UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 For the quarterly period ended November 1, 2020

☐ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 For the transition period from

Commission File Number: 1-8207



THE HOME DEPOT, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

95-3261426 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

2455 Paces Ferry Road Atlanta, Georgia

(Address of principal executive offices)

30339

(Zip Code)

(770) 433-8211

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

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

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

Title o	of each class	Trading	Symbol Name	of each exchange on which registered		
Common Stock, \$	nmon Stock, \$0.05 Par Value Per Share HD New York Stock E					
				e Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the en subject to such filing requirements for the pas		
				submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-1 d to submit such files). Yes $oxtimes$ No $oxtimes$		
				, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the		
Large accelerated filer ⊠	Accelerated filer \square	Non-accelerated filer \square	Smaller reporting company \square	Emerging growth company \square		
If an emerging growth compa financial accounting standard				n period for complying with any new or revised		
Indicate by check mark wheth	er the registrant is a she	ll company (as defined in Ru	le 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes	s □ No ⊠		
Indicate the number of shares	s outstanding of each of t	the issuer's classes of comn	non stock, as of the latest practica	able date.		
	1,076,600,781 sha	ares of common stock, \$0.05	par value, outstanding as of Now	ember 17, 2020		

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COMMONLY USED OR DEFINED TERMS

Term	Definition
ASU	Accounting Standards Update
Comparable sales	As defined in the Results of Operations and Non-GAAP Financial Measures section of MD&A
Exchange Act	Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended
FASB	Financial Accounting Standards Board
fiscal 2019	Fiscal year ended February 2, 2020
fiscal 2020	Fiscal year ending January 31, 2021
fiscal 2021	Fiscal year ending January 30, 2022
GAAP	U.S. generally accepted accounting principles
HD Supply	HD Supply Holdings, Inc.
MD&A	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations
MRO	Maintenance, repair and operations
NOPAT	Net operating profit after tax
Restoration Plan	Home Depot FutureBuilder Restoration Plan
ROIC	Return on invested capital
SEC	Securities and Exchange Commission
Securities Act	Securities Act of 1933, as amended
SG&A	Selling, general and administrative
2019 Form 10-K	Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal 2019 as filed with the SEC on March 25, 2020

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained herein, as well as in other filings we make with the SEC and other written and oral information we release, regarding our future performance constitute "forward-looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements may relate to, among other things, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition (which, among other things, may affect many of the items listed below); the demand for our products and services; net sales growth; comparable sales; effects of competition; implementation of store, interconnected retail, supply chain and technology initiatives; inventory and in-stock positions; state of the economy; state of the housing and home improvement markets; state of the credit markets, including mortgages, home equity loans, and consumer credit; impact of tariffs; issues related to the payment methods we accept; demand for credit offerings; management of relationships with our associates, suppliers and vendors; international trade disputes, natural disasters, public health issues (including pandemics and related quarantines, shelter-in-place and other governmental orders, and similar restrictions), and other business interruptions that could disrupt supply or delivery of, or demand for, the Company's products or services; continuation of share repurchases; net earnings performance; earnings per share; dividend targets; capital allocation and expenditures; liquidity; return on invested capital; expense leverage; stock-based compensation expense; commodity price inflation and deflation; the ability to issue debt on terms and at rates acceptable to us; the impact and expected outcome of investigations, inquiries, claims, and litigation; the effect of accounting charges; the effect of adopting certain accounting standards; the impact of regulatory changes; store openings and closures; financial outlook; successful closing of the HD Supply acquisition; and the int

Forward-looking statements are based on currently available information and our current assumptions, expectations and projections about future events. You should not rely on our forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to future events, risks and uncertainties – many of which are beyond our control, dependent on the actions of third parties, or currently unknown to us – as well as potentially inaccurate assumptions that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations and projections. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, those described in Part II, Item 1A, "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this report and as also may be described from time to time in future reports we file with the SEC. You should read such information in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in this report. There also may be other factors that we cannot anticipate or that are not described in this report, generally because we do not currently perceive them to be material. Such factors could cause results to differ materially from our expectations.

Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and we do not undertake to update these statements other than as required by law. You are advised, however, to review any further disclosures we make on related subjects in our periodic filings with the SEC and in our other public statements.

PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements.

THE HOME DEPOT, INC. CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)

in millions, except per share data	N	lovember 1, 2020		February 2, 2020
Assets			_	
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	14,652	\$	2,133
Receivables, net		2,666		2,106
Merchandise inventories		16,155		14,531
Other current assets		1,032		1,040
Total current assets		34,505		19,810
Net property and equipment		23,848		22,770
Operating lease right-of-use assets		5,433		5,595
Goodwill		2,236		2,254
Other assets		897		807
Total assets	\$	66,919	\$	51,236
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity				
Current liabilities:				
Short-term debt	\$	_	\$	974
Accounts payable		12,899		7,787
Accrued salaries and related expenses		2,176		1,494
Sales taxes payable		861		605
Deferred revenue		2,664		2,116
Current installments of long-term debt		2,491		1,839
Current operating lease liabilities		842		828
Other accrued expenses		3,462		2,732
Total current liabilities		25,395		18,375
Long-term debt, excluding current installments		32,831		28,670
Long-term operating lease liabilities		4,880		5,066
Other long-term liabilities		2,278		2,241
Total liabilities		65,384		54,352
Common stock, par value \$0.05; authorized: 10,000 shares; issued: 1,788 shares at November 1, 2020 and 1,786 shares at February 2, 2020; outstanding: 1,076 shares at November 1, 2020 and 1,077 shares at February 2, 2020		89		89
Paid-in capital		11,312		11,001
Retained earnings		56,892		51,729
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(965)		(739)
Treasury stock, at cost, 712 shares at November 1, 2020 and 709 shares at February 2, 2020		(65,793)		(65, 196)
Total stockholders' equity (deficit)		1,535		(3,116)
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	66,919	\$	51,236

THE HOME DEPOT, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS (Unaudited)

•	•	Three Mo	nths 🗄	nded	Nine Months Ended																	
in millions, except per share data	No	November 1, November 2020 November 2020		November 1, 2020		November 1, 2020		November 1, 2020		November 1, 2020		November 1, 2020		November 3, 2019		November 1, 2020		November 1, 2020		November 1, 2020		November 3, 2019
Net sales	\$	33,536	\$	27,223	\$	99,849	\$	84,443														
Cost of sales		22,080		17,836		65,827		55,607														
Gross profit		11,456		9,387		34,022		28,836														
Operating expenses:																						
Selling, general and administrative		6,076		4,942		18,260		14,926														
Depreciation and amortization		528		498		1,567		1,470														
Total operating expenses		6,604		5,440		19,827		16,396														
Operating income		4,852		3,947		14,195		12,440														
Interest and other (income) expense:																						
Interest and investment income		(11)		(22)		(37)		(56)														
Interest expense		340		302		1,010		892														
Interest and other, net		329		280		973		836														
Earnings before provision for income taxes		4,523		3,667		13,222		11,604														
Provision for income taxes		1,091		898		3,213		2,843														
Net earnings	\$	3,432	\$	2,769	\$	10,009	\$	8,761														
Basic weighted average common shares		1,073		1,089		1,074		1,096														
Basic earnings per share	\$	3.20	\$	2.54	\$	9.32	\$	7.99														
Diluted weighted average common shares		1,078		1,094		1,078		1,100														
Diluted earnings per share	\$	3.18	\$	2.53	\$	9.28	\$	7.96														
See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.																						

THE HOME DEPOT, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended					Nine Months Ended				
in millions	Nov	ember 1, 2020	N	ovember 3, 2019	No	vember 1, 2020	N	ovember 3, 2019		
Net earnings	\$	3,432	\$	2,769	\$	10,009	\$	8,761		
Other comprehensive income (loss):										
Foreign currency translation adjustments		46		(23)		(232)		(7)		
Cash flow hedges, net of tax		1		(2)		6		4		
Other						<u> </u>		5		
Total other comprehensive income (loss)		47		(25)		(226)		2		
Comprehensive income	\$	3,479	\$	2,744	\$	9,783	\$	8,763		

THE HOME DEPOT, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (Unaudited)

	Three I	Mon	ths Ended	Nine Months Ended				
in millions	November 1, 2020		November 3, 2019	November 1, 2020	November 3, 2019			
Common Stock:					20.0			
Balance at beginning of period	\$ 8	39	\$ 89	\$ 89	\$ 89			
Shares issued under employee stock plans	_	_	_		_			
Balance at end of period	8	39	89	89	89			
Paid-in Capital:								
Balance at beginning of period	11,22	28	10,777	11,001	10,578			
Shares issued under employee stock plans	1	16	20	89	79			
Stock-based compensation expense	6	8	50	222	190			
Repurchases of common stock	-	_	(100)	_	(100)			
Balance at end of period	11,31	12	10,747	11,312	10,747			
Retained Earnings:								
Balance at beginning of period	55,07	74	49,446	51,729	46,423			
Cumulative effect of accounting changes	-	_	_	_	26			
Net earnings	3,43	32	2,769	10,009	8,761			
Cash dividends	(1,61	14)	(1,486)	(4,837)	(4,477)			
Other				(9)	(4)			
Balance at end of period	56,89	92	50,729	56,892	50,729			
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss):								
Balance at beginning of period	(1,01	12)	(776)	(739)	(772)			
Cumulative effect of accounting change	-	_	_	_	(31)			
Foreign currency translation adjustments	4	16	(23)	(232)	(7)			
Cash flow hedges, net of tax		1	(2)	6	4			
Other					5			
Balance at end of period	(96	65)	(801)	(965)	(801)			
Treasury Stock:								
Balance at beginning of period	(65,79	93)	(60,696)	(65, 196)	(58, 196)			
Repurchases of common stock	-		(1,150)	(597)	(3,650)			
Balance at end of period	(65,79	93)	(61,846)	(65,793)	(61,846)			
Total stockholders' equity (deficit)	\$ 1,53	35	\$ (1,082)	\$ 1,535	\$ (1,082)			

