UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): February 6, 2019

Asbury Automotive Group, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

001-31262

(Commission File Number)

2905 Premiere Parkway NW Suite 300 Duluth, GA

(Address of principal executive offices)

01-0609375

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

30097 (Zip Code)

(770) 418-8200 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

None

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter). Emerging growth company \Box

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

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

Asbury Automotive Group, Inc. (the "<u>Company</u>") issued an earnings release on February 6, 2019, announcing its financial results for the three and twelve months ended December 31, 2018. A copy of the earnings release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report.

The information furnished in this Current Report on Form 8-K, including Exhibit 99.1, shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "<u>Exchange Act</u>"), or otherwise subject to the liability of that section, and shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

The following exhibits are furnished as part of this report.

 Exhibit No.
 Description

 99.1
 Press Release dated February 6, 2019.

SIGNATURE

By:

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 hereunto duly authorized.

Date: February 6, 2019

ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, INC.

/s/ Sean D. Goodman

Name:Sean D. GoodmanTitle:Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Press Release dated February 6, 2019.



Investors & Reporters May Contact: Matt Pettoni VP of Finance & Treasurer (770) 418-8219 ir@asburyauto.com

ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP ANNOUNCES 2018 FOURTH QUARTER AND FULL-YEAR FINANCIAL RESULTS

Fourth quarter EPS of \$2.06 per diluted share and full year EPS of \$8.28 per diluted share

Record fourth quarter adjusted EPS of \$2.20 per diluted share (a non-GAAP measure), up 22% over prior year adjusted EPS

Record full year 2018 adjusted EPS of \$8.41 per diluted share (a non-GAAP measure), up 31% over prior year adjusted EPS

DULUTH, GA, February 6, 2019 - Asbury Automotive Group, Inc. (NYSE: ABG), one of the largest automotive retail and service companies in the U.S., reported net income for the fourth quarter 2018 of \$40.4 million (\$2.06 per diluted share) compared to \$42.5 million (\$2.03 per diluted share) in the prior year quarter. It also reported adjusted net income (a non-GAAP measure) for the fourth quarter 2018 of \$43.2 million (\$2.20 per diluted share) compared to \$37.8 million (\$1.81 per diluted share) in the prior year quarter, a 22% increase in adjusted earnings per share.

Net income for the fourth quarter 2018 was adjusted for a \$3.7 million pre-tax charge for franchise rights impairments (\$0.14 per diluted share). Net income for the fourth quarter 2017 was adjusted for a \$5.1 million pre-tax charge for franchise rights impairments (\$0.15 per diluted share) and a \$7.9 million benefit (\$0.37 per diluted share) related to adjustments to deferred tax balances as a result of changes to the tax law.

On January 1, 2018, the company adopted ASC 606 for revenue recognition which impacted F&I and parts and service revenue and gross profit. The net impact of adopting ASC 606 in the fourth quarter was to increase net income by \$1.2 million or \$0.06 per diluted share.

"We closed out 2018 with a strong performance delivering 22% adjusted EPS growth in the quarter," said David Hult, Asbury's President and Chief Executive Officer. "During 2018, we acquired three dealerships, repurchased approximately \$105 million of our shares, and further developed our omni-channel capabilities. In a relatively flat SAAR environment we maintained our industry leading operating margins and grew adjusted EPS 31%. This performance is a direct result of our team's hard work, dedication, and commitment to continuous improvement. Going forward, we will continue to execute our two-part strategy: drive operational excellence and deploy capital to its highest returns."

Fourth Quarter 2018 Operational Summary

All stores:

- Revenue increased 7%; gross profit increased 5%
- New vehicle revenue increased 6%; gross profit decreased 6%
- Used vehicle retail revenue increased 10%; gross profit increased 10%
- Finance and insurance revenue and gross profit increased 6%
- Parts and service revenue increased 7%; gross profit increased 7%
- SG&A as a percentage of gross profit increased 90 basis points to 68.2%
- Adjusted income from operations as a percentage of revenue was 4.5%
- Adjusted EPS from continuing operations increased 22%

Same store:

- Revenue increased 4%; gross profit increased 2%
- New vehicle revenue increased 3%; gross profit decreased 7%
- Used vehicle retail revenue increased 7%; gross profit increased 7%
- Finance and insurance revenue and gross profit increased 3%
- Parts and service revenue increased 5%; gross profit increased 5%

Strategic Highlights:

- In Q4 2018, we repurchased \$48 million of common stock
- Signed an agreement to acquire four stores in the Indianapolis market that we expect to close in Q1 2019, subject to customary closing conditions. We expect these dealerships will generate approximately \$250 million in annualized revenue.
- Omni-channel initiatives helped drive results, reduce costs, and improve efficiencies

For the full year 2018, the Company reported net income of \$168.0 million (\$8.28 per diluted share) compared to \$139.1 million (\$6.62 per diluted share) in the prior year period. Adjusted net income (a non-GAAP measure) for 2018 was \$170.8 million (\$8.41 per diluted share) compared to \$135.1 million (\$6.43 per diluted share) in the prior year period, a 31% increase in adjusted EPS.

