difficult to grow the active dealer count rapidly enough to offset the impact of competition on volume per dealer. Given the history of our market, we don't expect this current cycle to last forever. Until it ends, we will continue to apply the lessons we have learned to navigate this period successfully.

## Economic cycles

Economic cycles affect our business as well. Increases in the unemployment rate put downward pressure on loan performance, and conditions in the capital markets make it more difficult to access the capital we need to fund our business.

From 1972 through 1991, the Company experienced two significant increases in the unemployment rate. The first occurred in 1974-1975 and the second in 1980-1982. However, the information we accumulated during these periods was largely anecdotal, as we did not capture loan performance data during this early stage of the Company's development.

We began to capture loan performance data in 1991 (although we did not have the tools to adequately assess this data until 1997). The period from 1991 through April of 2008 was a time of relatively stable unemployment levels. The only significant increase in unemployment rates occurred in 2001. But that was a year in which we made major changes to our origination systems and loan programs that made it harder for us to draw clear conclusions from what we observed. As a result, prior to the most recent economic downturn, we had only a limited ability to predict the impact of sharply rising unemployment rates on our loan portfolio. One conclusion we did draw (from the limited information we had accumulated for the period 1972 through April 2008) was that our loans would likely perform better than many outside observers would expect. However, that conclusion was far from certain.

The most recent financial crisis began to unfold in 2007. Adding to the challenge was the fact that 2007 was also a period of intense competition within our industry. During 2007, we had to compete for new loan originations with an increasing number of companies that were willing to accept low returns and operate with lenient underwriting standards. Then the economic downturn began. From April 2008 through October 2009, the national unemployment rate increased from $5.0 \%$ to $10.0 \%$. This combination of events-intense competition, followed by severe economic deterioration-provided a perfect test of our business model, one that would confirm either our views or the views of skeptics. We believe that our financial results during the financial crisis demonstrate that we passed the test with flying colors. GAAP net income per share (diluted) rose $22.7 \%$ in 2008 and $113.9 \%$ in 2009.

We did experience deterioration in our loan performance, but it was modest. In contrast, many of our competitors experienced a much greater fall-off in their loan performance and reported poor financial results. Because our competitors generally target low levels of per loan profitability and use debt much more extensively than we do, any adverse change in the economic environment is likely to have a much more damaging impact on their results than on ours. The current economic environment is relatively stable but this state won't last forever. When the next downturn arrives, we believe our results will likely mirror those we produced during the financial crisis. Our existing loan portfolio will likely experience modestly worse performance, but we will have a greater ability to write new loans at high levels of profitability.

## Access to capital

Besides impacting loan performance, the financial crisis made it more difficult to access capital. The tightening of the capital markets began in mid-2007 and continued throughout 2008 and much of 2009. During 2008, we had enough success obtaining capital to be able to originate \$786.4 million in new loans, an increase of 14.1\% from 2007.

The capital markets became less accessible as 2008 progressed, however. As a result, we began to slow originations growth through pricing changes which began in March and continued throughout the remainder of 2008. During 2009, we continued to slow originations based on the capital we had available. We originated $\$ 619.4$ million of new loans, $21.2 \%$ less than in 2008 . While we would have preferred a higher level of originations, we did not have access to the new capital we would have required on terms that we found acceptable.

Our access to capital improved at the end of 2009, and since that time capital has been readily available. While easy access to capital will not last forever, we believe we are well positioned should capital become more difficult to obtain. Since 2009, we have taken several steps to improve our position: We have (1) completed four offerings of senior notes, two series of which are currently outstanding and which provide us with $\$ 550.0$ million of long-term debt capital; (2) lengthened the terms of our asset-backed financings; (3) increased our revolving credit facilities from $\$ 540.0$ million at the end of 2009 to $\$ 960.0$ million currently; and (4) lengthened the terms of these facilities so the earliest date they mature is July 2017. We maintain a considerable amount of available borrowing capacity under our revolving credit facilities at all times: As of the date of this letter, we have over $\$ 800.0$ million of such unused capacity.

Lengthening the term of our debt facilities, issuing higher-cost long-term debt and keeping available a significant portion of our revolving credit facilities increase our funding costs and reduce short-term profitability. However, these steps greatly improve our ability to fund new loans should capital markets become inaccessible. While we were able to produce outstanding results during the financial crisis, we believe the steps we have taken will allow us to do even better should a similar crisis occur in the future.

## GAAP RESULTS

The table below summarizes our GAAP results for 1992-2015:

|  | GAAP net income per share (diluted) |  | Year-to-year change in GAAP net income per share | Return on equity ${ }^{1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1992 | \$ | 0.20 |  | 24.1 \% |
| 1993 | \$ | 0.29 | 45.0\% | 25.6 \% |
| 1994 | \$ | 0.49 | 69.0\% | 31.5 \% |
| 1995 | \$ | 0.68 | 38.8\% | 21.5 \% |
| 1996 | \$ | 0.89 | 30.9\% | 18.7 \% |
| 1997 | \$ | 0.03 | -96.6\% | 0.6 \% |
| 1998 | \$ | 0.53 | 1,666.7\% | 9.5 \% |
| 1999 | \$ | (0.27) | -150.9\% | -3.9 \% |
| 2000 | \$ | 0.51 | - | 9.1 \% |
| 2001 | \$ | 0.57 | 11.8\% | 9.1 \% |
| 2002 | \$ | 0.69 | 21.1\% | 10.1 \% |
| 2003 | \$ | 0.57 | -17.4\% | 7.5 \% |
| 2004 | \$ | 1.40 | 145.6\% | 18.4 \% |
| 2005 | \$ | 1.85 | 32.1\% | 21.8 \% |
| 2006 | \$ | 1.66 | -10.3\% | 20.2 \% |
| 2007 | \$ | 1.76 | 6.0\% | 23.1 \% |
| 2008 | \$ | 2.16 | 22.7\% | 22.2 \% |
| 2009 | \$ | 4.62 | 113.9\% | 35.6 \% |
| 2010 | \$ | 5.67 | 22.7\% | 34.8 \% |
| 2011 | \$ | 7.07 | 24.7\% | 40.0 \% |
| 2012 | \$ | 8.58 | 21.4\% | 37.8 \% |
| 2013 | \$ | 10.54 | 22.8\% | 38.0 \% |
| 2014 | \$ | 11.92 | 13.1\% | 37.0 \% |
| 2015 | \$ | 14.28 | 19.8\% | 35.4 \% |
| Compound annual growth rate 1992-2015 |  |  | 20.4\% |  |

${ }^{1}$ Return on equity is defined as GAAP net income for the applicable period divided by average shareholders' equity for such period.

GAAP net income per share (diluted) increased 19.8\% in 2015. Since 1992, GAAP net income per share (diluted) has grown at an annual compounded rate of 20.4\%.

## ADJUSTED RESULTS

Our reported financial results include both GAAP and adjusted numbers. Historically, to arrive at the latter, we have adjusted the GAAP results to normalize tax rates, eliminate non-recurring expenses and eliminate discontinued operations. For simplicity, I have excluded these adjustments from prior-year letters. However, there are three other adjustments which I have previously discussed:(1) a floating yield adjustment, (2) a program fee yield adjustment, and (3) a senior notes adjustment. These are explained below:

## Floating yield adjustment

The purpose of this adjustment is to modify the calculation of our GAAP-based finance charge revenue so that both favorable and unfavorable changes in expected cash flows from loans receivable are treated consistently. To make the adjustment understandable, we must first explain how GAAP requires us to account for finance charge revenue, which is our primary revenue source.

Credit Acceptance is an indirect lender, which means that the loans are originated by an automobile dealer and immediately assigned to us. We compensate the automobile dealer for the loan through two types of payments. The first payment is made at the time of origination. The remaining compensation is paid over time based on the performance of the loan. The amount we pay at the time of origination is called an advance; the portion paid over time is called dealer holdback.

The finance charge revenue we will recognize over the life of the loan equals the cash we collect from the loan (i.e., repayments by the consumer), less the amounts we pay to the dealer (advance + dealer holdback). In other words, the finance charge revenue we will recognize over the life of the loan equals the cash inflows from the loan less the cash outflows to acquire the loan. This amount, plus a modest amount of revenue from other sources, less our operating expenses, interest and taxes, is the sum that will ultimately be paid to shareholders or reinvested in new assets.

Under our current GAAP accounting methodology, finance charge revenue is recognized on a level-yield basis. That is, the amount of loan revenue recognized in a given period, divided by the loan asset, is a constant percentage. Recognizing loan revenue on a level-yield basis is reasonable, conforms to industry practice, and matches the economics of the business.

Where GAAP diverges from economic reality is in the way it deals with changes in expected cash flows. The expected cash flows from a loan portfolio are not known with certainty. Instead, they are estimated. From an economic standpoint, if forecasted cash flows from one loan pool increase by $\$ 1,000$ and forecasted cash flows from another loan pool decrease by $\$ 1,000$, no change in our shareholders' economic position has occurred. GAAP, however, requires the Company to record the $\$ 1,000$ decrease as an expense in the current period (recorded as a provision for credit losses), and to record the $\$ 1,000$ favorable change as income over the remaining life of the loan pool.

For those relying on our GAAP financial statements, this disparate treatment has the effect of understating net income in the current period, and overstating it in future periods.

The floating yield adjustment reverses the GAAP-caused distortion by treating both favorable and unfavorable changes in expected cash flows consistently. That is, both types of changes are treated as adjustments to our loan yield over time. In addition, the floating yield adjustment has the benefit of simplifying our adjusted' financial results by eliminating the provision for credit losses, which is both volatile and not well understood by many investors.

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## Program fee yield adjustment

The purpose of this adjustment is to make the results for program fee revenue comparable across time periods. In 2001, the Company had begun charging dealers a monthly program fee. In accordance with GAAP, this fee was being recorded as revenue in the month the fee was charged. However, based on feedback from field sales personnel and dealers, the Company concluded that structuring the fee in this way was contributing to increased dealer attrition. To address the problem, the Company changed its method for collecting these fees.

As of January 1, 2007, the Company began to take the program fee out of future dealer holdback payments instead of collecting it in the current period. The change reduced per loan profitability, since cash that previously was collected immediately is now collected over time. In addition, the change required us to modify our GAAP accounting method for program fees. Starting January 1, 2007, the Company began to record program fees for GAAP purposes as an adjustment to the loan yield, effectively recognizing the fees over the term of the dealer loan. This revised GAAP treatment is more consistent with the cash economics. To allow for proper comparisons, the program fee adjustment applies the revised GAAP treatment to all pre-2007 periods. (Starting in 2012 , this adjustment is no longer required since all pre-2007 program fees have now been fully recognized.)

## Senior notes adjustment

On January 22, 2014, we issued $\$ 300$ million of $6.125 \%$ senior notes due 2021 (the "2021 notes"). On February 21, 2014, we used the net proceeds from the 2021 notes, together with borrowings under our revolving credit facilities, to redeem in full the $\$ 350$ million outstanding principal amount of our 9.125\% senior notes due 2017 (the "2017 notes").

Under GAAP, the redemption of the 2017 notes was considered an extinguishment of debt. For the quarter ended March 31, 2014, our GAAP financial results included a pre-tax loss of $\$ 21.8$ million on extinguishment of debt. In addition, the quarter included $\$ 1.4$ million of additional interest expense caused by a one-month lag from the issuance of the 2021 notes to the redemption of the 2017 notes. These two items collectively reduced 2014 consolidated net income by $\$ 14.6$ million, or \$0.62 per diluted share.

Under our non-GAAP approach, we deferred the two items as debt-issuance costs, and are recognizing them ratably as interest expense over the term of the 2021 notes. The non-GAAP approach records the net benefit of the refinancing-i.e., the lower interest cost of the 2021 notes less the cost of paying off the 2017 notes early-over the period the new notes will be outstanding.

The following tables show net income and net income per share (diluted) for 2001-2015 after the three adjustments:

|  | GAAP net income |  | Floating yield adjustment |  | Program fee adjustment ${ }^{1}$ |  | Senior notes adjustment |  | Adjusted net income ${ }^{2}$ |  | Year-to-year change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2001 | \$ | 24.7 | \$ | 1.2 | \$ | (1.1) | \$ | - | \$ | 24.8 |  |
| 2002 | \$ | 29.8 | \$ | 2.8 | \$ | (2.2) | \$ | - | \$ | 30.4 | 22.5\% |
| 2003 | \$ | 24.7 | \$ | 1.4 | \$ | (2.1) | \$ | - | \$ | 24.0 | -21.2\% |
| 2004 | \$ | 57.3 | \$ | (0.1) | \$ | (1.0) | \$ | - | \$ | 56.2 | 134.4\% |
| 2005 | \$ | 72.6 | \$ | (2.2) | \$ | (2.1) | \$ | - | \$ | 68.3 | 21.5\% |
| 2006 | \$ | 58.6 | \$ | 0.4 | \$ | (2.8) | \$ | - | \$ | 56.2 | -17.6\% |
| 2007 | \$ | 54.9 | \$ | 3.6 | \$ | 5.0 | \$ | - | \$ | 63.5 | 12.8\% |
| 2008 | \$ | 67.2 | \$ | 13.1 | \$ | 2.0 | \$ | - | \$ | 82.3 | 29.7\% |
| 2009 | \$ | 146.3 | \$ | (19.6) | \$ | 0.8 | \$ | - | \$ | 127.5 | 54.9\% |
| 2010 | \$ | 170.1 | \$ | 0.5 | \$ | 0.3 | \$ | - | \$ | 170.9 | 34.0\% |
| 2011 | \$ | 188.0 | \$ | 7.1 | \$ | 0.3 | \$ | - | \$ | 195.4 | 14.4\% |
| 2012 | \$ | 219.7 | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 219.7 | 12.4\% |
| 2013 | \$ | 253.1 | \$ | (2.5) | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 250.6 | 14.1\% |
| 2014 | \$ | 266.2 | \$ | (6.0) | \$ | - | \$ | 12.5 | \$ | 272.7 | 8.8\% |
| 2015 | \$ | 299.7 | \$ | 12.9 | \$ | - | \$ | (2.0) | \$ | 310.6 | 13.9\% |
| Comp | ann | growth | rate | -2015 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 19.8\% |


|  | GAAP net income per share (diluted) |  | Floating yield adjustment per share (diluted) |  | Program fee adjustment per share (diluted) |  | Senior notes adjustment per share (diluted) |  | Adjusted net income per share (diluted) ${ }^{2}$ |  | Year-to-year change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2001 | \$ | 0.57 | \$ | 0.03 | \$ | (0.03) | \$ | - | \$ | 0.57 |  |
| 2002 | \$ | 0.69 | \$ | 0.06 | \$ | (0.05) | \$ | - | \$ | 0.70 | 22.8\% |
| 2003 | \$ | 0.57 | \$ | 0.03 | \$ | (0.05) | \$ | - | \$ | 0.55 | -21.4\% |
| 2004 | \$ | 1.40 | \$ | - | \$ | (0.03) | \$ | - | \$ | 1.37 | 149.1\% |
| 2005 | \$ | 1.85 | \$ | (0.06) | \$ | (0.05) | \$ | - | \$ | 1.74 | 27.0\% |
| 2006 | \$ | 1.66 | \$ | 0.01 | \$ | (0.08) | \$ | - | \$ | 1.59 | -8.6\% |
| 2007 | \$ | 1.76 | \$ | 0.11 | \$ | 0.16 | \$ | - | \$ | 2.03 | 27.7\% |
| 2008 | \$ | 2.16 | \$ | 0.42 | \$ | 0.07 | \$ | - | \$ | 2.65 | 30.5\% |
| 2009 | \$ | 4.62 | \$ | (0.62) | \$ | 0.03 | \$ | - | \$ | 4.03 | 52.1\% |
| 2010 | \$ | 5.67 | \$ | 0.02 | \$ | 0.01 | \$ | - | \$ | 5.70 | 41.4\% |
| 2011 | \$ | 7.07 | \$ | 0.26 | \$ | 0.01 | \$ | - | \$ | 7.34 | 28.8\% |
| 2012 | \$ | 8.58 | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 8.58 | 16.9\% |
| 2013 | \$ | 10.54 | \$ | (0.11) | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 10.43 | 21.6\% |
| 2014 | \$ | 11.92 | \$ | (0.27) | \$ | - | \$ | 0.56 | \$ | 12.21 | 17.1\% |
| 2015 | \$ | 14.28 | \$ | 0.62 | \$ | - | \$ | (0.10) | \$ | 14.80 | 21.2\% |
| Comp |  | growth | rate | -2015 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 26.2\% |

' The program fee adjustment was concluded in 2011.
${ }^{2}$ The adjusted net income and adjusted net income per share (diluted) results and year-to-year changes shown in the tables differ slightly from those published in the Company's year-end earnings releases. That is because the earnings release figures include additional adjustments related to taxes, non-recurring expenses and discontinued operations. Those additional adjustments have been excluded from the tables for simplicity.

As the second table shows, adjusted net income per share (diluted) increased 21.2\% in 2015. Over the full 15-year period, adjusted net income per share (diluted) increased at an annual compounded rate of $26.2 \%$. While this compounded rate is very similar to the one for GAAP net income per share ( $25.9 \%$ ), in certain years the adjustments led to significant differences between GAAP and adjusted results.

The program fee adjustment had a significant impact in 2007, while the floating yield adjustment had a significant impact in 2008 and 2009. During 2008, we reduced our expectations for loan performance, causing GAAP net income to be less than adjusted net income (since GAAP requires decreases in expected cash flows to be recorded as an expense in the current period). Then, as 2009 progressed, it became clear that we had reduced our expectations by too much in 2008, so in 2009 we reversed a portion of the expense. In addition, the new loans we wrote in 2009 performed better than we expected.

The effect of better-than-expected results was to make GAAP net income in 2009 considerably higher than adjusted net income-the opposite of the relationship seen in 2008. When the two years are combined, the GAAP result is very similar to the adjusted result; however, when 2008 and 2009 are viewed separately, we believe that the adjusted results more accurately reflect our performance in each year.

In 2015, the floating yield adjustment increased adjusted net income per share by $\$ 0.62$, or $4.3 \%$. A comparison of our GAAP and adjusted results in 2015 illustrates why we think adjusted results are a more accurate representation of our business performance. In my explanation above of the floating yield adjustment, I used an example where the estimated cash flows from one dealer pool increase by $\$ 1,000$ and those from another pool decrease by the same amount. If this occurs, GAAP requires a $\$ 1,000$ provision expense to be recorded in the current period even though our economic position is unchanged.

This example is very similar to what occurred in 2015. Approximately $41.0 \%$ of our dealer pools experienced an unfavorable change in cash flow estimates during 2015 , totaling $\$ 40.7$ million, while the remaining 59.0\% experienced a favorable change, totaling $\$ 44.3$ million. The net impact of these changes was an increase in our expected cash flows of $\$ 3.6$ million. This favorable change represents additional revenue that we expect to realize over time through cash collections on our loan portfolio. Our adjusted results record this additional revenue in a logical and straightforward manner-over the life of the expected cash flows at a constant yield. In contrast, our GAAP results, through the asymmetrical treatment of individual loan pools, reflect this overall favorable change by recording a current-period provision expense of $\$ 41.8$ million.

Over time, our cumulative earnings will be the same, regardless of which accounting method is used. The floating yield adjustment which caused adjusted results to exceed GAAP results in 2015 will have the opposite impact at some point in the future. This pattern can be seen most recently for the 2011-2014 period. In 2011, the floating yield adjustment caused adjusted results to exceed GAAP results. As our loan growth slowed, the floating yield adjustment caused GAAP results to exceed adjusted results in 2013 and 2014.

## ECONOMIC PROFIT

We use a financial metric called Economic Profit to evaluate our financial results and determine incentive compensation. Besides including the three adjustments discussed above, Economic Profit differs from GAAP net income in one other important respect: Economic Profit includes a cost for equity capital.

The following table summarizes Economic Profit for 2001-2015:
(\$ in millions)

|  | Adjusted <br> net income |  | Imputed cost <br> of equity | Economic <br> Profit | Year-to-year <br> change |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | $\$$ | 24.8 | $\$$ | $(29.6)$ | $\$$ | $(4.8)$ |  |
| 2001 | $\$$ | 30.4 | $\$$ | $(35.5)$ | $\$$ | $(5.1)$ | - |
| 2002 | $\$$ | 24.0 | $\$$ | $(34.7)$ | $\$$ | $(10.7)$ | - |
| 2003 | $\$$ | 56.2 | $\$$ | $(34.4)$ | $\$$ | 21.8 | - |
| 2005 | $\$$ | 68.3 | $\$$ | $(34.5)$ | $\$$ | 33.8 | $55.0 \%$ |
| 2006 | $\$$ | 56.2 | $\$$ | $(29.6)$ | $\$$ | 26.6 | $-21.3 \%$ |
| 2007 | $\$$ | 63.5 | $\$$ | $(27.3)$ | $\$$ | 36.2 | $36.1 \%$ |
| 2008 | $\$$ | 82.3 | $\$$ | $(35.7)$ | $\$$ | 46.6 | $28.7 \%$ |
| 2009 | $\$$ | 127.5 | $\$$ | $(46.0)$ | $\$$ | 81.5 | $74.9 \%$ |
| 2010 | 170.9 | $\$$ | $(47.8)$ | $\$$ | 123.1 | $51.0 \%$ |  |
| 2011 | $\$$ | 195.4 | $\$$ | $(51.1)$ | $\$$ | 144.3 | $17.2 \%$ |
| 2012 | $\$$ | 219.7 | $\$$ | $(56.7)$ | $\$$ | 163.0 | $13.0 \%$ |
| 2013 | $\$$ | 250.6 | $\$$ | $(75.2)$ | $\$$ | 175.4 | $7.6 \%$ |
| 2014 | 272.7 | $\$$ | $(87.8)$ | $\$$ | 184.9 | $5.4 \%$ |  |
| 2015 | $\$$ | 310.6 | $\$$ | $(92.9)$ | $\$$ | 217.7 | $17.7 \%$ |

Economic Profit improved $17.7 \%^{2}$ in 2015 , to $\$ 217.7$ million from $\$ 184.9$ million in 2014. In 2001, Economic Profit had been a negative $\$ 4.8$ million.

[^1]Economic Profit is a function of three variables: the adjusted average amount of capital invested, the adjusted return on capital, and the adjusted weighted average cost of capital. The following table summarizes our financial performance in these areas for the last 15 years':
(\$ in millions)

|  | Adjusted average <br> capital invested | Adjusted return <br> on capital | Adjusted weighted <br> average cost of capital | Spread |  |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | $\$$ | 469.9 | $7.4 \%$ | $8.4 \%$ | $-1.0 \%$ |
| 2001 | $\$$ | 462.0 | $7.7 \%$ | $8.9 \%$ | $-1.2 \%$ |
| 2002 | $\$$ | 437.5 | $6.6 \%$ | $9.0 \%$ | $-2.4 \%$ |
| 2003 | $\$$ | 483.7 | $13.1 \%$ | $8.6 \%$ | $4.5 \%$ |
| 2004 | $\$$ | 523.4 | $14.7 \%$ | $8.3 \%$ | $6.4 \%$ |
| 2005 | $\$$ | 548.5 | $12.9 \%$ | $8.1 \%$ | $4.8 \%$ |
| 2006 | $\$$ | 710.1 | $12.1 \%$ | $7.0 \%$ | $5.1 \%$ |
| 2007 | $\$$ | 975.0 | $11.2 \%$ | $6.4 \%$ | $4.8 \%$ |
| 2008 | $\$$ | 998.7 | $14.9 \%$ | $6.7 \%$ | $8.2 \%$ |
| 2009 | $\$$ | $1,074.2$ | $18.7 \%$ | $7.2 \%$ | $11.5 \%$ |
| 2010 | $\$$ | $1,371.1$ | $16.9 \%$ | $6.4 \%$ | $10.5 \%$ |
| 2011 | $\$$ | $1,742.8$ | $14.9 \%$ | $5.5 \%$ | $9.4 \%$ |
| 2012 | $\$$ | 2.049 .2 | $14.2 \%$ | $5.7 \%$ | $8.5 \%$ |
| 2013 | $\$$ | $2,338.1$ | $13.2 \%$ | $5.3 \%$ | $7.9 \%$ |
| 2014 | $\$$ | 2.831 .9 | $12.7 \%$ | $5.0 \%$ | $7.7 \%$ |
| 2015 | $13.7 \%$ |  |  |  |  |
| Compound annual growth rate $2001-2015$ | $1-20.3$ |  |  |  |  |

${ }^{1}$ See Exhibit A for a reconciliation of the above adjusted financial measures to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measures.

As the table shows, we earned less than our cost of capital in 2001, 2002 and 2003. Although we were making steady progress in improving per loan profitability during this period, we were forced to reduce originations in 2002 due to capital constraints, and we recorded a $\$ 7.2$ million (after-tax) impairment expense in 2003 related to the liquidation of our United Kingdom operation. Both of these actions negatively impacted the reported results.

In each year from 2004 through 2015, Economic Profit was positive, and in each of those years except 2006, Economic Profit improved. The 2006 decline in Economic Profit was due to two factors: a $\$ 7.0$ million (after-tax) charge related to the settlement of litigation that had arisen from an activity occurring 10 years prior; and a $\$ 4.4$ million after-tax gain from discontinued operations recorded in 2005. In certain years (2007-2008, 2011-2015), Economic Profit improved mainly as a result of our growing the adjusted amount of capital invested. In other years (2004, 2009 and 2010), the driver was mainly an increase in the adjusted return on capital. In 2005, we combined modest growth in invested capital with a higher return on capital. That was also the case in 2006 , since after adjustment for the $\$ 7.0$ million and $\$ 4.4$ million unusual items mentioned above, the return on capital in 2006 was higher than in 2005.

There are several trends worth mentioning. First, we have grown adjusted average capital each year since 2003. The growth has been due to an increase in the number of dealers using our program partially offset by a general decline in the volume per dealer. We discuss this in more detail later in this letter.

Second, while the return on capital has been volatile, expenses as a percentage of capital have declined for eight of the last nine years, from $15.0 \%$ in 2006 to $7.1 \%$ in 2015 . We expect this trend to continue as long as we grow, due to the fixed nature of a portion of our expenses. The volatility in the return on capital is due to the revenue component, which moves up and down based on the competitive environment. When the competitive environment is favorable, we reduce advance rates (the amount we pay to the dealer at loan origination), and that increases our return. When the competitive environment worsens, the opposite occurs. But growing expenses more slowly than capital allows us to achieve greater returns in both favorable and unfavorable environments.

Finally, a disproportionate amount of the improvement in Economic Profit occurred in a two-year period (2009-2010) during which competition was weakened as a result of the financial crisis. Since 2001, Economic Profit has improved by $\$ 222.5$ million. Of that gain, $34.4 \%$ was added in just those two years.

In 2011-2014, Economic Profit continued to grow, but the rate of growth slowed each year, dropping from a $17.2 \%$ increase in 2011 to a $5.4 \%$ increase in 2014. In each year, average capital invested grew, but also at a progressively slower rate. Meanwhile, the spread between the return on capital and the weighted average cost of capital narrowed in each of those years. We attribute the slower rate of growth in Economic Profit to the combination of a more challenging competitive environment and the difficulty of growing a larger capital base at the same rate.

Given the trend's causes, it would have been reasonable to expect it to continue in 2015. However, the trend reversed last year. Economic Profit grew by $17.7 \%$ as average capital invested grew $21.1 \%$ and the spread between return on capital and cost of capital decreased by only 20 basis points (2.5\%). Although the competitive environment continued to be difficult, the progress we made in expanding the field sales force and improving its quality was enough to offset the impact of the difficult environment.

## LOAN PERFORMANCE

One of the most important variables determining our financial success is loan performance. The most critical time to correctly assess future loan performance is at loan inception, since that is when we determine the advance we pay to the dealer.

At loan inception, we use a statistical model to estimate the expected collection rate for each loan. The statistical model is called a credit scorecard. Most consumer finance companies use such a tool to forecast the performance of the loans they originate. Our credit scorecard combines credit bureau data, customer data supplied in the credit application, vehicle data, dealer data, and data captured from the loan transaction such as the amount of the down payment received from the customer or the initial loan term. We developed our first credit scorecard in 1998, and have revised it several times since then. An accurate credit scorecard allows us to properly price new loan originations, which improves the probability that we will actually realize our expected returns on capital.

Subsequent to loan inception, we continue to evaluate the expected collection rate for each loan. Our evaluation becomes more accurate as the loans age, as we use actual loan performance data in our forecast. By comparing our current expected collection rate for each loan with the rate we projected at the time of origination, we are able to assess the accuracy of that initial forecast.

The following table compares, for each of the last 15 years, our most current forecast of loan performance with our initial forecast:

|  | December 31, 2015 forecast | Initial forecast | Variance |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2001 | $67.3 \%$ | $70.4 \%$ | $-3.1 \%$ |
| 2002 | $70.4 \%$ | $67.9 \%$ | $2.5 \%$ |
| 2003 | $73.7 \%$ | $72.0 \%$ | $1.7 \%$ |
| 2004 | $73.0 \%$ | $73.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ |
| 2005 | $73.6 \%$ | $74.0 \%$ | $-0.4 \%$ |
| 2006 | $70.1 \%$ | $71.4 \%$ | $-1.3 \%$ |
| 2007 | $68.1 \%$ | $70.7 \%$ | $-2.6 \%$ |
| 2008 | $70.3 \%$ | $69.7 \%$ | $0.6 \%$ |
| 2009 | $79.4 \%$ | $71.9 \%$ | $7.5 \%$ |
| 2010 | $77.4 \%$ | $73.6 \%$ | $3.8 \%$ |
| 2011 | $74.2 \%$ | $72.5 \%$ | $1.7 \%$ |
| 2012 | $73.2 \%$ | $71.4 \%$ | $1.8 \%$ |
| 2013 | $73.4 \%$ | $72.0 \%$ | $1.4 \%$ |
| 2014 | $72.6 \%$ | $71.8 \%$ | $0.8 \%$ |
| 2015 | $67.8 \%$ | $67.7 \%$ | $0.1 \%$ |
| Average | $72.2 \%$ | $71.1 \%$ | $1.1 \%$ |
| Calculated using a weighted average based on loan origination dollars. |  |  |  |

Loan performance can be explained by a combination of internal and external factors. Internal factors include the quality of our origination and collection processes, the quality of our credit scorecard, and changes in our policies governing new loan originations. External factors include the unemployment rate, the retail price of gasoline, vehicle wholesale values, and the cost of other required expenditures (such as for food and energy) that impact our customers. In addition, the level of competition is thought to impact loan performance through something called adverse selection.

Adverse selection as it relates to our market refers to an inverse correlation between the accuracy of an empirical scorecard and the number of lenders that are competing for the loan. Said another way, without any competition it is relatively easy to build a scorecard which accurately assesses the probability of payment based on attributes collected at the time of loan origination. As competition increases, creating an accurate scorecard becomes more challenging.

To illustrate adverse selection, we will give a simple example. Assume that the scorecard we use to originate loans is based on a single variable, the amount of the customer's down payment, and that the higher the down payment, the higher the expected collection rate. Assume that for many years, we have no competitors and we accumulate performance data indicating that loans with down payments above $\$ 1,000$ consistently produce the same average collection rate. Then assume that we begin to compete with another lender whose scorecard ignores down payment and instead emphasizes the amount of the customer's weekly income.

As the new lender begins to originate loans, our mix of loans will be impacted as follows: We will start to receive loans for borrowers with lower average weekly incomes as the new lender originates loans for borrowers with higher weekly incomes-i.e., borrowers whose loans we would have previously originated. Furthermore, since our scorecard only focuses on down payment, the shift in our borrower mix will not be detected by our scorecard, and our collection rate expectation will remain unchanged. It is easy to see that this shift in borrower characteristics will have a negative impact on loan performance, and that this impact will be missed by our scorecard.

Although the real world is more complex than this simple example-with hundreds of lenders competing for loans and with each lender using many variables in its scorecard—adverse selection is something that probably does impact loan performance.

Over the 15-year period shown in the table above, our loans have performed on average 110 basis points better than our initial forecasts. Loans originated in four of the 15 years (2001, 2005, 2006 and 2007) have yielded actual collection results worse than our initial estimates.

We attribute the unfavorable variance of 310 basis points in 2001 to major changes we implemented that year in our origination systems and loan programs as well as a new collection system we implemented the following year. While loan performance was worse than expected, the changes we made, including establishing an Internet-based origination system and the ability to offer longer loan terms, were ultimately a very important part of our success in subsequent years.

Loans originated in 2005, 2006 and 2007 performed worse than our initial forecasts by 40, 130 and 260 basis points, respectively. Since these loans were made in a highly competitive period and serviced during a severe economic downturn, this result is not surprising. What is noteworthy, however, is that the underperformance was modest. To put the underperformance in perspective, we estimate that a 100-basis-point change in our collection forecast impacts the return on capital by 30-50 basis points. As a result, loans originated during this period were still very profitable, even though they performed worse than we had forecast.

Loans originated in the other 11 years shown in the table, including those originated in each of the last eight years, have performed better than our initial forecasts. The performance of loans originated in 2009 and 2010 exceeded our initial forecasts by 750 and 380 basis points, respectively. These large positive variances were due to reductions we made in our initial forecasts during this period based on our concerns about how the economic environment might impact loan performance. In retrospect, our adjustments were too large, and the loans originated during those two years performed better than we had forecast. It is instructive that our largest forecasting errors over the past 15 years have occurred because we were too pessimistic about loan performance, not because we were too optimistic—a result which we do not believe is typical in our industry.

The most recent forecast for loans originated in 2011, 2012 and 2013 exceeded our initial forecasts by 170, 180 and 140 basis points, respectively. Since competition intensified during this period, we expected adverse selection to negatively impact loan performance. The consistent, positive results we achieved during this period exceeded our expectations. Loans originated in 2014 and 2015 have performed better than our initial forecast, but the amount of the positive variance has declined from the prior three years. The most recent forecast for loans originated in 2014 is exceeding our initial forecast by 80 basis points, while for 2015 loans, the latest forecast is exceeding the initial one by only 10 basis points. That our most recent loans are still exceeding our initial estimates, during an extended period of intense competition, is a result that we view as favorable. However, the declining trend over the past three years is one we are watching closely.

We understand that an extended period of intense competition makes achieving consistent loan performance more challenging, but believe we are well prepared if loan performance begins to lag our initial forecasts. First, as mentioned above, the current returns on capital we expect to earn on new originations are well above our weighted average cost of capital. This makes it likely that the loans we are originating will be profitable, even if they perform worse than expected. Second, we have processes in place to monitor loan performance and to let us react to adverse trends in a timely manner. Finally, because the dealer shares in the risk of the transaction, a significant portion of any collection shortfall is absorbed by the dealer through a reduction in its share of the cash flows.