THE HOME DEPOT, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)

(Unaudited)		Nine Months Ended							
		lovember 1,		vember 3.					
in millions		2020		2019					
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:									
Net earnings	\$	10,009	\$	8,761					
Reconciliation of net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities:									
Depreciation and amortization		1,853		1,701					
Stock-based compensation expense		234		197					
Changes in receivables, net		(580)		(298)					
Changes in merchandise inventories		(1,718)		(1,788)					
Changes in other current assets		12		(152)					
Changes in accounts payable and accrued expenses		6,555		1,745					
Changes in deferred revenue		549		340					
Changes in income taxes payable		530		116					
Changes in deferred income taxes		(86)		107					
Other operating activities		57		64					
Net cash provided by operating activities		17,415		10,793					
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:									
Capital expenditures		(1,503)		(1,891)					
Proceeds from sales of property and equipment		55		21					
Other investing activities		(3)		(10)					
Net cash used in investing activities		(1,451)		(1,880)					
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:									
Repayments of short-term debt, net		(974)		(644)					
Proceeds from long-term debt, net of discounts and premiums		4,960		1,404					
Repayments of long-term debt		(1,836)		(1,046)					
Repurchases of common stock		(791)		(3,909)					
Proceeds from sales of common stock		185		185					
Cash dividends		(4,837)		(4,477)					
Other financing activities		(132)		(120)					
Net cash used in financing activities		(3,425)		(8,607)					
Change in cash and cash equivalents		12,539		306					
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		(20)		109					
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		2,133		1,778					
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$	14,652	\$	2,193					
Supplemental Disclosures:									
Cash paid for interest, net of interest capitalized	\$	986	\$	910					
Cash paid for income taxes	Ψ	2,681	*	2,660					

THE HOME DEPOT, INC. NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements of The Home Depot, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the "Company," "Home Depot," "we," "our" or "us") have been prepared in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q and do not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Results of operations for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results for the entire year. As a result, these consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in our 2019 Form 10-K.

Impact of COVID-19

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus COVID-19, which was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020, has led to adverse impacts on the U.S. and global economies and has impacted and continues to impact our supply chain, operations, and customer demand. Even though the Company has taken measures to adapt to operating in this challenging environment, the pandemic could further affect our operations and the operations of our suppliers and vendors as a result of additional shelter-in-place and other governmental orders, facility closures, travel and logistics restrictions, and other factors as circumstances continue to evolve.

In response to COVID-19, we expanded our associate pay and benefits through the third quarter of fiscal 2020 to provide additional paid time off, weekly bonuses and other benefits. These expanded pay and benefits are included in SG&A in the Consolidated Statements of Earnings and resulted in \$354 million of additional expense for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 and \$1.7 billion of additional expense for the first nine months of fiscal 2020. As of November 1, 2020, there were \$311 million of additional expense included in accrued salaries and related expenses in the Consolidated Balance Sheets related to these expanded pay and benefits.

Also in response to COVID-19, in March 2020 we took steps to further solidify our liquidity position by expanding our commercial paper program and corresponding revolving credit facility capacity, as well as issuing senior notes. See Note 4 for further discussion.

Reclassifications

Effective February 3, 2020, we reclassified cash flows relating to book overdrafts from financing to operating activities for all periods presented in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. The amounts of these reclassifications were not material.

There were no significant changes to our significant accounting policies as disclosed in the 2019 Form 10-K.

Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

ASU No. 2018-15. In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU No. 2018-15, "Intangibles – Goodwill and Other – Internal-Use Software (Subtopic 350-40): Customer's Accounting for Implementation Costs Incurred in a Cloud Computing Arrangement That is a Service Contract," which aligns the requirements for capitalizing implementation costs incurred in a hosting arrangement with the requirements for capitalizing implementation costs incurred to develop or obtain internal-use software. On February 3, 2020, we adopted ASU No. 2018-15 with no material impact to our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

ASU No. 2017-04. In January 2017, the FASB issued ASU No. 2017-04, "Intangibles – Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment," which simplifies how an entity is required to test goodwill for impairment. The amendments in ASU No. 2017-04 require goodwill impairment to be measured using the difference between the carrying amount and the fair value of the reporting unit and require the loss recognized to not exceed the total amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit. On February 3, 2020, we adopted ASU No. 2017-04 with no material impact to our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

ASU No. 2016-13. In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-13, "Financial Instruments – Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments," which introduced an expected credit loss model for the impairment of financial assets measured at amortized cost. The model replaces the probable, incurred loss model for those assets and broadens the information an entity must consider in developing its expected credit loss

estimate for assets measured at amortized cost. On February 3, 2020, we adopted ASU No. 2016-13 with no material impact to our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

ASU 2020-04. In March 2020, the FASB issued ASU No. 2020-04, "Reference Rate Reform (Topic 848): Facilitation of the Effects of Reference Rate Reform on Financial Reporting," which provides practical expedients and exceptions for applying GAAP to contracts, hedging relationships, and other transactions affected by reference rate reform if certain criteria are met. The expedients and exceptions provided by the amendments in this update apply only to contracts, hedging relationships, and other transactions that reference the London interbank offered rate ("LIBOR") or another reference rate expected to be discontinued as a result of reference rate reform. These amendments are not applicable to contract modifications made and hedging relationships entered into or evaluated after December 31, 2022. ASU No. 2020-04 is effective as of March 12, 2020 through December 31, 2022 and may be applied to contract modifications and hedging relationships from the beginning of an interim period that includes or is subsequent to March 12, 2020. We will adopt this standard when LIBOR is discontinued. We are evaluating the impact the new standard will have on our consolidated financial statements and related disclosures but do not anticipate a material impact.

Recent accounting pronouncements pending adoption not discussed above or in the 2019 Form 10-K are either not applicable or will not have or are not expected to have a material impact on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

2. NET SALES

No sales to an individual customer accounted for more than 10% of our net sales during the three and nine months ended November 1, 2020 and November 3, 2019. Net sales, classified by geography, follow:

	Three Months Ended					Nine Mon	hs Ended	
in millions	N	November 1, 2020		November 3, 2019		November 1, 2020		November 3, 2019
Net sales – in the U.S.	\$	30,845	\$	24,995	\$	92,468	\$	77,634
Net sales – outside the U.S.		2,691		2,228		7,381		6,809
Net sales	\$	33,536	\$	27,223	\$	99,849	\$	84,443

Net sales by products and services follow:

	Three Months Ended					Nine Months Ended										
in millions	N	November 1, 2020										November 3, 2019		November 1, 2020		lovember 3, 2019
Net sales – products	\$	32,312	\$	25,887	\$	96,607	\$	80,599								
Net sales – services		1,224		1,336		3,242		3,844								
Net sales	\$	33,536	\$	27,223	\$	99,849	\$	84,443								

Major product lines and the related merchandising departments (and related services) follow:

Major Product Line	Merchandising Departments
Building Materials	Building Materials, Electrical/Lighting, Lumber, Millwork, and Plumbing
Décor	Appliances, Décor/Storage, Flooring, Kitchen and Bath, and Paint
Hardlines	Hardware, Indoor Garden, Outdoor Garden, and Tools

Net sales by major product lines (and related services) follow:

		Three Mo	nths	Ended		Nine Mo	s Ended	
in millions	November 1, 2020			November 3, 2019		November 1, 2020		November 3, 2019
Building Materials	\$	12,594	\$	10,299	\$	34,966	\$	30,198
Décor		11,213		9,383		32,309		28,178
Hardlines		9,729		7,541		32,574		26,067
Net sales	\$	33,536	\$	27,223	\$	99,849	\$	84,443

3. PROPERTY AND LEASES

Net Property and Equipment

Net property and equipment includes accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$23.5 billion as of November 1, 2020 and \$22.1 billion as of February 2, 2020.

Leases

We lease certain retail locations, office space, warehouse and distribution space, equipment, and vehicles. We consider various factors such as market conditions and the terms of any renewal options that may exist to determine whether we will renew or replace the lease. A substantial majority of our leases have remaining lease terms of one to 20 years, typically with the option to extend the leases for up to five years. Some of our leases may include the option to terminate in less than five years. In the event we are reasonably certain to exercise the option to extend or early terminate a lease at commencement, we will include the respective terms in the related lease assets and liabilities. Real estate taxes, insurance, maintenance, and operating expenses applicable to the leased property are generally our obligations under our lease agreements.

