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## RBC Capital Markets Financial Institutions Conference

March 2015

# Disclaimer

## IMPORTANT NOTICE:

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## Company Overview

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# Ares Capital Overview

## Market Leading Non-Bank Direct Lender

- Ares Capital Corporation (“ARCC” or “Ares Capital”) is a leading specialty finance company focused on direct lending to middle market companies
- Provides “one-stop” financing
- Regulated as a business development company (“BDC”)
- IPO in 2004 – the largest BDC measured by total assets and market capitalization<sup>(1)</sup>
- \$9.0 billion portfolio at fair value with 205 portfolio companies as of 12/31/14
- \$5.4 billion market capitalization as of 2/26/15

## Externally Managed by Ares Management L.P. ("Ares")

- Externally managed by global alternative asset manager with \$86 billion of assets under management ("AUM")<sup>(2)</sup>
- Ares has expertise investing in tradable credit, direct lending, private equity and real estate
- Platform generates meaningful benefits to ARCC through access to research, due diligence, deal flow, capital access and infrastructure

## Focus on Attractive Dynamics in Middle Market

- Focus on lending to high free cash flowing companies in defensive industries in the middle market
  - Significant direct origination team in multiple geographies
  - Target companies with EBITDA of \$10 - \$250 million and enterprise values of \$100 million - \$1 billion generally
  - Loan sizes generally \$30 - \$500 million<sup>(3)</sup>
- Direct lending opportunity has been enhanced by secular trends
  - Significant consolidation among larger commercial banks
  - Commercial and investment banks focusing on larger corporate borrowers deemed more strategic
  - Increased regulation – more costly for banks to hold middle market and /or below investment grade loans

1. Measured using total assets as of December 31, 2014 and market capitalization as of February 26, 2015.

2. Ares is the parent to several registered investment advisers, including Ares Capital Management LLC ("Ares Capital Management"), ARCC's investment adviser. AUM refers to the assets of the funds, alternative asset companies and other entities and accounts that are managed or co-managed by Ares, including funds managed by Ivy Hill Asset Management ("IHAM"). For Ares funds other than collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs"), AUM represents the sum of the net asset value of such funds, the drawn and undrawn debt (at the fund-level including amounts subject to restrictions) and uncalled committed capital (including commitments to funds that have yet to commence their investment periods). For Ares funds that are CLOs, AUM represents subordinated notes (equity) plus all drawn and undrawn debt tranches. AUM amounts are as of December 31, 2014 and pro forma for Ares' acquisition of Energy Investors Funds ("EIF"), which closed on January 1, 2015.

3. Includes Ares Capital and certain of its financial services portfolio companies.

# Company Highlights

## Market Leader in Non-Bank Sector

- Largest BDC by market capitalization and assets <sup>(1)</sup>
- Long track record with sponsors and deal sources
- Significant visibility in middle market lending

## Significant Competitive Advantages

- Scaled, national platform with ability to underwrite and hold up to \$500 million <sup>(2)</sup>
- 85 investment professionals <sup>(3)</sup>
- Multi-asset class approach

## Thoughtful Organic & External Growth

- Onboarding of teams in new verticals
- Organic growth in core while staying selective
- Successful acquisition track record

## Superior Long Term Performance

- Average annual total shareholder return of approximately 12% since 10/04 <sup>(4)</sup>
- Outperformed most relevant peers, stock and bond indices <sup>(5)</sup>
- Cumulative IRR to ARCC of 13% on \$9.9 billion of investments realized since 10/04 <sup>(6)</sup>
- Cumulative net realized annual investment gains of approximately 1.1% <sup>(7)</sup>

## Strong & Asset Sensitive Balance Sheet

- Moderate leverage and long dated liabilities
- 82% of investments (at fair value) are floating rate <sup>(3)</sup>
- Majority of funded liabilities are fixed rate

## Consistent Dividends with Strong Coverage

- Paid \$15.60 per share since IPO in 10/04 through 12/31/14 <sup>(8)</sup>
- Cumulative coverage from GAAP and core earnings/net realized gains
- Carried forward estimated excess taxable income of approximately \$0.58 <sup>(9)</sup> per share from 2014 into 2015

1. Measured using total assets as of December 31, 2014 and market capitalization as of February 26, 2015.

2. Includes Ares Capital and certain of its financial services portfolio companies.

3. As of December 31, 2014.

4. As of December 31, 2014. Ares Capital Corp's stock price-based total return is calculated assuming dividends are reinvested at the end of day stock price on the relevant quarterly ex-dividend dates. Total return is calculated assuming investors did not participate in Ares Capital Corp's rights offering issuance as of March 20, 2008. Time period selected to include ARCC IPO in October 2004. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

5. Measured by total return to shareholders since ARCC IPO in October 2004 compared to S&P 500, Russell 1000, Merrill Lynch High Yield Master II and BDC Peer Group of American Capital, Apollo Investment Corp., Gladstone Capital Corp., MCG Capital Corp. and Prospect Capital Corp.

6. Based on original cash invested, net of syndications, of approximately \$9.9 billion and total proceeds from such exited investments of approximately \$12.1 billion. Internal rate of return is the discount rate that makes the net present value of all cash flows related to a particular investment equal to zero. Internal rate of return is gross of expenses related to investments as these expenses are not allocable to specific investments. Investments are considered to be exited when the original investment objective has been achieved through the receipt of cash and/or non-cash consideration upon the repayment of ARCC's debt investment or sale of an investment, or through the determination that no further consideration was collectible and, thus, a loss may have been realized. These IRR results are historical results relating to ARCC's past performance and are not necessarily indicative of future results, the achievement of which cannot be assured.

7. From inception through December 31, 2014, excludes \$196 million one-time gain on the acquisition of Allied Capital in Q2-10 and gains/losses from extinguishment of debt and sale of other assets. Calculated as an average of the historical annual net realized gain/loss rates (where annual net realized gain/loss rate is calculated as the amount of net realized gains/losses for a particular period from ARCC IPO in October 2004 to December 31, 2014 divided by the average quarterly investments at amortized cost in such period).

8. From ARCC IPO in October 2004 to December 31, 2014. There can be no assurance that the dividends will continue at historical levels or at all. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

9. The amount of excess 2014 taxable income available for carry over into 2015 is only an estimate based on estimated 2014 taxable income. The calculation of estimated 2014 taxable income includes a number of estimated inputs, including information received from third parties and, as a result, actual 2014 taxable income will not be finally determined until the Company's 2014 tax return is filed in 2015. Consequently, both 2014 taxable income and the amount of excess taxable income available for carry over into 2015 is subject to change. For more information, see footnote 11 to the Company's 2014 audited financial statements filed with the Company's 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

# Market Opportunity

## Potential Supply Constraints

- Long term trend of bank consolidation has eliminated a number of former bank competitors
- More costly for banks to hold middle market loans and illiquid/below investment grade loans
- Implementation of stricter regulatory requirements may reduce bank competition
- Commercial and investment banks focusing on larger corporate borrowers
- Expiration of reinvestment periods for CLO vehicles
- Capital formation for sub scale lending platforms remains challenged