## UNIT VOLUME

The following table summarizes unit volume growth for 2001-2015:

|  | Unit volume | Year-to-year change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 2001 | 61,928 |  |
| 2002 | 49,801 | $-19.6 \%$ |
| 2003 | 61,445 | $23.4 \%$ |
| 2004 | 74,154 | $20.7 \%$ |
| 2005 | 81,184 | $9.5 \%$ |
| 2006 | 91,344 | $12.5 \%$ |
| 2007 | 106,693 | $16.8 \%$ |
| 2008 | 121,282 | $13.7 \%$ |
| 2009 | 111,029 | $-8.5 \%$ |
| 2010 | 136,813 | $23.2 \%$ |
| 2011 | 178,074 | $30.2 \%$ |
| 2012 | 190,023 | $6.7 \%$ |
| 2013 | 202,250 | $6.4 \%$ |
| 2014 | 223,998 | $10.8 \%$ |
| 2015 | 298,288 | $33.2 \%$ |
| Compound annual growth rate 2001 |  | $11.9 \%$ |

In 2015, unit volumes grew $33.2 \%$. Since 2001, unit volumes have grown at an annual compounded rate of $11.9 \%$.

Unit volume is a function of the number of active dealers and the average volume per dealer. The following table summarizes the trend in each of these variables from 2001 to 2015:

|  | Active dealers | Year-to-year change | Volume per dealer | Year-to-year change |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | 1,180 |  | 52.5 |  |
| 2001 | 843 | $-28.6 \%$ | 59.1 | $12.6 \%$ |
| 2002 | 950 | $12.7 \%$ | 64.7 | $9.5 \%$ |
| 2004 | 1,212 | $27.6 \%$ | 67.2 | $-5.4 \%$ |
| 2005 | 1,759 | $45.1 \%$ | 46.2 | $-24.5 \%$ |
| 2006 | 2,214 | $25.9 \%$ | 41.3 | $-10.6 \%$ |
| 2007 | 2,827 | $27.7 \%$ | 37.7 | $-8.7 \%$ |
| 2008 | 3,264 | $15.5 \%$ | 37.2 | $-1.3 \%$ |
| 2009 | 3,168 | $-2.9 \%$ | 35.0 | $-5.9 \%$ |
| 2010 | 3,206 | $1.2 \%$ | 42.7 | $22.0 \%$ |
| 2011 | 3,998 | $24.7 \%$ | 44.5 | $4.2 \%$ |
| 2012 | 5,319 | $33.0 \%$ | 35.7 | $-19.8 \%$ |
| 2013 | 6,394 | $20.2 \%$ | 31.6 | $-11.5 \%$ |
| 2014 | 7,247 | $13.3 \%$ | 30.9 | $-2.2 \%$ |
| 2015 | 9,064 | $25.1 \%$ | 32.9 | $6.5 \%$ |

As the table shows, the gain in unit volumes over the 15-year period has resulted from an increase in the number of active dealers partially offset by a reduction in volume per dealer.

We have grown the number of active dealers in 12 of the last 14 years. In 2002 and 2009, the number of active dealers decreased, as capital constraints required us to restrict the number of new dealer enrollments. In 2015, the number of active dealers grew by $25.1 \%$, a result that exceeded our expectations. Two factors had made us anticipate a lower growth rate: First, increased competition makes it more difficult to enroll new dealers and more difficult to retain those who have already enrolled, since they have more alternatives to choose from. Second, as the number of active dealers increases, it becomes harder to grow at the same rate. The first factor will continue to challenge us until the competitive environment improves, but we do expect that improvement to occur at some point. But the second factor, the difficulty of maintaining the same growth rate as the base gets larger, is a challenge that will only increase with time.

After peaking in 2003 at 64.7 loans, volume per dealer has declined in nine of the last 12 years. This decline reflects the challenge of achieving the same productivity per dealer as the number of active dealers increases. In three of the last 12 years, however, volume per dealer has increased. In 2010 and 2011, volume per dealer increased as competitors were forced to reduce originations or exit the market entirely due to the impact of the financial crisis on their business. Volume per dealer again rose in 2015, a result we did not expect to see as long as capital continued to be available to fund our competitors. We believe the improvement in volume per dealer was due largely to our success in increasing the size of our sales team and improving its quality. In addition, we made several enhancements to our product, including offering longer loan terms and implementing an electronic contracting solution. The latter greatly simplifies the origination process for our dealers and enables us to fund our dealers more rapidly.

The impact of the competitive environment on unit volume last year is hard to assess with certainty. The overall number of auto finance transactions in our market increased in 2015, which typically indicates a more difficult environment. Based on this, and on anecdotal evidence accumulated from the field, our best guess is that the competitive market got modestly more difficult in 2015 , but the deterioration was less severe than in the prior two years. That, we believe, is what allowed the improvements we made to generate a positive result. We are pleased with our progress in 2015, but given the longer-term trend in volume per dealer, we believe it would be unrealistic to expect future improvements to occur until the competitive environment improves.

## SHAREHOLDER DISTRIBUTIONS

Like any profitable business, we generate cash. Historically, we have used this cash to fund originations growth, repay debt or fund share repurchases.

We have used excess capital to repurchase shares when prices are at or below our estimate of intrinsic value (which is the discounted value of future cash flows). As long as the share price is at or below intrinsic value, we prefer share repurchases to dividends for several reasons. First, repurchasing shares below intrinsic value increases the value of the remaining shares. Second, distributing capital to shareholders through a share repurchase gives shareholders the option to defer taxes by electing not to sell any of their holdings. A dividend does not allow shareholders to defer taxes in this manner. Finally, repurchasing shares enables shareholders to increase their ownership, receive cash or do both based on their individual circumstances and view of the value of a Credit Acceptance share. (They do both if the proportion of shares they sell is smaller than the ownership stake they gain through the repurchase.) A dividend does not provide similar flexibility.

Since beginning our share repurchase program in mid-1999, we have repurchased approximately 32.3 million shares at a total cost of $\$ 1.4$ billion. In 2015, we repurchased approximately 470,000 shares at a total cost of $\$ 86.5$ million.

Although our first priority is to ensure we have enough capital to fund new loan originations, to the extent we have excess capital we intend to continue to return it to shareholders as we have in the past.

## KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

Our financial success is a result of having a unique and valuable product and of putting in many years of hard work to develop the business.

Our core product has remained essentially unchanged for 43 years. We provide auto loans to consumers regardless of their credit history. Our customers consist of individuals who have typically been turned away by other lenders. Traditional lenders have many reasons for declining a loan. We have always believed that a significant number of individuals, if given an opportunity to establish or reestablish a positive credit history, will take advantage of it. As a result of this belief, we have changed the lives of thousands of people.

However, as we have found, having a unique and valuable product is only one of the elements we need if we are to make our business successful. There are others, and many have taken years to develop. The following summarizes the key elements of our success today:

- We have developed the ability to offer financing for consumers, regardless of their credit history, while maintaining an appropriate return on capital. It took years to develop the processes and accumulate the customer and loan performance data that we use to make profitable loans in our segment of the market.
- We understand the daily execution required to successfully service a portfolio of automobile loans to customers in our target market. There are many examples of companies in our industry that underestimated the effort involved and produced poor financial results. Approximately $45 \%$ of our team members work directly on some aspect of servicing our loan portfolio, and we are fortunate to have such a capable and engaged group.
- We have learned how to develop relationships with dealers that are profitable. Forging a profitable relationship requires us to select the right dealer, align incentives, communicate constantly and create processes to enforce standards. In our segment of the market, the dealer has significant influence over loan performance. Learning how to create relationships with dealers who share our passion for changing lives has been one of our most important accomplishments.
- We have developed a much more complete program for helping dealers serve this segment of the market. Over the years, many dealers have been overwhelmed by the work required to be successful in our program. Many dealers have quit, telling us the additional profits generated from our program were not worth the effort. We have continually worked to provide solutions for the many obstacles that our dealers encounter. It is impossible to quantify the impact of these initiatives on our loan volume because of the changing external environment. However, anecdotal evidence suggests our efforts have been worthwhile. We believe that continuing to make our program easier for dealers will likely produce additional benefits in the future.
- We have developed a strong management team. Because we are successful at retaining our managers, they become stronger each year as they gain experience with our business. Our senior management team, consisting of 23 individuals, averages 14 years of experience with our company. While we have added talent selectively over the past few years, the experience of our team is a key advantage. Our success in growing the business while simultaneously improving our returns on capital could not have occurred without the dedication and energy of this talented group.
- We have strengthened our focus on our core business. At times in our history, our focus had been diluted by the pursuit of other, non-core opportunities. Today, we offer one product and focus $\mathbf{1 0 0 \%}$ of our energy and capital on perfecting this product and providing it profitably.
- We have developed a unique software application, CAPS, for originating auto loans. Traditional indirect lending is inefficient. Many traditional lenders take one to four hours to process a loan application, and they decline most of the applications they process. We take 60 seconds, and we approve $100 \%$ of the applications submitted, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition, our CAPS system makes our program easier for dealers to use, and allows us to deploy much more precise risk-adjusted pricing.
- We have developed a high-quality field sales force. Our sales team provides real value to our dealers. Team members act as consultants as we teach dealers how to successfully serve our market segment.
- We have developed the ability to execute our loan origination process consistently over time. Consistent execution is difficult, as it requires us to maintain an appropriate balance between providing excellent service to our dealers, and ensuring the loans we originate meet our standards. We measure both loan compliance and dealer satisfaction each month to assess our performance, and use these measures to make adjustments when necessary.
- We are well positioned from a capital perspective. As mentioned above, we maintain diverse funding sources, have lengthened the term of our debt facilities and maintain substantial unused and available credit lines. Our capital structure remains conservative and our lending relationships, which we have developed over a long period of time, remain strong. We believe our lenders were impressed with our performance during the financial crisis, and their confidence in our company was enhanced as a result. Our goal is to be a consistent funding source for our customers and dealers, in good times and bad, and we believe our access to capital will be a competitive advantage in that effort.
- We devote a large portion of our time to something we call organizational health. Organizational health is about putting our team members in position to do their best work. For that, we focus consistently on 10 elements of operational effectiveness, including setting clear expectations, managing performance, providing training, maintaining effective incentive compensation plans, establishing the right environment and providing the technology and processes required for operational excellence. These efforts make a difference. Recently, we were named to Fortune magazine's 2016 list of 100 Best Companies to Work For. This is the third year in a row that we have received this honor. We rank \#27 on the list, the highest ranking we have achieved.


## A FINAL NOTE

We operate in a highly competitive industry and start at a disadvantage. We compete with banks that have a significant cost-of-funds advantage through low-cost deposits. We compete with much larger companies that have an advantage due to economies of scale. And we compete with credit unions that aren't required to earn a profit. In spite of these disadvantages, we have produced outstanding results over a long period of time. The primary reason for our success is our people and the culture they have created. Our team members are proud of the product we offer and the positive impact we make on the lives of our customers. Thousands of people have been able to purchase a vehicle, reestablish their credit and move their lives in a positive direction as a result of our team members' efforts. I am grateful for this remarkable group of people and proud of their many accomplishments.


Brett A. Roberts
Chief Executive Officer
Certain statements herein are forward-looking statements that are subject to certain risks. Please see "Forward-Looking
Statements" beginning on page 39 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015.

## EXHIBIT A

## RECONCILIATION OF GAAP FINANCIAL RESULTS TO NON-GAAP MEASURES

(\$ in millions)

|  | GAAP net income |  | Floating yield adjustment |  | Program fee adjustment |  | Senior notes adjustment |  | Adjusted net income |  | Imputed cost of equity |  | Economic Profit |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2001 | \$ | 24.7 | \$ | 1.2 | \$ | (1.1) | \$ | - | \$ | 24.8 | \$ | (29.6) | \$ | (4.8) |
| 2002 | \$ | 29.8 | \$ | 2.8 | \$ | (2.2) | \$ | - | \$ | 30.4 | \$ | (35.5) | \$ | (5.1) |
| 2003 | \$ | 24.7 | \$ | 1.4 | \$ | (2.1) | \$ | - | \$ | 24.0 | \$ | (34.7) | \$ | (10.7) |
| 2004 | \$ | 57.3 | \$ | (0.1) | \$ | (1.0) | \$ | - | \$ | 56.2 | \$ | (34.4) | \$ | 21.8 |
| 2005 | \$ | 72.6 | \$ | (2.2) | \$ | (2.1) | \$ | - | \$ | 68.3 | \$ | (34.5) | \$ | 33.8 |
| 2006 | \$ | 58.6 | \$ | 0.4 | \$ | (2.8) | \$ | - | \$ | 56.2 | \$ | (29.6) | \$ | 26.6 |
| 2007 | \$ | 54.9 | \$ | 3.6 | \$ | 5.0 | \$ | - | \$ | 63.5 | \$ | (27.3) | \$ | 36.2 |
| 2008 | \$ | 67.2 | \$ | 13.1 | \$ | 2.0 | \$ | - | \$ | 82.3 | \$ | (35.7) | \$ | 46.6 |
| 2009 | \$ | 146.3 | \$ | (19.6) | \$ | 0.8 | \$ | - | \$ | 127.5 | \$ | (46.0) | \$ | 81.5 |
| 2010 | \$ | 170.1 | \$ | 0.5 | \$ | 0.3 | \$ | - | \$ | 170.9 | \$ | (47.8) | \$ | 123.1 |
| 2011 | \$ | 188.0 | \$ | 7.1 | \$ | 0.3 | \$ | - | \$ | 195.4 | \$ | (51.1) | \$ | 144.3 |
| 2012 | \$ | 219.7 | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 219.7 | \$ | (56.7) | \$ | 163.0 |
| 2013 | \$ | 253.1 | \$ | (2.5) | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 250.6 | \$ | (75.2) | \$ | 175.4 |
| 2014 | \$ | 266.2 | \$ | (6.0) | \$ | - | \$ | 12.5 | \$ | 272.7 | \$ | (87.8) | \$ | 184.9 |
| 2015 | \$ | 299.7 | \$ | 12.9 | \$ | - | \$ | (2.0) | \$ | 310.6 | \$ | (92.9) | \$ | 217.7 |

[^2](\$ in millions)

|  | GAAP average capital invested ${ }^{2}$ |  | Floating yield adjustment |  | Program fee adjustment |  | Senior notes adjustment |  | Adjusted average capital invested |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2001 | \$ | 466.8 | \$ | 3.4 | \$ | (0.3) | \$ | - | \$ | 469.9 |
| 2002 | \$ | 457.6 | \$ | 5.8 | \$ | (1.4) | \$ | - | \$ | 462.0 |
| 2003 | \$ | 432.0 | \$ | 7.9 | \$ | (2.4) | \$ | - | \$ | 437.5 |
| 2004 | \$ | 478.3 | \$ | 8.7 | \$ | (3.3) | \$ | - | \$ | 483.7 |
| 2005 | \$ | 520.4 | \$ | 7.5 | \$ | (4.5) | \$ | - | \$ | 523.4 |
| 2006 | \$ | 550.0 | \$ | 5.5 | \$ | (7.0) | \$ | - | \$ | 548.5 |
| 2007 | \$ | 707.8 | \$ | 8.2 | \$ | (5.9) | \$ | - | \$ | 710.1 |
| 2008 | \$ | 963.6 | \$ | 13.8 | \$ | (2.4) | \$ | - | \$ | 975.0 |
| 2009 | \$ | 986.5 | \$ | 13.2 | \$ | (1.0) | \$ | - | \$ | 998.7 |
| 2010 | \$ | 1,069.5 | \$ | 5.2 | \$ | (0.5) | \$ | - | \$ | 1,074.2 |
| 2011 | \$ | 1,362.0 | \$ | 9.4 | \$ | (0.3) | \$ | - | \$ | 1,371.1 |
| 2012 | \$ | 1,731.7 | \$ | 11.1 | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 1,742.8 |
| 2013 | \$ | 2,039.3 | \$ | 9.9 | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 2,049.2 |
| 2014 | \$ | 2,338.4 | \$ | 6.7 | \$ | - | \$ | (7.0) | \$ | 2,338.1 |
| 2015 | \$ | 2,810.2 | \$ | 7.0 | \$ | - | \$ | 14.7 | \$ | 2,831.9 |

[^3]|  | GAAP return <br> on capital |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | $7.4 \%$ | Flaating yield <br> adjustment | Program fee <br> adjustment | Senior notes <br> adjustment | Adjusted return <br> on capital |
| 2001 | $7.7 \%$ | $0.2 \%$ | $-0.2 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $7.4 \%$ |
| 2002 | $6.8 \%$ | $0.5 \%$ | $-0.4 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $7.7 \%$ |
| 2003 | $13.5 \%$ | $0.2 \%$ | $-0.4 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $6.6 \%$ |
| 2004 | $15.6 \%$ | $-0.3 \%$ | $-0.1 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $13.1 \%$ |
| 2005 | $13.3 \%$ | $-0.6 \%$ | $-0.3 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $14.7 \%$ |
| 2006 | $11.0 \%$ | $-0.1 \%$ | $-0.3 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $12.9 \%$ |
| 2007 | $9.8 \%$ | $0.4 \%$ | $0.8 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $12.1 \%$ |
| 2008 | $16.9 \%$ | $1.2 \%$ | $0.2 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $11.2 \%$ |
| 2009 | $18.7 \%$ | $-2.2 \%$ | $0.1 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $14.9 \%$ |
| 2010 | $16.5 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $18.7 \%$ |
| 2011 | $15.0 \%$ | $0.4 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $16.9 \%$ |
| 2012 | $14.4 \%$ | $-0.1 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $14.9 \%$ |
| 2013 | $13.0 \%$ | $-0.2 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $14.2 \%$ |
| 2014 | $12.4 \%$ | $-0.3 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.5 \%$ | $13.2 \%$ |
| 2015 | $0.4 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $-0.1 \%$ | $12.7 \%$ |  |

${ }^{3}$ Return on capital is defined as net income plus interest expense after-tax divided by average capital.

|  | GAAP weighted average cost of capital ${ }^{4}$ | Floating yield adjustment | Program fee adjustment | Senior notes adjustment | Adjusted weighted average cost of capital ${ }^{5}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2001 | 8.4\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 8.4\% |
| 2002 | 8.8\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 8.9\% |
| 2003 | 9.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 9.0\% |
| 2004 | 8.6\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 8.6\% |
| 2005 | 8.2\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 8.3\% |
| 2006 | 8.1\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 8.1\% |
| 2007 | 7.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 7.0\% |
| 2008 | 6.4\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 6.4\% |
| 2009 | 6.7\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 6.7\% |
| 2010 | 7.2\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 7.2\% |
| 2011 | 6.4\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 6.4\% |
| 2012 | 5.5\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 5.5\% |
| 2013 | 5.7\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 5.7\% |
| 2014 | 5.2\% | 0.1\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 5.3\% |
| 2015 | 5.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 5.0\% |

${ }^{4}$ The weighted average cost of capital includes both a cost of equity and a cost of debt. The cost of equity capital is determined based on a formula that considers the risk of the business and the risk associated with our use of debt. The formula utilized for determining the cost of equity capital is as follows: (the average 30-year treasury rate +5\%) + [(1-tax rate) $x$ (the average 30 -year treasury rate $+5 \%$ - pre-tax average cost-of-debt rate) $x$ average debt/(average equity + average debt $x$ tax rate)].
5 The adjusted weighted average cost of capital includes both a cost of adjusted equity and a cost of debt. The cost of adjusted equity capital is calculated using the same formula as above except that adjusted average equity is used in the calculation instead of average equity.

NOTE: Amounts may not recalculate due to rounding

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 <br> FORM 10-K 

(Mark One)

## ■ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 <br> For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 <br> OR

$\square$ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the transition period from $\qquad$ to $\qquad$

Commission file number 000-20202

## CREDIT ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION <br> (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Michigan<br>(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

38-1999511
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

# 25505 W. Twelve Mile Road 

Southfield, Michigan
48034-8339
(Address of principal executive offices)
(Zip Code)
Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (248) 353-2700
Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class
Common Stock

Name of each exchange on which registered NASDAQ

Securities registered pursuant to section 12(g) of the Act:

## None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes $\square$ No $\square$
Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15 (d) of the Act. Yes $\square$ No $\square$
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or $15(\mathrm{~d})$ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes $\nabla$ No $\square$

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T ( $\$ 232.405$ of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes $\nabla$ No $\square$

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K ( $\$ 229.405$ of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. $\square$

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer $\boxtimes \quad$ Accelerated filer


Non-accelerated filer $\qquad$ Smaller reporting company
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes $\square$ No $\square$
The aggregate market value of $8,040,633$ shares of the Registrant's common stock held by non-affiliates on June 30,2015 was approximately $\$ 1,979.4$ million. For purposes of this computation all officers, directors and $10 \%$ beneficial owners of the Registrant are assumed to be affiliates. Such determination should not be deemed an admission that such officers, directors and beneficial owners are, in fact, affiliates of the Registrant.

At February 5, 2016, there were 20,132,945 shares of the Registrant's common stock issued and outstanding.
DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE
Portions of the Registrant's definitive Proxy Statement pertaining to the 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the "Proxy Statement") filed pursuant to Regulation 14A are incorporated herein by reference into Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K (this "Form 10-K").

## CREDIT ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION <br> YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

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## PART I

## ITEM 1. BUSINESS

## General

Since 1972, Credit Acceptance Corporation (referred to as the "Company", "Credit Acceptance", "we", "our" or "us") has offered automobile dealers financing programs that enable them to sell vehicles to consumers, regardless of their credit history. Our financing programs are offered through a nationwide network of automobile dealers who benefit from sales of vehicles to consumers who otherwise could not obtain financing; from repeat and referral sales generated by these same customers; and from sales to customers responding to advertisements for our product, but who actually end up qualifying for traditional financing.

Credit Acceptance was founded to collect retail installment contracts (referred to as "Consumer Loans") originated by automobile dealerships owned by Donald Foss, our Chairman, founder, and significant shareholder. During the 1980s, we began to market this service to non-affiliated dealers and, at the same time, began to offer dealers a non-recourse cash payment (referred to as an "advance") against anticipated future collections on Consumer Loans serviced for that dealer.

We refer to automobile dealers who participate in our programs and who share our commitment to changing consumers' lives as "Dealers". Upon enrollment in our financing programs, the Dealer enters into a Dealer servicing agreement with us that defines the legal relationship between Credit Acceptance and the Dealer. The Dealer servicing agreement assigns the responsibilities for administering, servicing, and collecting the amounts due on Consumer Loans from the Dealers to us. We are an indirect lender from a legal perspective, meaning the Consumer Loan is originated by the Dealer and assigned to us.

Substantially all of the Consumer Loans assigned to us are made to consumers with impaired or limited credit histories. The following table shows the percentage of Consumer Loans assigned to us with either FICO® scores below 650 or no FICO® scores:

| Consumer Loan Assignment Volume | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
| Percentage of total unit volume with either FICO ${ }^{\circledR}$ scores below 650 or no FICO® scores | 96.1\% | 95.7\% | 95.8\% |

Consumers and Dealers benefit from our programs as follows:

Consumers. We help change the lives of consumers who do not qualify for conventional automobile financing by helping them obtain quality transportation. Without our financing programs, consumers are often unable to purchase a vehicle or they purchase an unreliable one. Further, as we report to the three national credit reporting agencies, an important ancillary benefit of our programs is that we provide our consumers with an opportunity to improve their lives by improving their credit score and move on to more traditional sources of financing.

Dealers. Our programs increase Dealers' profits in the following ways:

- Enables Dealers to sell cars to consumers who may not be able to obtain financing without our programs. In addition, consumers often become repeat customers, returning to buy cars from the same Dealer over the years.
- Allows Dealers to share in the profit, not only from the sale of the vehicle, but also from its financing.
- Enables Dealers to attract consumers who mistakenly assume they do not qualify for conventional financing.


## Business Segment Information

We currently operate in one reportable segment which represents our core business of offering Dealers financing programs and related products and services that enable them to sell vehicles to consumers, regardless of their credit history. For information regarding our one reportable segment and related entity-wide disclosures, see Note 15 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.

## Principal Business

We offer our Dealers financing programs that enable them to sell vehicles to consumers, regardless of their credit history. We have two programs: the Portfolio Program and the Purchase Program. Under the Portfolio Program, we advance money to Dealers (referred to as a "Dealer Loan") in exchange for the right to service the underlying Consumer Loans. Under the Purchase Program, we buy the Consumer Loans from the Dealers (referred to as a "Purchased Loan") and keep all amounts collected from the consumer. Dealer Loans and Purchased Loans are collectively referred to as "Loans". The following table shows the percentage of Consumer Loans assigned to us based on unit volumes under each of the programs for each of the last three years:

|  | For the Years Ended December 31, | Portfolio Program |  | Purchase Program |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | $93.5 \%$ | $9.5 \%$ |  |
| 2013 | $9.7 \%$ | $9.3 \%$ |  |  |
| 2015 | $87.4 \%$ | $12.6 \%$ |  |  |

## Portfolio Program

As payment for the vehicle, the Dealer generally receives the following:

- a down payment from the consumer;
- a cash advance from us; and
- after the advance has been recovered by us, the cash from payments made on the Consumer Loan, net of certain collection costs and our servicing fee ("Dealer Holdback").

We record the amount advanced to the Dealer as a Dealer Loan, which is classified within Loans receivable in our consolidated balance sheets. Cash advanced to the Dealer is automatically assigned to the Dealer's open pool of advances. We generally require Dealers to group advances into pools of at least 100 Consumer Loans. At the Dealer's option, a pool containing at least 100 Consumer Loans can be closed and subsequent advances assigned to a new pool. All advances within a Dealer's pool are secured by the future collections on the related Consumer Loans assigned to the pool. For Dealers with more than one pool, the pools are cross-collateralized so the performance of other pools is considered in determining eligibility for Dealer Holdback. We perfect our security interest in the Dealer Loans by taking possession of the Consumer Loans, which list us as lien holder on the vehicle title.

The Dealer servicing agreement provides that collections received by us during a calendar month on Consumer Loans assigned by a Dealer are applied on a pool-by-pool basis as follows:

- First, to reimburse us for certain collection costs;
- Second, to pay us our servicing fee, which generally equals $20 \%$ of collections;
- Third, to reduce the aggregate advance balance and to pay any other amounts due from the Dealer to us; and
- Fourth, to the Dealer as payment of Dealer Holdback.

If the collections on Consumer Loans from a Dealer's pool are not sufficient to repay the advance balance and any other amounts due to us, the Dealer will not receive Dealer Holdback.

Dealers have an opportunity to receive an accelerated Dealer Holdback payment each time 100 Consumer Loans have been assigned to us. The amount paid to the Dealer is calculated using a formula that considers the forecasted collections and the advance balance on the related Consumer Loans.

Since typically the combination of the advance and the consumer's down payment provides the Dealer with a cash profit at the time of sale, the Dealer's risk in the Consumer Loan is limited. We cannot demand repayment of the advance from the Dealer except in the event the Dealer is in default of the Dealer servicing agreement. Advances are made only after the consumer and Dealer have signed a Consumer Loan contract, we have received the executed Consumer Loan contract and supporting documentation in either physical or electronic form, and we have approved all of the related stipulations for funding. The Dealer can also opt to repurchase Consumer Loans that have been assigned to us under the Portfolio Program, at their discretion, for a fee.

For accounting purposes, the transactions described under the Portfolio Program are not considered to be loans to consumers. Instead, our accounting reflects that of a lender to the Dealer. The classification as a Dealer Loan for accounting purposes is primarily a result of (1) the Dealer's financial interest in the Consumer Loan and (2) certain elements of our legal relationship with the Dealer.

## Purchase Program

The Purchase Program differs from our Portfolio Program in that the Dealer receives a one-time payment from us at the time of assignment to purchase the Consumer Loan instead of a cash advance at the time of assignment and future Dealer Holdback payments. For accounting purposes, the transactions described under the Purchase Program are considered to be originated by the Dealer and then purchased by us.

## Program Enrollment

Dealers may enroll in our Portfolio Program by (1) paying an up-front, one-time fee of $\$ 9,850$, or (2) agreeing to allow us to retain $50 \%$ of their first accelerated Dealer Holdback payment. Access to the Purchase Program is typically only granted to Dealers that meet one of the following:

- received first accelerated Dealer Holdback payment under the Portfolio Program;
- franchise dealership; or
- independent dealership that meets certain criteria upon enrollment.


## Revenue Sources

Credit Acceptance derives its revenues from the following principal sources:

- Finance charges, which are comprised of: (1) servicing fees earned as a result of servicing Consumer Loans assigned to us by Dealers under the Portfolio Program, (2) finance charge income from Purchased Loans, (3) fees earned from our third party ancillary product offerings, (4) monthly program fees of $\$ 599$, charged to Dealers under the Portfolio Program; and (5) fees associated with certain Loans;
- Premiums earned on the reinsurance of vehicle service contracts; and
- Other income, which primarily consists of: GPS-SID fees, ancillary product profit sharing, remarketing fees, Dealer support products and services and Dealer enrollment fees. For additional information, see Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 to this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.

The following table sets forth the percent relationship to total revenue of each of these sources:

|  | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent of Total Revenue | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
| Finance charges | 88.5\% | 87.1\% | 86.6\% |
| Premiums earned | 5.8\% | 7.2\% | 7.5\% |
| Other income | 5.7\% | 5.7\% | 5.9\% |
| Total revenue | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% |

Our business is seasonal with peak Consumer Loan acceptances and collections occurring during the first quarter of the year. However, this seasonality does not have a material impact on our interim results.

## Operations

Sales and Marketing. Our target market is approximately 60,000 independent and franchised automobile dealers in the United States. We have market area managers located throughout the United States that market our programs to prospective Dealers, enroll new Dealers, and support active Dealers. The number of Dealer enrollments and active Dealers for each of the last three years are presented in the table below:

| For the Years Ended December 31, | Dealer Enrollments |  | Active Dealers (1) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2013 | 2,761 | 6,394 |  |
| 2014 | 3,019 | 7,247 |  |
| 2015 | 4,285 | 9,064 |  |

(1) Active Dealers are Dealers who have received funding for at least one Loan during the period.

Once Dealers have enrolled in our programs, the market area managers work closely with the newly enrolled Dealers to help them successfully launch our programs within their dealerships. Market area managers also provide active Dealers with ongoing support and consulting focused on improving the Dealers' success on our programs, including assistance with increasing the volume and performance of Consumer Loan assignments.

Dealer Servicing Agreement. As a part of the enrollment process, a new Dealer is required to enter into a Dealer servicing agreement with Credit Acceptance that defines the legal relationship between Credit Acceptance and the Dealer. The Dealer servicing agreement assigns the responsibilities for administering, servicing, and collecting the amounts due on Consumer Loans from the Dealers to us. Under the typical Dealer servicing agreement, a Dealer represents that it will only assign Consumer Loans to us that satisfy criteria established by us, meet certain conditions with respect to their binding nature and the status of the security interest in the purchased vehicle, and comply with applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

The typical Dealer servicing agreement may be terminated by us or by the Dealer upon written notice. We may terminate the Dealer servicing agreement immediately in the case of an event of default by the Dealer. Events of default include, among other things:

- the Dealer's refusal to allow us to audit its records relating to the Consumer Loans assigned to us;
- the Dealer, without our consent, is dissolved; merges or consolidates with an entity not affiliated with the Dealer; or sells a material part of its assets outside the course of its business to an entity not affiliated with the Dealer; or
- the appointment of a receiver for, or the bankruptcy or insolvency of, the Dealer.

While a Dealer can cease assigning Consumer Loans to us at any time without terminating the Dealer servicing agreement, if the Dealer elects to terminate the Dealer servicing agreement or in the event of a default, we have the right to require that the Dealer immediately pay us:

- any unreimbursed collection costs on Dealer Loans;
- any unpaid advances and all amounts owed by the Dealer to us; and
- a termination fee equal to $15 \%$ of the then outstanding amount of the Consumer Loans assigned to us.

Upon receipt of such amounts in full, we reassign the Consumer Loans and our security interest in the financed vehicles to the Dealer.

In the event of a termination of the Dealer servicing agreement by us, we may continue to service Consumer Loans assigned by Dealers accepted prior to termination in the normal course of business without charging a termination fee.

Consumer Loan Assignment. Once a Dealer has enrolled in our programs, the Dealer may begin assigning Consumer Loans to us. For legal purposes, a Consumer Loan is considered to have been assigned to us after the following has occurred:

- the consumer and Dealer have signed a Consumer Loan contract; and
- we have received the executed Consumer Loan contract and supporting documentation in either physical or electronic form.

For accounting and financial reporting purposes, a Consumer Loan is considered to have been assigned to us after the following has occurred:

- the Consumer Loan has been legally assigned to us; and
- we have made a funding decision and generally have provided funding to the Dealer in the form of either an advance under the Portfolio Program or one-time purchase payment under the Purchase Program.

A Consumer Loan is originated by the Dealer when a consumer enters into a contract with a Dealer that sets forth the terms of the agreement between the consumer and the Dealer for the payment of the purchase price of the vehicle. The amount of the Consumer Loan consists of the total principal and interest that the consumer is required to pay over the term of the Consumer Loan. Consumer Loans are written on a contract form provided by us. Although the Dealer is named in the Consumer Loan contract, the Dealer generally does not have legal ownership of the Consumer Loan for more than a moment and we, not the Dealer, are listed as lien holder on the vehicle title. Consumers are obligated to make payments on the Consumer Loan directly to us, and any failure to make such payments will result in us pursuing payment through collection efforts.

All Consumer Loans submitted to us for assignment are processed through our Credit Approval Processing System ("CAPS"). CAPS allows Dealers to input a consumer's credit application and view the response from us via the Internet. CAPS allows Dealers to: (1) receive a quick approval from us; (2) interact with our proprietary credit scoring system to optimize the structure of each transaction prior to delivery; and (3) create, electronically execute and print Consumer Loan documents. All responses include the amount of funding (advance for a Dealer Loan or purchase price for a Purchased Loan), as well as any stipulations required for funding. The amount of funding is determined using a formula which considers a number of factors including the timing and amount of cash flows expected on the related Consumer Loan and our target return on capital at the time the Consumer Loan is submitted to us for assignment. The estimated future cash flows are determined based upon our proprietary credit scoring system, which considers numerous variables, including attributes contained in the consumer's credit bureau report, data contained in the consumer's credit application, the structure of the proposed transaction, vehicle information and other factors, to calculate a composite credit score that corresponds to an expected collection rate. Our proprietary credit scoring system forecasts the collection rate based upon the historical performance of Consumer Loans in our portfolio that share similar characteristics. The performance of our proprietary credit scoring system is evaluated monthly by comparing projected to actual Consumer Loan performance. Adjustments are made to our proprietary credit scoring system as necessary. For additional information on adjustments to forecasted collection rates, please see the Critical Accounting Estimates section in Item 7 of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.

While a Dealer can submit any legally compliant Consumer Loan to us for assignment, the decision whether to provide funding to the Dealer and the amount of any funding is made solely by us. Through our Dealer Service Center, we perform all significant functions relating to the processing of the Consumer Loan applications and bear certain costs of Consumer Loan assignment, including the cost of assessing the adequacy of Consumer Loan documentation, compliance with underwriting and legal guidelines and the cost of verifying employment, residence and other information provided by the Dealer.

We audit Consumer Loan files for legal and underwriting guidelines on a daily basis in order to assess whether our Dealers are operating in accordance with the terms and conditions of our Dealer servicing agreement. We occasionally identify breaches of the Dealer servicing agreement and depending upon the circumstances, and at our discretion, we may change pricing or charge the Dealer fees for future Consumer Loan assignments; require the Consumer Loan(s) to be repurchased; or terminate our relationship with the Dealer.

