

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

- Quarterly report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the quarterly period ended May 9, 2020, or
- Transition report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the transition period from _____ to _____.
- Commission file number 1-10714



AUTOZONE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

62-1482048

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

123 South Front Street, Memphis, Tennessee

(Address of principal executive offices)

38103

(Zip Code)

(901) 495-6500

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not applicable

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

| Title of Each Class | Trading Symbol(s) | Name of Each Exchange on which Registered |
|--|-------------------|---|
| Common Stock (\$0.01 par value) | AZO | New York Stock Exchange |

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter periods that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted 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 such files). Yes No

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

Large accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer
Emerging growth company

Accelerated filer
Smaller reporting company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value – 23,359,376 shares outstanding as of June 5, 2020.

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**Item 1. Financial Statements.**

AUTOZONE, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Unaudited)

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | May 9, 2020 | August 31, 2019 |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 509,118 | \$ 176,300 |
| Accounts receivable | 266,920 | 308,995 |
| Merchandise inventories | 4,440,602 | 4,319,113 |
| Other current assets | 181,353 | 224,277 |
| Total current assets | 5,397,993 | 5,028,685 |
| Property and equipment: | | |
| Property and equipment | 7,899,183 | 7,713,196 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization | (3,514,597) | (3,314,445) |
| | 4,384,586 | 4,398,751 |
| Operating lease right-of-use assets | 2,613,849 | — |
| Goodwill | 302,645 | 302,645 |
| Deferred income taxes | 23,345 | 26,861 |
| Other long-term assets | 179,713 | 138,971 |
| | 3,119,552 | 468,477 |
| | <u>\$ 12,902,131</u> | <u>\$ 9,895,913</u> |
| Liabilities and Stockholders' Deficit | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 4,806,329 | \$ 4,864,912 |
| Current portion of operating lease liabilities | 236,759 | — |
| Accrued expenses and other | 687,991 | 621,932 |
| Income taxes payable | 37,997 | 25,297 |
| Total current liabilities | 5,769,076 | 5,512,141 |
| Long-term debt | 5,418,272 | 5,206,344 |
| Operating lease liabilities, less current portion | 2,481,280 | — |
| Deferred income taxes | 325,919 | 311,980 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 540,320 | 579,299 |
| Commitments and contingencies | | |
| Stockholders' deficit: | | |
| Preferred stock, authorized 1,000 shares; no shares issued | — | — |
| Common stock, par value \$.01 per share, authorized 200,000 shares; 23,669 shares issued and 23,348 shares outstanding as of May 9, 2020; 25,445 shares issued and 24,038 shares outstanding as of August 31, 2019 | 237 | 254 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 1,259,457 | 1,264,448 |
| Retained deficit | (2,191,427) | (1,305,347) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (344,516) | (269,322) |
| Treasury stock, at cost | (356,487) | (1,403,884) |
| Total stockholders' deficit | (1,632,736) | (1,713,851) |
| | <u>\$ 12,902,131</u> | <u>\$ 9,895,913</u> |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

AUTOZONE, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME
(Unaudited)

| <i>(in thousands, except per share data)</i> | Twelve Weeks Ended | | Thirty-Six Weeks Ended | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| | May 9, 2020 | May 4, 2019 | May 9, 2020 | May 4, 2019 |
| Net sales | \$ 2,779,299 | \$ 2,783,006 | \$ 8,085,999 | \$ 7,875,307 |
| Cost of sales, including warehouse and delivery expenses | 1,288,651 | 1,290,986 | 3,728,221 | 3,640,706 |
| Gross profit | 1,490,648 | 1,492,020 | 4,357,778 | 4,234,601 |
| Operating, selling, general and administrative expenses | 998,975 | 944,497 | 2,958,144 | 2,799,239 |
| Operating profit | 491,673 | 547,523 | 1,399,634 | 1,435,362 |
| Interest expense, net | 47,450 | 43,239 | 135,528 | 123,608 |
| Income before income taxes | 444,223 | 504,284 | 1,264,106 | 1,311,754 |
| Income tax expense | 101,327 | 98,335 | 271,591 | 259,762 |
| Net income | <u>\$ 342,896</u> | <u>\$ 405,949</u> | <u>\$ 992,515</u> | <u>\$ 1,051,992</u> |
| Weighted average shares for basic earnings per share | 23,386 | 24,836 | 23,610 | 25,210 |
| Effect of dilutive stock equivalents | 442 | 558 | 550 | 501 |
| Weighted average shares for diluted earnings per share | <u>23,828</u> | <u>25,394</u> | <u>24,160</u> | <u>25,711</u> |
| Basic earnings per share | <u>\$ 14.66</u> | <u>\$ 16.35</u> | <u>\$ 42.04</u> | <u>\$ 41.73</u> |
| Diluted earnings per share | <u>\$ 14.39</u> | <u>\$ 15.99</u> | <u>\$ 41.08</u> | <u>\$ 40.92</u> |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

AUTOZONE, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(Unaudited)

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Twelve Weeks Ended | | Thirty-Six Weeks Ended | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| | May 9, 2020 | May 4, 2019 | May 9, 2020 | May 4, 2019 |
| Net income | \$ 342,896 | \$ 405,949 | \$ 992,515 | \$ 1,051,992 |
| Other comprehensive loss: | | | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | (104,920) | (1,409) | (64,702) | (2,650) |
| Unrealized gains on marketable debt securities, net of taxes ⁽¹⁾ | 1,160 | 246 | 1,150 | 677 |
| Net derivative activities, net of taxes ⁽²⁾ | (12,419) | 388 | (11,642) | 1,166 |
| Total other comprehensive loss | (116,179) | (775) | (75,194) | (807) |
| Comprehensive income | <u>\$ 226,717</u> | <u>\$ 405,174</u> | <u>\$ 917,321</u> | <u>\$ 1,051,185</u> |

- (1) Unrealized gains on marketable debt securities are presented net of taxes of \$309 in fiscal 2020 and \$65 in fiscal 2019 for the twelve weeks ended and \$306 in fiscal 2020 and \$180 in fiscal 2019 for the thirty-six weeks ended.
- (2) Net derivative activities are presented net of tax benefits of \$3,913 in fiscal 2020 and net of taxes of \$120 in fiscal 2019 for the twelve weeks ended and net of tax benefits of \$3,673 in fiscal 2020 and net of taxes of \$360 in fiscal 2019 for the thirty-six weeks ended.

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

AUTOZONE, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Unaudited)

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Thirty-Six Weeks Ended | |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| | May 9, 2020 | May 4, 2019 |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Net income | \$ 992,515 | \$ 1,051,992 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment and intangibles | 272,115 | 251,118 |
| Amortization of debt origination fees | 6,572 | 5,506 |
| Deferred income taxes | 24,281 | 17,111 |
| Share-based compensation expense | 32,251 | 31,529 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: | | |
| Accounts receivable | 36,843 | (21,616) |
| Merchandise inventories | (175,284) | (384,883) |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | 20,907 | 259,629 |
| Income taxes payable | 12,334 | 10,585 |
| Other, net | 80,574 | 65,664 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | <u>1,303,108</u> | <u>1,286,635</u> |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | |
| Capital expenditures | (273,888) | (313,847) |
| Purchase of marketable debt securities | (82,525) | (38,855) |
| Proceeds from sale of marketable debt securities | 106,690 | 61,052 |
| Proceeds from disposal of capital assets and other, net | 1,800 | 6,358 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | <u>(247,923)</u> | <u>(285,292)</u> |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | |
| Net payments of commercial paper | (1,030,000) | (348,500) |
| Proceeds from issuance of debt | 1,250,000 | 750,000 |
| Repayment of debt | — | (250,000) |
| Net proceeds from sale of common stock | 56,306 | 164,927 |
| Purchase of treasury stock | (930,903) | (1,313,116) |
| Repayment of principal portion of finance lease liabilities | (43,776) | (38,428) |
| Other, net | (13,779) | (8,360) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | <u>(712,152)</u> | <u>(1,043,477)</u> |
| Effect of exchange rate changes on cash | <u>(10,215)</u> | <u>(1,632)</u> |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 332,818 | (43,766) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 176,300 | 217,824 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | <u>\$ 509,118</u> | <u>\$ 174,058</u> |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

AUTOZONE, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT
(Unaudited)

| | Twelve Weeks Ended May 9, 2020 | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Common Shares Issued | Common Stock | Additional Paid-in Capital | Retained Deficit | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss | Treasury Stock | Total |
| Balance at February 15, 2020 | 23,653 | \$ 237 | \$ 1,241,734 | \$ (2,534,323) | \$ (228,337) | \$ (190,430) | \$ (1,711,119) |
| Net income | — | — | — | 342,896 | — | — | 342,896 |
| Total other comprehensive loss | — | — | — | — | (116,179) | — | (116,179) |
| Purchase of 156 shares of treasury stock | — | — | — | — | — | (166,057) | (166,057) |
| Issuance of common stock under stock options and stock purchase plans | 16 | — | 7,599 | — | — | — | 7,599 |
| Share-based compensation expense | — | — | 10,124 | — | — | — | 10,124 |
| Balance at May 9, 2020 | <u>23,669</u> | <u>\$ 237</u> | <u>\$ 1,259,457</u> | <u>\$ (2,191,427)</u> | <u>\$ (344,516)</u> | <u>\$ (356,487)</u> | <u>\$ (1,632,736)</u> |

| | Twelve Weeks Ended May 4, 2019 | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Common Shares Issued | Common Stock | Additional Paid-in Capital | Retained Deficit | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss | Treasury Stock | Total |
| Balance at February 9, 2019 | 25,259 | \$ 253 | \$ 1,163,831 | \$ (2,276,525) | \$ (235,837) | \$ (246,084) | \$ (1,594,362) |
| Net income | — | — | — | 405,949 | — | — | 405,949 |
| Total other comprehensive income | — | — | — | — | (775) | — | (775) |
| Purchase of 472 shares of treasury stock | — | — | — | — | — | (466,019) | (466,019) |
| Issuance of common stock under stock options and stock purchase plans | 126 | 1 | 57,347 | — | — | — | 57,348 |
| Share-based compensation expense | — | — | 8,346 | — | — | — | 8,346 |
| Balance at May 4, 2019 | <u>25,385</u> | <u>\$ 254</u> | <u>\$ 1,229,524</u> | <u>\$ (1,870,576)</u> | <u>\$ (236,612)</u> | <u>\$ (712,103)</u> | <u>\$ (1,589,513)</u> |

| | Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 9, 2020 | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Common Shares Issued | Common Stock | Additional Paid-in Capital | Retained Deficit | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss | Treasury Stock | Total |
| Balance at August 31, 2019 | 25,445 | \$ 254 | \$ 1,264,448 | \$ (1,305,347) | \$ (269,322) | \$ (1,403,884) | \$ (1,713,851) |
| Net income | — | — | — | 992,515 | — | — | 992,515 |
| Total other comprehensive loss | — | — | — | — | (75,194) | — | (75,194) |
| Retirement of treasury shares | (1,912) | (19) | (99,686) | (1,878,595) | — | 1,978,300 | — |
| Purchase of 826 shares of treasury stock | — | — | — | — | — | (930,903) | (930,903) |
| Issuance of common stock under stock options and stock purchase plans | 136 | 2 | 62,899 | — | — | — | 62,901 |
| Share-based compensation expense | — | — | 31,796 | — | — | — | 31,796 |
| Balance at May 9, 2020 | <u>23,669</u> | <u>\$ 237</u> | <u>\$ 1,259,457</u> | <u>\$ (2,191,427)</u> | <u>\$ (344,516)</u> | <u>\$ (356,487)</u> | <u>\$ (1,632,736)</u> |

| | Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 4, 2019 | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Common Shares Issued | Common Stock | Additional Paid-in Capital | Retained Deficit | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss | Treasury Stock | Total |
| Balance at August 25, 2018 | 27,530 | \$ 275 | \$ 1,155,426 | \$ (1,208,824) | \$ (235,805) | \$ (1,231,427) | \$ (1,520,355) |
| Cumulative effect of adoption of ASU 2014-09 | — | — | — | (6,773) | — | — | (6,773) |
| Balance at August 25, 2018, as adjusted | 27,530 | \$ 275 | \$ 1,155,426 | \$ (1,215,597) | \$ (235,805) | \$ (1,231,427) | \$ (1,527,128) |
| Net income | — | — | — | 1,051,992 | — | — | 1,051,992 |
| Total other comprehensive loss | — | — | — | — | (807) | — | (807) |
| Retirement of treasury shares | (2,563) | (26) | (125,443) | (1,706,971) | — | 1,832,440 | — |
| Purchase of 1,548 shares of treasury stock | — | — | — | — | — | (1,313,116) | (1,313,116) |
| Issuance of common stock under stock options and stock purchase plans | 418 | 5 | 171,289 | — | — | — | 171,294 |
| Share-based compensation expense | — | — | 28,252 | — | — | — | 28,252 |
| Balance at May 4, 2019 | <u>25,385</u> | <u>\$ 254</u> | <u>\$ 1,229,524</u> | <u>\$ (1,870,576)</u> | <u>\$ (236,612)</u> | <u>\$ (712,103)</u> | <u>\$ (1,589,513)</u> |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