## Demand Dynamics

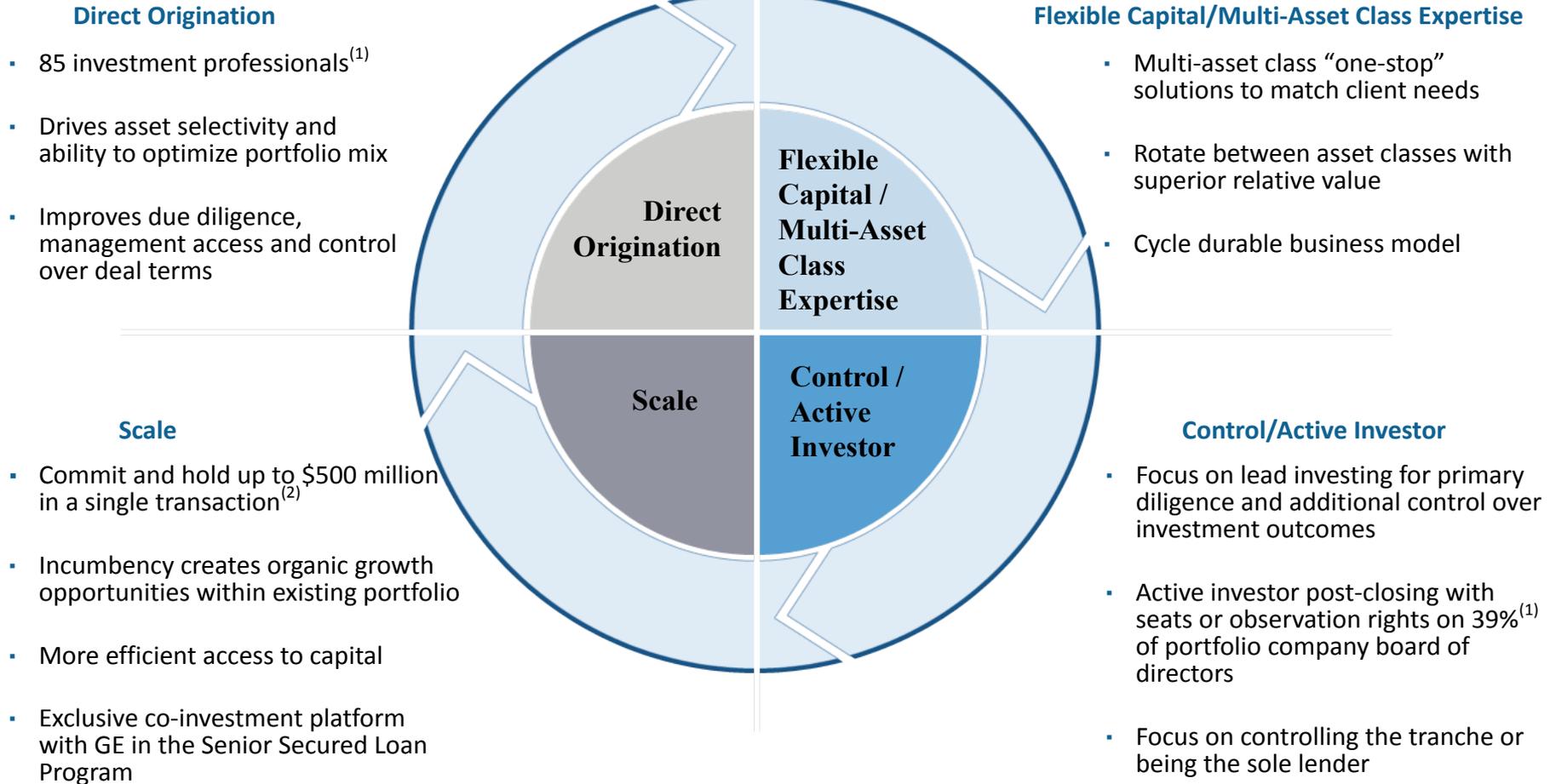
- Approximately \$486 billion of un-invested U.S. private equity capital seeking financing<sup>(1)</sup>
- Middle market borrowers represent a large segment of economy
  - Middle market companies account for one-third of U.S. private sector employment (47.9 million people)<sup>(2)</sup>
  - Economic growth drives ongoing need for credit

**We believe the middle market has transitioned into an institutional funded market with fewer scaled providers involved in sourcing and holding loans, creating attractive opportunities for risk-adjusted returns**

1. Source: PitchBook Private Equity 2H-14 Fundraising and Capital Overhang Report.

2. Source: National Center for the Middle Market 4Q-14 Middle Market Indicator. Middle market defined to include companies with annual revenues between \$10 million and \$1 billion.

# Competitive Advantages



1. As of December 31, 2014.

2. Includes Ares Capital and certain of its financial services portfolio companies.

# Ares Capital Origination and Platform Strengths

Ares Capital's team employs a multi channel approach to direct origination

## Sponsored

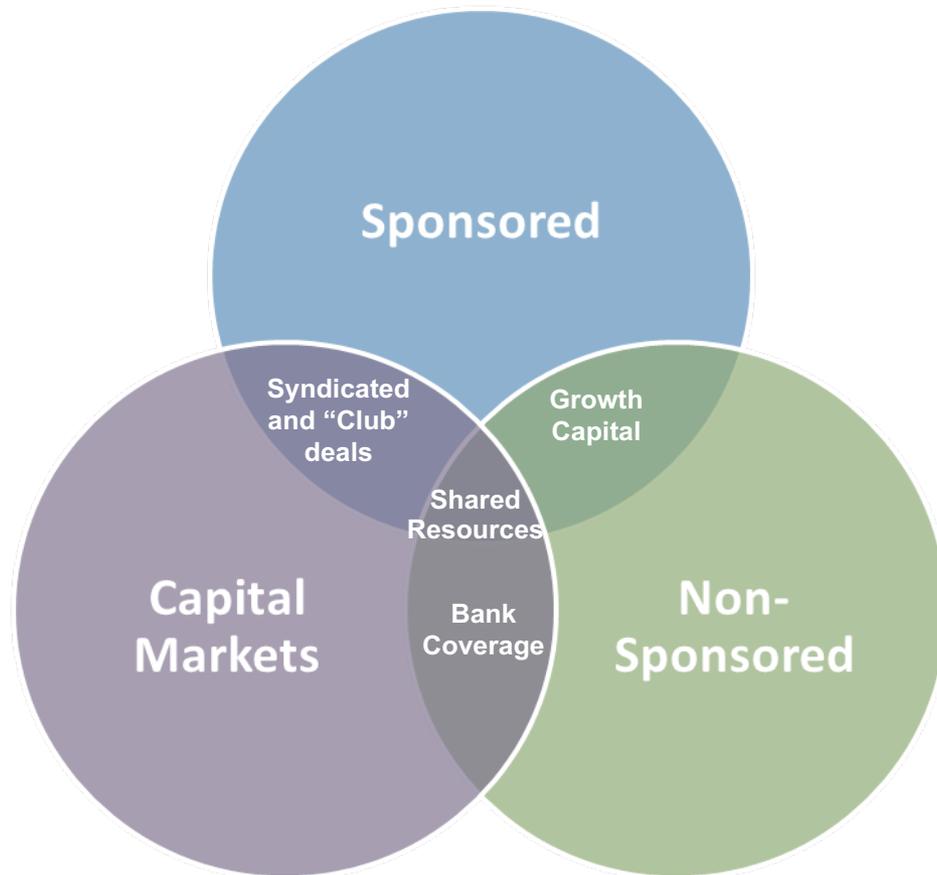
- Active dialogue with over 375 U.S. sponsors
- ARCC has closed transactions with over 175 sponsors since 2004

## Non-Sponsored

- Direct calling effort on companies, management teams, intermediaries and M&A advisors
- Ongoing communication with regional accounting firms, law firms and business brokers
- Incremental deal flow from sourcing efforts of Ares Private Equity Group

## Capital Markets

- Active dialogue with capital market participants and with all large investment banks due to Ares' significant global leveraged finance franchise
- Strong analyst pool improves research and due diligence
- Ares Tradable Credit Group and IHAM provide transaction referrals



This multi-pronged approach enhances the probability that ARCC will have the opportunity to invest in the highest quality businesses

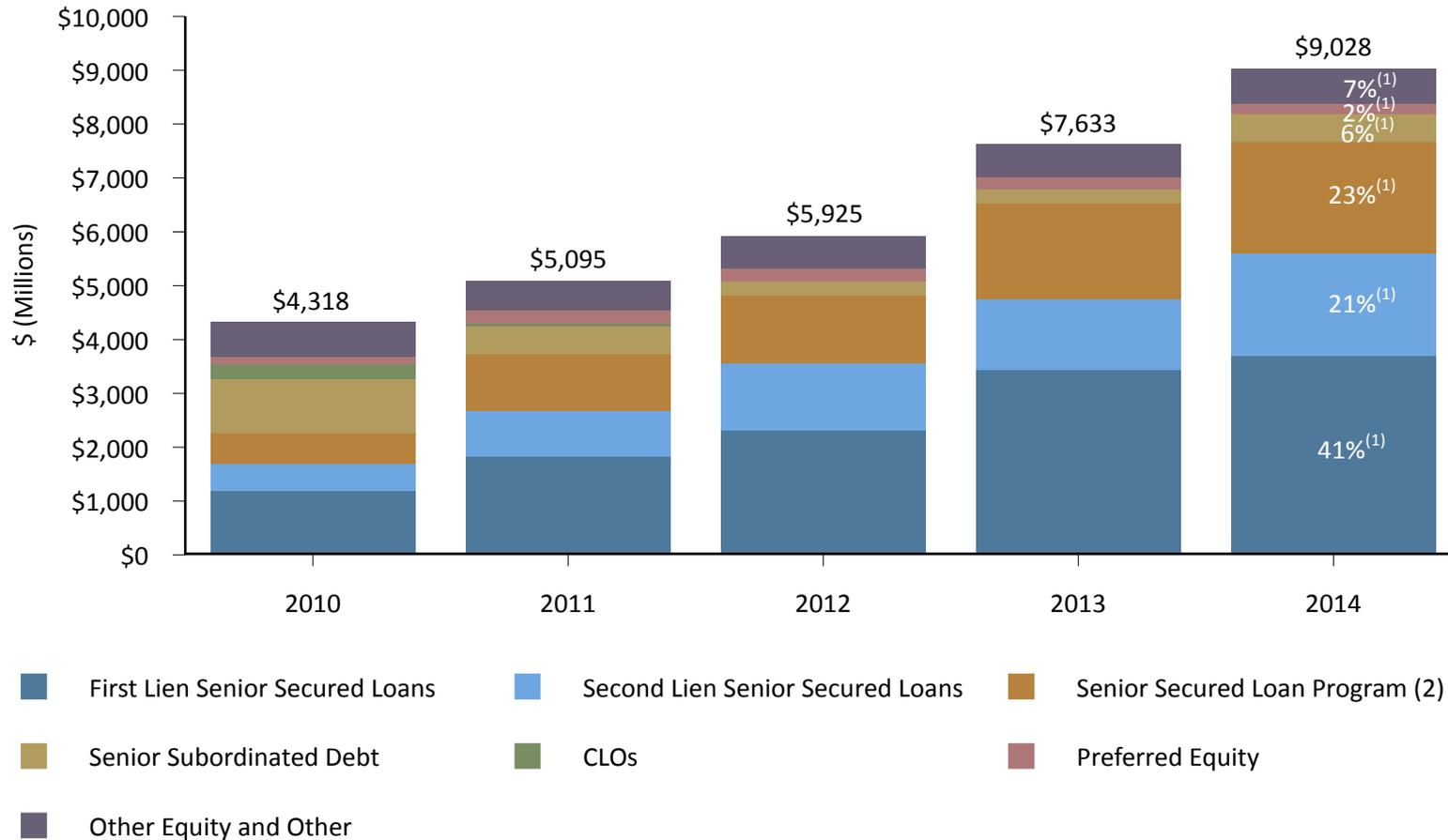
# Portfolio and Performance Review

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# Investment Portfolio<sup>(1)</sup>