Certain of our property lease agreements contain residual value guarantees, which generally become due at the expiration of the lease term and are estimated as the greater of the fair value of the leased asset or a set minimum value. These residual value guarantees are primarily related to leases of facilities whose construction was funded by industrial revenue bonds.

Our lease agreements do not contain any material restrictive covenants. Further, certain lease agreements include rental payments based on an index or rate and others include rental payments based on a percentage of sales.

The Consolidated Balance Sheet location of assets and liabilities related to operating and finance leases follow:

in millions	Consolidated Balance Sheet Caption	No	vember 1, 2020	February 2, 2020
Assets:				
Operating lease assets	Operating lease right-of-use assets	\$	5,433	\$ 5,595
Finance lease assets (1)	Net property and equipment		2,471	934
Total lease assets		\$	7,904	\$ 6,529
Liabilities:				
Current:				
Operating lease liabilities	Current operating lease liabilities	\$	842	\$ 828
Finance lease liabilities	Current installments of long-term debt		143	84
Long-term:				
Operating lease liabilities	Long-term operating lease liabilities		4,880	5,066
Finance lease liabilities	Long-term debt, excluding current installments		2,590	1,081
Total lease liabilities		\$	8,455	\$ 7,059

⁽¹⁾ Finance lease assets are recorded net of accumulated amortization of \$755 million as of November 1, 2020 and \$644 million as of February 2, 2020.

The components of lease cost follow:

		Three Months Ended			ded	Nine Mor	nths Ended		
in millions	Consolidated Statement of Earnings Caption		ember 1, 2020		ember 3, 2019	ember 1, 2020		ember 3, 2019	
Operating lease cost	Selling, general and administrative	\$	198	\$	211	\$ 586	\$	626	
Finance lease cost:									
Amortization of leased assets	Depreciation and amortization		46		21	113		64	
Interest on lease liabilities	Interest expense		29		23	81		69	
Short-term lease cost	Selling, general and administrative		17		30	54		73	
Variable lease cost	Selling, general and administrative		76		53	202		175	
Sublease income	Selling, general and administrative		(2)		(3)	(9)		(10)	
Net lease cost		\$	364	\$	335	\$ 1,027	\$	997	

The discount rate used to calculate the present value of lease payments is the rate implicit in the lease, when readily determinable. As the rate implicit in the lease is rarely readily determinable, we use a secured incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate for the present value of lease payments. We determine a secured rate on a quarterly basis and update the weighted average discount rate accordingly. Lease terms and discount rates follow:

	November 1, 2020	February 2, 2020
Weighted Average Remaining Lease Term (Years):		
Operating leases	10	10
Finance leases	15	12
Weighted Average Discount Rate:		
Operating leases	3.0 %	3.1 %
Finance leases	5.5 %	10.4 %

The approximate future minimum lease payments under operating and finance leases as of November 1, 2020 follow:

in millions	Operating Leases		Finance Leases
Fiscal 2020	\$	243	\$ 62
Fiscal 2021		958	257
Fiscal 2022		855	259
Fiscal 2023		754	254
Fiscal 2024		647	253
Thereafter	3	,200	 2,518
Total lease payments	6	,657	3,603
Less imputed interest		935	870
Present value of lease liabilities	\$ 5	,722	\$ 2,733

Note: Future minimum lease payments do not include approximately \$900 million of leases (undiscounted basis) that have not yet commenced. These leases will commence primarily between the remainder of fiscal 2020 and fiscal 2021 with lease terms of up to 20 years.

Other lease information follows:

	Nine Months Ended			
in millions	Nov	rember 1, 2020		November 3, 2019
Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities:				
Operating cash flows - operating leases	\$	761	\$	750
Operating cash flows - finance leases		81		69
Financing cash flows - finance leases		87		46
Lease assets obtained in exchange for new operating lease liabilities		500		589
Lease assets obtained in exchange for new finance lease liabilities		1,662		101

4. DEBT AND DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

Short-Term Debt

In March 2020, we expanded our commercial paper programs from \$3.0 billion to \$6.0 billion. All of our short-term borrowings in the first nine months of fiscal 2020 were under these commercial paper programs, and the maximum amount outstanding at any time was \$1.0 billion. In connection with these programs, we have back-up credit facilities with a consortium of banks for borrowings of up to \$6.5 billion, which consist of (1) a 364-day \$3.5 billion credit facility that was entered into in March 2020 in connection with our expanded commercial paper program and is scheduled to expire in March 2021, (2) a five-year \$2.0 billion credit facility scheduled to expire in December 2022, and (3) a 364-day \$1.0 billion credit facility scheduled to expire in December 2020. At November 1, 2020, there were no outstanding borrowings under our commercial paper programs.

Long-Term Debt

March 2020 Issuance. In March 2020, we issued four tranches of senior notes.

- The first tranche consisted of \$750 million of 2.50% senior notes due April 15, 2027 (the "2027 notes") at a discount of \$4 million. Interest on the 2027 notes is due semi-annually on April 15 and October 15 of each year, beginning October 15, 2020.
- The second tranche consisted of \$1.5 billion of 2.70% senior notes due April 15, 2030 (the "2030 notes") at a discount of \$8 million. Interest on the 2030 notes is due semi-annually on April 15 and October 15 of each year, beginning October 15, 2020.
- The third tranche consisted of \$1.25 billion of 3.30% senior notes due April 15, 2040 (the "2040 notes") at a discount of \$11 million. Interest on the 2040 notes is due semi-annually on April 15 and October 15 of each year, beginning October 15, 2020.
- The fourth tranche consisted of \$1.5 billion of 3.35% senior notes due April 15, 2050 (the "2050 notes") at a discount of \$17 million (together with the 2027 notes, the 2030 notes and the 2040 notes, the "March 2020 issuance"). Interest on the 2050 notes is due semi-annually on April 15 and October 15 of each year, beginning October 15, 2020.
- Issuance costs for the March 2020 issuance totaled \$36 million. The net proceeds of the March 2020 issuance were used for general corporate
 purposes, which included the repayment of outstanding senior notes that matured in June 2020 and the early repayment of outstanding senior notes
 that had a maturity date in September 2020.

Redemption. The 2027 notes, 2030 notes, 2040 notes and 2050 notes may be redeemed by us at any time, in whole or in part, at the redemption price plus accrued interest up to the redemption date. The redemption price is equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed, or (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest to the Par Call Date, as defined in the respective notes. Additionally, if a Change in Control Triggering Event, as defined in the notes, occurs, holders of all notes have the right to require us to redeem those notes at 101% of the aggregate principal amount of the notes plus accrued interest up to the redemption date. We are generally not limited under the indentures governing the notes in our ability to incur additional indebtedness or required to maintain financial ratios or specified levels of net worth or liquidity. The indentures governing the notes contain various customary covenants; however, none are expected to impact our liquidity or capital resources.

Derivative Instruments

We use derivative and nonderivative financial instruments in the management of our exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates on certain long-term debt.

We had outstanding interest rate swap agreements with combined notional amounts of \$3.2 billion at November 1, 2020 and \$2.1 billion at February 2, 2020. These agreements were accounted for as fair value hedges that swap fixed for variable rate interest to hedge changes in the fair values of certain senior notes. The fair values of these agreements were \$176 million at November 1, 2020 and \$120 million at February 2, 2020.

At November 1, 2020 and February 2, 2020, we had outstanding foreign currency forward contracts accounted for as cash flow hedges, which hedge the variability of forecasted cash flows associated with certain payments made in our foreign operations. The notional amounts and the fair values of these contracts were not material.

At February 2, 2020, we had outstanding foreign currency forward contracts accounted for as net investment hedges, with a combined notional amount of \$1.2 billion. These agreements hedged against foreign currency exposure on our net investment in certain subsidiaries. At February 2, 2020, the fair values of these contracts were not material. These foreign currency forward contracts settled during the first quarter of fiscal 2020, resulting in an immaterial gain.

In addition to our forward contracts, we also hedge a portion of our foreign currency risk by designating nonderivative foreign-currency-denominated intercompany debt as hedges of our net investment in certain of our foreign operations. As of November 1, 2020, we had outstanding intercompany debt instruments with a combined notional value of \$1.2 billion that were designated as hedges of our net investment in our foreign operations. For the three and nine months ended November 1, 2020, \$8 million of foreign currency losses and \$15 million of foreign currency gains associated with this debt, respectively, were recorded as foreign currency translation adjustments in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss). As of February 2, 2020, the notional value of our nonderivative hedges and related foreign currency translation adjustments were immaterial.