AUTOZONE, INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)

Note A – General

The accompanying unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with United States (“U.S.”) generally accepted accounting principles (“U.S. GAAP”) for interim financial information and are presented in accordance with the requirements of Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X of the Securities and Exchange Commission’s (the “SEC”) rules and regulations. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments, including normal recurring accruals, considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and related notes included in the AutoZone, Inc. (“AutoZone” or the “Company”) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2019.

Operating results for the twelve and thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the full fiscal year ending August 29, 2020. Each of the first three quarters of AutoZone’s fiscal year consists of 12 weeks, and the fourth quarter consists of 16 or 17 weeks. The fourth quarter of fiscal 2020 has 16 weeks and fiscal 2019 had 17 weeks.

COVID-19 Impact

The outbreak of a novel strain of the coronavirus (“COVID-19”), which was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020 by the World Health Organization, has led to adverse impacts on the national and global economy. While sales were initially negatively impacted and store operating hours were reduced, virtually all our stores have remained open. Sales have since recovered and store operating hours have been reinstated; however, we are unable to accurately predict the ultimate impact that COVID-19 will have on our business and financial condition.

During the third quarter of 2020, the Company provided additional paid time off for both full-time and part-time eligible hourly employees. During the quarter, we invested in supplies for the protection of our employees and customers. These expanded benefits, supply costs and other COVID-19 related costs resulted in approximately \$75 million of expense included in Operating, selling, general and administrative expenses in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income for the twelve weeks ended and thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020.

Additionally, to strengthen our financial position and ability to be responsive during this ever-changing environment, the Company issued \$1.250 billion in Senior notes and closed on a new 364-day Senior unsecured revolving credit facility in the principal amount of \$750 million. Refer to “Note G – Financing” for details.

Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements:

In February 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842)*, and subsequently amended this update by issuing additional ASU’s that provided clarification and further guidance for areas identified as potential implementation issues. ASU 2016-02 requires a two-fold approach for lessee accounting, under which a lessee will account for leases as finance leases or operating leases. For all leases with original terms greater than 12 months, both lease classifications will result in the lessee recognizing a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability on its balance sheet, with differing methodologies for income statement recognition. This guidance also requires certain quantitative and qualitative disclosures about leasing arrangements. ASU 2016-02 and its amendments were effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018, and early adoption was permitted. The ASU’s transition provisions could be applied under a modified retrospective approach to each prior reporting period presented in the financial statements or only at the beginning of the period of adoption using the alternative transition method.

The Company adopted this standard and its amendments as of September 1, 2019, using the modified retrospective transition method. Under this method, existing leases were recorded at the adoption date, comparative periods were not restated and prior period amounts were not adjusted and continue to be reported under the accounting standards in effect for the prior periods. In addition, the Company elected the package of practical expedients permitted under the transition guidance within the new standard, which among other things, allowed the carry forward of prior lease identification under Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) Topic 840. The Company made the accounting policy election for short-term leases resulting in lease payments being recorded as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The Company also elected the practical expedient to not separate lease components from the non-lease components (typically fixed common-area maintenance costs at its retail store locations) for all classes of leased assets, except vehicles. The Company chose not to elect the hindsight practical expedient to determine the reasonably certain lease term for existing leases. Adoption of the leasing standard resulted in operating lease right-of-use assets of approximately \$2.5 billion and operating lease liabilities of approximately \$2.7 billion as of September 1, 2019. Existing prepaid and deferred rent were netted and recorded as an offset to our gross operating lease right-of-use assets. There was no adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings upon adoption. The standard did not have a material impact on the Company’s Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income, Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows or covenant compliance under its existing credit agreement. Refer to “Note L – Leases”.

In June 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-07, *Compensation – Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Nonemployee Share-Based Payment Accounting*. ASU 2018-07 aims to simplify the accounting for share-based payments to nonemployees by aligning it with the accounting for share-based payments to employees, with certain exceptions. The Company adopted this standard beginning with its first quarter ending November 23, 2019. The Company determined that the provisions of ASU 2018-07 did not have an impact on its Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income, Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets or Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements:

In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-15, *Intangibles – Goodwill and Other Internal Use Software (Subtopic 350-40): Customer’s Accounting for Implementation Costs Incurred in a Cloud Computing Arrangement That Is a Service Contract*. The amendments in this update align the requirements for capitalizing implementation costs incurred in a hosting arrangement that is a service contract with the requirements for capitalizing implementation costs incurred to develop or obtain internal-use software. ASU 2018-15 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, including interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. The Company will adopt this standard beginning with its first quarter ending November 21, 2020. The Company is currently evaluating the new guidance to determine the impact the adoption will have on its Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income, Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets or Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-13, *Financial Instruments – Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments* which was subsequently amended in November 2018 through ASU 2018-19, *Codification Improvements to Topic 326, Financial Instruments Credit Losses*. ASU 2016-13 will require entities to estimate lifetime expected credit losses for trade and other receivables, net investments in leases, financial receivables, debt securities, and other instruments, which will result in earlier recognition of credit losses.

Further, the new credit loss model will affect how entities estimate their allowance for loss receivables that are current with respect to their payment terms. ASU 2016-13 will be effective for the Company at the beginning of its fiscal 2021 year. The Company will adopt this standard beginning with its first quarter ending November 21, 2020. The Company is currently evaluating the new guidance to determine the impact the adoption will have on the Company’s Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income, Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets or Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Note B – Share-Based Payments

AutoZone maintains several equity incentive plans, which provide equity-based compensation to non-employee directors and eligible employees for their service to AutoZone, its subsidiaries or affiliates. The Company recognizes compensation expense for share-based payments based on the fair value of the awards at the grant date. Share-based payments include stock option grants, restricted stock grants, restricted stock unit grants, stock appreciation rights, discounts on shares sold to employees under share purchase plans and other awards. Additionally, directors' fees are paid in restricted stock units with value equivalent to the value of shares of common stock as of the grant date. The change in fair value of liability-based stock awards is also recognized in share-based compensation expense.

Stock Options:

The Company made stock option grants of 188,324 shares during the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020 and granted options to purchase 172,750 shares during the comparable prior year period. The Company grants options to purchase common stock to certain of its employees under its plan at prices equal to the market value of the stock on the date of grant. The fair value of each option is amortized into compensation expense on a straight-line basis between the grant date for the award and each vesting date.

The weighted average fair value of the stock option awards granted during the thirty-six week periods ended May 9, 2020 and May 4, 2019, using the Black-Scholes-Merton multiple-option pricing valuation model, was \$252.39 and \$208.37 per share, respectively, using the following weighted average key assumptions:

| | <u>Thirty-Six Weeks Ended</u> | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------|
| | <u>May 9,</u> | <u>May 4,</u> |
| | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> |
| Expected price volatility | 22 % | 21 % |
| Risk-free interest rate | 1.4 % | 3.0 % |
| Weighted average expected lives (in years) | 5.5 | 5.6 |
| Forfeiture rate | 10 % | 10 % |
| Dividend yield | 0 % | 0 % |

During the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020, 121,236 stock options were exercised at a weighted average exercise price of \$480.39. In the comparable prior year period, 408,657 stock options were exercised at a weighted average exercise price of \$412.75.

Restricted Stock Units:

Restricted stock unit awards are valued at the market price of a share of the Company's stock on the date of grant. Grants of employee restricted stock units vest ratably on an annual basis over a four-year service period and are payable in shares of common stock on the vesting date. Compensation expense for grants of employee restricted stock units is recognized on a straight-line basis over the four-year service period, less estimated forfeitures, which are consistent with stock option forfeiture assumptions. Grants of non-employee director restricted stock units are made and expensed on January 1 of each year, as they vest immediately.

As of May 9, 2020, total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to nonvested restricted stock unit awards, net of estimated forfeitures, was approximately \$10.1 million, before income taxes, which we expect to recognize over an estimated weighted average period of 2.9 years.

Transactions related to restricted stock units for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 were as follows:

| | Number of Shares | Weighted- Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Nonvested at August 31, 2019 | 10,049 | \$ 773.61 |
| Granted | 8,735 | 1,086.61 |
| Vested | (4,183) | 945.58 |
| Canceled or forfeited | (313) | 938.64 |
| Nonvested at May 9, 2020 | <u>14,288</u> | <u>\$ 911.01</u> |

Total share-based compensation expense (a component of Operating, selling, general and administrative expenses) was \$10.1 million for the twelve week period ended May 9, 2020, and \$10.0 million for the comparable prior year period. Total share-based compensation expense was \$32.3 million for the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020, and \$31.5 million for the comparable prior year period.

For the twelve week period ended May 9, 2020, 187,965 stock options were excluded from the diluted earnings per share computation because they would have been anti-dilutive. For the comparable prior year period, 4,177 anti-dilutive shares were excluded from the dilutive earnings per share computation. There were 161,321 anti-dilutive shares excluded from the diluted earnings per share computation for the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020, and 149,648 anti-dilutive shares excluded for the comparable prior year period.

See AutoZone's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2019, for a discussion regarding the methodology used in developing AutoZone's assumptions to determine the fair value of the option awards and a description of AutoZone's Amended and Restated 2011 Equity Incentive Award Plan, the 2011 Director Compensation Program and the 2014 Director Compensation Plan.

Note C – Fair Value Measurements

The Company defines fair value as the price received to transfer an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In accordance with ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, the Company uses the fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used to measure fair value. The hierarchy, as defined below, gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are set forth below:

Level 1 inputs—unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Company can access at the measurement date.

Level 2 inputs—inputs other than quoted market prices included within Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, for the asset or liability.

Level 3 inputs—unobservable inputs for the asset or liability, which are based on the Company's own assumptions as there is little, if any, observable activity in identical assets or liabilities.