ARCC has grown through organic expansion to achieve scale

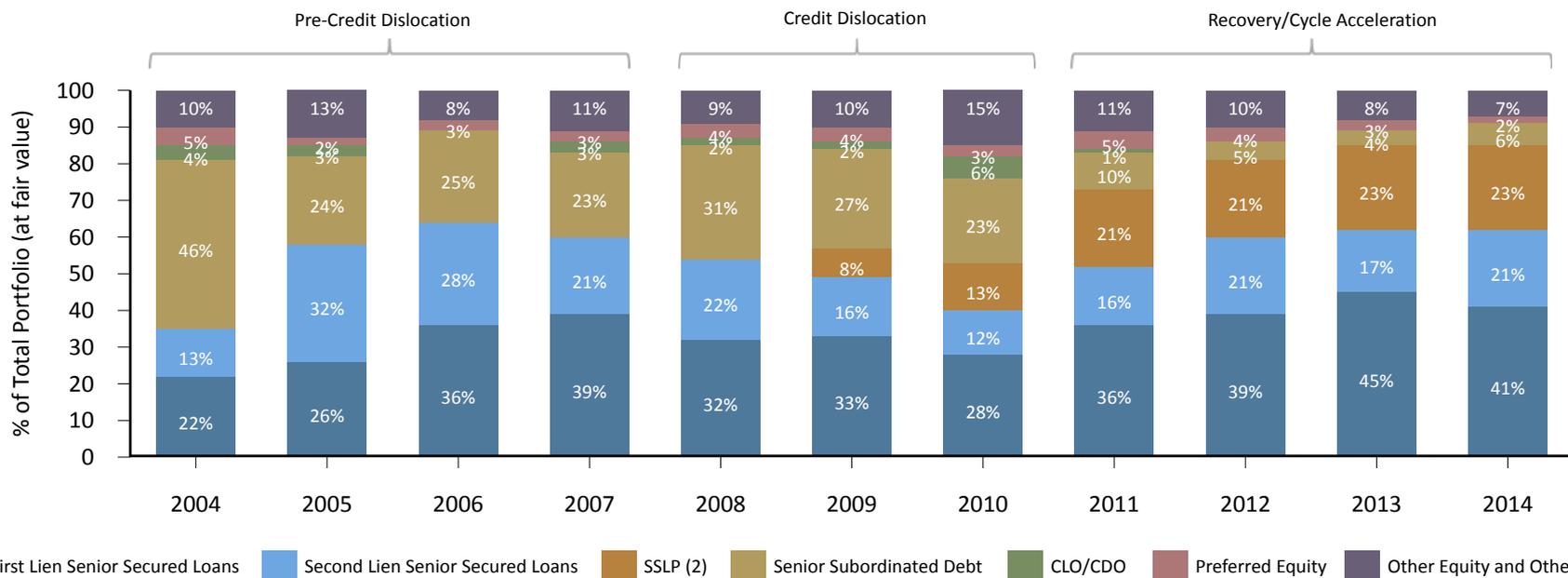


1. All data as of December 31 of the respective years. Investments represent amounts at fair value. Represents percentage of total portfolio at fair value.

2. Represents ARCC's portion of its co-investments with GE Sponsor Finance LLC and General Electric Capital Corporation (collectively, "GE") in first lien senior secured loans of middle market companies.

# Portfolio Reflects Pro-Active Rotation Between Asset Classes<sup>(1)</sup>

- ARCC pro-actively shifted into more senior debt investments prior to credit dislocation in 2007 and shifted again in 2012 and continuing into 2014



<b>Wtd. Average Yield on Debt and Income Producing Securities at FV</b>	12.4%	11.3%	12.0%	11.7%	12.8%	12.7%	12.9%	12.0%	11.3%	10.4%	10.1%
<b>Wtd. Average Yield on Total Investments at FV</b>	10.8%	10.4%	9.9%	9.9%	11.2%	11.2%	10.5%	10.4%	10.0%	9.3%	9.1%
<b>3-month LIBOR</b>	2.6%	4.5%	5.4%	4.7%	1.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
<b>Implied Spread over 3-month LIBOR<sup>(3)</sup></b>	9.8%	6.8%	6.6%	7.0%	11.4%	12.4%	12.6%	11.4%	11.0%	10.1%	9.8%

1. All data as of December 31 of the respective years.

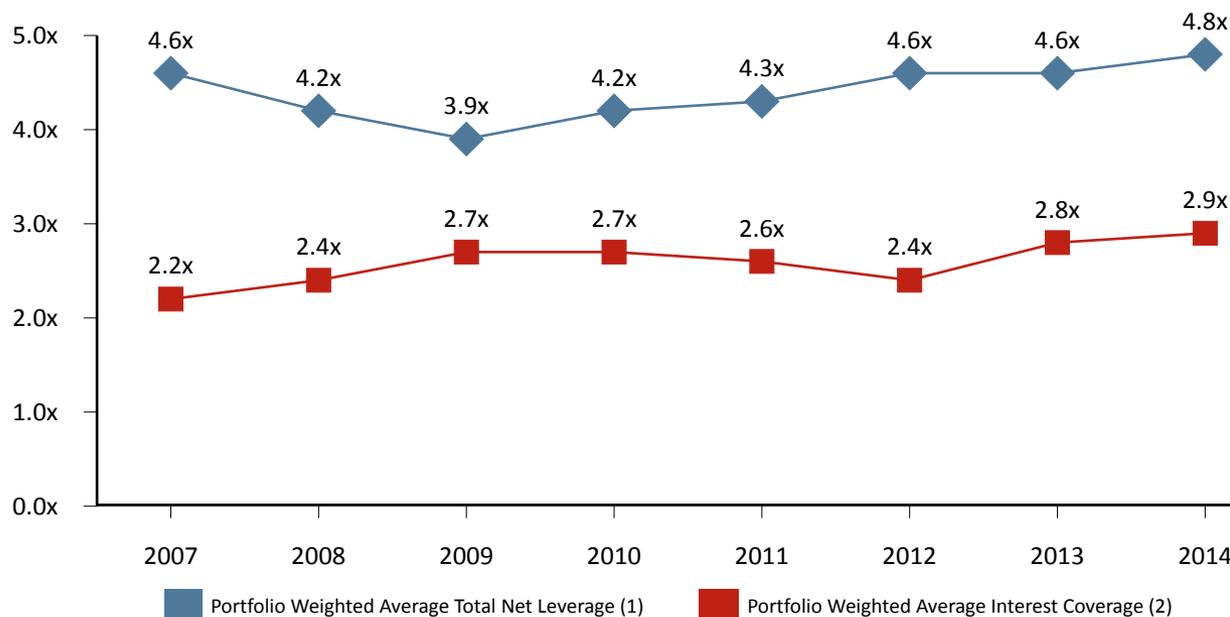
2. Represents ARCC's portion of its co-investments with GE in first lien senior secured loans of middle market companies.