Our business model allows us to share the risk and reward of collecting on the Consumer Loans with the Dealers. Such sharing is intended to motivate the Dealer to assign better quality Consumer Loans, follow our underwriting guidelines, comply with various legal regulations, meet our credit compliance requirements and provide appropriate service and support to the consumer after the sale. In addition, our Dealer Service Center works closely with Dealers to assist them in resolving any documentation deficiencies or funding stipulations. We believe this arrangement aligns our interests with the interests of the Dealer and the consumer.

We measure various criteria for each Dealer against other Dealers in their area as well as the top performing Dealers. Dealers are assigned a Dealer rating based upon the performance of their Consumer Loans in both the Portfolio and Purchase Programs as well as other criteria. The Dealer rating is one of the factors used to determine the amount paid to Dealers as an advance or to acquire a Purchased Loan. We provide each Dealer a monthly statement summarizing all activity that occurred on their Consumer Loan assignments.

Information on our Consumer Loans is presented in the following table:

| Average Consumer Loan Data | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  |
| Average size of Consumer Loan accepted | \$ | 16,354 | \$ | 15,692 | \$ | 15,445 |
| Percentage change in average size of Consumer Loan |  | 4.2\% |  | 1.6\% |  | -0.1\% |
| Average initial term (in months) |  | 50 |  | 47 |  | 47 |

Servicing. Our largest group of collectors services Consumer Loans that are in the early stages of delinquency. Collection efforts typically consist of placing a call to the consumer within one day of the missed payment due date, although efforts may begin later for some segments of accounts. Consumer Loans are segmented into dialing pools by various phone contact profiles in an effort to efficiently contact the consumer. Our collectors work with consumers to attempt to reach a solution that will help them avoid becoming further past due and get them current where possible.

The decision to repossess a vehicle is based on policy-based criteria. When a Consumer Loan is approved for repossession, the account is transferred to our repossession team. Repossession personnel continue to service the Consumer Loan as it is being assigned to a third party repossession contractor, who works on a contingency fee basis. Once a vehicle has been repossessed, the consumer can negotiate to redeem the vehicle, whereupon the vehicle is returned to the consumer in exchange for paying off the Consumer Loan balance; or, where appropriate or if required by law, the vehicle is returned to the consumer and the Consumer Loan is reinstated in exchange for a payment that reduces or eliminates the past due balance. If this process is unsuccessful, the vehicle is sold at a wholesale automobile auction. Prior to sale, the vehicle is typically inspected by a representative at the auction who provides repair and reconditioning recommendations. Alternatively, our remarketing representatives may inspect the vehicle directly. Our remarketing representatives then authorize any repair and reconditioning work in order to maximize the net sale proceeds at auction.

If the vehicle sale proceeds are not sufficient to satisfy the balance owing on the Consumer Loan, the Consumer Loan is serviced by either: (1) our internal collection team, in the event the consumer is willing to make payments on the deficiency balance; or (2) where permitted by law, our external collection team, if it is believed that legal action is required to reduce the deficiency balance owing on the Consumer Loan. Our external collection team generally assigns Consumer Loans to third party collection attorneys who work on a contingency fee basis.

Collectors service Consumer Loans through our servicing platform, which consists of the following two systems:

- The collection system, which assigns Consumer Loans to collectors through a predictive dialer and records all collection activity, including:
- details of past phone conversations with the consumer;
- collection letters sent;
- promises to pay;
- broken promises;
- repossession orders; and
- collection attorney activity.
- The servicing system, which maintains a record of all transactions relating to Consumer Loan assignments and is a primary source of data utilized to:
- determine the outstanding balance of the Consumer Loans;
- forecast future collections;
- establish the amount of revenue recognized by us;
- calculate Dealer Holdback payments;
- analyze the profitability of our program; and
- evaluate our proprietary credit scoring system.


## Ancillary Products

We provide Dealers the ability to offer vehicle service contracts to consumers through our relationships with Third Party Providers ("TPPs"). A vehicle service contract provides the consumer protection by paying for the repair or replacement of certain components of the vehicle in the event of a mechanical failure. The wholesale cost of the vehicle service contract is charged to the Dealer's advance balance, and paid to the TPP, net of an administrative fee retained by us. We recognize our fee as part of finance charges on a level-yield basis based upon forecasted cash flows. The difference between the wholesale cost and the retail price to the consumer is paid to the Dealer as a commission. The commission is charged to the Dealer's advance balance. TPPs process claims on vehicle service contracts that are underwritten by third party insurers. We bear the risk of loss for claims on certain vehicle service contracts that are reinsured by us. We market the vehicle service contracts directly to our Dealers. Our agreement with one of our TPPs allows us to receive profit sharing payments depending on the performance of the vehicle service contracts. Profit sharing payments from the TPP are received twice a year, if eligible.

VSC Re Company ("VSC Re"), our wholly-owned subsidiary, is engaged in the business of reinsuring coverage under vehicle service contracts sold to consumers by Dealers on vehicles financed by us. VSC Re currently reinsures vehicle service contracts that are underwritten by one of our third party insurers. Vehicle service contract premiums, which represent the selling price of the vehicle service contract to the consumer, less fees and certain administrative costs, are contributed to trust accounts controlled by VSC Re. These premiums are used to fund claims covered under the vehicle service contracts. VSC Re is a bankruptcy remote entity. As such, our exposure to fund claims is limited to the trust assets controlled by VSC Re and our net investment in VSC Re.

We provide Dealers the ability to offer Guaranteed Asset Protection ("GAP") to consumers through our relationships with TPPs. GAP provides the consumer protection by paying the difference between the loan balance and the amount covered by the consumer's insurance policy in the event of a total loss of the vehicle due to severe damage or theft. The wholesale cost of GAP is charged to the Dealer's advance balance, and paid to the TPP, net of an administrative fee retained by us. We recognize our fee as part of finance charges on a level-yield basis based upon forecasted cash flows. The difference between the wholesale cost and the retail price to the consumer is paid to the Dealer as a commission. The commission is charged to the Dealer's advance balance. TPPs process claims on GAP contracts that are underwritten by third party insurers. Our agreement with one of our TPPs allows us to receive profit sharing payments depending on the performance of the GAP contracts. Profit sharing payments from the TPP are received once a year, if eligible.

We provide Dealers in certain states the ability to purchase Global Positioning Systems with Starter Interrupt Devices ("GPSSID") through our relationships with TPPs. Through this program, Dealers can install GPS-SID on vehicles financed by us that can be activated if the consumer fails to make payments on their account, and can result in the prompt repossession of the vehicle. Dealers purchase GPS-SID directly from the TPPs. The TPPs pay us a fee for each device sold, at which time the fee revenue is recognized in other income within our consolidated statements of income.

## Competition

The market for consumers who do not qualify for conventional automobile financing is large and highly competitive. The market is currently served by "buy here, pay here" dealerships, banks, captive finance affiliates of automobile manufacturers, credit unions and independent finance companies both publicly and privately owned. Many of these companies are much larger and have greater resources than us. We compete by offering a profitable and efficient method for Dealers to finance consumers who would be more difficult or less profitable to finance through other methods. In addition, we compete on the basis of the level of service provided by our Dealer Service Center and sales personnel.

## Customer and Geographic Concentrations

No single Dealer accounted for more than $10 \%$ of total revenues during any of the last three years. Additionally, no single Dealer's Loans receivable balance accounted for more than $10 \%$ of total Loans receivable balance as of December 31, 2015 or 2014. The following tables provide information regarding the five states that were responsible for the largest dollar volume of Consumer Loan assignments and the related number of active Dealers during 2015, 2014 and 2013:

| (Dollars in millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2015 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Consumer Loan Assignments |  |  | Active Dealers (2) |  |
|  | Dollar Volume (1) |  | \% of Total | Number | \% of Total |
| Michigan | \$ | 232.3 | 10.7\% | 675 | 7.5\% |
| New York |  | 173.2 | 8.0\% | 615 | 6.8\% |
| Ohio |  | 144.3 | 6.7\% | 572 | 6.3\% |
| Texas |  | 128.8 | 5.9\% | 610 | 6.7\% |
| Maryland |  | 97.2 | 4.5\% | 208 | 2.3\% |
| All other states |  | 1,391.2 | 64.2\% | 6,384 | 70.4\% |
| Total | \$ | 2,167.0 | 100.0\% | 9,064 | 100.0\% |


| (Dollars in millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2014 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Consumer Loan Assignments |  |  | Active Dealers (2) |  |
|  | Dollar Volume (1) |  | \% of Total | Number | \% of Total |
| Michigan | \$ | 181.2 | 10.8\% | 551 | 7.6\% |
| New York |  | 162.1 | 9.7\% | 539 | 7.4\% |
| Ohio |  | 113.1 | 6.8\% | 436 | 6.0\% |
| Texas |  | 89.5 | 5.3\% | 427 | 5.9\% |
| Pennsylvania |  | 75.9 | 4.5\% | 340 | 4.7\% |
| All other states |  | 1,053.9 | 62.9\% | 4,954 | 68.4\% |
| Total | \$ | 1,675.7 | 100.0\% | 7,247 | 100.0\% |


| (Dollars in millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2013 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Consumer Loan Assignments |  |  | Active Dealers (2) |  |
|  | Dollar Volume (1) |  | \% of Total | Number | \% of Total |
| Michigan | \$ | 154.1 | 10.4\% | 502 | 7.9\% |
| New York |  | 147.9 | 10.0\% | 460 | 7.2\% |
| Texas |  | 81.5 | 5.5\% | 392 | 6.1\% |
| Ohio |  | 73.9 | 5.0\% | 359 | 5.6\% |
| Pennsylvania |  | 68.9 | 4.7\% | 306 | 4.8\% |
| All other states |  | 954.3 | 64.4\% | 4,375 | 68.4\% |
| Total | \$ | 1,480.6 | 100.0\% | 6,394 | 100.0\% |

(1) Represents advances paid to Dealers on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program and one-time payments made to Dealers to purchase Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program. Payments of Dealer Holdback and accelerated Dealer Holdback are not included.
(2) Active Dealers are Dealers who have received funding for at least one Loan during the year.

## Geographic Financial Information

For the three years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, all of our revenues were derived from the United States. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, all of our long-lived assets were located in the United States.

## Regulation

Our business is subject to laws and regulations, including the Truth in Lending Act, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Fair Credit Reporting Act and various other state and federal laws and regulations. These laws and regulations, among other things, require licensing and qualification; limit interest rates, fees and other charges associated with the Consumer Loans assigned to us; require specified disclosures by Dealers to consumers; govern the sale and terms of ancillary products; and define the rights to repossess and sell collateral. Failure to comply with these laws or regulations could have a material adverse effect on us by, among other things, limiting the jurisdictions in which we may operate, restricting our ability to realize the value of the collateral securing the Consumer Loans, making it more costly or burdensome to do business or resulting in potential liability. The volume of new or modified laws and regulations has increased in recent years and has increased significantly in response to issues arising with respect to consumer lending. From time to time, legislation and regulations are enacted which increase the cost of doing business, limit or expand permissible activities or affect the competitive balance among financial services providers. Proposals to change the laws and regulations governing the operations and taxation of financial institutions and financial services providers are frequently made in the U.S. Congress, in the state legislatures and by various regulatory agencies. This legislation may change our operating environment in substantial and unpredictable ways and may have a material adverse effect on our business.

In July 2010 the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") was enacted and a number of its provisions became effective in July 2011. The Dodd-Frank Act restructured and enhanced the regulation and supervision of the financial services industry and created the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (the "CFPB"). The CFPB has rulemaking and enforcement authority over certain non-depository institutions, including us. The CFPB is specifically authorized, among other things, to take actions to prevent companies providing consumer financial products or services and their service providers from engaging in unfair, deceptive or abusive acts or practices in connection with consumer financial products and services, and to issue rules requiring enhanced disclosures for consumer financial products or services. Under the DoddFrank Act, the CFPB also may restrict the use of pre-dispute mandatory arbitration clauses in contracts between covered persons and consumers for a consumer financial product or service. The CFPB also has authority to interpret, enforce and issue regulations implementing enumerated consumer laws, including certain laws that apply to our business. Further, the CFPB has issued rules allowing it to supervise non-depository "larger participants" in certain markets for consumer financial services and products. On June 10, 2015, the CFPB released its larger participant rule defining which nonbank automotive finance companies will be subject to supervision. The rule provides that nonbank auto finance companies that make, acquire or refinance 10,000 or more loans or leases in a year will come under CFPB supervision. The rule was officially published in the Federal Register on June 30, 2015, and became effective on August 31,2015 . As expected, we are subject to supervision by the CFPB.

The Dodd-Frank Act and regulations promulgated thereunder, including by the CFPB, are likely to affect our cost of doing business, may limit or expand our permissible activities, may affect the competitive balance within our industry and market areas and could have a material adverse effect on us. For example, on March 21, 2013, the CFPB issued Bulletin 2013-02 addressing Indirect Auto Lending and Compliance with the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, in which the CFPB stated that policies of indirect auto lenders that allow auto dealers to mark up lender-established buy rates and that compensate dealers for those markups in the form of dealer reserve could present a risk that they will result in impermissible pricing disparities on the basis of race, national origin and potentially other prohibited bases. Our management continues to assess the Dodd-Frank Act's probable impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations, and to monitor developments involving the entities charged with promulgating regulations thereunder. However, the ultimate effect of the Dodd-Frank Act on the financial services industry in general, and on us in particular, is uncertain at this time.

In addition to the CFPB, other state and federal agencies have the ability to regulate aspects of our business. For example, the Dodd-Frank Act provides a mechanism for state Attorneys General to investigate us. In addition, the Federal Trade Commission has jurisdiction to investigate aspects of our business. We expect that regulatory investigation by both state and federal agencies will continue and that the results of these investigations could have a material adverse impact on us.

On December 4, 2014, we received a civil investigative demand from the Office of the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts relating to the origination and collection of non-prime auto loans in Massachusetts. On December 9, 2014, we received a civil investigative subpoena from the U.S. Department of Justice pursuant to the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 directing us to produce certain information relating to subprime automotive finance and related securitization activities. On September 18, 2015, we received a subpoena from the Attorney General of the State of New York, Civil Rights Bureau relating to the Company's origination and collection of Consumer Loans in the state of New York. We are cooperating with these inquiries and cannot predict the eventual scopes, durations or outcomes at this time. As a result, we are unable to estimate the reasonably possible losses or range of reasonably possible losses arising from these investigations. We may from time to time become subject to other investigations or regulatory reviews undertaken by governmental authorities.

In addition, governmental regulations which would deplete the supply of used vehicles, such as environmental protection regulations governing emissions or fuel consumption, could have a material adverse effect on us.

Our Dealers must also comply with credit and trade practice statutes and regulations. Failure of our Dealers to comply with these statutes and regulations could result in consumers having rights of rescission and other remedies that could have a material adverse effect on us.

The sale of vehicle service contracts and GAP by Dealers in connection with Consumer Loans assigned to us from Dealers is also subject to state laws and regulations. As we are the holder of the Consumer Loans that may, in part, finance these products, some of these state laws and regulations may apply to our servicing and collection of the Consumer Loans. Although these laws and regulations do not significantly affect our business, there can be no assurance that insurance or other regulatory authorities in the jurisdictions in which these products are offered by Dealers will not seek to regulate or restrict the operation of our business in these jurisdictions. Any regulation or restriction of our business in these jurisdictions could materially adversely affect the income received from these products.

We believe that we maintain all material licenses and permits required for our current operations and are in substantial compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. Our agreements with Dealers provide that the Dealer shall indemnify us with respect to any loss or expense we incur as a result of the Dealer's failure to comply with applicable laws and regulations.

## Team Members

Our team members are organized into three operating functions: Originations, Servicing and Support.
Originations. The originations function includes team members that are responsible for marketing our programs to prospective Dealers, enrolling new Dealers and supporting active Dealers. Originations also includes team members responsible for processing new Consumer Loan assignments.

Servicing. The servicing function includes team members that are responsible for servicing the Consumer Loans. The majority of these team members are responsible for collection activities on delinquent Consumer Loans.

Support. The support function includes team members that are responsible for information technology, finance, corporate legal, quality assurance, analytics, training $\&$ development and human resources activities.

As of December 31, 2015, we had 1,425 full and part-time team members. Our team members have no union affiliations and we believe our relationship with our team members is in good standing. The table below presents team members by operating function:

| Operating Function | Number of Team Members As of December 31, |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
| Originations | 409 | 368 | 376 |
| Servicing | 640 | 617 | 663 |
| Support | 376 | 318 | 278 |
| Total | 1,425 | 1,303 | 1,317 |

## Available Information

Our Internet address is creditacceptance.com. We make available, free of charge on the web site, copies of reports we file with or furnish to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file or furnish such reports.

## ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

## Our inability to accurately forecast and estimate the amount and timing of future collections could have a material adverse effect on results of operations.

Substantially all of the Consumer Loans assigned to us are made to individuals with impaired or limited credit histories or higher debt-to-income ratios than are permitted by traditional lenders. Consumer Loans made to these individuals generally entail a higher risk of delinquency, default and repossession and higher losses than loans made to consumers with better credit. Since most of our revenue and cash flows from operations are generated from these Consumer Loans, our ability to accurately forecast Consumer Loan performance is critical to our business and financial results. At the time of assignment, we forecast future expected cash flows from the Consumer Loan. Based on these forecasts, which include estimates for wholesale vehicle prices in the event of vehicle repossession and sale, we make an advance or one-time purchase payment to the related Dealer at a level designed to maximize economic profit, a non-GAAP financial measure. We continue to forecast the expected collection rate of each Consumer Loan subsequent to assignment. These forecasts also serve as a critical assumption in our accounting for recognizing finance charge income and determining our allowance for credit losses. Please see the Critical Accounting Estimates - Finance Charge Revenue \& Allowance for Credit Losses section in Item 7 of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference. Actual cash flows from any individual Consumer Loan are often different than cash flows estimated at the time of assignment. There can be no assurance that our forecasts will be accurate or that Consumer Loan performance will be as expected. In periods with changing economic conditions, accurately forecasting the performance of Consumer Loans is more difficult. In the event that our forecasts are not accurate, our financial position, liquidity and results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

## We may be unable to execute our business strategy due to current economic conditions.

Our financial position, liquidity and results of operations depend on management's ability to execute our business strategy. Key factors involved in the execution of our business strategy include achieving our desired Consumer Loan assignment volume, continued and successful use of CAPS and pricing strategy, the use of effective credit risk management techniques and servicing strategies, continued investment in technology to support operating efficiency and continued access to funding and liquidity sources. Although our pricing strategy is intended to maximize the amount of economic profit we generate, within the confines of capital and infrastructure constraints, there can be no assurance that this strategy will have its intended effect. Please see the Consumer Loan Volume section in Item 7 of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference. Our failure or inability to execute any element of our business strategy could materially adversely affect our financial position, liquidity and results of operations.

## We may be unable to continue to access or renew funding sources and obtain capital needed to maintain and grow our business.

We use debt financing to fund new Loans and pay Dealer Holdback. We currently utilize the following primary forms of debt financing: (1) a revolving secured line of credit; (2) revolving secured warehouse ("Warehouse") facilities; (3) asset-backed secured financings ("Term ABS"); and (4) senior notes. We cannot guarantee that the revolving secured line of credit or the Warehouse facilities will continue to be available beyond their current maturity dates, on acceptable terms, or at all, or that we will be able to obtain additional financing on acceptable terms or at all. The availability of additional financing will depend on a variety of factors such as market conditions, the general availability of credit, our financial position, our results of operations, and the capacity for additional borrowing under our existing financing arrangements. If our various financing alternatives were to become limited or unavailable, we may be unable to maintain or grow Consumer Loan volume at the level that we anticipate and our operations could be materially adversely affected.

## The terms of our debt limit how we conduct our business.

The agreements that govern our debt contain covenants that restrict our ability to, among other things:

- incur and guarantee debt;
- pay dividends or make other distributions on or redeem or repurchase our stock;
- make investments or acquisitions;
- create liens on our assets;
- sell assets;
- merge with or into other companies; and
- enter into transactions with stockholders and other affiliates.

Some of our debt agreements also impose requirements that we maintain specified financial measures not in excess of, or not below, specified levels. In particular, our revolving credit facility requires, among other things, that we maintain (i) as of the end of each fiscal quarter, a ratio of consolidated funded debt less unrestricted cash and cash equivalents to consolidated tangible net worth at or below a specified maximum; (ii) as of the end of each fiscal quarter calculated for the two fiscal quarters then ending, consolidated net income of not less than a specified minimum; and (iii) as of the end of each fiscal quarter, a ratio of consolidated income available for fixed charges for the period of four consecutive fiscal quarters most recently ended to consolidated fixed charges for that period of not less than a specified minimum. These covenants limit the manner in which we can conduct our business and could prevent us from engaging in favorable business activities or financing future operations and capital needs and impair our ability to successfully execute our strategy and operate our business.

A breach of any of the covenants in our debt instruments would result in an event of default thereunder if not promptly cured or waived. Any continuing default would permit the creditors to accelerate the related debt, which could also result in the acceleration of other debt containing a cross-acceleration or cross-default provision. In addition, an event of default under our revolving credit facility would permit the lenders thereunder to terminate all commitments to extend further credit under our revolving credit facility. Furthermore, if we were unable to repay the amounts due and payable under our revolving credit facility or other secured debt, the lenders thereunder could cause the collateral agent to proceed against the collateral securing that debt. In the event our creditors accelerate the repayment of our debt, there can be no assurance that we would have sufficient assets to repay that debt, and our financial condition, liquidity and results of operations would suffer.

## A violation of the terms of our Term ABS facilities or Warehouse facilities could have a material adverse impact on our operations.

Under our Term ABS facilities and our Warehouse facilities, (1) we have various obligations and covenants as servicer and custodian of the Consumer Loans contributed thereto and in our individual capacity and (2) the special purpose subsidiaries to which we contribute Consumer Loans have various obligations and covenants. A violation of any of these obligations or covenants by us or the special purpose subsidiaries, respectively, may result in our being unable to obtain additional funding under our Warehouse facilities, the termination of our servicing rights and the loss of servicing fees, and may result in amounts outstanding under our Term ABS financings and our Warehouse facilities becoming immediately due and payable. In addition, the violation of any financial covenant under our revolving secured line of credit facility is an event of default or termination event under the Term ABS facilities and our Warehouse facilities. The lack of availability from any or all of these Term ABS facilities and Warehouse facilities may have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, and results of operations.

The conditions of the U.S. and international capital markets may adversely affect lenders with which we have relationships, causing us to incur additional costs and reducing our sources of liquidity, which may adversely affect our financial position, liquidity and results of operations.

Periodically, there has been uncertainty in the global capital markets and the overall economy. Such uncertainty can result in disruptions in the financial sector and affect lenders with which we have relationships. Disruptions in the financial sector may increase our exposure to credit risk and adversely affect the ability of lenders to perform under the terms of their lending arrangements with us. Failure by our lenders to perform under the terms of our lending arrangements could cause us to incur additional costs that may adversely affect our liquidity, financial condition and results of operations. There can be no assurance that future disruptions in the financial sector will not occur that could have similar adverse effects on our business.

## Our substantial debt could negatively impact our business, prevent us from satisfying our debt obligations and adversely affect our financial condition.

We have a substantial amount of debt. The substantial amount of our debt could have important consequences, including the following:

- our ability to obtain additional financing for Consumer Loan assignments, working capital, debt refinancing or other purposes could be impaired;
- a substantial portion of our cash flows from operations will be dedicated to paying principal and interest on our debt, reducing funds available for other purposes;
- we may be vulnerable to interest rate increases, as some of our borrowings, including those under our revolving credit facility, bear interest at variable rates;
- we could be more vulnerable to adverse developments in our industry or in general economic conditions;
- we may be restricted from taking advantage of business opportunities or making strategic acquisitions; and
- we may be limited in our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industries in which we operate.

Due to competition from traditional financing sources and non-traditional lenders, we may not be able to compete successfully.

The automobile finance market for consumers who do not qualify for conventional automobile financing is large and highly competitive. The market is served by a variety of companies including "buy here, pay here" dealerships. The market is also currently served by banks, captive finance affiliates of automobile manufacturers, credit unions and independent finance companies both publicly and privately owned. Many of these companies are much larger and have greater financial resources than are available to us, and many have long standing relationships with automobile dealerships. Providers of automobile financing have traditionally competed based on the interest rate charged, the quality of credit accepted, the flexibility of loan terms offered and the quality of service provided to dealers and consumers. We may be unable to compete successfully in the automobile finance market or, due to the intense competition in this market, our results of operations, cash flows and financial condition may be adversely affected as we adjust our business in response to competitive pressures. Increasing advance rates on Dealer Loans has the impact of reducing the return on capital we expect to earn on Loans. Additionally, if we are unsuccessful in maintaining and expanding our relationships with Dealers, we may be unable to accept Consumer Loans in the volume and on the terms that we anticipate.

## We may not be able to generate sufficient cash flows to service our outstanding debt and fund operations and may be forced to take other actions to satisfy our obligations under such debt.

Our ability to make payments of principal and interest on indebtedness will depend in part on our cash flows from operations, which are subject to economic, financial, competitive and other factors beyond our control. We cannot assure you that we will maintain a level of cash flows from operations sufficient to permit us to meet our debt service obligations. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flows from operations to service our debt, we may be required to sell assets, refinance all or a portion of our existing debt or obtain additional financing. There can be no assurance that any refinancing will be possible or that any asset sales or additional financing can be completed on acceptable terms or at all.

## Interest rate fluctuations may adversely affect our borrowing costs, profitability and liquidity.

Our profitability may be directly affected by the level of and fluctuations in interest rates, whether caused by changes in economic conditions or other factors, which affect our borrowing costs. Our profitability and liquidity could be materially adversely affected during any period of higher interest rates. We monitor the interest rate environment and employ strategies designed to mitigate the impact of increases in interest rates. We can provide no assurance, however, that our strategies will mitigate the impact of increases in interest rates.

## Reduction in our credit rating could increase the cost of our funding from, and restrict our access to, the capital markets

 and adversely affect our liquidity, financial condition and results of operations.Credit rating agencies evaluate us, and their ratings of our debt and creditworthiness are based on a number of factors. These factors include our financial strength and other factors not entirely within our control, including conditions affecting the financial services industry generally. As the financial services industry and the financial markets periodically face difficulties, there can be no assurance that we will maintain our current ratings. Failure to maintain those ratings could, among other things, adversely limit our access to the capital markets and affect the cost and other terms upon which we are able to obtain financing.

We may incur substantially more debt and other liabilities. This could exacerbate further the risks associated with our current debt levels.

We may be able to incur substantial additional debt in the future. Although the terms of our debt instruments contain restrictions on our ability to incur additional debt, these restrictions are subject to exemptions that could permit us to incur a substantial amount of additional debt. In addition, our debt instruments do not prevent us from incurring liabilities that do not constitute indebtedness as defined for purposes of those debt instruments. If new debt or other liabilities are added to our current debt levels, the risks associated with our having substantial debt could intensify.

## The regulation to which we are or may become subject could result in a material adverse effect on our business.

Reference should be made to Item 1. Business "Regulation" for a discussion of regulatory risk factors.

Adverse changes in economic conditions, the automobile or finance industries, or the non-prime consumer market could adversely affect our financial position, liquidity and results of operations, the ability of key vendors that we depend on to supply us with services, and our ability to enter into future financing transactions.

We are subject to general economic conditions which are beyond our control. During periods of economic slowdown or recession, delinquencies, defaults, repossessions and losses may increase on our Consumer Loans and Consumer Loan prepayments may decline. These periods are also typically accompanied by decreased consumer demand for automobiles and declining values of automobiles securing outstanding Consumer Loans, which weakens collateral coverage and increases the amount of a loss in the event of default. Significant increases in the inventory of used automobiles during periods of economic recession may also depress the prices at which repossessed automobiles may be sold or delay the timing of these sales. Additionally, higher gasoline prices, declining stock market values, unstable real estate values, resets of adjustable rate mortgages to higher interest rates, increasing unemployment levels, general availability of consumer credit or other factors that impact consumer confidence or disposable income could increase loss frequency and decrease consumer demand for automobiles as well as weaken collateral values of automobiles. Because our business is focused on consumers who do not qualify for conventional automobile financing, the actual rates of delinquencies, defaults, repossessions and losses on these Consumer Loans could be higher than that of those experienced in the general automobile finance industry, and could be more dramatically affected by a general economic downturn.

We rely on Dealers to originate Consumer Loans for assignment under our programs. High levels of Dealer attrition, due to a general economic downturn or otherwise, could materially adversely affect our operations. In addition, we rely on vendors to provide us with services we need to operate our business. Any disruption in our operations due to the untimely or discontinued supply of these services could substantially adversely affect our operations. Finally, during an economic slowdown or recession, our servicing costs may increase without a corresponding increase in finance charge revenue. Any sustained period of increased delinquencies, defaults, repossessions or losses or increased servicing costs could also materially adversely affect our financial position, liquidity and results of operations and our ability to enter into future financing transactions.

## Litigation we are involved in from time to time may adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations and cash

 flows.As a result of the consumer-oriented nature of the industry in which we operate and uncertainties with respect to the application of various laws and regulations in some circumstances, we are subject to various consumer claims and litigation seeking damages and statutory penalties, based upon, among other things, usury, disclosure inaccuracies, wrongful repossession, violations of bankruptcy stay provisions, certificate of title disputes, fraud and breach of contract. As the assignee of Consumer Loans originated by Dealers, we may also be named as a co-defendant in lawsuits filed by consumers principally against Dealers. We may also have disputes and litigation with Dealers. The claims may allege, among other theories of liability, that we breached our Dealer servicing agreement. The damages and penalties that may be claimed by consumers or Dealers in these types of matters can be substantial. The relief requested by plaintiffs varies but may include requests for compensatory, statutory and punitive damages, and plaintiffs may seek treatment as purported class actions. A significant judgment against us in connection with any litigation or arbitration could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity and results of operations.

## Changes in tax laws and the resolution of uncertain income tax matters could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and cash flows from operations.

We are subject to income tax in many of the various jurisdictions in which we operate. Increases in statutory income tax rates and other adverse changes in applicable law in these jurisdictions could have an adverse effect on our results of operations. In the ordinary course of business, there are transactions and calculations where the ultimate tax determination is uncertain. At any one time, multiple tax years are subject to audit by various taxing jurisdictions. We provide reserves for potential payments of tax to various tax authorities related to uncertain tax positions. Please see the Critical Accounting Estimates - Uncertain Tax Positions section in Item 7 of this Form $10-\mathrm{K}$, which is incorporated herein by reference. We adjust these liabilities as a result of changing facts and circumstances; however, due to the complexity of some of these uncertainties, the ultimate resolution may result in a payment that is materially different from our current estimate of the tax liabilities. Such payments could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and cash flows from operations.

## Our dependence on technology could have a material adverse effect on our business.

All Consumer Loans submitted to us for assignment are processed through our internet-based CAPS application, which enables our Dealers to interact with our proprietary credit scoring system. Our Consumer Loan servicing platform is also technology based. We rely on these systems to record and process significant amounts of data quickly and accurately and believe that these systems provide us with a competitive advantage. All of these systems are dependent upon computer and telecommunications equipment, software systems and Internet access. The temporary or permanent loss of any components of these systems through hardware failures, software errors, operating malfunctions, the vulnerability of the Internet or otherwise could interrupt our business operations, harm our business and adversely affect our competitive advantage. In addition, our competitors could create or acquire systems similar to ours, which would adversely affect our competitive advantage.

Our systems, and the equipment, software and Internet access on which they depend, may be subject to cyber attacks, security breaches and other cybersecurity incidents. Although the cybersecurity incidents we have experienced to date have not had a material effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations, there can be no assurance that cybersecurity incidents will not have a material adverse effect on us in the future.

We rely on a variety of measures to protect our technology and proprietary information, including copyrights and a comprehensive information security program. However, these measures may not prevent misappropriation or infringement of our intellectual property or proprietary information, which would adversely affect us. In addition, our competitors or other third parties may allege that our systems, processes or technologies infringe their intellectual property rights.

Our ability to integrate computer and telecommunications technologies into our business is essential to our success. Computer and telecommunications technologies are evolving rapidly and are characterized by short product life cycles. We may not be successful in anticipating, managing or adopting technological changes on a timely basis. While we believe that our existing information systems are sufficient to meet our current demands and continued expansion, our future growth may require additional investment in these systems. We cannot assure that adequate capital resources will be available to us at the appropriate time.

## Our use of electronic contracts could impact our ability to perfect our ownership or security interest in Consumer Loans.

We have modified our systems to permit origination and assignment of Consumer Loans in electronic form. We have engaged a TPP to facilitate the process of creating, establishing control of and storing electronic contracts in a manner that enables us to perfect our ownership or security interest in the electronic contracts by satisfying the requirements for "control" of electronic chattel paper under the Uniform Commercial Code.

Although the law governing the perfection of ownership and security interests in electronic contracts was enacted in 2001, the statutory requirements for the relevant control arrangements have not been meaningfully tested in court. In addition, market practices regarding control of electronic contracts are still developing. As a result, there is a risk that the systems employed by us or any TPP to maintain control of the electronic contracts may not be sufficient as a matter of law to give us a perfected ownership or security interest in the Consumer Loans evidenced by electronic contracts. In addition, technological failure, including failure in the security or access restrictions with respect to the systems, and operational failure, such as the failure to implement and maintain adequate internal controls and procedures, could also affect our ability to obtain or maintain a perfected ownership or security interest in the Consumer Loans evidenced by electronic contracts (or the priority of such interests). Our failure or inability to perfect our ownership or security interest in the Consumer Loans could materially adversely affect our financial position, liquidity and results of operations.

## Reliance on third parties to administer our ancillary product offerings could adversely affect our business and financial results.

We have relationships with TPPs to administer vehicle service contracts and GAP underwritten by third party insurers and financed by us. We depend on these TPPs to evaluate and pay claims in an accurate and timely manner. We also have relationships with TPPs to sell and administer GPS-SID. If our relationships with these TPPs were modified, disrupted, or terminated, we would need to obtain these services from an alternative administrator or provide them using our internal resources. We may be unable to replace these TPPs with a suitable alternative in a timely and efficient manner on terms we consider acceptable, or at all. In the event we were unable to effectively administer our ancillary products offerings, we may need to eliminate or suspend our ancillary product offerings from our future business, we may experience a decline in the performance of our Consumer Loans, our reputation in the marketplace could be undermined, and our financial position, liquidity and results of operations could be adversely affected.

## We are dependent on our senior management and the loss of any of these individuals or an inability to hire additional team members could adversely affect our ability to operate profitably.

Our senior management average over 14 years of experience with us. Our success is dependent upon the management and the leadership skills of this team. In addition, competition from other companies to hire our team members possessing the necessary skills and experience required could contribute to an increase in team member turnover. The loss of any of these individuals or an inability to attract and retain additional qualified team members could adversely affect us. There can be no assurance that we will be able to retain our existing senior management or attract additional qualified team members.

## Our reputation is a key asset to our business, and our business may be affected by how we are perceived in the marketplace.