We generally enter into master netting arrangements, which are designed to reduce credit risk by permitting net settlement of transactions with the same counterparty. To further limit our credit risk, we enter into collateral security arrangements that provide for collateral to be received or posted when the net fair value of certain derivative instruments exceeds or falls below contractually established thresholds. Derivative assets and derivative liabilities are presented at their gross fair values in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. As of November 1, 2020, the cash collateral received by the Company related to derivative instruments under our collateral security arrangements was \$141 million, which was recorded in other current liabilities in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. We did not receive any cash collateral as of February 2, 2020 or have any cash collateral posted with counterparties as of November 1, 2020 or February 2, 2020

5. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Stock Rollforward

A reconciliation of the number of shares of our common stock and dividends per share follows:

	Three Mor	nths Ended	Nine Months Ended			
shares in millions	November 1, 2020	November 3, 2019	November 1, 2020	November 3, 2019		
Common stock:						
Balance at beginning of period	1,788	1,785	1,786	1,782		
Shares issued under employee stock plans	_	_	2	3		
Balance at end of period	1,788	1,785	1,788	1,785		
Treasury stock:						
Balance at beginning of period	(712)	(689)	(709)	(677)		
Repurchases of common stock		(6)	(3)	(18)		
Balance at end of period	(712)	(695)	(712)	(695)		
Shares outstanding at end of period	1,076	1,090	1,076	1,090		
Cash dividends per share	\$ 1.50	\$ 1.36	\$ 4.50	\$ 4.08		

6. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The fair value of an asset is considered to be the price at which the asset could be sold in an orderly transaction between unrelated knowledgeable and willing parties. A liability's fair value is defined as the amount that would be paid to transfer the liability to a new obligor, rather than the amount that would be paid to settle the liability with the creditor. Assets and liabilities recorded at fair value are measured using a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value.

Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis

Assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis follow:

		Fair Value at November 1, 2020 Using						Fair Va	alue	e at February 2,	202	Significant Unobservable Inputs			
in millions	Ma Iden	oted Prices n Active arkets for tical Assets Level 1)		Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)		Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	ir Ma Ident	ted Prices Active rkets for ical Assets evel 1)		Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)		Unobservable			
Derivative agreements – assets	\$	_	\$	207	\$		\$		\$	133	\$	_			
Derivative agreements – liabilities		_		(31)		_		_		_		_			
Total	\$		\$	176	\$		\$		\$	133	\$	_			

Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on a Nonrecurring Basis

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, receivables, short-term debt, and accounts payable approximate fair value due to the short-term maturities of these financial instruments.

Long-lived assets and other intangible assets are subject to nonrecurring fair value measurement for the assessment of impairment or as the result of business acquisitions. During the third quarter of fiscal 2020, we completed our annual assessment of the recoverability of goodwill for our U.S., Canada and Mexico reporting units based on qualitative factors. As part of this analysis, we assessed the current environment to determine if there were any indicators of impairment as a result of the operating conditions resulting from COVID-19 or otherwise and concluded that while there have been events and circumstances in the macro-environment that have impacted us, we have not experienced any entity-specific indicators of impairment of goodwill or other indefinite-lived intangibles that would require us to perform a quantitative impairment assessment.

Including goodwill as described above, we did not have any material assets or liabilities that were measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis as of November 1, 2020 or February 2, 2020.

The aggregate fair values and carrying values of our senior notes follow:

	 November 1, 2020				February 2, 2020			
in millions	Fair Value Carrying (Level 1) Value				Fair Value (Level 1)	Carrying Value		
Senior notes	\$ 39,398	\$	32,589	\$	34,102	\$	29,344	

7. WEIGHTED AVERAGE COMMON SHARES

The reconciliation of our basic to diluted weighted average common shares follows:

	Three Mont	ths Ended	Nine Month	ns Ended
in millions	November 1, 2020	November 3, 2019	November 1, 2020	November 3, 2019
Basic weighted average common shares	1,073	1,089	1,074	1,096
Effect of potentially dilutive securities	5	5	4	4
Diluted weighted average common shares	1,078	1,094	1,078	1,100
			· ·	
Anti-dilutive securities excluded from diluted weighted average common				

8. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

We are involved in litigation arising in the normal course of business. In management's opinion, any such litigation is not expected to have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

9. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

shares

On November 16, 2020, we announced that we have entered into a definitive agreement to acquire HD Supply, a leading national distributor of MRO products in the multi-family and hospitality sectors. Under the terms of the merger agreement, a subsidiary of Home Depot will commence a cash tender offer to purchase all outstanding shares of HD Supply common stock for \$56 per share, for a total enterprise value (including net cash) of approximately \$8 billion. The completion of the acquisition is subject to customary closing conditions, including regulatory approvals and the tender of a majority of the shares of HD Supply common stock then outstanding (on a fully diluted basis), and is expected to be completed during our fiscal fourth quarter, which ends on January 31, 2021. The transaction is expected to be funded through cash on hand and debt.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Stockholders and Board of Directors The Home Depot, Inc.:

Results of Review of Interim Financial Information

We have reviewed the Consolidated Balance Sheet of The Home Depot, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the "Company") as of November 1, 2020, the related Consolidated Statements of Earnings, Comprehensive Income, and Stockholders' Equity for the three-month and nine-month periods ended November 1, 2020 and November 3, 2019, the related Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the nine-month periods ended November 1, 2020 and November 3, 2019, and the related notes (collectively, the "Consolidated Interim Financial Information"). Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the Consolidated Interim Financial Information for it to be in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We have previously audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB"), the Consolidated Balance Sheet of the Company as of February 2, 2020, and the related Consolidated Statements of Earnings, Comprehensive Income, Stockholders' Equity, and Cash Flows for the year then ended (not presented herein); and in our report dated March 25, 2020, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. Our report referred to a change in the Company's method of accounting for leases. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheet as of February 2, 2020, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the Consolidated Balance Sheet from which it has been derived.

Basis for Review Results

This Consolidated Interim Financial Information is the responsibility of the Company's management. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our reviews in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. A review of consolidated interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

/s/ KPMG LLP Atlanta, Georgia November 23, 2020

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

Our MD&A includes the following sections:

- Executive Summary
- Results of Operations and Non-GAAP Financial Measures
- <u>Liquidity and Capital Resources</u>
- Critical Accounting Policies

Executive Summary

Quarter to date and year to date highlights of our financial performance follow:

	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
dollars in millions, except per share data	No	ovember 1, 2020	N	bvember 3, 2019	Ne	ovember 1, 2020	November 3, 2019	
Net sales	\$	33,536	\$	27,223	\$	99,849	\$	84,443
Net earnings		3,432		2,769		10,009		8,761
Diluted earnings per share	\$	3.18	\$	2.53	\$	9.28	\$	7.96
Net cash provided by operating activities					\$	17,415	\$	10,793
Proceeds from long-term debt, net of discounts and premiums						4,960		1,404
Repayments of long-term debt						1,836		1,046
Repurchases of common stock						791		3,909

We reported net sales of \$33.5 billion in the third quarter of fiscal 2020. Net earnings were \$3.4 billion, or \$3.18 per diluted share. For the first nine months of fiscal 2020, net sales were \$99.8 billion and net earnings were \$10.0 billion, or \$9.28 per diluted share.

We opened one store in the U.S. and one store in Mexico during the third quarter of fiscal 2020, resulting in a total store count of 2,295 at the end of the quarter. As of November 1, 2020, a total of 309 of our stores, or 13.5%, were located in Canada and Mexico. For the third quarter of fiscal 2020, total sales per retail square foot were \$552.85. Our inventory turnover ratio was 5.9 times, up from 5.0 times last year, driven by a significant increase in customer demand across all of our merchandising departments.

We generated \$17.4 billion of cash flow from operations and issued \$5.0 billion of long-term debt, net of discounts, during the first nine months of fiscal 2020. These funds, together with cash on hand, were used to pay \$4.8 billion of dividends, repay an aggregate of \$1.8 billion of senior notes that matured in June 2020 and that were scheduled to mature in September 2020, fund \$1.5 billion in capital expenditures, repay \$974 million of net short-term borrowings, and fund cash payments of \$791 million for share repurchases before we suspended share repurchases in March 2020. In February 2020, we announced a 10% increase in our quarterly cash dividend to \$1.50 per share.

Our ROIC for the trailing twelve-month period was 41.6% at the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2020 and 45.1% at the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2019. See the "Non-GAAP Financial Measures" section below for our definition and calculation of ROIC, as well as a reconciliation of NOPAT, a non-GAAP financial measure, to net earnings (the most comparable GAAP financial measure). The decrease in ROIC from the third quarter of fiscal 2019 primarily reflects our decision to temporarily enhance our liquidity position, including the suspension of share repurchases.

On November 16, 2020, we announced that we have entered into a definitive agreement to acquire HD Supply, a leading national distributor of MRO products in the multi-family and hospitality sectors. Under the terms of the merger agreement, a subsidiary of Home Depot will commence a cash tender offer to purchase all outstanding shares of HD Supply common stock for \$56 per share, for a total enterprise value (including net cash) of approximately \$8 billion. The completion of the acquisition is subject to customary closing conditions, including regulatory approvals and the tender of a majority of the shares of HD Supply common stock then outstanding (on a fully diluted basis), and is expected to be completed during our fiscal fourth quarter, which ends on January 31, 2021. The transaction is expected to be funded through cash on hand and debt.

COVID-19

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus COVID-19, which was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020, has led to adverse impacts on the U.S. and global economies and has impacted and continues to impact our supply chain, operations, and customer demand. Even though the Company has taken measures to adapt to operating in this challenging environment, the pandemic could further affect our operations and the operations of our suppliers and vendors as a result of additional shelter-in-place or other governmental orders; restrictions and limitations on travel, logistics and other business activities; potential product and labor shortages; limitations on store or facility operations up to and including closures; and other governmental, business or consumer actions. As circumstances have evolved, our focus has been and continues to be on two key priorities: the safety and well-being of our associates and customers, and providing our customers and communities with the products and services that they need.

