

INGLES MARKETS INC  
Form 10-K  
December 16, 2014

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014

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 0-14706

INGLES MARKETS, INCORPORATED

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

North Carolina  
(State or other jurisdiction of

56-0846267  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

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incorporation or organization)

2913 U.S. Hwy. 70 West, Black Mountain, NC 28711  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number including area code: (828) 669-2941

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

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Class A Common Stock, \$0.05 par value	The NASDAQ Global Market LLC

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

None

(Title of Class)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. YES NO .

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. YES NO .

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 period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. YES NO .

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). YES NO NOT APPLICABLE .



Ingles Markets, Incorporated

Annual Report on Form 10-K

September 27, 2014

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This Annual Report of Ingles Markets, Incorporated (“Ingles” or the “Company”) contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this Annual Report, including the statements under “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” “Business” and elsewhere regarding the Company’s strategy, future operations, financial position, estimated revenues, projected costs, projections, prospects and plans and objectives of management, are forward looking statements. The words “expect,” “anticipate,” “intend,” “plan,” “likely,” “goal,” “believe,” “seek” and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. While these forward-looking statements and the related assumptions are made in good faith and reflect the Company’s current judgment regarding the direction of the Company’s business, actual results will almost always vary, sometimes materially, from any estimates, predictions, projections, assumptions or other future performance suggested herein. Such statements are based upon a number of assumptions and estimates that are inherently subject to significant risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the Company’s control. Some of these assumptions inevitably will not materialize, and unanticipated events will occur which will affect the Company’s results. Some important factors (but not necessarily all factors) that affect the Company’s revenues, growth strategies, future profitability and operating results, or that otherwise could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in or implied by any forward-looking statement, include:

- business and economic conditions generally in the Company’s operating area, including inflation or deflation;
- the Company’s ability to successfully implement our expansion and operating strategies;
- pricing pressures and other competitive factors;
- sudden or significant changes in the availability of gasoline and retail gasoline prices;
- the maturation of new and expanded stores;
- general concerns about food safety;
  - the Company’s ability to reduce costs and achieve improvements in operating results;
- the availability and terms of financing;
- increases in costs, including food, utilities and other goods and services significant to the Company’s operations;
- success or failure in the ownership and development of real estate;
- changes in the laws and government regulations applicable to the Company;
- other risks and uncertainties, including those described under the caption “Risk Factors.”

Consequently, actual events affecting the Company and the impact of such events on the Company’s operations may vary significantly from those described in this Annual Report. Given these risks and uncertainties, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements included in this Annual Report are made only as of the date hereof. The Company does not undertake and specifically declines any obligation to update any such statements or to publicly announce the results of any revisions to any of such statements to reflect future events or developments.

## PART I

### Item 1. BUSINESS

General

Ingles Markets, Incorporated (“Ingles” or the “Company”), a leading supermarket chain in the southeast United States, operates 202 supermarkets in Georgia (71), North Carolina (71), South Carolina (36), Tennessee (21), Virginia (2) and Alabama (1).

The Company’s strategy is to locate its supermarkets primarily in suburban areas, small towns and neighborhood shopping centers. The Company remodels, expands and relocates stores in these communities and builds stores in new locations to retain and grow its customer base with an enhanced “one stop” product offering while retaining a high level of customer service and convenience. Ingles supermarkets offer customers a wide variety of nationally advertised food products, including grocery, meat and dairy products, produce, frozen foods and other perishables, and non-food products. Non-food

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products include fuel centers, pharmacies, health and beauty care products and general merchandise. The Company also offers quality private label items.

The Company believes that customer service and convenience, modern stores and competitive prices on a broad selection of quality merchandise are essential to developing and retaining a loyal customer base. The Company has an ongoing renovation and expansion plan to add stores in its target market and modernize the appearance and layout of its existing stores. The Company's new and remodeled supermarkets provide an enhanced level of customer convenience in order to accommodate the lifestyle of today's shoppers. Design features of the Company's modern stores focus on selling high-growth, high-margin products including perishable departments featuring organic and home meal replacement items, in-store pharmacies, on-premises fuel centers, and an expanded selection of food and non-food items to provide a "one-stop" shopping experience.

Substantially all of the Company's stores are located within 280 miles of its warehouse and distribution facilities, near Asheville, North Carolina. The Company operates 1.65 million square feet of warehouse and distribution facilities. These facilities supply the company's supermarkets with approximately 55% of the goods the Company sells. The remaining 45% is purchased from third parties and is generally delivered directly to the stores. The close proximity of the Company's purchasing and distribution operations to its stores facilitates the timely distribution of consistently high quality perishable and non-perishable items.

To further ensure product quality, the Company also owns and operates a milk processing and packaging plant that supplies approximately 83% of the milk products sold by the Company's supermarkets as well as a variety of organic milk, fruit juices and bottled water products. In addition, the milk processing and packaging plant sells approximately 71% of its products to other retailers, food service distributors and grocery warehouses in 14 states, which provides the Company with an additional source of revenue.

Real estate ownership is an important component of the Company's operations. The Company owns 153 of its supermarkets, either in free-standing stores or as the anchor tenant in an owned shopping center. Shopping center ownership provides tenant income and can enhance store traffic through the presence of additional products and services that complement grocery store operations. The Company also owns 19 undeveloped sites suitable for a free-standing store or development by the Company or a third party. The Company's owned real estate is generally located in the same geographic region as its supermarkets.

The Company was founded by Robert P. Ingle, who served as the Company's Chief Executive Officer until his death in March 2011. He was succeeded as Chief Executive Officer by his son, Robert P. Ingle II. As of September 27, 2014, Mr. Ingle II owned beneficially (as defined by the Exchange Act) approximately 75% of the combined voting power and 31% of the total number of shares of the Company's outstanding Class A and Class B Common Stock (in each case including stock held by the Company's Investment/Profit Sharing Plan and Trust of which Mr. Ingle II serves as one of the trustees). The Company became a publicly traded company in September 1987. The Company's Class A Common Stock is traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "IMKTA." The Company's Class B Common Stock is not publicly traded.

The Company was incorporated in 1965 under the laws of the State of North Carolina. Its principal mailing address is P.O. Box 6676, Asheville, North Carolina 28816, and its telephone number is 828-669-2941. The Company's website is [www.ingles-markets.com](http://www.ingles-markets.com). Information on the Company's website is not a part of and is not incorporated by reference into this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The Company's annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments and supplements to these reports are available on the Company's website as soon as reasonably practicable after they are filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission.



## Business

The Company operates one primary business segment, retail grocery. Information about the company's operations is as follows (for information regarding the Company's industry segments, see Note 11, "Segment Information" to the Consolidated Financial Statements of this Annual Report on Form 10-K):

	Fiscal Year Ended September (dollars in millions)					
	2014 (52 weeks)		2013 (52 weeks)		2012 (53 weeks)	
Revenues from unaffiliated customers:						
Grocery sales	\$ 3,683.3	96.0%	\$ 3,599.8	96.3%	\$ 3,577.5	96.2%
Other	152.7	4.0%	138.7	3.7%	140.8	3.8%
	\$ 3,836.0	100.0%	\$ 3,738.5	100.0%	\$ 3,718.3	100.0%
Income from operations:						
Grocery sales	\$ 112.0	90.8%	\$ 114.4	91.1%	\$ 111.5	90.0%
Other	11.4	9.2%	11.1	8.9%	12.3	10.0%
	123.4	100.0%	125.5	100.0%	123.8	100.0%
Other income, net	3.0		2.9		3.5	
Interest expense	46.6		59.1		60.0	
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	—		43.1		—	
Income before income taxes	\$ 79.8		\$ 26.2		\$ 67.3	

"Other" consists of fluid dairy operations and shopping center rentals.

Grocery sales by product category for fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively, are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended September (dollars in millions)		
2014 (52 weeks)	2013 (52 weeks)	2012 (53 weeks)

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Grocery	\$ 1,397.9	\$ 1,424.9	\$ 1,447.5
Non-foods	729.9	707.2	710.0
Perishables	937.4	899.0	866.2
Gasoline	618.1	568.7	553.8
Total grocery segment	\$ 3,683.3	\$ 3,599.8	\$ 3,577.5

The grocery category includes grocery, dairy and frozen foods.

The non-foods category includes alcoholic beverages, tobacco, pharmacy, health and video.

The perishables category includes meat, produce, deli and bakery.

### Supermarket Operations

The Company's strategy is to locate its supermarkets primarily in suburban areas, small towns and rural communities. At September 27, 2014, the Company operated 193 supermarkets under the name "Ingles," and nine supermarkets under the name "Sav-Mor" with locations in western North Carolina, western South Carolina, northern Georgia, eastern Tennessee, southwestern Virginia and northeastern Alabama. The "Sav-Mor" store concept accommodates smaller shopping areas and carries dry groceries, dairy, fresh meat and produce, all of which are displayed in a modern, readily accessible environment.

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the Company's supermarket operations.

	Number of Supermarkets at Fiscal Year Ended September			Percentage of Total Net Sales for Fiscal Year Ended September		
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012
North Carolina	71	70	69	40%	39%	38%
South Carolina	36	36	36	18%	18%	19%
Georgia	71	73	74	33%	34%	34%
Tennessee	21	21	21	9%	9%	9%
Virginia	2	2	2	—	—	—
Alabama	1	1	1	—	—	—
	202	203	203	100%	100%	100%

The Company believes that today's supermarket customers are focused on convenience, quality and value in an attractive store environment. As a result, the Company's "one-stop" shopping experience combines a high level of customer service, convenience-oriented quality product offerings and low overall pricing. The Company's modern stores provide products and services such as home meal replacement items, delicatessens, bakeries, floral departments, greeting cards and broad selections of organic, beverage and health-related items. At September 27, 2014, the Company operated 96 pharmacies and 83 fuel stations. The Company plans to continue to incorporate these departments in substantially all future new and remodeled stores. The Company trains its employees to provide friendly service and to actively address the needs of customers. These employees reinforce the Company's distinctive service-oriented image.

Selected statistics on the Company's supermarket operations are presented below:

	Fiscal Year Ended September				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Weighted Average Sales Per Store (000's) (1)	\$ 18,267	\$ 17,728	\$ 17,623	\$ 16,698	\$ 16,241
Total Square Feet at End of Year (000's)	11,063	11,076	11,015	11,013	10,812
Average Total Square Feet per Store	54,770	54,561	54,262	54,252	53,524
Average Square Feet of Selling Space per Store (2)	38,339	38,193	37,984	37,977	37,467
Weighted Average Sales per Square Foot of Selling Space (1) (2)	476	465	464	437	434

- (1) Weighted average sales per store include the effects of increases in square footage due to the opening of replacement stores and the expansion of stores through remodeling during the periods indicated, and gasoline sales.
- (2) Selling space is estimated to be 70% of total interior store square footage.

#### Merchandising

The Company's merchandising strategy is designed to create a comprehensive and satisfying shopping experience that blends value and customer service with variety, quality and convenience. Management believes that this strategy fosters a loyal customer base by establishing a reputation for providing high quality products and a variety of specialty departments.

The Company's stores carry broad selections of quality meats, produce and other perishables. The Company offers a wide variety of fresh and non-perishable organic products, including organic milk produced by the Company's fluid dairy plant. Management believes that supermarkets offering a broad array of products and time-saving services are perceived by customers as part of a solution to today's lifestyle demands. Accordingly, a principal component of the Company's merchandising strategy is to design stores that offer a "one-stop" shopping experience. The Company operates fuel stations

at 83 of its store locations. The Company believes fuel stations give customers a competitive fuel choice and increase store traffic by allowing customers to consolidate trips.

A selection of prepared foods and home meal replacements are featured throughout Ingles' deli, bakery and meat departments to provide customers with easy meal alternatives that they can eat at home or in the store. Many stores offer daily selections of home meal replacement items, such as rotisserie chicken and pork, Italian foods, fried chicken, meat loaf and other entrees, sandwiches, pre-packaged salads, sushi and prepared fresh vegetables. The bakery offers an expanded selection of baked goods and self-service selections. Ingles bakes most of its items on site, including bread baked daily, cakes made to order in various sizes, donuts and other pastries. The deli offers salad, chicken wing and olive bars, an expanded offering of cheeses, gourmet items and home meal replacement items. The Company also provides its customers with an expanded selection of frozen food items (including organics) to meet the increasing demands of its customers.

Ingles intends to continue to increase sales of its private label brands, which typically carry higher margins than comparable branded products. Ingles' private labels cover a broad range of products throughout the store, such as milk, bread, organic products, soft drinks and canned goods. In addition to increasing margins, Ingles believes that private label sales help promote customer loyalty and provide a value-priced alternative to national brands.

The Company seeks to maintain a reputation for providing friendly service, quality merchandise and customer value and for its commitment to locally-sourced product and community involvement. The Company employs various advertising and promotional strategies to reinforce the quality and value of its products. The Company promotes these attributes using traditional advertising vehicles including radio, television, direct mail and newspapers, as well as electronic and social media. The Ingles Advantage Card is designed to foster customer loyalty by providing information to better understand the Company's customers' shopping patterns.

#### Purchasing and Distribution

The Company currently supplies approximately 55% of its supermarkets' inventory requirements from its modern warehouse and distribution facilities. The Company has 1.65 million square feet of office, warehouse and distribution facilities at its headquarters near Asheville, North Carolina. The Company believes that its warehouse and distribution facilities will contain sufficient capacity for the continued expansion of its store base for the foreseeable future.

The Company's centrally managed purchasing and distribution operations provide several advantages, including the ability to negotiate and reduce the cost of merchandise, decrease overhead costs and better manage its inventory at both the warehouse and store level. From time to time, the Company engages in advance purchasing on high-turnover inventory items to take advantage of special prices offered by manufacturers for limited periods. The Company's ability to take advantage of advance purchasing is limited by several factors including carrying costs and warehouse space.

The remaining 45% of the Company's inventory requirements, primarily beverages, gasoline, bread and snack foods, are supplied directly to the Company's supermarkets by local distributors and manufacturers.

Goods from the warehouse and distribution facilities and the milk processing and packaging plant are distributed to the Company's stores by a fleet of 167 tractors and 650 trailers that the Company operates and maintains. The Company invests on an ongoing basis in the maintenance, upgrade and replacement of its tractor and trailer fleet. The Company also operates truck servicing and fuel storage facilities at its warehouse and distribution facilities. The Company reduces its overall distribution costs by capitalizing on back-haul opportunities (contracting to transport merchandise on trucks that would otherwise be empty) and by providing freight services for Milkco and for independent third parties.

The Company receives product recall information from various subscription, government and vendor sources. Upon receipt of recall information, the Company immediately contacts each of its stores to have the recalled product removed from the shelves, and disposes of the product as instructed. The Company has a policy of refunding and/or replacing any goods returned by customers. The details of this policy are posted inside each of the Company's stores.

#### Store Development, Expansion and Remodeling

The Company believes that the appearance and design of its stores are integral components of its customers' shopping experience and aims to develop one of the most modern supermarket chains in the industry. The ongoing modernization of the Company's store base involves (i) the construction of new stores with continuously updated designs, and (ii) the replacement or complete remodeling and expansion of existing stores. The Company's goal is to maintain clean, well-lit stores with attractive architectural and display features that enhance the image of its stores as catering to the changing lifestyle needs of quality-conscious consumers who demand increasingly diverse product offerings.

The Company is focused primarily on developing owned stores. Management believes that owning stores provides the Company with flexible, lower all-in occupancy costs. The construction of new stores by independent contractors is closely monitored and controlled by the Company.

The Company renovates and remodels stores in order to increase customer traffic and sales, respond to existing customer demand, compete effectively against new stores opened by competitors and support its quality image merchandising strategy. The Company decides to complete a major remodel of an existing store based on its evaluation of the competitive landscape of the local marketplace. A major remodel and expansion provides the quality of facilities and product offerings identical to that of a new store, capitalizing upon the existing customer base. The Company retains the existing customer base by keeping the store in operation during the entire remodeling process. The Company may elect to relocate, rather than remodel, certain stores where relocation provides a more convenient location for its customers and is more economical.

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the Company's new store development and store remodeling activities and the effect this program has had on the average size of its stores:

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Number of Stores:					
Opened (1)	1	1	—	1	2
Closed (1)	2	1	—	—	—
Major remodels and replacements	—	—	—	3	2
Stores open at end of period	202	203	203	203	202
Size of Stores:					
Less than 30,000 sq. ft.	15	15	15	15	15
30,000 up to 41,999 sq. ft.	39	39	40	40	40
42,000 up to 51,999 sq. ft.	25	26	26	26	27
At least 52,000 sq. ft.	123	123	122	122	120
Average store size (sq. ft.)	54,770	54,561	54,262	54,252	53,524

(1)Excludes new stores opened to replace existing stores.

The Company's ability to open new stores is subject to many factors, including the acquisition of satisfactory sites and the successful negotiation of new leases, and may be limited by zoning and other governmental regulation. In addition, the Company's expansion, remodeling and replacement plans are continually reviewed and are subject to change. See the "Liquidity and Capital Resources" section included in "Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" regarding the Company's capital expenditures.

## Competition

The supermarket industry is highly competitive and characterized by narrow profit margins. The degree of competition the Company's stores encounter varies by location, primarily based on the size of the community in which the store is located and its proximity to other communities. The Company's principal competitors are, in alphabetical order, Aldi, Inc., Bi-Lo, LLC., Food City (K-VA-T Food Stores, Inc.), Food Lion (Delhaize America, Inc.), The Kroger Co., Publix Super Markets, Inc., Target Corporation, and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. Increasingly over the last few years, competition for consumers' food dollars has intensified due to the addition of, or increase in, food sections by many types of retailers and by restaurants.

Supermarket chains generally compete on the basis of location, quality of products, service, price, convenience, product variety and store condition.