Our reputation is a key asset to our business. Our ability to attract consumers through our Dealers is highly dependent upon external perceptions of our level of service, trustworthiness, business practices and financial condition. Negative publicity regarding these matters could damage our reputation among existing and potential consumers and Dealers, which could make it difficult for us to attract new consumers and Dealers and maintain existing Dealers. Adverse developments with respect to our industry may also, by association, negatively impact our reputation or result in greater regulatory or legislative scrutiny or litigation against us.

## The concentration of our Dealers in several states could adversely affect us.

Dealers are located throughout the United States. During the year ended December 31, 2015, our five largest states (measured by advances paid to Dealers on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program and one-time payments made to Dealers to purchase Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program) contained $29.6 \%$ of our Dealers. While we believe we have a diverse geographic presence, for the near term, we expect that significant amounts of Consumer Loan assignments will continue to be generated by Dealers in these five states due to the number of Dealers in these states and currently prevailing economic, demographic, regulatory, competitive and other conditions in these states. Changes to conditions in these states could lead to an increase in Dealer attrition or a reduction in demand for our service that could materially adversely affect our financial position, liquidity and results of operations.

Failure to properly safeguard confidential consumer and team member information could subject us to liability, decrease our profitability and damage our reputation.

In the ordinary course of our business, we collect and store sensitive data, including our proprietary business information and personally identifiable information of our consumers and team members, on our computer networks. The secure processing, maintenance and transmission of this information is critical to our operations and business strategy.

If third parties or our team members are able to breach our network security, the network security of a third party that we share information with or otherwise misappropriate our consumers' and team members' personal information, or if we give third parties or our team members improper access to our consumers' and team members' personal information, we could be subject to liability. This liability could include identity theft or other similar fraud-related claims. This liability could also include claims for other misuses or losses of personal information, including for unauthorized marketing purposes. Other liabilities could include claims alleging misrepresentation of our privacy and data security practices.

We rely on encryption and authentication technology licensed from third parties to provide the security and authentication necessary to secure online transmission of confidential consumer and team member information. Advances in computer capabilities, new discoveries in the field of cryptography or other events or developments may result in a compromise or breach of the algorithms that we use to protect sensitive consumer transaction data. A party who is able to circumvent our security measures could misappropriate proprietary information or cause interruptions in our operations. We may be required to expend capital and other resources to protect against, or alleviate problems caused by, security breaches or other cybersecurity incidents. Although we have experienced cybersecurity incidents from time to time that have not had a material effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations, there can be no assurance that a cyber attack, security breach or other cybersecurity incident will not have a material adverse effect on us in the future. Our security measures are designed to protect against security breaches, but our failure to prevent security breaches could subject us to liability, decrease our profitability and damage our reputation.

## A small number of our shareholders have the ability to significantly influence matters requiring shareholder approval and

 such shareholders have interests which may conflict with the interests of our other security holders.As of December 31, 2015, based on filings made with the SEC and other information made available to us, our Chairman and founder beneficially owned $19.5 \%$ of our common stock, his daughter beneficially owned $22.2 \%$ of our common stock, and Prescott General Partners, LLC and its affiliates beneficially owned $15.4 \%$ of our common stock. As a result, these few shareholders are able to significantly influence matters presented to shareholders, including the election and removal of directors, the approval of significant corporate transactions, such as any reclassification, reorganization, merger, consolidation or sale of all or substantially all of our assets, and the control of our management and affairs, including executive compensation arrangements. Their interests may conflict with the interests of our other security holders.

## Reliance on our outsourced business functions could adversely affect our business.

We outsource certain business functions to third party service providers, which increases our operational complexity and decreases our control. We rely on these service providers to provide a high level of service and support, which subjects us to risks associated with inadequate or untimely service. In addition, if these outsourcing arrangements were not renewed or were terminated or the services provided to us were otherwise disrupted, we would have to obtain these services from an alternative provider or provide them using our internal resources. We may be unable to replace, or be delayed in replacing these sources and there is a risk that we would be unable to enter into a similar agreement with an alternate provider on terms that we consider favorable or in a timely manner. In the future, we may outsource additional business functions. If any of these or other risks related to outsourcing were realized, our financial position, liquidity and results of operations could be adversely affected.

Natural disasters, acts of war, terrorist attacks and threats or the escalation of military activity in response to these attacks or otherwise may negatively affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Natural disasters, acts of war, terrorist attacks and the escalation of military activity in response to these attacks or otherwise may have negative and significant effects, such as imposition of increased security measures, changes in applicable laws, market disruptions and job losses. These events may have an adverse effect on the economy in general. Moreover, the potential for future terrorist attacks and the national and international responses to these threats could affect the business in ways that cannot be predicted. The effect of any of these events or threats could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

## ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

## ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

Our headquarters is located at 25505 West Twelve Mile Road, Southfield, Michigan 48034, in an office building we purchased in 1993, which includes approximately 136,000 square feet of space on five floors. We occupy approximately 126,000 square feet of the building, with most of the remainder of the building leased to tenants.

We lease approximately 57,000 square feet of office space in Southfield, Michigan and approximately 31,000 square feet of office space in Henderson, Nevada. The multiple leases for the Southfield, Michigan space expire in September 2018, April 2019 and July 2019. The lease for the Henderson, Nevada space expires in December 2017. We have renewal options on all of our office space leases. Additionally, there currently is a significant amount of unoccupied office space available for lease in the markets where we operate.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In the normal course of business and as a result of the consumer-oriented nature of the industry in which we operate, industry participants are frequently subject to various consumer claims, litigation and regulatory investigations seeking damages, fees and statutory penalties. The claims allege, among other theories of liability, violations of state, federal and foreign truth-in-lending, credit availability, credit reporting, consumer protection, warranty, debt collection, insurance and other consumer-oriented laws and regulations, including claims seeking damages for physical and mental damages relating to our repossession and sale of the consumer's vehicle and other debt collection activities. As the assignee of Consumer Loans originated by Dealers, we may also be named as a co-defendant in lawsuits filed by consumers principally against Dealers. We may also have disputes and litigation with Dealers. The claims may allege, among other theories of liability, that we breached our Dealer servicing agreement. The damages, fines and penalties that may be claimed by consumers, regulatory agencies or Dealers in these types of matters can be substantial. The relief requested by plaintiffs varies but may include requests for compensatory, statutory and punitive damages, and plaintiffs may seek treatment as purported class actions. A significant judgment against us in connection with any litigation or arbitration could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity and results of operations.

For a description of significant litigation to which we are a party, see Note 16 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.

## ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

## PART II

## ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

## Stock Price

During the year ended December 31, 2015 our common stock was traded on The Nasdaq Global Market ${ }^{\circledR}$ ("Nasdaq") under the symbol "CACC". The following table sets forth the high and low sale prices as reported by the Nasdaq for the common stock for the relevant periods during 2015, 2014 and 2013.

| Quarters Ended | 2015 |  |  |  | 2014 |  |  |  | 2013 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | High |  | Low |  | High |  | Low |  | High |  | Low |  |
| March 31 | \$ | 209.99 | \$ | 129.82 | \$ | 150.89 | \$ | 127.01 | \$ | 128.90 | \$ | 95.54 |
| June 30 |  | 246.45 |  | 191.25 |  | 144.70 |  | 121.72 |  | 121.85 |  | 95.71 |
| September 30 |  | 277.98 |  | 178.79 |  | 127.79 |  | 110.98 |  | 115.65 |  | 101.26 |
| December 31 |  | 258.58 |  | 159.43 |  | 164.05 |  | 123.02 |  | 132.20 |  | 107.25 |

As of February 5, 2016, we had 176 shareholders of record and approximately 7,600 beneficial holders of our common stock based upon securities position listings furnished to us.

## Dividends

We have not paid any cash dividends during the periods presented. Our debt agreements contain financial covenants which may indirectly limit the payment of dividends on common stock.

## Stock Performance Graph

The following graph compares the percentage change in the cumulative total shareholder return on our common stock during the period beginning January 1, 2011 and ending on December 31, 2015 with the cumulative total return on the Nasdaq Market Index and a peer group index based upon approximately 100 companies included in the Dow Jones - US General Financial Index. The comparison assumes that $\$ 100$ was invested on January 1, 2011 in our common stock and in the foregoing indices and assumes the reinvestment of dividends.


## Stock Repurchases

On August 5, 1999, our board of directors approved a stock repurchase program which authorizes us to repurchase common shares in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions at price levels we deem attractive. On November 23, 2015, the board of directors authorized the repurchase of up to one million shares of our common stock in addition to the board's prior authorizations. As of December 31, 2015, we had authorization to repurchase 860,450 shares of our common stock.

The following table summarizes our stock repurchases for the three months ended December 31, 2015:

| Period | Total Number of Shares Purchased | Average Price Paid per Share |  | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| October 1 through October 31, 2015 | - | \$ | - | - | 324,456 |
| November 1 through November 30, 2015 | 404,737 |  | 181.37 | - | 919,719 |
| December 1 through December 31, 2015 | 59,269 |  | 203.50 | - | 860,450 |
|  | 464,006 | \$ | 184.20 | - |  |

## ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The selected financial data presented below are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements and should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, and notes thereto and Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, included elsewhere in this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.
(In millions, except share and per share data)
Years Ended December 31,

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  | 2012 |  | 2011 |  |
| Income Statement Data: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Revenue: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Finance charges | \$ | 730.5 | \$ | 630.4 | \$ | 590.4 | \$ | 538.2 | \$ | 460.6 |
| Premiums earned |  | 48.2 |  | 52.3 |  | 51.5 |  | 47.1 |  | 40.0 |
| Other income |  | 46.6 |  | 40.8 |  | 40.2 |  | 23.9 |  | 24.6 |
| Total revenue |  | 825.3 |  | 723.5 |  | 682.1 |  | 609.2 |  | 525.2 |
| Costs and expenses: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Salaries and wages |  | 116.4 |  | 100.2 |  | 87.3 |  | 82.2 |  | 63.0 |
| General and administrative |  | 37.8 |  | 34.3 |  | 34.4 |  | 30.5 |  | 25.6 |
| Sales and marketing |  | 45.9 |  | 36.8 |  | 34.5 |  | 31.2 |  | 23.6 |
| Provision for credit losses |  | 41.5 |  | 12.8 |  | 21.9 |  | 24.0 |  | 29.0 |
| Interest |  | 76.0 |  | 56.7 |  | 65.0 |  | 63.4 |  | 57.2 |
| Provision for claims |  | 33.2 |  | 40.0 |  | 40.8 |  | 34.8 |  | 30.4 |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt |  | - |  | 21.8 |  | - |  | - |  | - |
| Total costs and expenses |  | 350.8 |  | 302.6 |  | 283.9 |  | 266.1 |  | 228.8 |
| Income before provision for income taxes |  | 474.5 |  | 420.9 |  | 398.2 |  | 343.1 |  | 296.4 |
| Provision for income taxes |  | 174.8 |  | 154.7 |  | 145.1 |  | 123.4 |  | 108.4 |
| Net income | \$ | 299.7 | \$ | 266.2 | \$ | 253.1 | \$ | 219.7 | \$ | 188.0 |
| Net income per share: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ | 14.35 | \$ | 11.96 | \$ | 10.61 | \$ | 8.65 | \$ | 7.15 |
| Diluted | \$ | 14.28 | \$ | 11.92 | \$ | 10.54 | \$ | 8.58 | \$ | 7.07 |


| Weighted average shares outstanding: | $\underline{L}$ |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Basic | $20,891,695$ | $22,257,104$ | $23,850,789$ | $25,409,655$ | $26,302,289$ |
| Diluted | $20,980,753$ | $22,331,401$ | $24,009,593$ | $25,598,956$ | $26,600,855$ |


| Balance Sheet Data: | \$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Loans receivable, net |  | 3,101.5 | \$ | 2,512.9 | \$ | 2,212.8 | \$ | 1,933.5 | \$ | 1,598.6 |
| All other assets | 287.9 |  | 272.5 |  | 220.6 |  | 199.7 |  | 160.0 |  |
| Total assets | \$ | 3,389.4 | \$ | 2,785.4 | \$ | 2,433.4 | \$ | 2,133.2 | \$ | 1,758.6 |
| Total debt | \$ | 2,084.6 | \$ | 1,752.5 | \$ | 1,392.4 | \$ | 1,250.8 | \$ | 997.9 |
| Other liabilities |  | 376.7 |  | 330.7 |  | 290.9 |  | 260.5 |  | 220.7 |
| Total liabilities |  | 2,461.3 |  | 2,083.2 |  | 1,683.3 |  | 1,511.3 |  | 1,218.6 |
| Shareholders' equity (1) |  | 928.1 |  | 702.2 |  | 750.1 |  | 621.9 |  | 540.0 |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$ | 3,389.4 | \$ | 2,785.4 | \$ | 2,433.4 | \$ | 2,133.2 | \$ | 1,758.6 |

[^4]
## ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes contained in Item 8 of this Form $10-\mathrm{K}$, which is incorporated herein by reference.

## Overview

We offer automobile dealers financing programs that enable them to sell vehicles to consumers regardless of their credit history. Our financing programs are offered through a nationwide network of automobile dealers who benefit from sales of vehicles to consumers who otherwise could not obtain financing; from repeat and referral sales generated by these same customers; and from sales to customers responding to advertisements for our product, but who actually end up qualifying for traditional financing.

For the year ended December 31, 2015, consolidated net income was $\$ 299.7$ million, or $\$ 14.28$ per diluted share, compared to $\$ 266.2$ million, or $\$ 11.92$ per diluted share, for the same period in 2014 and $\$ 253.1$ million, or $\$ 10.54$ per diluted share, for the same period in 2013. The growth in 2015 consolidated net income was primarily due to an increase in the average balance of our Loan portfolio and a loss on extinguishment of debt related to the redemption of senior notes in the first quarter of 2014. The growth in 2014 consolidated net income was primarily due to an increase in the average balance of our Loan portfolio partially offset by the loss on extinguishment of debt related to the redemption of senior notes during the first quarter of the year.

## Critical Success Factors

Critical success factors include our ability to accurately forecast Consumer Loan performance, access capital on acceptable terms, and maintain or grow Consumer Loan volume at the level and on the terms that we anticipate, with an objective to maximize economic profit. Economic profit is a non-GAAP financial measure we use to evaluate our financial results and determine incentive compensation. Economic profit measures how efficiently we utilize our total capital, both debt and equity, and is a function of the return on capital in excess of the cost of capital and the amount of capital invested in the business.

## Consumer Loan Metrics

At the time a Consumer Loan is submitted to us for assignment, we forecast future expected cash flows from the Consumer Loan. Based on the amount and timing of these forecasts and expected expense levels, an advance or one-time purchase payment is made to the related Dealer at a price designed to maximize economic profit.

We use a statistical model to estimate the expected collection rate for each Consumer Loan at the time of assignment. We continue to evaluate the expected collection rate of each Consumer Loan subsequent to assignment. Our evaluation becomes more accurate as the Consumer Loans age, as we use actual performance data in our forecast. By comparing our current expected collection rate for each Consumer Loan with the rate we projected at the time of assignment, we are able to assess the accuracy of our initial forecast. The following table compares our forecast of Consumer Loan collection rates as of December 31, 2015, with the forecasts as of December 31, 2014, as of December 31, 2013, and at the time of assignment, segmented by year of assignment:

| $\begin{gathered} \text { Consumer Loan } \\ \text { Assignment Year } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Forecasted Collection Percentage as of (1) |  |  |  | Current Forecast Variance from |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { December 31, } \\ 2015 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December 31, } \\ 2014 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December 31, } \\ 2013 \end{gathered}$ | Initial Forecast | $\begin{gathered} \text { December 31, } \\ 2014 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December 31, } \\ 2013 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Initial } \\ \text { Forecast } \end{gathered}$ |
| 2006 | 70.1\% | 70.0\% | 70.0\% | 71.4\% | 0.1\% | 0.1\% | -1.3\% |
| 2007 | 68.1\% | 68.0\% | 67.9\% | 70.7\% | 0.1\% | 0.2\% | -2.6\% |
| 2008 | 70.3\% | 70.3\% | 70.1\% | 69.7\% | 0.0\% | 0.2\% | 0.6\% |
| 2009 | 79.4\% | 79.4\% | 79.2\% | 71.9\% | 0.0\% | 0.2\% | 7.5\% |
| 2010 | 77.4\% | 77.2\% | 77.0\% | 73.6\% | 0.2\% | 0.4\% | 3.8\% |
| 2011 | 74.2\% | 74.0\% | 74.1\% | 72.5\% | 0.2\% | 0.1\% | 1.7\% |
| 2012 | 73.2\% | 73.4\% | 73.5\% | 71.4\% | -0.2\% | -0.3\% | 1.8\% |
| 2013 | 73.4\% | 73.7\% | 73.3\% | 72.0\% | -0.3\% | 0.1\% | 1.4\% |
| 2014 | 72.6\% | 72.6\% | - | 71.8\% | 0.0\% | - | 0.8\% |
| 2015 | 67.8\% | - | - | 67.7\% | - | - | 0.1\% |

(1) Represents the total forecasted collections we expect to collect on the Consumer Loans as a percentage of the repayments that we were contractually owed on the Consumer Loans at the time of assignment. Contractual repayments include both principal and interest. Forecasted collection rates are negatively impacted by canceled Consumer Loans as the contractual amount owed is not removed from the denominator for purposes of computing forecasted collection rates in the table.

Consumer Loans assigned in 2009 through 2013 have yielded forecasted collection results materially better than our initial estimates, while Consumer Loans assigned in 2006 and 2007 have yielded forecasted collection results materially worse than our initial estimates. For Consumer Loans assigned in 2008, 2014 and 2015, actual results have been very close to our initial estimates.

For the year ended December 31, 2015, forecasted collection rates improved for Consumer Loans assigned in 2010 and 2011, declined for Consumer Loans assigned in 2012 and 2013 and were generally consistent with expectations at the start of the period for all other assignment years presented.

For the year ended December 31, 2014, forecasted collection rates improved for Consumer Loans assigned in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2013 and 2014, and were generally consistent with expectations at the start of the period for all other assignment years presented.

The initial forecast for Consumer Loans assigned in 2015 was lower than the initial forecast for Consumer Loans assigned in 2014. The lower initial forecast reflects a change in the mix of Consumer Loan assignments received during 2015, including a longer average initial loan term. The average initial term for Consumer Loans assigned in 2015 was 49.8 months as compared to 46.9 months for Consumer Loans assigned in 2014.

Forecasting collection rates accurately at Loan inception is difficult. With this in mind, we establish advance rates that are intended to allow us to achieve acceptable levels of profitability, even if collection rates are less than we initially forecast.

The following table presents forecasted Consumer Loan collection rates, advance rates, the spread (the forecasted collection rate less the advance rate), and the percentage of the forecasted collections that had been realized as of December 31, 2015. All amounts, unless otherwise noted, are presented as a percentage of the initial balance of the Consumer Loan (principal + interest). The table includes both Dealer Loans and Purchased Loans.

| Consumer Loan Assignment Year | As of December 31, 2015 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Forecasted Collection \% | Advance \% (1) | Spread \% | \% of Forecast Realized (2) |
| 2006 | 70.1\% | 46.6\% | 23.5\% | 99.9\% |
| 2007 | 68.1\% | 46.5\% | 21.6\% | 99.6\% |
| 2008 | 70.3\% | 44.6\% | 25.7\% | 99.3\% |
| 2009 | 79.4\% | 43.9\% | 35.5\% | 99.3\% |
| 2010 | 77.4\% | 44.7\% | 32.7\% | 98.8\% |
| 2011 | 74.2\% | 45.5\% | 28.7\% | 97.4\% |
| 2012 | 73.2\% | 46.3\% | 26.9\% | 90.9\% |
| 2013 | 73.4\% | 47.6\% | 25.8\% | 74.9\% |
| 2014 | 72.6\% | 47.7\% | 24.9\% | 50.4\% |
| 2015 | 67.8\% | 44.5\% | 23.3\% | 16.6\% |

(1) Represents advances paid to Dealers on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program and one-time payments made to Dealers to purchase Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program as a percentage of the initial balance of the Consumer Loans. Payments of Dealer Holdback and accelerated Dealer Holdback are not included.
(2) Presented as a percentage of total forecasted collections.

The risk of a material change in our forecasted collection rate declines as the Consumer Loans age. For 2012 and prior Consumer Loan assignments, the risk of a material forecast variance is modest, as we have currently realized in excess of $90 \%$ of the expected collections. Conversely, the forecasted collection rates for more recent Consumer Loan assignments are less certain as a significant portion of our forecast has not been realized.

The spread between the forecasted collection rate and the advance rate has ranged from $21.6 \%$ to $35.5 \%$ over the last 10 years. The spread was at the high end of this range in 2009 and 2010, when the competitive environment was unusually favorable and much lower during other years (2006, 2007, 2014 and 2015) when competition was more intense. The spread declined from $24.9 \%$ in 2014 to $23.3 \%$ in 2015 as a result of a change in the mix of Consumer Loan assignments and the performance of 2014 Consumer Loans, which has exceeded our initial estimates by a greater margin than 2015 Consumer Loans.

The following table presents forecasted Consumer Loan collection rates, advance rates, and the spread (the forecasted collection rate less the advance rate) as of December 31, 2015 for Dealer Loans and Purchased Loans separately. All amounts are presented as a percentage of the initial balance of the Consumer Loan (principal + interest).
$\left.\begin{array}{lcccc} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Consumer Loan } \\ \text { Assignment Year }\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Forecasted } \\ \text { Collection \% (1) }\end{array} & \text { Advance \% (1)(2) }\end{array}\right)$
(1) The forecasted collection rates and advance rates presented for each Consumer Loan assignment year change over time due to the impact of transfers between Dealer and Purchased Loans. Under our Portfolio Program, certain events may result in Dealers forfeiting their rights to Dealer Holdback. We transfer the Dealer's Consumer Loans from the Dealer Loan portfolio to the Purchased Loan portfolio in the period this forfeiture occurs.
(2) Represents advances paid to Dealers on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program and one-time payments made to Dealers to purchase Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program as a percentage of the initial balance of the Consumer Loans. Payments of Dealer Holdback and accelerated Dealer Holdback are not included.

Although the advance rate on Purchased Loans is higher as compared to the advance rate on Dealer Loans, Purchased Loans do not require us to pay Dealer Holdback.

## Access to Capital

Our strategy for accessing capital on acceptable terms needed to maintain and grow the business is to: (1) maintain consistent financial performance; (2) maintain modest financial leverage; and (3) maintain multiple funding sources. Our funded debt to equity ratio was $2.2: 1$ as of December 31, 2015. We currently utilize the following primary forms of debt financing: (1) a revolving secured line of credit; (2) Warehouse facilities; (3) Term ABS financings; and (4) senior notes.

## Consumer Loan Volume

The following table summarizes changes in Consumer Loan assignment volume in each of the last three years as compared to the same period in the previous year:

|  | For the Year Ended December 31, | Year over Year Percent Change |  |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Unit Volume | Dollar Volume (1) |  |
| 2013 | $6.4 \%$ | $8.7 \%$ |  |
| 2014 |  | $10.8 \%$ | $13.2 \%$ |
| 2015 | $33.2 \%$ | $29.3 \%$ |  |

(1) Represents advances paid to Dealers on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program and one-time payments made to Dealers to purchase Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program. Payments of Dealer Holdback and accelerated Dealer Holdback are not included.

Consumer Loan assignment volumes depend on a number of factors including (1) the overall demand for our product, (2) the amount of capital available to fund new Loans, and (3) our assessment of the volume that our infrastructure can support. Our pricing strategy is intended to maximize the amount of economic profit we generate, within the confines of capital and infrastructure constraints.

Unit and dollar volumes grew $33.2 \%$ and $29.3 \%$, respectively, during 2015 as the number of active Dealers grew $25.1 \%$ while average volume per active Dealer grew $6.5 \%$. Dollar volume grew slower than unit volume during 2015 due to a decline in the average advance paid per unit. This decline was the result of a decrease in the average advance rate due to a decrease in the average initial forecast of the Consumer Loans assigned, partially offset by an increase in the average size of the Consumer Loans assigned primarily due to an increase in the average initial loan term.

Unit and dollar volumes grew $10.8 \%$ and $13.2 \%$, respectively, during 2014 as the number of active Dealers grew $13.3 \%$ while average volume per active Dealer declined $2.2 \%$. We believe the decline in volume per Dealer was the result of increased competition during the first three quarters of 2014.

The following table summarizes the changes in Consumer Loan unit volume and active Dealers:

|  | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  | \% Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | 2015 to 2014 | 2014 to 2013 |
| Consumer Loan unit volume | 298,288 | 223,998 | 202,250 | 33.2\% | 10.8\% |
| Active Dealers (1) | 9,064 | 7,247 | 6,394 | 25.1\% | 13.3\% |
| Average volume per active Dealer | 32.9 | 30.9 | 31.6 | 6.5\% | -2.2\% |

(1) Active Dealers are Dealers who have received funding for at least one Loan during the period.

The following table provides additional information on the changes in Consumer Loan unit volume and active Dealers:

|  | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 | 2014 | \% Change | 2014 | 2013 | \% Change |
| Consumer Loan unit volume from Dealers active both periods | 244,083 | 208,642 | 17.0\% | 193,291 | 188,165 | 2.7\% |
| Dealers active both periods | 5,506 | 5,506 | -\% | 4,761 | 4,761 | -\% |
| Average volume per Dealers active both periods | 44.3 | 37.9 | 17.0\% | 40.6 | 39.5 | 2.7\% |
| Consumer Loan unit volume from new Dealers | 52,577 | 29,604 | 77.6\% | 29,604 | 31,414 | -5.8\% |
| New active Dealers (1) | 3,404 | 2,413 | 41.1\% | 2,413 | 2,382 | 1.3\% |
| Average volume per new active Dealers | 15.4 | 12.3 | 25.2\% | 12.3 | 13.2 | -6.8\% |
| Attrition (2) | -6.9\% | -7.0\% |  | -7.0\% | -7.0\% |  |

(1) New active Dealers are Dealers who enrolled in our program and have received funding for their first Loan from us during the period.
(2) Attrition is measured according to the following formula: decrease in Consumer Loan unit volume from Dealers who have received funding for at least one Loan during the comparable period of the prior year but did not receive funding for any Loans during the current period divided by prior year comparable period Consumer Loan unit volume.

Consumer Loans are assigned to us as either Dealer Loans through our Portfolio Program or Purchased Loans through our Purchase Program. The following table summarizes the portion of our Consumer Loan volume that was assigned to us as Dealer Loans:

|  | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
| Dealer Loan unit volume as a percentage of total unit volume | 87.4\% | 90.7\% | 93.5\% |
| Dealer Loan dollar volume as a percentage of total dollar volume (1) | 82.8\% | 87.8\% | 91.6\% |

(1) Represents advances paid to Dealers on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program and one-time payments made to Dealers to purchase Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program. Payments of Dealer Holdback and accelerated Dealer Holdback are not included.

As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, the net Dealer Loans receivable balance was $83.5 \%$ and $87.2 \%$, respectively, of the total net Loans receivable balance.

## Results of Operations

The following is a discussion of our results of operations and income statement data on a consolidated basis:

| (In millions, except share and per share data) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  | \% Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 2015 \text { to } \\ 2014 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2014 \text { to } \\ 2013 \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  |  |  |
| Revenue: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Finance charges | \$ | 730.5 | \$ | 630.4 | \$ | 590.4 | 15.9\% | 6.8\% |
| Premiums earned |  | 48.2 |  | 52.3 |  | 51.5 | -7.8\% | 1.6\% |
| Other income |  | 46.6 |  | 40.8 |  | 40.2 | 14.2\% | 1.5\% |
| Total revenue |  | 825.3 |  | 723.5 |  | 682.1 | 14.1\% | 6.1\% |
| Costs and expenses: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Salaries and wages |  | 116.4 |  | 100.2 |  | 87.3 | 16.2\% | 14.8\% |
| General and administrative |  | 37.8 |  | 34.3 |  | 34.4 | 10.2\% | -0.3\% |
| Sales and marketing |  | 45.9 |  | 36.8 |  | 34.5 | 24.7\% | 6.7\% |
| Provision for credit losses |  | 41.5 |  | 12.8 |  | 21.9 | 224.2\% | -41.6\% |
| Interest |  | 76.0 |  | 56.7 |  | 65.0 | 34.0\% | -12.8\% |
| Provision for claims |  | 33.2 |  | 40.0 |  | 40.8 | -17.0\% | -2.0\% |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt |  | - |  | 21.8 |  | - | -100.0\% | -\% |
| Total costs and expenses |  | 350.8 |  | 302.6 |  | 283.9 | 15.9\% | 6.6\% |
| Income before provision for income taxes |  | 474.5 |  | 420.9 |  | 398.2 | 12.7\% | 5.7\% |
| Provision for income taxes |  | 174.8 |  | 154.7 |  | 145.1 | 13.0\% | 6.6\% |
| Net income | \$ | 299.7 | \$ | 266.2 | \$ | 253.1 | 12.6\% | 5.2\% |
| Net income per share: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ | 14.35 | \$ | 11.96 | \$ | 10.61 | 20.0\% | 12.7\% |
| Diluted | \$ | 14.28 | \$ | 11.92 | \$ | 10.54 | 19.8\% | 13.1\% |
| Weighted average shares outstanding: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic |  | 1,695 |  | 57,104 |  | 50,789 | -6.1\% | -6.7\% |
| Diluted |  | 80,753 |  | 31,401 |  | 9,593 | -6.0\% | -7.0\% |

## Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2014

The following table highlights changes in net income for the year ended December 31, 2015, as compared to 2014:

| (In millions) | Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net income for the year ended December 31, 2014 | \$ | 266.2 |
| Increase in finance charges |  | 100.1 |
| Decrease in premiums earned |  | (4.1) |
| Increase in other income |  | 5.8 |
| Increase in operating expenses (1) |  | (28.8) |
| Increase in provision for credit losses |  | (28.7) |
| Increase in interest |  | (19.3) |
| Decrease in provision for claims |  | 6.8 |
| Decrease in loss on extinguishment of debt |  | 21.8 |
| Increase in provision for income taxes |  | (20.1) |
| Net income for the year ended December 31, 2015 | \$ | 299.7 |

(1) Operating expenses consist of salaries and wages, general and administrative, and sales and marketing expenses.

Finance Charges. For the year ended December 31, 2015, finance charges increased $\$ 100.1$ million, or $15.9 \%$, as compared to 2014. The increase was primarily the result of an increase in the average net Loans receivable balance partially offset by a decrease in the average yield on our Loan portfolio, as follows:

| (Dollars in millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | Change |  |
| Average net Loans receivable balance | \$ | 2,829.9 | \$ | 2,357.4 | \$ | 472.5 |
| Average yield on our Loan portfolio |  | 25.8\% |  | 26.7\% |  | -0.9\% |

The following table summarizes the impact each component had on the overall increase in finance charges for the year ended December 31, 2015:

| (In millions) | For the Year Ended <br> December 31, 2015 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Impact on finance charges: | $\$$ |
| Due to an increase in the average net Loans receivable balance | 126.3 |
| Due to a decrease in the average yield | $(26.2)$ |
| $\quad$ Total increase in finance charges | $\$$ |

The increase in the average net Loans receivable balance was primarily due to year-over-year growth in Consumer Loan assignment volume in recent years. The average yield on our Loan portfolio for the year ended December 31, 2015 decreased as compared to the same period in 2014 due to lower yields on new Consumer Loan assignments.

Premiums Earned. For the year ended December 31, 2015, premiums earned decreased $\$ 4.1$ million, or $7.8 \%$, as compared to the same period in 2014. The decrease was primarily due to a decrease in the size of our reinsurance portfolio, which was the result of a decline in premiums written on vehicle service contracts. While we have experienced year-over-year growth in Consumer Loan assignment volume in recent years, the percentage of Consumer Loan assignments with reinsured vehicle service contracts has declined.

Other Income. For the year ended December 31, 2015, other income increased $\$ 5.8$ million, or $14.2 \%$, as compared to the same period in 2014. The increase in other income was primarily due to an increase in GPS-SID fee income due to an increase in the number of units purchased by Dealers from third party providers, which was primarily the result of current year growth in Consumer Loan assignment volume.

Operating Expenses. For the year ended December 31, 2015, operating expenses increased $\$ 28.8$ million, or $16.8 \%$, as compared to 2014. The change in operating expenses was primarily due to the following:

- An increase in salaries and wages expense of $\$ 16.2$ million, or $16.2 \%$, comprised of the following:
- An increase of $\$ 8.8$ million in cash-based incentive compensation expense primarily due to a year-over-year improvement in Company performance measures.
- An increase of $\$ 3.2$ million in fringe benefits primarily related to medical claims.
- A decrease of $\$ 2.9$ million in stock-based compensation expense primarily due to amounts recorded in the prior year related to a change in the expected vesting period of performance-based stock awards.
- Excluding cash-based incentive compensation expense, fringe benefits and stock-based compensation expense, salaries and wages expense increased $\$ 7.1$ million primarily related to an increase in the number of team members in our support function.
- An increase in sales and marketing expense of $\$ 9.1$ million, or $24.7 \%$, primarily as a result of an increase in sales commissions related to growth in Consumer Loan assignment volume and an increase in the base salaries of our sales force.

Provision for Credit Losses. For the year ended December 31, 2015, the provision for credit losses increased $\$ 28.7$ million, or $224.2 \%$, as compared to 2014 . Under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"), when the present value of forecasted future cash flows decline relative to our expectations at the time of assignment, a provision for credit losses is recorded immediately as a current period expense and a corresponding allowance for credit losses is established. For purposes of calculating the required allowance, Dealer Loans are grouped by Dealer and Purchased Loans are grouped by month of purchase. As a result, regardless of the overall performance of the portfolio of Consumer Loans, a provision can be required if any individual Loan pool performs worse than expected. Conversely, a previously recorded provision can be reversed if any previously impaired individual Loan pool experiences an improvement in performance.

During the year ended December 31,2015, overall Consumer Loan performance was generally consistent with our expectations at the start of the year. However, the performance of certain Loan pools declined from our expectations during the year, resulting in a provision for credit losses of $\$ 41.5$ million for the year ended December 31, 2015, of which $\$ 41.8$ million related to Dealer Loans partially offset by a reversal of provision of $\$ 0.3$ million related to Purchased Loans. For additional information, see Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form $10-\mathrm{K}$, which is incorporated herein by reference.

During the year ended December 31, 2014, overall Consumer Loan performance exceeded our expectations at the start of the year. However, the performance of certain Loan pools declined from our expectations during the year, resulting in a provision for credit losses of $\$ 12.8$ million for the year ended December 31, 2014, of which $\$ 13.7$ million related to Dealer Loans partially offset by a reversal of provision of $\$ 0.9$ million related to Purchased Loans. The provision for credit losses included a reversal of $\$ 2.9$ million in expense related to our implementation of enhanced forecasting methodologies during the fourth quarter of 2014, of which all related to Dealer Loans. For additional information, see Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Interest. For the year ended December 31, 2015, interest expense increased $\$ 19.3$ million, or $34.0 \%$, as compared to 2014. The following table shows interest expense, the average outstanding debt balance, and the average cost of debt for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014:

| (Dollars in millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4}$ |
| Interest expense | $\$$ | 76.0 | $\$$ |
| Average outstanding debt balance | $1,964.4$ | 56.7 |  |
| Average cost of debt | $3.9 \%$ | $1,619.2$ |  |

For the year ended December 31, 2015, the increase in interest expense was due to increases in the average outstanding debt balance and our average cost of debt. The average outstanding debt balance increased compared to the same period in 2014 primarily due to debt proceeds used to fund the growth in new Consumer Loan assignments and stock repurchases. The increase in our average cost of debt was primarily a result of a change in the mix of our outstanding debt.