Financial Assets & Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis

The Company's assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis were as follows:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | May 9, 2020 | | | Fair Value |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | |
| Other current assets | \$ 34,381 | \$ — | \$ — | \$ 34,381 |
| Other long-term assets | 70,726 | 11,110 | — | 81,836 |
| | <u>\$ 105,107</u> | <u>\$ 11,110</u> | <u>\$ —</u> | <u>\$ 116,217</u> |
| Accrued expenses and other | \$ — | \$ (16,842) | \$ — | \$ (16,842) |

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | August 31, 2019 | | | Fair Value |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | |
| Other current assets | \$ 65,344 | \$ 2,614 | \$ — | \$ 67,958 |
| Other long-term assets | 65,573 | 5,395 | — | 70,968 |
| | <u>\$ 130,917</u> | <u>\$ 8,009</u> | <u>\$ —</u> | <u>\$ 138,926</u> |

At May 9, 2020, the fair value measurement amounts for assets and liabilities recorded in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets consisted of short-term marketable debt securities of \$34.4 million, which are included within Other current assets; long-term marketable debt securities of \$81.8 million, which are included in Other long-term assets; and cash flow hedging instruments of \$16.8 million, which are included within Accrued expenses and other. The Company's marketable debt securities are typically valued at the closing price in the principal active market as of the last business day of the quarter or through the use of other market inputs relating to the securities, including benchmark yields and reported trades. The fair values of the marketable debt securities, by asset class, are described in "Note D – Marketable Debt Securities." The fair values of derivative assets and liabilities traded in the over-the-counter markets are determined using quantitative models that require the use of multiple inputs including interest rates, prices and indices to generate pricing and volatility factors. Refer to "Note E – Derivative Financial Instruments".

Financial Instruments not Recognized at Fair Value

The Company has financial instruments, including cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, other current assets and accounts payable. The carrying amounts of these financial instruments approximate fair value because of their short maturities. A discussion of the carrying values and fair values of the Company's debt is included in "Note G – Financing."

Note D – Marketable Debt Securities

The Company’s basis for determining the cost of a security sold is the “Specific Identification Model.” Unrealized gains (losses) on marketable debt securities are recorded in Accumulated other comprehensive loss. The Company’s available-for-sale marketable debt securities consisted of the following:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | May 9, 2020 | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| | Amortized Cost Basis | Gross Unrealized Gains | Gross Unrealized Losses | Fair Value |
| Corporate debt securities | \$ 52,423 | \$ 715 | \$ (28) | \$ 53,110 |
| Government bonds | 45,683 | 1,468 | (13) | 47,138 |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 2,958 | 58 | — | 3,016 |
| Asset-backed securities and other | 12,944 | 70 | (61) | 12,953 |
| | <u>\$ 114,008</u> | <u>\$ 2,311</u> | <u>\$ (102)</u> | <u>\$ 116,217</u> |

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | May 9, 2020 | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| | Amortized Cost Basis | Gross Unrealized Gains | Gross Unrealized Losses | Fair Value |
| Corporate debt securities | \$ 36,998 | \$ 29 | \$ (19) | \$ 37,008 |
| Government bonds | 45,741 | 763 | — | 46,504 |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 2,089 | 2 | (15) | 2,076 |
| Asset-backed securities and other | 53,345 | — | (7) | 53,338 |
| | <u>\$ 138,173</u> | <u>\$ 794</u> | <u>\$ (41)</u> | <u>\$ 138,926</u> |

The debt securities held at May 9, 2020, had effective maturities ranging from less than one year to approximately three years. The Company did not realize any material gains or losses on its marketable debt securities during the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020.

The Company holds six securities that are in an unrealized loss position of approximately \$102 thousand at May 9, 2020. The Company has the intent and ability to hold these investments until recovery of fair value or maturity and does not deem the investments to be impaired on an other than temporary basis. In evaluating whether the securities are deemed to be impaired on an other than temporary basis, the Company considers factors such as the duration and severity of the loss position, the credit worthiness of the investee, the term to maturity and the intent and ability to hold the investments until maturity or until recovery of fair value.

Included above in total available-for-sale marketable debt securities are \$30.0 million of marketable debt securities transferred by the Company’s insurance captive to a trust account to secure its obligations to an insurance company related to future workers’ compensation and casualty losses.

Note E – Derivative Financial Instruments

During the third quarter of fiscal 2020, the Company entered into two treasury rate locks, each with a notional amount of \$300 million. These agreements were cash flow hedges used to manage our exposure to interest rate volatility associated with anticipated debt financing. The fixed rates for both treasury rate locks are 1.0% and are benchmarked based on the 10-year U.S. treasury notes. These outstanding cash flow derivative instruments are designed as cash flow hedges and deemed highly effective both at inception and at May 9, 2020. Both treasury rate locks expire on August 6, 2020.

During the quarter ended May 9, 2020, the Company recorded \$16.8 million of pre-tax losses in unrealized losses on derivative activity on our condensed consolidated statements of comprehensive loss related to the change in fair value since inception. At May 9, 2020, \$12.8 million was recorded in accrued expenses and other on our condensed consolidated balance sheets related to these instruments.

At May 9, 2020, the Company had \$4.1 million recorded in Accumulated other comprehensive loss related to realized losses associated with terminated interest rate swap and treasury rate lock derivatives, which were designated as hedging instruments. Net losses are amortized into Interest expense over the remaining life of the associated debt. During the twelve week period ended May 9, 2020, the Company reclassified \$509 thousand of net losses from Accumulated other comprehensive loss to Interest expense. During the comparable prior year period, the Company reclassified \$508 thousand of net losses from Accumulated other comprehensive loss to Interest expense. During the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020, and the comparable prior year period, the Company reclassified \$1.5 million of net losses from Accumulated other comprehensive loss to Interest expense. The Company expects to reclassify \$2.3 million of net losses from Accumulated other comprehensive loss to Interest expense over the next 12 months.

Note F – Merchandise Inventories

Merchandise inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Merchandise inventories include related purchasing, storage and handling costs. Inventory cost has been determined using the last-in, first-out (“LIFO”) method for domestic inventories and the weighted average cost method for Mexico and Brazil inventories. Due to historical price deflation on the Company’s merchandise purchases, the Company has exhausted its LIFO reserve balance. The Company’s policy is not to write up inventory in excess of replacement cost, which is based on average cost. The difference between LIFO cost and replacement cost, which has been reduced due to recent price inflation on the Company’s merchandise purchases, was \$348.1 million at May 9, 2020 and \$404.9 million at August 31, 2019.

Note G – Financing

The Company’s long-term debt consisted of the following:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | May 9, 2020 | August 31, 2019 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| 4.000% Senior Notes due November 2020, effective interest rate of 4.43% | \$ 500,000 | \$ 500,000 |
| 2.500% Senior Notes due April 2021, effective interest rate of 2.62% | 250,000 | 250,000 |
| 3.700% Senior Notes due April 2022, effective interest rate of 3.85% | 500,000 | 500,000 |
| 2.875% Senior Notes due January 2023, effective interest rate of 3.21% | 300,000 | 300,000 |
| 3.125% Senior Notes due July 2023, effective interest rate of 3.26% | 500,000 | 500,000 |
| 3.125% Senior Notes due April 2024, effective interest rate 3.32% | 300,000 | 300,000 |
| 3.250% Senior Notes due April 2025, effective interest rate 3.36% | 400,000 | 400,000 |
| 3.625% Senior Notes due April 2025, effective interest rate 3.78% | 500,000 | — |
| 3.125% Senior Notes due April 2026, effective interest rate of 3.28% | 400,000 | 400,000 |
| 3.750% Senior Notes due June 2027, effective interest rate of 3.83% | 600,000 | 600,000 |
| 3.750% Senior Notes due April 2029, effective interest rate of 3.86% | 450,000 | 450,000 |
| 4.000% Senior Notes due April 2030, effective interest rate 4.09% | 750,000 | — |
| Commercial paper, weighted average interest rate of 2.28% at August 31, 2019 | — | 1,030,000 |
| Total debt before discounts and debt issuance costs | 5,450,000 | 5,230,000 |
| Less: Discounts and debt issuance costs | 31,728 | 23,656 |
| Long-term debt | <u>\$ 5,418,272</u> | <u>\$ 5,206,344</u> |

As of May 9, 2020, the \$500 million 4.000% Senior Notes due November 2020 and the \$250 million 2.500% Senior Notes due April 2021 are classified as long-term in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets as the Company has the ability and intent to refinance them on a long-term basis through available capacity in its revolving credit facilities. As of May 9, 2020, the Company had \$2.747 billion of availability under its \$2.75 billion revolving credit facilities which would allow the Company to replace these short-term obligations with long-term financing facilities.

On March 30, 2020, the Company issued \$500 million in 3.625% Senior Notes due April 2025 and \$750 million in 4.000% Senior Notes due April 2030 under its automatic shelf registration statement on Form S-3, filed with the SEC on April 4, 2019 (File No. 333-230719) (the “2019 Shelf Registration”). The 2019 Shelf Registration allows the Company to sell an indeterminate amount in debt securities to fund general corporate purposes, including repaying, redeeming or repurchasing outstanding debt and for working capital, capital expenditures, new store openings, stock repurchases and acquisitions. Proceeds from the debt issuance were used for general corporate purposes.

The Company entered into a Master Extension, New Commitment and Amendment Agreement dated as of November 18, 2017 (the “Extension Amendment”) to the Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated as of November 18, 2016, as amended, modified, extended or restated from time to time (the “Revolving Credit Agreement”). Under the Extension Amendment: (i) the Company’s borrowing capacity under the Revolving Credit Agreement was increased from \$1.6 billion to \$2.0 billion; (ii) the Company’s option to increase its borrowing capacity under the Revolving Credit Agreement was “refreshed” and the amount of such option remained at \$400 million; (iii) the maximum borrowing under the Revolving Credit Agreement may, at the Company’s option, subject to lenders approval, be increased from \$2.0 billion to \$2.4 billion; (iv) the termination date of the Revolving Credit Agreement was extended from November 18, 2021 until November 18, 2022; and (v) the Company has the option to make one additional written request of the lenders to extend the termination date then in effect for an additional year. Under the Revolving Credit Agreement, the Company may borrow funds consisting of Eurodollar loans, base rate loans or a combination of both. Interest accrues on Eurodollar loans at a defined Eurodollar rate, defined as LIBOR plus the applicable percentage, as defined in the Revolving Credit Agreement, depending upon the Company’s Senior, unsecured, (non-credit enhanced) long-term debt ratings. Interest accrues on base rate loans as defined in the Revolving Credit Agreement.

On April 3, 2020, the Company entered into a 364-Day Credit Agreement (the “364-Day Credit Agreement”) to augment the Company’s access to liquidity due to current macroeconomic conditions and supplements the Company’s existing Revolving Credit Agreement. The 364-Day Credit Agreement provides for loans in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$750 million. The 364-Day Credit Agreement will terminate, and all amounts borrowed under the 364-Day Credit Agreement will be due and payable, on April 2, 2021. Revolving loans under the 364-Day Credit Agreement may be base rate loans, Eurodollar loans, or a combination of both, at the Company’s election.

As of May 9, 2020, the Company had no outstanding borrowings under each of the revolving credit facilities and \$3.2 million of outstanding letters of credit under the Revolving Credit Agreement.

The fair value of the Company’s debt was estimated at \$5.723 billion as of May 9, 2020, and \$5.419 billion as of August 31, 2019, based on the quoted market prices for the same or similar issues or on the current rates available to the Company for debt of the same terms (Level 2). Such fair value is greater than the carrying value of debt by \$304.9 million at May 9, 2020, which reflects their face amount, adjusted for any unamortized debt issuance costs and discounts. At August 31, 2019, the fair value was greater than the carrying value of debt by \$212.7 million.

All Senior Notes are subject to an interest rate adjustment if the debt ratings assigned to the Senior Notes are downgraded (as defined in the agreements). Further, the Senior Notes contain a provision that repayment of the Senior Notes may be accelerated if the Company experiences a change in control (as defined in the agreements). The Company’s borrowings under its Senior Notes contain minimal covenants, primarily restrictions on liens. Under its revolving credit facilities, covenants include restrictions on liens, a maximum debt to earnings ratio, a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio and a change of control provision that may require acceleration of the repayment obligations under certain circumstances. All of the repayment obligations under its borrowing arrangements may be accelerated and come due prior to the scheduled payment date if covenants are breached or an event of default occurs. As of May 9, 2020, the Company was in compliance with all covenants and expects to remain in compliance with all covenants under its borrowing arrangements.