The Company believes its competitive advantages include convenient locations, the quality of service it provides its customers, competitive pricing, product variety and quality and a pleasant shopping environment, which is enhanced by its ongoing modernization program.

By concentrating its operations within a relatively small geographic region, the Company is also positioned to more carefully monitor its markets, and the needs of its customers within those markets. The Company's senior executives live and work in the Company's operating region, thereby allowing management to quickly identify changes in needs and customer preference. Because of the Company's size, store managers have direct access to corporate management and are able to



receive quick decisions regarding requested changes in operations. The Company can then move quickly to make adjustments in its business in response to changes in the market and customer needs.

The Company's management monitors competitive activity and regularly reviews and periodically adjusts the Company's marketing and business strategies as management deems appropriate in light of existing conditions in the Company's region. The Company's ability to remain competitive in its changing markets will depend in part on its ability to pursue its expansion and renovation programs and its response to remodeling and new store openings by its competitors.

### Seasonality

Sales in the grocery segment of the Company's business are subject to a slight seasonal variance due to holiday related sales and due to sales in areas where seasonal homes are located. Sales are traditionally higher in the Company's first fiscal quarter due to the inclusion of sales related to Thanksgiving and Christmas. The Company's second fiscal quarter traditionally has the lowest sales of the year, unless Easter falls in that quarter. In the third and fourth quarters, sales are affected by the return of customers to seasonal homes in the Company's market area. The Company's fluid dairy operations have a slight seasonal variation to the extent of its sales into the grocery industry. The Company's real estate operations are not subject to seasonal variations.

### Employees and Labor Relations

At September 27, 2014, the Company had approximately 23,000 non-union employees, of which 91% were supermarket personnel. Approximately 62% of these employees work on a part-time basis. Management considers employee relations to be good. The Company values its employees and believes that employee loyalty and enthusiasm are key elements of its operating performance.

### Trademarks and Licenses

The Company employs various trademarks and service marks in its business, the most important of which are its own "Laura Lynn" private label trademark, "The Ingles Advantage" service mark, and the "Ingles" service mark. These service marks and the trademark are federally registered in the United States pursuant to applicable intellectual property laws and are the property of Ingles. In addition, the Company uses the "Sealtest," "Pet," "Biltmore" and "Light N' Lively" trademarks pursuant to agreements entered into in connection with its fluid dairy processing plant segment. The Company believes it has all material licenses and permits necessary to conduct its business.

The current expiration dates for significant trade and service marks are as follows: “Ingles” – December 9, 2015; “Laura Lynn” – March 13, 2024; and “The Ingles Advantage” – August 30, 2015. Each registration may be renewed for an additional ten-year term prior to its expiration. The Company intends to file all renewals timely. Each of the Company’s trademark license agreements has a one year term which, with respect to one license, is automatically renewed annually, unless the owner of the trademark provides notice of termination prior to the expiration date and, with respect to the other licenses, are renewed periodically by letter from the licensor. The Company currently has six pending applications for additional trademarks or service marks.

## Environmental Matters

Under applicable environmental laws, the Company may be responsible for remediation of environmental conditions and may be subject to associated liabilities relating to its stores and other buildings and the land on which such stores and other buildings are situated (including responsibility and liability related to its operation of its gas stations and the storage of gasoline in underground storage tanks), regardless of whether the Company leases or owns the stores, other buildings or land in question and regardless of whether such environmental conditions were created by the Company or by a prior owner or tenant. The presence of contamination from hazardous or toxic substances, or the failure to properly remediate such contaminated property, may adversely affect the Company’s ability to sell or rent such real property or to borrow using such real property as collateral. The Company typically conducts an environmental review prior to acquiring or leasing new stores, other buildings or raw land.

Federal, state and local governments could enact laws or regulations concerning environmental matters that affect the Company’s operations or facilities or increase the cost of producing or distributing the Company’s products. The Company believes that it currently conducts its operations, and in the past has conducted its operations, in substantial compliance with applicable environmental laws. The Company, however, cannot predict the environmental liabilities that may result from legislation or regulations adopted in the future, the effect of which could be retroactive. Nor can the Company predict how existing or future laws and regulations will be administered or interpreted or what environmental conditions may be found to exist at its facilities or at other properties where the Company or its predecessors have arranged for the disposal of hazardous substances.

The Company strives to employ sound environmental operating policies, including recycling cardboard packaging, recycling wooden pallets, and re-circulating some water used in its car washes. The Company offers reusable shopping bags to its customers and will pack groceries in bags brought in by its customers. The Company's store modernization plans include energy efficient lighting and refrigeration equipment.

#### Government Regulation

The Company is subject to regulation by a variety of governmental agencies, including, but not limited to, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Occupational Health and Safety Administration and other federal, state and local agencies. The Company's stores are also subject to local laws regarding zoning, land use and the sale of alcoholic beverages. The Company believes that its locations are in material compliance with such laws and regulations.

#### Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

Below is a series of risk factors that may affect the Company's business, financial condition and/or results of operations. Other risk factors are contained in "Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The Company operates in a continually changing business environment, and new risk factors emerge from time to time. Management cannot predict such new risk factors, nor can it assess the impact, if any, of these risk factors on the Company's business, financial condition and/or results of operations or the extent to which any factor or combination of factors may impact of any of these areas.

The Company's expansion and renovation plans may not be successful which may adversely affect the Company's business and financial condition due to the capital expenditures and management resources required to carry out the Company's plans.

The Company has spent, and intends to continue to spend, significant capital and management resources on the development and implementation of the Company's expansion and renovation plans. These plans, if implemented, may not be successful, may not improve operating results and may have an adverse effect on cash flow and management resources due to the significant amount of capital invested and management time expended.

The level of sales and profit margins in the Company's existing stores may not be duplicated in the Company's new stores, depending on factors such as prevailing competition, development cost, and the Company's market position in the surrounding community. The operational benefits of the new distribution facility may not meet the Company's

expectations. These factors could have an adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and/or results of operations.

The Company's warehouse and distribution center and milk processing and packaging plant, as well as all of the Company's stores, are concentrated in the Southeastern United States, which makes it vulnerable to economic downturns, natural disasters and other adverse conditions or other catastrophic events in this region.

The Company operates in the Southeastern United States, and its performance is therefore heavily influenced by economic developments in the Southeast region. The Company's headquarters, warehouse and distribution center and milk processing and packaging plant are located in North Carolina and all of the Company's stores are located in the Southeast region. As a result, the Company's business may be more susceptible to regional factors than the operations of more geographically diversified competitors. These factors include, among others, changes in the economy, weather conditions, demographics and population.

The Company has, and expects to continue to have, a significant amount of indebtedness.

At September 27, 2014, the Company had total consolidated indebtedness for borrowed money of \$937.3 million and \$134.0 million available under a \$175.0 million of committed line of credit. A portion of the Company's cash flow is used to service such indebtedness. The Company owns a significant amount of real estate, which has been and will continue to be a factor in the Company's overall level of indebtedness. Real estate can be used as collateral for indebtedness and can be sold to reduce indebtedness. The Company's significant indebtedness could have important consequences, including the following:

it may be difficult for the Company to satisfy its obligations under its existing credit facilities and its other indebtedness and commitments;

the Company is required to use a portion of its cash flow from operations to pay interest on its current and future indebtedness, which may require the Company to reduce funds available for other purposes;

the Company may have a limited ability to obtain additional financing, if needed, to fund additional projects, working capital requirements, capital expenditures, debt service, general corporate or other obligations; and

the Company may be placed at a competitive disadvantage to its competitors that are not as highly leveraged.

The Company's principal stockholder, Robert P. Ingle II, has the ability to elect a majority of the Company's directors, appoint new members of management and approve many actions requiring stockholder approval.

Mr. Ingle II's beneficial ownership (as defined by the Exchange Act) represents approximately 75% of the combined voting power of all classes of the Company's capital stock as of September 27, 2014. As a result, Mr. Ingle II has the power to elect a majority of the Company's directors and approve any action requiring the approval of the holders of the Company's Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock, including adopting certain amendments to the Company's charter and approving mergers or sales of substantially all of the Company's assets.

The Company is a Controlled Company under the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules. As a result, the Company is exempt from certain of NASDAQ's corporate governance policies, including the requirements that the majority of Directors be independent (as defined in NASDAQ rules), and that the Company have a nominating committee for Director candidates.

If the Company loses the services of its key personnel, the Company's business could suffer.

The Company's continued success depends upon the availability and performance of the Company's executive officers, including Robert P. Ingle II, who possess unique and extensive industry knowledge and experience. The loss of the services of any of the Company's executive officers or other key employees could adversely affect the Company's business.

Various aspects of the Company's business are subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations. The Company's compliance with these regulations may require additional capital expenditures and could adversely affect the Company's ability to conduct the Company's business as planned.

The Company is subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to zoning, land use, work place safety, public health, community right-to-know, beer and wine sales, country of origin labeling of food products, pharmaceutical sales and gasoline station operations. Furthermore, the Company's business is regulated by a variety of

governmental agencies, including, but not limited to, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Occupational Health and Safety Administration. Employers are also subject to laws governing their relationship with employees, including minimum wage requirements, overtime, working conditions, insurance coverage, disabled access and work permit requirements. Recent and proposed regulation has had or may have a future impact on the cost of insurance benefits for employees and on the cost of processing debit and credit card transactions. Compliance with, or changes in, these laws could reduce the revenue and profitability of the Company's supermarkets and could otherwise adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition or results of operations.

The Company is also subject to various state and federal environmental laws relating to the Company's stores, gas stations, distribution facilities and use of hazardous or toxic substances. As a result of these laws, the Company could be responsible for remediation of environmental conditions and may be subject to associated liabilities.

The Company is affected by certain operating costs which could increase or fluctuate considerably.

The Company depends on qualified employees to operate the Company's stores and may be affected by future labor markets. A shortage of qualified employees could require the Company to enhance the Company's wage and benefit package in order to better compete for and retain qualified employees, and the Company may not be able to recover these increased labor costs through price increases charged to customers, which could significantly increase the Company's operating costs.

The Company is self-insured for workers' compensation and group medical and dental benefits. Risks and uncertainties are associated with self-insurance; however, the Company has limited its exposure by maintaining excess liability coverage. Self-insurance liabilities are established based on claims filed and estimates of claims incurred but not reported. The estimates are based on data provided by the respective claims administrators and analyses performed by actuaries engaged by the Company. These estimates can fluctuate if historical trends are not predictive of the future. The majority of the Company's properties are self-insured for casualty losses and business interruption; however, liability coverage is maintained.

The Company could be significantly affected by requirements of the Affordable Care Act. The enacted provisions of the Affordable Care Act did not have a significant impact on the Company's financial statements for the three fiscal years ended September 27, 2014.

Energy and utility costs have been volatile in recent years, during which time the Company has expanded its store square footage. The Company attempts to increase its energy efficiency during store construction and remodeling through the use of energy-saving equipment and construction.

The Company is subject to risks related to information systems and data security.

The Company's business is dependent on information technology systems. These complex systems are an important part of ongoing operations. If the Company were to experience disruption in these systems, did not maintain existing systems properly, or did not implement new systems appropriately, operations could suffer.

The Company has implemented procedures to protect its information technology systems and data necessary to conduct ongoing operations. The Company, cannot, however, be certain that all of these systems and data are entirely free from vulnerability to attack.

The Company is affected by the availability and wholesale price of gasoline and retail gasoline prices, all of which can fluctuate quickly and considerably.

The Company operates fuel stations at 83 of its store locations. While the Company obtains gasoline and diesel fuel from a number of different suppliers, long-term disruption in the availability and wholesale price of gasoline for resale could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and/or results of operations.

Fluctuating fuel costs adversely affect the Company's operating costs which depend on fuel for the Company's fleet of tractors and trailers which distribute goods from the Company's distribution facility and for the Company's fluid dairy operations.

Furthermore, fluctuating fuel costs could have an adverse effect on the Company's total gasoline sales (both in terms of dollars and gallons sold), the profitability of gasoline sales, and the Company's plans to develop additional fuel centers. Also, retail gas price volatility could diminish customer usage of fueling centers and, thus, adversely affect customer traffic at the Company's stores.

The Company's industry is highly competitive. If the Company is unable to compete effectively, the Company's financial condition and results of operations could be materially affected.

The supermarket industry is highly competitive and continues to be characterized by intense price competition, increasing fragmentation of retail formats, entry of non-traditional competitors and market consolidation. Furthermore, some of the Company's competitors have greater financial resources and could use these financial resources to take measures, such as altering product mix or reducing prices, which could adversely affect the Company's competitive position.

Disruptions in the efficient distribution of food products to the Company's warehouse and stores may adversely affect the Company's business.

The Company's business could be adversely affected by disruptions in the efficient distribution of food products to the Company's warehouse and stores. Such disruptions could be caused by, among other things, adverse weather conditions, fuel availability, food contamination recalls and civil unrest in foreign countries in which the Company's suppliers do business.

The Company's operations are subject to economic conditions that impact consumer spending.

The Company's results of operations are sensitive to changes in overall economic conditions that impact consumer spending, including discretionary spending. Future economic conditions such as employment levels, business conditions, interest rates, energy and fuel costs and tax rates could reduce consumer spending or change consumer purchasing habits. A general reduction in the level of consumer spending or the Company's inability to respond to shifting consumer attitudes regarding products, store location and other factors could adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition and/or results of operations.



Item 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

Item 2. PROPERTIES

Owned Properties

The Company owns 153 of its supermarkets either as free-standing or in shopping centers where it is the anchor tenant. The Company also owns 19 undeveloped sites which are suitable for a free-standing store or shopping center development. During fiscal 2014, the Company purchased a shopping center where the Company had been leasing a store. The Company owns numerous outparcels and other acreage located adjacent to the shopping centers and supermarkets it owns. Real estate owned by the Company is generally located in the same geographic regions as its supermarkets.

The shopping centers owned by the Company contain an aggregate of 5.9 million square feet of leasable space, of which 2.9 million square feet is used by the Company's supermarkets. The remainder of the leasable space in these shopping centers is leased or held for lease by the Company to third party tenants. A breakdown by size of the shopping centers owned and operated by the Company is as follows:

Size	Number
Less than 50,000 square feet	19
50,000 – 100,000 square feet	24
More than 100,000 square feet	26
Total	69

The Company owns an 1,649,000 square foot facility, which is strategically located between Interstate 40 and Highway 70 near Asheville, North Carolina, as well as the 119 acres of land on which it is situated. The facility includes the Company's headquarters and its warehouse and distribution facility. The property also includes truck servicing and fuel storage facilities. The Company also owns a 139,000 square foot warehouse on 21 acres of land approximately one mile from its main warehouse and distribution facility.

The Company's milk processing and packaging subsidiary, Milkco, Inc., owns a 140,000 square foot manufacturing and storage facility in Asheville, North Carolina. In addition to the plant, the 20-acre property includes truck cleaning and fuel storage facilities.

Certain long-term debt of the Company is secured by the owned properties. See Note 7, "Long-Term Debt" to the Consolidated Financial Statements of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for further details.

#### Leased Properties

The Company operates supermarkets at 49 locations leased from various unaffiliated third parties. Certain of the leases give the Company the right of first refusal to purchase the entire shopping center in which the supermarkets are located. The majority of these leases require the Company to pay property taxes, utilities, insurance, repairs and certain other expenses incidental to occupation of the premises. In addition to base rent, most leases contain provisions that require the Company to pay additional percentage rent (ranging from 0.75% to 1.50%) if sales exceed a specified amount.

Rental rates generally range from \$3.00 to \$7.68 per square foot. During fiscal 2014, 2013 and 2012, the Company paid a total of \$13.5 million, \$13.8 million and \$13.6 million, respectively, in supermarket rent, exclusive of property taxes, utilities, insurance, repairs and other expenses. The following table summarizes lease expiration dates as of September 27, 2014, with respect to the initial and any renewal option terms of leased supermarkets:

Year of Expiration (Including Renewal Terms)	Number of Leases Expiring
2014-2027	6
2028-2042	2
2043 or after	41

Management believes that the long-term rent stability provided by these leases is a valuable asset of the Company.

Item 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Various legal proceedings and claims arising in the ordinary course of business are pending against the Company. In the opinion of management, the ultimate liability, if any, from all pending legal proceedings and claims would not materially affect the Company's business, financial condition and/or the results of operations.

PART II

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

Market Information

The Company has two classes of Common Stock: Class A and Class B. Class A Common Stock is traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol IMKTA. There is no public market for the Company's Class B Common Stock. However, under the terms of the Company's Articles of Incorporation, any holder of Class B Common Stock may convert any portion or all of the holder's shares of Class B Common Stock into an equal number of shares of Class A Common Stock at any time. For additional information regarding the voting powers, preferences and relative rights of the Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock, please see Note 8, "Stockholders' Equity" to the Consolidated Financial Statements of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

As of December 12, 2014, there were approximately 512 holders of record of the Company's Class A Common Stock and 147 holders of record of the Company's Class B Common Stock. The following table sets forth the reported high and low closing sales price for the Class A Common Stock during the periods indicated as reported by NASDAQ. The quotations reflect actual inter-dealer prices without retail mark-up, mark-down or commission and may not necessarily represent actual transactions.

2014 Fiscal Year	High	Low
First Quarter (ended December 28, 2013)	\$ 28.73	\$ 23.68

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Second Quarter (ended March 29, 2014)	\$ 27.64	\$ 22.22
Third Quarter (ended June 28, 2014)	\$ 27.70	\$ 22.37
Fourth Quarter (ended September 27, 2014)	\$ 27.26	\$ 23.92

2013 Fiscal Year	High	Low
First Quarter (ended December 29, 2012)	\$ 18.16	\$ 15.37
Second Quarter (ended March 30, 2013)	\$ 21.69	\$ 16.95
Third Quarter (ended June 29, 2013)	\$ 25.47	\$ 19.68
Fourth Quarter (ended September 28, 2013)	\$ 28.96	\$ 24.63

On December 12, 2014, the closing sales price of the Company's Class A Common Stock on The NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$31.08 per share.