3. Spread of weighted average yield on debt and income producing securities at fair value over 3-month LIBOR.

# Consistent Portfolio Company Credit Statistics

Portfolio company leverage has typically ranged between 4.0-5.0x over time

- Strong weighted average interest coverage at 2.9x provides meaningful cushion for ARCC's portfolio companies



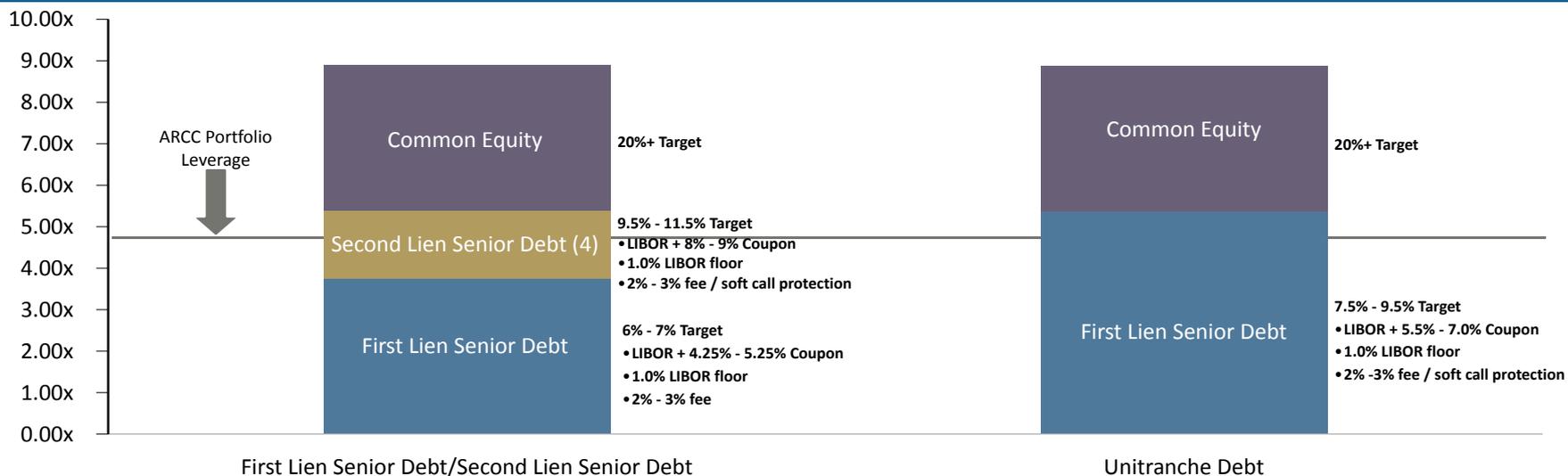
Note: This portfolio weighted average total net leverage multiple and weighted average interest coverage ratio data includes information solely in respect of corporate portfolio companies in which the Company has a debt investment (subject to the exclusions described in the following sentence). Excluded from the ratios above is information in respect of the following: (i) the Senior Secured Loan Program (and the underlying borrowers in the Senior Secured Loan Program), (ii) portfolio companies that do not report EBITDA, including IHAM, (iii) investment funds/vehicles, (iv) discrete projects in the project finance/power generation sector, (v) certain oil and gas companies, (vi) venture capital backed companies and (vii) commercial real estate finance companies.

- The weighted average total net leverage multiple for the underlying borrowers in the Senior Secured Loan Program was 3.8x, 4.5x, 4.5x, 4.8x and 4.8x as of year end 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014, respectively. Weighted average EBITDA amounts are weighted based on the fair value of the portfolio company investments except for the weighted average EBITDA for the Senior Secured Loan Program, which is weighted based on the principal amount of the loan made by the Senior Secured Loan Program to such portfolio company. EBITDA amounts are estimated from the most recent portfolio company financial statements, have not been independently verified by Ares Capital and may reflect a normalized or adjusted amount. Accordingly, Ares Capital makes no representation or warranty in respect of this information.
- The weighted average interest coverage ratio for the underlying borrowers in the Senior Secured Loan Program was 3.2x, 3.0x, 3.0x, 3.2x and 3.6x as of year end 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014, respectively. Portfolio weighted average interest coverage ratio represents the portfolio company's EBITDA as a multiple of interest and facility fees expense. Portfolio company credit statistics are derived from the most recently available portfolio company financial statements, have not been independently verified by Ares Capital and may reflect a normalized or adjusted amount. Accordingly, Ares Capital makes no representation or warranty in respect of this information.

# Current U.S. Middle Market Capital Structures

- Transaction structures are typically comprised of first lien and second lien senior debt or unitranche debt
- Leverage multiples on new first lien senior debt generally range from 3.75x to 4.25x first lien senior debt to EBITDA with total leverage multiples ranging from 5x to 6x debt to EBITDA
- Current enterprise values for middle market companies typically range from 8x to 10x EBITDA
- ARCC's portfolio weighted average total net leverage multiple was 4.8x as of 12/31/14<sup>(1)(2)</sup>

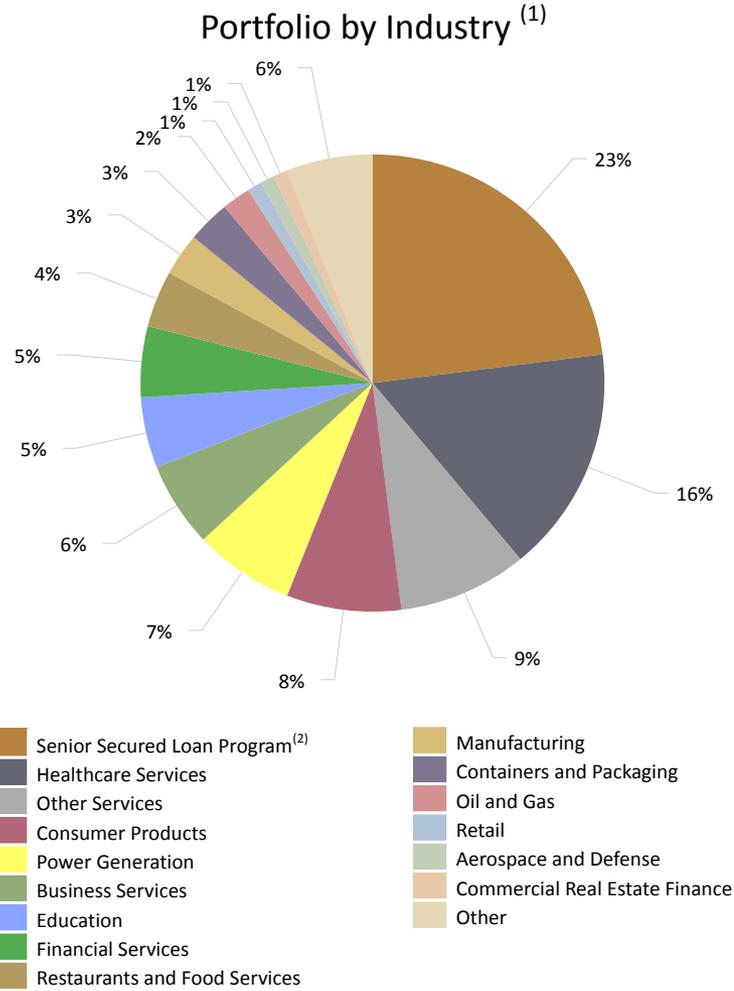
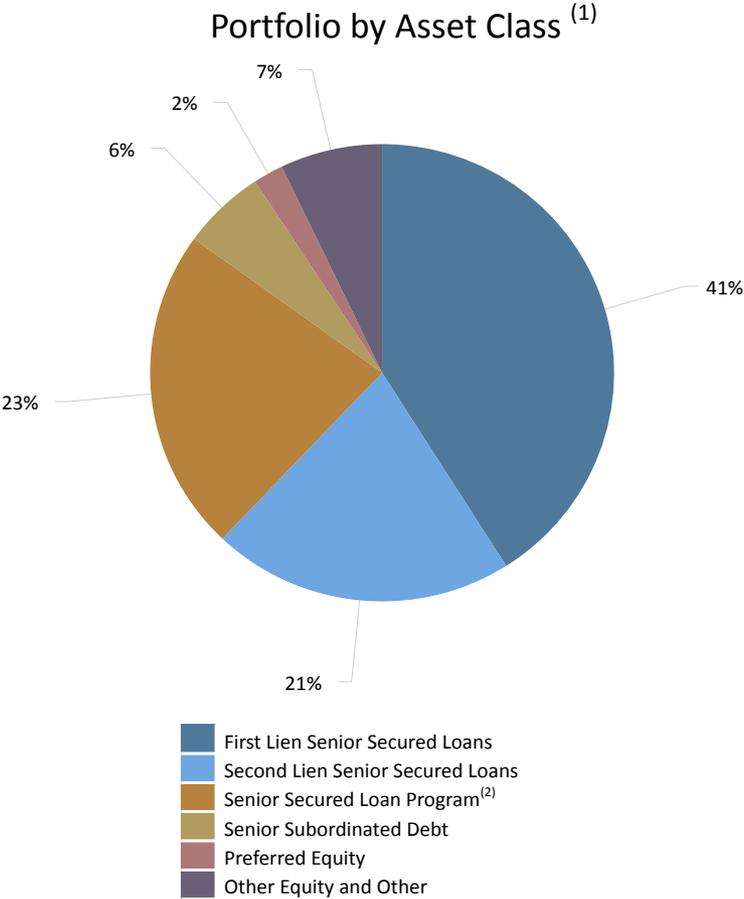
## Illustrative Returns and Capital Structures of Primary Middle Market Buyouts<sup>(3)</sup>