Note H – Stock Repurchase Program

From January 1, 1998 to May 9, 2020, the Company has repurchased a total of 147.7 million shares of its common stock at an aggregate cost of \$22.354 billion, including 826,002 shares of its common stock at an aggregate cost of \$930.9 million during the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020.

On October 7, 2019, the Board voted to increase the repurchase authorization by \$1.25 billion. This raised the total value of shares authorized to be repurchased to \$23.15 billion. Considering the cumulative repurchases as of May 9, 2020, the Company had \$795.9 million remaining under the Board’s authorization to repurchase its common stock.

During the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020, the Company retired 1.9 million shares of treasury stock which had previously been repurchased under the Company’s share repurchase program. The retirement increased Retained deficit by \$1.879 billion and decreased Additional paid-in capital by \$99.7 million. During the comparable prior year period, the Company retired 2.6 million shares of treasury stock, which increased Retained deficit by \$1.707 billion and decreased Additional paid-in capital by \$125.4 million.

During the twelve week period ended May 9, 2020, the Company temporarily ceased share repurchases under its share repurchase program to conserve liquidity in response to the uncertainty related to COVID-19, and the Company will continue to evaluate current and expected business conditions and resume share repurchases under its share repurchase program when the Company deems appropriate.

Note I – Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

Accumulated other comprehensive loss includes foreign currency translation adjustments, activity for interest rate swaps and treasury rate locks that qualify as cash flow hedges and unrealized gains (losses) on available-for-sale debt securities. Changes in Accumulated other comprehensive loss for the twelve week periods ended May 9, 2020 and May 4, 2019 consisted of the following:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Foreign Currency and Other ⁽²⁾ | Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Securities | Derivatives | Total |
|---|---|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Balance at February 15, 2020 | \$ (225,380) | \$ 581 | \$ (3,538) | \$ (228,337) |
| Other comprehensive (loss) income before reclassifications ⁽¹⁾ | (104,920) | 1,116 | (12,808) ⁽⁵⁾ | (116,612) |
| Amounts reclassified from Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) ⁽¹⁾ | — | 44 ⁽³⁾ | 389 ⁽⁴⁾ | 433 |
| Balance at May 9, 2020 | <u>\$ (330,300)</u> | <u>\$ 1,741</u> | <u>\$ (15,957)</u> | <u>\$ (344,516)</u> |

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Foreign Currency and Other ⁽²⁾ | Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Securities | Derivatives | Total |
|---|---|---|--------------------|---------------------|
| Balance at February 9, 2019 | \$ (230,140) | \$ (442) | \$ (5,255) | \$ (235,837) |
| Other comprehensive (loss) income before reclassifications ⁽¹⁾ | (1,409) | 277 | — | (1,132) |
| Amounts reclassified from Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) ⁽¹⁾ | — | (31) ⁽³⁾ | 388 ⁽⁴⁾ | 357 |
| Balance at May 4, 2019 | <u>\$ (231,549)</u> | <u>\$ (196)</u> | <u>\$ (4,867)</u> | <u>\$ (236,612)</u> |

- (1) Amounts in parentheses indicate debits to Accumulated other comprehensive loss.
- (2) Foreign currency is shown net of U.S. tax to account for foreign currency impacts of certain undistributed non-U.S. subsidiaries earnings. Other foreign currency is not shown net of additional U.S. tax as other basis differences of non-U.S. subsidiaries are intended to be permanently reinvested.
- (3) Represents realized gains on marketable debt securities, net of taxes of \$12 for the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020, and \$8 for the twelve weeks ended May 4, 2019, which is recorded in Operating, selling general and administrative expenses on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. See “Note D – Marketable Debt Securities” for further discussion.
- (4) Represents losses on derivatives, net of tax benefit of \$120 for the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020 and for the twelve weeks ended May 4, 2019, which is recorded in Interest expense, net, on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. See “Note E – Derivative Financial Instruments” for further discussion.
- (5) Represents change in fair value for derivatives, net of tax benefit of \$4,034 for the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020.

Changes in Accumulated other comprehensive loss for the thirty-six week periods ended May 9, 2020 and May 4, 2019 consisted of the following:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Foreign Currency and Other ⁽²⁾ | Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Securities | Derivatives | Total |
|---|---|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Balance at August 31, 2019 | \$ (265,598) | \$ 591 | \$ (4,315) | \$ (269,322) |
| Other comprehensive (loss) income before reclassifications ⁽¹⁾ | (64,702) | 1,063 | (12,808) ⁽⁵⁾ | (76,447) |
| Amounts reclassified from Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) ⁽¹⁾ | — | 87 ⁽³⁾ | 1,166 ⁽⁴⁾ | 1,253 |
| Balance at May 9, 2020 | <u>\$ (330,300)</u> | <u>\$ 1,741</u> | <u>\$ (15,957)</u> | <u>\$ (344,516)</u> |

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Foreign Currency and Other ⁽²⁾ | Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Securities | Derivatives | Total |
|---|---|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Balance at August 25, 2018 | \$ (228,899) | \$ (873) | \$ (6,033) | \$ (235,805) |
| Other comprehensive (loss) income before reclassifications ⁽¹⁾ | (2,650) | 707 | — | (1,943) |
| Amounts reclassified from Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) ⁽¹⁾ | — | (30) ⁽³⁾ | 1,166 ⁽⁴⁾ | 1,136 |
| Balance at May 4, 2019 | <u>\$ (231,549)</u> | <u>\$ (196)</u> | <u>\$ (4,867)</u> | <u>\$ (236,612)</u> |

- (1) Amounts in parentheses indicate debits to Accumulated other comprehensive loss.
- (2) Foreign currency is shown net of U.S. tax to account for foreign currency impacts of certain undistributed non-U.S. subsidiaries earnings. Other foreign currency is not shown net of additional U.S. tax as other basis differences of non-U.S. subsidiaries are intended to be permanently reinvested.
- (3) Represents realized gains on marketable debt securities, net of taxes of \$24 for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 and \$8 for thirty-six weeks ended May 4, 2019, which is recorded in Operating, selling general and administrative expenses on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. See “Note D – Marketable Debt Securities” for further discussion.
- (4) Represents losses on derivatives, net of tax benefits of \$360 for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 and for thirty-six weeks ended May 4, 2019, which is recorded in Interest expense, net, on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. See “Note E – Derivative Financial Instruments” for further discussion.
- (5) Represents the change in fair value for derivatives, net of tax benefit of \$4,034 for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020.

Note J – Goodwill and Intangibles

As of May 9, 2020, there were no changes to the carrying amount of goodwill as described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2019.

The carrying amounts of intangible assets are included in Other long-term assets as follows:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Estimated Useful Life | Gross Carrying Amount | Accumulated Amortization | Net Carrying Amount |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Amortizing intangible assets: | | | | |
| Technology | 3-5 years | \$ 870 | \$ (870) | \$ — |
| Customer relationships | 3-10 years | 29,376 | (26,648) | 2,728 |
| Total intangible assets other than goodwill | | <u>\$ 30,246</u> | <u>\$ (27,518)</u> | <u>\$ 2,728</u> |

Amortization expense of intangible assets for the twelve and thirty-six week periods ended May 9, 2020 and May 4, 2019 were \$1.0 million and \$2.9 million, respectively.

Note K – Litigation

The Company is involved in various legal proceedings incidental to the conduct of its business, including, but not limited to, several lawsuits containing class-action allegations in which the plaintiffs are current and former hourly and salaried employees who allege various wage and hour violations and unlawful termination practices. While the resolution of these matters cannot be predicted with certainty, management does not currently believe that, either individually or in the aggregate, these matters will result in liabilities material to the Company's Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income, Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets or Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Note L – Leases

The Company adopted ASU 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842)*, beginning with its first quarter ended November 23, 2019 which requires leases to be recognized on the balance sheet. Leases with an original term of 12 months or less are not recognized in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, and the lease expense related to these short-term leases is recognized over the lease term. The Company elected the practical expedient to not separate lease components from the non-lease components, which includes fixed common-area maintenance costs at its retail store locations, for all classes of leased assets, except vehicles. The Company's vehicle leases typically include variable non-lease components, such as maintenance and fuel charges, which contain observable standalone prices. The Company has elected to exclude these variable non-lease components from vehicle lease payments for the purpose of calculating the right-of-use assets and liabilities. These variable lease payments are expensed as incurred.

The Company's leases primarily relate to its retail stores, distribution centers and vehicles under various non-callable leases. Leases are categorized at their commencement date, which is the date the Company takes possession or control of the underlying asset. Most of the Company's leases are operating leases; however, certain land and vehicles are leased under finance leases. The leases have varying terms and expire at various dates through 2040. Retail leases typically have initial terms of between one and 20 years, with one to six optional renewal periods of one to five years each. Finance leases for vehicles typically have original terms between one and five years, and finance leases for real estate leases typically have terms of 20 or more years. The exercise of lease renewal options is at the Company's sole discretion. The Company evaluates renewal options at lease commencement and on an ongoing basis and includes options that are reasonably certain to exercise in its expected lease terms when classifying leases and measuring lease liabilities. The Company subleases certain properties that are not used in its operations. Sublease income was not significant for the periods presented. Certain lease agreements require variable payments based upon actual costs of common-area maintenance, real estate taxes and insurance. The Company's lease agreements do not contain any material residual value guarantees or material restrictive covenants.

The Company's finance leases for vehicles have a stated borrowing rate which it uses in determining the present value of the lease payments over the lease term. Substantially all the operating leases and finance leases for real estate do not provide a stated borrowing rate. Accordingly, we use the Company's incremental borrowing rate at commencement or modification date is used in determining the present value of lease payments over the lease term. For operating leases that commenced prior to the date of adoption of the new standard, the Company used the incremental borrowing rate that corresponded to the remaining lease term as of the date of adoption.

Lease-related assets and liabilities recorded on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet are as follows:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Classification | May 9, 2020 |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Assets: | | |
| Operating | Operating lease right-of-use assets | \$ 2,613,849 |
| Finance | Property and equipment | 291,873 |
| Total lease assets | | <u>\$ 2,905,722</u> |
| Liabilities: | | |
| Current: | | |
| Operating | Current portion of operating lease liabilities | \$ 236,759 |
| Finance | Accrued expenses and other | 58,018 |
| Noncurrent: | | |
| Operating | Operating lease liabilities, less current portion | 2,481,280 |
| Finance | Other long-term liabilities | 126,258 |
| Total lease liabilities | | <u>\$ 2,902,315</u> |

Accumulated amortization related to finance lease assets was \$101.6 million as of May 9, 2020.

Lease costs for finance and operating leases for the twelve and thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 are as follows:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Statement of Income Location | Twelve Weeks Ended May 9, 2020 | Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 9, 2020 |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Finance lease cost: | | | |
| Amortization of lease assets | Depreciation and amortization | \$ 13,044 | \$ 38,572 |
| Interest on lease liabilities | Interest expense, net | 933 | 3,600 |
| Operating lease cost ⁽¹⁾ | Selling, general and administrative expenses | 82,258 | 244,454 |
| Total lease cost | | <u>\$ 96,235</u> | <u>\$ 286,626</u> |

(1) Includes short-term leases, variable lease costs and sublease income, which are immaterial.