Loss on extinguishment of debt. For the year ended December 31, 2014, we recognized a loss on extinguishment of debt of $\$ 21.8$ million related to the redemption of the 2017 senior notes. We used the net proceeds from the January 2014 issuance of the 2021 senior notes, together with borrowings under our revolving credit facilities, to fund the redemption of the 2017 senior notes.

Provision for Income Taxes. For the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, our effective tax rate was 36.8\%.

## Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2013

The following table highlights changes in net income for the year ended December 31, 2014, as compared to 2013:

| (In millions) | Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net income for the year ended December 31, 2013 | \$ | 253.1 |
| Increase in finance charges |  | 40.0 |
| Increase in premiums earned |  | 0.8 |
| Increase in other income |  | 0.6 |
| Increase in operating expenses (1) |  | (15.1) |
| Decrease in provision for credit losses |  | 9.1 |
| Decrease in interest |  | 8.3 |
| Decrease in provision for claims |  | 0.8 |
| Increase in loss on extinguishment of debt |  | (21.8) |
| Increase in provision for income taxes |  | (9.6) |
| Net income for the year ended December 31, 2014 | \$ | 266.2 |

(1) Operating expenses consist of salaries and wages, general and administrative, and sales and marketing expenses.

Finance Charges. For the year ended December 31, 2014, finance charges increased $\$ 40.0$ million, or $6.8 \%$, as compared to 2013. The increase was primarily the result of an increase in the average net Loans receivable balance partially offset by a decrease in the average yield on our Loan portfolio, as follows:

| (Dollars in millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  | Change |  |
| Average net Loans receivable balance | \$ | 2,357.4 | \$ | 2,088.4 | \$ | 269.0 |
| Average yield on our Loan portfolio |  | 26.7\% |  | 28.3\% |  | -1.6\% |

The following table summarizes the impact each component had on the overall increase in finance charges for the year ended December 31, 2014:

| (In millions) | For the Year Ended <br> December 31, 2014 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Impact on finance charges: | \$ |
| Due to an increase in the average net Loans receivable balance | $(36.0$ |
| Due to a decrease in the average yield | (36.0 <br> $\quad$ Total increase in finance charges |

The increase in the average net Loans receivable balance was primarily due to year-over-year growth in Consumer Loan assignment volume in recent years. The average yield on our Loan portfolio for the year ended December 31, 2014 decreased as compared to the same period in 2013 due to lower yields on new Consumer Loan assignments.

Operating Expenses. For the year ended December 31, 2014, operating expenses increased $\$ 15.1$ million, or $9.7 \%$, as compared to 2013. The change in operating expenses was primarily due to the following:

- An increase in salaries and wages expense of $\$ 12.9$ million, or $14.8 \%$, comprised of the following:
- An increase of $\$ 6.8$ million in stock-based compensation expense primarily due to a change in the expected vesting of performance-based stock awards and stock awards granted in the first quarter of 2014.
- Excluding stock-based compensation expense, salaries and wages expense increased $\$ 6.1$ million primarily related to an increase in the number of team members, including increases of $\$ 4.4$ million for our support function, $\$ 0.9$ million for our servicing function and $\$ 0.8$ million for our originations function.
- An increase in sales and marketing expense of $\$ 2.3$ million, or $6.7 \%$, primarily as a result of an increase in sales commissions related to growth in Consumer Loan unit volume.

Provision for Credit Losses. For the year ended December 31, 2014, the provision for credit losses decreased $\$ 9.1$ million, or $41.6 \%$, as compared to 2013. During the year ended December 31, 2014, overall Consumer Loan performance exceeded our expectations at the start of the year. However, the performance of certain Loan pools declined from our expectations during the year, resulting in a provision for credit losses of $\$ 12.8$ million for the year ended December 31, 2014, of which $\$ 13.7$ million related to Dealer Loans partially offset by a reversal of provision of $\$ 0.9$ million related to Purchased Loans. The provision for credit losses included a reversal of $\$ 2.9$ million in expense related to our implementation of enhanced forecasting methodologies during the fourth quarter of 2014, of which all related to Dealer Loans. For additional information, see Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form $10-\mathrm{K}$, which is incorporated herein by reference.

During the year ended December 31, 2013, overall Consumer Loan performance exceeded our expectations at the start of the year. However, the performance of certain Loan pools declined from our expectations during the year, resulting in a provision for credit losses of $\$ 21.9$ million for the year ended December 31, 2013, of which $\$ 21.3$ million related to Dealer Loans and $\$ 0.6$ million related to Purchased Loans. The provision for credit losses included $\$ 3.0$ million in expense related to our implementation of an enhanced forecasting methodology during the second quarter of 2013, of which $\$ 1.2$ million related to Dealer Loans and $\$ 1.8$ million related to Purchased Loans. For additional information, see Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Interest. For the year ended December 31, 2014, interest expense decreased $\$ 8.3$ million, or $12.8 \%$, as compared to 2013. The following table shows interest expense, the average outstanding debt balance, and the average cost of debt for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013:

| (Dollars in millions) |  | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3}$ |
| Interest expense | $\$$ | 56.7 | $\$$ |
| Average outstanding debt balance | $1,619.2$ | 65.0 |  |
| Average cost of debt | $3.5 \%$ | $1,372.3$ |  |

For the year ended December 31, 2014, the decrease in interest expense was primarily due to a decrease in our average cost of debt partially offset by an increase in the average outstanding debt balance. The decrease in our average cost of debt was primarily a result of a change in the mix of our outstanding debt, primarily relating to the extinguishment of the 2017 senior notes and issuance of the 2021 senior notes. The average outstanding debt balance increased compared to the same period in 2013 due to the use of debt proceeds to fund the growth in new Consumer Loan assignments and stock repurchases throughout the year.

Loss on extinguishment of debt. For the year ended December 31, 2014, we recognized a loss on extinguishment of debt of $\$ 21.8$ million related to the redemption of the 2017 senior notes. We used the net proceeds from the January 2014 issuance of the 2021 senior notes, together with borrowings under our revolving credit facilities, to fund the redemption of the 2017 senior notes.

Provision for Income Taxes. For the year ended December 31, 2014, the effective tax rate of $36.8 \%$ was generally consistent with the effective tax rate of $36.4 \%$ in 2013.

## Critical Accounting Estimates

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP. The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. On an ongoing basis, we review our accounting policies, assumptions, estimates and judgments to ensure that our financial statements are presented fairly and in accordance with GAAP.

Our significant accounting policies are discussed in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference. We believe that the following accounting estimates are the most critical to aid in fully understanding and evaluating our reported financial results, and involve a high degree of subjective or complex judgment, and the use of different estimates or assumptions could produce materially different financial results.

Finance Charge Revenue \& Allowance for Credit Losses
Nature of Estimates Required. We estimate the amount and timing of future collections and Dealer Holdback payments. These estimates impact loans receivable and allowance for credit losses on our balance sheet and finance charges and provision for credit losses on our income statement.

Assumptions and Approaches Used. For accounting purposes, we are not considered to be an originator of Consumer Loans, but instead are considered to be a lender to our Dealers for Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program, and a purchaser of Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program. As a result of this classification, our accounting policies for recognizing finance charge revenue and determining our allowance for credit losses may be different from other lenders in our market, who, based on their different business models, may be considered to be a direct lender to consumers for accounting purposes. For additional information regarding our classification as a lender to our Dealers for accounting purposes, see Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form $10-\mathrm{K}$, which is incorporated herein by reference.

We recognize finance charges under the interest method such that revenue is recognized on a level-yield basis based upon forecasted cash flows. For Dealer Loans, finance charge revenue and the allowance for credit losses are calculated after first aggregating Dealer Loans outstanding for each Dealer. For the same purpose, Purchased Loans are aggregated according to the month the Loan was purchased. An allowance for credit losses is maintained at an amount that reduces the net asset value (Loan balance less the allowance) to the value of forecasted future cash flows discounted at the yield established at the time of assignment. The discounted value of future cash flows is comprised of estimated future collections on the Loans, less any estimated Dealer Holdback payments related to Dealer Loans. We write off Loans once there are no forecasted future collections on any of the associated Consumer Loans.

Actual cash flows from any individual Dealer Loan or pool of Purchased Loans are often different than estimated cash flows at the time of assignment. If such difference is favorable, the difference is recognized prospectively into income over the remaining life of the Dealer Loan or pool of Purchased Loans through a yield adjustment. If such difference is unfavorable, a provision for credit losses is recorded immediately as a current period expense and a corresponding allowance for credit losses is established. Because differences between estimated cash flows at the time of assignment and actual cash flows occur often, an allowance is required for a significant portion of our Loan portfolio. An allowance for credit losses does not necessarily indicate that a Dealer Loan or pool of Purchased Loans is unprofitable, and in recent years, seldom are cash flows from a Dealer Loan or pool of Purchased Loans insufficient to repay the initial amounts advanced or paid to the Dealer.

Future collections on Dealer and Purchased Loans are forecasted based on the historical performance of Consumer Loans with similar characteristics, adjusted for recent trends in payment patterns. Dealer Holdback is forecasted based on the expected future collections and current advance balance of each Dealer Loan.

During the fourth quarter of 2014, we enhanced our methodologies for forecasting the timing of future collections on Loans and the timing of future Dealer Holdback payments on Dealer Loans through the utilization of more recent data, different segmentations and new forecast variables. Implementation of the enhanced forecasting methodologies increased net income by $\$ 2.2$ million for the fourth quarter of 2014.

During the second quarter of 2013, we enhanced our methodology for forecasting future collections on Loans through the utilization of more recent data, different segmentations and new forecast variables. Implementation of the enhanced forecasting methodology reduced net income by $\$ 2.1$ million for the second quarter of 2013.

Key Factors. Variances in the amount and timing of future net cash flows from current estimates could materially impact earnings in future periods. A $1 \%$ decline in the forecasted future net cash flows on Loans as of December 31, 2015 would have reduced 2015 net income by approximately $\$ 10.8$ million.

## Premiums Earned

Nature of Estimates Required. We estimate the pattern of future claims on vehicle service contracts. These estimates impact accounts payable and accrued liabilities on our balance sheet and premiums earned on our income statement.

Assumptions and Approaches Used. Premiums from the reinsurance of vehicle service contracts are recognized over the life of the policy in proportion to the expected costs of servicing those contracts. Expected costs are determined based on our historical claims experience. In developing our cost expectations, we stratify our historical claims experience into groupings based on contractual term, as this characteristic has led to different patterns of cost incurrence in the past. We will continue to update our analysis of historical costs under the vehicle service contract program as appropriate, including the consideration of other characteristics that may have led to different patterns of cost incurrence, and revise our revenue recognition timing for any changes in the pattern of our expected costs as they are identified.

Key Factors. Variances in the pattern of future claims from our current estimates would impact the timing of premiums recognized in future periods. A $10 \%$ change in premiums earned for the year ended December 31, 2015 would have affected 2015 net income by approximately $\$ 3.0$ million.

## Stock-Based Compensation Expense

Nature of Estimates Required. Stock-based compensation expense is based on the fair value on the date the equity instrument is granted or awarded by us, and is recognized over the expected vesting period of the equity instrument. We also estimate expected forfeiture rates of restricted stock awards. These estimates impact paid in capital on our balance sheet and salaries and wages on our income statement.

Assumptions and Approaches Used. In recognizing restricted stock-based compensation expense, we make assumptions regarding the expected forfeiture rates of the restricted stock awards. We also make assumptions regarding the expected vesting dates of performance-based restricted stock awards.

The fair value of restricted stock awards are estimated as if they were vested and issued on the grant date and are recognized over the expected vesting period of the restricted stock award. For additional information, see Notes 2 and 14 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form 10-K, which are incorporated herein by reference.

Key Factors. Changes in the expected vesting dates of performance-based restricted stock awards and expected forfeiture rates would impact the amount and timing of stock-based compensation expense recognized in future periods. A $10 \%$ change in stock-based compensation expense for the year ended December 31, 2015 would have affected 2015 net income by approximately $\$ 0.8$ million.

## Litigation and Contingent Liabilities

Nature of Estimates Required. We estimate the likelihood of adverse legal judgments and any resulting damages owed. These estimates impact accounts payable and accrued liabilities on our balance sheet and are general and administrative expenses on our income statement.

Assumptions and Approaches Used. With assistance from our legal counsel, we determine if the likelihood of an adverse judgment for various claims and litigation is remote, reasonably possible, or probable. To the extent we believe an adverse judgment is probable and the amount of the judgment is estimable, we recognize a liability. For information regarding the potential various claims against us, see Note 16 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Key Factors. Negative variances in the ultimate disposition of claims and litigation outstanding from current estimates could result in additional expense in future periods.

## Uncertain Tax Positions

Nature of Estimates Required. We estimate the impact of an uncertain income tax position on the income tax return. These estimates impact income taxes receivable and accounts payable and accrued liabilities on our balance sheet and provision for income taxes on our income statement.

Assumptions and Approaches Used. We follow a two-step approach for recognizing uncertain tax positions. First, we evaluate the tax position for recognition by determining if the weight of available evidence indicates it is more-likely-than-not that the position will be sustained upon examination, including resolution of related appeals or litigation processes, if any. Second, for positions that we determine are more-likely-than-not to be sustained, we recognize the tax benefit as the largest benefit that has a greater than $50 \%$ likelihood of being sustained. We establish a reserve for uncertain tax positions liability that is comprised of unrecognized tax benefits and related interest. We adjust this liability in the period in which an uncertain tax position is effectively settled, the statute of limitations expires for the relevant taxing authority to examine the tax position, or more information becomes available.

Key Factors. To the extent we prevail in matters for which a liability has been established or are required to pay amounts in excess of our established liability, our effective income tax rate in future periods could be materially affected.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

We need capital to maintain and grow our business. Our primary sources of capital are cash flows from operating activities, collections of Consumer Loans and borrowings under: (1) a revolving secured line of credit; (2) Warehouse facilities; (3) Term ABS financings; and (4) senior notes. There are various restrictive debt covenants for each financing arrangement and we are in compliance with those covenants as of December 31, 2015. For information regarding these financings and the covenants included in the related documents, see Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.

On January 29, 2015, we completed a $\$ 300.6$ million Term ABS financing which was used to repay outstanding indebtedness. The financing has an expected annualized cost of approximately $2.6 \%$ (including the initial purchaser's fees and other costs) and it will revolve for 24 months after which it will amortize based upon the cash flows on the contributed Loans.

On March 30, 2015, we issued $\$ 250.0$ million of $7.375 \%$ senior notes due 2023 (the " 2023 senior notes") in a private offering exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933. The 2023 senior notes were issued at a price of $99.266 \%$ of their aggregate principal amount, resulting in gross proceeds of $\$ 248.2$ million, and a yield to maturity of $7.5 \%$ per annum. We used the net proceeds from the offering of the notes for general corporate purposes, including repayment of outstanding borrowings under our revolving secured line of credit facility.

On May 13, 2015, we extended the date on which our $\$ 75.0$ million Warehouse Facility IV will cease to revolve from April 5, 2016 to April 30, 2018. There were no other material changes to the terms of the facility.

On May 19, 2015, we increased the facility limit of Warehouse Facility II from $\$ 325.0$ million to $\$ 400.0$ million. There were no other material changes to the terms of the facility.

On June 11, 2015, we increased the facility limit of Warehouse Facility V from $\$ 75.0$ million to $\$ 100.0$ million and we increased the facility limit of our revolving secured line of credit facility from $\$ 235.0$ million to $\$ 310.0$ million. We also extended the maturity of our revolving secured line of credit facility from June 23, 2017 to June 22, 2018. There were no other material changes to the terms of the facilities.

On August 20, 2015, we completed a $\$ 300.2$ million Term ABS financing which was used to repay outstanding indebtedness. The financing has an expected annualized cost of approximately $3.0 \%$ (including the initial purchaser's fees and other costs) and it will revolve for 24 months after which it will amortize based upon the cash flows on the contributed Loans.

On September 30, 2015, we entered into Warehouse Facility VI, a $\$ 75.0$ million revolving secured warehouse facility. The facility will cease to revolve on September 30, 2018. Borrowings under the facility bear interest at a rate equal to LIBOR plus 200 basis points.

Cash and cash equivalents decreased to $\$ 6.3$ million as of December 31, 2015 from $\$ 6.4$ million as of December 31, 2014. As of December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014 we had $\$ 875.6$ million and $\$ 471.4$ million in unused and available lines of credit, respectively. Our total balance sheet indebtedness increased to $\$ 2,084.6$ million as of December 31, 2015 from $\$ 1,752.5$ million as of December 31, 2014 primarily due to the growth in new Consumer Loan assignments and stock repurchases.

## Contractual Obligations

A summary of the total future contractual obligations requiring repayments as of December 31, 2015 is as follows:

| (In millions) | Payments Due by Period |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total |  | Less than 1 Year |  | 1-3 Years |  | 3-5 Years |  | More than 5 Years |  | Other |  |
| Long-term debt, including current maturities (1) | \$ | 2,086.3 | \$ | 489.7 | \$ | 1,031.6 | \$ | 15.0 | \$ | 550.0 | \$ | - |
| Dealer Holdback (2) |  | 726.9 |  | 142.6 |  | 263.0 |  | 197.3 |  | 124.0 |  | - |
| Operating lease obligations |  | 4.7 |  | 1.5 |  | 2.7 |  | 0.5 |  | - |  | - |
| Purchase obligations (3) |  | 3.6 |  | 1.5 |  | 1.7 |  | 0.4 |  | - |  | - |
| Other future obligations (4) |  | 21.8 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | 21.8 |
| Total contractual obligations | \$ | 2,843.3 | \$ | 635.3 | \$ | 1,299.0 | \$ | 213.2 | \$ | 674.0 | \$ | 21.8 |

(1) Long-term debt obligations included in the above table consist solely of principal repayments. The amounts are presented on a principal basis to exclude the unamortized debt discount of $\$ 1.7$ million. We are also obligated to make interest payments at the applicable interest rates, as discussed in Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference. Based on the actual amounts outstanding under our revolving secured line of credit, our Warehouse facilities, and our senior notes as of December 31, 2015, the forecasted amounts outstanding on all other debt and the actual interest rates in effect as of December 31, 2015, interest is expected to be approximately $\$ 64.4$ million during 2016; $\$ 52.0$ million during 2017; and $\$ 168.8$ million during 2018 and thereafter.
(2) We have contractual obligations to pay Dealer Holdback to our Dealers. Payments of Dealer Holdback are contingent upon the receipt of consumer payments and the repayment of advances. The amounts presented represent our forecast as of December 31, 2015.
(3) Purchase obligations consist primarily of contractual obligations related to our information system and facility needs.
(4) Other future obligations included in the above table consist solely of reserves for uncertain tax positions. Payments are contingent upon examination and would occur in the periods in which the uncertain tax positions are settled.

Based upon anticipated cash flows, management believes that cash flows from operations and its various financing alternatives will provide sufficient financing for debt maturities and for future operations. Our ability to borrow funds may be impacted by economic and financial market conditions. If the various financing alternatives were to become limited or unavailable to us, our operations and liquidity could be materially and adversely affected.

## Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a material current or future effect on our financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources.

## Market Risk

We are exposed primarily to market risks associated with movements in interest rates. Our policies and procedures prohibit the use of financial instruments for speculative purposes. A discussion of our accounting policies for derivative instruments is included in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form $10-\mathrm{K}$, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Interest Rate Risk. We rely on various sources of financing, some of which contain floating rates of interest and expose us to risks associated with increases in interest rates. We manage such risk primarily by entering into interest rate cap agreements.

As of December 31, 2015, we had $\$ 57.7$ million of floating rate debt outstanding on our revolving secured line of credit, without interest rate protection. For every $1.0 \%$ increase in rates on our revolving secured line of credit, annual after-tax earnings would decrease by approximately $\$ 0.4$ million, assuming we maintain a level amount of floating rate debt.

As of December 31, 2015, we had $\$ 12.0$ million in floating rate debt outstanding under Warehouse Facility IV covered by an interest rate cap with a cap rate of $5.50 \%$ on the underlying benchmark rate. Based on the difference between the underlying benchmark rate on Warehouse Facility IV as of December 31, 2015 and the interest rate cap rate, the interest rate on Warehouse Facility IV could increase by a maximum of $5.08 \%$. This maximum interest rate increase would reduce annual after-tax earnings by approximately $\$ 0.4$ million, assuming we maintain a level amount of floating rate debt.

As of December 31, 2015, we had $\$ 14.7$ million in floating rate debt outstanding under Warehouse Facility VI, without interest rate protection. For every $1.0 \%$ increase in rates on our revolving secured line of credit, annual after-tax earnings would decrease by approximately $\$ 0.1$ million, assuming we maintain a level amount of floating rate debt.

As of December 31, 2015, we had interest rate cap agreements outstanding to manage the interest rate risk on Warehouse Facility II and Warehouse Facility V. However, as of December 31, 2015, there was no floating debt outstanding under either facility.

## New Accounting Updates

See Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form $10-\mathrm{K}$, which is incorporated herein by reference, for information concerning the following new accounting updates and the impact of the implementation of these updates on our financial statements:

- Disclosures about Short-Duration Contracts
- Customer's Accounting for Fees Paid in a Cloud Computing Arrangement
- Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs
- Amendments to the Consolidation Analysis
- Revenue from Contracts with Customers
- Presentation of an Unrecognized Tax Benefit When a Net Operating Loss Carryforward, a Similar Tax Loss, or a Tax Credit Carryforward Exists
- Reporting of Amounts Reclassified Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income


## Forward-Looking Statements

We make forward-looking statements in this report and may make such statements in future filings with the SEC. We may also make forward-looking statements in our press releases or other public or shareholder communications. Our forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties and include information about our expectations and possible or assumed future results of operations. When we use any of the words "may," "will," "should," "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "assume," "forecast," "estimate," "intend," "plan," "target" or similar expressions, we are making forward-looking statements.

We claim the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 for all of our forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements represent our outlook only as of the date of this report. While we believe that our forward-looking statements are reasonable, actual results could differ materially since the statements are based on our current expectations, which are subject to risks and uncertainties. Factors that might cause such a difference include, but are not limited to, the factors set forth under Item 1 A of this Form $10-\mathrm{K}$, which is incorporated herein by reference, elsewhere in this report and the risks and uncertainties discussed in our other reports filed or furnished from time to time with the SEC.

## ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The information called for by Item 7A is incorporated herein by reference from the information in Item 7 under the caption "Market Risk" in this Form 10-K.

## ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

## INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Board of Directors and Shareholders of
Credit Acceptance Corporation
We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Credit Acceptance Corporation (a Michigan corporation) and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Credit Acceptance Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, based on criteria established in the 2013 Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), and our report dated February 12, 2016 expressed an unqualified opinion.
/s/ GRANT THORNTON LLP
Southfield, Michigan
February 12, 2016

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

| (In millions, except share and per share data) | As of December 31, |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  |
| ASSETS: |  |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ | 6.3 | \$ | 6.4 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents |  | 167.4 |  | 157.6 |
| Restricted securities available for sale |  | 48.3 |  | 53.2 |
| Loans receivable (including \$12.6 and \$8.7 from affiliates as of December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively) |  | 3,345.1 |  | 2,719.8 |
| Allowance for credit losses |  | (243.6) |  | (206.9) |
| Loans receivable, net |  | 3,101.5 |  | 2,512.9 |
| Property and equipment, net |  | 18.9 |  | 20.9 |
| Income taxes receivable |  | 10.0 |  | 1.4 |
| Other assets |  | 37.0 |  | 33.0 |
| Total Assets | \$ | 3,389.4 | \$ | 2,785.4 |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY: |  |  |  |  |
| Liabilities: |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$ | 127.8 | \$ | 114.4 |
| Revolving secured line of credit |  | 57.7 |  | 119.5 |
| Secured financing |  | 1,478.6 |  | 1,333.0 |
| Senior notes |  | 548.3 |  | 300.0 |
| Deferred income taxes, net |  | 248.9 |  | 213.4 |
| Income taxes payable |  | - |  | 2.9 |
| Total Liabilities |  | 2,461.3 |  | 2,083.2 |
| Commitments and Contingencies - See Note 16 |  |  |  |  |
| Shareholders' Equity: |  |  |  |  |
| Preferred stock, \$. 01 par value, 1,000,000 shares authorized, none issued |  | - |  | - |
| Common stock, $\$ .01$ par value, $80,000,000$ shares authorized, 20,132,972 and 20,597,671 shares issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively |  | 0.2 |  | 0.2 |
| Paid-in capital |  | 100.8 |  | 88.7 |
| Retained earnings |  | 827.2 |  | 613.4 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss |  | (0.1) |  | (0.1) |
| Total Shareholders' Equity |  | 928.1 |  | 702.2 |
| Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity | \$ | 3,389.4 | \$ | 2,785.4 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

| (In millions, except share and per share data) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  |
| Revenue: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Finance charges | \$ | 730.5 | \$ | 630.4 | \$ | 590.4 |
| Premiums earned |  | 48.2 |  | 52.3 |  | 51.5 |
| Other income |  | 46.6 |  | 40.8 |  | 40.2 |
| Total revenue |  | 825.3 |  | 723.5 |  | 682.1 |
| Costs and expenses: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Salaries and wages |  | 116.4 |  | 100.2 |  | 87.3 |
| General and administrative |  | 37.8 |  | 34.3 |  | 34.4 |
| Sales and marketing |  | 45.9 |  | 36.8 |  | 34.5 |
| Provision for credit losses |  | 41.5 |  | 12.8 |  | 21.9 |
| Interest |  | 76.0 |  | 56.7 |  | 65.0 |
| Provision for claims |  | 33.2 |  | 40.0 |  | 40.8 |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt |  | - |  | 21.8 |  | - |
| Total costs and expenses |  | 350.8 |  | 302.6 |  | 283.9 |
| Income before provision for income taxes |  | 474.5 |  | 420.9 |  | 398.2 |
| Provision for income taxes |  | 174.8 |  | 154.7 |  | 145.1 |
| Net income | \$ | 299.7 | \$ | 266.2 | \$ | 253.1 |
| Net income per share: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ | 14.35 | \$ | 11.96 | \$ | 10.61 |
| Diluted | \$ | 14.28 | \$ | 11.92 | \$ | 10.54 |

Weighted average shares outstanding:

| Basic | $20,891,695$ | $22,257,104$ | $23,850,789$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Diluted | $20,980,753$ | $22,331,401$ | $24,009,593$ |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

| (In millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  |
| Net income | \$ | 299.7 | \$ | 266.2 | \$ | 253.1 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unrealized gain (loss) on securities, net of tax |  | - |  | 0.1 |  | (0.1) |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) |  | - |  | 0.1 |  | (0.1) |
| Comprehensive income | \$ | 299.7 | \$ | 266.3 | \$ | 253.0 |

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

| (In millions, except share data) | Common Stock |  |  | Paid-In Capital |  | Retained Earnings |  | AccumulatedOtherComprehensiveIncome (Loss) |  | Total Shareholders' Equity |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Amount |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance, January 1, 2013 | 24,114,896 | \$ | 0.2 | \$ | 53.4 | \$ | 568.4 | \$ | (0.1) | \$ | 621.9 |
| Net income | - |  | - |  | - |  | 253.1 |  | - |  | 253.1 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | (0.1) |  | (0.1) |
| Stock-based compensation | - |  | - |  | 8.5 |  | - |  | - |  | 8.5 |
| Restricted stock awards, net of forfeitures | 8,349 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |
| Repurchase of common stock | $(1,216,015)$ |  | - |  | (0.6) |  | (134.6) |  | - |  | (135.2) |
| Restricted stock units converted to common stock | 848 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |
| Stock options exercised | 35,000 |  | - |  | 0.6 |  | - |  | - |  | 0.6 |
| Tax benefits from stockbased compensation plans | - |  | - |  | 1.3 |  | - |  | - |  | 1.3 |
| Balance, December 31, 2013 | 22,943,078 |  | 0.2 |  | 63.2 |  | 686.9 |  | (0.2) |  | 750.1 |
| Net income | - |  | - |  | - |  | 266.2 |  | - |  | 266.2 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | 0.1 |  | 0.1 |
| Stock-based compensation | - |  | - |  | 15.3 |  | - |  | - |  | 15.3 |
| Restricted stock awards, net of forfeitures | 5,462 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |
| Repurchase of common stock | (2,686,744) |  | - |  | (4.0) |  | (339.7) |  | - |  | (343.7) |
| Restricted stock units converted to common stock | 300,875 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |
| Stock options exercised | 35,000 |  | - |  | 0.6 |  | - |  | - |  | 0.6 |
| Tax benefits from stockbased compensation plans | - |  | - |  | 13.6 |  | - |  | - |  | 13.6 |
| Balance, December 31, 2014 | 20,597,671 |  | 0.2 |  | 88.7 |  | 613.4 |  | (0.1) |  | 702.2 |
| Net income | - |  | - |  | - |  | 299.7 |  | - |  | 299.7 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |
| Stock-based compensation | - |  | - |  | 12.4 |  | - |  | - |  | 12.4 |
| Restricted stock awards, net of forfeitures | 4,024 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |
| Repurchase of common stock | $(470,071)$ |  | - |  | (0.6) |  | (85.9) |  | - |  | (86.5) |
| Restricted stock units converted to common stock | 1,348 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |
| Tax benefits from stockbased compensation plans | - |  | - |  | 0.3 |  | - |  | - |  | 0.3 |
| Balance, December 31, 2015 | 20,132,972 | \$ | 0.2 | \$ | 100.8 | \$ | 827.2 | \$ | (0.1) | \$ | 928.1 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

| (In millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  |
| Cash Flows From Operating Activities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net income | \$ | 299.7 | \$ | 266.2 | \$ | 253.1 |
| Adjustments to reconcile cash provided by operating activities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Provision for credit losses |  | 41.5 |  | 12.8 |  | 21.9 |
| Depreciation |  | 5.7 |  | 5.5 |  | 5.4 |
| Amortization |  | 8.5 |  | 7.7 |  | 7.8 |
| Loss on retirement of property and equipment |  | 0.3 |  | 0.2 |  | 0.1 |
| Provision for deferred income taxes |  | 35.6 |  | 56.1 |  | 8.8 |
| Loss on extinguishment of debt |  | - |  | 21.8 |  | - |
| Stock-based compensation |  | 12.4 |  | 15.3 |  | 8.5 |
| Change in operating assets and liabilities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities |  | 13.0 |  | 0.6 |  | 8.0 |
| Increase in income taxes receivable |  | (8.6) |  | (0.3) |  | - |
| Increase (decrease) in income taxes payable |  | (2.9) |  | (17.0) |  | 13.6 |
| Increase in other assets |  | (1.0) |  | (3.7) |  | (1.5) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities |  | 404.2 |  | 365.2 |  | 325.7 |
| Cash Flows From Investing Activities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Increase in restricted cash and cash equivalents |  | (9.8) |  | (46.3) |  | (18.9) |
| Purchases of restricted securities available for sale |  | (34.1) |  | (65.4) |  | (105.7) |
| Proceeds from sale of restricted securities available for sale |  | 34.4 |  | 15.9 |  | 11.6 |
| Maturities of restricted securities available for sale |  | 4.1 |  | 49.6 |  | 86.2 |
| Principal collected on Loans receivable |  | 1,739.6 |  | 1,540.0 |  | 1,334.0 |
| Advances to Dealers |  | $(1,795.1)$ |  | $(1,471.4)$ |  | $(1,356.6)$ |
| Purchases of Consumer Loans |  | (371.9) |  | (204.3) |  | (124.0) |
| Accelerated payments of Dealer Holdback |  | (52.6) |  | (41.7) |  | (40.4) |
| Payments of Dealer Holdback |  | (150.1) |  | (135.5) |  | (114.2) |
| Purchases of property and equipment |  | (4.0) |  | (4.3) |  | (5.6) |
| Net cash used in investing activities |  | (639.5) |  | (363.4) |  | (333.6) |
| Cash Flows From Financing Activities: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Borrowings under revolving secured line of credit |  | 1,657.0 |  | 2,796.2 |  | 2,816.6 |
| Repayments under revolving secured line of credit |  | $(1,718.8)$ |  | (2,779.5) |  | $(2,757.3)$ |
| Proceeds from secured financing |  | 1,247.0 |  | 1,754.7 |  | 1,004.7 |
| Repayments of secured financing |  | $(1,101.4)$ |  | $(1,357.3)$ |  | (922.1) |
| Proceeds from issuance of senior notes |  | 248.2 |  | 300.0 |  | - |
| Repayment of senior notes |  | - |  | (350.0) |  | - |
| Payments of debt issuance costs and debt extinguishment costs |  | (11.0) |  | (30.4) |  | (5.3) |
| Repurchase of common stock |  | (86.5) |  | (343.7) |  | (135.2) |
| Proceeds from stock options exercised |  | - |  | 0.6 |  | 0.6 |
| Tax benefits from stock-based compensation plans |  | 0.3 |  | 13.6 |  | 1.3 |
| Other financing activities |  | 0.4 |  | (3.8) |  | (0.2) |
| Net cash provided by financing activities |  | 235.2 |  | 0.4 |  | 3.1 |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents |  | (0.1) |  | 2.2 |  | (4.8) |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period |  | 6.4 |  | 4.2 |  | 9.0 |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period | \$ | 6.3 | \$ | 6.4 | \$ | 4.2 |
| Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash paid during the period for interest | \$ | 61.8 | \$ | 55.2 | \$ | 57.5 |
| Cash paid during the period for income taxes | \$ | 146.9 | \$ | 99.9 | \$ | 119.6 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 1. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS

Principal Business. Since 1972, Credit Acceptance Corporation (referred to as the "Company", "Credit Acceptance", "we", "our" or "us") has offered automobile dealers financing programs that enable them to sell vehicles to consumers, regardless of their credit history. Our financing programs are offered through a nationwide network of automobile dealers who benefit from sales of vehicles to consumers who otherwise could not obtain financing; from repeat and referral sales generated by these same customers; and from sales to customers responding to advertisements for our product, but who actually end up qualifying for traditional financing.

We refer to automobile dealers who participate in our programs and who share our commitment to changing consumers' lives as "Dealers". Upon enrollment in our financing programs, the Dealer enters into a Dealer servicing agreement with us that defines the legal relationship between Credit Acceptance and the Dealer. The Dealer servicing agreement assigns the responsibilities for administering, servicing, and collecting the amounts due on retail installment contracts (referred to as "Consumer Loans") from the Dealers to us. We are an indirect lender from a legal perspective, meaning the Consumer Loan is originated by the Dealer and assigned to us.