#### Dividends

The Company has paid cash dividends on its Common Stock in each of the past thirty fiscal years, except for the 1984 fiscal year when the Company paid a 3% stock dividend. During both fiscal 2014 and fiscal 2012, the Company paid annual dividends totaling \$0.66 per share of Class A Common Stock and \$0.60 per share of Class B Common Stock, paid in quarterly installments of \$0.165 and \$0.15 per share, respectively. The Company's last dividend payment was made on October 23, 2014 to common stockholders of record on October 9, 2014. During fiscal 2013 the Company declared a special dividend of \$0.66 per share of Class A Common Stock and \$0.60 per share of Class B Common Stock payable on December 31, 2012 to shareholders of record on December 21, 2012. For additional information regarding the dividend rights of the Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock, please see Note 8, "Stockholders' Equity" to the Consolidated Financial Statements of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The Company expects to continue paying regular cash dividends on a quarterly basis. However, the Board of Directors periodically reconsiders the declaration of dividends. The Company pays these dividends at the discretion of the Board of

Directors. The continuation of these payments, the amount of such dividends, and the form in which the dividends are paid (cash or stock) depends upon the results of operations, the financial condition of the Company and other factors which the Board of Directors deems relevant. The payment of cash dividends is also subject to restrictions contained in certain financing arrangements. Such restrictions are summarized in Note 7, "Long-Term Debt" to the Consolidated Financial Statements of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### Equity Compensation Plan Information

The Company does not have any equity compensation plans.

Stock Performance Graph

Set forth below are a graph and accompanying table comparing the five-year cumulative total stockholder return on the Class A Common Stock with the five-year cumulative total return of (i) the S&P 500 Comprehensive-Last Trading Day Index and (ii) a peer group of companies in the Company's line of business. The peer group consists of the following companies: Koninklijke Ahold N.V., Delhaize S.A., Harris Teeter Supermarkets, Weis Markets, Inc., The Kroger Co., Safeway Inc., Supervalu Inc., and Whole Foods Market, Inc.

The comparisons cover the five-years ended September 27, 2014 and assume that \$100 was invested after the close of the market on September 26, 2009, and that dividends were reinvested quarterly. Returns of the companies included in the peer group reflected below have been weighted according to each company's stock market capitalization at the beginning of each section for which a return is presented.

INGLES MARKETS, INCORPORATED  
COMPARATIVE RETURN TO STOCKHOLDERS

## INDEXED RETURNS OF INITIAL \$100 INVESTMENT\*

Company/Index	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Ingles Markets, Incorporated Class A Common Stock	\$ 107.94	\$ 95.58	\$ 114.21	\$ 213.22	\$ 185.04
S&P 500 Comprehensive – Last Trading Day Index	\$ 110.16	\$ 111.42	\$ 145.07	\$ 173.13	\$ 207.30
Expanded Peer Group	\$ 110.72	\$ 107.80	\$ 122.00	\$ 186.43	\$ 187.57

\*Assumes \$100 invested in the Class A Common Stock of Ingles Markets, Incorporated after the close of the market on September 26, 2009.

The foregoing stock performance information, including the graph, shall not be deemed to be “soliciting material” or to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

## ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SHARES

Period (1)	Total Number of Shares Purchased (2)	Average Price Per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans to Programs (2)	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (3)
First four weeks June 29, 2014 to July 26, 2014	—	\$ —	—	
Second five weeks July 27, 2014 to August 30, 2014	—	\$ —	—	
Third four weeks August 31, 2014 to September 27, 2014	2,500,000	\$ 26.00	4,000,000	—
Total	2,500,000	\$ 26.00	4,000,000	—

(1) The reported periods conform to the Company's fiscal calendar composed of

twelve months ending on the last (or next to last during 53 week fiscal years) Saturday of each calendar month. The fourth quarter of fiscal 2014 contained 13 weeks.

- (2) Shares were purchased under a stock repurchase program authorized by the Board of Directors and announced on June 26, 2013. Under the program, up to four million shares of Class A Common Stock of Class B Common Stock may be repurchased.
- (3) Shares shown in this column reflect shares remaining under the four million share repurchase program referenced in Note (2) above.





## Item 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The selected financial data set forth below has been derived from the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. This financial data should be read in conjunction with Item 7. "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto.

	Selected Income Statement Data for the Year Ended September (in thousands, except per share amounts)				
	2014	2013(1)	2012	2011	2010
Net Sales	\$ 3,835,986	\$ 3,738,540	\$ 3,718,315	\$ 3,569,023	\$ 3,399,231
Net Income	51,426	20,796	43,444	39,060	30,842
Diluted Earnings per Common Share					
Class A	\$ 2.28	\$ 0.87	\$ 1.79	\$ 1.60	\$ 1.26
Class B	2.14	0.85	1.70	1.52	1.20
Cash Dividends per Common Share					
Class A	\$ 0.66	\$ 1.32	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.66
Class B	0.60	1.20	0.60	0.60	0.60

(1) Fiscal 2013 net income and diluted earnings per share reduced by \$43.1 million (\$26.2 million net of tax) of debt extinguishment costs.

	Selected Balance Sheet Data at September (in thousands)				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Current Assets	\$ 413,917	\$ 434,540	\$ 426,204	\$ 389,364	\$ 422,969
Property and Equipment, net	1,218,607	1,212,132	1,197,138	1,133,204	1,089,391
Total Assets	1,656,952	1,669,328	1,642,109	1,618,350	1,532,358
Current Liabilities, including Current Portion of Long-Term Debt	250,748	251,274	306,184	290,496	318,974
Long-Term Liabilities, net of Current Portion (1)	953,561	921,332	794,423	827,969	732,090
Stockholders' Equity	382,602	410,639	457,381	431,946	409,081

(1) Excludes long-term deferred income tax liability.

## Item 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Overview

Ingles, a leading supermarket chain in the Southeast United States, operates 202 supermarkets in Georgia (71), North Carolina (71), South Carolina (36), Tennessee (21), Virginia (2) and Alabama (1). The Company locates its supermarkets primarily in suburban areas, small towns and rural communities. Ingles supermarkets offer customers a wide variety of nationally advertised food products, including grocery, meat and dairy products, produce, frozen foods and other perishables and non-food products. Non-food products include fuel centers, pharmacies, health and beauty care products and general merchandise, as well as quality private label items. In addition, the Company focuses on selling high-growth, high-margin products to its customers through the development of certified organic products, bakery departments and prepared foods including delicatessen sections. As of September 27, 2014, the Company operated 96 in-store pharmacies and 83 fuel centers.

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Ingles also operates a fluid dairy and earns shopping center rentals. The fluid dairy sells approximately 29% of its products to the retail grocery segment and approximately 71% of its products to third parties. Real estate ownership is an important component of the Company's operations, providing both operational and economic benefit.

### Critical Accounting Policies

Critical accounting policies are those accounting policies that management believes are important to the portrayal of Ingles' financial condition and results of operations, and require management's most difficult, subjective or complex judgments, often as a result of the need to make estimates about the effect of matters that are inherently uncertain. Estimates are based on historical experience and other factors believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Management estimates, by their nature, involve judgments regarding future uncertainties, and actual results may therefore differ materially from these estimates.

### Self-Insurance

The Company is self-insured for workers' compensation, general liability, and group medical and dental benefits. Risks and uncertainties are associated with self-insurance; however, the Company has limited its exposure by maintaining excess liability coverage of \$750,000 per occurrence for workers' compensation, \$500,000 for general liability, and \$325,000 per covered person for medical care benefits for a policy year. Self-insurance liabilities are established based on claims filed and estimates of claims incurred but not reported. The estimates are based on data provided by the respective claims administrators which is then applied to appropriate actuarial methods. These estimates can fluctuate if historical trends are not predictive of the future. The majority of the Company's properties are self-insured for casualty losses and business interruption; however, liability coverage is maintained. The Company's self-insurance reserves totaled \$29.9 million and \$29.4 million for employee group insurance, workers' compensation insurance and general liability insurance at September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, respectively.

### Asset Impairments

The Company accounts for the impairment of long-lived assets in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification ("FASB ASC") Topic 360. Asset groups are primarily comprised of our individual store and shopping center properties. For assets to be held and used, the Company tests for impairment using undiscounted cash flows and calculates the amount of impairment using discounted cash flows. For assets held for sale, impairment is recognized based on the excess of remaining book value over expected recovery value. The recovery value is the fair value as determined by independent quotes or expected sales prices developed by internal associates, net of costs to sell. Estimates of future cash flows and expected sales prices are judgments based upon the Company's experience and knowledge of local operations and cash flows that are projected for several years into the

future. These estimates can fluctuate significantly due to changes in real estate market conditions, the economic environment, capital spending decisions and inflation. The Company monitors the carrying value of long-lived assets for potential impairment each quarter based on whether any indicators of impairment have occurred.

#### Vendor Allowances

The Company receives funds for a variety of merchandising activities from the many vendors whose products the Company buys for resale in its stores. These incentives and allowances are primarily comprised of volume or purchase based incentives, advertising allowances, slotting fees, and promotional discounts. The purpose of these incentives and allowances is generally to help defray the costs incurred by the Company for stocking, advertising, promoting and selling the vendor's products. These allowances generally relate to short term arrangements with vendors, often relating to a period of a month or less, and are negotiated on a purchase-by-purchase or transaction-by-transaction basis. Whenever possible, vendor discounts and allowances that relate to buying and merchandising activities are recorded as a component of item cost in inventory and recognized in merchandise costs when the item is sold. Due to system constraints and the nature of certain allowances, it is sometimes not practicable to apply allowances to the item cost of inventory. In those instances, the allowances are applied as a reduction of merchandise costs using a rational and systematic methodology, which results in the recognition of these incentives when the inventory related to the vendor consideration received is sold. Vendor allowances applied as a reduction of merchandise costs totaled \$126.7 million, \$121.9 million and \$114.3 million for the fiscal years ended September 27, 2014, September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, respectively. Vendor advertising allowances that represent a reimbursement of specific identifiable incremental costs of advertising the vendor's specific products are recorded as a reduction to the related expense in the period that the related expense is incurred. Vendor advertising allowances recorded as a reduction of advertising expense totaled \$14.8 million, \$14.5 million, and \$13.2 million for the fiscal years ended September 27, 2014, September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, respectively.

If vendor advertising allowances were substantially reduced or eliminated, the Company would likely consider other methods of advertising as well as the volume and frequency of the Company's product advertising, which could increase or decrease the Company's expenditures.

Similarly, the Company is not able to assess the impact of vendor advertising allowances on creating additional revenue, as such allowances do not directly generate revenue for the Company's stores.

#### Uncertain Tax Positions

Despite the Company's belief that its tax positions are consistent with applicable tax laws, the Company believes that certain positions are likely to be challenged by taxing authorities. Settlement of any challenge can result in no change, a complete disallowance, or some partial adjustment reached through negotiations or litigation. Significant judgment is required in evaluating the Company's tax positions. The Company's positions are evaluated in light of changing facts and circumstances, such as the progress of its tax audits as well as evolving case law. Income tax expense includes the impact of provisions for and changes to uncertain tax positions as the Company considers appropriate. Settlement of any particular position with taxing authorities could result in the use or receipt of cash. Resolution could also result in a change to income tax expense at the time of resolution.

#### Results of Operations

Ingles operates on a 52- or 53-week fiscal year ending on the last Saturday in September. The consolidated statements of income for the fiscal years ended September 27, 2014, September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, consisted of 52, 52 and 53 weeks of operations, respectively.

Comparable store sales are defined as sales by grocery stores in operation for five full fiscal quarters. The Company has an ongoing renovation and expansion plan to modernize the appearance and layout of its existing stores. Sales from replacement stores, major remodels and the addition of fuel stations to existing stores are included in the comparable store sales calculation from the date of completion of the replacement, remodel or addition. A replacement store is a new store that is opened to replace an existing nearby store that is closed. A major remodel entails substantial remodeling of an existing store and may include additional retail square footage. For the fiscal years ended September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013 comparable store sales include 200 and 202 stores, respectively. Weighted average retail square footage added to comparable stores due to replacement and remodeled stores was insignificant for the fiscal years ended September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, respectively.

Comparable store sales for the 52 weeks of fiscal 2013 are analyzed against the corresponding 52 calendar weeks of fiscal 2012. Fiscal 2012 contained 53 weeks.

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, selected financial information as a percentage of net sales.

	Fiscal Year		
	Ended September		
	2014	2013	2012
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Gross profit	22.0	22.2	22.1
Operating and administrative expenses	18.8	18.9	18.8
Gain from sale or disposal of assets	—	0.1	—
Income from operations	3.2	3.4	3.3
Other income, net	0.1	0.1	0.1
Interest expense	1.2	1.6	1.6
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	—	1.2	—
Income before income taxes	2.1	0.7	1.8
Income taxes	0.8	0.1	0.6
Net income	1.3	0.6	1.2

Fiscal Year Ended September 27, 2014 Compared to the Fiscal Year Ended September 28, 2013

The Company achieved record sales for the 50th consecutive year for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014. Total and comparable store sales increased, both with and without the inclusion of gasoline sales.

Net income for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014 was \$51.4 million, compared with \$20.8 million for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013. In fiscal year 2013, the Company incurred \$43.1 million of pre-tax debt extinguishment costs in conjunction with significant refinancing transactions that resulted in lower financing costs in fiscal 2014. 2014 pre-tax income increased 15.0% after adding back debt extinguishment costs to 2013 pre-tax income.

Net Sales. Net sales for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014 increased 2.6% to \$3.84 billion, compared with \$3.74 billion for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013.

Comparable store sales increased 1.9%, including gasoline and 0.9% excluding gasoline. The number of customer transactions (excluding gasoline) decreased 0.2%, while the average transaction size (excluding gasoline) increased 1.3%. Comparing fiscal 2014 with fiscal 2013, gasoline gallons sold increased, per gallon prices were slightly lower and gasoline gross profit was lower.

Sales by product category for the fiscal years ended September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, respectively, were as follows:

	Fiscal Year Ended September (dollars in thousands)	
	2014	2013
Grocery	\$ 1,397,870	\$ 1,424,869
Non-foods	729,934	707,294
Perishables	937,402	898,956
Gasoline	618,147	568,701
Total grocery segment	\$ 3,683,353	\$ 3,599,820



The grocery category includes grocery, dairy and frozen foods.

The non-foods category includes alcoholic beverages, tobacco, pharmacy, health and video.

The perishables category includes meat, produce, deli and bakery.

Changes in grocery segment sales for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014 are summarized as follows (in thousands):

Total grocery sales for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013	\$ 3,599,820
Comparable store sales increase (52 week basis, including gasoline)	66,067
Impact of stores closed in fiscal 2014 and 2013	(7,077)
Sales growth stores opened FY 13 and FY 14	24,526
Other	17
Total grocery sales for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014	\$ 3,683,353

During fiscal 2013 and 2014, the Company devoted the majority of its grocery segment capital expenditures to improvements in the configuration and appearance of a number of its stores. These improvements along with effective promotions and cost competitiveness drove increased sales in fiscal 2014. The Ingles Advantage Savings and Rewards Card (the "Ingles Advantage Card") also contributes to the increase in net sales and comparable store sales. Information obtained from holders of the Ingles Advantage Card assists the Company in optimizing product offerings and promotions specific to customer shopping patterns.

Net sales to outside parties for the Company's milk processing subsidiary increased 10.7% in fiscal 2014 compared with fiscal 2013. The price of raw milk increased during fiscal 2014, but case volumes sold decreased as a result of industry consolidation and overall decreased milk consumption.

The Company expects sales growth to be higher in the 2015 fiscal year compared with fiscal 2014 sales growth. The Company anticipates adding more retail square footage than in the past few years and expects to benefit from recent interior improvements to a larger number of stores. Fiscal 2015 sales growth will also be influenced by market fluctuations in the per gallon price of gasoline and milk, changes in commodity food prices and general economic conditions.

**Gross Profit.** Gross profit for the year ended September 27, 2014 increased \$17.4 million, or 2.1%, to \$845.2 million compared with \$827.8 million for the year ended September 28, 2013. As a percentage of sales, gross profit totaled 22.0% for the year ended September 27, 2014 and 22.2% for the year ended September 28, 2013.

The increase in grocery segment gross profit dollars was primarily due to the higher sales volume. Grocery segment gross profit as a percentage of total sales (excluding gasoline) increased 36 basis points in fiscal 2014 compared with fiscal 2013. The gross margin increase was broad based across most products, except for gasoline. The mix of grocery sales in favor of higher margin products also has a positive impact on gross profit and gross margin.

Gross profit for the Company's milk processing subsidiary for the year ended September 27, 2014 increased 3.2% compared with the year ended September 28, 2013. Gross profit as a percentage of sales was 10.3% for fiscal 2014 compared with 10.7% for fiscal 2013.

In addition to the direct product cost, the cost of goods sold line item for the grocery segment includes inbound freight charges and the costs related to the Company's distribution network. The milk processing segment is a manufacturing process; therefore, the costs mentioned above as well as purchasing and receiving costs, production costs, inspection costs, warehousing costs, internal transfer costs, and other costs of distribution incurred by the milk processing segment are included in the cost of sales line item, while these items are included in operating and administrative expenses for the grocery segment.