Additional commentary regarding the fourth quarter and full-year results will be provided during the earnings conference call on February 6, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. The conference call will be simulcast live on the internet and can be accessed at www.asburyauto.com or www.ccbn.com. A replay will be available at these sites for 30 days.

In addition, a live audio of the call will be accessible to the public by calling (323) 994-2131 (domestic), or (800) 347-6311 (international); passcode - 1070155. Callers should dial in approximately 5 to 10 minutes before the call begins.

A conference call replay will be available two hours following the call for seven days, and can be accessed by calling (888) 203-1112 (domestic), or (719) 457-0820 (international); passcode - 1070155.

About Asbury Automotive Group, Inc.

Asbury Automotive Group, Inc. ("Asbury"), a Fortune 500 company headquartered in Duluth, GA, is one of the largest automotive retailers in the U.S. Asbury currently operates 83 dealerships, consisting of 97 franchises, representing 29 domestic and foreign brands of vehicles. Asbury also operates 25 collision repair centers. Asbury offers customers an extensive range of automotive products and services, including new and used vehicle sales and related financing and insurance, vehicle maintenance and repair services, replacement parts and service contracts.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are statements other than historical fact, and may include statements relating to goals, plans, market conditions and projections regarding Asbury's financial position, liquidity, results of operations, market position and dealership portfolio, and other initiatives and future business strategy. These statements are based on management's current expectations and beliefs and involve significant risks and uncertainties that may cause results to differ materially from those set forth in the statements. These risks and uncertainties include, among other things, market factors, Asbury's relationships with, and the financial and operational stability of, vehicle manufacturers and other suppliers, acts of God or other incidents which may adversely impact supply from vehicle manufacturers and/or present retail sales challenges, risks associated with Asbury's indebtedness (including available borrowing capacity, compliance with its financial covenants and ability to refinance or repay such indebtedness, on favorable terms), Asbury's relationships with, and the financial stability of, its lenders and lessors, risks related to competition in the automotive retail and service industries, general economic conditions both nationally and locally, governmental regulations, legislation, adverse results in litigation and other proceedings, and Asbury's ability to execute its IT initiatives and other operational strategies, Asbury's ability to leverage gains from its dealership portfolio, Asbury's ability to capitalize on opportunities to repurchase its debt and equity securities or purchase properties that it currently leases, and Asbury's ability to stay within its targeted range for capital expenditures. There can be no guarantees that Asbury's plans for future operations will be successfully implemented or that they will prove to be commercially successful.

These and other risk factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in our forward-looking statements are and will be discussed in Asbury's filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission from time to time, including its most recent annual report on Form 10-K and any subsequently filed quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. We undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (In millions, except per share data) (Unaudited)

		For the Three Decen	e Montl nber 31			_	%
		2018		2017		Increase (Decrease)	Change
REVENUE:							
New vehicle	\$	1,022.4	\$	964.1	\$	58.3	6 %
Used vehicle:							
Retail		427.9		389.6		38.3	10 %
Wholesale		45.5		47.9		(2.4)	(5)%
Total used vehicle		473.4		437.5		35.9	8 %
Parts and service		211.1		196.6		14.5	7 %
Finance and insurance, net		77.3		72.7		4.6	6 %
TOTAL REVENUE		1,784.2		1,670.9		113.3	7 %
GROSS PROFIT:							
New vehicle		43.9		46.6		(2.7)	(6)%
Used vehicle:							
Retail		29.3		26.7		2.6	10 %
Wholesale		_		(0.2)		0.2	100 %
Total used vehicle		29.3		26.5		2.8	11 %
Parts and service		131.3		122.6		8.7	7 %
Finance and insurance, net		77.3		72.7		4.6	6 %
TOTAL GROSS PROFIT		281.8		268.4		13.4	5 %
OPERATING EXPENSES:							
Selling, general and administrative		192.2		180.5		11.7	6 %
Depreciation and amortization		8.5		8.1		0.4	5 %
Franchise rights impairment		3.7		5.1		(1.4)	(27)%
Other operating (income) expenses, net		0.1		0.6		(0.5)	(83)%
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS		77.3		74.1		3.2	4 %
OTHER EXPENSES:							
Floor plan interest expense		9.5		5.5		4.0	73 %
Other interest expense, net		13.7		13.8		(0.1)	(1)%
Swap interest expense		_		0.4		(0.4)	(100)%
Total other expenses, net		23.2		19.7		3.5	18 %
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES		54.1		54.4		(0.3)	(1)%
Income tax expense		13.7		11.9		1.8	15 %
NET INCOME	\$	40.4	\$	42.5	\$	(2.1)	(5)%
EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE:					Ŷ	(=)	
Basic—							
Net income	\$	2.09	\$	2.06	\$	0.03	1 %
	Ψ	2.05	Ψ	2.00	ф	0.03	1 70
Diluted—	¢	2.00	ተ	2.02	<i>•</i>	0.00	1.07
Net income	\$	2.06	\$	2.03	\$	0.03	1 %
WEIGHTED AVERAGE COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING:							
Basic		19.3		20.6		(1.3)	(6)%
Restricted stock		0.1		0.1		_	— %
Performance share units		0.2		0.2		_	%
Diluted		19.6		20.9		(1.3)	(6)%

ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, INC.