As we adapted to operations in a COVID-19 environment during fiscal 2020, we took a number of actions to promote social and physical distancing. At the beginning of the pandemic, we implemented a change to store operating hours, and we took measures to limit the number of customers in stores, which included canceling or modifying certain annual merchandising events and rolling out curbside pickup at our stores. We also shifted store support operations to remote or virtual. As we have continued to adapt and refine our approach, we have adjusted our response to reduce constriction and better manage growing demand in the stores, including adopting a more localized approach on limits to the number of customers in stores and expanding store hours while still focusing on promoting a safe shopping environment. In addition, masks or facial coverings are now required for all associates and customers in our U.S. stores and other facilities.

The impact of COVID-19 and the actions we have taken in response to it had varying effects on our results of operations throughout the first nine months of fiscal 2020. Overall we saw a significant acceleration in sales with strong performance across most of our departments during the first nine months of fiscal 2020. This acceleration in sales growth was due to customers' focus on home improvement projects and repairs, which continued during the third quarter of fiscal 2020. As our customers continued to seek alternative methods for obtaining the products they needed, online sales grew by approximately 80% in the third quarter of fiscal 2020, and approximately 87% in the first nine months of fiscal 2020.

The increase in customer demand for certain products together with the impact of COVID-19 on our supply chain has put pressure on our ability to maintain inventory in-stock levels, particularly for certain high demand products. We have been able to mitigate some of the impact, however, due to the benefits from our strategic investments as well as through such actions as working cross-functionally and partnering with our suppliers to make real-time adjustments to our product assortments, introducing alternative products or reducing assortments to the most popular selections in certain product categories.

Given these ongoing demands and the complexity of the current environment, we have continued to focus on taking care of our associates by investing in additional pay and benefits, including expanded paid time off for all hourly associates to use at their discretion and the implementation of a temporary weekly bonus program. These enhanced pay and benefits resulted in additional expense of \$354 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2020, and \$1.7 billion for the first nine months of fiscal 2020, which increased SG&A in fiscal 2020 compared to fiscal 2019. To continue to support our associates we have announced that we have transitioned away from these temporary programs, and we are implementing permanent compensation enhancements for frontline, hourly associates. This will result in approximately \$1 billion of incremental compensation expense on an annualized basis.

Although we cannot estimate the future impact of COVID-19, we believe our existing liquidity will be sufficient to continue to run our business effectively. We also believe that the investments we have made in recent years in our stores, interconnected and digital assets, associates, supply chain, and merchandising organization have allowed us to quickly adapt to shifts in customer needs and behaviors and the fluid circumstances created by COVID-19. We continue to actively monitor our business and operations and may take further actions as may be required by federal, state or local authorities or that we determine are in the best interests of our associates, customers, suppliers, vendors and shareholders.

Results of Operations and Non-GAAP Financial Measures

The tables and discussion below should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes included in this report and in the 2019 Form 10-K and with our MD&A included in the 2019 Form 10-K. The following table displays the percentage relationship between net sales and major categories in our Consolidated Statements of Earnings, as well as the percentage change in the associated dollar amounts.

Fiscal 2020 and Fiscal 2019 Three Month Comparisons

		Three Months Ended								
		mber 1, 2020	November 3, 2019							
dollars in millions	\$	% of Net Sales	\$	% of Net Sales						
Net sales	\$ 33,536		\$ 27,223							
Gross profit	11,456	34.2 %	9,387	34.5 %						
Operating expenses:										
Selling, general and administrative	6,076	18.1	4,942	18.2						
Depreciation and amortization	528_	1.6	498	1.8						
Total operating expenses	6,604	19.7	5,440	20.0						
Operating income	4,852	14.5	3,947	14.5						
Interest and other (income) expense:										
Interest and investment income	(11)	_	(22)	(0.1)						
Interest expense	340_	1.0	302	1.1						
Interest and other, net	329	1.0	280	1.0						
Earnings before provision for income taxes	4,523	13.5	3,667	13.5						
Provision for income taxes	1,091_	3.3	898	3.3						
Net earnings	\$ 3,432	10.2 %	\$ 2,769	10.2 %						

Note: Certain percentages may not sum to totals due to rounding.

		Three Mor	nths Ended	
Selected financial and sales data:	N	ovember 1, 2020	November 3, 2019	
Comparable sales (% change)		24.1 %	3.6	% N/A
Comparable customer transactions (% change) (1)		13.0 %	1.8	% N/A
Comparable average ticket (% change) (1)		10.0 %	1.8	% N/A
Customer transactions (in millions) (1)		453.2	400.9	13.0 %
Average ticket (1)(2)	\$	72.98	\$ 66.36	10.0 %
Sales per retail square foot (1) (3)	\$	552.85	\$ 449.17	23.1 %
Diluted earnings per share	\$	3.18	\$ 2.53	25.7 %

(1) Does not include results for the legacy Interline Brands business, now operating as a part of The Home Depot Pro.

(2) Average ticket represents the average price paid per transaction and is used by management to monitor the performance of the Company, as it represents a primary driver in measuring sales performance.

Sales. We assess our sales performance by evaluating both net sales and comparable sales.

Net Sales. Net sales for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 increased 23.2% to \$33.5 billion from \$27.2 billion for the third quarter of fiscal 2019. The increase in net sales for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 primarily reflected the impact of positive comparable sales driven by an increase in comparable customer transactions and comparable average ticket. Online sales, which consist of sales generated online through our websites for products picked up at our stores or delivered to customer locations, represented 13.0% of net sales and grew by approximately 80% during

⁽³⁾ Sales per retail square foot represents sales divided by the retail store square footage. Sales per retail square foot is a measure of the efficiency of sales based on the total square footage of our stores and is used by management to monitor the performance of the Company as an indicator of the productivity of owned and leased square footage for retail operations.

the third quarter of fiscal 2020. The increase in online sales for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 was driven in large part by the impact of COVID-19, with customers continuing to turn online for their shopping needs. A stronger U.S. dollar negatively impacted sales growth by \$99 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2020.

<u>Comparable Sales</u>. Comparable sales is a measure that highlights the performance of our existing locations and websites by measuring the change in net sales for a period over the comparable prior-period of equivalent length. Comparable sales includes sales at all locations, physical and online, open greater than 52 weeks (including remodels and relocations) and excludes permanently closed stores. Retail stores become comparable on the Monday following their 52nd week of operation. Acquisitions, digital or otherwise, are included in comparable sales after they are owned for more than 52 weeks. Comparable sales is intended only as supplemental information and is not a substitute for net sales presented in accordance with GAAP.

Total comparable sales increased 24.1% for the third quarter of fiscal 2020, reflecting a 10.0% increase in comparable average ticket and a 13.0% increase in comparable customer transactions. The increase in comparable sales reflected a number of factors, including increased consumer demand across our core categories and the execution of our strategic efforts to drive an enhanced interconnected experience in both the physical and digital worlds. The increase in comparable average ticket and comparable customer transactions was driven by strong customer traffic both physically and digitally, commodity price inflation primarily from lumber, and mix of product sold.

All of our merchandising departments posted double-digit positive comparable sales in the third quarter of fiscal 2020.

Gross Profit. Gross profit for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 increased 22.0% to \$11.5 billion from \$9.4 billion for the third quarter of fiscal 2019. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales, or gross profit margin, was 34.2% for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 compared to 34.5% for the third quarter of fiscal 2019. The decrease in gross profit margin was primarily driven by changes in the mix of products sold and pressure from shrink, offset slightly by the benefit of reduced promotional events during the quarter.

Operating Expenses. Our operating expenses are composed of SG&A and depreciation and amortization.

Selling, General & Administrative. SG&A for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 increased 22.9% to \$6.1 billion from \$4.9 billion for the third quarter of fiscal 2019. As a percentage of net sales, SG&A was 18.1% for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 compared to 18.2% for the third quarter of fiscal 2019. The decrease in SG&A as a percentage of sales was primarily driven by leverage resulting from a positive comparable sales environment, partially offset by an additional \$354 million of expense related to the expansion of our associate pay and benefits as part of our COVID-19 response to support our associates and an additional \$59 million of operational COVID-related expenses.

<u>Depreciation and Amortization</u>. Depreciation and amortization increased 6.0% to \$528 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 from \$498 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2019. As a percentage of net sales, depreciation and amortization was 1.6% for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 compared to 1.8% for the third quarter of fiscal 2019. The decrease in depreciation and amortization as a percentage of net sales primarily reflected leverage resulting from a positive comparable sales environment and timing of asset additions, partially offset by strategic investments in the business.

Interest and Other, net. Interest and other, net, was \$329 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 compared to \$280 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2019. Interest and other, net, as a percentage of net sales was 1.0% for the third quarter of both fiscal 2020 and fiscal 2019, and primarily reflected higher interest expense resulting from higher debt balances offset by leverage resulting from a positive comparable sales environment.

Provision for Income Taxes. Our combined effective income tax rate was 24.1% for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 compared to 24.5% for the third quarter of fiscal 2019.

Diluted Earnings per Share. Diluted earnings per share were \$3.18 for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 compared to \$2.53 for the third quarter of fiscal 2019. The increase in diluted earnings per share for the third quarter of fiscal 2020 reflected the impact of a positive comparable sales environment, partially offset by the additional expenses incurred in response to COVID-19.