1. Portfolio weighted average total net leverage multiples represent Ares Capital's last dollar of invested debt capital (net of cash) as a multiple of EBITDA. Portfolio company credit statistics are derived from the most recently available portfolio company financial statements, have not been independently verified by Ares Capital and may reflect a normalized or adjusted amount. Accordingly, Ares Capital makes no representation or warranty in respect of this information. This portfolio weighted average total net leverage multiple includes information solely in respect of corporate portfolio companies in which the Company has a debt investment (subject to the exclusions described in the following sentence). Excluded from the ratios above is information in respect of the following: (i) the Senior Secured Loan Program (and the underlying borrowers in the Senior Secured Loan Program), (ii) portfolio companies that do not report EBITDA, including IHAM, (iii) investment funds/vehicles, (iv) discrete projects in the project finance/power generation sector, (v) certain oil and gas companies, (vi) venture capital backed companies and (vii) commercial real estate finance companies.
2. EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure. For a particular portfolio company, EBITDA typically represents net income before net interest expense, income tax expense, depreciation and amortization. EBITDA amounts are estimated from the most recent portfolio company financial statements, have not been independently verified by Ares Capital and may reflect a normalized or adjusted amount. Accordingly, Ares Capital makes no representation or warranty in respect of this information.
3. ARCC estimates as of December 31, 2014. Based on hypothetical transactions and a review of current market conditions. For illustrative purposes only and does not necessarily represent the actual structure of transactions in the ARCC portfolio. ARCC's portfolio investments can differ materially from those discussed here.
4. Mezzanine may also be used in place of second lien debt. Illustrative mezzanine pricing ranges from 10.0% - 12.0% with 2% fee/ 2 points average call protection.

# Portfolio Diversification

ARCC primarily invests in senior secured debt of companies in defensively positioned industries



1. At fair value as of December 31, 2014.

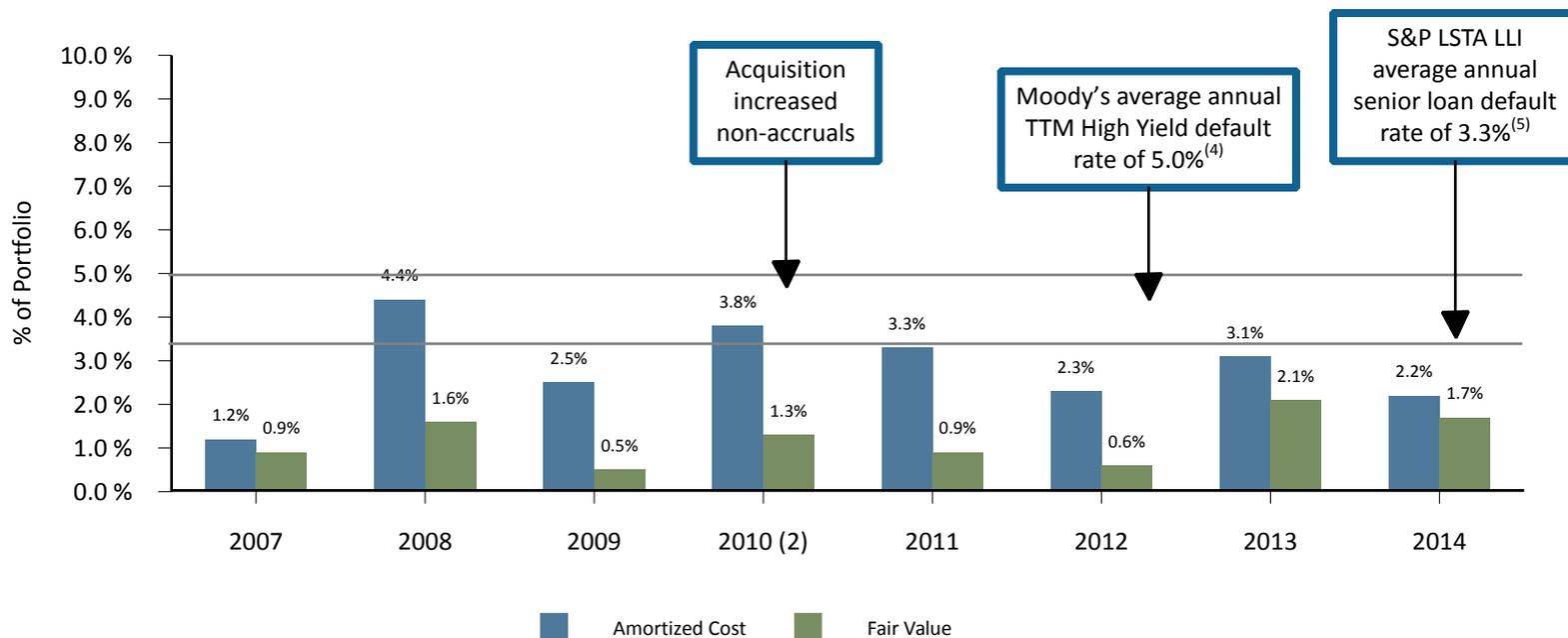
2. Represents ARCC's portion of its co-investments with GE in first lien senior secured loans of middle market companies. The portfolio companies in the SSLP are in industries similar to companies in ARCC's portfolio.

# Strong Historical Credit Performance

ARCC has consistently generated a low level of non-accruals since its inception<sup>(1)</sup>

- Non-accruals have generally remained well below the industry average annual default rate for leveraged senior loans and high yield bonds
  - Non-accruals increased in 2010 as a result of an acquisition<sup>(2)</sup>
- As of December 31, 2014, 2.2% of the total portfolio at amortized cost and 1.7% at fair value were on non-accrual status

Non-Accruing Investments as a % of Portfolio at Amortized Cost and Fair Value<sup>(3)</sup>



1. Non-accrual rates were not reported prior to 2007. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

2. On April 1, 2010, ARCC completed the acquisition of Allied Capital.

3. All data as of December 31 of the respective years.

4. Source: Moody's U.S. Trailing 12-month issuer-weighted spec-grade default rate. Actual speculative grade default data taken from January 2000 to December 2014.

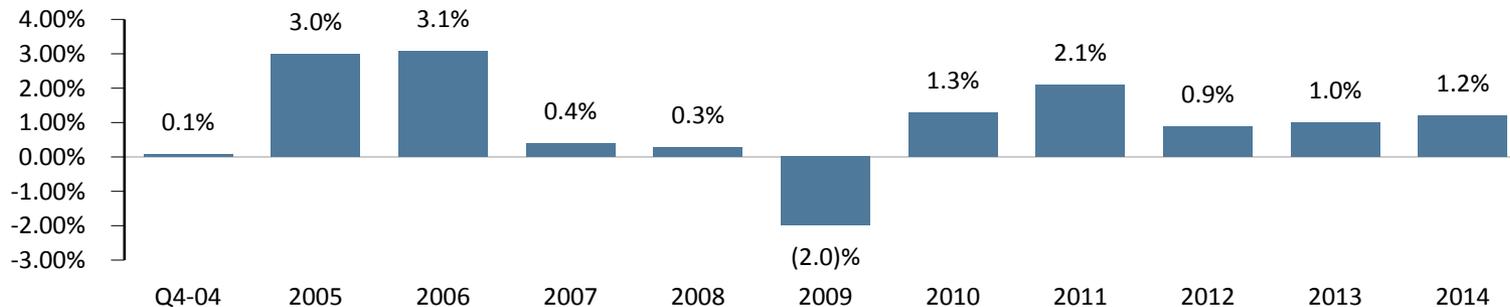
5. Source: S&P LCD data for LSTA Leveraged Loan Index ("LLI"). Calculated as average of rolling twelve month default rates for the LLI from January 2000 to December 2014.

# Strong Historical Investment Performance

ARCC had cumulative realized investment gains in excess of cumulative realized investment losses of approximately \$351 million since inception<sup>(1)</sup>

- Low net realized losses on loans combined with net realized gains on equity positions have resulted in an average annualized net realized gain/loss rate of +1.1%, with a net realized loss in only one fiscal year<sup>(2)(3)</sup>
- Since IPO in October 2004 through 12/31/14, cumulative internal rate of return to ARCC totaled 13%<sup>(4)</sup> on \$9.9 billion of investments realized

Net Realized Gain (Loss) Rate – Total Portfolio



Average annualized net realized gain rate of 1.1%<sup>(2)(3)</sup>

1. From inception through December 31, 2014 and excludes \$196 million one-time gain on the acquisition of Allied Capital in Q2-10 and gains/losses from the extinguishment of debt and sale of other assets.
2. From inception through December 31, 2014 and excludes \$196 million one-time gain on the acquisition of Allied Capital in Q2-10 and gains/losses from the extinguishment of debt and sale of other assets. Calculated as the annualized average of the historical net realized gain/loss rates (where the net realized gain/loss rate for a particular period is calculated as the amount of the net realized gains/losses during such period divided by the average quarterly investments at amortized cost in such period).
3. For purposes of this calculation, SSLP sub certs are considered debt investments.
4. Based on original cash invested, net of syndications, of approximately \$9.9 billion and total proceeds from such exited investments of approximately \$12.1 billion. Internal rate of return is the discount rate that makes the net present value of all cash flows related to a particular investment equal to zero. Internal rate of return is gross of expenses related to investments as these expenses are not allocable to specific investments. Investments are considered to be exited when the original investment objective has been achieved through the receipt of cash and/or non-cash consideration upon the repayment of ARCC's debt investment or sale of an investment, or through the determination that no further consideration was collectible and, thus, a loss may have been realized. These IRR results are historical results relating to ARCC's past performance and are not necessarily indicative of future results, the achievement of which cannot be assured.