KEY OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS (In millions, except per unit data)

(Unaudited)

	For	For the Three Months Ended December 31,					
		2018	51,	2017		crease crease)	% Change
<u>Unit sales</u>					<u>.</u>		
New vehicle:							
Luxury		6,452		6,408		44	1 %
Import		16,394		15,181		1,213	8 %
Domestic		4,951		4,602		349	8 %
Total new vehicle		27,797		26,191		1,606	6 %
Used vehicle retail		19,298		17,822		1,476	8 %
Used to new ratio		69.4%		68.0 %		140 bps	
Average selling price							
New vehicle	\$	36,781	\$	36,810	\$	(29)	%
Used vehicle retail		22,173		21,861		312	1 %
<u>Average gross profit per unit</u>							
New vehicle:							
Luxury	\$	3,487	\$	3,777	\$	(290)	(8)%
Import		830		922		(92)	(10)%
Domestic		1,575		1,825		(250)	(14)%
Total new vehicle		1,579		1,779		(200)	(11)%
Used vehicle retail		1,518		1,498		20	1 %
Finance and insurance, net		1,641		1,652		(11)	(1)%
Front end yield (1)		3,196		3,317		(121)	(4)%
Gross margin		,		,		~ /	()
New vehicle:							
Luxury		6.4%		7.0 %	(60) bps	
Import		2.9%		3.2 %		30) bps	
Domestic		3.9%		4.6 %		70) bps	
Total new vehicle		4.3%		4.8 %		50) bps	
Used vehicle retail		6.8%		6.9 %		10) bps	
Parts and service		62.2%		62.4 %		20) bps	
Total gross profit margin		15.8%		16.1 %		30) bps	
SG&A metrics					(
Rent expense	\$	6.5	\$	6.5	\$		<u> </u>
Total SG&A as a percentage of gross profit	÷	68.2%	Ψ	67.3 %	Ŷ	90 bps	,,
SG&A, excluding rent expense as a percentage of gross profit		65.9%		64.8 %		110 bps	
Operating metrics		00.070		01.0 /0		110 000	
Income from operations as a percentage of revenue		4.3%		4.4 %	(10) bps	
Income from operations as a percentage of revenue		27.4%		27.6 %		20) bps	
Adjusted income from operations as a percentage of gloss profit		4.5%		4.7 %		20) bps 20) bps	
Adjusted income from operations as a percentage of gross profit		28.7%		29.5 %		20) bps 80) bps	
Revenue mix		20.770		23.3 /0	(00) 003	
New vehicle		57.3%		57.7 %			
Used vehicle retail		24.0%		23.2 %			
Used vehicle wholesale		24.0%		23.2 %			
Parts and service							
		11.8%		11.8 %			
Finance and insurance		4.3%		4.4 %			
Total revenue		100.0%		100.0 %			
<u>Gross profit mix</u>							
New vehicle		15.6%		17.4 %			
Used vehicle retail		10.4%		9.9 %			
Used vehicle wholesale		%		(0.1)%			
Parts and service		46.6%		45.7 %			
Finance and insurance		27.4%		27.1 %			
Total gross profit		100.0%		100.0 %			

(1) Front end yield is calculated as gross profit from new vehicles, used retail vehicles and finance and insurance (net), divided by combined new and used

retail unit sales.

ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, INC. SAME STORE OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS (In millions)

(Unaudited)