**Operating and Administrative Expenses.** Operating and administrative expenses increased \$16.1 million, or 2.3%, to \$722.6 million for the year ended September 27, 2014, from \$706.5 million for the year ended September 28, 2013. As a percentage of sales, operating and administrative expenses were 18.8% for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014 and 18.9% for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013. Excluding gasoline, which does not have significant direct operating expenses, the ratio of operating expenses to sales was 22.3% for fiscal 2014 compared with 22.1% for fiscal 2013.

A breakdown of the major increases (decreases) in operating and administrative expenses is as follows:

	Increase (Decrease) (in millions)	Increase (Decrease) as a % of sales	
Salaries and wages	\$ 10.5	0.27	%
Bank charges	\$ 2.3	0.06	%
Utilities and fuel	\$ 2.4	0.06	%
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 2.1	0.06	%
Insurance	\$ (4.2)	(0.11)	%

Salaries and wages increased due to the addition of labor hours required for the increased sales volume, including new stores opened during fiscal 2013 and 2014.

Bank charges increased due to higher fees charged for debit and credit card transactions, and a higher volume of such transactions in the Company's stores and fuel centers.

Utilities and fuel increased as a result of increased internal freight activity and the transition of additional store space to perishable items.

Depreciation and amortization increased as a result of the Company's capital expenditures for smaller remodeling projects that contain capital assets with shorter useful lives-compared with real estate.

Insurance expense decreased due to favorable claims experience under the Company's self-insurance programs.

**Gain from Sale or Disposal of Assets.** Gain from Sale or Disposal of Assets totaled \$0.8 million for fiscal 2014 compared with gains of \$4.3 million for fiscal 2013. During fiscal 2013, the Company sold a former store property for \$7.5 million and recognized a pre-tax gain of \$3.9 million. There were no other significant sale or disposal transactions during fiscal 2014 or 2013.

**Other Income, Net.** Other income, net totaled \$3.0 million and \$2.9 million for the fiscal years ended September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, respectively. Other income consists primarily of sales of waste paper and packaging.

**Interest Expense.** Interest expense decreased \$12.5 million for the year ended September 27, 2014 to \$46.6 million from \$59.1 million for the year ended September 28, 2013. Total debt was \$937.3 million at the end of fiscal 2014 compared with \$912.5 million at the end of fiscal 2013. Interest expense decreased due to the refinancing of existing debt at lower rates during the third quarter of fiscal 2013.

**Loss on Early Extinguishment of Debt.** In connection with the fiscal 2013 early payoff of the \$575.0 million senior notes due 2017, the Company paid \$27.8 million in debt extinguishment costs and expensed \$15.3 million of unamortized loan costs.

**Income Taxes.** Income tax expense as a percentage of pre-tax income was 35.5% for the 2014 fiscal year compared with 20.8% for the 2013 fiscal year. The increase in the effective tax rate is primarily attributable to tax credits in fiscal 2013 representing a greater percentage of pre-tax income.

**Net Income.** Net income totaled \$51.4 million for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014 compared with net income of \$20.8 million for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013. Basic and diluted earnings per share for Class A Common Stock were \$2.36 and \$2.28, respectively, for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014 compared with \$0.89 and \$0.87, respectively, for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013. Basic and diluted earnings per share for Class B Common Stock were each \$2.14 for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014 compared with \$0.85 of basic and diluted earnings per share for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013.

#### Fiscal Year Ended September 28, 2013 Compared to the Fiscal Year Ended September 29, 2012

The Company achieved record sales for the 49th consecutive year for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013. Total and comparable store sales increased, both with and without the inclusion of gasoline sales, and the extra 53rd week in fiscal 2012. During the third quarter of fiscal 2013, the Company accomplished a significant refinancing that included replacement of existing senior notes with a ten year term at a lower interest rate. The Company extended the terms and improved other features of both its \$175 million line of credit facility and its 2010 credit facility to construct an addition to its distribution facility.

Net income for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013 was \$20.8 million, compared with \$43.4 million for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012. In conjunction with the refinancing discussed above, the Company incurred \$43.1 million of pre-tax debt extinguishment costs. Excluding these costs, net income for fiscal 2013 would have been higher than fiscal 2012, even though fiscal 2012 contained 53 weeks compared with 52 weeks of fiscal 2013.

Net Sales. Net sales for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013 increased 0.5% to \$3.74 billion, compared with \$3.72 billion for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012. Excluding gasoline and the effect of the 53rd week in fiscal 2012, net sales increased 2.1%.

In fiscal years with 53 weeks, such as fiscal 2012, management analyzes annual comparable store sales for the 52 weeks of fiscal 2013 with the corresponding 52 calendar weeks of fiscal 2012. On this basis, grocery segment comparable store sales increased 2.1%, including gasoline and 1.8% excluding gasoline. The number of customer transactions (excluding gasoline) increased 1.7%, while the average transaction size (excluding gasoline) was essentially unchanged. Comparing fiscal 2013 with fiscal 2012, gasoline gallons sold increased, per gallon prices were lower and gasoline gross profit was lower.

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Sales by product category for the fiscal years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, respectively, were as follows:

	Fiscal Year Ended	
	September	
	(dollars in thousands)	
	2013	2012
Grocery	\$ 1,424,869	\$ 1,447,520
Non-foods	707,294	709,959
Perishables	898,956	866,252
Gasoline	568,701	553,779
Total grocery segment	\$ 3,599,820	\$ 3,577,510

The grocery category includes grocery, dairy and frozen foods.

The non-foods category includes alcoholic beverages, tobacco, pharmacy, health and video.

The perishables category includes meat, produce, deli and bakery.

Changes in grocery segment sales for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013 are summarized as follows (in thousands):

Total grocery sales for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012	\$ 3,577,510
Comparable store sales increase (52 week basis, including gasoline)	72,968
Impact of stores opened and closed in fiscal 2013	19,014
Impact of 53rd week in fiscal 2012	(65,325)
Other	(4,347)
Total grocery sales for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013	\$ 3,599,820

During fiscal 2012 and 2013, the Company devoted the majority of its grocery segment capital expenditures to improvements in the configuration and appearance of a number of its stores. These projects cost less than a store remodel that includes additional square footage, allowing the Company to improve a larger number of stores. The Company also introduced a new store design in a new store opened during fiscal 2013. These factors along with effective promotions and cost competitiveness drove fiscal 2013 increased sales. Fuel stations and pharmacies have been effective in giving customers a competitive choice and allowing them to consolidate shopping trips at Company

supermarkets. The Ingles Advantage Savings and Rewards Card (the “Ingles Advantage Card”) also contributes to the increase in net sales and comparable store sales. Information obtained from holders of the Ingles Advantage Card assists the Company in optimizing product offerings and promotions specific to customer shopping patterns.

Net sales to outside parties for the Company’s milk processing subsidiary decreased \$1.5 million, or 1.1%, in fiscal 2013 compared with fiscal 2012. The price of raw milk increased during fiscal 2013, but case volumes sold decreased as a result of industry consolidation and overall decreased milk consumption.

Gross Profit. Gross profit for the year ended September 28, 2013 increased \$7.0 million, or 0.9%, to \$827.8 million compared with \$820.8 million, for the year ended September 29, 2012. As a percentage of sales, gross profit totaled 22.2% for the year ended September 28, 2013 and 22.1% for the year ended September 29, 2012.

The increase in grocery segment gross profit dollars was primarily due to the higher sales volume, including the 53rd week in last fiscal year. Grocery segment gross profit as a percentage of total sales (excluding gasoline) was 26.1% for fiscal 2013 compared with 25.9% for the comparable fiscal 2012 period. The beneficial impact of a favorable change in sales mix and distribution efficiencies has been partially offset by competitive effects. The Company strives to keep prices as low as possible in order to grow sales and market share.

Gross profit for the Company’s milk processing subsidiary for the year ended September 28, 2013 decreased 1.3% compared with the year ended September 29, 2012. Gross profit as a percentage of sales was 10.7% for fiscal 2013 compared with 10.8% for fiscal 2012.

In addition to the direct product cost, the cost of goods sold line item for the grocery segment includes inbound freight charges and the costs related to the Company’s distribution network. The milk processing segment is a manufacturing

process; therefore, the costs mentioned above as well as purchasing and receiving costs, production costs, inspection costs, warehousing costs, internal transfer costs, and other costs of distribution incurred by the milk processing segment are included in the cost of sales line item, while these items are included in operating and administrative expenses for the grocery segment.

Operating and Administrative Expenses. Operating and administrative expenses increased \$8.9 million, or 1.28%, to \$706.5 million for the year ended September 28, 2013, from \$697.6 million for the year ended September 29, 2012. As a percentage of sales, operating and administrative expenses were 18.9% for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013 compared with 18.8% for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012. Excluding gasoline, which does not have significant direct operating expenses, the ratio of operating expenses to sales was 22.1% for fiscal 2013 compared with 21.9% for fiscal 2012.

A breakdown of the major increases (decreases) in operating and administrative expenses is as follows:

	Increase (Decrease) (in millions)	Increase (Decrease) as a % of sales	
Salaries and wages	\$ 6.6	0.18	%
Depreciation and amortization	\$ (2.2)	(0.06)	%
Store supplies	\$ 1.6	0.04	%
Taxes and licenses	\$ 1.6	0.04	%
Insurance expenses	\$ 0.8	0.02	%

Salaries and wages increased due to the addition of labor hours required for the increased sales volume, including costs related to the new distribution facility opened during the third quarter of fiscal 2012.

Depreciation and amortization decreased as a result of the Company's lower capital expenditures compared to prior years.

Store supplies increased in conjunction with the Company's program to improve the appearance, layout and convenience in a number of stores.



Taxes and licenses increased due to higher property taxes and licenses from additional products and services offered in the Company's stores.

Insurance expense increased due to higher claims under the Company's self-insurance programs.

Gain from Sale or Disposal of Assets. Gain from Sale or Disposal of Assets totaled \$4.3 million for fiscal 2013 compared with gains of \$0.7 million for fiscal 2012. During fiscal 2013, the Company sold a former store property for \$7.5 million and recognized a pre-tax gain of \$3.9 million. There were no other significant sale or disposal transactions during fiscal 2013 or 2012.

Other Income, Net. Other income, net totaled \$2.9 million and \$3.5 million for the fiscal years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, respectively. Other income consists primarily of sales of waste paper and packaging.

Interest Expense. Interest expense decreased \$0.9 million for the year ended September 28, 2013 to \$59.1 million from \$60.0 million for the year ended September 29, 2012. Total debt was \$912.5 million at the end of fiscal 2013 compared with \$835.2 million at the end of fiscal 2012. Interest expense decreased due to the refinancing of existing debt at lower rates. Interest on the \$99.7 million of Recovery Zone Facility Bonds issued in December 2010 was capitalized as part of the construction cost of the Company's new distribution and warehouse facility, until the facility opened during the third quarter of fiscal 2012.

Loss on Early Extinguishment of Debt. In connection with the early payoff of the \$575.0 million senior notes due 2017, the Company paid \$27.8 million in debt extinguishment costs and expensed \$15.3 million of unamortized loan costs.

Income Taxes. Income tax expense as a percentage of pre-tax income decreased to 20.8% for the 2013 fiscal year compared with 35.5% for the 2012 fiscal year. The decrease in the effective tax rate is primarily attributable to tax credits representing a greater percentage of pre-tax income and reductions in certain statutory state income tax rates.

Net Income. Net income totaled \$20.8 million for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013 compared with net income of \$43.4 million for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012. The decrease is attributable to the debt extinguishment costs incurred in fiscal 2013. Basic and diluted earnings per share for Class A Common Stock were \$0.89 and \$0.87, respectively, for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013 compared with \$1.87 and \$1.79, respectively, for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012. Basic and diluted earnings per share for Class B Common Stock were each \$0.85 for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013 compared with \$1.70 of basic and diluted earnings per share for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012.

#### Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company believes that a key to its ability to continue to increase sales and develop a loyal customer base is providing conveniently located, clean and modern stores which provide customers with good service and an increasingly diverse selection of competitively priced products. As such, the Company has invested and will continue to invest significant amounts of capital toward the modernization of its store base. The Company's modernization program includes the opening of new stores, the completion of major remodels and expansion of selected existing stores, and the relocation of selected existing stores to larger, more convenient locations. The Company also believes that the new warehouse and distribution facility completed during fiscal 2012 has lowered its overall distribution costs and improved product availability in its stores.

Capital expenditures totaled \$108.3 million and \$101.5 million for fiscal 2014 and 2013, respectively. Major capital expenditures include the following:

	2014	2013
New stores	1	1
Store sites/land parcels purchased	1	—
Fuel stations added	9	2

(including those added at new or replacement stores)

Capital expenditures also included upgrading and replacing store equipment, technology investments, capital expenditures related to the Company's distribution operation and its milk processing plant, and expenditures for stores to open in subsequent fiscal years.

Ingles' capital expenditure plans for fiscal 2015 include investments of approximately \$100 to \$140 million. The majority of the Company's fiscal 2015 capital expenditures will be dedicated to continued improvement of its store base and will include construction of two or more new/remodeled stores. Fiscal 2015 capital expenditures will also include investments in stores expected to open in fiscal 2016 as well as technology improvements, upgrading and replacing existing store equipment and warehouse and transportation equipment and improvements to the Company's milk processing plant.

The Company expects that its net annual capital expenditures will be in the range of approximately \$100 to \$160 million going forward in order to maintain a modern store base. Planned expenditures for any given future fiscal year will be affected by the availability of financing, which can affect both the number of projects pursued at any given time and the cost of those projects. The number of projects may also fluctuate due to the varying costs of the types of projects pursued including new stores and major remodel/expansions. The Company makes decisions on the allocation of capital expenditure dollars based on many factors including the competitive environment, other Company capital initiatives and its financial condition.

In general, the Company finances its capital expenditures to the extent possible from cash on hand and cash flow from operations. Additional financing sources for capital expenditures include borrowings under the \$175 million of committed line of credit, other borrowings that could be collateralized by unencumbered real property and equipment with a net book value of approximately \$946 million, and the public debt or equity markets. The Company has used each of these to finance past capital expenditures and expects to have them available in the future.

The Company does not generally enter into commitments for capital expenditures other than on a store-by-store basis at the time it begins construction on a new store or begins a major or minor remodeling project. Construction commitments at September 27, 2014 totaled \$2.6 million.

## Liquidity

The Company generated \$154.3 million of cash from operations in fiscal 2014 compared with \$145.2 million for fiscal 2013. Increased net income and changes in working capital components accounted for most of the year over year increase.

Cash used by investing activities for fiscal 2014 totaled \$107.9 million compared with \$93.6 million for fiscal 2013. The Company's most significant investing activity is capital expenditures. Fiscal year 2014, capital expenditures were modestly higher than the previous year and there were no significant assets sales during fiscal 2014. During fiscal 2013, the Company received \$7.5 million from the sale of a former store property.

During fiscal 2014, the Company's net financing activities used \$54.7 million primarily for stock repurchases and regular dividends. In June 2013, the Company issued \$700.0 million aggregate principal amount of senior notes due in 2023 (the "Notes"). The Notes bear an interest rate of 5.750% per annum and were issued at par. Note proceeds were used to repay \$575.0 million aggregate principal amount of senior notes maturing in 2017, \$52.0 million of indebtedness outstanding under the Company's line of credit, and pay costs related to the offering of the Notes. Remaining Note proceeds were used for general corporate purposes, including capital expenditures. The Company's effective interest rate on senior notes borrowings decreased from 9.5% to 5.75%.

In connection with the offering of the Notes, the Company extended the maturity date of its \$175.0 million line of credit from December 29, 2015 to June 12, 2018 and modified certain interest rate options and covenants. At September 27, 2014, the Company had \$29.9 million borrowing outstanding under the line of credit.

The line of credit provides the Company with various interest rate options based on the prime rate, the Federal Funds Rate, or the London Interbank Offering Rate. The line allows the Company to issue up to \$30.0 million in unused letters of credit, of which \$11.0 million of unused letters of credit were issued at September 27, 2014. The Company is not required to maintain compensating balances in connection with this line of credit.

On December 29, 2010, the Company completed the funding of \$99.7 million of Recovery Zone Facility Bonds (the "Bonds") for: (A) acquisition, construction and equipping of an approximately 830,000 square foot new warehouse and distribution center located in Buncombe County, North Carolina (the "Project"), and (B) the payment of certain expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the Bonds. The final maturity date of the Bonds is January 1, 2036.

Under a Continuing Covenant and Collateral Agency Agreement (the “Covenant Agreement”) between certain financial institutions and the Company, the financial institutions would hold the Bonds until January 2, 2018, subject to certain events. Mandatory redemption of the Bonds by the Company in the annual amount of \$4,530,000 began on January 1, 2014.

In connection with the offering of the Notes, the Company extended the maturity date of the Covenant Agreement from January 2, 2018 to June 30, 2021 and modified certain interest rate options and covenants. The Company may redeem the Bonds without penalty or premium at any time prior to June 30, 2021.

Other fiscal 2014 financing activities included dividends of \$14.5 million and stock repurchases of \$65.0 million. New borrowings under the Line partially funded these activities.

The Company’s long-term debt agreements generally have cross-default provisions which could result in the acceleration of payments due under the Company’s line of credit, Bond and Notes indenture in the event of default under any one instrument.

The Notes, the Bonds and the line of credit contain provisions that under certain circumstances would permit lending institutions to terminate or withdraw their respective extensions of credit to the Company. Included among the triggering factors permitting the termination or withdrawal of the line of credit to the Company are certain events of default, including both monetary and non-monetary defaults, the initiation of bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings, and the failure of the Company to meet certain financial covenants designated in its respective loan documents. As of September 27, 2014, the Company was in compliance with these covenants by a significant margin. Under the most restrictive of these covenants, the Company would be able to incur approximately \$249 million of additional borrowings (including borrowings under the line of credit) as of September 27, 2014.