Fiscal 2020 and Fiscal 2019 Nine Month Comparisons

	Nine Months Ended					
		Nover 20	nber 1, 020	November 3, 2019		
dollars in millions		\$	% of Net Sales		\$	% of Net Sales
Net sales	\$	99,849		\$	84,443	
Gross profit		34,022	34.1 %		28,836	34.1 %
Operating expenses:						
Selling, general and administrative		18,260	18.3		14,926	17.7
Depreciation and amortization		1,567	1.6		1,470	1.7
Total operating expenses		19,827	19.9		16,396	19.4
Operating income		14,195	14.2		12,440	14.7
Interest and other (income) expense:						
Interest and investment income		(37)	_		(56)	(0.1)
Interest expense		1,010	1.0		892	1.1
Interest and other, net		973	1.0		836	1.0
Earnings before provision for income taxes		13,222	13.2		11,604	13.7
Provision for income taxes		3,213	3.2		2,843	3.4
Net earnings	\$	10,009	10.0 %	\$	8,761	10.4 %

Note: Certain percentages may not sum to totals due to rounding.

	Nine Months Ended			
Selected financial and sales data:	Nove	mber 1, 2020	November 3, 2019	% Change
Comparable sales (% change)		18.3%	3.0%	N/A
Comparable customer transactions (% change) (1)		7.4%	1.1%	N/A
Comparable average ticket (% change) (1)		10.3%	1.9%	NA
Customer transactions (in millions) (1)		1,339.5	1,246.4	7.5%
Average ticket (1) (2)	\$	73.90	\$ 67.00	10.3%
Sales per retail square foot (1) (3)	\$	549.26	\$ 464.68	18.2%
Diluted earnings per share	\$	9.28	\$ 7.96	16.6%

(1) Does not include results for the legacy Interline Brands business, now operating as a part of The Home Depot Pro.

Average ticket represents the average price paid per transaction and is used by management to monitor the performance of the Company, as it represents a

Sales. We assess our sales performance by evaluating both net sales and comparable sales.

Net Sales. For the first nine months of fiscal 2020, net sales increased 18.2% to \$99.8 billion from \$84.4 billion for the first nine months of fiscal 2019. The increase in net sales for the first nine months of fiscal 2020 primarily reflected the impact of positive comparable sales driven by an increase in comparable average ticket and comparable customer transactions. Online sales, which consist of sales generated online through our websites for products picked up in our stores or delivered to customer locations, represented 14.0% of net sales and grew 87.0% during the first nine months of fiscal 2020. The increase in online sales for the first nine months of fiscal 2020 was driven in large part by the impact of COVID-19, with customers turning online for their shopping needs. A stronger U.S. dollar negatively impacted sales growth by \$356 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2020.

Comparable Sales. For the first nine months of fiscal 2020, total comparable sales increased 18.3%, consisting of a 10.3% increase in comparable average ticket and a 7.4% increase in comparable customer transactions. This

primary driver in measuring sales performance.
Sales per retail square foot is a measure of the efficiency of sales based on the total square footage of our stores and is used by management to monitor the performance of the Company as an indicator of the productivity of owned and leased square footage for retail operations.

increase reflected a number of factors, including increased consumer demand across our core categories and the execution of our strategic efforts to drive an enhanced interconnected experience in both the physical and digital worlds. The increase in comparable average ticket and comparable customer transactions for the first nine months of fiscal 2020 was primarily driven by an increase in the number of products sold per transaction and stronger online customer engagement.

During the first nine months of fiscal 2020, 11 of our 14 merchandising departments posted double-digit positive comparable sales, while Kitchen and Bath, Plumbing, and Flooring posted mid-to-high single-digit positive comparable sales when compared to last year.

Gross Profit. For the first nine months of fiscal 2020, gross profit increased 18.0% to \$34.0 billion from \$28.8 billion for the first nine months of fiscal 2019. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales, or gross profit margin, was 34.1% for the first nine months of both fiscal 2020 and fiscal 2019, reflecting the benefit from lower promotional activity as we cancelled or modified certain annual merchandising events in response to COVID-19; this benefit was partially offset by higher shrink, supply chain expense and a change in product mix.

Operating Expenses. Our operating expenses are composed of SG&A and depreciation and amortization.

<u>Selling, General & Administrative</u>. SG&A increased 22.3% to \$18.3 billion for the first nine months of fiscal 2020 from \$14.9 billion for the first nine months of fiscal 2019. As a percentage of net sales, SG&A was 18.3% for the first nine months of fiscal 2020 compared to 17.7% for the first nine months of fiscal 2019. The increase in SG&A as a percentage of net sales for the first nine months of fiscal 2020 was primarily driven by an additional \$1.7 billion of expense related to expanded associate pay and benefits offered in response to COVID-19 and an additional \$183 million of operational expense related to COVID-19, partially offset by leverage resulting from a positive comparable sales environment.

<u>Depreciation and Amortization</u>. Depreciation and amortization increased 6.6% to \$1.6 billion for the first nine months of fiscal 2020 from \$1.5 billion for the first nine months of fiscal 2019. As a percentage of net sales, depreciation and amortization was 1.6% for the first nine months of fiscal 2020 compared to 1.7% for the first nine months of fiscal 2019. The decrease in depreciation and amortization as a percentage of net sales primarily reflected leverage resulting from a positive comparable sales environment and timing of asset additions, partially offset by strategic investments in the business.

Interest and Other, net. Interest and other, net was \$973 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2020, compared to \$836 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2019. As a percentage of net sales, interest and other, net was 1.0% for the first nine months of both fiscal 2020 and fiscal 2019, primarily reflecting increased interest expense resulting from higher debt balances offset by leverage resulting from a positive comparable sales environment.

Provision for Income Taxes. Our combined effective income tax rate was 24.3% for the first nine months of fiscal 2020 compared to 24.5% for the first nine months of fiscal 2019.

Diluted Earnings per Share. Diluted earnings per share were \$9.28 for the first nine months of fiscal 2020, compared to \$7.96 for the first nine months of fiscal 2019. The increase in diluted earnings per share for the first nine months of fiscal 2020 reflected the impact of a positive comparable sales environment, partially offset by the additional expenses incurred in response to COVID-19.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

To provide clarity, internally and externally, about our operating performance, we supplement our reporting with certain non-GAAP financial measures. However, this supplemental information should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for the related GAAP measures. Non-GAAP financial measures presented herein may differ from similar measures used by other companies.

Return on Invested Capital. We believe ROIC is meaningful for investors and management because it measures how effectively we deploy our capital base. We define ROIC as NOPAT, a non-GAAP financial measure, for the most recent twelve-month period, divided by average debt and equity. We define average debt and equity as the average of beginning and ending long-term debt (including current installments) and equity for the most recent twelve-month period.

The calculation of ROIC, together with a reconciliation of NOPAT to net earnings (the most comparable GAAP measure), follows:

		Twelve Months Ended					
dollars in millions	N	lovember 1, 2020		November 3, 2019			
Net earnings	\$	12,490	\$	11,105			
Interest and other, net		1,265		1,101			
Provision for income taxes		3,843		3,612			
Operating income		17,598		15,818			
Income tax adjustment (1)		(4,252)		(3,845)			
NOPAT	<u>\$</u>	13,346	\$	11,973			
Average debt and equity	\$	32,095	\$	26,520			
ROIC		41.6 %		45.1 %			

⁽¹⁾ Income tax adjustment is defined as operating income multiplied by our effective tax rate for the trailing twelve months.

Additional Information

For information on accounting pronouncements that have impacted or are expected to materially impact our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows, see Note 1 to our consolidated financial statements.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Cash and Cash Equivalents

At November 1, 2020, we had \$14.7 billion in cash and cash equivalents, of which \$1.5 billion was held by our foreign subsidiaries. We currently believe that our current cash position, access to the long-term debt capital markets, cash flow generated from operations, and funds available under our commercial paper programs should be sufficient not only for our operating requirements but also to enable us to complete our capital expenditure programs, fund dividend payments and any required long-term debt payments through the next several fiscal years, and complete the acquisition of HD Supply. In addition, we believe that we have the ability to obtain alternative sources of financing, if necessary.

We remain committed to our strategic investment program. However, given the current uncertainty related to COVID-19 and the priority around safety, as well as the complexities of the current operating environment, we have decided to postpone some of our in-store investments. As a result, we now expect that our capital expenditures for fiscal 2020 will be less than initially planned and that some spending originally planned for fiscal 2020 will move to fiscal 2021. In addition, we may further adjust our capital expenditures as necessary or appropriate to support the operations of the business.

Debt and Derivatives

In March 2020, we expanded our commercial paper programs from \$3.0 billion to \$6.0 billion. All of our short-term borrowings in the first nine months of fiscal 2020 were under these commercial paper programs, and the maximum amount outstanding at any time was \$1.0 billion. In connection with these programs, we have back-up credit facilities with a consortium of banks for borrowings up to \$6.5 billion, which consist of (1) a 364-day \$3.5 billion credit facility that we entered into in March 2020 in connection with the expanded commercial paper program and is scheduled to expire in March 2021, (2) a five-year \$2.0 billion credit facility scheduled to expire in December 2022, and (3) a 364-day \$1.0 billion credit facility scheduled to expire in December 2020. We may enter into additional credit facilities or other debt financing.