	For the Three Months Ended December 31,						
		2018	,	2017	Increase (Decrease)		% Change
Revenue						<u> </u>	
New vehicle:							
Luxury	\$	351.5	\$	347.9	\$	3.6	1 %
Import		447.4		431.5		15.9	4 %
Domestic		193.6		184.6		9.0	5 %
Total new vehicle		992.5		964.0		28.5	3 %
Used Vehicle:							
Retail		415.8		389.6		26.2	7 %
Wholesale		44.8		47.9		(3.1)	(6)%
Total used vehicle		460.6		437.5		23.1	5 %
Parts and service		205.9		196.6		9.3	5 %
Finance and insurance		74.8		72.8		2.0	3 %
Total revenue	\$	1,733.8	\$	1,670.9	\$	62.9	4 %
Gross profit							
New vehicle:							
Luxury	\$	22.5	\$	24.2	\$	(1.7)	(7)%
Import		12.9		13.9		(1.0)	(7)%
Domestic		7.7		8.4		(0.7)	(8)%
Total new vehicle		43.1		46.5		(3.4)	(7)%
Used Vehicle:							
Retail		28.7		26.7		2.0	7 %
Wholesale				(0.1)		0.1	100 %
Total used vehicle		28.7		26.6		2.1	8 %
Parts and service:							
Customer pay		72.4		68.6		3.8	6 %
Warranty		19.9		20.0		(0.1)	(1)%
Wholesale parts		5.8		5.4		0.4	7 %
Parts and service, excluding reconditioning and preparation		98.1		94.0		4.1	4 %
Reconditioning and preparation		30.1		28.6		1.5	5 %
Total parts and service		128.2		122.6		5.6	5 %
Finance and insurance		74.8		72.8		2.0	3 %
Total gross profit	\$	274.8	\$	268.5	\$	6.3	2 %
SG&A expense	\$	187.0	\$	180.4	\$	6.6	4 %
SG&A expense as a percentage of gross profit	_	68.0%		67.2%		80 bps	

Same store amounts consist of information from dealerships for identical months in each comparative period, commencing with the first month we owned the dealership. Additionally, amounts related to divested dealerships are excluded from each comparative period.

ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, INC. SAME STORE OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS (Continued) (Unaudited)

	For		nths Er 31,	nded December			
		2018		2017		Increase Decrease)	% Change
Unit sales					-		
New vehicle:							
Luxury		6,452		6,408		44	1 %
Import		15,572		15,181		391	3 %
Domestic		4,753		4,602		151	3 %
Total new vehicle		26,777		26,191		586	2 %
Used vehicle retail		18,624		17,822		802	5 %
Used to new ratio		69.6%		68.0%		160 bps	
Average selling price							
New vehicle	\$	37,065	\$	36,807	\$	258	1 %
Used vehicle retail		22,326		21,861		465	2 %
<u>Average gross profit per unit</u>							
New vehicle:							
Luxury	\$	3,487	\$	3,777	\$	(290)	(8)%
Import		828		916		(88)	(10)%
Domestic		1,620		1,825		(205)	(11)%
Total new vehicle		1,610		1,775		(165)	(9)%
Used vehicle retail		1,541		1,498		43	3 %
Finance and insurance, net		1,648		1,654		(6)	— %
Front end yield (1)		3,229		3,317		(88)	(3)%
Gross margin							
New vehicle:							
Luxury		6.4%		7.0%		(60) bps	
Import		2.9%		3.2%		(30) bps	
Domestic		4.0%		4.6%		(60) bps	
Total new vehicle		4.3%		4.8%		(50) bps	
Used vehicle retail		6.9%		6.9%		_	
Parts and service:							
Parts and service, excluding reconditioning and preparation		47.6%		47.8%		(20) bps	
Parts and service, including reconditioning and preparation		62.3%		62.4%		(10) bps	
Total gross profit margin		15.8%		16.1%		(30) bps	

Same store amounts consist of information from dealerships for identical months in each comparative period, commencing with the first month we owned the dealership. Additionally, amounts related to divested dealerships are excluded from each comparative period.

(1) Front end yield is calculated as gross profit from new vehicles, used retail vehicles and finance and insurance (net), divided by combined new and used retail unit sales.

ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (In millions, except per share data) (Unaudited)

	F	For the Twelve Months Ended December 31,				_	%
		2018		2017		Increase (Decrease)	% Change
REVENUE:							
New vehicle	\$	3,788.7	\$	3,561.1	\$	227.6	6 %
Used vehicle:							
Retail		1,783.3		1,635.3		148.0	9 %
Wholesale		189.1		198.8	_	(9.7)	(5)%
Total used vehicle		1,972.4		1,834.1		138.3	8 %
Parts and service		821.0		786.1		34.9	4 %
Finance and insurance, net		292.3		275.2		17.1	6 %
TOTAL REVENUE		6,874.4		6,456.5		417.9	6 %
GROSS PROFIT:							
New vehicle		165.2		169.0		(3.8)	(2)%
Used vehicle:							
Retail		127.8		121.1		6.7	6 %
Wholesale		1.9		0.8		1.1	138 %
Total used vehicle		129.7		121.9		7.8	6 %
Parts and service		515.8		489.8		26.0	5 %
Finance and insurance, net		292.3		275.2		17.1	6 %
TOTAL GROSS PROFIT		1,103.0		1,055.9	•	47.1	4 %
OPERATING EXPENSES:							
Selling, general and administrative		755.8		729.7		26.1	4 %
Depreciation and amortization		33.7		32.1		1.6	5 %
Franchise rights impairment		3.7		5.1		(1.4)	(27)%
Other operating (income) expenses, net		(1.1)		1.3		(2.4)	(185)%
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS		310.9		287.7	•	23.2	8 %
OTHER EXPENSES:							
Floor plan interest expense		32.5		22.7		9.8	43 %
Other interest expense, net		53.1		53.9		(0.8)	(1)%
Swap interest expense		0.5		2.0		(1.5)	(75)%
Total other expenses, net		86.1		78.6		7.5	10 %
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES		224.8		209.1		15.7	8 %
Income tax expense		56.8		70.0		(13.2)	(19)%
NET INCOME	\$	168.0	\$	139.1	\$	28.9	21 %
EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE:			· —				
Basic—							
Net income	\$	8.36	\$	6.69	\$	1.67	25 %
Diluted—	Ψ	0.50	Ψ	0.05	Ψ	1.07	25 70
	¢	0.00	¢	6 60	ተ	1.00	
Net income	\$	8.28	\$	6.62	\$	1.66	25 %
WEIGHTED AVERAGE COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING:						·	
Basic		20.1		20.8		(0.7)	(3)%
Restricted stock		0.1		0.1		—	— %
Performance share units		0.1		0.1		—	— %
Diluted		20.3		21.0	:	(0.7)	(3)%

ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, INC.

KEY OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS (In millions, except per unit data)

(Unaudited)

Fo	For the Twelve Months Ended December 31,					%
	2018		2017		Increase (Decrease)	% Change
	22,979		22,525		454	2 %
	62,939		58,685		4,254	7 %
	19,357		18,765		592	3 %
	105,275		99,975		5,300	5 %
	82,377		76,929		5,448	7 %
	78.2%		76.9%		130 bps	
\$	35,989	\$	35,620	\$	369	1 %
	21,648		21,257		391	2 %
\$	3,481	\$	3,503	\$	(22)	(1)%
	836		968		(132)	(14)%
	1,684		1,775		(91)	(5)%
	1,569		1,690		(121)	(7)%
	1,551		1,574		(23)	(1)%
	1,558		1,556		2	— %
	3,119		3,196		(77)	(2)%
	6.5%		6.6%		(10) bps	
	2.9%		3.5%		(60) bps	
	4.3%		4.6%		(30) bps	
	4.4%		4.7%		(30) bps	
	7.2%		7.4%		(20) bps	
	62.8%		62.3%		50 bps	
	16.0%		16.4%		(40) bps	
\$	25.6	\$	26.7	\$	(1.1)	(4)%
	68.5%		69.1%		(60) bps	
	66.2%		66.6%		(40) bps	
	4.5%		4.5%			
	28.2%		27.2%		100 bps	
	4.6%		4.6%		_	
	28.5%				70 bps	
					-	
	55.1%		55.2%			
		_				
	15 00/		16 00/			
	16 00/					
	46.8% 26.5%		46.4% 26.1%			
	 \$	Decent 2018 22,979 62,939 19,357 82,377 82,377 78.2% 35,989 21,648 836 1,569 1,558 3,119 65.5% 62,939 8 35,989 21,648 836 1,558 3,119 1,558 3,119 4,3% 4,4% 7,2% 62,8% 62,8% 62,8% 62,8% 66,5% 62,8% 62,8% 66,5% 62,8% 66,5% 66,5% 66,5% 66,5% 66,5% 62,8% 62,8% 62,8% 66,5% 66,5% 66,5% 66,5% 66,5% <td>2018 22,979 62,939 19,357 105,275 105,275 105 82,377 105 82,377 105 105,275 105 82,377 105 105,275 105 82,377 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 10,569 10 1,558 10 1,558 10 1,558 10 1,558 10 1,558 10 1,558 10 1,559 10 1,559 10 1,559 10 1,500 10 1,500 10</td> <td>December 31, 2018 2017 22,979 22,525 62,939 58,685 19,357 18,765 105,275 99,975 82,377 76,929 78.2% 76,9% 21,648 21,257 \$35,989 \$35,620 21,648 21,257 \$35,989 \$35,620 21,648 21,257 \$35,989 \$35,620 21,648 21,257 \$35,989 \$35,620 \$1,654 1,775 1,658 1,556 1,559 1,574 1,558 1,556 3,119 3,196 2,9% 3,5% 4,3% 4,6% 4,3% 4,6% 4,3% 4,6% 4,4% 4,7% 66.5% 66,6% 2,9% 3,5% 4,3% 4,6% 4,4% 4,7% 66,5% 66,6% 66,2%<</td> <td>December 31, 2018 2017 22,979 22,525 62,939 58,685 19,357 18,765 19,357 99,975 82,377 76,929 78.2% 76,929 82,377 76,929 82,377 76,929 82,377 76,929 82,377 76,929 82,378 \$ 35,989 \$ 35,620 \$ 35,620 \$ \$ 35,620 \$ \$ 35,620 \$ \$ 35,620 \$ \$ 35,620 \$ \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,503</td> <td>December 31, Increase (Decrease) 2018 2017 22,979 22,525 454 62,939 58,685 4,254 19,357 18,765 5920 105,275 99,975 5,300 82,377 76,929 5,448 78.2% 76,929 5,448 21,648 21,257 391 21,648 21,257 391 83 35,989 \$ 35,620 \$ 83 3,593 \$ (22) 836 968 (132) 1,684 1,775 (91) 1,551 1,574 (23) 1,558 1,556 2 3,119 3,196 (77) 3,119 3,196 (70) 9 2,5% (60) bps 4.4% 4.7% (30) bps 2.9% 3.5% (60) bps 62.8% 62.3% 50 bps 62.8% 69.1% (40) bps</td>	2018 22,979 62,939 19,357 105,275 105,275 105 82,377 105 82,377 105 105,275 105 82,377 105 105,275 105 82,377 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 105,275 105 10,569 10 1,558 10 1,558 10 1,558 10 1,558 10 1,558 10 1,558 10 1,559 10 1,559 10 1,559 10 1,500 10 1,500 10	December 31, 2018 2017 22,979 22,525 62,939 58,685 19,357 18,765 105,275 99,975 82,377 76,929 78.2% 76,9% 21,648 21,257 \$35,989 \$35,620 21,648 21,257 \$35,989 \$35,620 21,648 21,257 \$35,989 \$35,620 21,648 21,257 \$35,989 \$35,620 \$1,654 1,775 1,658 1,556 1,559 1,574 1,558 1,556 3,119 3,196 2,9% 3,5% 4,3% 4,6% 4,3% 4,6% 4,3% 4,6% 4,4% 4,7% 66.5% 66,6% 2,9% 3,5% 4,3% 4,6% 4,4% 4,7% 66,5% 66,6% 66,2%<	December 31, 2018 2017 22,979 22,525 62,939 58,685 19,357 18,765 19,357 99,975 82,377 76,929 78.2% 76,929 82,377 76,929 82,377 76,929 82,377 76,929 82,377 76,929 82,378 \$ 35,989 \$ 35,620 \$ 35,620 \$ \$ 35,620 \$ \$ 35,620 \$ \$ 35,620 \$ \$ 35,620 \$ \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,481 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,503 \$ 3,503	December 31, Increase (Decrease) 2018 2017 22,979 22,525 454 62,939 58,685 4,254 19,357 18,765 5920 105,275 99,975 5,300 82,377 76,929 5,448 78.2% 76,929 5,448 21,648 21,257 391 21,648 21,257 391 83 35,989 \$ 35,620 \$ 83 3,593 \$ (22) 836 968 (132) 1,684 1,775 (91) 1,551 1,574 (23) 1,558 1,556 2 3,119 3,196 (77) 3,119 3,196 (70) 9 2,5% (60) bps 4.4% 4.7% (30) bps 2.9% 3.5% (60) bps 62.8% 62.3% 50 bps 62.8% 69.1% (40) bps