Substantially all of the Consumer Loans assigned to us are made to consumers with impaired or limited credit histories. The following table shows the percentage of Consumer Loans assigned to us with either FICO® scores below 650 or no FICO® scores:

| Consumer Loan Assignment Volume | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
| Percentage of total unit volume with either FICO® scores below 650 or no FICO ${ }^{\circledR}$ scores | 96.1\% | 95.7\% | 95.8\% |

We have two programs: the Portfolio Program and the Purchase Program. Under the Portfolio Program, we advance money to Dealers (referred to as a "Dealer Loan") in exchange for the right to service the underlying Consumer Loans. Under the Purchase Program, we buy the Consumer Loans from the Dealers (referred to as a "Purchased Loan") and keep all amounts collected from the consumer. Dealer Loans and Purchased Loans are collectively referred to as "Loans". The following table shows the percentage of Consumer Loans assigned to us based on unit volumes under each of the programs for each of the last three years:

|  | For the Years Ended December 31, | Portfolio Program | $93.5 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 2013 | $90.7 \%$ | $6.5 \%$ |  |
| 2014 | Purchase Program |  |  |
| 2015 | $87.4 \%$ | $9.3 \%$ |  |

## Portfolio Program

As payment for the vehicle, the Dealer generally receives the following:

- a down payment from the consumer;
- a non-recourse cash payment ("advance") from us; and
- after the advance has been recovered by us, the cash from payments made on the Consumer Loan, net of certain collection costs and our servicing fee ("Dealer Holdback").

We record the amount advanced to the Dealer as a Dealer Loan, which is classified within Loans receivable in our consolidated balance sheets. Cash advanced to the Dealer is automatically assigned to the Dealer's open pool of advances. We generally require Dealers to group advances into pools of at least 100 Consumer Loans. At the Dealer's option, a pool containing at least 100 Consumer Loans can be closed and subsequent advances assigned to a new pool. All advances within a Dealer's pool are secured by the future collections on the related Consumer Loans assigned to the pool. For Dealers with more than one pool, the pools are cross-collateralized so the performance of other pools is considered in determining eligibility for Dealer Holdback. We perfect our security interest in the Dealer Loans by taking possession of the Consumer Loans, which list us as lien holder on the vehicle title.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

The Dealer servicing agreement provides that collections received by us during a calendar month on Consumer Loans assigned by a Dealer are applied on a pool-by-pool basis as follows:

- First, to reimburse us for certain collection costs;
- Second, to pay us our servicing fee, which generally equals $20 \%$ of collections;
- Third, to reduce the aggregate advance balance and to pay any other amounts due from the Dealer to us; and
- Fourth, to the Dealer as payment of Dealer Holdback.

If the collections on Consumer Loans from a Dealer's pool are not sufficient to repay the advance balance and any other amounts due to us, the Dealer will not receive Dealer Holdback.

Dealers have an opportunity to receive an accelerated Dealer Holdback payment each time 100 Consumer Loans have been assigned to us. The amount paid to the Dealer is calculated using a formula that considers the forecasted collections and the advance balance on the related Consumer Loans.

Since typically the combination of the advance and the consumer's down payment provides the Dealer with a cash profit at the time of sale, the Dealer's risk in the Consumer Loan is limited. We cannot demand repayment of the advance from the Dealer except in the event the Dealer is in default of the Dealer servicing agreement. Advances are made only after the consumer and Dealer have signed a Consumer Loan contract, we have received the executed Consumer Loan contract and supporting documentation in either physical or electronic form, and we have approved all of the related stipulations for funding. The Dealer can also opt to repurchase Consumer Loans that have been assigned to us under the Portfolio Program, at their discretion, for a fee.

For accounting purposes, the transactions described under the Portfolio Program are not considered to be loans to consumers. Instead, our accounting reflects that of a lender to the Dealer. The classification as a Dealer Loan for accounting purposes is primarily a result of (1) the Dealer's financial interest in the Consumer Loan and (2) certain elements of our legal relationship with the Dealer.

## Purchase Program

The Purchase Program differs from our Portfolio Program in that the Dealer receives a one-time payment from us at the time of assignment to purchase the Consumer Loan instead of a cash advance at the time of assignment and future Dealer Holdback payments. For accounting purposes, the transactions described under the Purchase Program are considered to be originated by the Dealer and then purchased by us.

## Program Enrollment

Dealers may enroll in our Portfolio Program by (1) paying an up-front, one-time fee of $\$ 9,850$, or (2) agreeing to allow us to retain $50 \%$ of their first accelerated Dealer Holdback payment. Access to the Purchase Program is typically only granted to Dealers that meet one of the following:

- received first accelerated Dealer Holdback payment under the Portfolio Program;
- franchise dealership; or
- independent dealership that meets certain criteria upon enrollment.


## 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include our accounts and our wholly-owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions have been eliminated. Our primary subsidiaries as of December 31, 2015 are: Buyer's Vehicle Protection Plan, Inc. ("BVPP"), Vehicle Remarketing Services, Inc. ("VRS"), VSC Re Company ("VSC Re"), CAC Warehouse Funding Corp. II, CAC Warehouse Funding LLC IV, CAC Warehouse Funding LLC V, CAC Warehouse Funding LLC VI, Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2013-1, Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2013-2, Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2014-1, Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2014-2, Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2015-1 and Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2015-2.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## Business Segment Information

We currently operate in one reportable segment which represents our core business of offering Dealers financing programs and related products and services that enable them to sell vehicles to consumers regardless of their credit history. For information regarding our one reportable segment and related entity wide disclosures, see Note 15 to the consolidated financial statements.

## Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The accounts which are subject to significant estimation include the allowance for credit losses, finance charge revenue, premiums earned, stock-based compensation expense, contingencies, and uncertain tax positions. Actual results could materially differ from those estimates.

## Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents consist of readily marketable securities with original maturities at the date of acquisition of three months or less. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, we had $\$ 6.0$ million and $\$ 5.8$ million, respectively, in cash and cash equivalents that were not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC").

## Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents

Restricted cash and cash equivalents consist of cash pledged as collateral for secured financings and cash held in trusts for future vehicle service contract claims. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, we had $\$ 165.1$ million and $\$ 155.3$ million, respectively, in restricted cash and cash equivalents that were not insured by the FDIC.

## Restricted Securities Available for Sale

Restricted securities available for sale consist of amounts held in trusts related to VSC Re. We determine the appropriate classification of our investments in debt securities at the time of purchase and reevaluate such determinations at each balance sheet date. Debt securities for which we do not have the intent or ability to hold to maturity are classified as available for sale, and stated at fair value with unrealized gains and losses, net of income taxes included in the determination of comprehensive income and reported as a component of shareholders' equity.

## Finance Charges

Finance charges is comprised of: (1) servicing fees earned as a result of servicing Consumer Loans assigned to us by Dealers under the Portfolio Program; (2) finance charge income from Purchased Loans; (3) fees earned from our third party ancillary product offerings; (4) monthly program fees charged to Dealers under the Portfolio Program; and (5) fees associated with certain Loans. We recognize finance charges under the interest method such that revenue is recognized on a level-yield basis based upon forecasted cash flows. For Dealer Loans only, certain direct origination costs such as salaries and credit reports are deferred and the net costs are recognized as an adjustment to finance charges over the life of the related Dealer Loan on a level-yield basis.

We provide Dealers the ability to offer vehicle service contracts to consumers through our relationships with Third Party Providers ("TPPs"). A vehicle service contract provides the consumer protection by paying for the repair or replacement of certain components of the vehicle in the event of a mechanical failure. The wholesale cost of the vehicle service contract is charged to the Dealer's advance balance, and paid to the TPP, net of an administrative fee retained by us. We recognize our fee as part of finance charges on a level-yield basis based upon forecasted cash flows. The difference between the wholesale cost and the retail price to the consumer is paid to the Dealer as a commission. The commission is charged to the Dealer's advance balance. TPPs process claims on vehicle service contracts that are underwritten by third party insurers. We bear the risk of loss for claims on certain vehicle service contracts that are reinsured by us. We market the vehicle service contracts directly to our Dealers.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

We provide Dealers the ability to offer Guaranteed Asset Protection ("GAP") to consumers through our relationships with TPPs. GAP provides the consumer protection by paying the difference between the loan balance and the amount covered by the consumer's insurance policy in the event of a total loss of the vehicle due to severe damage or theft. The wholesale cost of GAP is charged to the Dealer's advance balance, and paid to the TPP, net of an administrative fee retained by us. We recognize our fee as part of finance charges on a level-yield basis based upon forecasted cash flows. The difference between the wholesale cost and the retail price to the consumer is paid to the Dealer as a commission. The commission is charged to the Dealer's advance balance. TPPs process claims on GAP contracts that are underwritten by third party insurers.

Program fees represent monthly fees charged to Dealers for access to our Credit Approval Processing System ("CAPS"); administration, servicing and collection services offered by us; documentation related to or affecting our program; and all tangible and intangible property owned by Credit Acceptance. We charge a monthly fee of $\$ 599$ to Dealers participating in our Portfolio Program and we collect it from future Dealer Holdback payments. As a result, we record program fees under the Portfolio Program as a yield adjustment, recognizing these fees as finance charge revenue over the forecasted net cash flows of the Dealer Loan.

## Reinsurance

VSC Re, our wholly-owned subsidiary, is engaged in the business of reinsuring coverage under vehicle service contracts sold to consumers by Dealers on vehicles financed by us. VSC Re currently reinsures vehicle service contracts that are underwritten by one of our third party insurers. Vehicle service contract premiums, which represent the selling price of the vehicle service contract to the consumer, less fees and certain administrative costs, are contributed to trust accounts controlled by VSC Re. These premiums are used to fund claims covered under the vehicle service contracts. VSC Re is a bankruptcy remote entity. As such, our exposure to fund claims is limited to the trust assets controlled by VSC Re and our net investment in VSC Re.

Premiums from the reinsurance of vehicle service contracts are recognized over the life of the policy in proportion to expected costs of servicing those contracts. Expected costs are determined based on our historical claims experience. Claims are expensed through a provision for claims in the period the claim was incurred. Capitalized acquisition costs are comprised of premium taxes and are amortized as general and administrative expense over the life of the contracts in proportion to premiums earned. A summary of reinsurance activity is as follows:

| (In millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  |
| Net assumed written premiums | \$ | 45.0 | \$ | 48.3 | \$ | 58.2 |
| Net premiums earned |  | 48.2 |  | 52.3 |  | 51.5 |
| Provision for claims |  | 33.2 |  | 40.0 |  | 40.8 |
| Amortization of capitalized acquisition costs |  | 1.2 |  | 1.3 |  | 1.3 |

We are considered the primary beneficiary of the trusts and as a result, the trusts have been consolidated on our balance sheet. The trust assets and related reinsurance liabilities are as follows:

| (In millions) | Balance Sheet location | As of December 31, |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  |
| Trust assets | Restricted cash and cash equivalents | \$ | 0.8 | \$ | 0.2 |
| Trust assets | Restricted securities available for sale |  | 48.3 |  | 53.2 |
| Unearned premium | Accounts payable and accrued liabilities |  | 35.2 |  | 38.4 |
| Claims reserve (1) | Accounts payable and accrued liabilities |  | 1.2 |  | 1.5 |

[^5]
## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

Our determination to consolidate the VSC Re trusts was based on the following:

- First, we determined that the trusts qualified as variable interest entities. The trusts have insufficient equity at risk as no parties to the trusts were required to contribute assets that provide them with any ownership interest.
- Next, we determined that we have variable interests in the trusts. We have a residual interest in the assets of the trusts, which is variable in nature, given that it increases or decreases based upon the actual loss experience of the related service contracts. In addition, VSC Re is required to absorb any losses in excess of the trusts' assets.
- Next, we evaluated the purpose and design of the trusts. The primary purpose of the trusts is to provide TPPs with funds to pay claims on vehicle service contracts and to accumulate and provide us with proceeds from investment income and residual funds.
- Finally, we determined that we are the primary beneficiary of the trusts. We control the amount of premium written and placed in the trusts through Consumer Loan assignments under our Programs, which is the activity that most significantly impacts the economic performance of the trusts. We have the right to receive benefits from the trusts that could potentially be significant. In addition, VSC Re has the obligation to absorb losses of the trusts that could potentially be significant.


## Other Income

Other income consists of the following:

| (In millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  |
| GPS-SID fees | \$ | 16.4 | \$ | 12.8 | \$ | 14.4 |
| Ancillary product profit sharing |  | 11.9 |  | 11.1 |  | 8.3 |
| Remarketing fees |  | 6.9 |  | 6.2 |  | 5.2 |
| Dealer support products and services |  | 4.9 |  | 4.6 |  | 4.6 |
| Dealer enrollment fees |  | 4.8 |  | 4.6 |  | 4.5 |
| Other |  | 1.7 |  | 1.5 |  | 3.2 |
| Total | \$ | 46.6 | \$ | 40.8 | \$ | 40.2 |

GPS-SID fees consist of fees we receive from TPPs for providing Dealers in certain states the ability to purchase Global Positioning Systems with Starter Interrupt Devices ("GPS-SID"). Through this program, Dealers can install GPS-SID on vehicles financed by us that can be activated if the consumer fails to make payments on their account, and can result in the prompt repossession of the vehicle. Dealers purchase GPS-SID directly from TPPs and the TPPs pay us a vendor fee for each device sold. GPS-SID fee income is recognized when the unit is sold.

Ancillary product profit sharing consists of payments received from TPPs based upon the performance of vehicle service contracts and GAP contracts. Vehicle service contract profit sharing payments are received twice a year, if eligible, and are recognized as income over the life of the vehicle service contracts. GAP profit sharing payments are received once a year, if eligible, and are recognized as income over the life of the GAP contracts.

Remarketing fees consist of fees retained from the sale of repossessed vehicles by VRS, our wholly-owned subsidiary that is responsible for remarketing vehicles for Credit Acceptance. VRS coordinates vehicle repossessions with a nationwide network of repossession contractors, the redemption of the vehicle by the consumer, or the sale of the vehicle through a nationwide network of vehicle auctions. VRS recognizes income from the retained fees at the time of the sale and does not retain a fee if a repossessed vehicle is redeemed by the consumer prior to the sale.

Dealer support products and services consist of income earned from products and services provided to Dealers to assist with their operations, including sales \& marketing, purchasing supplies \& materials and acquiring vehicle inventory. Income is recognized in the period the product or service is provided.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

Dealer enrollment fees include fees from Dealers that enroll in our Portfolio Program. Depending on the enrollment option selected by the Dealer, Dealers may have enrolled by paying us an upfront, one-time fee, or by agreeing to allow us to retain $50 \%$ of their first accelerated Dealer Holdback payment. For additional information regarding program enrollment, see Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements. A portion of the $\$ 9,850$ upfront, one-time fee is considered to be Dealer support products and services revenue. The remaining portion of the $\$ 9,850$ fee is considered to be a Dealer enrollment fee, which is amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated life of the Dealer relationship. The $50 \%$ portion of the first accelerated Dealer Holdback payment is also considered to be a Dealer enrollment fee. We do not recognize any of this Dealer enrollment fee until the Dealer has met the eligibility requirements to receive an accelerated Dealer Holdback payment and the amount of the first payment, if any, has been calculated. Once the accelerated Dealer Holdback payment has been calculated, we defer the $50 \%$ portion that we keep and recognize it on a straight-line basis over the remaining estimated life of the Dealer relationship.

## Loans Receivable and Allowance for Credit Losses

Consumer Loan Assignment. For legal purposes, a Consumer Loan is considered to have been assigned to us after the following has occurred:

- the consumer and Dealer have signed a Consumer Loan contract; and
- we have received the executed Consumer Loan contract and supporting documentation in either physical or electronic form.

For accounting and financial reporting purposes, a Consumer Loan is considered to have been assigned to us after the following has occurred:

- the Consumer Loan has been legally assigned to us; and
- we have made a funding decision and generally have provided funding to the Dealer in the form of either an advance under the Portfolio Program or one-time purchase payment under the Purchase Program.

Portfolio Segments and Classes. We are considered to be a lender to our Dealers for Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program and a purchaser of Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program. As a result, our Loan portfolio consists of two portfolio segments: Dealer Loans and Purchased Loans. Each portfolio segment is comprised of one class of Consumer Loan assignments, which is Consumer Loans with deteriorated credit quality that were originated by Dealers to finance consumer purchases of vehicles and related ancillary products.

Dealer Loans. Amounts advanced to Dealers for Consumer Loans assigned under the Portfolio Program are recorded as Dealer Loans and are aggregated by Dealer for purposes of recognizing revenue and evaluating impairment. We account for Dealer Loans in a manner similar to loans acquired with deteriorated credit quality. The outstanding balance of each Dealer Loan included in Loans receivable is comprised of the following:

- the aggregate amount of all cash advances paid;
- finance charges;
- Dealer Holdback payments;
- accelerated Dealer Holdback payments; and
- recoveries.

Less:

- collections (net of certain collection costs); and
- write-offs.

An allowance for credit losses is maintained at an amount that reduces the net asset value (Dealer Loan balance less the allowance) to the value of forecasted future cash flows discounted at the yield established at the time of assignment. This allowance calculation is completed for each individual Dealer. The discounted value of future cash flows is comprised of estimated future collections on the Consumer Loans, less any estimated Dealer Holdback payments. We write off Dealer Loans once there are no forecasted future cash flows on any of the associated Consumer Loans, which generally occurs 120 months after the last Consumer Loan assignment.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

Future collections on Dealer Loans are forecasted based on the historical performance of Consumer Loans with similar characteristics, adjusted for recent trends in payment patterns. Dealer Holdback is forecasted based on the expected future collections and current advance balance of each Dealer Loan. Cash flows from any individual Dealer Loan are often different than estimated cash flows at the time of assignment. If such difference is favorable, the difference is recognized prospectively into income over the remaining life of the Dealer Loan through a yield adjustment. If such difference is unfavorable, a provision for credit losses is recorded immediately as a current period expense and a corresponding allowance for credit losses is established. Because differences between estimated cash flows at the time of assignment and actual cash flows occur often, an allowance is required for a significant portion of our Dealer Loan portfolio. An allowance for credit losses does not necessarily indicate that a Dealer Loan is unprofitable, and seldom are cash flows from a Dealer Loan insufficient to repay the initial amounts advanced to the Dealer.

Purchased Loans. Amounts paid to Dealers for Consumer Loans assigned under the Purchase Program are recorded as Purchased Loans and are aggregated into pools based on the month of purchase for purposes of recognizing revenue and evaluating impairment. We account for Purchased Loans in a manner similar to loans acquired with deteriorated credit quality. The outstanding balance of each Purchased Loan pool included in Loans receivable is comprised of the following:

- the aggregate amount of all amounts paid during the month of purchase to purchase Consumer Loans from Dealers;
- finance charges; and
- recoveries.


## Less:

- collections (net of certain collection costs); and
- write-offs.

An allowance for credit losses is maintained at an amount that reduces the net asset value (Purchased Loan pool balance less the allowance) to the value of forecasted future cash flows discounted at the yield established at the time of assignment. This allowance calculation is completed for each individual monthly pool of Purchased Loans. The discounted value of future cash flows is comprised of estimated future collections on the pool of Purchased Loans. We write off pools of Purchased Loans once there are no forecasted future cash flows on any of the Purchased Loans included in the pool, which generally occurs 120 months after the month of purchase.

Future collections on Purchased Loans are forecasted based on the historical performance of Consumer Loans with similar characteristics, adjusted for recent trends in payment patterns. Cash flows from any individual pool of Purchased Loans are often different than estimated cash flows at the time of assignment. If such difference is favorable, the difference is recognized prospectively into income over the remaining life of the pool of Purchased Loans through a yield adjustment. If such difference is unfavorable, a provision for credit losses is recorded immediately as a current period expense and a corresponding allowance for credit losses is established.

Credit Quality. Substantially all of the Consumer Loans assigned to us are made to individuals with impaired or limited credit histories or higher debt-to-income ratios than are permitted by traditional lenders. Consumer Loans made to these individuals generally entail a higher risk of delinquency, default and repossession and higher losses than loans made to consumers with better credit. Since most of our revenue and cash flows are generated from these Consumer Loans, our ability to accurately forecast Consumer Loan performance is critical to our business and financial results. At the time the Consumer Loan is submitted to us for assignment, we forecast future expected cash flows from the Consumer Loan. Based on these forecasts, an advance or onetime purchase payment is made to the related Dealer at a price designed to achieve an acceptable return on capital.

We monitor and evaluate the credit quality of Consumer Loans on a monthly basis by comparing our current forecasted collection rates to our initial expectations. We use a statistical model that considers a number of credit quality indicators to estimate the expected collection rate for each Consumer Loan at the time of assignment. The credit quality indicators considered in our model include attributes contained in the consumer's credit bureau report, data contained in the consumer's credit application, the structure of the proposed transaction, vehicle information and other factors. We continue to evaluate the expected collection rate of each Consumer Loan subsequent to assignment primarily through the monitoring of consumer payment behavior. Our evaluation becomes more accurate as the Consumer Loans age, as we use actual performance data in our forecast. Since all known, significant credit quality indicators have already been factored into our forecasts and pricing, we are not able to use any specific credit quality indicators to predict or explain variances in actual performance from our initial expectations. Any variances in performance from our initial expectations are the result of Consumer Loans performing differently than historical Consumer Loans with similar characteristics. We periodically adjust our statistical pricing model for new trends that we identify through our evaluation of these forecasted collection rate variances.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

When overall forecasted collection rates underperform our initial expectations, the decline in forecasted collections has a more adverse impact on the profitability of the Purchased Loans than on the profitability of the Dealer Loans. For Purchased Loans, the decline in forecasted collections is absorbed entirely by us. For Dealer Loans, the decline in the forecasted collections is substantially offset by a decline in forecasted payments of Dealer Holdback.

Methodology Changes. During 2014, we enhanced our methodologies for forecasting the timing of future collections on Loans and the timing of future Dealer Holdback payments on Dealer Loans. During 2013, we enhanced our methodology for forecasting future collections on Loans. For additional information regarding these methodology changes, see Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements. For the three year period ended December 31, 2015, we did not make any other methodology changes for Loans that had a material impact on our financial results.

## Property and Equipment

Purchases of property and equipment are recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset. Estimated useful lives are generally as follows: buildings -40 years, building improvements -10 years, data processing equipment -3 years, software -5 years, office furniture and equipment -7 years, and leasehold improvements - the lesser of the lease term or 7 years. The cost of assets sold or retired and the related accumulated depreciation are removed from the balance sheet at the time of disposition and any resulting gain or loss is included in operations. Maintenance, repairs and minor replacements are charged to operations as incurred; major replacements and improvements are capitalized. We evaluate long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable.

Costs incurred during the application development stage of software developed for internal use are capitalized and generally depreciated on a straight-line basis over five years. Costs incurred to maintain existing product offerings are expensed as incurred. For additional information regarding our property and equipment, see Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements.

## Deferred Debt Issuance Costs

As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, deferred debt issuance costs were $\$ 19.0$ million and $\$ 16.1$ million, respectively, and are included in other assets in the consolidated balance sheets. Expenses associated with the issuance of debt instruments are capitalized and amortized as interest expense over the term of the debt instrument using the effective interest method for asset-backed secured financings ("Term ABS") and senior notes and the straight-line method for lines of credit and revolving secured warehouse ("Warehouse") facilities.

## Income Taxes

Provisions for federal, state and foreign income taxes are calculated on reported pre-tax earnings based on current tax law and also include, in the current period, the cumulative effect of any changes in tax rates from those used previously in determining deferred tax assets and liabilities. Such provisions differ from the amounts currently receivable or payable because certain items of income and expense are recognized in different time periods for financial reporting purposes than for income tax purposes.

Deferred income tax balances reflect the effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities and their tax bases and are stated at enacted tax rates expected to be in effect when taxes are actually paid or recovered.

We follow a two-step approach for recognizing uncertain tax positions. First, we evaluate the tax position for recognition by determining if the weight of available evidence indicates it is more-likely-than-not that the position will be sustained upon examination, including resolution of related appeals or litigation processes, if any. Second, for positions that we determine are more-likely-than-not to be sustained, we recognize the tax benefit as the largest benefit that has a greater than $50 \%$ likelihood of being sustained. We establish a reserve for uncertain tax positions liability that is comprised of unrecognized tax benefits and related interest. We consider many factors when evaluating and estimating our tax positions and tax benefits, which may require periodic adjustments and which may not accurately anticipate actual outcomes. We recognize interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions in the provision for income taxes. For additional information regarding our income taxes, see Note 11 to the consolidated financial statements.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## Derivative Instruments

We rely on various sources of financing, some of which contain floating rates of interest and expose us to risks associated with increases in interest rates. We manage such risk primarily by entering into interest rate cap agreements ("derivative instruments"). These derivative instruments are not designated as hedges, and changes in their fair value increase or decrease interest expense.

We recognize derivative instruments as either other assets or accounts payable and accrued liabilities on our consolidated balance sheets. For additional information regarding our derivative instruments, see Note 9 to the consolidated financial statements.

## Stock-Based Compensation Plans

We have stock-based compensation plans for team members and non-employee directors, which are described more fully in Note 14 to the consolidated financial statements. We apply a fair-value-based measurement method in accounting for stock-based compensation plans and recognize stock-based compensation expense over the requisite service period of the grant as salaries and wages expense.

## Employee Benefit Plan

We sponsor a $401(\mathrm{k})$ plan that covers substantially all of our team members. We offer matching contributions to the $401(\mathrm{k})$ plan based on each enrolled team members' eligible annual gross pay (subject to statutory limitations). Our matching contribution rate is equal to $100 \%$ of the first $1 \%$ participants contribute and an additional $50 \%$ of the next $5 \%$ participants contribute, for a maximum matching contribution of $3.5 \%$ of each participant's eligible annual gross pay. For the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, we recognized compensation expense of $\$ 3.1$ million, $\$ 2.5$ million, and $\$ 2.2$ million, respectively, for our matching contributions to the plan.

## Advertising Costs

Advertising costs are expensed as incurred. Advertising expenses were $\$ 0.3$ million for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, and \$0.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2013.

## New Accounting Updates

Disclosures about Short-Duration Contracts. In May 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2015-09, which amends Topic 944 (Financial Services - Insurance) and enhances disclosures for short-duration insurance contracts. ASU No. 2015-09 is intended to increase transparency regarding significant estimates made in measuring liabilities for unpaid claims and claim adjustment expenses. It does not otherwise change the accounting for short-duration insurance contracts. ASU No. 2015-09 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016. Early adoption is permitted, but we have not yet adopted ASU No. 2015-09. While the adoption of ASU No. 2015-09 is not expected to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements, we expect that it will expand our disclosures related to the reinsurance of vehicle service contracts.

Customer's Accounting for Fees Paid in a Cloud Computing Arrangement. In April 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-05 which provides guidance to customers about whether a cloud computing arrangement includes a software license. If a cloud computing arrangement includes a software license, the customer should account for the software license element of the arrangement consistent with the acquisition of other software licenses. If a cloud computing arrangement does not include a software license, the customer should account for the arrangement as a service contract. The guidance will not change the customer's accounting for service contracts. ASU No. 2015-05 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods, beginning after December 15, 2015. Early adoption is permitted, but we have not yet adopted ASU No. 2015-05. We have not yet determined the effect that ASU No. 2015-05 will have on our consolidated financial statements.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs. In April 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-03, which amends Topic 835 (Interest) and requires the presentation of debt issuance costs in the balance sheet as a deduction from the carrying amount of the related debt liability instead of a deferred charge. In August 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-15, which amends Subtopic 835-30 (Presentation and Subsequent Measurement of Debt Issuance Costs Associated with Line-of-Credit Arrangements) and states that the SEC staff would not object to an entity deferring and presenting debt issuance costs as an asset and subsequently amortizing the deferred debt issuance costs ratably over the term of the line-of-credit arrangement, regardless of whether there are any outstanding borrowings on the line-of-credit arrangement. ASU No. 2015-03 and 2015-15 are effective for fiscal years, and interim periods, beginning after December 15, 2015. Early adoption is permitted, but we have not yet adopted these standards. The adoption of ASU No. 2015-03, as amended by ASU No. 2015-15, will change the presentation of our debt issuance costs, except for our line-of-credit arrangement, in our consolidated balance sheets.

Amendments to the Consolidation Analysis. In February 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-02, which amends Topic 810 (Consolidation) and requires an entity to evaluate whether they should consolidate certain legal entities. ASU No. 2015-02 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods, beginning after December 15, 2015. Early adoption is permitted, but we have not yet adopted ASU 2015-02. The adoption of ASU No. 2015-02 is not expected to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

Revenue from Contracts with Customers. In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09 which supersedes the revenue recognition requirements Topic 605 (Revenue Recognition), and most industry-specific guidance. ASU No. 2014-09 is based on the principle that revenue is recognized to depict the transfer of goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. ASU No. 2014-09 also requires additional disclosure about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from customer contracts, including significant judgments and changes in judgments and assets recognized from costs incurred to obtain or fulfill a contract. In August 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-14 to defer the effective date of ASU No. 2014-09 by one year to fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017. ASU No. 2015-14 also permits early adoption of ASU No. 2014-09, but not before the original effective date, which was for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. We have not yet determined the effect that ASU No. 2014-09, as amended by ASU No. 2015-14, will have on our consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

Presentation of an Unrecognized Tax Benefit When a Net Operating Loss Carryforward, a Similar Tax Loss, or a Tax Credit Carryforward Exists. In July 2013, the FASB issued ASU No. 2013-11 which requires an entity to net its liability for unrecognized tax benefits against a net operating loss carryforward, a similar tax loss or a tax credit carryforward when settlement in this manner is available under the tax law. ASU No. 2013-11 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods, beginning after December 15, 2013, with early adoption permitted. The adoption of ASU No. 2013-11 on January 1, 2014 did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

Reporting of Amounts Reclassified Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income. In February 2013, the FASB issued ASU No. 2013-2 which requires an entity to provide information about the amounts reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive income by component. The new guidance requires an entity to disaggregate the total change of each component of other comprehensive income either on the face of the income statement or as a separate disclosure in the notes to the financial statements. The amendments in ASU 2013-02 do not change the current requirements for reporting net income or other comprehensive income in financial statements. ASU 2013-02 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2012. The adoption of ASU No. 2013-2 on January 1, 2013 did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

## Reclassification

Certain amounts for prior periods have been reclassified to conform to the current presentation. We have changed the presentation of our accretable yield disclosure for Loans. For additional information regarding this change, see Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements.

## Subsequent Events

We have evaluated events and transactions occurring subsequent to the consolidated balance sheet date of December 31, 2015 for items that could potentially be recognized or disclosed in these financial statements. We did not identify any items which would require disclosure in or adjustment to the consolidated financial statements.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## 3. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instruments for which it is practicable to estimate their value.

Cash and Cash Equivalents and Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents. The carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash and cash equivalents approximate their fair value due to the short maturity of these instruments.

Restricted Securities Available for Sale. Restricted securities consist of amounts held in trusts by TPPs to pay claims on vehicle service contracts. Securities for which we do not have the intent or ability to hold to maturity are classified as available for sale and stated at fair value. The fair value of U.S. Government and agency securities and corporate bonds is based on quoted market values in active markets. For asset-backed securities and mortgage-backed securities, we use model-based valuation techniques for which all significant assumptions are observable in the market.

Net Investment in Loans Receivable. Loans receivable, net represents our net investment in Loans. The fair value is determined by calculating the present value of future Loan payment inflows and Dealer Holdback outflows estimated by us utilizing a discount rate comparable with the rate used to calculate our allowance for credit losses.

Liabilities. The fair value of our senior notes is determined using quoted market prices in an active market. The fair value of our Term ABS financings is also determined using quoted market prices, however, these instruments trade in a market with a lower trading volume. For our revolving secured line of credit and our Warehouse Facilities, the fair values are calculated using the estimated value of each debt instrument based on current rates for debt with similar risk profiles and maturities.

A comparison of the carrying amount and estimated fair value of these financial instruments is as follows:

| (In millions) | As of December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  |  |  | 2014 |  |  |  |
|  | Carrying <br> Amount |  | Estimated <br> Fair Value |  | Carrying <br> Amount |  | Estimated Fair Value |  |
| Assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ | 6.3 | \$ | 6.3 | \$ | 6.4 | \$ | 6.4 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents |  | 167.4 |  | 167.4 |  | 157.6 |  | 157.6 |
| Restricted securities available for sale |  | 48.3 |  | 48.3 |  | 53.2 |  | 53.2 |
| Net investment in Loans receivable |  | 3,101.5 |  | 3,126.3 |  | 2,512.9 |  | 2,517.3 |
| Liabilities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Revolving secured line of credit | \$ | 57.7 | \$ | 57.7 | \$ | 119.5 | \$ | 119.5 |
| Secured financing |  | 1,478.6 |  | 1,471.9 |  | 1,333.0 |  | 1,334.7 |
| Senior notes |  | 548.3 |  | 549.6 |  | 300.0 |  | 299.3 |

Fair value is an exit price, representing the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. As such, fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability. We group assets and liabilities at fair value in three levels, based on the markets in which the assets and liabilities are traded and the reliability of the assumptions used to determine fair value. These levels are:

Level 1 Valuation is based upon quoted prices for identical instruments traded in active markets.

Level 2 Valuation is based upon quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active, and model-based valuation techniques for which all significant assumptions are observable in the market.