At November 1, 2020, we were in compliance with all of the covenants contained in the credit facilities, and none of these covenants are expected to impact our liquidity or capital resources. At November 1, 2020, there were no outstanding borrowings under our commercial paper programs. We also issued \$5.0 billion of senior notes in March 2020. See Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements for further discussion of our senior notes issuances. We issue senior notes from time to time as part of our capital management strategy.

We use derivative and nonderivative financial instruments in the management of our exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates on certain long-term debt. See Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements for further discussion of these financial instruments.

Share Repurchases

In February 2019, our Board of Directors authorized \$15.0 billion in share repurchases, of which approximately \$7.7 billion remained available as of November 1, 2020. In the first nine months of fiscal 2020, we had cash payments of \$791 million for repurchases of our common stock through open market purchases. On March 13, 2020, we suspended our share repurchases until such time as we deem appropriate. We currently expect to resume share repurchases in fiscal 2021.

Cash Flows Summary

Operating Activities. Cash flow generated from operations provides us with a significant source of liquidity. Our operating cash flows result primarily from cash received from our customers, offset by cash payments we make for products and services, associate compensation, operations, and occupancy costs.

Cash provided by or used in operating activities is also subject to changes in working capital. Working capital at any point in time is subject to many variables, including seasonality, inventory management and category expansion, the timing of cash receipts and payments, vendor payment terms, and fluctuations in foreign exchange rates.

Net cash provided by operating activities increased by \$6.6 billion in the first nine months of fiscal 2020 compared to the first nine months of fiscal 2019 and was primarily driven by an increase in net earnings and changes in working capital associated with accounts payable and accrued expenses and merchandise inventories.

Investing Activities. Cash used in investing activities decreased by \$429 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2020 compared to the first nine months of fiscal 2019, primarily as the result of decreased capital expenditures given the current uncertainty related to COVID-19 and our decision to postpone certain of our strategic investments.

Financing Activities. Cash used in financing activities in the first nine months of fiscal 2020 primarily reflected \$5.0 billion of net proceeds from long-term debt, offset by \$4.8 billion of cash dividends paid, \$1.8 billion of repayments of long-term debt, \$974 million of net repayments of short-term debt, and \$791 million of share repurchases prior to our suspension of share repurchases in March 2020.

Cash used in financing activities in the first nine months of fiscal 2019 primarily reflected \$4.5 billion of cash dividends paid, \$3.9 billion of share repurchases, \$1.0 billion of net repayments of long-term debt, and \$644 million of net repayments of short-term debt, partially offset by \$1.4 billion of net proceeds from long-term debt.

Critical Accounting Policies

There were no changes during the first nine months of fiscal 2020 to our critical accounting policies as disclosed in the 2019 Form 10-K. Our significant accounting policies are disclosed in Note 1 to our consolidated financial statements.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk.

Our exposure to market risk results primarily from fluctuations in interest rates. We are also exposed to risks from foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations on the translation of our foreign operations into U.S. dollars and on the purchase of goods by these foreign operations that are not denominated in their local currencies. Additionally, we may experience inflation and deflation related to our purchase of certain commodity products. There have been no material changes to our exposure to market risks from those disclosed in the 2019 Form 10-K.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures.

Under the direction and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we evaluated our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act) and concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of November 1, 2020.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2020, we temporarily suspended physical inventory counts in our stores as a result of COVID-19. We resumed physical inventory counts during the third quarter of fiscal 2020; however, to

account for the impact of uncounted stores, we have assessed our current inventory shrink reserve methodology and have updated the reserve based upon historical results

During our third quarter of fiscal 2020, we upgraded and migrated our enterprise resource planning system and certain other systems in the U.S. The changes are part of an ongoing business transformation initiative, and we plan to continue to migrate additional business processes over the course of the next few years. In connection with this change in the third quarter, we modified the design and implementation of certain internal control processes.

Except as described above, there were no other changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the fiscal quarter ended November 1, 2020 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings.

Except as set forth below, there were no material changes during the third quarter of fiscal 2020 to our disclosure in Item 3 of our 2019 Form 10-K.

SEC regulations require us to disclose certain information about proceedings arising under federal, state or local environmental provisions if we reasonably believe that such proceedings may result in monetary sanctions above a stated threshold. Pursuant to the SEC regulations, the Company uses a threshold of \$1 million or more for purposes of determining whether disclosure of any such proceedings is required.

As previously reported, in January 2017, we became aware of an investigation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") criminal investigation division into our compliance with lead-safe work practices for certain jobs performed through our installation services business. We also previously responded to civil document requests from several EPA regions. In the second quarter of fiscal 2018, we received a subpoena for documents from the EPA civil enforcement division. In the second quarter of fiscal 2019, we received a grand jury subpoena from the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia and an amendment of the subpoena from the EPA civil enforcement division. In November 2020, we agreed in principle to a civil consent decree with the U.S. Department of Justice, the EPA, and the State of Utah that requires certain changes to lead-safe work practices in our installation services business and the payment of a penalty of \$20.75 million. Following execution of the consent decree, it will be subject to approval by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia. In addition, we have been informed by the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia that the government is declining to pursue criminal charges related to the investigation of our lead-safe work practices.

Item 1A Risk Factors.

In addition to the other information set forth in this report, you should carefully consider the factors discussed under Item 1A, "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in the 2019 Form 10-K. These risks and uncertainties could materially and adversely affect our business, consolidated financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows. Our operations could also be affected by additional factors that are not presently known to us or by factors that we currently do not consider material to our business. There have been no material changes in the risk factors discussed in the 2019 Form 10-K, except as set forth below.

The continuing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are highly unpredictable, volatile, and uncertain, and could adversely affect our business operations, demand for our products and services, our costs of doing business, availability of labor, access to inventory, supply chain operations, our ability to predict future performance, our exposure to litigation, and our financial performance, among other things.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created significant public health concerns as well as economic disruption, uncertainty, and volatility, all of which have impacted and may continue to impact our business. While we have taken numerous steps to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on our results of operations, there can be no assurance that these efforts will be successful.

Due to numerous uncertainties and factors beyond our control, we are unable to predict the impact that COVID-19 will have going forward on our business, results of operations, cash flows, and financial condition. These factors and uncertainties include, but are not limited to:

- the severity and duration of the pandemic, including whether there are additional "waves" or other continued periods of increases or spikes in the number of COVID-19 cases in future periods in areas in which we or our suppliers operate;
- the rapidly changing and fluid circumstances caused by the pandemic and our ability to respond quickly enough or appropriately to those circumstances;
- the duration and degree of governmental, business or other actions in response to the pandemic, including but not limited to quarantine or shelter-inplace measures and other governmental orders; restrictions on our operations up to and including complete or partial closure of our stores, facilities
 and distribution centers; economic measures; access to unemployment compensation; fiscal policy changes; or additional measures that may yet
 be effected;
- · the health of, and effect of the pandemic on, our associates and our ability to maintain staffing needs to effectively operate our business;
- evolving macroeconomic factors, including general economic uncertainty, unemployment rates, and recessionary pressures;
- the impact of the pandemic and related economic uncertainty on consumer confidence, economic well-being, spending, and shopping behaviors, both during and after the pandemic:
- impacts financial, operational or otherwise on our supply chain, including manufacturers or suppliers of our products and logistics or transportation providers, and on our service providers or subcontractors;
- unknown consequences on our business performance and strategic initiatives stemming from the substantial investment of time and other resources
 to the pandemic response, including further delays in or adjustments to our strategic investments;
- the incremental costs of doing business during and/or after the pandemic;
- volatility in the credit and financial markets during and after the pandemic;
- · the potential effects on our internal control environment and data security as a result of changes to a remote work environment;
- the impact of regulatory and judicial changes in liability for workers' compensation;
- · potential increases in insurance premiums, medical claims costs, and workers' compensation claim costs;
- the availability of, and prevalence of access to, effective medical treatments and vaccines for COVID-19;
- the impact of litigation or claims from customers, associates, suppliers, regulators or other third parties relating to COVID-19 or our actions in response thereto;
- the pace of recovery when the pandemic subsides; and
- the long-term impact of the pandemic on our business.

The above factors and uncertainties, or others of which we are not currently aware, may result in adverse impacts to our business, results of operations, cash flows, and financial condition.

In addition to the factors above, the COVID-19 pandemic has subjected our business to a number of risks, including, but not limited to those discussed below:

Associate and Customer Safety-Related Risks. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have taken a number of actions across our business to help protect our associates, customers, and others in the communities we serve. These measures include, among other things, adjusted store hours; increased cleaning and sanitizing measures; limits on customer traffic in stores to maintain physical and social distancing protocols; other physical and social distancing efforts such as markings on floors, signage, plexiglass shields and mask requirements; providing masks and thermometers to associates in stores and distribution centers; instituting curbside pickup from stores; and cancellation or modification of certain annual merchandising events to avoid driving additional footsteps to stores that might undermine our efforts to prioritize safety. In certain jurisdictions, we temporarily ceased sales or delayed commencement of certain in-home services deemed non-essential early in the pandemic, and we may have to do so again or in other jurisdictions. Several of these actions adversely impacted our sales, and they may continue to do so going forward. We also took other steps to support our associates, including expanding our paid time off policy to help alleviate some of the challenges our associates are facing as a result of COVID-19; instituting weekly bonuses for hourly associates in our stores and distribution centers; temporarily providing double pay for overtime worked; and expanding dependent care benefits. We are now transitioning from some of these temporary pay and benefits programs to permanent compensation enhancements for our frontline, hourly associates. The actions that we have taken in response to the pandemic have resulted in significant incremental costs, and we expect that we will continue to incur additional costs due to the pandemic going forward, which in turn will have an adverse impact on our results of operations.