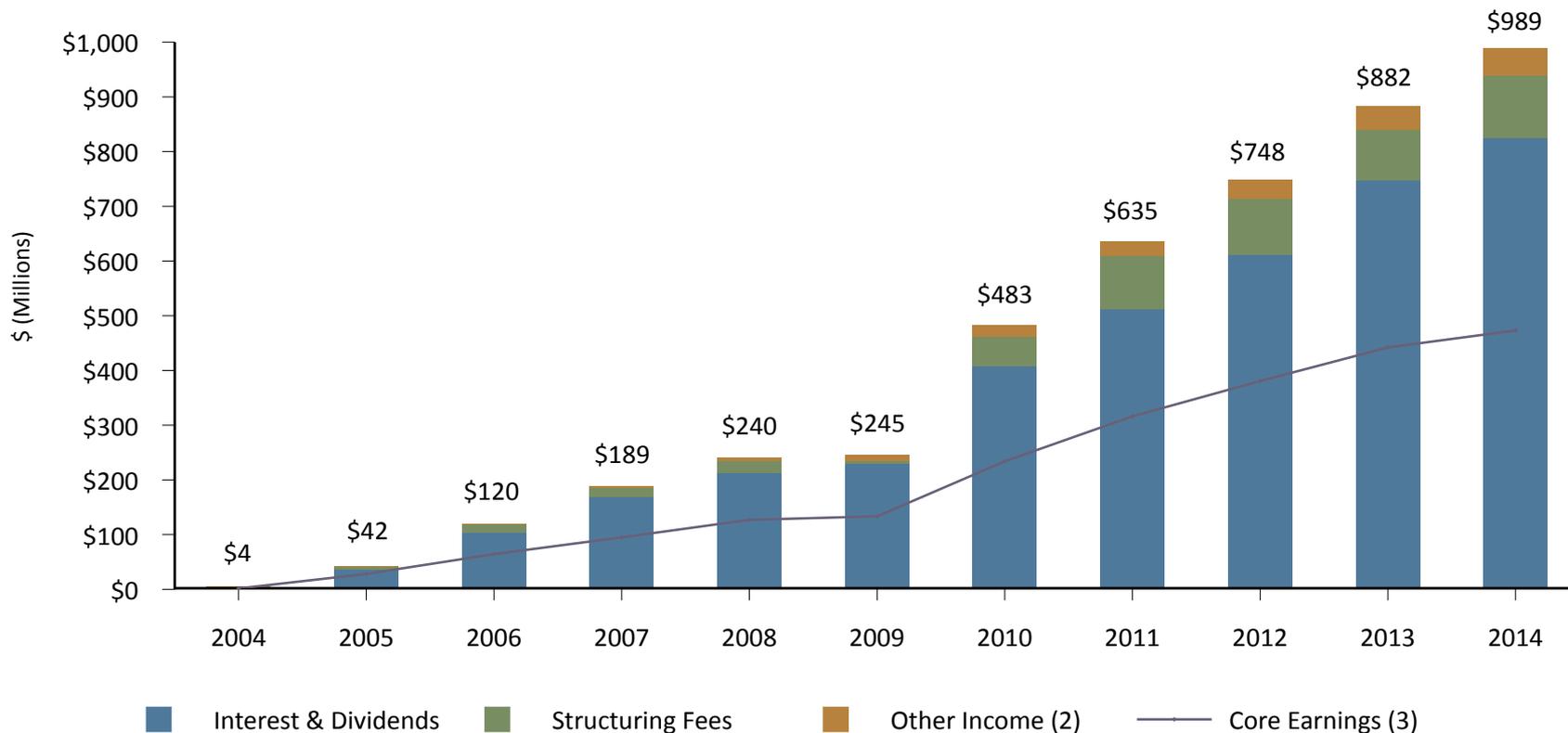
## Financial Review and Capitalization

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# Revenue and Earnings Growth<sup>(1)</sup>

- ARCC's revenue sources have become more diversified
- Since 2010, interest and dividend income has averaged 83% of revenues while structuring fees have averaged 12%



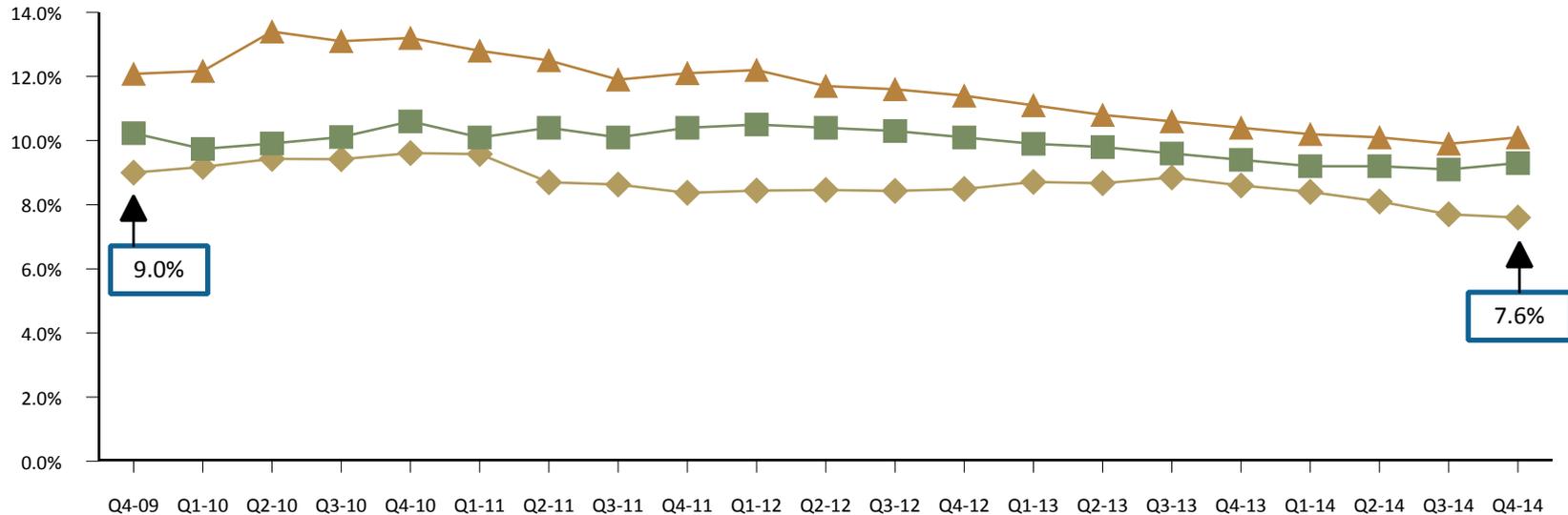
1. Excludes realized and unrealized gains and losses. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

2. Includes management fees and other income.

3. Core Earnings is a non-GAAP financial measure. Core Earnings is the net increase (decrease) in stockholders' equity resulting from operations less realized and unrealized gains and losses, any capital gains incentive fees attributable to such realized and unrealized gains and losses and any income taxes related to such realized gains and losses. Please see slide 35 for a reconciliation of core earnings to GAAP earnings.

# Attractive Net Interest and Dividend Margin

Weighted Average Yields vs. Net Interest and Dividend Margin



- ▲— Wtd. Average Yield of Total Debt & Other Income Producing Securities at Amortized Cost(1)
- Wtd. Average Yield of Total Portfolio at Amortized Cost(2)
- ◆— Net Interest & Dividend Margin(3)