Level 3 Valuation is generated from model-based techniques that use at least one significant assumption not observable in the market. These unobservable assumptions reflect estimates or assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

The following table provides the level of measurement used to determine the fair value for each of our financial instruments on a recurring basis, as of December 31, 2015 and 2014:

| (In millions) | As of December 31, 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Level 1 |  | Level 2 |  | Level 3 |  | Total Fair Value |  |
| Assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ | 6.3 | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 6.3 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents |  | 167.4 |  | - |  | - |  | 167.4 |
| Restricted securities available for sale |  | 38.7 |  | 9.6 |  | - |  | 48.3 |
| Net investment in Loans receivable |  | - |  | - |  | 3,126.3 |  | 3,126.3 |
| Liabilities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Revolving secured line of credit | \$ | - | \$ | 57.7 | \$ | - | \$ | 57.7 |
| Secured financing |  | - |  | 1,471.9 |  | - |  | 1,471.9 |
| Senior notes |  | 549.6 |  | - |  | - |  | 549.6 |
| (In millions) | As of December 31, 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $r$ Value |
| Assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ | 6.4 | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 6.4 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents |  | 157.6 |  | - |  | - |  | 157.6 |
| Restricted securities available for sale |  | 47.8 |  | 5.4 |  | - |  | 53.2 |
| Net investment in Loans receivable |  | - |  | - |  | 2,517.3 |  | 2,517.3 |
| Liabilities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Revolving secured line of credit | \$ | - | \$ | 119.5 | \$ | - | \$ | 119.5 |
| Secured financing |  | - |  | 1,334.7 |  | - |  | 1,334.7 |
| Senior notes |  | 299.3 |  | - |  | - |  | 299.3 |

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## 4. RESTRICTED SECURITIES AVAILABLE FOR SALE

Restricted securities available for sale consist of the following:

| (In millions) | As of December 31, 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Cost |  | Gross Unrealized Gains |  | Gross Unrealized Losses |  | Estimated <br> Fair Value |  |
| U.S. Government and agency securities | \$ | 21.8 | \$ | - | \$ | (0.1) | \$ | 21.7 |
| Corporate bonds |  | 17.1 |  | - |  | (0.1) |  | 17.0 |
| Asset-backed securities |  | 5.5 |  | - |  | - |  | 5.5 |
| Mortgage-backed securities |  | 4.1 |  | - |  | - |  | 4.1 |
| Total restricted securities available for sale | \$ | 48.5 | \$ | - | \$ | (0.2) | \$ | 48.3 |
| (In millions) | As of December 31, 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Cost |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Gross Unrealized } \\ \text { Gains } \end{gathered}$ |  | Gross Unrealized Losses |  | Estimated <br> Fair Value |  |
| U.S. Government and agency securities | \$ | 28.8 | \$ | 0.1 | \$ | (0.1) | \$ | 28.8 |
| Corporate bonds |  | 19.1 |  | - |  | (0.1) |  | 19.0 |
| Asset-backed securities |  | 4.8 |  | - |  | - |  | 4.8 |
| Mortgage-backed securities |  | 0.6 |  | - |  | - |  | 0.6 |
| Total restricted securities available for sale | \$ | 53.3 | \$ | 0.1 | \$ | (0.2) | \$ | 53.2 |

The fair value and gross unrealized losses for restricted securities available for sale, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, are as follows:

| (In millions) | Securities Available for Sale with Gross Unrealized Losses as of December 31, 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Less than 12 Months |  |  |  | 12 Months or More |  |  |  | Total Estimated Fair Value |  | Total Gross Unrealized Losses |  |
|  |  | ated alue | $\begin{gathered} \text { Gross } \\ \text { Unrealized } \\ \text { Losses } \end{gathered}$ |  | Estimated Fair Value |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Gross } \\ \text { Unrealized } \\ \text { Losses } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| U.S. Government and agency securities | \$ | 16.0 | \$ | (0.1) | \$ | 0.7 | \$ | - | \$ | 16.7 | \$ | (0.1) |
| Corporate bonds |  | 12.6 |  | (0.1) |  | 1.7 |  | - |  | 14.3 |  | (0.1) |
| Asset-backed securities |  | 5.4 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | 5.4 |  | - |
| Mortgage-backed securities |  | 3.1 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | 3.1 |  | - |
| Total restricted securities available for sale | \$ | 37.1 | \$ | (0.2) | \$ | 2.4 | \$ | - | \$ | 39.5 | \$ | (0.2) |


| (In millions) | Securities Available for Sale with Gross Unrealized Losses as of December 31, 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Less than 12 Months |  |  |  | 12 Months or More |  |  |  | Total Estimated Fair Value |  | Total Gross Unrealized Losses |  |
|  | Estimated Fair Value |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Gross } \\ \text { Unrealized } \\ \text { Losses } \end{gathered}$ |  | Estimated Fair Value |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Gross } \\ \text { Unrealized } \\ \text { Losses } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| U.S. Government and agency securities | \$ | 9.3 | \$ | - | \$ | 2.5 | \$ | (0.1) | \$ | 11.8 | \$ | (0.1) |
| Corporate bonds |  | 15.3 |  | (0.1) |  | 2.7 |  | - |  | 18.0 |  | (0.1) |
| Asset-backed securities |  | 3.7 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | 3.7 |  | - |
| Total restricted securities available for sale | \$ | 28.3 | \$ | (0.1) | \$ | 5.2 | \$ | (0.1) | \$ | 33.5 | \$ | (0.2) |

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

The cost and estimated fair values of debt securities by contractual maturity were as follows (securities with multiple maturity dates are classified in the period of final maturity). Expected maturities will differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

| (In millions) | As of December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  |  |  | 2014 |  |  |  |
|  | Cost |  | Estimated Fair Value |  | Cost |  | Estimated Fair Value |  |
| Contractual Maturity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Within one year | \$ | 2.6 | \$ | 2.6 | \$ | 3.8 | \$ | 3.8 |
| Over one year to five years |  | 42.5 |  | 42.4 |  | 45.1 |  | 45.0 |
| Over five years to ten years |  | 0.5 |  | 0.5 |  | 4.1 |  | 4.1 |
| Over ten years |  | 2.9 |  | 2.8 |  | 0.3 |  | 0.3 |
| Total restricted securities available for sale | \$ | 48.5 | \$ | 48.3 | \$ | 53.3 | \$ | 53.2 |

## 5. LOANS RECEIVABLE

Loans receivable consists of the following:

| (In millions) | As of December 31, 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Loans receivable | \$ | 2,823.4 | \$ | 521.7 | \$ | 3,345.1 |
| Allowance for credit losses |  | (235.1) |  | (8.5) |  | (243.6) |
| Loans receivable, net | \$ | 2,588.3 | \$ | 513.2 | \$ | 3,101.5 |
| (In millions) | As of December 31, 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Loans receivable | \$ | 2,389.8 | \$ | 330.0 | \$ | 2,719.8 |
| Allowance for credit losses |  | (198.1) |  | (8.8) |  | (206.9) |
| Loans receivable, net | \$ | 2,191.7 | \$ | 321.2 | \$ | 2,512.9 |

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

A summary of changes in Loans receivable is as follows:

| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ | 2,389.8 | \$ | 330.0 | \$ | 2,719.8 |
| New Consumer Loan assignments (1) |  | 1,795.1 |  | 371.9 |  | 2,167.0 |
| Principal collected on Loans receivable |  | $(1,548.8)$ |  | (190.8) |  | $(1,739.6)$ |
| Accelerated Dealer Holdback payments |  | 52.6 |  | - |  | 52.6 |
| Dealer Holdback payments |  | 150.1 |  | - |  | 150.1 |
| Transfers (2) |  | (10.6) |  | 10.6 |  | - |
| Write-offs |  | (6.4) |  | (0.2) |  | (6.6) |
| Recoveries (3) |  | 1.6 |  | 0.2 |  | 1.8 |
| Balance, end of period | \$ | 2,823.4 | \$ | 521.7 | \$ | 3,345.1 |


| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ | 2,155.5 | \$ | 252.7 | \$ | 2,408.2 |
| New Consumer Loan assignments (1) |  | 1,471.4 |  | 204.3 |  | 1,675.7 |
| Principal collected on Loans receivable |  | $(1,392.5)$ |  | (147.5) |  | $(1,540.0)$ |
| Accelerated Dealer Holdback payments |  | 41.7 |  | - |  | 41.7 |
| Dealer Holdback payments |  | 135.5 |  | - |  | 135.5 |
| Transfers (2) |  | (20.5) |  | 20.5 |  | - |
| Write-offs |  | (3.1) |  | (0.1) |  | (3.2) |
| Recoveries (3) |  | 1.8 |  | 0.1 |  | 1.9 |
| Balance, end of period | \$ | 2,389.8 | \$ | 330.0 | \$ | 2,719.8 |


| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2013 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ | 1,869.4 | \$ | 240.5 | \$ | 2,109.9 |
| New Consumer Loan assignments (1) |  | 1,356.6 |  | 124.0 |  | 1,480.6 |
| Principal collected on Loans receivable |  | $(1,204.2)$ |  | (129.8) |  | (1,334.0) |
| Accelerated Dealer Holdback payments |  | 40.4 |  | - |  | 40.4 |
| Dealer Holdback payments |  | 114.2 |  | - |  | 114.2 |
| Transfers (2) |  | (17.9) |  | 17.9 |  | - |
| Write-offs |  | (5.2) |  | (0.1) |  | (5.3) |
| Recoveries (3) |  | 2.2 |  | 0.2 |  | 2.4 |
| Balance, end of period | \$ | 2,155.5 | \$ | 252.7 | \$ | 2,408.2 |

(1) The Dealer Loans amount represents advances paid to Dealers on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program. The Purchased Loans amount represents one-time payments made to Dealers to purchase Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program.
(2) Under our Portfolio Program, certain events may result in Dealers forfeiting their rights to Dealer Holdback. We transfer the Dealer's outstanding Dealer Loan balance to Purchased Loans in the period this forfeiture occurs.
(3) Represents collections received on previously written off Loans.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

Contractual net cash flows are comprised of the contractual repayments of the underlying Consumer Loans for Dealer and Purchased Loans, less the related Dealer Holdback payments for Dealer Loans. The difference between the contractual net cash flows and the expected net cash flows is referred to as the nonaccretable difference. This difference is neither accreted into income nor recorded in our balance sheets. We do not believe that the contractual net cash flows of our Loan portfolio are relevant in assessing our financial position. We are contractually owed repayments on many Consumer Loans, primarily those older than 120 months, where we are not forecasting any future net cash flows.

The excess of expected net cash flows over the outstanding balance of Loans receivable, net is referred to as the accretable yield and is recognized on a level-yield basis as finance charge income over the remaining lives of the Loans. A summary of changes in the accretable yield is as follows:

| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ | 725.2 | \$ | 136.5 | \$ | 861.7 |
| New Consumer Loan assignments (1) |  | 743.7 |  | 138.4 |  | 882.1 |
| Accretion (2) |  | (637.2) |  | (102.7) |  | (739.9) |
| Provision for credit losses |  | 41.8 |  | (0.3) |  | 41.5 |
| Forecast changes |  | 3.6 |  | 20.3 |  | 23.9 |
| Transfers (4) |  | (2.9) |  | 6.4 |  | 3.5 |
| Balance, end of period | \$ | 874.2 | \$ | 198.6 | \$ | 1,072.8 |


| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ | 667.5 | \$ | 112.8 | \$ | 780.3 |
| New Consumer Loan assignments (1) |  | 593.8 |  | 77.2 |  | 671.0 |
| Accretion (2) (3) |  | (562.8) |  | (77.6) |  | (640.4) |
| Provision for credit losses (3) |  | 13.7 |  | (0.9) |  | 12.8 |
| Forecast changes (3) |  | 19.4 |  | 13.6 |  | 33.0 |
| Transfers (4) |  | (6.4) |  | 11.4 |  | 5.0 |
| Balance, end of period | \$ | 725.2 | \$ | 136.5 | \$ | 861.7 |


| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2013 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ | 602.9 | \$ | 115.2 | \$ | 718.1 |
| New Consumer Loan assignments (1) |  | 564.9 |  | 50.3 |  | 615.2 |
| Accretion (2) (3) |  | (527.7) |  | (72.7) |  | (600.4) |
| Provision for credit losses (3) |  | 21.3 |  | 0.6 |  | 21.9 |
| Forecast changes (3) |  | 13.6 |  | 7.0 |  | 20.6 |
| Transfers (4) |  | (7.5) |  | 12.4 |  | 4.9 |
| Balance, end of period | \$ | 667.5 | \$ | 112.8 | \$ | 780.3 |

(1) The Dealer Loans amount represents the net cash flows expected at the time of assignment on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program, less the related advances paid to Dealers. The Purchased Loans amount represents the net cash flows expected at the time of assignment on Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program, less the related one-time payments made to Dealers.
(2) Represents finance charges excluding the amortization of deferred direct origination costs for Dealer Loans.
(3) We have changed the presentation from prior periods to: (i) exclude the amortization of deferred direct origination costs for Dealer Loans from accretion (finance charge income under our previous presentation) and forecast changes and (ii) present provision for credit losses and forecast changes as separate activities. Under our previous presentation, we presented: (i) finance charges as reported in our consolidated statements of income and (ii) provision for credit losses and forecast changes as a combined activity.
(4) Under our Portfolio Program, certain events may result in Dealers forfeiting their rights to Dealer Holdback. We transfer the Dealer's outstanding Dealer Loan balance and related expected future net cash flows to Purchased Loans in the period this forfeiture occurs.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

Additional information related to new Consumer Loan assignments is as follows:

| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Contractual net cash flows at the time of assignment (1) | \$ | 2,821.4 | \$ | 741.1 | \$ | 3,562.5 |
| Expected net cash flows at the time of assignment (2) |  | 2,538.8 |  | 510.3 |  | 3,049.1 |
| Fair value at the time of assignment (3) |  | 1,795.1 |  | 371.9 |  | 2,167.0 |


| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Contractual net cash flows at the time of assignment (1) | \$ | 2,251.4 | \$ | 394.7 | \$ | 2,646.1 |
| Expected net cash flows at the time of assignment (2) |  | 2,065.2 |  | 281.5 |  | 2,346.7 |
| Fair value at the time of assignment (3) |  | 1,471.4 |  | 204.3 |  | 1,675.7 |


| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2013 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Contractual net cash flows at the time of assignment (1) | \$ | 2,079.8 | \$ | 241.6 | \$ | 2,321.4 |
| Expected net cash flows at the time of assignment (2) |  | 1,921.5 |  | 174.3 |  | 2,095.8 |
| Fair value at the time of assignment (3) |  | 1,356.6 |  | 124.0 |  | 1,480.6 |

(1) The Dealer Loans amount represents the repayments that we were contractually owed at the time of assignment on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program, less the related Dealer Holdback payments that we would be required to make if we collected all of the contractual repayments. The Purchased Loans amount represents the repayments that we were contractually owed at the time of assignment on Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program.
(2) The Dealer Loans amount represents the repayments that we expected to collect at the time of assignment on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program, less the related Dealer Holdback payments that we expected to make. The Purchased Loans amount represents the repayments that we expected to collect at the time of assignment on Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program.
(3) The Dealer Loans amount represents advances paid to Dealers on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program. The Purchased Loans amount represents one-time payments made to Dealers to purchase Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## Credit Quality

We monitor and evaluate the credit quality of Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio and Purchase Programs on a monthly basis by comparing our current forecasted collection rates to our initial expectations. For additional information regarding credit quality, see Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements. The following table compares our forecast of Consumer Loan collection rates as of December 31, 2015, with the forecasts as of December 31, 2014, as of December 31, 2013, and at the time of assignment, segmented by year of assignment:

| Consumer Loan <br> Assignment Year | Forecasted Collection Percentage as of (1) |  |  |  | Current Forecast Variance from |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\underset{2015}{\text { December 31, }}$ | $\underset{2014}{\text { December } 31, ~}$ | $\underset{2013}{ }{ }^{\text {December 31, }}$ | Initial Forecast | $\underset{2014}{\text { December 31, }}$ | $\underset{2013}{ }{ }^{\text {December }} 31,$ | Initial Forecast |
| 2006 | 70.1\% | 70.0\% | 70.0\% | 71.4\% | 0.1\% | 0.1\% | -1.3\% |
| 2007 | 68.1\% | 68.0\% | 67.9\% | 70.7\% | 0.1\% | 0.2\% | -2.6\% |
| 2008 | 70.3\% | 70.3\% | 70.1\% | 69.7\% | 0.0\% | 0.2\% | 0.6\% |
| 2009 | 79.4\% | 79.4\% | 79.2\% | 71.9\% | 0.0\% | 0.2\% | 7.5\% |
| 2010 | 77.4\% | 77.2\% | 77.0\% | 73.6\% | 0.2\% | 0.4\% | 3.8\% |
| 2011 | 74.2\% | 74.0\% | 74.1\% | 72.5\% | 0.2\% | 0.1\% | 1.7\% |
| 2012 | 73.2\% | 73.4\% | 73.5\% | 71.4\% | -0.2\% | -0.3\% | 1.8\% |
| 2013 | 73.4\% | 73.7\% | 73.3\% | 72.0\% | -0.3\% | 0.1\% | 1.4\% |
| 2014 | 72.6\% | 72.6\% | - | 71.8\% | 0.0\% | - | 0.8\% |
| 2015 | 67.8\% | - | - | 67.7\% | - | - | 0.1\% |

(1) Represents the total forecasted collections we expect to collect on the Consumer Loans as a percentage of the repayments that we were contractually owed on the Consumer Loans at the time of assignment. Contractual repayments include both principal and interest. Forecasted collection rates are negatively impacted by canceled Consumer Loans as the contractual amount owed is not removed from the denominator for purposes of computing forecasted collection rates in the table.

Consumer Loans assigned in 2009 through 2013 have yielded forecasted collection results materially better than our initial estimates, while Consumer Loans assigned in 2006 and 2007 have yielded forecasted collection results materially worse than our initial estimates. For Consumer Loans assigned in 2008, 2014 and 2015, actual results have been very close to our initial estimates.

For the year ended December 31, 2015, forecasted collection rates improved for Consumer Loans assigned in 2010 and 2011, declined for Consumer Loans assigned in 2012 and 2013 and were generally consistent with expectations at the start of the period for all other assignment years presented.

For the year ended December 31, 2014, forecasted collection rates improved for Consumer Loans assigned in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2013 and 2014, and were generally consistent with expectations at the start of the period for all other assignment years presented.

The initial forecast for Consumer Loans assigned in 2015 was lower than the initial forecast for Consumer Loans assigned in 2014. The lower initial forecast reflects a change in the mix of Consumer Loan assignments received during 2015, including a longer average initial loan term. The average initial term for Consumer Loans assigned in 2015 was 49.8 months as compared to 46.9 months for Consumer Loans assigned in 2014.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

Advances paid to Dealers on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program and one-time payments made to Dealers to purchase Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program are aggregated into pools for purposes of recognizing revenue and evaluating impairment. As a result of this aggregation, we are not able to segment the carrying amounts of the majority of our Loan portfolio by year of assignment. We are able to segment our Loan portfolio by the performance of the Loan pools. Performance considers both the amount and timing of expected net cash flows and is measured by comparing the balance of the Loan pool to the discounted value of the expected future net cash flows of each Loan pool using the yield established at the time of assignment. The following table segments our Loan portfolio by the performance of the Loan pools:

| (In millions) | As of December 31, 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Loan Pool Performance Meets or Exceeds Initial Estimates |  |  |  |  |  | Loan Pool Performance Less than Initial Estimates |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  | Dealer Loans |  | PurchasedLoans |  | Total |  |
| Loans receivable | \$ | 1,066.8 | \$ | 478.1 | \$ | 1,544.9 | \$ | 1,756.6 | \$ | 43.6 | \$ | 1,800.2 |
| Allowance for credit losses |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | (235.1) |  | (8.5) |  | (243.6) |
| Loans receivable, net | \$ | 1,066.8 | \$ | 478.1 | \$ | 1,544.9 | \$ | 1,521.5 | \$ | 35.1 | \$ | 1,556.6 |


| (In millions) | As of December 31, 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Loan Pool Performance Meets or Exceeds Initial Estimates |  |  |  |  |  | Loan Pool Performance Less than Initial Estimates |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Loans receivable | \$ | 945.1 | \$ | 317.7 | \$ | 1,262.8 | \$ | 1,444.7 | \$ | 12.3 | \$ | 1,457.0 |
| Allowance for credit losses |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | (198.1) |  | (8.8) |  | (206.9) |
| Loans receivable, net | \$ | 945.1 | \$ | 317.7 | \$ | 1,262.8 | \$ | 1,246.6 | \$ | 3.5 | \$ | 1,250.1 |

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

A summary of changes in the allowance for credit losses is as follows:

| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ | 198.1 | \$ | 8.8 | \$ | 206.9 |
| Provision for credit losses |  | 41.8 |  | (0.3) |  | 41.5 |
| Write-offs |  | (6.4) |  | (0.2) |  | (6.6) |
| Recoveries (1) |  | 1.6 |  | 0.2 |  | 1.8 |
| Balance, end of period | \$ | 235.1 | \$ | 8.5 | \$ | 243.6 |


| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ | 185.7 | \$ | 9.7 | \$ | 195.4 |
| Provision for credit losses |  | 13.7 |  | (0.9) |  | 12.8 |
| Write-offs |  | (3.1) |  | (0.1) |  | (3.2) |
| Recoveries (1) |  | 1.8 |  | 0.1 |  | 1.9 |
| Balance, end of period | \$ | 198.1 | \$ | 8.8 | \$ | 206.9 |


| (In millions) | For the Year Ended December 31, 2013 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dealer Loans |  | Purchased Loans |  | Total |  |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ | 167.4 | \$ | 9.0 | \$ | 176.4 |
| Provision for credit losses |  | 21.3 |  | 0.6 |  | 21.9 |
| Write-offs |  | (5.2) |  | (0.1) |  | (5.3) |
| Recoveries (1) |  | 2.2 |  | 0.2 |  | 2.4 |
| Balance, end of period | \$ | 185.7 | \$ | 9.7 | \$ | 195.4 |

(1) Represents collections received on previously written off Loans.

During the fourth quarter of 2014, we enhanced our methodologies for forecasting the timing of future collections on Loans and the timing of future Dealer Holdback payments on Dealer Loans through the utilization of more recent data, different segmentations and new forecast variables. Implementation of the enhanced forecasting methodologies decreased the provision for credit losses by $\$ 2.9$ million for the fourth quarter of 2014, of which all related to Dealer Loans.

During the second quarter of 2013, we enhanced our methodology for forecasting future collections on Loans through the utilization of more recent data, different segmentations and new forecast variables. Implementation of the enhanced forecasting methodology increased the provision for credit losses by $\$ 3.0$ million for the second quarter of 2013, of which $\$ 1.2$ million related to Dealer Loans and $\$ 1.8$ million related to Purchased Loans.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## 6. LEASED PROPERTIES

We lease office space and office equipment. We expect that in the normal course of business, leases will be renewed or replaced by other leases. Total rental expense on all operating leases was $\$ 1.5$ million for 2015 and 2014 , respectively, and $\$ 1.1$ million for 2013. Contingent rentals under the operating leases were insignificant. Our total minimum future lease commitments under operating leases as of December 31, 2015 are as follows:
(In millions)

| Year | Minimum Future Lease Commitments |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2016 | \$ | 1.6 |
| 2017 |  | 1.6 |
| 2018 |  | 1.1 |
| 2019 |  | 0.3 |
| 2020 |  | 0.1 |
| Total | \$ | 4.7 |

## 7. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment consists of the following:

| (In millions) | As of December 31, |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  |
| Land and land improvements | \$ | 2.3 | \$ | 2.3 |
| Building and improvements |  | 14.6 |  | 13.9 |
| Data processing equipment and software |  | 28.2 |  | 26.8 |
| Office furniture and equipment |  | 3.9 |  | 4.1 |
| Leasehold improvements |  | 1.6 |  | 1.5 |
| Total property and equipment |  | 50.6 |  | 48.6 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation on property and equipment |  | (31.7) |  | (27.7) |
| Total property and equipment, net | \$ | 18.9 | \$ | 20.9 |

Depreciation expense on property and equipment was $\$ 5.7$ million, $\$ 5.5$ million and $\$ 5.4$ million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## 8. DEBT

Debt consists of the following:

(1) Warehouse facilities and Term ABS financings

General information for each of our financing transactions in place as of December 31, 2015 is as follows:
(Dollars in millions)

| Financings | Wholly-owned Subsidiary | Maturity Date |  | Financing Amount |  | Interest Rate as of December 31, 2015 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Revolving Secured Line of Credit | n/a | 06/22/18 |  | \$ | 310.0 | At our option, either LIBOR plus 187.5 basis points or the prime rate plus 87.5 basis points |
| Warehouse Facility II (1) | CAC Warehouse Funding Corp. II | 07/18/17 | (2) | \$ | 400.0 | Commercial paper rate or LIBOR plus 200 basis points (3) |
| Warehouse Facility IV (1) | CAC Warehouse Funding LLC IV | 04/30/18 | (2) | \$ | 75.0 | LIBOR plus 200 basis points (3) |
| Warehouse Facility V (1) | CAC Warehouse <br> Funding LLC V | 09/10/17 | (4) | \$ | 100.0 | LIBOR plus 160 basis points (3) |
| Warehouse Facility VI (1) | CAC Warehouse <br> Funding LLC VI | 09/30/18 | (2) | \$ | 75.0 | LIBOR plus 200 basis points |
| Term ABS 2013-1 (1) | Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2013-1 | 04/15/15 | (2) | \$ | 140.3 | Fixed rate |
| Term ABS 2013-2 (1) | Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2013-2 | 10/15/15 | (2) | \$ | 197.8 | Fixed rate |
| Term ABS 2014-1 (1) | Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2014-1 | 04/15/16 | (2) | \$ | 299.0 | Fixed rate |
| Term ABS 2014-2 (1) | Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2014-2 | 09/15/16 | (2) | \$ | 349.0 | Fixed rate |
| Term ABS 2015-1 (1) | Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2015-1 | 01/16/17 | (2) | \$ | 300.6 | Fixed rate |
| Term ABS 2015-2 (1) | Credit Acceptance <br> Funding LLC 2015-2 | 08/15/17 | (2) | \$ | 300.2 | Fixed rate |
| 2021 Senior Notes | n/a | 02/15/21 |  | \$ | 300.0 | Fixed rate |
| 2023 Senior Notes | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | 03/15/23 |  | \$ | 250.0 | Fixed rate |

(1) Financing made available only to a specified subsidiary of the Company.
(2) Represents the revolving maturity date. The outstanding balance will amortize after the maturity date based on the cash flows of the pledged assets.
(3) Interest rate cap agreements are in place to limit the exposure to increasing interest rates.
(4) Represents the revolving maturity date. The outstanding balance will amortize after the revolving maturity date and any amounts remaining on September 10, 2019 will be due.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

Additional information related to the amounts outstanding on each facility is as follows:

| (In millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  |
| Revolving Secured Line of Credit |  |  |  |  |
| Maximum outstanding principal balance | \$ | 206.3 | \$ | 204.7 |
| Average outstanding principal balance |  | 39.1 |  | 103.6 |
| Warehouse Facility II |  |  |  |  |
| Maximum outstanding principal balance | \$ | 200.8 | \$ | 290.2 |
| Average outstanding principal balance |  | 7.9 |  | 70.3 |
| Warehouse Facility IV |  |  |  |  |
| Maximum outstanding principal balance | \$ | 35.0 | \$ | 26.7 |
| Average outstanding principal balance |  | 9.2 |  | 22.0 |
| Warehouse Facility V |  |  |  |  |
| Maximum outstanding principal balance | \$ | 99.2 | \$ | 75.0 |
| Average outstanding principal balance |  | 12.2 |  | 9.2 |
| Warehouse Facility VI |  |  |  |  |
| Maximum outstanding principal balance | \$ | 15.0 | \$ | - |
| Average outstanding principal balance |  | 1.5 |  | - |

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

| (Dollars in millions) | As of December 31, |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  |
| Revolving Secured Line of Credit |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | 57.7 | \$ | 119.5 |
| Amount available for borrowing (1) |  | 252.3 |  | 115.5 |
| Interest rate |  | 2.30\% |  | 2.16\% |
| Warehouse Facility II |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | - | \$ | 81.3 |
| Amount available for borrowing (1) |  | 400.0 |  | 243.7 |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | - |  | 104.1 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | 1.2 |  | 2.0 |
| Interest rate |  | 2.24\% |  | 2.16\% |
| Warehouse Facility IV |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | 12.0 | \$ | 19.9 |
| Amount available for borrowing (1) |  | 63.0 |  | 55.1 |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | 24.5 |  | 44.9 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | 0.9 |  | 1.4 |
| Interest rate |  | 2.42\% |  | 2.17\% |
| Warehouse Facility V |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | - | \$ | 17.9 |
| Amount available for borrowing (1) |  | 100.0 |  | 57.1 |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | - |  | 34.9 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | 1.0 |  | 1.2 |
| Interest rate |  | 1.84\% |  | 1.77\% |
| Warehouse Facility VI |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | 14.7 | \$ | - |
| Amount available for borrowing (1) |  | 60.3 |  | - |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | 20.7 |  | - |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | 0.9 |  | - |
| Interest rate |  | 2.24\% |  | -\% |
| Term ABS 2012-1 |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | - | \$ | 43.8 |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | - |  | 145.1 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | - |  | 19.3 |
| Interest rate |  | —\% |  | 3.04\% |
| Term ABS 2012-2 |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | - | \$ | 184.0 |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | - |  | 278.6 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | - |  | 27.8 |
| Interest rate |  | —\% |  | 1.67\% |
| Term ABS 2013-1 |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | 39.6 | \$ | 140.3 |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | 144.5 |  | 186.7 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | 14.6 |  | 16.7 |
| Interest rate |  | 1.56\% |  | 1.31\% |

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

| Term ABS 2013-2 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | 163.5 | \$ | 197.8 |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | 234.7 |  | 248.9 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | 21.4 |  | 21.2 |
| Interest rate |  | 1.71\% |  | 1.67\% |
| Term ABS 2014-1 |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | 299.0 | \$ | 299.0 |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | 366.4 |  | 426.2 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | 31.9 |  | 31.6 |
| Interest rate |  | 1.72\% |  | 1.72\% |
| Term ABS 2014-2 |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | 349.0 | \$ | 349.0 |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | 430.5 |  | 440.7 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | 37.7 |  | 36.2 |
| Interest rate |  | 2.05\% |  | 2.05\% |
| Term ABS 2015-1 |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | 300.6 | \$ | - |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | 372.4 |  | - |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | 29.3 |  | - |
| Interest rate |  | 2.26\% |  | -\% |
| Term ABS 2015-2 |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | 300.2 | \$ | - |
| Loans pledged as collateral |  | 390.4 |  | - |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral |  | 27.7 |  | - |
| Interest rate |  | 2.63\% |  | -\% |
| 2021 Senior Notes |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | 300.0 | \$ | 300.0 |
| Interest rate |  | 6.125\% |  | 6.125\% |
| 2023 Senior Notes |  |  |  |  |
| Principal balance outstanding | \$ | 250.0 | \$ | - |
| Interest rate |  | 7.375\% |  | -\% |

(1) Availability may be limited by the amount of assets pledged as collateral.

## Revolving Secured Line of Credit Facility

We have a $\$ 310.0$ million revolving secured line of credit facility with a commercial bank syndicate. Borrowings under the revolving secured line of credit facility, including any letters of credit issued under the facility, are subject to a borrowing-base limitation. This limitation equals $80 \%$ of the net book value of Loans, less a hedging reserve (not exceeding $\$ 1.0$ million), and the amount of other debt secured by the collateral which secures the revolving secured line of credit facility. Borrowings under the revolving secured line of credit facility agreement are secured by a lien on most of our assets.

## Warehouse Facilities

We have four Warehouse facilities with total borrowing capacity of $\$ 650.0$ million. Each of the facilities are with different institutional investors. Under each Warehouse facility, we can contribute Loans to our wholly-owned subsidiaries in return for cash and equity in each subsidiary. In turn, each subsidiary pledges the Loans as collateral to institutional investors to secure financing that will fund the cash portion of the purchase price of the Loans. The financing provided to each subsidiary under the applicable facility is limited to the lesser of $80 \%$ of the net book value of the contributed Loans plus the restricted cash and cash equivalents pledged as collateral on such Loans or the facility limit.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

The financings create indebtedness for which the subsidiaries are liable and which is secured by all the assets of each subsidiary. Such indebtedness is non-recourse to us, even though we are consolidated for financial reporting purposes with the subsidiaries. Because the subsidiaries are organized as legal entities separate from us, their assets (including the contributed Loans) are not available to our creditors.

The subsidiaries pay us a monthly servicing fee equal to $6 \%$ of the collections received with respect to the contributed Loans. The fee is paid out of the collections. Except for the servicing fee and holdback payments due to Dealers, if a facility is amortizing, we do not have any rights in any portion of such collections until all outstanding principal, accrued and unpaid interest, fees and other related costs have been paid in full. If a facility is not amortizing, the applicable subsidiary may be entitled to retain a portion of such collections provided that the borrowing base requirements of the facility are satisfied.

## Term ABS Financings

Our wholly-owned subsidiaries (the "Funding LLCs"), have completed secured financing transactions with qualified institutional investors. In connection with these transactions, we contributed Loans on an arms-length basis to each Funding LLC for cash and the sole membership interest in that Funding LLC. In turn, each Funding LLC contributed the Loans to a respective trust that issued notes to qualified institutional investors. The Term ABS 2013-1, 2013-2, 2014-1, 2014-2, 2015-1 and 2015-2 transactions each consist of three classes of notes. The Class C Notes for each Term ABS financing, other than Term ABS 2015-1 and 2015-2, do not bear interest and have been retained by us.

Each financing at the time of issuance has a specified revolving period during which we may be required, and are likely, to contribute additional Loans to each Funding LLC. Each Funding LLC will then contribute the Loans to their respective trust. At the end of the revolving period, the debt outstanding under each financing will begin to amortize.

The financings create indebtedness for which the trusts are liable and which is secured by all the assets of each trust. Such indebtedness is non-recourse to us, even though we are consolidated for financial reporting purposes with the trusts and the Funding LLCs. Because the Funding LLCs are organized as legal entities separate from us, their assets (including the contributed Loans) are not available to our creditors. We receive a monthly servicing fee on each financing equal to $6 \%$ of the collections received with respect to the contributed Loans. The fee is paid out of the collections. Except for the servicing fee and Dealer Holdback payments due to Dealers, if a facility is amortizing, we do not have any rights in any portion of such collections until all outstanding principal, accrued and unpaid interest, fees and other related costs have been paid in full. If a facility is not amortizing, the applicable subsidiary may be entitled to retain a portion of such collections provided that the borrowing base requirements of the facility are satisfied. However, in our capacity as servicer of the Loans, we do have a limited right to exercise a "clean-up call" option to purchase Loans from the Funding LLCs and/or the trusts under certain specified circumstances. Alternatively, when a trust's underlying indebtedness is paid in full, either through collections or through a prepayment of the indebtedness, the trust is to pay any remaining collections over to its Funding LLC as the sole beneficiary of the trust. The collections will then be available to be distributed to us as the sole member of the respective Funding LLC.

The table below sets forth certain additional details regarding the outstanding Term ABS Financings:
(Dollars in millions)

| Term ABS Financings | Close Date | Net Book Value of Loans Contributed at Closing |  | 24 Month Revolving Period |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Term ABS 2013-1 | April 25, 2013 | \$ | 187.8 | Through April 15, 2015 |
| Term ABS 2013-2 | October 31, 2013 |  | 250.1 | Through October 15, 2015 |
| Term ABS 2014-1 | April 16, 2014 |  | 374.7 | Through April 15, 2016 |
| Term ABS 2014-2 | September 25, 2014 |  | 437.6 | Through September 15, 2016 |
| Term ABS 2015-1 | January 29, 2015 |  | 375.9 | Through January 16, 2017 |
| Term ABS 2015-2 | August 20, 2015 |  | 375.5 | Through August 15, 2017 |

## Senior Notes

On March 30, 2015, we issued \$250.0 million aggregate principal amount of $7.375 \%$ senior notes due 2023 (the " 2023 senior notes"). The 2023 senior notes were issued pursuant to an indenture, dated as of March 30, 2015, among the Company, as issuer, the Company's subsidiaries Buyers Vehicle Protection Plan, Inc. and Vehicle Remarketing Services, Inc., as guarantors (collectively, the "Guarantors"), and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

The 2023 senior notes mature on March 15, 2023 and bear interest at a rate of $7.375 \%$ per annum, computed on the basis of a 360-day year composed of twelve 30-day months and payable semi-annually on March 15 and September 15 of each year, beginning on September 15, 2015. The 2023 senior notes were issued at a price of $99.266 \%$ of their aggregate principal amount, resulting in gross proceeds of $\$ 248.2$ million, and a yield to maturity of $7.5 \%$ per annum. We used the net proceeds from the offering of the notes for general corporate purposes, including repayment of outstanding borrowings under our revolving secured line of credit facility.

On January 22, 2014, we issued $\$ 300.0$ million aggregate principal amount of $6.125 \%$ senior notes due 2021 (the " 2021 senior notes"). The 2021 senior notes were issued pursuant to an indenture, dated as of January 22, 2014, among the Company, the Guarantors, and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee.