The health and safety of our associates and customers are of primary concern to our management team. However, due to the unpredictable nature of COVID-19 and the consequences of our actions, we may see unexpected

outcomes from our added safety measures. For example, if we do not respond appropriately to the pandemic, or if our customers or associates do not participate in social distancing and other safety measures, the well-being of our associates and customers could be at risk. Furthermore, any failure to appropriately respond, or the perception of an inadequate response, could cause reputational harm to our brand and/or subject us to claims and litigation from associates, customers, suppliers, regulators or other third parties. Additionally, we have faced, and may continue to face, periodic labor shortages at our stores and facilities due to COVID-19, which can result in modifications to our operations including temporary closures and negatively impact our business, costs and results of operations.

Additionally, some jurisdictions have taken measures intended to expand the availability of workers' compensation or to change the presumptions applicable to workers compensation measures. These actions may increase our exposure to workers' compensation claims and increase our cost of insurance.

Information Technology-Related Risks. As a result of the pandemic and related quarantines, shelter-in-place orders, and similar restrictions, we have experienced increased demand for online purchases of products. While we have managed this increased volume to date without interruption, there are no assurances that we will continue to be able to do so. We have also had to rapidly modify certain technology to support our interconnected offerings in connection with the pandemic, such as the addition of curbside pickup. Disruptions, failures or other performance issues with our customer-facing technology systems, either due to the increased volume or other factors, could impair the benefits they provide, adversely impact our sales, and negatively affect our relationship with our customers. In addition, as more business activities have shifted online due to COVID-19 restrictions, and as many of our store support associates are working remotely, we face an increased risk due to the potential failure of internal or external information technology infrastructure as well as increased cybersecurity threats and attempts to breach our security networks.

Supply Chain-Related Risks. Circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic have significantly impacted the global supply chain, with restrictions and limitations on business activities and impacts of COVID-19 outbreaks on labor supply causing disruptions and delays. These disruptions and delays, which may expand depending on the progression of the pandemic, are placing strain on the domestic and international supply chain, which has affected and could continue to negatively affect the flow or availability of certain products. Customer demand for certain products has also fluctuated as the pandemic has progressed and customer behaviors have changed, which has challenged our ability to anticipate and/or adjust inventory levels to meet that demand. These factors have resulted in higher out-of-stock inventory positions in certain products as well as delays in delivering those products to our distribution centers, stores or customers. Even if we are able to find alternate sources for certain products, they may cost more or require us to incur higher transportation costs, which could adversely impact our profitability and financial condition. Similarly, increased demand for online purchases of products has impacted our fulfillment operations, as well as those of our third-party carriers, resulting in delays in delivering products to customers. The operation of our distribution and fulfillment centers is crucial to our business operations. We have experienced, and may continue to experience, labor shortages at and temporary closures of some of our distribution and fulfillment centers, and any such labor shortages or closures, whether temporary or sustained, may adversely impact the flow or availability of products to our stores and customers. Any of these circumstances could impair our ability to meet customer demand for products and result in lost sales, increased supply chain costs, or damage to our reputation.

Financial and Liquidity Risks. In an effort to strengthen our liquidity position while navigating the COVID-19 pandemic, we took proactive steps during the first quarter of fiscal 2020, including suspending our share repurchases, expanding our commercial paper program and related revolving credit facility capacity, and issuing \$5 billion of long-term notes. The increased debt levels have increased our interest expense costs. Further, the financial and credit markets have experienced and may continue to experience significant volatility and turmoil. Our continued access to external sources of liquidity depends on multiple factors, including the condition of debt capital markets, our operating performance, and maintaining strong credit ratings. If the impacts of the pandemic continue to create severe disruptions or turmoil in the financial markets, or if rating agencies lower our credit ratings, it could adversely affect our ability to access the debt markets, our cost of funds, and other terms for new debt or other sources of external liquidity. Additionally, changes in our capital allocation strategy could have adverse impacts, both short- and long-term, on our results of operations and financial position. Suspension of our share repurchases impacts our earnings per share and return on invested capital, which in turn could adversely impact our stock price. While not contemplated at this time, any potential suspension or reduction in our dividend declaration could have an adverse impact on investor perception and our stock price.

To the extent the COVID-19 pandemic continues to adversely affect the U.S. and global economy and/or to adversely affect our business, results of operations, cash flows, or financial condition, it may also have the effect of heightening other risks described in the "Risk Factors" section in our 2019 Form 10-K and other SEC filings, including but not limited to those related to consumer behavior and expectations, competition, brand reputation,

implementation of strategic initiatives, cybersecurity threats, technology systems disruption, supply chain disruptions, labor availability and cost, litigation, and regulatory requirements.

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

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

The number and average price of shares purchased in each fiscal month of the third quarter of fiscal 2020 follow:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased (1)	Total Number of Average Price Shares Purchased (1) Paid Per Share		Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Program ⁽²⁾		Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Program ⁽²⁾	
August 3, 2020 – August 30, 2020	5,167	\$	280.66	_	\$	7,680,368,043	
August 31, 2020 – September 27, 2020	12,605		272.36	_		7,680,368,043	
September 28, 2020 – November 1, 2020	1,428		282.04			7,680,368,043	
Total	19,200		275.31	<u> </u>			

⁽¹⁾ These amounts include repurchases pursuant to our Amended and Restated 2005 Omnibus Stock Incentive Plan and our 1997 Omnibus Stock Incentive Plan (collectively, the "Plans"). Under the Plans, participants may surrender shares as payment of applicable tax withholding on the vesting of restricted stock and deferred share awards. Participants in the Plans may also exercise stock options by surrendering shares of common stock that the participants already own as payment of the exercise price. Shares so surrendered by participants in the Plans are repurchased pursuant to the terms of the Plans and applicable award agreement and not pursuant to publicly announced share repurchase programs.

Sales of Unregistered Securities

During the third quarter of fiscal 2020, we issued 423 deferred stock units under the Home Depot, Inc. Non-employee Directors' Deferred Stock Compensation Plan pursuant to the exemption from registration provided by Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and Rule 506 of the SEC's Regulation D thereunder. The deferred stock units were credited to the accounts of those non-employee directors who elected to receive all or a portion of board retainers in the form of deferred stock units instead of cash during the third quarter of fiscal 2020. The deferred stock units convert to shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis following a termination of service as described in this plan.

During the third quarter of fiscal 2020, we credited 887 deferred stock units to participant accounts under the Restoration Plan pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act for involuntary, non-contributory plans. The deferred stock units convert to shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis following a termination of service as described in this plan.

⁽²⁾ In February 2019, our Board of Director's authorized \$15.0 billion in share repurchases that replaced the previous authorization. The authorization does not have a prescribed expiration date.

⁽³⁾ On March 13, 2020, we suspended our share repurchases until such time as we deem appropriate.

Item 6. Exhibits.

Exhibits marked with an asterisk (*) are incorporated by reference to exhibits or appendices previously filed with the SEC, as indicated by the references in brackets. All other exhibits are filed or furnished herewith.

Exhibit	_	Description
<u>3.1</u>	*	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of The Home Depot, Inc. [Form 10-Q filed on September 1, 2011, Exhibit 3.1]
2.0	*	
<u>3.2</u>		By-Laws of The Home Depot, Inc. (Amended and Restated Effective February 28, 2019) [Form 8-K filed on March 4, 2019, Exhibit 3.2]
<u>10.1</u>	†	Employment Arrangement between Richard V. McPhail and The Home Depot, Inc. dated October 1, 2020
<u>10.2</u>	†	Employment Arrangement between Edward Decker and The Home Depot, Inc. dated October 1, 2020
<u>10.3</u>	†	Employment Arrangement between Ann-Marie Campbell and The Home Depot, Inc. dated October 1, 2020
<u>10.4</u>	†	Form of Executive Officer Restricted Stock and Stock Option Award Agreement Pursuant to The Home Depot, Inc. Amended and Restated 2005 Omnibus Stock Incentive Plan
<u>15.1</u>		Acknowledgement of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
<u>31.1</u>		Certification of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)
<u>31.2</u>		Certification of the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)
<u>32.1</u>		Certification of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer furnished pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
<u>32.2</u>		Certification of the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer furnished pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
101.INS		XBRL Instance Document - the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data file because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document
101.SCH		Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL		Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF		Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB		Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE		Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
104		Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101)

[†] Management or compensatory plan or arrangement

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

THE HOME DEPOT, INC.

(Registrant)

Ву: /s/ CRAIG A. MENEAR

Craig A. Menear, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

/s/ RICHARD V. MCPHAIL

Richard V. McPhail, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

/s/ STEPHEN L. GIBBS

Stephen L. Gibbs, Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer and Corporate Controller

Date: November 23, 2020