The Company’s principal sources of liquidity are expected to be cash flow from operations, borrowings under its line of credit and long-term financing. The Company believes, based on its current results of operations and financial condition, that its financial resources, including cash balances, existing bank line of credit, short- and long-term financing expected to be available to it and internally generated funds, will be sufficient to meet planned capital expenditures and working capital

requirements for the foreseeable future, including any debt service requirements of additional borrowings. However, there can be no assurance that any such sources of financing will be available to the Company on acceptable terms, or at all.

It is possible that, in the future, the Company's results of operations and financial condition will be different from that described in this report based on a number of intangible factors. These factors may include, among others, increased competition, changing regional and national economic conditions, adverse climatic conditions affecting food production and delivery and changing demographics as well as the additional factors discussed above and elsewhere under "Item 1A. Risk Factors." It is also possible, for such reasons, that the results of operations from the new, expanded, remodeled and/or replacement stores will not meet or exceed the results of operations from existing stores that are described in this report.

### Contractual Obligations and Commercial Commitments

The Company has assumed various financial obligations and commitments in the normal course of its operations and financing activities. Financial obligations are considered to represent known future cash payments that the Company is required to make under existing contractual arrangements, such as debt and lease arrangements. The following table represents the scheduled maturities of the Company's long-term contractual obligations as of September 27, 2014:

#### Payment Due by Period

Contractual Obligations (amounts in thousands)	Total	Less than			More than
		1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5 years
Long-term debt and line of credit	\$ 937,260	\$ 12,488	\$ 24,356	\$ 98,338	\$ 802,077
Scheduled interest on long-term debt (1)	383,045	46,961	92,688	88,477	154,920
Advance payments on purchase contracts	1,749	1,515	17	17	199
Operating leases	88,613	11,734	21,111	16,445	39,324
Construction commitments	2,628	2,628	—	—	—
Total	\$ 1,413,295	\$ 75,327	\$ 138,172	\$ 203,277	\$ 996,519

(1) Scheduled interest on floating rate debt calculated using rates in effect on September 27, 2014.

Amounts available to the Company under commercial commitments as of September 27, 2014, were as follows:

## Amount of Commitment Expiration per Period

Other Commercial Commitments (amounts in thousands)	Total	Less than		More than	
		1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5 years
Available line of credit	\$ 134,050	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 134,050	\$ —
Letters of credit-standby	11,040	10,040	1,000	—	—
Potential commercial commitments	\$ 145,090	\$ 10,040	\$ 1,000	\$ 134,050	\$ —

## Off Balance Sheet Arrangements

The Company is not a party to any off-balance sheet arrangements that have, or are reasonably likely to have, a current or future material effect on the Company's financial condition, revenues, expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources.

## Quarterly Cash Dividends

Since December 27, 1993, the Company has paid regular quarterly cash dividends of \$0.165 per share on its Class A Common Stock and \$0.15 per share on its Class B Common Stock for an annual rate of \$0.66 and \$0.60 per share, respectively. Because of increased tax rates on dividends that went into effect in January 2013, the Company paid in December 2012 a special dividend equal to \$0.66 cents per each Class A share and \$0.60 cents per each Class B share. The Company also accelerated the payment of the regular quarterly January 2013 dividend into December 2012. Both dividends were declared on December 7, 2012, payable on December 31, 2012 to shareholders of record on December 21, 2012.

The Company expects to continue paying regular cash dividends on a quarterly basis. However, the Board of Directors periodically reconsiders the declaration of dividends. The Company pays these dividends at the discretion of the Board of

Directors and the continuation of these payments, the amount of such dividends, and the form in which the dividends are paid (cash or stock) depends upon the results of operations, the financial condition of the Company and other factors which the Board of Directors deems relevant.

Long-term debt and line of credit agreements contain various restrictive covenants requiring, among other things, minimum levels of net worth and maintenance of certain financial ratios. These covenants have the effect of restricting certain types of transactions, including the payment of cash dividends generally and in excess of current quarterly per share amounts. Further, the Company is prevented from declaring dividends at any time that it is in default under the indenture governing the Notes.

#### Impact of Inflation

The following table from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics lists annualized changes in the Consumer Price Index that could have an effect on the Company's operations. One of the Company's significant costs is labor, which increases with general inflation. Inflation in energy costs affects both the Company's gasoline sales and distribution expenses.

	Twelve Months Ended September			
	2014		2013	
All items	1.7	%	1.2	%
Food and beverages	3.0	%	1.4	%
Energy	(0.6)	%	(3.1)	%

#### New Accounting Pronouncements

For new accounting pronouncements, see Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### Outlook and Trends in the Company's Markets



The Company has improved the interior layout and product offerings in a significant number of stores over the past three fiscal years. Economic conditions have improved to the point that the Company expects to more rapidly increase or update its total retail square footage beginning with fiscal 2014.

The Company continually assesses and modifies its business model to meet the changing needs and expectations of its customers. In connection with this review, the Company assesses the trends present in the markets in which it competes. Generally, it is difficult to predict whether a trend will continue for a period of time and it is possible that new trends will develop which will affect an existing trend. The Company believes that the following trends are likely to continue for at least the next fiscal year:

- The supermarket industry will remain highly competitive and will be characterized by industry consolidation, fragmented food retail platforms, and continued competition from super centers and other non-supermarket operators.
- Uncertain economic conditions will continue to affect customer behavior. Economic conditions may affect purchasing patterns with regard to meal replacement items, private label purchases, promotions and product variety.
- The Company and its customers will continue to become more environmentally aware, evidenced by the Company's increased recycled waste paper and pallets and customers' increased usage of reusable shopping bags.
- Volatile petroleum costs will impact utility and distribution costs, plastic supplies cost and may change customer shopping and dining behavior.

The Company plans to continue to focus on balancing sales growth and gross margin maintenance (excluding the effect of gasoline sales), and will carefully monitor its product mix and customer trends.

#### Item 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISKS

The Company is exposed to changes in interest rates primarily as a result of its borrowing activities, which include borrowings under the line of credit, real estate and equipment financing, the Company's 5.75% Senior Notes due 2023 and the Recovery Zone bonds. The line of credit, along with cash flow from operations, is used to maintain liquidity and fund

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business operations. The Company typically replaces borrowings under its variable rate line of credit, as necessary, with both long-term secured and unsecured financing.

The nature and amount of the Company's debt may vary as a result of future business requirements, market conditions and other factors. The definitive extent of the Company's interest rate risk is not quantifiable or predictable because of the variability of future interest rates and business financing requirements, but the Company does not believe such risk is material. The Company may consider the use of derivative instruments to adjust the Company's interest rate risk profile.

The table below presents principal amounts and related weighted average rates by year of maturity for the Company's debt obligations at September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, respectively (in thousands):

September 27, 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Thereafter	Total	Fair Value
Line of credit	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 29,910	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 29,910	\$ 29,910
Average variable interest rate	— %	— %	— %	3.38 %	— %	— %	3.38 %	
Long-term debt, variable interest rate	\$ 5,149	\$ 5,188	\$ 5,233	\$ 43,103	\$ 12,508	\$ 9,452	\$ 80,634	\$ 80,634
Average interest rate	2.89 %	2.89 %	2.89 %	2.96 %	3.23 %	3.16 %	3.01 %	
Long-term debt, fixed interest rate	\$ 2,809	\$ 2,961	\$ 1,915	\$ 1,878	\$ 1,878	\$ 20,065	\$ 31,506	\$ 32,171
Average interest rate	5.32 %	5.35 %	4.01 %	3.80 %	3.80 %	3.80 %	4.09 %	
Recovery Zone Bonds, variable interest rate	\$ 4,530	\$ 4,530	\$ 4,530	\$ 4,530	\$ 4,530	\$ 72,560	\$ 95,210	\$ 95,210

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Average interest rate	2.25 %	2.25 %	2.25 %	2.25 %	2.25 %	2.25 %	2.25 %	2.25 %	2.25 %	2.25 %		
Senior Notes, fixed interest rate	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 705,250			
Average interest rate	— %	— %	— %	— %	— %	— %	5.75 %	5.75 %				
September 28, 2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Thereafter	Total	Fair Value				
Line of credit	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —				
Average variable interest rate	— %	— %	— %	— %	— %	— %	— %	— %				
Long-term debt, variable interest rate	\$ 4,549	\$ 4,589	\$ 4,628	\$ 4,673	\$ 42,549	\$ 10,340	\$ 71,328	\$ 71,328				
Average interest rate	2.87 %	2.87 %	2.88 %	2.88 %	2.99 %	3.19 %	2.99 %					
Long-term debt, fixed interest rate	\$ 9,877	\$ 2,809	\$ 2,961	\$ 1,915	\$ 1,878	\$ 21,964	\$ 41,404	\$ 41,585				
Average interest rate	5.79 %	5.21 %	5.25 %	3.84 %	3.62 %	3.62 %	4.37 %					
Recovery Zone Bonds, variable interest rate	\$ 4,530	\$ 4,530	\$ 4,530	\$ 4,530	\$ 4,530	\$ 77,090	\$ 99,740	\$ 99,740				
Average interest rate	2.26 %	2.26 %	2.26 %	2.26 %	2.26 %	2.26 %	2.26 %					
Senior Notes, fixed interest rate	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 675,500				
Average interest	— %	— %	— %	— %	— %	5.75 %	5.75 %					

rate

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The Company has not typically utilized financial or derivative instruments for trading or other speculative purposes, nor has it typically utilized leveraged financial instruments. In the future, the Company may consider derivative instruments such as interest rate swaps to manage its overall interest rate risk. On the basis of the fair value of the Company's market sensitive instruments at September 27, 2014, the Company does not consider the potential near-term losses in future earnings, fair values and cash flows from reasonable possible near-term changes in interest rates and exchange rates to be material.

#### Item 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

The Company's financial statements required by this item are set forth as a separate section of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. See Part IV, Item 15 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### Item 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

##### Conclusion Regarding Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Company maintains disclosure controls and procedures designed to provide reasonable assurance to achieve the objective that information in its Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified and pursuant to the regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act, include controls and procedures designed to ensure the information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. It should be noted that the Company's system of controls and procedures, however well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the system are met.

As required by Rule 13a-15(b) under the Exchange Act, the Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with participation of its management, including its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of its disclosure controls and procedures as of September 27, 2014, the end of the period covered by this report.

Based on the evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer conclude that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective at a reasonable assurance level as of September 27, 2014.

Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f). Internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The Company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that:

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

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

The Company has assessed the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting as of September 27, 2014 using the criteria described in Internal Control – Integrated Framework (1992) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

Based on its assessment of the design and related testing of the Company's internal control over financial reporting, management has concluded that, as of September 27, 2014, the Company maintained effective internal control over financial reporting based on the criteria set forth in the COSO framework.

The Company's independent auditors, Deloitte & Touche LLP, a registered public accounting firm, are appointed by the Audit Committee of the Company's Board of Directors, subject to ratification by our Company's stockholders. Deloitte & Touche LLP has audited and reported on the consolidated financial statements of the Company and the Company's internal control over financial reporting. The reports of the independent auditors are contained in this Annual Report.

The effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting has been audited by the Company's independent auditor, Deloitte & Touche LLP, a registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report at page 38 herein.

#### Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There has been no change during the Company's fiscal year ended September 27, 2014 in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that was identified in connection with the evaluation required by Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(d) which has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

As noted above, management has concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of September 27, 2014.

In May 2013, COSO issued its Internal Control — Integrated Framework (the "2013 Framework"). While the 2013 Framework's internal control components (i.e., control environment, risk assessment, control activities, information and communication, and monitoring activities) are the same as those in the 1992 Framework, the new framework requires companies to assess whether 17 principles are present and functioning in determining whether their system of internal control is effective. The Company expects to adopt the 2013 Framework during the fiscal year ending September 26, 2015.

#### Item 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

#### PART III

Item 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The information required by this Item, including the information concerning the Company's directors and officers, audit committee, and compliance with Section 16 of the Exchange Act, is incorporated herein by reference to the information to be contained in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement to be used in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the Company's 2015 annual meeting of stockholders. The definitive Proxy Statement will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") pursuant to Regulation 14A no later than 120 days after September 27, 2014.

The Company has adopted a Code of Ethics that applies to its senior financial officers, including without limitation, its Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Controller. The full text of the Code of Ethics is published on the Company's website at [www.ingles-markets.com](http://www.ingles-markets.com) under the caption "Corporate Information." In the event that the Company makes any amendments to, or grants any waivers of, a provision of the Code of Ethics applicable to its principal executive officer, principal financial officer or principal accounting officer, the Company intends to disclose such amendment or waiver on its website. Information on the Company's website, however, does not form a part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Item 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the information to be contained in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement referred to above in "Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance."

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

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the information to be contained in the definitive Proxy Statement referred to above in "Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance."



Item 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the information to be contained in the definitive Proxy Statement referred to above in “Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.”

Item 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the information to be contained in the definitive Proxy Statement referred to above in “Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.”

PART IV

Item 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a) Documents filed as part of this report:

1. The following financial statements of the Registrant are included in response to Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K:

Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013;

Consolidated Statements of Income for the years ended September 27, 2014, September 28, 2013, and September 29, 2012;

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for the years ended September 27, 2014, September 28, 2013, and September 29, 2012;

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended September 27, 2014, September 28, 2013, and September 29, 2012;

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

2. Financial statement schedules:

Schedule II – Supplemental schedule of valuation and qualifying accounts.

3. Exhibits

(b)Exhibits:

- 3.1 Articles of Incorporation of Ingles Markets, Incorporated (included as Exhibit 3.1 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Registration Statement on Form S-1, File No. 33-23919, previously filed with the Commission and incorporated herein by this reference).
- 3.2 Articles of Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of Ingles Markets, Incorporated (included as Exhibit 3.3 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 25, 2004, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission and incorporated herein by this reference).
- 3.3 Articles of Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of Ingles Markets, Incorporated dated April 23, 2012 (included as Exhibit 3.3 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 24, 2012, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission and incorporated herein by this reference).
- 3.4 Amended and Restated By-Laws of Ingles Markets, Incorporated (included as Exhibit 99.1 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Current Report on Form 8-K, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission on August 30, 2007 and incorporated herein by this reference).



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- 4.1 Articles 4 and 9 of the Articles of Incorporation of Ingles Markets, Incorporated (included as Exhibit 3.1 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Registration Statement on Form S-1, File No. 33-23919, and Exhibit 3.3 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 25, 2004, File No. 0-14706, respectively, each of which were previously filed with the Commission and are incorporated herein by this reference).
- 4.2 Articles 2, 3, 10, 11 and 14 of the Amended and Restated By-Laws of Ingles Markets, Incorporated (included as Exhibit 99.1 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Current Report on Form 8-K, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission on August 30, 2007 and incorporated herein by this reference).
- 4.3 Indenture, dated as of June 12, 2013, between Ingles Markets, Incorporated and Branch Banking and Trust Company, as Trustee, governing the 5.75% Senior Notes Due 2023, including the form of unregistered 5.75% Senior Note Due 2023 (included as Exhibit 4.1 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Current Report on Form 8-K, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission on June 12, 2013 and incorporated herein by this reference).
- 4.4 Registration Rights Agreement, dated June 12, 2013, among the Company and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith Incorporated, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, BB&T Capital Markets, a division of BB&T Securities, LLC and SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, Inc. (included as Exhibit 4.3 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Current Report on Form 8-K, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission on June 12, 2013 and incorporated herein by this reference).
- 10.1 Credit Agreement, dated as of May 12, 2009, among the Company and the lenders party thereto, Bank of America, as administrative agent, swing line lender and l/c issuer, Branch Banking and Trust Company, as syndication agent, Wachovia Bank, National Association, as documentation agent, and Banc of America Securities LLC, Branch Banking and Trust Company and Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC, as joint lead arrangers and joint book managers (included as Exhibit 10.1 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Current Report on Form 8-K, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission on May 15, 2009 and incorporated herein by this reference).
- 10.2 Exhibits and Schedules to Credit Agreement dated May 12, 2009, among the Company and the lenders party thereto, Bank of America, as administrative agent, swing line lender and l/c issuer, Branch Banking and Trust

Company, as syndication agent, Wachovia Bank, National Association, as documentation agent, and Banc of America Securities LLC, Branch Banking and Trust Company and Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC, as joint lead arrangers and joint book managers (included as Exhibit 10.1 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Current Report on Form 8-K, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission on May 15, 2009 and incorporated herein by this reference).

- 10.3 Waiver and First Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated as of May 12, 2009, among the Company the lenders from time to time party thereto, Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, swing line lender and l/c issuer, and the other agents, joint lead arrangers and joint book managers party thereto (included as Exhibit 10.3 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission and incorporated herein by this reference).
- 10.4 Second Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated as of May 12, 2009, among the Company the lenders from time to time party thereto, Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, swing line lender and l/c issuer, and the other agents, joint lead arrangers and joint book managers party thereto (included as Exhibit 10.1 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Current Report on Form 8-K, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission on January 4, 2011 and incorporated herein by this reference).

- 10.5 Third Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated as of May 12, 2009, among the Company the lenders from time to time party thereto, Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, swing line lender and l/c issuer, and the other agents, joint lead arrangers and joint book managers party thereto (included as Exhibit 10.5 to the Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Annual Report on Form 10-K, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission on December 26, 2012 and incorporated herein by this reference).
- 10.6 Fourth Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated as of May 12, 2009, among the Company the lenders from time to time party thereto, Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, swing line lender and l/c issuer, and the other agents, joint lead arrangers and joint book managers party thereto (included as Exhibit 10.6 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 29, 2013, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission and incorporated herein by this reference).
- 10.7 Amended and Restated Ingles Markets, Incorporated Investment/Profit Sharing Plan effective September 29, 2002 (included as Exhibit 10.11 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2002, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission and incorporated herein by this reference).

(Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit to this Annual Report on Form 10-K pursuant to Item 15(b) of Form 10-K.)

- 10.8 First Amendment to the Ingles Markets, Incorporated Investment/Profit Sharing Plan (included as Exhibit 10.3 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2003, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission and incorporated herein by this reference).

(Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit to this Annual Report on Form 10-K pursuant to Item 15(b) of Form 10-K.)

- 10.9 Second Amendment to the Ingles Markets, Incorporated Investment/Profit Sharing Plan dated November 2, 2011 (included as Exhibit 10.5 to the Ingles Markets, Incorporated Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 24, 2011, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission and incorporated herein by this reference).

(Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit to this Annual Report on Form 10-K pursuant to Item 15(b) of Form 10-K.)

- 10.10 Ingles Markets, Incorporated Non-qualified Plan dated May 30, 2005 (included as Exhibit 10.5 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 24, 2005, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission and incorporated herein by this reference).

(Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit to this Annual Report on Form 10-K pursuant to Item 15(b) of Form 10-K.)

- 10.11 Ingles Markets, Incorporated Executive Non-qualified Excess Plan amended and restated Effective January 1, 2013, dated November 1, 2012.

- 10.12 Fifth Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated as of January 31, 2014, among the Company the lenders from time to time party thereto, Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, swing line lender and l/c issuer, and the other agents, joint lead arrangers and joint book managers party thereto (included as Exhibit 10.7 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 28, 2013, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission and incorporated herein by this reference).





10.13 Sixth Amendment to the Credit Agreement dated as of June 20, 2014, among the Company the lenders from time to time party thereto, Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, swing line lender and l/c issuer, and the other agents, joint lead arrangers and joint book managers party thereto (included as Exhibit 10.1 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Current Report on Form 8-K, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission on June 24, 2014 and incorporated herein by this reference).

(Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit to this Annual Report on Form 10-K pursuant to Item 15(b) of Form 10-K.)

21.1 Subsidiaries of Ingles Markets, Incorporated (included as Exhibit 21.1 to Ingles Markets, Incorporated's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012, File No. 0-14706, previously filed with the Commission and incorporated herein by this reference).

31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

32.1 Certification by Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

32.2 Certification by Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

101 The following financial information from the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014, formatted in XBRL (Extensible Business Reporting Language) and furnished electronically herewith:

(i) the Consolidated Statements of Income; (ii) the Consolidated Balance Sheets; (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows; (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity; and (v) the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of Ingles Markets, Incorporated  
Black Mountain, North Carolina

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Ingles Markets, Incorporated and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in stockholders’ equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended September 27, 2014. Our audits also included the financial statement schedule listed in the index at Item 15(a). These financial statements and financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements and financial statement schedule based on our audits.

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

In our opinion, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Ingles Markets, Incorporated and subsidiaries at September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended September 27, 2014, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, in our opinion, such financial statement schedule when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of September 27, 2014, based on the criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (1992) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated December 16, 2014, expressed an unqualified opinion on the Company’s internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Atlanta, Georgia

December 16, 2014



Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of Ingles Markets, Incorporated  
Black Mountain, North Carolina

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of Ingles Markets, Incorporated, and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of September 27, 2014, based on criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (1992) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Company’s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management’s Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

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

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

Because of the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of September 27, 2014, based on the criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (1992) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the accompanying consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule as of and for the year ended September 27, 2014 of the Company and our report dated December 16, 2014 expressed an unqualified opinion

on those consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Atlanta, Georgia

December 16, 2014

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INGLES MARKETS, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

SEPTEMBER 27, 2014 AND SEPTEMBER 28, 2013

	2014	2013
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,613,628	\$ 16,844,007
Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$307,029 – 2014 and \$722,893 – 2013)	60,991,062	59,929,491
Inventories	329,523,604	329,691,256
Other	14,789,004	28,075,314
Total current assets	413,917,298	434,540,068
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET	1,218,607,029	1,212,132,055
OTHER ASSETS	24,427,237	22,655,614
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,656,951,564	\$ 1,669,327,737

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

## INGLES MARKETS, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

SEPTEMBER 27, 2014 AND SEPTEMBER 28, 2013

	2014	2013
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>		
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 12,488,400	\$ 18,956,761
Accounts payable - trade	167,314,891	160,314,263
Accrued expenses and current portion of other long-term liabilities	70,944,728	72,002,983
Total current liabilities	250,748,019	251,274,007
<b>DEFERRED INCOME TAXES</b>	70,040,000	86,082,000
<b>LONG-TERM DEBT</b>	924,771,343	893,514,238
<b>OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES</b>	28,790,035	27,818,217
Total liabilities	1,274,349,397	1,258,688,462
<b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES</b>	—	—
<b>STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:</b>		
Preferred stock, \$0.05 par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued	—	—
<b>Common stocks:</b>		
Class A, \$0.05 par value; 150,000,000 shares authorized; issued and outstanding, 13,540,333 shares in 2014, 13,437,975 shares in 2013	677,017	671,899
Class B, convertible to Class A, \$0.05 par value; 100,000,000 shares authorized; issued and outstanding, 6,719,443 shares in 2014, 9,321,801 shares in 2013	335,972	466,090
Paid-in capital in excess of par value	12,311,249	77,186,249
Retained earnings	369,277,929	332,315,037
Total stockholders' equity	382,602,167	410,639,275
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 1,656,951,564</b>	<b>\$ 1,669,327,737</b>

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.





## INGLES MARKETS, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

FISCAL YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 27, 2014,

SEPTEMBER 28, 2013 AND SEPTEMBER 29, 2012

	2014	2013	2012
Net sales	\$ 3,835,985,953	\$ 3,738,540,461	\$ 3,718,314,651
Cost of goods sold	2,990,822,438	2,910,730,478	2,897,534,853
Gross profit	845,163,515	827,809,983	820,779,798
Operating and administrative expenses	722,644,214	706,497,512	697,602,981
Gain from sale or disposal of assets	825,856	4,261,704	670,025
Income from operations	123,345,157	125,574,175	123,846,842
Other income, net	3,001,161	2,900,341	3,527,065
Interest expense	46,569,864	59,142,378	60,026,564
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	—	43,089,248	—
Income before income taxes	79,776,454	26,242,890	67,347,343
Income tax expense	28,350,000	5,447,000	23,903,000
Net income	\$ 51,426,454	\$ 20,795,890	\$ 43,444,343
Per-share amounts:			
Class A Common Stock			
Basic earnings per common share	\$ 2.36	\$ 0.89	\$ 1.87
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 2.28	\$ 0.87	\$ 1.79
Class B Common Stock			
Basic earnings per common share	\$ 2.14	\$ 0.85	\$ 1.70
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 2.14	\$ 0.85	\$ 1.70
Cash dividends per common share:			
Class A	\$ 0.66	\$ 1.32	\$ 0.66
Class B	\$ 0.60	\$ 1.20	\$ 0.60

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.



## INGLES MARKETS, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

FISCAL YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 27, 2014,

SEPTEMBER 28, 2013 AND SEPTEMBER 29, 2012

	CLASS A COMMON STOCK		CLASS B COMMON STOCK		PAID-IN CAPITAL IN EXCESS OF PAR VALUE	RETAINED EARNINGS	TOTAL
	SHARES	AMOUNT	SHARES	AMOUNT			
Balance, September 24, 2011	12,939,533	\$ 646,977	11,489,726	\$ 574,486	\$ 116,844,842	\$ 313,879,289	\$ 431,945,594
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	43,444,343	43,444,343
Cash dividends							
Class A	—	—	—	—	—	(8,537,270)	(8,537,270)
Class B	—	—	—	—	—	(6,822,131)	(6,822,131)
Stock repurchases, at cost	(15,473)	(774)	(154,010)	(7,700)	(2,608,593)	—	(2,617,067)
Common stock conversions	29,575	1,479	(29,575)	(1,479)	—	—	—
Balance, September 29, 2012	12,953,635	\$ 647,682	11,306,141	\$ 565,307	\$ 114,236,249	\$ 341,964,231	\$ 457,413,469
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	20,795,890	20,795,890
Cash dividends							
Class A	—	—	—	—	—	(17,141,839)	(17,141,839)
Class B	—	—	—	—	—	(13,303,245)	(13,303,245)
Stock repurchases, at cost	—	—	(1,500,000)	(75,000)	(37,050,000)	—	(37,125,000)
Common stock conversions	484,340	24,217	(484,340)	(24,217)	—	—	—
	13,437,975	\$ 671,899	9,321,801	\$ 466,090	\$ 77,186,249	\$ 332,315,037	\$ 410,639,275

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Balance, September 28, 2013								
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	51,426,454	51,426,454	
Cash dividends								
Class A	—	—	—	—	—	(8,894,632)	(8,894,632)	
Class B	—	—	—	—	—	(5,568,930)	(5,568,930)	
Stock repurchases, at cost	—	—	(2,500,000)	(125,000)	(64,875,000)	—	(65,000,000)	
Common stock conversions	102,358	5,118	(102,358)	(5,118)	—	—	—	
Balance, September 27, 2014	13,540,333	\$ 677,017	6,719,443	\$ 335,972	\$ 12,311,249	\$ 369,277,929	\$ 382,602,167	

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

## INGLES MARKETS, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

FISCAL YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 27, 2014,

SEPTEMBER 28, 2013 AND SEPTEMBER 29, 2012

	2014	2013	2012
Cash Flows From Operating Activities:			
Net income	\$ 51,426,454	\$ 20,795,890	\$ 43,444,343
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization expense	97,663,587	94,889,139	90,530,952
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	—	43,089,248	—
Gain from sale or disposal of assets	(825,856)	(4,261,704)	(670,025)
Receipt of advance payments on purchases contracts	2,977,486	3,715,720	4,009,606
Recognition of advance payments on purchases contracts	(3,282,770)	(3,448,546)	(3,218,320)
Deferred income taxes	(16,352,000)	7,435,000	14,202,000
Changes in operating assets and liabilities			
Receivables	(1,431,891)	1,589,591	(4,678,023)
Inventory	167,652	(76,332)	(26,448,437)
Other assets	11,116,836	(6,403,298)	(14,762,062)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	12,889,283	(12,124,026)	31,340,734
Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities	154,348,781	145,200,682	133,750,768
Cash Flows From Investing Activities:			
Proceeds from sales of restricted investments	—	—	75,730,905
Proceeds from sales of property and equipment	434,061	7,809,412	1,337,031
Capital expenditures	(108,338,402)	(101,453,001)	(180,628,852)
Net Cash Used By Investing Activities	(107,904,341)	(93,643,589)	(103,560,916)
Cash Flows From Financing Activities:			
Proceeds from short-term borrowings	413,837,067	581,930,489	781,566,880
Payments on short-term borrowings	(383,927,017)	(622,051,131)	(741,446,238)
Proceeds from issuance of bonds	—	700,000,000	—
Bond issuance costs	—	(9,919,840)	—
Proceeds from new long-term borrowings	14,000,000	8,000,000	3,250,000
Principal payments on long-term borrowings	(19,121,307)	(602,026,300)	(63,321,866)
Prepayment penalties on debt extinguishment	—	(27,759,630)	—
Stock repurchases	(65,000,000)	(37,125,000)	(2,617,067)
Dividends	(14,463,562)	(30,445,084)	(15,359,401)
Net Cash Used By Financing Activities	(54,674,819)	(39,396,496)	(37,927,692)
Net (Decrease) Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(8,230,379)	12,160,597	(7,737,840)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	16,844,007	4,683,410	12,421,250

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Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$ 8,613,628	\$ 16,844,007	\$ 4,683,410
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See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

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Ingles Markets, Incorporated and Subsidiaries

Notes To Consolidated Financial Statements

Fiscal years ended September 27, 2014, September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

**Nature of Operations** – Ingles Markets, Incorporated (“Ingles” or the “Company”), is a leading supermarket chain in the southeast United States, operates 202 supermarkets in Georgia (71), North Carolina (71), South Carolina (36), Tennessee (21), Virginia (2) and Alabama (1).

**Principles of Consolidation** – The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Ingles Markets, Incorporated and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Sky King, Inc., Ingles Markets Investments, Inc., Milkco, Inc., Shopping Center Financing, LLC, and Shopping Center Financing II, LLC. All significant inter-company balances and transactions are eliminated in consolidation.

**Fiscal Year** – The Company’s fiscal year ends on the last Saturday in September. Fiscal year 2014 consisted of 52 weeks; fiscal year 2013 consisted of 52 weeks and fiscal year 2012 consisted of 53 weeks.

**Segment Information** – The Company operates one primary business segment, retail grocery sales (representing the aggregation of individual retail stores). The “Other” segment includes our remaining operations -- fluid dairy and shopping center rentals.

**New Accounting Pronouncements** – In April 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update 2014-08 “Reporting Discontinued Operations and Disclosures of Disposals of Components of an Entity” (ASU 2014-08). ASU 2014-08 is aimed at reducing the frequency of disposals reported as discontinued operations by focusing on strategic shifts that have or are expected to have a major impact on an entity’s operations and financial results. Such a shift could include the disposal of a major line of business, a major geographical area, a major equity method of investment or other major parts of the entity. ASU 2014-08 also permits companies to have continuing cash flows and significant continuing involvement with the disposed component. ASU 2014-08 requires expanded disclosures for discontinued operations and new disclosures for individually material disposals that do not meet the definition of a discontinued operation. The Company has early adopted ASU effective June 28, 2014. ASU 2014-08 did not have a material impact on the Company’s financial position or results of operations.



Cash Equivalents – All highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased are considered cash. Outstanding checks in excess of bank balances are included in the line item “Accounts payable – trade” on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. These amounts totaled \$15.5 million and \$4.2 million as of September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, respectively.

Financial Instruments – The Company at times has short-term investments and certificates of deposit with maturities of three months or less when purchased that are included in cash. At September 27, 2014 the Company had no such investments. The Company’s policy is to invest its excess cash either in money market accounts, reverse repurchase agreements or in certificates of deposit. Money market accounts and certificates of deposit are not secured; reverse repurchase agreements are secured by government obligations. At September 27, 2014 demand deposits of approximately \$4.2 million in two banks exceed the \$250,000 FDIC insurance limit per bank.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts – Accounts receivable are primarily from vendor allowances, customer charges and pharmacy insurance company reimbursements. Accounts receivable are stated net of an allowance for uncollectible accounts, which is determined through analysis of the aging of accounts receivable at the date of the consolidated financial statements and assessments of the collectability based upon historical collection activity adjusted for current conditions.

Inventories – Substantially all of the Company’s inventory consists of finished goods. Warehouse inventories are valued at the lower of average cost or market. Store inventories are valued using the retail method under which inventories at cost (and the resulting gross margins) are determined by applying a calculated cost-to-retail ratio to the retail value of inventories. As an integral part of valuing inventory at cost, management makes certain judgments and estimates for standard gross margins, allowances for vendor consideration, markdowns and shrinkage. Warehousing and distribution costs are not included in the valuation of inventories. The Company reviews its judgments and estimates regularly and makes adjustments where facts and circumstances dictate.

Property, Equipment and Depreciation – Property and equipment are stated at cost and depreciated over the estimated useful lives by the straight-line method. Buildings are generally depreciated over 30 years. Store, office and warehouse equipment is generally depreciated over three to 10 years. Transportation equipment is generally depreciated over three to five years. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the subject lease term or the useful life of the asset,

generally from three to 30 years. Depreciation and amortization expense totaled \$97.7 million, \$94.9 million and \$90.6 million for fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

**Asset Impairments** – The Company accounts for the impairment of long-lived assets in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 360. Asset groups are primarily comprised of individual store and shopping center properties. For assets to be held and used, the Company tests for impairment using undiscounted cash flows and calculates the amount of impairment using discounted cash flows. For assets held for sale, impairment is recognized based on the excess of remaining book value over expected recovery value. The recovery value is the fair value as determined by independent quotes or expected sales prices developed by internal associates, less costs to sell. Estimates of future cash flows and expected sales prices are judgments based upon the Company’s experience and knowledge of local operations and cash flows that are projected for several years into the future. These estimates can fluctuate significantly due to changes in real estate market conditions, the economic environment, capital spending decisions and inflation. The Company monitors the carrying value of long-lived assets for potential impairment each quarter based on whether any indicators of impairment have occurred.

**Restricted Investments** – Restricted investments consisted of money market deposits and United States Treasury securities purchased with the proceeds of the Recovery Zone Bonds issued in December 2010. These investments were held in a trust account and were liquidated as the Company incurred approved costs to build the Project, which was completed during fiscal year 2012. These assets were classified as available-for-sale and stated at market value.

**Capitalized Loan Costs** – Other assets include capitalized loan costs of \$10.6 million (net of \$2.4 million accumulated amortization) and \$11.6 million (net of \$1.2 million accumulated amortization) at September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, respectively. These costs are amortized over the life of the underlying debt instrument at approximately \$1.3 million per year. During the year ended September 28, 2013 the Company wrote off \$15.3 million of capitalized loan costs in conjunction with the early repayment of certain outstanding debt. This amount is included in the line item “Loss on early extinguishment of debt” on the Consolidated Statements of Income.