The 2021 senior notes mature on February 15, 2021 and bear interest at a rate of $6.125 \%$ per annum, computed on the basis of a 360-day year composed of twelve 30-day months and payable semi-annually on February 15 and August 15 of each year, beginning on August 15, 2014. We used the net proceeds from the 2021 senior notes, together with borrowings under our revolving credit facilities, to redeem in full the $\$ 350.0$ million aggregate principal amount of our $9.125 \%$ first priority senior secured notes due 2017 (the " 2017 senior notes") on February 21, 2014. During the first quarter of 2014, we recognized a pre-tax loss on extinguishment of debt of $\$ 21.8$ million related to the redemption of the 2017 senior notes.

Both the 2021 senior notes and the 2023 senior notes (the "senior notes") are guaranteed on a senior basis by the Guarantors, which are also guarantors of obligations under our revolving secured line of credit facility. Other existing and future subsidiaries of ours may become guarantors of the senior notes in the future. The indentures for the senior notes provide for a guarantor of the senior notes to be released from its obligations under its guarantee of the senior notes under specified circumstances.

## Principal Debt Maturities

The scheduled principal maturities of our debt as of December 31, 2015 are as follows:
(In millions)

| Year | Revolving Secured Line of Credit Facility |  | Warehouse Facilities |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Term ABS } \\ \text { Financings (1) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | Senior Notes |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2016 | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | 489.7 | \$ | - | \$ | 489.7 |
| 2017 |  | - |  | - |  | 737.0 |  | - |  | 737.0 |
| 2018 |  | 57.7 |  | 11.7 |  | 225.2 |  | - |  | 294.6 |
| 2019 |  | - |  | 15.0 |  | - |  | - |  | 15.0 |
| Thereafter |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | 550.0 |  | 550.0 |
| Total | \$ | 57.7 | \$ | 26.7 | \$ | 1,451.9 | \$ | 550.0 | \$ | 2,086.3 |

(1) The principal maturities of the Term ABS transactions are estimated based on forecasted collections.

## Debt Covenants

As of December 31, 2015, we were in compliance with all our debt covenants relating to the revolving secured line of credit facility, including those that require the maintenance of certain financial ratios and other financial conditions. These covenants require a minimum ratio of our earnings before interest, taxes and non-cash expenses to fixed charges. These covenants also limit the maximum ratio of our funded debt less unrestricted cash and cash equivalents to tangible net worth. Additionally, we must maintain consolidated net income of not less than $\$ 1$ for the two most recently ended fiscal quarters. Some of these debt covenants may indirectly limit the repurchase of common stock or payment of dividends on common stock.

Our Warehouse facilities and Term ABS financings also contain covenants that measure the performance of the contributed assets. As of December 31, 2015, we were in compliance with all such covenants. As of the end of the year, we were also in compliance with our covenants under the senior notes indentures.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## 9. DERIVATIVE AND HEDGING INSTRUMENTS

Interest Rate Caps. We utilize interest rate cap agreements to manage the interest rate risk on our Warehouse facilities. The following tables provide the terms of our interest rate cap agreements that were in effect as of December 31, 2015 and 2014:
(Dollars in millions)
(Dollars in millions)
As of December 31, 2014

(1) Rate excludes the spread over the LIBOR rate or the commercial paper rate, as applicable.

The interest rate caps have not been designated as hedging instruments. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, the interest rate caps had a fair value of less than $\$ 0.1$ million as the capped rates were significantly above market rates.

Information related to the effect of derivative instruments not designated as hedging instruments on our consolidated statements of income for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013 is as follows:

| (In millions) <br> Derivatives Not Design Hedging Instrument | Location | Amount of (Loss)/ Gain Recognized in Income on Derivatives |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  |
| Interest rate caps | Interest expense | \$ |  | \$ | (0.1) | \$ | (0.1) |

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## 10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

In the normal course of our business, affiliated Dealers assign Consumer Loans to us under the Portfolio and Purchase Programs. Dealer Loans and Purchased Loans with affiliated Dealers are on the same terms as those with non-affiliated Dealers. Affiliated Dealers are comprised of Dealers owned or controlled by: (1) our Chairman and significant shareholder; and (2) a member of the Chairman's immediate family.

Affiliated Dealer Loan balances were $\$ 12.6$ million and $\$ 8.7$ million as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, affiliated Dealer Loan balances were $0.4 \%$ of total consolidated Dealer Loan balances. A summary of related party Loan activity is as follows:

| (Dollars in millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  |  | 2014 |  |  | 2013 |  |  |
|  | Affiliated Dealer activity |  | $\begin{gathered} \% \text { of } \\ \text { consolidated } \end{gathered}$ | Affiliated Dealer activity |  | $\begin{gathered} \% \text { of } \\ \text { consolidated } \end{gathered}$ | Affiliated Dealer activity |  | $\begin{gathered} \% \text { of } \\ \text { consolidated } \end{gathered}$ |
| Dealer Loan revenue | \$ | 2.5 | 0.4\% | \$ | 1.6 | 0.3\% | \$ | 1.5 | 0.3\% |
| New Consumer Loan assignments (1) |  | 5.9 | 0.3\% |  | 4.2 | 0.3\% |  | 4.3 | 0.3\% |
| Accelerated Dealer Holdback payments |  | 0.2 | 0.4\% |  | 0.1 | 0.2\% |  | 0.1 | 0.2\% |
| Dealer Holdback payments |  | 1.4 | 0.9\% |  | 1.4 | 1.0\% |  | 2.2 | 1.9\% |

(1) Represents advances paid to Dealers on Consumer Loans assigned under our Portfolio Program and one-time payments made to Dealers to purchase Consumer Loans assigned under our Purchase Program.

## 11. INCOME TAXES

The income tax provision consists of the following:

| (In millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  |
| Income before provision for income taxes: | \$ | 474.5 | \$ | 420.9 | \$ | 398.2 |
| Current provision for income taxes: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Federal |  | 127.9 |  | 90.9 |  | 128.4 |
| State |  | 10.6 |  | 7.3 |  | 7.4 |
|  |  | 138.5 |  | 98.2 |  | 135.8 |
| Deferred provision for income taxes: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Federal |  | 33.7 |  | 52.0 |  | 8.7 |
| State |  | 1.9 |  | 4.1 |  | 0.1 |
|  |  | 35.6 |  | 56.1 |  | 8.8 |
| Interest and penalties expense: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest |  | 0.7 |  | 0.4 |  | 0.5 |
| Penalties |  | - |  | - |  | - |
|  |  | 0.7 |  | 0.4 |  | 0.5 |
| Provision for income taxes | \$ | 174.8 | \$ | 154.7 | \$ | 145.1 |

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities consist of the following:

| (In millions) | As of December 31, |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  |
| Deferred tax assets: |  |  |  |  |
| Allowance for credit losses | \$ | 89.8 | \$ | 76.4 |
| Stock-based compensation |  | 18.8 |  | 14.8 |
| Deferred state net operating loss |  | 5.1 |  | 3.9 |
| Other, net |  | 11.3 |  | 9.2 |
| Total deferred tax assets |  | 125.0 |  | 104.3 |
| Deferred tax liabilities: |  |  |  |  |
| Valuation of Loans receivable |  | 364.2 |  | 306.5 |
| Deferred Loan origination costs |  | 2.5 |  | 2.7 |
| Other, net |  | 7.2 |  | 8.5 |
| Total deferred tax liabilities |  | 373.9 |  | 317.7 |
| Net deferred tax liability | \$ | 248.9 | \$ | 213.4 |

The deferred state net operating loss tax asset arising from the operating loss carry forward for state income tax purposes is expected to expire at various times beginning in 2022, if not utilized. We do not anticipate expiration of the net operating loss carry forwards prior to their utilization.

A reconciliation of the U.S. federal statutory rate to our effective tax rate is as follows:

|  | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
| U.S. federal statutory rate | 35.0\% | 35.0\% | 35.0\% |
| State income taxes | 1.6\% | 1.7\% | 1.1\% |
| Other | 0.2\% | 0.1\% | 0.3\% |
| Effective tax rate | 36.8\% | 36.8\% | 36.4\% |

The differences between the U.S. federal statutory rate and our effective tax rates for 2015, 2014 and 2013 are primarily due to state income taxes. The increases in the effective tax rates over the three year period were primarily due to higher effective tax rates in certain state tax jurisdictions.

The following table is a summary of changes in gross unrecognized tax benefits:

| (In millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  |
| Unrecognized tax benefits at January 1, | \$ | 16.6 | \$ | 13.2 | \$ | 11.0 |
| Additions based on tax positions related to current year |  | 7.4 |  | 5.5 |  | 3.6 |
| Reductions for tax positions of prior years |  | - |  | (0.2) |  | - |
| Settlements |  | - |  | - |  | - |
| Reductions as a result of a lapse of the statute of limitations |  | (2.2) |  | (1.9) |  | (1.4) |
| Unrecognized tax benefits at December 31, | \$ | 21.8 | \$ | 16.6 | \$ | 13.2 |

The total amount of gross unrecognized tax benefit that, if recognized, would favorably affect our effective income tax rate in future periods, was $\$ 21.8$ million as of December 31, 2015. Accrued interest related to uncertain tax positions was $\$ 3.8$ million and $\$ 3.1$ million as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

We are subject to income tax in federal and state jurisdictions. The IRS has completed their federal tax examinations for years prior to 2012. With respect to state jurisdictions, we are generally no longer subject to tax examinations on returns filed for years prior to 2008.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## 12. NET INCOME PER SHARE

Basic net income per share has been computed by dividing net income by the basic number of weighted average shares outstanding. Diluted net income per share has been computed by dividing net income by the diluted number of weighted average shares outstanding using the treasury stock method. The share effect is as follows:


For the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, there were no stock options, restricted stock or restricted stock units that would have been anti-dilutive.

## 13. STOCK REPURCHASES

Our board of directors approved a stock repurchase program which authorizes us to repurchase common shares in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions at price levels we deem attractive. On November 23, 2015, the board of directors authorized the repurchase of up to one million shares of our common stock in addition to the board's prior authorizations. As of December 31, 2015, we had authorization to repurchase 860,450 shares of our common stock.

The following table summarizes our stock repurchases for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013:

| (Dollars in millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  |  | 2014 |  |  | 2013 |  |  |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Number of } \\ \text { Shares } \\ \text { Repurchased } \end{gathered}$ | Cost |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Number of } \\ \text { Shares } \\ \text { Repurchased } \end{gathered}$ | Cost |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Number of } \\ \text { Shares } \\ \text { Repurchased } \end{gathered}$ | Cost |  |
| Open Market | 464,006 | \$ | 85.4 | - | \$ | - | 1,209,756 | \$ | 134.5 |
| Tender Offer (1) | - |  | - | 2,548,868 |  | 325.3 | - |  | - |
| Other (2) | 6,065 |  | 1.1 | 137,876 |  | 18.4 | 6,259 |  | 0.7 |
| Total | 470,071 | \$ | 86.5 | 2,686,744 | \$ | 343.7 | 1,216,015 | \$ | 135.2 |

(1) Tender Offer Cost amounts include offering costs of $\$ 0.3$ million for 2014.
(2) Represents shares of common stock released to us by team members as payment of tax withholdings due to us upon the vesting of restricted stock and restricted stock units.

## 14. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS

Pursuant to our Amended and Restated Incentive Compensation Plan (the "Incentive Plan"), we can grant stock-based awards in the form of restricted stock, restricted stock units and stock options to team members, officers, directors, and contractors at any time prior to March 26, 2022. On March 26, 2012, our board of directors approved an amendment to our Incentive Plan, increasing the number of shares authorized for issuance by 500,000 shares, to 2.0 million shares. The shares available for future grants under the Incentive Plan totaled 242,806 as of December 31, 2015.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## Restricted Stock

We grant performance-based and time-based shares of restricted stock to team members in accordance with our Incentive Plan. The grant-date fair value per share is estimated to equal the market price of our common stock on the date of grant. Based on the terms of individual restricted stock grant agreements, shares vest under one of the following methods:

- Over a period of 15 years, based on continuous employment and a combination of the cumulative improvement in our annual adjusted economic profit, a non-GAAP financial measure, and the attainment of annual adjusted economic profit targets.
- Over a period of three years, based on continuous employment.

A summary of the non-vested restricted stock activity under the Incentive Plan for the year ended December 31, 2015 is presented below:

| Restricted Stock |  | Number of Shares | Weighted Average <br> Grant-Date Fair <br> Value Per Share |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Non-vested as of December 31, 2014 | 190,400 | $\$$ | 107.51 |
| Granted | $(12,860$ | 183.30 |  |
| Vested | $(836)$ | 110.46 |  |
| Forfeited |  | 182,311 | $\$$ |
| Non-vested as of December 31, 2015 |  | 143.25 |  |

The grant-date weighted average fair value of shares granted in 2015,2014 and 2013 was $\$ 183.30, \$ 138.14$, and $\$ 113.56$, respectively. The total fair value of shares vested was $\$ 2.6$ million in 2015 and $\$ 1.9$ million in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

## Restricted Stock Units

We grant performance-based restricted stock units to team members and directors in accordance with our Incentive Plan. The grant-date fair value per share is estimated to equal the market price of our common stock on the date of grant. Each restricted stock unit represents and has a value equal to one share of common stock. Based on the terms of individual restricted stock grant agreements, restricted stock unit vest under one of the following methods:

- Over a period of ten years, based on continuous employment and the cumulative improvement in our annual adjusted economic profit.
- Over a period of five years, based upon the compounded annual growth rate in our adjusted economic profit.
- Over a period of three years, based on continuous employment and the compounded annual growth rate in our adjusted EPS, a non-GAAP financial measure.

A summary of the restricted stock unit activity under the Incentive Plan for the year ended December 31, 2015, is presented below:

| Restricted Stock Units | Number of Restricted Stock Units | Weighted Average Grant-Date Fair Value Per Share |  |  | trinsic | Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (in years) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outstanding as of December 31, 2014 | 862,682 | \$ | 61.93 |  |  |  |
| Granted | 1,500 |  | 139.00 |  |  |  |
| Converted | $(1,348)$ |  | 119.33 |  |  |  |
| Forfeited | $(3,415)$ |  | 122.81 |  |  |  |
| Outstanding as of December 31, 2015 (1) | 859,419 | \$ | 61.73 | \$ | 183.9 | 3.9 |
| Vested as of December 31, 2015 | 532,160 | \$ | 33.74 | \$ | 113.9 | 1.3 |

(1) No RSUs outstanding at December 31, 2015 were convertible to shares of common stock.
(2) The intrinsic value of RSUs is measured by applying the closing stock price as of December 31, 2015 to the applicable number of units.

The grant-date weighted average fair value of RSUs granted in 2015, 2014 and 2013 was $\$ 139.00, \$ 130.16$, and $\$ 122.81$, respectively. The total intrinsic value of RSUs converted to common stock during 2015, 2014 and 2013 was $\$ 0.2$ million, $\$ 40.1$ million, and $\$ 0.1$ million, respectively.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## Stock Options

Pursuant to our Director Stock Option Plan (the "Director Plan"), we had reserved 200,000 shares of our common stock for future granting of options to members of our Board of Directors. The exercise price of the options was no less than the fair market value on the date of the grant. Options expired ten years from the date of grant. The Director Plan was terminated as to future grants on May 13, 2004, with shareholder approval of the Incentive Plan. The Director Plan had no options outstanding as of December 31, 2015 and 2014.

There were no stock options exercised in 2015. The total intrinsic value of stock options exercised in 2014 and 2013 was $\$ 5.1$ million and $\$ 3.2$ million, respectively.

## Stock-based compensation expense

Stock-based compensation expense consists of the following:

| (In millions) | For the Years Ended December 31, |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 |  | 2014 |  | 2013 |  |
| Restricted stock | \$ | 3.2 | \$ | 3.3 | \$ | 3.0 |
| Restricted stock units |  | 9.2 |  | 12.0 |  | 5.5 |
| Total | \$ | 12.4 | \$ | 15.3 | \$ | 8.5 |

While the stock-based awards are often expected to vest in equal, annual installments over the corresponding requisite service periods of the grants, the related stock-based compensation expense is not recognized on a straight-line basis over the same periods. Each installment is accounted for as a separate award and as a result, the fair value of each installment is recognized as stock-based compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the related expected vesting period. Assuming performance targets are achieved in the periods currently estimated, we expect to recognize the remaining expense for stock-based awards outstanding as of December 31, 2015 over a weighted average period of 2.8 years, as follows:
(In millions)

| For the Years Ended December 31, | Restricted Stock Units |  | Restricted Stock |  | Total ProjectedExpense |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2016 | \$ | 4.5 | \$ | 2.2 | \$ | 6.7 |
| 2017 |  | 2.5 |  | 1.6 |  | 4.1 |
| 2018 |  | 1.7 |  | 1.3 |  | 3.0 |
| 2019 |  | 1.1 |  | 1.2 |  | 2.3 |
| 2020 |  | 0.8 |  | 1.1 |  | 1.9 |
| Thereafter |  | 0.5 |  | 3.4 |  | 3.9 |
| Total | \$ | 11.1 | , | 10.8 | \$ | 21.9 |

## 15. BUSINESS SEGMENT AND OTHER INFORMATION

## Business Segment Overview

We identify operating segments as components of our business for which separate financial information is regularly evaluated by the chief operating decision-maker ("CODM") in making decisions regarding resource allocation and assessing performance. We periodically review and redefine our segment reporting as internal management reporting practices evolve and the components of our business change. Currently, the CODM reviews consolidated financial statements and metrics to allocate resources and assess performance. Thus, we have determined that we operate in one reportable operating segment. The consolidated financial statements reflect the financial results of our one reportable operating segment.

## Geographic Information

For the three years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, all of our revenues were derived from the United States. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, all of our long-lived assets were located in the United States.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONTINUED)

## Products and Services Information

Our primary product consists of offering automobile dealers financing programs that enable them to sell vehicles to consumers, regardless of their credit history, through our nationwide network of Dealers. We also provide Dealers the ability to offer or purchase ancillary products on vehicles financed by us.

## Major Customer Information

We did not have any Dealers that provided $10 \%$ or more of our revenue during 2015, 2014, or 2013. Additionally, no single Dealer's Loans receivable balance accounted for more than $10 \%$ of total Loans receivable as of December 31, 2015 or 2014.

## 16. LITIGATION AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

In the normal course of business and as a result of the consumer-oriented nature of the industry in which we operate, industry participants are frequently subject to various consumer claims, litigation and regulatory investigations seeking damages, fines and statutory penalties. The claims allege, among other theories of liability, violations of state, federal and foreign truth-in-lending, credit availability, credit reporting, consumer protection, warranty, debt collection, insurance and other consumer-oriented laws and regulations, including claims seeking damages for physical and mental damages relating to our repossession and sale of the consumer's vehicle and other debt collection activities. As the assignee of Consumer Loans originated by Dealers, we may also be named as a co-defendant in lawsuits filed by consumers principally against Dealers. We may also have disputes and litigation with Dealers. The claims may allege, among other theories of liability, that we breached our Dealer servicing agreement. Many of these cases are filed as purported class actions and seek damages in large dollar amounts. Current actions to which we are a party include the following matters.

On September 18, 2015, we received a subpoena from the Attorney General of the State of New York, Civil Rights Bureau relating to the Company's origination and collection of Consumer Loans in the state of New York. We are cooperating with the inquiry and cannot predict the eventual scope, duration or outcome at this time. As a result, we are unable to estimate the reasonably possible loss or range of reasonably possible loss arising from this investigation.

On December 9, 2014, we received a civil investigative subpoena from the U.S. Department of Justice pursuant to the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 directing us to produce certain information relating to subprime automotive finance and related securitization activities. We are cooperating with the inquiry and cannot predict the eventual scope, duration or outcome at this time. As a result, we are unable to estimate the reasonably possible loss or range of reasonably possible loss arising from this investigation.

On December 4, 2014, we received a civil investigative demand from the Office of the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts relating to the origination and collection of non-prime auto loans in Massachusetts. We are cooperating with the inquiry and cannot predict the eventual scope, duration or outcome at this time. As a result, we are unable to estimate the reasonably possible loss or range of reasonably possible loss arising from this investigation.

On February 1, 2013, six Dealers, who had previously commenced a putative consolidated arbitration proceeding against the Company before the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") that was deemed not properly filed by the AAA on October 9, 2012, filed individual arbitrations against the Company before the AAA in Southfield, Michigan. These arbitration demands seek unspecified money damages for claims relating to the Dealer servicing agreements of these Dealers. One of these matters was voluntarily dismissed with prejudice on January 20, 2015. The Company intends to vigorously defend itself in the remaining five arbitrations. Based on information currently available, we believe that the eventual outcome will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial statements.

An adverse ultimate disposition in any action to which we are a party or otherwise subject could have a material adverse impact on our financial position, liquidity and results of operations.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - (CONCLUDED)

## 17. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA (unaudited)

The following quarterly financial data for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 has been prepared in accordance with GAAP:

| (In millions, except share and per share data) | 2015 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Quarters Ended |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | March 31 |  | June 30 |  | September 30 |  | December 31 |  |
| Income Statement Data |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Revenue | \$ | 194.2 | \$ | 203.1 | \$ | 210.2 | \$ | 217.8 |
| Income before provision for income taxes |  | 113.3 |  | 117.4 |  | 117.9 |  | 125.9 |
| Net income |  | 71.5 |  | 74.2 |  | 74.0 |  | 80.0 |
| Net income per share (1): |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ | 3.42 | \$ | 3.54 | \$ | 3.53 | \$ | 3.86 |
| Diluted | \$ | 3.41 | \$ | 3.54 | \$ | 3.53 | \$ | 3.84 |
| (In millions, except share and per share data) | 2014 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Quarters Ended |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | March 31 |  | June 30 |  | September 30 |  | December 31 |  |
| Income Statement Data |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Revenue | \$ | 176.9 | \$ | 179.8 | \$ | 181.7 | \$ | 185.1 |
| Income before provision for income taxes |  | 80.0 |  | 109.2 |  | 115.3 |  | 116.4 |
| Net income |  | 49.8 |  | 69.4 |  | 74.0 |  | 73.0 |
| Net income per share (1): |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ | 2.12 | \$ | 3.06 | \$ | 3.38 | \$ | 3.46 |
| Diluted | \$ | 2.12 | \$ | 3.06 | \$ | 3.38 | \$ | 3.45 |

(1) Basic and diluted net income per share are computed independently for each of the quarters presented. Therefore, the sum of quarterly basic and diluted per share information may not equal annual basic and diluted net income per share.

## ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

Not applicable.

## ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

## Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.

(a) Disclosure Controls and Procedures. Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15 (e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act")) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on such evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, as of the end of such period, our disclosure controls and procedures are effective in recording, processing, summarizing and reporting, on a timely basis, information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act and are effective in ensuring that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.
(b) Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. There have not been any changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) during the quarter ended December 31, 2015 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting.

We are responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Our internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that:

- pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of our assets;
- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that our receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and directors; and
- provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. In addition, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions and that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

We assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015. In making this assessment, we used the criteria set forth in the 2013 Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Based on our assessment, we believe that as of December 31, 2015, our internal control over financial reporting is effective based on those criteria.

Our independent registered public accounting firm, Grant Thornton LLP, audited our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015 and their report dated February 12, 2016 expressed an unqualified opinion on our internal control over financial reporting and is included in this Item 9A.

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Board of Directors and Shareholders of
Credit Acceptance Corporation
We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of Credit Acceptance Corporation (a Michigan corporation) and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2015, based on criteria established in the 2013 Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, based on criteria established in the 2013 Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by COSO.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated financial statements of the Company as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, and our report dated February 12,2016 expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

## /s/ GRANT THORNTON LLP

Southfield, Michigan

February 12, 2016

None.

## PART III

## ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Information is contained under the captions "Election of Directors" (excluding the "Report of the Audit Committee") and "Section 16 (a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance" in our Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

## ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Information is contained under the caption "Compensation of Executive Officers" (excluding the "Report of the Executive Compensation Committee") in our Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

## ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

Information is contained under the caption "Common Stock Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management" in our Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

Our Amended and Restated Incentive Compensation Plan (the "Incentive Plan"), which was approved by shareholders on May 17, 2012, provides for the granting of restricted stock, restricted stock units and stock options to team members, officers, and directors. As of December 31, 2015, there were no options issued or outstanding under the Incentive Plan.

The following table sets forth (1) the number of shares of common stock to be issued upon the exercise of outstanding options or restricted stock units, (2) the weighted average exercise price of outstanding options, if applicable, and (3) the number of shares remaining available for future issuance, as of December 31, 2015:

| Plan Category | Number of shares to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights | Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options | Number of shares remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (a) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Equity compensation plan approved by shareholders: |  |  |  |
| Incentive Plan | 859,419 | - | 242,806 |

(a) For additional information regarding our equity compensation plans, see Note 14 to the consolidated financial statements contained in Item 8 of this Form $10-\mathrm{K}$, which is incorporated herein by reference.

## ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

Information is contained under the caption "Certain Relationships and Transactions" and "Election of Directors - Meetings and Committees of the Board of Directors" in our Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

## ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

Information is contained under the caption "Independent Accountants" in our Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

## PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES
(a)(1) The following consolidated financial statements of the Company and the Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm are contained in Item 8 - Financial Statements and Supplementary Data of this Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference.
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
Consolidated Financial Statements:

- Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2015 and 2014
— Consolidated Statements of Income for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013
- Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013
— Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013
- Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
(2) Financial Statement Schedules have been omitted because they are not applicable or are not required or the information required to be set forth therein is included in the Consolidated Financial Statements or Notes thereto.
(3) The Exhibits filed in response to Item 601 of Regulation S-K are listed in the Exhibit Index, which is incorporated herein by reference.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

## CREDIT ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION

By: /s/ BRETT A. ROBERTS
Brett A. Roberts
Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)
Date: February 12, 2016

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on February 12, 2016 on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities indicated.

Signature
/s/ BRETT A. ROBERTS
Brett A. Roberts
/s/ KENNETH S. BOOTH
Kenneth S. Booth
/s/ GLENDA J. FLANAGAN
Glenda J. Flanagan
/s/ DONALD A. FOSS
Donald A. Foss
/s/ THOMAS N. TRYFOROS
Thomas N. Tryforos
/s/ SCOTT J. VASSALLUZZO
Scott J. Vassalluzzo

## Title

Chief Executive Officer and Director
(Principal Executive Officer)

Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)

Director

Director and Chairman of the Board

Director

Director

## EXHIBIT INDEX

The following documents are filed as part of this report. Those exhibits previously filed and incorporated herein by reference are identified below. Exhibits not required for this report have been omitted. Unless otherwise noted, the Company's commission file number for all exhibits incorporated by reference herein is 000-20202.

## Exhibit No. Description

3.1 Articles of Incorporation, as amended July 1, 1997 (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 1997)
3.2 Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company, as amended, February 24, 2005 (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004)
4.1 Fifth Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of June 17, 2011, among the Company, the Banks which are parties thereto from time to time, and Comerica Bank as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent for the Banks (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated June 22, 2011)
4.2 Loan and Security Agreement dated as of August 19, 2011 among the Company, CAC Warehouse Funding LLC IV, BMO Capital Markets Corp., Bank of Montreal and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated August 24, 2011)
4.3 Backup Servicing Agreement dated as of August 19, 2011 among the Company, CAC Warehouse Funding LLC IV, Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, Bank of Montreal and BMO Capital Markets Corp. (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated August 24, 2011)
4.4 Amended and Restated Intercreditor Agreement, dated as of February 1, 2010, among Credit Acceptance Corporation, the other Grantors party thereto, representatives of the Secured Parties thereunder and Comerica Bank, as administrative agent under the Original Credit Agreement (as defined therein) and as collateral agent (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated February 5, 2010)
4.5 First Amendment to the Fifth Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of June 15, 2012, among the Company, the Banks which are parties thereto from time to time, and Comerica Bank as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent for the Banks (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated June 15, 2012)
4.6 Fifth Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated as of December 27, 2012 among the Company, CAC Warehouse Funding Corporation II, Variable Funding Capital Company LLC, WellsFargo Securities, LLC, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated January 3, 2013)
4.7 Amended and Restated Backup Servicing Agreement dated as of December 27, 2012 among the Company, CAC Warehouse Funding Corporation II, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated January 3, 2013)
4.8 Third Amended and Restated Sale and Contribution Agreement dated as of December 27, 2012 between the Company and CAC Warehouse Funding Corporation II (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated January 3, 2013)
4.9 First Amendment to Loan and Security Agreement dated as of April 5, 2013 among the Company, CAC Warehouse Funding LLC IV, Bank of Montreal, BMO Capital Markets Corp., and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated April 5, 2013)
4.10 Amended and Restated Sale and Contribution Agreement dated as of April 5, 2013 between the Company and CAC Warehouse Funding LLC IV (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated April 5, 2013)
4.11 Indenture dated as of April 25, 2013, between Credit Acceptance Auto Loan Trust 2013-1 and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated April 29, 2013)
4.12 Sale and Servicing Agreement dated as of April 25, 2013 among the Company, Credit Acceptance Auto Loan Trust 2013-1, Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2013-1, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated April 29, 2013)
4.13 Backup Servicing Agreement dated as of April 25, 2013, among the Company, Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2013-1, Credit Acceptance Auto Loan Trust 2013-1, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated April 29, 2013)
4.14 Amended and Restated Trust Agreement dated as of April 25, 2013, between Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2013-1 and U.S. Bank Trust National Association (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated April 29, 2013)

| 4.15 | Sale and Contribution Agreement dated as of April 25, 2013, between the Company and Credit Acceptance <br> Funding LLC 2013-1 (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K, <br> dated April 29, 2013) |
| ---: | :--- |
| 4.16 | Second Amendment to the Fifth Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of June 20, 2013, among <br> the Company, the Banks which are parties thereto from time to time, and Comerica Bank as Administrative |
| Agent and Collateral Agent for the Banks (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current |  |
| Report on Form 8-K, dated June 24, 2013) |  |


| 4.31 | Sale and Servicing Agreement dated as of April 16, 2014 among the Company, Credit Acceptance Auto Loan <br> Trust 2014-1, Credit Acceptance Funding LLC 2014-1, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association <br> (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated April 22, 2014) |
| :---: | :--- |
| 4.32 Backup Servicing Agreement dated as of April 16, 2014, among the Company, Credit Acceptance Funding LLC |  |
|  | 2014-1, Credit Acceptance Auto Loan Trust 2014-1, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (incorporated |
| by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated April 22, 2014) |  |


| 4.49 | Amended and Restated Trust Agreement dated as of January 29, 2015, between Credit Acceptance Funding LLC <br> 2015-1 and U.S. Bank Trust National Association (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's |
| :---: | :--- |
| Current Report on Form 8-K, dated February 3, 2015) |  |

10.10 Credit Acceptance Corporation Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement, dated March 27, 2009 (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated April 2, 2009)*
10.11 Credit Acceptance Corporation Amended and Restated Incentive Compensation Plan, as amended, April 6, 2009 (incorporated by reference to Annex A to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, dated April 10, 2009)*
10.12 Form of Credit Acceptance Corporation Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2009)*
10.13 Form of Credit Acceptance Corporation Board of Directors Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2009)*
10.14 Credit Acceptance Corporation Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement, dated March 26, 2012 (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2012)*
10.15 Credit Acceptance Corporation Restricted Stock Award Agreement, dated March 26, 2012 (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2012)*
10.16 Credit Acceptance Corporation Amended and Restated Incentive Compensation Plan, as amended, March 26, 2012 (incorporated by reference to Annex A to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, dated April 5, 2012) *
10.17 Form of Credit Acceptance Corporation Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement (incorporated by reference to an exhibit to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013)*
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.
Schedule of Credit Acceptance Corporation Subsidiaries.
Consent of Grant Thornton LLP.
23
31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act.
31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act.
32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer, Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer, Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

| $101(\mathrm{INS})$ | XBRL Instance Document. |
| :--- | :--- |
| $101(\mathrm{SCH})$ | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document. |
| $101(\mathrm{CAL})$ | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document. |
| $101(\mathrm{DEF})$ | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document. |
| $101(\mathrm{LAB})$ | XBRL Taxonomy Label Linkbase Document. |
| $101(\mathrm{PRE})$ | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document. |

* Management compensatory contracts and arrangements

Other instruments, notes or extracts from agreements defining the rights of holders of long-term debt of the Company or its subsidiaries have not been filed because (i) in each case the total amount of long-term debt permitted there under does not exceed $10 \%$ of the Company's consolidated assets and (ii) the Company hereby agrees that it will furnish such instruments, notes and extracts to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon its request.

Amendments and modifications to other Exhibits previously filed have been omitted when in the opinion of the registrant such Exhibits as amended or modified are no longer material or, in certain instances, are no longer required to be filed as Exhibits.

## Board of Directors

## Donald A. Foss

Chairman of the Board of Directors
Credit Acceptance Corporation

## Glenda J. Flanagan

Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer
Whole Foods Market, Inc.

## Brett A. Roberts

Chief Executive Officer
Credit Acceptance Corporation

Thomas N. Tryforos
Private Investor

Scott J. Vassalluzzo
Managing Member
Prescott General Partners LLC

## Other Information

## Corporate Headquarters

25505 West Twelve Mile Road
Southfield, Ml 48034
(248) 353-2700

Transfer Agent and Registrar
Computershare Trust Company, N.A.
211 Quality Circle, Suite 210
College Station, TX 77845
(781) 575-3120

## Corporate Counsel

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher \& Flom LLP
Chicago, IL

## Certified Public Accountants

Grant Thornton LLP
Southfield, MI

## Stock Listing

NASDAQ: CACC

Investor Relations
Information requests should be forwarded to: Douglas W. Busk
(248) 353-2700 Ext. 4432

## Annual Meeting of Shareholders

June 9, 2016
8:00 a.m.
Corporate Headquarters
25505 West Twelve Mile Road
Southfield, MI 48034

Shareholders may obtain, without charge, a copy of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, by writing the Investor Relations Department at the corporate headquarters address or by accessing our investor information on the Company's website at creditacceptance.com.

25505 West Twelve Mile Road Southfield, MI 48034 creditacceptance.com


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ The adjusted financial results can be derived from the data in our press releases.

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ We determine the imputed cost of equity by using a formula that considers the risk of the business and the risk associated with our use of debt. The formula is as follows: average equity $x$ \{(the average 30-year treasury rate $+5 \%$ ) $+[(1-$ tax rate) $x$ (the average 30 -year treasury rate $+5 \%$ - pre-tax average cost-of-debt rate) $\times$ average debt/(average equity + average debt $x$ tax rate)] $\}$.
    ${ }^{2}$ The improvement in Economic Profit reported in the Company's 2015 year-end earnings release is $17.6 \%$, as the earnings release reflects a normalized tax rate for each period, an adjustment that is omitted from this letter for simplicity.

[^2]:    1 The adjusted net income results differ slightly from those published in the Company's year-end earnings releases. That is because the earnings release figures include additional adjustments related to taxes, non-recurring expenses and discontinued operations. Those additional adjustments have been excluded from this table for simplicity.

[^3]:    ${ }^{2}$ Average capital invested is defined as average debt plus average shareholders' equity.

[^4]:    (1) No dividends were paid during the periods presented.

[^5]:    (1) The claims reserve is estimated based on historical claims experience.