(1) Front end yield is calculated as gross profit from new vehicles, used retail vehicles and finance and insurance (net), divided by combined new and used

retail unit sales.

ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, INC. SAME STORE OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS (In millions)

(Unaudited)

				e Months Ended ıber 31,		Ţ	0/
		2018		2017		Increase (Decrease)	% Change
Revenue							
New vehicle:							
Luxury	\$	1,235.3	\$	1,200.2	\$	35.1	3 %
Import		1,706.7		1,636.2		70.5	4 %
Domestic		740.3		722.2	_	18.1	3 %
Total new vehicle		3,682.3		3,558.6		123.7	3 %
Used Vehicle:							
Retail		1,737.2		1,625.0		112.2	7 %
Wholesale		185.8		197.7		(11.9)	(6)%
Total used vehicle		1,923.0	_	1,822.7	_	100.3	6 %
Parts and service		804.1		785.6		18.5	2 %
Finance and insurance, net		284.9		274.3		10.6	4 %
Total revenue	\$	6,694.3	\$	6,441.2	\$	253.1	4 %
Gross profit							
New vehicle:							
Luxury	\$	80.0	\$	78.9	\$	1.1	1 %
Import	Ŷ	49.7	Ψ	56.7	Ψ	(7.0)	(12)%
Domestic		31.7		33.2		(1.5)	(12)%
Total new vehicle		161.4		168.8	_	(7.4)	(4)%
Used Vehicle:		101.4		100.0		(7.4)	(4)/0
Retail		124.5		120.4		4.1	3 %
Wholesale		2.1		1.2		0.9	75 %
Total used vehicle		126.6		121.6	_	5.0	4 %
Parts and service:		12010		12110		510	. , ,
Customer pay		286.2		272.1		14.1	5 %
Warranty		75.5		81.7		(6.2)	(8)%
Wholesale parts		22.3		21.1		1.2	6 %
Parts and service, excluding reconditioning and preparation		384.0		374.9	_	9.1	2 %
Reconditioning and preparation		121.1		114.3		6.8	6 %
Total parts and service		505.1		489.2	_	15.9	3 %
Finance and insurance		284.9		274.3		10.6	4 %
Total gross profit	\$	1,078.0	\$	1,053.9	\$	24.1	2 %
	¢	707 7	¢	700 5	¢		
SG&A expense	\$	737.7	\$	726.5	\$	11.2	2 %
SG&A expense as a percentage of gross profit		68.4%		68.9%	=	(50) bps	

Same store amounts consist of information from dealerships for identical months in each comparative period, commencing with the first month we owned the dealership. Additionally, amounts related to divested dealerships are excluded from each comparative period.

ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, INC. SAME STORE OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS (Continued) (Unaudited)

		For the Twelve Months Ended December 31,					0/
		2018		2017		Increase (Decrease)	% Change
<u>Unit sales</u>							
New vehicle:							
Luxury		22,979		22,525		454	2 %
Import		60,010		58,648		1,362	2 %
Domestic		18,676		18,727		(51)	— %
Total new vehicle		101,665		99,900		1,765	2 %
Used vehicle retail		79,789		76,285		3,504	5 %
Used to new ratio		78.5%		76.4%		210 bps	
Average selling price							
New vehicle	\$	36,220	\$	35,622	\$	598	2 %
Used vehicle retail	÷	21,772	Ŷ	21,302	Ŷ	470	2 %
		,		,			
<u>Average gross profit per unit</u>							
New vehicle:							
Luxury	\$	3,481	\$	3,503	\$	(22)	(1)%
Import		828		967		(139)	(14)%
Domestic		1,697		1,773		(76)	(4)%
Total new vehicle		1,588		1,690		(102)	(6)%
Used vehicle retail		1,560		1,578		(18)	(1)%
Finance and insurance, net		1,570		1,557		13	1 %
Front end yield (1)		3,146		3,198		(52)	(2)%
<u>Gross margin</u>							
New vehicle:							
Luxury		6.5%		6.6%		(10) bps	
Import		2.9%		3.5%		(60) bps	
Domestic		4.3%		4.6%		(30) bps	
Total new vehicle		4.4%		4.7%		(30) bps	
Used vehicle retail		7.2%		7.4%		(20) bps	
Parts and service:							
Parts and service, excluding reconditioning and preparation		47.8%		47.7%		10 bps	
Parts and service, including reconditioning and preparation		62.8%		62.3%		50 bps	
Total gross profit margin		16.1%		16.4%		(30) bps	

Same store amounts consist of information from dealerships for identical months in each comparative period, commencing with the first month we owned the dealership. Additionally, amounts related to divested dealerships are excluded from each comparative period.

(1) Front end yield is calculated as gross profit from new vehicles, used retail vehicles and finance and insurance (net), divided by combined new and used retail unit sales.

ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, INC. Additional Disclosures (In millions) (Unaudited)

	Decer	mber 31, 2018	r 31, 2018 December 31, 2017		In cember 31, 2017 (De		% Change
SELECTED BALANCE SHEET DATA							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	8.3	\$	4.7	\$	3.6	77 %
New vehicle inventory		866.2		646.5		219.7	34 %
Used vehicle inventory		158.9		135.9		23.0	17 %
Parts inventory		41.5		43.6		(2.1)	(5)%
Total current assets		1,552.0		1,302.1		249.9	19 %
Floor plan notes payable		965.1		732.1		233.0	32 %
Total current liabilities		1,277.1		1,058.2		218.9	21 %
CAPITALIZATION:							
Long-term debt (including current portion)	\$	905.3	\$	875.5	\$	29.8	3 %
Shareholders' equity		473.2		394.2		79.0	20 %
Total	\$	1,378.5	\$	1,269.7	\$	108.8	9 %

	December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
DAYS SUPPLY		
New vehicle inventory	67	53
Used vehicle inventory	34	31

Days supply of inventory is calculated based on new and used inventory levels at the end of each reporting period and a 30-day historical cost of sales.

Brand Mix - New Vehicle Revenue by Brand-

	For the Twelve 1 Decemb	
	2018	2017
Luxury:		
Mercedes-Benz	6%	7%
Lexus	7%	7%
BMW	5%	6%
Acura	4%	4%
Infiniti	3%	3%
Other luxury	8%	7%
Total luxury	33%	34%
Imports:		
Honda	19%	18%
Nissan	11%	12%
Toyota	12%	11%
Other imports	5%	5%
Total imports	47%	46%
Domestic:		
Ford	10%	11%
Chevrolet	5%	4%
Dodge	3%	3%
Other domestics	2%	2%
Total domestic	20%	20%
Total New Vehicle Revenue	100%	100%