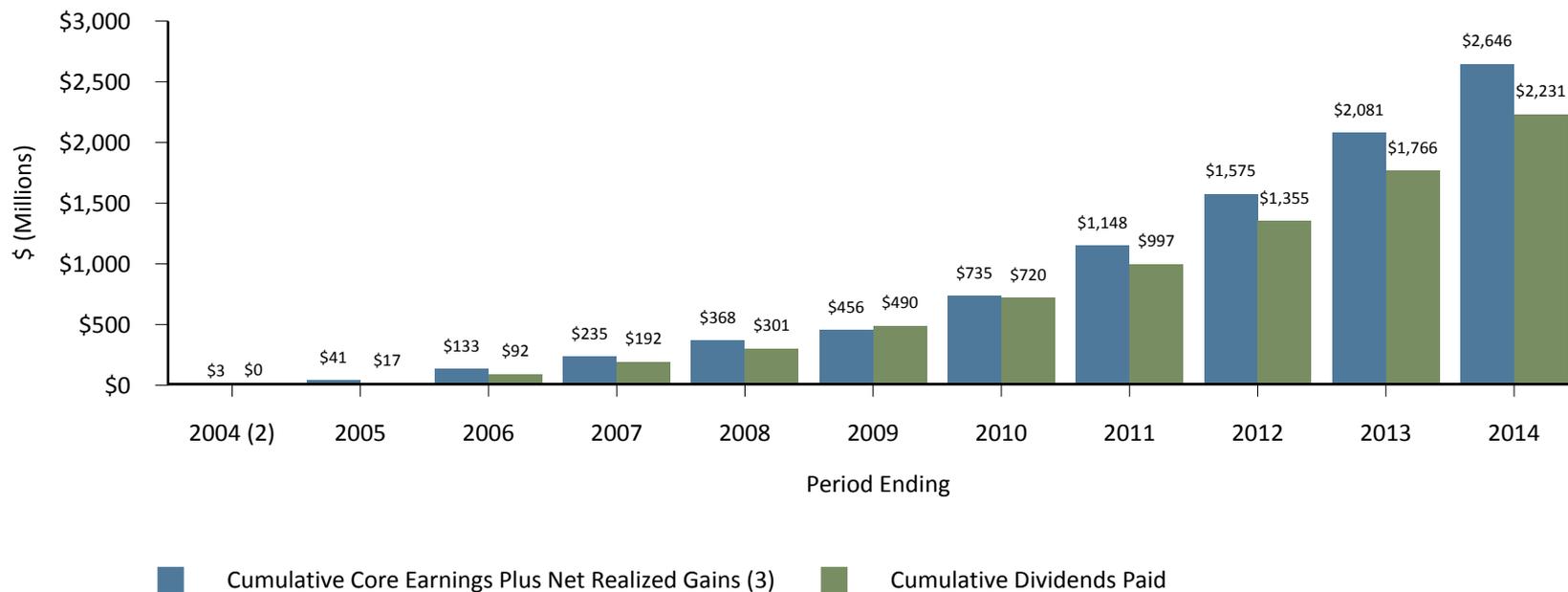
1. The weighted average yield on debt and other income producing securities at amortized cost is computed as (a) annual state interest rate or yield earned plus the net annual amortization of original issue discount and market discount or premium earned on accruing debt and other income producing securities, divided by (b) total accruing debt and other income producing securities at amortized cost.

2. The weighted average yield on the total investment portfolio at amortized cost is computed as (a) annual stated interest rate or yield earned plus the net annual amortization of original issue discount and market discount or premium earned on accruing debt and other income producing securities, divided by (b) total investments at amortized cost.

3. Net interest and dividend margin represents the difference between interest and dividend income and interest and credit facility fees expense for the last twelve month period divided by average total investments at amortized cost during the same period.

# Dividend and Core Earnings Track Record

Cumulative Core Earnings Plus Net Realized Gains vs. Cumulative Dividends<sup>(1)</sup>



**ARCC estimates that it will carry forward excess taxable income of approximately \$181 million<sup>(4)</sup> or \$0.58 per share from 2014 for distribution to stockholders in 2015**

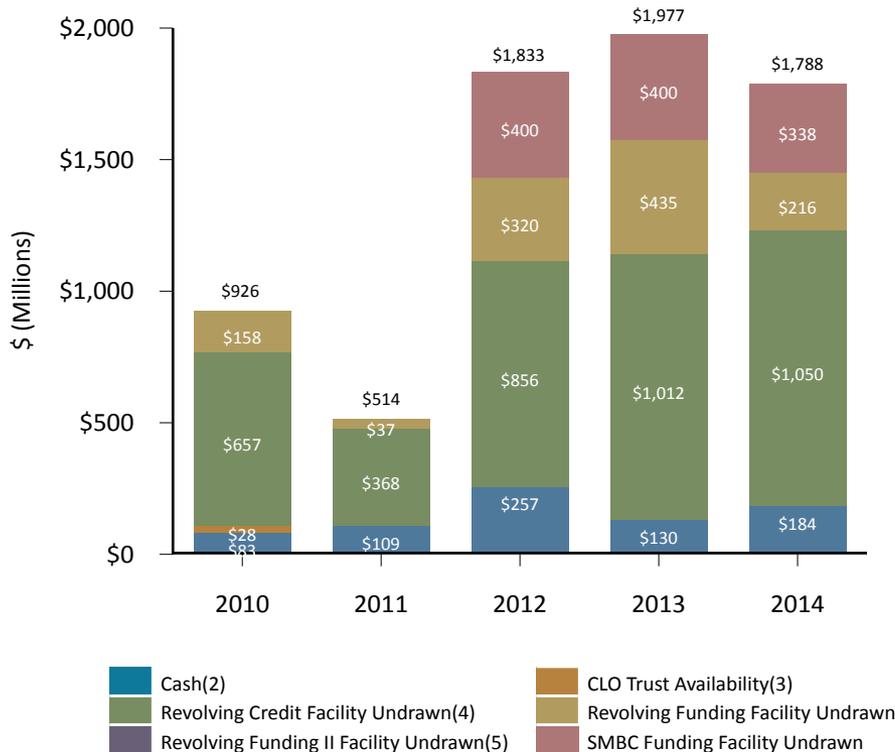
Note: All data as of December 31 of the respective years.

1. There can be no assurance that dividends will continue to be paid at historic levels or at all. Past performance is not indicative of future results.
2. ARCC declared a dividend of \$3.3 million in 2004 that was paid in 2005.
3. Core Earnings is a non-GAAP financial measure. Core Earnings is the net increase (decrease) in stockholders' equity resulting from operations less realized and unrealized gains and losses, any capital gains incentive fees attributable to such realized and unrealized gains and losses and any income taxes related to such realized gains and losses. Please see slide 35 for a reconciliation of core earnings to GAAP earnings.
4. The amount of excess 2014 taxable income available for carry over into 2015 is only an estimate based on estimated 2014 taxable income. The calculation of estimated 2014 taxable income includes a number of estimated inputs, including information received from third parties and, as a result, actual 2014 taxable income will not be finally determined until the Company's 2014 tax return is filed in 2015. Consequently, both 2014 taxable income and the amount of excess taxable income available for carry over into 2015 is subject to change. For more information, see footnote 11 to the Company's 2014 audited financial statements filed with the Company's 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

# Ares Capital's Approach to Managing the Balance Sheet

ARCC has historically maintained strong excess liquidity and has demonstrated access to a diverse set of channels for capital

## Available Liquidity<sup>(1)</sup>



## Access To Capital Across Capital Structure<sup>(6)</sup>

- Demonstrated ability to access diverse market channels since ARCC's IPO in October 2004
- Raised over \$3.8 billion in gross proceeds in public equity in 18 separate equity offerings
- Accessed the convertible notes market in five transactions raising over \$1.5 billion
- Accessed the high grade notes market in three transactions raising \$1.2 billion
  - In January 2015, issued an additional \$200.0 million of the 2020 Notes<sup>(7)</sup>
- Accessed the retail notes market three times raising over \$520 million
- Raised over \$2.1 billion in revolving credit facilities
  - Proactively extended maturities on revolving facilities
- Generated \$2.5 billion in average annual repayments from investment portfolio over the last three years<sup>(8)</sup>

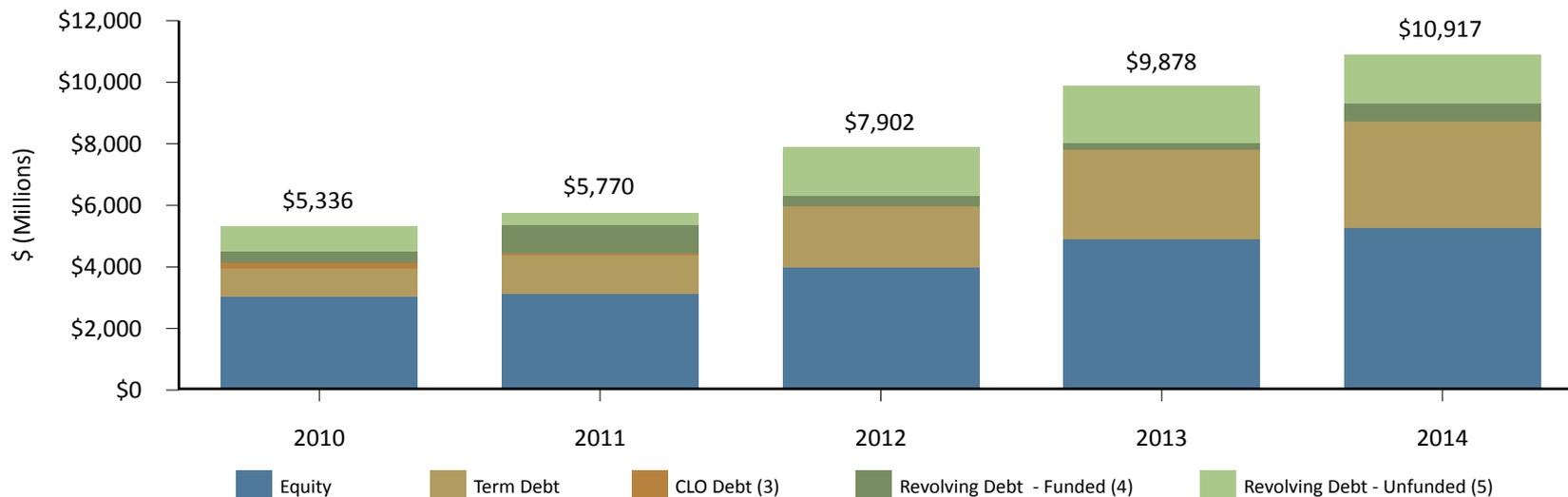
Note: All data as of December 31 of the respective years.