**Nonqualified Investment Plan** – The purpose of the Executive Nonqualified Excess Plan is to provide retirement benefits similar to the Company’s Investment/Profit Sharing Plan to certain of the Company’s management employees who are otherwise subject to limited participation in the 401(k) feature of the Company’s Investment/Profit Sharing Plan. Participant retirement account balances are liabilities of the Company. Assets of the plan are assets of the Company and are held in trust for employees and distributed upon retirement, death, disability, in-service distributions, or termination of employment. In accordance with the trust, the Company may not use these assets for general corporate purposes. During the fiscal year ended September 27, 2014 the Company liquidated certain life insurance policy assets and invested the proceeds in marketable securities. These marketable securities will be liquidated and invested in life insurance policies in future periods. Life insurance policies and marketable securities held in the trust are included in the caption “Other assets” in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

**Self-Insurance** – The Company is self-insured for workers’ compensation, general liability and group medical and dental benefits. Risks and uncertainties are associated with self-insurance; however, the Company has limited its exposure by maintaining excess liability coverage of \$750,000 per occurrence for workers’ compensation, \$500,000 for general

liability, and \$325,000 per covered person for medical care benefits for a policy year. Self-insurance liabilities are established based on claims filed and estimates of claims incurred but not reported. The estimates are based on data provided by the respective claims administrators, which is then applied to appropriate actuarial methods. These estimates can fluctuate if historical trends are not predictive of the future. The Company's self-insurance reserves totaled \$29.9 million and \$29.4 million for employee group insurance, workers' compensation insurance and general liability insurance at September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, respectively. The Company is required in certain cases to obtain letters of credit to support its self-insured status. At fiscal year-end 2014, the Company's self-insured liabilities were supported by \$9.3 million of undrawn letters of credit which expire between October 2014 and September 2015. The Company carries casualty insurance only on those properties where it is required to do so. The Company has elected to self-insure its other properties.

**Income Taxes** – The Company accounts for income taxes under FASB ASC Topic 740. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on differences between financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities and are measured using the currently enacted tax rates. The Company accounts for uncertainty in income taxes by prescribing a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken on a tax return.

The Company had gross unrecognized tax benefits of \$148,800 and \$149,100 as of September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, respectively. These benefits, if recognized, would have an insignificant effect on the effective tax rate. The Company does not expect that the total amounts of unrecognized tax benefits will significantly increase or decrease within the next twelve months.

The Company files income tax returns with federal and various state jurisdictions. With few exceptions, the Company is no longer subject to state income tax examinations by tax authorities for the years before 2010. Additionally, the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) has completed its examination of the Company’s U.S. Federal income tax returns filed through fiscal year 2011. Examinations may challenge certain of the Company’s tax positions. Actual results could materially differ from these estimates and could significantly affect the effective tax rate and cash flows in the future years.

Valuation allowances are established when necessary to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount more likely than not expected to be realized.

The Company’s continuing practice is to recognize interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions and related matters in income tax expense. As of September 27, 2014, the Company had approximately \$53,000 accrued for interest and penalties.

Pre-Opening Costs – Costs associated with the opening of new stores are expensed when incurred.

Per-Share Amounts – The Company calculates earnings per share using the two-class method in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 260.

Advertising – The Company expenses advertising as incurred. Advertising and promotion expenses, net of vendor allowance reimbursements, totaled \$12.3 million, \$13.9 million and \$14.1 million for fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Use of Estimates – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Although these estimates are based on management’s knowledge of current events and actions it may undertake in the future, they may ultimately differ from actual results. Such estimates include the allowance for doubtful accounts, various inventory reserves, realizability of deferred tax assets, and self-insurance reserves.

Cost of Goods Sold – In addition to the direct product cost, cost of goods sold for the grocery segment includes inbound freight charges and costs of the Company’s distribution network. Milk processing is a manufacturing process. Therefore, cost of goods sold include direct product and production costs, inbound freight, purchasing and receiving costs, inspection costs, warehousing costs, internal transfer costs, and other costs of distribution. Depreciation expense included in costs of goods sold totaled \$16.7 million, \$14.2 million and \$9.2 million for fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Operating and Administrative Expenses – Operating and administrative expenses include costs incurred for store and administrative labor, occupancy, depreciation (to the extent not included in Cost of Goods Sold), insurance and general administration.

Revenue Recognition – The Company recognizes revenues from grocery segment sales at the point of sale to its customers. Sales taxes collected from customers are not included in reported revenues. Discounts provided to customers by the Company at the point of sale, including discounts provided in connection with loyalty cards, are recognized as a reduction in sales as the products are sold. Product returns are not significant.

The Company recognizes fluid dairy revenues at the time the risk of loss shifts to the customer pursuant to our terms of sale. Therefore, approximately 67% of fluid dairy revenues are recognized when the product is picked up by the customer at our facility. The remaining fluid dairy revenues are recognized when the product is received at the customer's facility upon delivery via transportation arranged by the Company.

Rental income, including contingent rentals, is recognized on the accrual basis. Upfront consideration paid by either the Company as lessor or by the lessee is recognized as an adjustment to net rental income using the straight line method over the term of the lease.

Vendor Allowances – The Company receives funds for a variety of merchandising activities from the many vendors whose products the Company buys for resale in its stores. These incentives and allowances are primarily comprised of volume or purchase based incentives, advertising allowances, slotting fees, and promotional discounts. The purpose of these incentives and allowances is generally to help defray the costs incurred by the Company for stocking, advertising, promoting and selling the vendors' products. These allowances generally relate to short term arrangements with vendors, often relating to a period of a month or less, and are negotiated on a purchase-by-purchase or transaction-by-transaction basis. Whenever possible, vendor discounts and allowances that relate to buying and merchandising activities are recorded as a component of item cost in inventory and recognized in merchandise costs when the item is sold. Due to system constraints and the nature of certain allowances, it is sometimes not practicable to apply allowances to the item cost of inventory. In those instances, the allowances are applied as a reduction of merchandise costs using a rational and systematic methodology, which results in the recognition of these incentives when the inventory related to the vendor consideration received is sold. Vendor allowances

applied as a reduction of merchandise costs totaled \$126.7 million, \$121.9 million, and \$114.3 million for the fiscal years ended September 27, 2014, September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, respectively. Vendor advertising allowances that represent a reimbursement of specific identifiable incremental costs of advertising the vendor's specific products are recorded as a reduction to the related expense in the period that the related expense is incurred. Vendor advertising allowances recorded as a reduction of advertising expense totaled \$14.8 million, \$14.5 million, and \$13.2 million for the fiscal years ended September 27, 2014, September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, respectively.

If vendor advertising allowances were substantially reduced or eliminated, the Company would likely consider other methods of advertising as well as the volume and frequency of its product advertising, which could increase or decrease its expenditures.

Similarly, the Company is not able to assess the impact of vendor advertising allowances on the creation of additional revenue; as such allowances do not directly generate revenue for its stores.

## 2. Income Taxes

Deferred Income Tax Liabilities and Assets – Deferred income taxes are determined based on the difference between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities using enacted tax laws and rates. Significant components of the Company's deferred tax liabilities and assets are as follows:

	2014	2013
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Property and equipment tax/book differences	\$ 79,861,000	\$ 96,989,000
Property tax method	1,418,000	1,384,000
Total deferred tax liabilities	81,279,000	98,373,000
Deferred tax assets:		
Insurance reserves	8,360,000	8,957,000
Advance payments on purchases contracts	676,000	797,000
Vacation accrual	2,603,000	2,560,000
State tax credits	604,000	1,358,000
Inventory	1,917,000	2,323,000
Deferred compensation	3,157,000	2,784,000
Other	1,544,000	824,000
Total deferred tax assets	18,861,000	19,603,000
Net deferred tax liabilities	\$ 62,418,000	\$ 78,770,000

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Current deferred income tax benefits of \$7.6 million and \$7.3 million at September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013, respectively, included in other current assets, result from timing differences arising from deferred vendor income, vacation pay, non-income taxes, self-insurance reserves, and from capitalization of certain overhead costs in inventory for tax purposes.

At September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013 refundable current income taxes totaling \$1.2 million and \$13.8 million, respectively, are included in the line item "Other current assets" on the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

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Income Tax Expense - Income tax expense differs from the amounts computed by applying the statutory federal rates to income before income taxes. The reasons for the differences are as follows:

	2014	2013	2012
Federal tax at statutory rate	\$ 27,922,000	\$ 9,109,000	\$ 23,572,000
State income tax, net of federal tax benefits	2,308,000	(2,204,000)	1,943,000
Federal tax credits	(718,000)	(1,410,000)	(1,209,000)
Other	(1,162,000)	(48,000)	(403,000)
Total	\$ 28,350,000	\$ 5,447,000	\$ 23,903,000

Current and deferred income tax expense (benefit) is as follows:

	2014	2013	2012
Current:			
Federal	\$ 40,475,000	\$ 73,000	\$ 6,734,000
State	4,227,000	(2,061,000)	2,967,000
Total current	44,702,000	(1,988,000)	9,701,000
Deferred:			
Federal	(15,913,000)	7,368,000	12,149,000
State	(439,000)	67,000	2,053,000
Total deferred	(16,352,000)	7,435,000	14,202,000
Total expense	\$ 28,350,000	\$ 5,447,000	\$ 23,903,000

Uncertain Tax Positions – Under ASC 740-10 “Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes”, the Company recognizes the financial statement benefit of a tax position only after determining that the relevant tax authority would more likely than not sustain the position following an audit. For tax positions meeting the “more likely than not” threshold, the amount recognized in the financial statements is the largest benefit that has a greater than 50 percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement with the relevant tax authority. A reserve for uncertain tax positions, including interest and penalties, of \$0.2 million is included in the Company’s income taxes payable at both September 27, 2014 and September 28, 2013. The reserve for uncertain tax positions has been recorded based on management’s assumption that certain tax positions would be successfully challenged by taxing authorities.



Recently Enacted Tax Regulations – On September 13, 2013, the IRS released final tangible property regulations under Sections 162(a) and 263(a) of the Internal Revenue Code regarding the deduction and capitalization of expenditures related to tangible property as well as dispositions of tangible property. These regulations will be effective for the Company’s fiscal year ending September 26, 2015. Taxpayers may elect to apply them to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2012. The Company does not anticipate that the regulations will have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

### 3. Property and Equipment

Property and equipment, net, consists of the following:

	2014	2013
Land	\$ 308,475,596	\$ 302,390,527
Construction in progress	7,201,640	9,644,248
Buildings	1,015,061,129	983,136,114
Store, office and warehouse equipment	785,827,851	738,305,477
Transportation equipment	64,705,509	64,436,941
Leasehold improvements	53,183,103	53,886,925
Total	2,234,454,828	2,151,800,232
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	1,015,847,799	939,668,177
Property and equipment - net	\$ 1,218,607,029	\$ 1,212,132,055

### 4. Property Held for Lease and Rental Income

At September 27, 2014, the Company owned and operated 69 shopping centers in conjunction with its supermarket operations. The Company leases to others a portion of its shopping center properties. The leases are non-cancelable operating lease agreements for periods ranging up to 25 years.

Rental income is included in the line item "Net sales" on the Consolidated Statement of Income. Depreciation on owned properties leased to others and other shopping center expenses are included in the line item "Cost of goods sold" on the Consolidated Statements of Income.

	2014	2013	2012
Rents earned on owned and subleased properties:			
Base rentals including lease termination payments	\$ 7,875,101	\$ 7,997,136	\$ 8,352,748
Contingent rentals	331,352	257,598	528,083
Total	8,206,453	8,254,734	8,880,831
Depreciation on owned properties leased to others	(5,363,637)	(5,220,102)	(5,478,307)
Other shopping center expenses	(1,982,212)	(1,936,250)	(1,958,178)
Total	\$ 860,604	\$ 1,098,382	\$ 1,444,346

Owned properties leased or held for lease to others under operating leases by major classes are summarized as follows:

	September 27, 2014	September 28, 2013
Land	\$ 41,796,507	\$ 39,487,058
Buildings	168,884,878	162,673,028
Total	210,681,385	202,160,086
Less accumulated depreciation	(103,238,395)	(93,950,201)
Total	\$ 107,442,990	\$ 108,209,885

The above amounts are included on the Consolidated Balance Sheets in the caption “Property and equipment, net.”

The following is a schedule of minimum future rental income on non-cancelable operating leases as of September 27, 2014:

Fiscal Year	
2015	\$ 4,941,290
2016	3,891,919
2017	2,639,172
2018	1,454,504
2019	1,045,880
Thereafter	2,499,485
Total minimum future rental income	\$ 16,472,250

## 5. Leases and Rental Expense

The Company conducts part of its retail operations from leased facilities. The initial terms of the leases are generally 20 years. The majority of the leases include one or more renewal options and provide that the Company pay property taxes, utilities, repairs and certain other costs incidental to occupation of the premises. Several leases contain clauses calling for percentage rentals based upon gross sales of the supermarket occupying the leased space. Step rent provisions, escalation clauses, capital improvements and other lease concessions are taken into account in computing minimum lease payments, which are recognized on a straight-line basis over the minimum lease term.

Operating Leases - Rent expense for all operating leases of \$14.1 million, \$14.4 million and \$14.2 million for fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively, is included in operating and administrative expenses. Sub-lease rental income of \$0.2 million for each of fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, is included as a reduction of rental expense.

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The components of aggregate minimum rental commitments under non-cancelable operating leases as of September 27, 2014 are as follows:

Fiscal Year	
2015	\$ 11,733,813
2016	10,771,402
2017	10,339,177
2018	8,769,561
2019	7,675,403
Thereafter	39,323,619
Total minimum future rental commitments	\$ 88,612,975

## 6. Supplementary Balance Sheet Information

Accrued Expenses and Current Portion of Other Long-Term Liabilities - Accrued expenses and current portion of other long-term liabilities are summarized as follows:

	2014	2013
Property, payroll, and other taxes payable	\$ 16,469,128	\$ 16,771,941
Salaries, wages, and bonuses payable	25,514,842	25,129,025
Self-insurance liabilities:		
Employee group insurance	4,585,759	4,591,256
Workers' compensation insurance	5,677,217	5,658,840
General liability insurance	2,671,944	2,594,047
Interest	12,676,648	12,993,252
Other	3,349,190	4,264,622
Total	\$ 70,944,728	\$ 72,002,983

Employee insurance expense, including workers' compensation and medical care benefits, net of employee contributions, totaled \$27.4 million, \$31.4 million and \$30.6 million for fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Other Long-Term Liabilities - Other long-term liabilities are summarized as follows:

	2014	2013
Advance payments on purchases contracts	\$ 1,748,818	\$ 2,054,112
Deferred gain - sale/leasebacks	369,773	420,166
Deferred lease expense	1,875,776	1,900,084
Nonqualified investment plan liability	8,172,335	7,211,523
Self-insurance liabilities:		
Workers' compensation insurance	13,283,535	13,066,779
General liability insurance	3,643,676	3,460,935

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Other	1,261,623	1,047,281
Total other long-term liabilities	30,355,536	29,160,880
Less current portion	1,565,501	1,342,663
	\$ 28,790,035	\$ 27,818,217

Advance Payments on Purchases Contracts - The Company has entered into agreements with suppliers whereby payment is received in advance and earned based on purchases of product from these suppliers in the future. The unearned portion, included in other long-term liabilities, will be recognized in the results of operations in accordance with the terms of the contract.

## 7. Long-Term Debt

Long-term debt and short-term loans are summarized as follows:

	2014	2013
Bonds payable:		
Senior notes, interest rate of 5.75%, maturing 2023	\$ 700,000,000	\$ 700,000,000
Recovery Zone Facility Bonds, maturing 2036	95,210,000	99,740,000
Outstanding line of credit, weighted average interest rate of 3.38%	29,910,050	—
Notes payable:		
Real estate and equipment maturing 2013-2031:		
Due to banks, weighted average interest rate of 3.01 for 2014 and 3.26% for 2013	80,634,003	78,405,127
Due to other financial institutions, weighted average interest rate of 4.09% for 2014 and 4.04% for 2013	31,505,690	34,325,872
Total long-term debt	937,259,743	912,470,999
Less current portion	12,488,400	18,956,761
Long-term debt, net of current portion	\$ 924,771,343	\$ 893,514,238

In June 2013, the Company issued \$700.0 million aggregate principal amount of senior notes due in 2023 (the “Notes”) in a private placement. The Notes bear an interest rate of 5.75% per annum and were issued at par. Note proceeds were used to repay \$575.0 million aggregate principal amount of senior notes maturing in 2017, \$52.0 million of indebtedness outstanding under the Company’s line of credit, and to pay costs related to the offering of the Notes. Remaining Note proceeds were used for general corporate purposes, including capital expenditures. In connection with the repayment of the \$575.0 million senior notes, the Company paid \$27.8 million in debt extinguishment costs and expensed \$15.3 million of unamortized loan costs. These amounts comprise the line item “Loss on early extinguishment of debt” on the Consolidated Statements of Income for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013.

The Company filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission to exchange the private placement notes with registered notes. This exchange has been completed.

The Company may redeem all or a portion of the Notes at any time on or after June 15, 2018 at the following redemption prices (expressed as percentages of the principal amount), if redeemed during the 12-month period beginning June 15 of the years indicated below:



Year	
2018	102.875%
2019	101.917%
2020	100.958%
2021 and thereafter	100.000%

In connection with the offering of the Notes, the Company extended the maturity date of its \$175.0 million line of credit (the "Line") from December 29, 2015 to June 12, 2018 and modified certain interest rate options and covenants. At September 27, 2014, the Company had \$29.9 million borrowing outstanding under the line of credit.

The Line provides the Company with various interest rate options based on the prime rate, the Federal Funds Rate, or the London Interbank Offering Rate ("LIBOR"). The Line allows the Company to issue up to \$30.0 million in unused letters of credit, of which \$11.0 million of unused letters of credit were issued at September 27, 2014. The Company is not required to maintain compensating balances in connection with the Line.

On December 29, 2010, the Company completed the funding of \$99.7 million of Recovery Zone Facility Bonds (the "Bonds") for: (A) acquisition, construction and equipping of an approximately 830,000 square foot new warehouse and distribution center to be located in Buncombe County, North Carolina (the "Project"), and (B) the payment of certain expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the Bonds. The final maturity date of the Bonds is January 1, 2036.