Non-GAAP Financial Disclosure and Reconciliation

In addition to evaluating the financial condition and results of our operations in accordance with GAAP, from time to time management evaluates and analyzes results and any impact on the Company of strategic decisions and actions relating to, among other things, cost reduction, growth, and profitability improvement initiatives, and other events outside of normal, or "core," business and operations, by considering certain alternative financial measures not prepared in accordance with GAAP. These measures include "Adjusted leverage ratio," "Adjusted income from operations," "Adjusted net income," Adjusted operating margins," and "Adjusted diluted earnings per share ("EPS")." Further, management assesses the organic growth of our revenue and gross profit on a same store basis. We believe that our assessment on a same store basis represents an important indicator of comparative financial performance and provides relevant information to assess our performance at our existing locations. Same store amounts consist of information from dealerships for identical months in each comparative period, commencing with the first month we owned the dealership. Additionally, amounts related to divested dealerships are excluded from each comparative period. Non-GAAP measures do not have definitions under GAAP and may be defined differently by and not be comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies. As a result, any non-GAAP financial measures considered and evaluated by management are reviewed in conjunction with a review of the most directly comparable measures calculated in accordance with GAAP. Management cautions investors not to place undue reliance on such non-GAAP measures, but also to consider them with the most directly comparable GAAP measures. In their evaluation of results from time to time, management excludes items that do not arise directly from core operations, or are otherwise of an unusual or non-recurring nature. Because these non-core, unusual or non-recurring charges and gains materially affect Asbury's financial condition or results in the specific period in which they are recognized, management also evaluates, and makes resource allocation and performance evaluation decisions based on, the related non-GAAP measures excluding such items. In addition to using such non-GAAP measures to evaluate results in a specific period, management believes that such measures may provide more complete and consistent comparisons of operational performance on a period-over-period historical basis and a better indication of expected future trends. Management discloses these non-GAAP measures, and the related reconciliations, because it believes investors use these metrics in evaluating longer-term period-over-period performance, and to allow investors to better understand and evaluate the information used by management to assess operating performance.

The following tables provide reconciliations for our non-GAAP metrics:

		For the Twelve Months Ended			
	Decer	December 31, 2018		September 30, 2018	
	(Dollars in millions)				
Adjusted leverage ratio:					
Long-term debt (including current portion)	\$	905.3	\$	865.2	
Calculation of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization ("EBITDA"):					
Net Income	\$	168.0	\$	170.1	
Add:					
Depreciation and amortization		33.7		33.4	
Income tax expense		56.8		54.9	
Swap and other interest expense		53.6		54.1	
Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization ("EBITDA")	\$	312.1	\$	312.5	
Non-core items - expense (income):					
Franchise rights impairment	\$	3.7	\$	5.1	
Legal settlements		(0.7)		(0.7)	
Total non-core items		3.0		4.4	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	315.1	\$	316.9	
Adjusted leverage ratio		2.9		2.7	

	F	For the Three Months Ended December 31,			
		2018		2017	
	(In	(In millions, except		t per share data)	
Adjusted income from operations:					
Income from operations	\$	77.3	\$	74.1	
Franchise Right Impairment		3.7		5.1	
Adjusted income from operations	<u>\$</u>	81.0	\$	79.2	
<u>Adjusted net income:</u>					
Net income	\$	40.4	\$	42.5	
Non-core items - (income) expense:					
Franchise rights impairment		3.7		5.1	
Income tax expense (benefit) on non-core items above		(0.9)		(1.9)	
2017 Tax Act related adjustments		—		(7.9)	
Total non-core items		2.8		(4.7)	
Adjusted net income	\$	43.2	\$	37.8	
<u>Adjusted diluted earnings per share (EPS):</u>					
Diluted EPS	\$	2.06	\$	2.03	
Total non-core items		0.14		(0.22)	
Adjusted diluted EPS	\$	2.20	\$	1.81	
Weighted average common shares outstanding - diluted		19.6		20.9	

		For the Twelve Months E December 31,		
	2018		2017	
	(In millions, ex	(In millions, except per share da		
Adjusted income from operations:				
Income from operations	\$ 310.9	\$	287.7	
Franchise Right Impairment	3.7		5.1	
Real estate-related charges	—		2.9	
Investment income	—		(0.8)	
Legal settlements	(0.7)	1	(0.9)	
Adjusted income from operations	\$ 313.9	\$	294.0	
Adjusted net income:				
Net income	\$ 168.0	\$	139.1	
Non-core items - (income) expense:				
Franchise rights impairment	3.7		5.1	
Real estate-related charges	—		2.9	
Investment income	—		(0.8)	
Legal settlements	(0.7)	I.	(0.9)	
Income tax expense (benefit) on non-core items above	(0.8)		(2.4)	
2017 Tax Act related adjustments	0.6		(7.9)	
Total non-core items	2.8		(4.0)	
Adjusted net income	\$ 170.8	\$	135.1	
<u>Adjusted diluted earnings per share (EPS):</u>				
Diluted EPS	\$ 8.28	\$	6.62	
Total non-core items	0.13		(0.19)	
Adjusted diluted EPS	\$ 8.41	\$	6.43	
Weighted average common shares outstanding - diluted	20.3	3	21.0	