The future rental payments, inclusive of renewal options that have been included in defining the expected lease term, of our operating and finance lease obligations as of May 9, 2020 having initial or remaining lease terms in excess of one year are as follows:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Finance Leases | Operating Leases | Total |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2020 | \$ 15,052 | \$ 79,958 | \$ 95,010 |
| 2021 | 61,531 | 320,888 | 382,419 |
| 2022 | 49,532 | 317,806 | 367,338 |
| 2023 | 34,827 | 298,900 | 333,727 |
| 2024 | 12,837 | 275,164 | 288,001 |
| Thereafter | 38,271 | 2,246,943 | 2,285,214 |
| Total lease payments | 212,050 | 3,539,659 | 3,751,709 |
| Less: Interest | (27,774) | (821,620) | (849,394) |
| Present value of lease liabilities | <u>\$ 184,276</u> | <u>\$ 2,718,039</u> | <u>\$ 2,902,315</u> |

The following table summarizes the Company’s lease term and discount rate assumptions:

| | <u>May 9, 2020</u> |
|--|--------------------|
| Weighted-average remaining lease term in years, inclusive of renewal options that are reasonably certain to be exercised | |
| Finance leases – real estate | 30 |
| Finance leases – vehicles | 3 |
| Operating leases | 15 |
| Weighted-average discount rate: | |
| Finance leases – real estate | 3.24 % |
| Finance leases – vehicles | 2.70 % |
| Operating leases | 3.43 % |

The following table summarizes the other information related to the Company’s lease liabilities:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | <u>Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 9, 2020</u> |
|---|---|
| Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities – operating cash flows from operating leases | \$ 98,356 |
| Leased assets obtained in exchange for new finance lease liabilities | 48,236 |
| Leased assets obtained in exchange for new operating lease liabilities | 163,066 |

As of May 9, 2020, the Company has entered into additional leases which have not yet commenced and are therefore not part of the right-of-use asset and liability. These leases are generally for real estate and have undiscounted future payments of approximately \$14.2 million and will commence when the Company obtains possession of the underlying leased asset. Commencement dates are expected to be from fiscal 2020 to fiscal 2022.

Note M – Segment Reporting

The Company’s operating segments (Domestic Auto Parts, Mexico and Brazil) are aggregated as one reportable segment: Auto Parts Stores. The criteria the Company used to identify the reportable segment are primarily the nature of the products the Company sells and the operating results that are regularly reviewed by the Company’s chief operating decision maker to make decisions about the resources to be allocated to the business units and to assess performance. The accounting policies of the Company’s reportable segment are the same as those described in “Note A – Significant Accounting Policies” in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2019.

The Auto Parts Stores segment is a retailer and distributor of automotive parts and accessories through the Company’s 6,484 stores in the U.S., Mexico and Brazil. Each store carries an extensive product line for cars, sport utility vehicles, vans and light trucks, including new and remanufactured automotive hard parts, maintenance items, accessories and non-automotive products.

The Other category reflects business activities of two operating segments that are not separately reportable due to the materiality of these operating segments. The operating segments include ALLDATA, which produces, sells and maintains diagnostic and repair information software used in the automotive repair industry, and E-commerce, which includes direct sales to customers through www.autozone.com for sales that are not fulfilled by local stores.

The Company evaluates its reportable segment primarily on the basis of net sales and segment profit, which is defined as gross profit. Segment results for the periods presented were as follows:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | Twelve Weeks Ended | | Thirty-Six Weeks Ended | |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| | May 9, 2020 | May 4, 2019 | May 9, 2020 | May 4, 2019 |
| Net Sales | | | | |
| Auto Parts Stores | \$ 2,724,604 | \$ 2,731,900 | \$ 7,932,831 | \$ 7,728,173 |
| Other | 54,695 | 51,106 | 153,168 | 147,134 |
| Total | \$ 2,779,299 | \$ 2,783,006 | \$ 8,085,999 | \$ 7,875,307 |
| Segment Profit | | | | |
| Auto Parts Stores | \$ 1,454,705 | \$ 1,457,608 | \$ 4,252,136 | \$ 4,132,358 |
| Other | 35,943 | 34,412 | 105,642 | 102,243 |
| Gross profit | 1,490,648 | 1,492,020 | 4,357,778 | 4,234,601 |
| Operating, selling, general and administrative expenses | (998,975) | (944,497) | (2,958,144) | (2,799,239) |
| Interest expense, net | (47,450) | (43,239) | (135,528) | (123,608) |
| Income before income taxes | \$ 444,223 | \$ 504,284 | \$ 1,264,106 | \$ 1,311,754 |

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders
AutoZone, Inc.

Results of Review of Interim Financial Statements

We have reviewed the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet of AutoZone, Inc. (the Company) as of May 9, 2020, the related condensed consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income and stockholders' deficit for the twelve and thirty-six week periods ended May 9, 2020 and May 4, 2019, the condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the thirty-six week periods ended May 9, 2020 and May 4, 2019, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "condensed consolidated interim financial statements"). Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the condensed consolidated interim financial statements for them to be in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We have previously audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the consolidated balance sheet of the Company as of August 31, 2019, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, stockholders' deficit and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes (not presented herein); and in our report dated October 28, 2019, we expressed an unqualified audit opinion on those consolidated financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet as of August 31, 2019, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the consolidated balance sheet from which it has been derived.

Basis for Review Results

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and the PCAOB. We conducted our review in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. A review of interim financial statements consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Memphis, Tennessee

June 12, 2020

Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

In Management’s Discussion and Analysis (“MD&A”), we provide a historical and prospective narrative of our general financial condition, results of operations, liquidity and certain other factors that may affect the future results of AutoZone, Inc. (“AutoZone” or the “Company”). The following MD&A discussion should be read in conjunction with our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, related notes to those statements and other financial information, including forward-looking statements and risk factors, that appear elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2019 and other filings with the SEC.

Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements contained in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q constitute forward-looking statements that are subject to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements typically use words such as “believe,” “anticipate,” “should,” “intend,” “plan,” “will,” “expect,” “estimate,” “project,” “positioned,” “strategy,” “seek,” “may,” “could,” and similar expressions. These are based on assumptions and assessments made by our management in light of experience and perception of historical trends, current conditions, expected future developments and other factors that we believe to be appropriate. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including without limitation: product demand; energy prices; weather; competition; credit market conditions; cash flows; access to available and feasible financing; future stock repurchases; the impact of recessionary conditions; consumer debt levels; changes in laws or regulations; war and the prospect of war, including terrorist activity; the impact of public health issues, such as the recent global pandemic of a novel strain of the coronavirus (“COVID-19”); inflation; the ability to hire, train and retain qualified employees; construction delays; the compromising of confidentiality, availability or integrity of information, including cyber-attacks; historic growth rate sustainability; downgrade of our credit ratings; damages to our reputation; challenges in international markets; failure or interruption of our information technology systems; origin and raw material costs of suppliers; disruption in our supply chain, due to public health epidemics or otherwise; impact of tariffs; anticipated impact of new accounting standards; and business interruptions. Certain of these risks and uncertainties are discussed in more detail in the “Risk Factors” section contained in Item 1A under Part 1 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2019, and in Item 1A under Part 2 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, and these Risk Factors should be read carefully. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual results, developments and business decisions may differ from those contemplated by such forward-looking statements, and events described above and in the “Risk Factors” could materially and adversely affect our business. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made. Except as required by applicable law, we undertake no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Actual results may materially differ from anticipated results.

Overview

We are the leading retailer, and a leading distributor, of automotive replacement parts and accessories in the Americas. We began operations in 1979 and at May 9, 2020, operated 5,836 stores in the U.S., 610 stores in Mexico and 38 stores in Brazil. Each store carries an extensive product line for cars, sport utility vehicles, vans and light trucks, including new and remanufactured automotive hard parts, maintenance items, accessories and non-automotive products. At May 9, 2020, in 4,950 of our domestic stores, we also had a commercial sales program that provides commercial credit and prompt delivery of parts and other products to local, regional and national repair garages, dealers, service stations and public sector accounts. We also have commercial programs in stores in Mexico and Brazil. We also sell the ALLDATA brand automotive diagnostic and repair software through www.alldata.com and www.alldatadiy.com. Additionally, we sell automotive hard parts, maintenance items, accessories and non-automotive products through www.autozone.com and our commercial customers can make purchases through www.autozonepro.com. We also provide product information on our Duralast branded products through www.duralastparts.com. We do not derive revenue from automotive repair or installation services.

Operating results for the twelve and thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the fiscal year ending August 29, 2020. Each of the first three quarters of our fiscal year consists of 12 weeks, and the fourth quarter consists of 16 or 17 weeks. The fourth quarter of fiscal 2020 has 16 weeks and fiscal 2019 had 17 weeks. Our business is somewhat seasonal in nature, with the highest sales generally occurring during the months of February through September and the lowest sales generally occurring in the months of December and January.

COVID-19 Impact

The outbreak of a novel strain of the coronavirus (“COVID-19”), which was declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020 by the World Health Organization, has led to adverse impacts on the national and global economy. We have been able to keep our stores open and operating in the U.S. Initially, we reduced the hours of operation in most of our stores, but subsequently have returned to more normal operating hours. We have also taken numerous measures to ensure the health, safety and well-being of our customers and employees. We provided new Emergency Time-Off benefit enhancements for both full-time and part-time eligible hourly employees in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. We invested in supplies for the protection of our employees and customers, increased the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting, and introduced new service options for customers, such as curbside pickup, among other things. These expanded benefits, supply costs and other COVID-19 related costs resulted in approximately \$75 million of expense included in Operating, selling, general and administrative expenses in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income for the twelve weeks ended and thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020.

In March 2020, we issued \$1.250 billion in Senior Notes and closed on a new 364-day Senior unsecured revolving credit facility to strengthen our financial position and our ability to be responsive during this ever-changing environment.

While sales were initially negatively impacted, they have since increased. However, we are unable to accurately predict the impact that COVID-19 will have due to numerous uncertainties, including the severity of the disease, the duration of the outbreak, actions that may be taken by governmental authorities intended to minimize the spread of the pandemic or to stimulate the economy and other unintended consequences. Accordingly, continued business disruption relating to the COVID-19 outbreak may cause significant fluctuations in our business, may negatively impact demand for our products, our store hours and our workforce availability and may also magnify risks associated with sourcing quality merchandise domestically and outside the U.S. at favorable prices, all of which would adversely impact our business and results of operations.

Executive Summary

Net sales decreased 0.1% for the quarter driven by the impact of the COVID-19 crisis which led to a decrease in domestic same store sales (sales from stores open at least one year) of 1.0%. Domestic commercial sales decreased 6.7%, which represents 20.6% of our total sales. Operating profit decreased 10.2% to \$491.7 million compared to \$547.5 million in the same period last year, while net income for the quarter decreased 15.5% over the same period last year to \$342.9 million compared to \$405.9 million in the same period last year. Diluted earnings per share decreased 10.0% to \$14.39 per share from \$15.99 per share in the comparable prior year period.

Our business is impacted by various factors within the economy that affect both our consumer and our industry, including but not limited to fuel costs, wage rates and other economic conditions. Given the nature of these macroeconomic factors, we cannot predict whether or for how long certain trends will continue, nor can we predict to what degree these trends will impact us in the future.

During the third quarter of fiscal 2020, failure and maintenance related categories represented the largest portion of our sales mix, at approximately 83% of total sales with discretionary making up the remaining, which is consistent with the comparable prior year period, with failure related categories continuing to be the largest portion of our sales mix. We did not experience any fundamental shifts in our category sales mix as compared to the previous year. Our sales mix can be impacted by severe or unusual weather over a short-term period. Over the long-term, we believe the impact of the weather on our sales mix is not significant.