Bond proceeds were invested in a trust account with the Bond trustee. The Company received disbursements from the account as it submitted requisitions to the trustee for incurred Project costs. Disbursements from the trust account are listed in the line item "Proceeds from sales of restricted investments" on the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012. All funds had been disbursed from the trust account as of September 29, 2012.

The Bonds were issued by the Buncombe County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority and were purchased by certain financial institutions. Under a Continuing Covenant and Collateral Agency Agreement (the "Covenant Agreement") between the financial institutions and the Company, the financial institutions would hold the Bonds until January 2, 2018, subject to certain events. Mandatory redemption of the Bonds by the Company in the annual amount of \$4.5 million began on January 1, 2014.

In connection with the offering of the Notes, the Company extended the maturity date of the Covenant Agreement from January 2, 2018 to June 30, 2021 and modified certain interest rate options and covenants. The Company may redeem the Bonds without penalty or premium at any time prior to June 30, 2021.

Interest earned by bondholders on the Bonds is exempt from Federal and North Carolina income taxation. The interest rate on the Bonds is equal to one month LIBOR (adjusted monthly) plus a credit spread, adjusted to reflect the income tax exemption.

The Company's obligation to repay the Bonds is collateralized by the Project. Additional collateral was required in order to meet certain loan to value criteria in the Covenant Agreement. The Covenant Agreement incorporates substantially all financial covenants included in the Line.

The Notes, the Bonds and the Line contain provisions that under certain circumstances would permit lending institutions to terminate or withdraw their respective extensions of credit to the Company. Included among the triggering factors permitting the termination or withdrawal of the Line to the Company are certain events of default, including both monetary and non-monetary defaults, the initiation of bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings, and the failure of the Company to meet certain financial covenants designated in its respective loan documents. The Company was in compliance with all financial covenants related to the Notes, the Bonds and Line at September 27, 2014.

The Company's long-term debt agreements generally have cross-default provisions which could result in the acceleration of payments due under the Company's line of credit, Bond and Notes indenture in the event of default under any one instrument.

At September 27, 2014, property and equipment with an undepreciated cost of approximately \$273 million was pledged as collateral for long-term debt. Long-term debt and Line agreements contain various restrictive covenants

requiring, among other things, minimum levels of net worth and maintenance of certain financial ratios. In addition, certain loan agreements containing provisions outlining minimum tangible net worth requirements restrict the ability of the Company to pay cash dividends in excess of the current annual per share dividends paid on the Company's Class A and Class B Common Stock. Further, the Company is prevented from paying cash dividends at any time that it is in default under the indenture governing the Notes. In addition, the terms of the indenture may restrict the ability of the Company to pay additional cash dividends based on certain financial parameters.

Components of interest costs are as follows:

	2014	2013	2012
Total interest costs	\$ 46,846,912	\$ 59,598,030	\$ 61,764,642
Interest capitalized	(277,048)	(455,652)	(1,738,078)
Interest expense	\$ 46,569,864	\$ 59,142,378	\$ 60,026,564

Maturities of long-term debt at September 27, 2014 are as follows:

Fiscal Year	
2015	\$ 12,488,400
2016	12,678,414
2017	11,677,721
2018	79,421,418
2019	18,916,389
Thereafter	802,077,401
Total	\$ 937,259,743

## 8. Stockholders' Equity

The Company has two classes of Common Stock: Class A and Class B. Class A Common Stock is traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol IMKTA. There is no public market for the Company's Class B Common Stock. However, each share of Class B Common Stock is convertible at any time, at the option of the holder, into one share of Class A Common Stock. Upon any transfers of Class B Common Stock (other than to immediate family members and participants in the Investment/Profit Sharing Plan), such stock is automatically converted into Class A Common Stock.

The holders of the Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock are entitled to dividends and other distributions when declared out of assets legally available therefore, subject to the dividend rights of any preferred stock that may be issued in the future. Each share of Class A Common Stock is entitled to receive a cash dividend and liquidation payment in an amount equal to 110% of any cash dividend or liquidation payment on Class B Common Stock. Any stock dividend must be paid in shares of Class A Common Stock with respect to Class A Common Stock and in shares of Class B Common Stock with respect to Class B Common Stock.

The voting powers, preferences and relative rights of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock are identical in all respects, except that the holders of Class A Common Stock have one vote per share and the holders of Class B Common Stock have ten votes per share. In addition, holders of Class A Common Stock, as a separate class, are entitled to elect 25% of all directors constituting the Board of Directors (rounded to the nearest whole number). As long as the Class B Common Stock represents at least 12.5% of the total outstanding Common Stock of both classes, holders of Class B Common Stock, as a separate class, are entitled to elect the remaining directors. The Company's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws provide that the Board of Directors can set the number of directors between five and eleven.

During the year ended September 28, 2013 the Company's Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to four million shares of its Class A and Class B Common Stock. The share repurchase program may be carried out through open market purchases, block trades, purchases from the Company's Investment/Profit Sharing Plan and in negotiated private transactions.

During the year ended September 27, 2014, the Company repurchased 2.5 million shares of Class B Common Stock under this plan. Following this transaction, all four million shares authorized by the Company's Board of Directors have been repurchased.

## 9. Earnings Per Common Share

The Company calculates earnings per share using the two-class method in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 260.

The two-class method of computing basic earnings per share for each period reflects the cash dividends paid per share for each class of stock, plus the amount of allocated undistributed earnings per share computed using the participation percentage which reflects the dividend rights of each class of stock. Diluted earnings per share is calculated assuming the conversion of all shares of Class B Common Stock to shares of Class A Common Stock on a share-for-share basis. The tables below reconcile the numerators and denominators of basic and diluted earnings per share for current and prior periods.

	Year Ended September 27, 2014	
	Class A	Class B
	Numerator: Allocated net income	
Net income allocated, basic	\$ 31,776,515	\$ 19,649,939
Conversion of Class B to Class A shares	19,649,939	—
Net income allocated, diluted	\$ 51,426,454	\$ 19,649,939
Denominator: Weighted average shares outstanding		
Weighted average shares outstanding, basic	13,482,296	9,126,381
Conversion of Class B to Class A shares	9,126,381	—
Weighted average shares outstanding, diluted	22,608,677	9,126,381
Earnings per share		
Basic	\$ 2.36	\$ 2.14
Diluted	\$ 2.28	\$ 2.14

	Year Ended September 28, 2013		Year Ended September 29, 2012	
	Class A	Class B	Class A	Class B
	Numerator: Allocated net income			
Net income allocated, basic	\$ 11,638,545	\$ 9,157,345	\$ 24,151,777	\$ 19,292,566
Conversion of Class B to Class A shares	9,157,345	—	19,292,566	—
Net income allocated, diluted	\$ 20,795,890	\$ 9,157,345	\$ 43,444,343	\$ 19,292,566
Denominator: Weighted average shares outstanding				
Weighted average shares outstanding, basic	13,054,425	10,817,989	12,936,583	11,364,899
Conversion of Class B to Class A shares	10,817,989	—	11,364,899	—
Weighted average shares outstanding, diluted	23,872,414	10,817,989	24,301,482	11,364,899
Earnings per share				
Basic	\$ 0.89	\$ 0.85	\$ 1.87	\$ 1.70
Diluted	\$ 0.87	\$ 0.85	\$ 1.79	\$ 1.70

## 10. Employee Benefit Plans

**Investment/Profit Sharing Plan** - The purpose of the qualified investment/profit sharing plan is to provide retirement benefits to eligible employees. Assets of the plan, including the Company's Class B Common Stock, are held in trust for employees and distributed upon retirement, death, disability or termination of employment. Company contributions are discretionary and are determined quarterly by the Board of Directors. The plan includes a 401(k) feature. Company contributions to the plan, included in operating and administrative expenses, were approximately \$1.4 million, \$1.3 million and \$1.3 million for fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Nonqualified Investment Plan - The purpose of the Executive Nonqualified Excess Plan is to provide benefits similar to the Company's Investment/Profit Sharing Plan to certain of the Company's management employees who are otherwise subject to limited participation in the 401(k) feature of the Company's Investment/Profit Sharing Plan. Company contributions to the plan, included in operating and administrative expenses, were approximately \$84,000, \$77,000 and \$71,000 for fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Cash Bonuses - The Company pays monthly bonuses to various managerial personnel based on performance of the operating units managed by these personnel. The Company pays discretionary annual bonuses to certain employees who do not receive monthly performance bonuses. The Company pays discretionary bonuses to certain executive officers based on Company performance. Operating and administrative expenses include bonuses of approximately \$9.2 million, \$9.0 million and \$10.0 million for fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Medical Care Plan - Medical and dental benefits are provided to qualified employees under a self-insured plan. Expenses under the plan include claims paid, administrative expenses and an estimated liability for claims incurred but not yet paid.



## 11. Segment Information

The Company operates one primary business segment, retail grocery sales (representing the aggregation of individual retail stores). The “Other” segment includes the Company’s remaining operations -- fluid dairy and shopping center rentals. Information about the Company’s operations by lines of business (amounts in thousands) is as follows:

	2014	2013	2012
Revenues from unaffiliated customers:			
Grocery sales	\$ 3,683,353	\$ 3,599,820	\$ 3,577,510
Other	152,633	138,720	140,805
Total revenues from unaffiliated customers	\$ 3,835,986	\$ 3,738,540	\$ 3,718,315
Income before income taxes:			
Grocery sales	\$ 112,030	\$ 114,380	\$ 111,540
Other	11,315	11,194	12,307
Total income from operations	123,345	125,574	123,847
Other income, net	3,001	2,900	3,527
Interest expense	46,570	59,142	60,027
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	—	43,089	—
Income before income taxes	\$ 79,776	\$ 26,243	\$ 67,347
Assets:			
Grocery sales	\$ 1,515,055	\$ 1,528,483	\$ 1,486,109
Other	144,667	143,237	158,267
Elimination of intercompany receivable	(2,770)	(2,392)	(2,267)
Total assets	\$ 1,656,952	\$ 1,669,328	\$ 1,642,109
Capital expenditures:			
Grocery sales	\$ 105,808	\$ 99,995	\$ 175,835
Other	2,531	1,458	4,794
Total capital expenditures	\$ 108,338	\$ 101,453	\$ 180,629
Depreciation and amortization:			
Grocery sales	\$ 90,025	\$ 87,331	\$ 82,584
Other	7,639	7,558	7,947
Total depreciation and amortization	\$ 97,664	\$ 94,889	\$ 90,531

Sales by product category for fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively, are as follows:

	Fiscal Year Ended September		
	(dollars in thousands)		
	2014	2013	2012
Grocery	\$ 1,397,870	\$ 1,424,869	\$ 1,447,520
Non-foods	729,934	707,294	709,959
Perishables	937,402	898,956	866,252
Gasoline	618,147	568,701	553,779
Total grocery segment	\$ 3,683,353	\$ 3,599,820	\$ 3,577,510

The grocery category includes grocery, dairy, and frozen foods.

The non-foods category includes alcoholic beverages, tobacco, pharmacy, health and video.

The perishable category includes meat, produce, deli and bakery.

The fluid dairy operation had \$58.7 million, \$58.3 million and \$58.5 million in sales to the grocery sales segment in fiscal 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. These sales were eliminated in consolidation.

## 12. Selected Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)

The following is a summary of unaudited financial data regarding the Company's quarterly results of operations. Each of the quarters in the two fiscal years presented contains thirteen weeks.

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
(amounts in thousands except earnings per common share)					
2014					
Net sales	\$ 945,125	\$ 947,761	\$ 978,262	\$ 964,838	\$ 3,835,986
Gross profit	203,506	206,124	215,151	220,383	845,164
Net income	9,533	10,455	13,834	17,604	51,426

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Basic earnings per common share					
Class A	0.44	0.47	0.63	0.82	2.36
Class B	0.40	0.43	0.57	0.74	2.14
Diluted earnings per common share					
Class A	0.42	0.46	0.61	0.79	2.28
Class B	0.40	0.43	0.57	0.74	2.14
2013					
Net sales	\$ 934,977	\$ 920,694	\$ 934,015	\$ 948,854	\$ 3,738,540
Gross profit	208,205	198,646	210,652	210,307	827,810
Net income	11,568	8,090	(14,424)	15,562	20,796
Basic earnings per common share					
Class A	0.50	0.35	(0.62)	0.71	0.89
Class B	0.45	0.32	(0.56)	0.65	0.85
Diluted earnings per common share					
Class A	0.48	0.33	(0.62)	0.68	0.87
Class B	0.45	0.32	(0.56)	0.65	0.85

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Net loss for the third quarter of fiscal year 2013 includes pre-tax debt extinguishment costs totaling \$43.1 million (pre-tax).

### 13. Commitments and Contingencies

Various legal proceedings and claims arising in the ordinary course of business are pending against the Company. In the opinion of management, the ultimate liability, if any, from all pending legal proceedings and claims will not materially affect the Company's financial position or the results of its operations.

Construction commitments at September 27, 2014 totaled \$2.6 million. The Company expects these commitments to be fulfilled during fiscal year 2015.

### 14. Fair Values of Financial Instruments

The following methods and assumptions were used by the Company in estimating its fair value disclosures for financial instruments:

**Cash and cash equivalents:** The carrying amounts reported in the Consolidated Balance Sheets for cash and cash equivalents approximate their fair values.

**Receivables:** The carrying amounts reported in the Consolidated Balance Sheets for receivables approximate their fair values.

The fair value of the Company's debt is estimated using valuation techniques under the accounting guidance related to fair value measurements based on observable and unobservable inputs. Observable inputs reflect readily available data from independent sources, while unobservable inputs reflect the Company's market assumptions. These inputs are classified into the following hierarchy:

Level 1    Quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.  
Inputs -

Level 2 Inputs - Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active; and model-derived valuations whose inputs are observable or whose significant value drivers are observable.

Level 3 Inputs - Pricing inputs are unobservable for the assets or liabilities and include situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the assets or liabilities. The inputs into the determination of fair value require significant management judgment or estimation

The carrying amount and fair value of the Company's debt at September 27, 2014 is as follows (in thousands):

	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Fair Value Measurements
Senior Notes	\$ 700,000	\$ 705,250	Level 2
Recovery Zone Facility Bonds	95,210	95,210	Level 2
Real estate and equipment notes payable	112,140	112,805	Level 2
Line of credit payable	29,910	29,910	Level 2
Total debt	\$ 937,260	\$ 943,175	

The fair values for Level 2 measurements were determined primarily using market yields and taking into consideration the underlying terms of the debt.

## 15. Cash Flow Information

Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information is as follows:

	2014	2013	2012
Cash paid (received) during the year for:			
Interest (net of amounts capitalized)	\$ 46,886,468	\$ 65,281,861	\$ 61,269,522
Income taxes	32,064,452	(2,470,362)	21,390,331
Non cash items:			
Property and equipment additions included in accounts payable	8,555,952	14,598,996	7,957,599

## 16. Related Party Transactions

The Company will from time to time make short-term non-interest bearing loans to the Company's Investment/Profit Sharing Plan to allow the plan to meet distribution obligations during a time when the plan was prohibited from selling shares of the Company's Class A common stock. At September 27, 2014 loans outstanding totaled \$0.4 million.

In fiscal 2013, the Company approved the repurchase of 1.5 million shares of the Company's Class B Common Stock from a trust that is part of the estate of Robert P. Ingle, former CEO and Director of the Company. The aggregate purchase price for the stock was \$37.1 million, equal to the fair market value of the Company's publicly traded Class A Common Stock at the time of the transaction. The transaction was approved by the Company's Executive Committee and Audit Committee in accordance with Company policy and regulatory guidelines.

In fiscal 2014, the Company approved the repurchase of 2.5 million shares of the Company's Class B Common Stock from a trust that is part of the estate of Robert P. Ingle, former CEO and Director of the Company. The aggregate purchase price for the stock was \$65.0 million, equal to the fair market value of the Company's publicly traded Class A Common Stock at the time of the transaction. The transaction was approved by the Company's Executive Committee and Audit Committee in accordance with Company policy and regulatory guidelines.

#### 17. Subsequent Events

In accordance with FASB ASC Topic 855, the Company evaluated events occurring between the end of its most recent fiscal year and the date the financial statements were filed with the SEC.

## SCHEDULE II

## INGLES MARKETS, INCORPORATED AND SUBSIDIARIES

## SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE OF VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS

DESCRIPTION	BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	CHARGED TO COSTS AND EXPENSES	DEDUCTIONS (1)	BALANCE AT END OF YEAR
Fiscal year ended September 27, 2014:				
Deducted from asset accounts:				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 772,893	\$ -	\$ 465,864	\$ 307,029
Fiscal year ended September 28, 2013:				
Deducted from asset accounts:				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 741,690	\$ 30,000	\$ (1,203)	\$ 772,893
Fiscal year ended September 29, 2012:				
Deducted from asset accounts:				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 524,460	\$ 288,977	\$ 71,747	\$ 741,690

(1)Uncollectible accounts written off, net of recoveries.



SIGNATURES

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

INGLES MARKETS,  
INCORPORATED

By: /s/ Robert P. Ingle, II  
Robert P. Ingle, II

Chief Executive Officer

Date: December 16, 2014

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated:

/s/ Robert P. Ingle, II

Robert P. Ingle, II, CEO, Chairman and Director

/s/ James W. Lanning

James W. Lanning, President, Chief Operating Officer and Director

/s/ Ronald B. Freeman

Ronald B. Freeman, CPA, Vice  
President-Finance, Chief Financial Officer and Director

/s/ Patricia E. Jackson

Patricia E. Jackson, CPA, Secretary and Controller

/s/ L. Keith Collins

L. Keith Collins, Director

/s/ Fred D. Ayers

Fred D. Ayers, Director

/s/ Laura Sharp

Laura Sharp, Director