The two statistics we believe have the most positive correlation to our market growth over the long-term are miles driven and the number of seven year old or older vehicles on the road. While over the long-term we have seen a positive correlation between our net sales and the number of miles driven, we have also seen time frames of minimal correlation in sales performance and miles driven, such as during the great recession. During the periods of minimal correlation between net sales and miles driven, we believe net sales have been positively impacted by other factors, including the number of seven year old or older vehicles on the road and unemployment. The average age of the U.S. light vehicle fleet continues to trend in our industry's favor. According to the latest data provided by the Auto Care Association as of January 1, 2019, for the 8th consecutive year, the average age of vehicles on the road has exceeded 11 years. Since the beginning of the fiscal year and through March 2019 (latest publicly available information), miles driven in the U.S. decreased 3.5%.

**Twelve Weeks Ended May 9, 2020
Compared with Twelve Weeks Ended May 4, 2019**

Net sales for the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020 decreased \$3.7 million to \$2.779 billion, or 0.1% over net sales of \$2.783 billion for the comparable prior year period. Total auto parts sales decreased by 0.3%, primarily driven by a decrease in domestic same store sales of 1.0%, partially offset by net sales of \$55.4 million from new stores. Domestic commercial sales decreased \$41.0 million, or 6.7%, to \$573.8 million over the comparable prior year period.

Gross profit for the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020 was \$1.491 billion, compared with \$1.492 billion during the comparable prior year period. Gross profit, as a percentage of sales was flat to the comparable prior year period at 53.6%.

Operating, selling, general and administrative expenses for the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020 were \$999.0 million, or 35.9% of net sales, compared with \$944.5 million, or 33.9% of net sales during the comparable prior year period. Operating expenses, as a percentage of sales, were higher than last year with the deleverage primarily driven by the unplanned approximate \$75 million of costs incurred in response to COVID-19.

Net interest expense for the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020 was \$47.5 million compared with \$43.2 million during the comparable prior year period. The increase was primarily due to an increase in average borrowing levels over the comparable prior year period due to the \$500 million debt issuance of 3.625% Senior Notes due April 2025 and the \$750 million debt issuance of 4.000% Senior Notes due April 2030 as well as an increase in borrowing rates. Average borrowings for the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020 were \$5.460 billion, compared with \$5.191 billion for the comparable prior year period. Weighted average borrowing rates were 3.4% for the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020 and 3.2% for the twelve weeks ended May 4, 2019.

Our effective income tax rate was 22.8% of pretax income for the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020, and 19.5% for the comparable prior year period. The increase in the tax rate was primarily attributable to a reduced benefit from stock options exercised during the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020 compared to the comparable prior year period. The benefit of stock options exercised for the twelve weeks ended May 9, 2020 was \$1.1 million compared to \$13.1 million in the comparable prior year period.

Net income for the twelve week period ended May 9, 2020 decreased by \$63.1 million to \$342.9 million due to the factors set forth above, and diluted earnings per share decreased by 10.0% to \$14.39 from \$15.99 in the comparable prior year period. The impact on current quarter diluted earnings per share from stock repurchases since the end of the comparable prior year period was an increase of \$0.71.

**Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 9, 2020
Compared with Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 4, 2019**

Net sales for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 increased \$210.7 million to \$8.086 billion, or 2.7%, over net sales of \$7.875 billion for the comparable prior year period. Total auto parts sales increased by 2.6%, primarily driven by net sales of \$167.6 million from new stores and an increase in domestic same store sales of 0.5%. Domestic commercial sales increased \$75.9 million, or 4.5%, to \$1.752 billion over the comparable prior year period.

Gross profit for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 was \$4.358 billion, or 53.9% of net sales, compared with \$4.235 billion, or 53.8% of net sales, during the comparable prior year period. The increase in gross margin was primarily driven by supply chain leverage.

Operating, selling, general and administrative expenses for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 were \$2.958 billion, or 36.6% of net sales, compared with \$2.799 billion, or 35.5% of net sales. Deleveraging was primarily driven by the unplanned approximate \$75 million of costs incurred in response to COVID-19.

Net interest expense for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 was \$135.5 million compared with \$123.6 million during the comparable prior year period. The increase was primarily due to an increase in average borrowing levels over the comparable prior year period due to the issuance of new Senior debt during the current quarter, as well as an increase in borrowing rates. Average borrowings for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 were \$5.371 billion, compared with \$5.094 billion for the comparable prior year period. Weighted average borrowing rates were 3.2% for the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020 and 3.1% for the thirty-six week period ended May 4, 2019.

Our effective income tax rate was 21.5% of pretax income for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020, and 19.8% for the comparable prior year period. The increase in the tax rate was primarily attributable to a reduced benefit from stock options exercised during the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 compared to the comparable prior year period. The benefit of stock options exercised for the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020 was \$17.6 million compared to \$38.2 million in the comparable prior year period.

Net income for the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020 decreased by \$59.5 million to \$992.5 million due to the factors set forth above, and diluted earnings per share increased by 0.4% to \$41.08 from \$40.92 in the comparable prior year period. The impact on current quarter diluted earnings per share from stock repurchases since the end of the comparable prior year period was an increase of \$1.45.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The primary source of our liquidity is our cash flows realized through the sale of automotive parts, products and accessories. For the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020, our net cash flows from operating activities provided \$1.303 billion as compared with \$1.287 billion provided during the comparable prior year period. The increase is primarily due to favorable changes in accounts receivable.

Our net cash flows used in investing activities for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 were \$247.9 million as compared with \$285.3 million in the comparable prior year period. Capital expenditures for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 were \$273.9 million compared to \$313.8 million for the comparable prior year period. The decrease is primarily driven by the timing of store openings in fiscal 2020 compared to the comparable prior year period. During the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020, we opened 73 net new stores. In the comparable prior year period, we opened 85 net new stores. Investing cash flows were impacted by our wholly owned captive, which purchased \$82.5 million and sold \$106.7 million in marketable debt securities during the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020. During the comparable prior year period, the captive purchased \$38.9 million in marketable debt securities and sold \$61.1 million in marketable debt securities.

Our net cash flows used in financing activities for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020 were \$712.2 million compared to \$1.043 billion in the comparable prior year period. During the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020, we received \$500 million from the debt issuance of 3.625% Senior Notes due April 2025 and received \$750 million from the debt issuance of 4.000% Senior Notes due April 2030. During the comparable prior year period, we received \$750 million from the issuance of debt and repaid our \$250 million 1.625% Senior Notes due April 2019 using a portion of the \$750 million Senior Notes issued in April 2019. For the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020, our commercial paper activity resulted in \$1.030 billion net repayments from commercial paper, as compared to \$348.5 million of net repayments from commercial paper in the comparable prior year period. Stock repurchases were \$930.9 million in the current thirty-six week period as compared with \$1.313 billion in the comparable prior year period. For the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020, proceeds from the sale of common stock and exercises of stock options provided \$56.3 million. In the comparable prior year period, proceeds from the sale of common stock and exercises of stock options provided \$164.9 million.

During fiscal 2020, we expect to decrease the investment in our business as compared to fiscal 2019 due to the impact of COVID-19. Our investments continue to be directed primarily to new stores, supply chain infrastructure, technology and enhancements to existing stores. The amount of our investments in our new stores is impacted by different factors, including such factors as whether the building and land are purchased (requiring higher investment) or leased (generally lower investment), located in the U.S., Mexico or Brazil, or located in urban or rural areas.

In addition to the building and land costs, our new stores require working capital, predominantly for inventories. Historically, we have negotiated extended payment terms from suppliers, reducing the working capital required and resulting in a high accounts payable to inventory ratio. We plan to continue leveraging our inventory purchases; however, our ability to do so may be limited by our vendors' capacity to factor their receivables from us. Certain vendors participate in financing arrangements with financial institutions whereby they factor their receivables from us, allowing them to receive payment on our invoices at a discounted rate. Extended payment terms from our vendors have allowed us to continue our high accounts payable to inventory ratio. Accounts payable, as a percentage of gross inventory, was 108.2% at May 9, 2020, compared to 108.5% at May 4, 2019.

Depending on the timing and magnitude of our future investments (either in the form of leased or purchased properties or acquisitions), we anticipate that we will rely primarily on internally generated funds and available borrowing capacity to support a majority of our capital expenditures, working capital requirements and stock repurchases. The balance may be funded through new borrowings. We anticipate that we will be able to obtain such financing in view of our current credit ratings and favorable experiences in the debt markets in the past.

For the trailing four quarters ended May 9, 2020, our adjusted after-tax return on invested capital ("ROIC"), which is a non-GAAP number, was 34.0% as compared to 34.5% for the comparable prior year period. We use adjusted ROIC to evaluate whether we are effectively using our capital resources and believe it is an important indicator of our overall operating performance. Refer to the "Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures" section for further details of our calculation.

Debt Facilities

We entered into a Master Extension, New Commitment and Amendment Agreement dated as of November 18, 2017 (the “Extension Amendment”) to the Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated as of November 18, 2016, as amended, modified, extended or restated from time to time (the “Revolving Credit Agreement”). Under the Extension Amendment: (i) our borrowing capacity under the Revolving Credit Agreement was increased from \$1.6 billion to \$2.0 billion; (ii) our option to increase the borrowing capacity under the Revolving Credit Agreement was “refreshed” and the amount of such option remained at \$400 million; (iii) the maximum borrowing under the Revolving Credit Agreement may, at our option, subject to lenders approval, be increased from \$2.0 billion to \$2.4 billion; (iv) the termination date of the Revolving Credit Agreement was extended from November 18, 2021 until November 18, 2022; and (v) we have the option to make one additional written request of the lenders to extend the termination date then in effect for an additional year. Under the Revolving Credit Agreement, we may borrow funds consisting of Eurodollar loans, base rate loans or a combination of both. Interest accrues on Eurodollar loans at a defined Eurodollar rate, defined as LIBOR plus the applicable percentage, as defined in the Revolving Credit Agreement, depending upon our Senior, unsecured, (non-credit enhanced) long-term debt ratings. Interest accrues on base rate loans as defined in the Revolving Credit Agreement.

On April 3, 2020, we entered into a 364-Day Credit Agreement (the “364-Day Credit Agreement”) to augment our access to liquidity due to current macroeconomic conditions and supplements our existing Revolving Credit Agreement. The 364-Day Credit Agreement provides for loans in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$750 million. The 364-Day Credit Agreement will terminate, and all amounts borrowed under the 364-Day Credit Agreement will be due and payable, on April 2, 2021. Revolving loans under the 364-Day Credit Agreement may be base rate loans, Eurodollar loans, or a combination of both, at our election.

As of May 9, 2020, we had no outstanding borrowings under each of our revolving credit facilities and \$3.2 million of outstanding letters of credit under the Revolving Credit Agreement.

We also maintain a letter of credit facility that allows us to request the participating bank to issue letters of credit on our behalf up to an aggregate amount of \$25 million. The letter of credit facility is in addition to the letters of credit that may be issued under the Revolving Credit Agreement. As of May 9, 2020, we had \$25.0 million in letters of credit outstanding under the letter of credit facility, which expires in June 2022.

In addition to the outstanding letters of credit issued under the committed facilities discussed above, we had \$218.8 million in letters of credit outstanding as of May 9, 2020. These letters of credit have various maturity dates and were issued on an uncommitted basis.

All Senior Notes are subject to an interest rate adjustment if the debt ratings assigned to the Senior Notes are downgraded (as defined in the agreements). Further, the Senior Notes contain a provision that repayment of the Senior Notes may be accelerated if we experience a change in control (as defined in the agreements). Our borrowings under our Senior Notes contain minimal covenants, primarily restrictions on liens. Under our revolving credit facilities, covenants include restrictions on liens, a maximum debt to earnings ratio, a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio and a change of control provision that may require acceleration of the repayment obligations under certain circumstances. All of the repayment obligations under our borrowing arrangements may be accelerated and come due prior to the applicable scheduled payment date if covenants are breached or an event of default occurs. As of May 9, 2020, we were in compliance with all covenants and expect to remain in compliance with all covenants under our borrowing arrangements.

As of May 9, 2020, the \$500 million 4.000% Senior Notes due November 2020 and the \$250 million 2.500% Senior Notes due April 2021 were classified as long-term in the Consolidated Balance Sheets as we had the ability and intent to refinance them on a long-term basis through available capacity in our revolving credit facilities. As of May 9, 2020, we had \$2.747 billion of availability under our \$2.750 billion revolving credit facilities which would allow us to replace these short-term obligations with long-term financing facilities.

On March 30, 2020, we issued \$500 million in 3.625% Senior Notes due April 2025 and \$750 million in 4.000% Senior Notes due April 2030 under our automatic shelf registration statement on Form S-3, filed with the SEC on April 4, 2019 (File No. 333-230719) (the “2019 Shelf Registration”). The 2019 Shelf Registration allows us to sell an indeterminate amount in debt securities to fund general corporate purposes, including repaying, redeeming or repurchasing outstanding debt and for working capital, capital expenditures, new store openings, stock repurchases and acquisitions. Proceeds from the debt issuance were used for general corporate purposes.

Our adjusted debt to earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization, and rent (“EBITDAR”) ratio was 2.6:1 as of May 9, 2020 and was 2.5:1 as of May 4, 2019. We calculate adjusted debt as the sum of total debt, finance lease liabilities and rent times six; and we calculate adjusted EBITDAR by adding interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization, rent, share-based expense and pension termination charges to net income. Adjusted debt to EBITDAR is calculated on a trailing four quarter basis. We target our debt levels to a ratio of adjusted debt to EBITDAR in order to maintain our investment grade credit ratings. We believe this is important information for the management of our debt levels. To the extent EBITDAR continues to grow in future years, we expect our debt levels to increase; conversely, if EBITDAR declines, we would expect our debt levels to decrease. Refer to the “Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures” section for further details of our calculation.

Stock Repurchases

From January 1, 1998 to May 9, 2020, we have repurchased a total of 147.7 million shares of our common stock at an aggregate cost of \$22.354 billion, including 826,002 shares of our common stock at an aggregate cost of \$930.9 million during the thirty-six week period ended May 9, 2020. On October 7, 2019, the Board voted to increase the authorization by \$1.25 billion. This raised the total value of shares authorized to be repurchased to \$23.15 billion. Considering cumulative repurchases as of May 9, 2020, we had \$795.9 million remaining under the Board’s authorization to repurchase our common stock.

During the twelve week period ended May 9, 2020, we temporarily ceased share repurchases under our share repurchase program to conserve liquidity in response to the uncertainty related to COVID-19, and we will continue to evaluate current and expected business conditions and resume share repurchases under our share repurchase program when we deem appropriate.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Since our fiscal year end, we have cancelled, issued and modified stand-by letters of credit that are primarily renewed on an annual basis to cover deductible payments to our casualty insurance carriers. Our total stand-by letters of credit commitment at May 9, 2020, was \$247.0 million, compared with \$101.2 million at August 31, 2019, and our total surety bonds commitment at May 9, 2020, was \$41.5 million, compared with \$36.7 million at August 31, 2019.

Financial Commitments

Except for the previously discussed 364-Day Credit Agreement and debt issuances, as of May 9, 2020, there were no significant changes to our contractual obligations as described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2019.

Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations includes certain financial measures not derived in accordance with GAAP. These non-GAAP financial measures provide additional information for determining our optimal capital structure and are used to assist management in evaluating performance and in making appropriate business decisions to maximize stockholders’ value.

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Non-GAAP financial measures should not be used as a substitute for GAAP financial measures, or considered in isolation, for the purpose of analyzing our operating performance, financial position or cash flows. However, we have presented non-GAAP financial measures, as we believe they provide additional information that is useful to investors. Furthermore, our management and the Compensation Committee of the Board use the above mentioned non-GAAP financial measures to analyze and compare our underlying operating results and to determine payments of performance-based compensation. We have included a reconciliation of this information to the most comparable GAAP measures in the following reconciliation tables.

Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measure: Adjusted After-Tax ROIC

| | A Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2019 ⁽⁴⁾ | B Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 4, 2019 | A-B=C Seventeen Weeks Ended August 31, 2019 | D Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 9, 2020 | C+D Trailing Four Quarters Ended May 9, 2020 |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <i>(in thousands, except percentages)</i> | | | | | |
| Net income | \$ 1,617,221 | \$ 1,051,992 | \$ 565,229 | \$ 992,515 | \$ 1,557,744 |
| Adjustments: | | | | | |
| Interest expense | 184,804 | 123,608 | 61,196 | 135,528 | 196,724 |
| Rent expense ⁽²⁾ | 332,726 | 224,259 | 108,467 | 227,327 | 335,794 |
| Tax effect ⁽³⁾ | (111,269) | (74,791) | (36,478) | (78,014) | (114,492) |
| Deferred tax liabilities, net of repatriation tax | (6,340) | (6,340) | — | — | — |
| Adjusted after-tax return | <u>\$ 2,017,142</u> | <u>\$ 1,318,728</u> | <u>\$ 698,414</u> | <u>\$ 1,277,356</u> | <u>\$ 1,975,770</u> |
| Average debt ⁽⁴⁾ | | | | | \$ 5,303,066 |
| Average stockholders' deficit ⁽⁴⁾ | | | | | (1,684,662) |
| Add: Rent x 6 | | | | | 2,014,764 |
| Average finance lease liabilities ⁽⁴⁾ | | | | | 184,286 |
| Invested capital | | | | | <u>\$ 5,817,454</u> |
| Adjusted after-tax ROIC | | | | | <u>34.0 %</u> |

| | A Fiscal Year Ended August 25, 2018 | B Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 5, 2018 | A-B=C Sixteen Weeks Ended August 25, 2018 | D Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 4, 2019 | C+D Trailing Four Quarters Ended May 4, 2019 |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| <i>(in thousands, except percentages)</i> | | | | | |
| Net income | \$ 1,337,536 | \$ 937,254 | \$ 400,282 | \$ 1,051,992 | \$ 1,452,274 |
| Adjustments: | | | | | |
| Impairment before tax impact | 193,162 | 193,162 | — | — | — |
| Pension termination charges before tax impact | 130,263 | — | 130,263 | — | 130,263 |
| Interest expense | 174,527 | 120,186 | 54,341 | 123,608 | 177,949 |
| Rent expense | 315,580 | 218,999 | 96,581 | 224,259 | 320,840 |
| Tax effect ⁽³⁾ | (188,885) | (119,771) | (69,114) | (74,993) | (144,107) |
| Deferred tax liabilities, net of repatriation tax | (132,113) | (136,679) | 4,566 | (6,340) | (1,774) |
| Adjusted after-tax return | <u>\$ 1,830,070</u> | <u>\$ 1,213,151</u> | <u>\$ 616,919</u> | <u>\$ 1,318,526</u> | <u>\$ 1,935,445</u> |
| Average debt ⁽⁴⁾ | | | | | \$ 5,075,956 |
| Average stockholders' deficit ⁽⁴⁾ | | | | | (1,544,890) |
| Add: Rent x 6 | | | | | 1,925,040 |
| Average finance lease liabilities ⁽⁴⁾ | | | | | 158,701 |
| Invested capital | | | | | <u>\$ 5,614,807</u> |
| Adjusted after-tax ROIC | | | | | <u>34.5 %</u> |

Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measure: Adjusted Debt to EBITDAR

The following tables calculate the ratio of adjusted debt to EBITDAR for the trailing four quarters ended May 9, 2020 and May 4, 2019.

| | A Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2019 | B Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 4, 2019 | A-B=C Seventeen Weeks Ended August 31, 2019 | D Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 9, 2020 | C+D Trailing Four Quarters Ended May 9, 2020 |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| <i>(in thousands, except ratio)</i> | | | | | |
| Net income | \$ 1,617,221 | \$ 1,051,992 | \$ 565,229 | \$ 992,515 | \$ 1,557,744 |
| Add: Interest expense | 184,804 | 123,608 | 61,196 | 135,528 | 196,724 |
| Income tax expense | 414,112 | 259,762 | 154,350 | 271,591 | 425,941 |
| Adjusted EBIT | 2,216,137 | 1,435,362 | 780,775 | 1,399,634 | 2,180,409 |
| Add: Depreciation expense | 369,957 | 251,118 | 118,839 | 272,115 | 390,954 |
| Rent expense ⁽²⁾ | 332,726 | 224,259 | 108,467 | 227,327 | 335,794 |
| Share-based expense | 43,255 | 31,529 | 11,726 | 32,251 | 43,977 |
| Adjusted EBITDAR | \$ 2,962,075 | \$ 1,942,268 | \$ 1,019,807 | \$ 1,931,327 | \$ 2,951,134 |
| Debt | | | | | \$ 5,418,272 |
| Finance lease liabilities | | | | | 184,276 |
| Add: Rent x 6 | | | | | 2,014,764 |
| Adjusted debt | | | | | \$ 7,617,312 |
| Adjusted debt to EBITDAR | | | | | 2.6 |

| | A Fiscal Year Ended August 25, 2018 | B Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 5, 2018 | A-B=C Sixteen Weeks Ended August 25, 2018 | D Thirty-Six Weeks Ended May 4, 2019 | C+D Trailing Four Quarters Ended May 4, 2019 |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| <i>(in thousands, except ratio)</i> | | | | | |
| Net income | \$ 1,337,536 | \$ 937,254 | \$ 400,282 | \$ 1,051,992 | \$ 1,452,274 |
| Add: Impairment before tax impact | 193,162 | 193,162 | — | — | — |
| Pension termination charges before tax impact | 130,263 | — | 130,263 | — | 130,263 |
| Interest expense | 174,527 | 120,186 | 54,341 | 123,608 | 177,949 |
| Income tax expense | 298,793 | 162,177 | 136,616 | 259,762 | 396,378 |
| Adjusted EBIT | 2,134,281 | 1,412,779 | 721,502 | 1,435,362 | 2,156,864 |
| Add: Depreciation expense | 345,084 | 237,091 | 107,993 | 251,118 | 359,111 |
| Rent expense | 315,580 | 218,999 | 96,581 | 224,259 | 320,840 |
| Share-based expense | 43,674 | 29,559 | 14,115 | 31,529 | 45,644 |
| Adjusted EBITDAR | \$ 2,838,619 | \$ 1,898,428 | \$ 940,191 | \$ 1,942,268 | \$ 2,882,459 |
| Debt | | | | | \$ 5,151,917 |
| Finance lease liabilities | | | | | 165,541 |
| Add: Rent x 6 | | | | | 1,925,040 |
| Adjusted debt | | | | | \$ 7,242,498 |
| Adjusted debt to EBITDAR | | | | | 2.5 |

(1) The fiscal year ended August 31, 2019 consists of 53 weeks.

(2) Effective September 1, 2019, the Company adopted ASU 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842), the new lease accounting standard that required the Company to recognize operating lease assets and liabilities in the balance sheet. The table below outlines the calculation of rent expense and reconciles rent expense to total lease cost, per ASC 842, the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure, for the thirty-six weeks ended May 9, 2020.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Total lease cost per ASC 842, for the 36 weeks ended May 9, 2020 | \$ 286,626 |
| Less: Finance lease interest and amortization | (42,172) |
| Less: Variable operating lease components, related to insurance and common area maintenance for the 36 weeks ended May 9, 2020 | (17,127) |
| Rent expense for the 36 weeks ended May 9, 2020 | 227,327 |
| Add: Rent expense for the 17 weeks ended August 31, 2019, as previously reported prior to the adoption of ASC 842 | 108,467 |
| Rent expense for the 53 weeks ended May 9, 2020 | \$ 335,794 |

(3) Effective tax rate over trailing four quarters ended May 9, 2020 is 21.5%. Effective tax rate over trailing four quarters ended May 4, 2019 is 28.1% for pension termination and 21.6% for interest and rent expense.

(4) All averages are computed based on trailing 5 quarter balances.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Refer to Note A of the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for the discussion of recent accounting pronouncements.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Preparation of our consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and assumptions affecting the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period and related disclosures of contingent liabilities. Our policies are evaluated on an ongoing basis, and our significant judgments and estimates are drawn from historical experience and other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results could differ under different assumptions or conditions.

Our critical accounting policies are described in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2019. Our critical accounting policies have not changed since the filing of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2019.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

At May 9, 2020, the only material changes to our instruments and positions that are sensitive to market risk since the disclosures in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended August 31, 2019 were the \$500 million 3.625% Senior Notes due April 2025 debt issuance, \$750 million 4.000% Senior Notes due April 2030 debt issuance, \$1.030 billion net decrease in commercial paper and new \$750 million 364-Day Credit Agreement.

The fair value of our debt was estimated at \$5.723 billion as of May 9, 2020 and \$5.419 billion as of August 31, 2019, based on the quoted market prices for the same or similar debt issues or on the current rates available to AutoZone for debt of the same terms. Such fair value was greater than the carrying value of debt by \$304.9 million at May 9, 2020 and greater than the carrying value by \$212.7 million at August 31, 2019. We did not have any variable rate debt outstanding at May 9, 2020 and \$1.030 billion of variable rate debt outstanding at August 31, 2019. The primary interest rate exposure on variable rate debt is based on LIBOR. We had outstanding fixed rate debt of \$5.418 billion, net of unamortized debt issuance costs of \$31.7 million at May 9, 2020 and \$4.176 billion, net of unamortized debt issuance costs of \$23.7 million at August 31, 2019. A one percentage point increase in interest rates would reduce the fair value of our fixed rate debt by \$225.3 million at May 9, 2020.

At May 9, 2020, we had two outstanding treasury rate locks that hedge a portion of the risk of change in benchmark interest rates associated with long-term debt we anticipate issuing in the future. See Part 1, Item 1. Financial Statements, Note E – Derivative Financial Instruments to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of May 9, 2020, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act, as amended. Based on that evaluation, our management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of May 9, 2020.

Changes in Internal Controls

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended May 9, 2020 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

In 2004, we acquired a store site in Mount Ephraim, New Jersey that had previously been the site of a gasoline service station and contained evidence of groundwater contamination. Upon acquisition, we voluntarily reported the groundwater contamination issue to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (“NJDEP”) and entered into a Voluntary Remediation Agreement providing for the remediation of the contamination associated with the property. We have conducted and paid for (at an immaterial cost to us) remediation of contamination on the property.

We have also voluntarily investigated and addressed potential vapor intrusion impacts in downgradient residences and businesses. The NJDEP has asserted, in a Directive and Notice to Insurers dated February 19, 2013 and again in an Amended Directive and Notice to Insurers dated January 13, 2014 (collectively the “Directives”), that we are liable for the downgradient impacts under a joint and severable liability theory. By letter dated April 23, 2015, NJDEP has demanded payment from us, and other parties, in the amount of approximately \$296 thousand for costs incurred by NJDEP in connection with contamination downgradient of the property. By letter dated January 29, 2016, we were informed that NJDEP has filed a lien against the property in connection with approximately \$355 thousand in costs incurred by NJDEP in connection with contamination downgradient of the property. We have contested, and will continue to contest, any such assertions due to the existence of other entities/sources of contamination, some of which are named in the Directives and the April 23, 2015 Demand, in the area of the property.

Pursuant to the Voluntary Remediation Agreement, upon completion of all remediation required by the agreement, we believe we should be eligible to be reimbursed up to 75% of qualified remediation costs by the State of New Jersey. We have asked the state for clarification that the agreement applies to off-site work. Although the aggregate amount of additional costs that we may incur pursuant to the remediation cannot currently be ascertained, we do not currently believe that fulfillment of our obligations under the agreement or otherwise will result in costs that are material to the Company’s Condensed Consolidated Statement of Income, Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet or Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.

We are involved in various other legal proceedings incidental to the conduct of our business, including, but not limited to, several lawsuits containing class-action allegations in which the plaintiffs are current and former hourly and salaried employees who allege various wage and hour violations and unlawful termination practices. We do not currently believe that, either individually or in the aggregate, these matters will result in liabilities material to the Company’s Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income, Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets or Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Except as set forth below, as of the date of this filing, there have been no material changes in our risk factors from those disclosed in Part I, Item 1A, of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2019.

The recent outbreak of COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has spread to the United States and many other parts of the world and may have a material adverse effect on our business operations, financial condition, liquidity and cash flow.

As the recent outbreak of COVID-19 continues to grow both in the U.S. and globally, there has been a recent downturn in financial market indices and the adoption of emergency legislation aimed to address the negative impacts of the pandemic. While sales were initially negatively impacted and we have incurred significant expenses, we are unable to accurately predict the ultimate impact that COVID-19 will have on our business and financial condition due to numerous uncertainties, including the severity of the disease, the duration of the outbreak, the likelihood of a resurgence of the outbreak, actions that may be taken by governmental authorities in response to the disease and unintended consequences of the foregoing. In particular, it is unclear what near-term and long-term impact these factors will have on the number of vehicle miles driven, traffic to our stores, as well as demand for our products from our retail and commercial customers. Continued business disruption caused by COVID-19 may require significant actions to mitigate the impact, including but not limited to employee furloughs, reductions in store hours and store closings as well as ongoing increases in expenses. Further, the pandemic and related economic uncertainty may result in additional negative impacts of which we are not currently aware and may also magnify the various risks described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, including those associated with sourcing quality merchandise domestically and outside the U.S.

Accordingly, the pandemic could have a material adverse effect on demand for our products, workforce availability, our results of operations, financial condition, liquidity and cash flows.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

Shares of common stock repurchased by the Company during the quarter ended May 9, 2020 were as follows:

Issuer Repurchases of Equity Securities

| 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 Dollar Value that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| February 16, 2020 to March 14, 2020 | 146,007 | \$ 1,068.15 | 146,007 | \$ 805,989,923 |
| March 15, 2020 to April 11, 2020 | 10,028 | 1,007.18 | 10,028 | 795,889,909 |
| April 12, 2020 to May 9, 2020 | — | — | — | 795,889,909 |
| Total | 156,035 | \$ 1,064.23 | 156,035 | \$ 795,889,909 |

During 1998, we announced a program permitting us to repurchase a portion of our outstanding shares not to exceed a dollar maximum established by our Board of Directors. This program was most recently amended on October 7, 2019 to increase the repurchase authorization by \$1.25 billion. This brings the total value of shares to be repurchased to \$23.15 billion. All of the above repurchases were part of this program.

During the twelve week period ended May 9, 2020, we temporarily ceased share repurchases under our share repurchase program to conserve liquidity in response to the uncertainty related to COVID-19, and we will continue to evaluate current and expected business conditions and resume share repurchases under our share repurchase program when we deem appropriate.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

Not applicable.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

Item 5. Other Information

Not applicable.

Item 6. Exhibits

The following exhibits are being filed herewith:

- 3.1 [Restated Articles of Incorporation of AutoZone, Inc. incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended February 13, 1999.](#)
- 3.2 [Seventh Amended and Restated By-Laws of AutoZone, Inc. incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 19, 2018.](#)
- 4.1 [Officers' Certificate dated March 30, 2020, pursuant to Section 3.2 of the Indenture, dated March 30, 2020, setting forth the terms of the 3.625% Senior Notes due 2025. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 30, 2020.](#)
- 4.2 [Officers' Certificate dated March 30, 2020, pursuant to Section 3.2 of the Indenture, dated March 30, 2020, setting forth the terms of the 4.000% Senior Notes due 2030. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 30, 2020.](#)
- 4.3 [Form of 3.625% Note due 2025. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 30, 2020.](#)
- 4.4 [Form of 4.000% Note due 2030. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 30, 2020.](#)
- 4.5 [Form of 4.000% Note due 2030. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to the Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 30, 2020.](#)
- 10.1 [364-Day Credit Agreement, dated April 3, 2020, by and among the Company, as borrower, the several lenders from time to time party thereto, and U.S. Bank, National Association, as administrative agent for the lenders. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Current Report on Form 8-K dated April 7, 2020.](#)
- 15.1 [Letter Regarding Unaudited Interim Financial Statements.](#)
- 31.1 [Certification of Principal Executive Officer Pursuant to Rules 13a-14\(a\) and 15d-14\(a\) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.](#)
- 31.2 [Certification of Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to Rules 13a-14\(a\) and 15d-14\(a\) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.](#)
- 32.1* [Certification of Principal 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 Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.](#)
- 101.INS Inline XBRL Instance Document – the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document
- 101.SCH Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
- 101.CAL Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
- 101.DEF Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

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101.LAB Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document

101.PRE Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

104. The cover page for the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended May 9, 2020, has been formatted in Inline XBRL.

* Furnished herewith.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements 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.

AUTOZONE, INC.

By: /s/ WILLIAM T. GILES

William T. Giles

Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President
Finance, Information Technology and Store Development
(Principal Financial Officer)

By: /s/ CHARLIE PLEAS, III

Charlie Pleas, III

Senior Vice President, Controller
(Principal Accounting Officer)

Dated: June 12, 2020

The Board of Directors and Stockholders
AutoZone, Inc.

We are aware of the incorporation by reference in the following Registration Statements:

Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-139559) pertaining to the AutoZone, Inc. 2006 Stock Option Plan

Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-103665) pertaining to the AutoZone, Inc. 2003 Director Compensation Award Plan

Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-42797) pertaining to the AutoZone, Inc. Amended and Restated Employee Stock Purchase Plan

Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-88241) pertaining to the AutoZone, Inc. Amended and Restated Director Compensation Plan

Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-75140) pertaining to the AutoZone, Inc. Executive Stock Purchase Plan

Registration Statement (Form S-3ASR No. 333-152592) pertaining to a shelf registration to sell debt securities

Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-171186) pertaining to the AutoZone, Inc. 2011 Equity Incentive Award Plan

Registration Statement (Form S-3ASR No. 333-180768) pertaining to a shelf registration to sell debt securities

Registration Statement (Form S-3ASR No. 333-203439) pertaining to a shelf registration to sell debt securities

Registration Statement (Form S-3ASR No. 333-230719) pertaining to a shelf registration to sell debt securities

and in the related Prospectuses of our report dated June 12, 2020, relating to the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements of AutoZone, Inc. that are included in its Form 10-Q for the quarter ended May 9, 2020.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Memphis, Tennessee
June 12, 2020

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
RULES 13a-14(a) AND 15d-14(a) UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, William C. Rhodes, III, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of AutoZone, Inc. (“registrant”);
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, 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;
 - (c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

June 12, 2020

/s/ WILLIAM C. RHODES, III

William C. Rhodes, III

Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
RULES 13a-14(a) AND 15d-14(a) UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, William T. Giles, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of AutoZone, Inc. (“registrant”);
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, 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;
 - (c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

June 12, 2020

/s/ WILLIAM T. GILES

William T. Giles

Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President

Finance, Information Technology and Store Development

(Principal Financial Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report of AutoZone, Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended May 9, 2020, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, William C. Rhodes, III, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (i) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (ii) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

June 12, 2020

/s/ WILLIAM C. RHODES, III

William C. Rhodes, III

Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report of AutoZone, Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended May 9, 2020, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, William T. Giles, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (i) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (ii) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

June 12, 2020

/s/ WILLIAM T. GILES

William T. Giles

Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President

Finance, Information Technology and Store Development

(Principal Financial Officer)