1. Subject to borrowing base and leverage restrictions. ARCC is only allowed to borrow amounts such that its asset coverage (calculated pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940) equals at least 200% after such borrowing.
2. Excludes restricted cash as well as cash held for dividends payable and for uses specifically designated for paying interest and expenses on certain debt.
3. The CLO reinvestment period ended in 2011. In June 2012, in conjunction with the repayment in full of \$60 million aggregate principal amount of the notes outstanding under the 2006 Debt Securitization, ARCC terminated or discharged the agreements governing the 2006 Debt Securitization.
4. Excludes letters of credit outstanding under the facility.
5. Revolving Funding Facility and Revolving Funding II Facility were combined in Q1-10.
6. From IPO in October 2004 through December 31, 2014. Excludes debt assumed and equity issued as part of the acquisition of Allied Capital.
7. In January 2015, Ares Capital issued an additional \$200.0 million aggregate principal amount of the 3.875% notes due January 2020 at a premium of 100.2% of the principal amount.
8. Represents an average of the three years ended December 31, 2014.

# Debt and Equity Capitalization

Over the last two years ARCC has reduced the stated interest rate paid on its debt by over 50 basis points

Total Debt Facilities and Equity Capital<sup>(1)(2)</sup>



<b>Debt to Equity Ratio</b>	0.45x	0.66x	0.55x	0.61x	0.74x
<b>% Unsecured Debt<sup>(6)(7)</sup></b>	62.1%	56.9%	86.9%	94.0%	86.1%
<b>Wtd Avg Maturity of Debt (in years)<sup>(6)</sup></b>	11.8	9.3	9.8	7.9	6.5
<b>Wtd Avg Stated Interest Rate<sup>(6)</sup></b>	5.2%	4.8%	5.5%	5.3%	4.9%

1. All data as of December 31 of the respective years.

2. Excludes post December 31, 2014 events. In January 2015, Ares Capital issued an additional \$200.0 million aggregate principal amount of the 2020 Notes (the "Additional 2020 Notes") at a premium of 100.2% of their principal amount. Total proceeds from the issuance of the Additional 2020 Notes, net of underwriting discounts and offering costs, were approximately \$198.4 million. The proceeds were used to repay outstanding indebtedness under Ares Capital's debt facilities and for general corporate purposes, including investing in portfolio companies in accordance with Ares Capital's investment objective. In February 2015, Ares Capital notified the holders of its February 2022 Notes that it planned to redeem the entire \$143.8 million aggregate principal amount outstanding, in accordance with the terms of the indenture governing the February 2022 Notes. Ares Capital expects to complete the redemption on or about March 16, 2015.

3. In June 2012, in conjunction with the repayment in full of \$60 million aggregate principal amount of the notes outstanding under the 2006 Debt Securitization, ARCC terminated or discharged the agreements governing the 2006 Debt Securitization.

4. Includes amounts outstanding under Ares Capital's revolving credit facilities, including letters of credit outstanding under one of the facilities.

5. Includes undrawn amounts under revolving credit facilities subject to borrowing base and leverage restrictions.

6. Based on debt outstanding for period presented.

7. Not applicable prior to 2010, as ARCC did not have any unsecured debt outstanding.

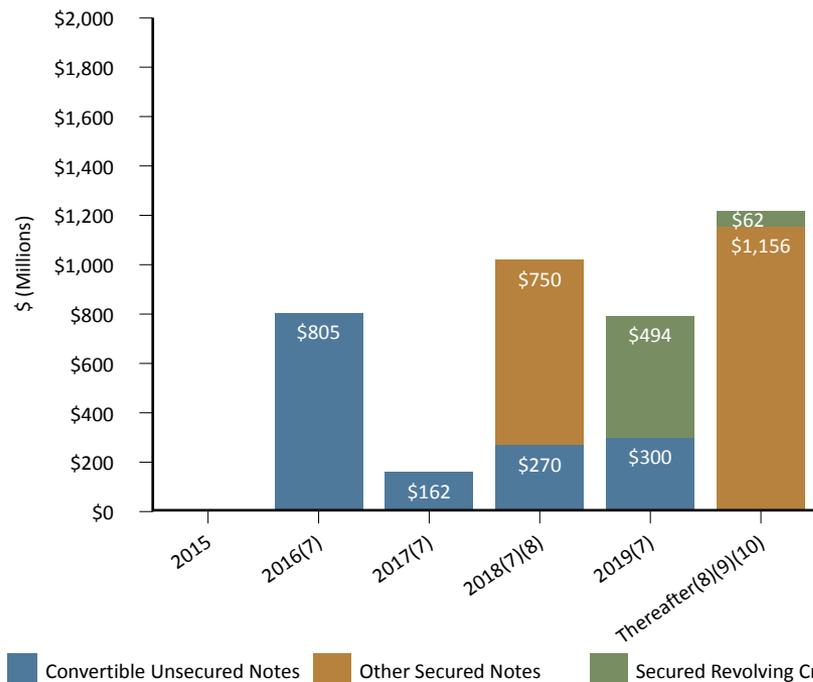
# ARCC Debt Capitalization Summary<sup>(1)</sup>

Gross annual returns on ARCC's total assets need to be at least 2.1% to cover annual interest payments

Portfolio exits and repayments have averaged approximately \$2.5 billion per year over the last three years <sup>(2)</sup>

(\$ in millions)	Total Aggregate Principal Amount Committed/ Outstanding <sup>(3)</sup>	Principal Amount Outstanding	Weighted Average Stated Interest Rate <sup>(4)</sup>
<b>Secured Revolving Facilities<sup>(5)</sup></b>			
Revolving Credit Facility	\$1,250	\$170	2.188%
Revolving Funding Facility	540	324	2.421%
SMBC Funding Facility	400	62	2.165%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$2,190</b>	<b>\$556</b>	<b>2.321%</b>
<b>Unsecured Notes Payable</b>			
February 2016 Convertible Notes	\$575	\$575	5.750%
June 2016 Convertible Notes	230	230	5.125%
2017 Convertible Notes	162	162	4.875%
2018 Convertible Notes	270	270	4.750%
2019 Convertible Notes	300	300	4.375%
2018 Notes	750	750	4.875%
2020 Notes <sup>(11)</sup>	400	400	3.875%
February 2022 Notes	144	144	7.000%
October 2022 Notes	182	182	5.875%
2040 Notes	200	200	7.750%
2047 Notes	230	230	6.875%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$3,443</b>	<b>\$3,443</b>	<b>5.310%</b>
<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>\$5,633</b>	<b>\$3,999</b>	<b>4.895%</b>

## Debt Maturities<sup>(6)</sup>



1. As of December 31, 2014. Excludes post December 31, 2014 events, if any.

2. Represents an average of the three years ended December 31, 2014.

3. Subject to borrowing base and leverage restrictions. Represents total aggregate amount committed or outstanding, as applicable, under such instrument.

4. Effective stated rate as of December 31, 2014.

5. Requires periodic payments of interest and may require repayments of a portion of the outstanding principal once their respective reinvestment periods end but prior to the stated maturity.

6. Represents the total aggregate principal amount outstanding as of December 31, 2014.

7. While we expect to settle each of the February 2016 Convertible Notes, June 2016 Convertible Notes, 2017 Convertible Notes, 2018 Convertible Notes and 2019 Convertible Notes of \$575.0 million, \$230.0 million, \$162.5 million, \$270.0 million and \$300.0 million, respectively, in cash, we have the option to settle each in cash, shares of common stock or a combination of cash and shares of common stock.

8. The 2018 Notes and 2020 Notes may be redeemed in whole or in part at any time at the Company's option at a redemption price equal to par plus a "make whole" premium, as determined in the indenture governing the 2018 Notes and 2020 Notes, and any accrued and unpaid interest.

9. February 2022 Notes, October 2022 Notes and 2040 Notes of \$143.8 million, \$182.5 million and \$200.0 million respectively, may be redeemed in whole or in part at any time or from time to time at ARCC's option on or after February 15, 2015, October 1, 2015 and October 15, 2015, respectively, at par redemption price of \$25 per security plus accrued and unpaid interest. In February 2015, Ares Capital notified the holders of its February 2022 Notes that it planned to redeem the entire \$143.8 million aggregate principal amount outstanding, in accordance with the terms of the indenture governing the February 2022 Notes. Ares Capital expects to complete the redemption on or about March 16, 2015.

10. 2047 Notes with aggregate principal amount of \$230 million may be redeemed in whole or in part at any time or from time to time at ARCC's option, at par redemption price of \$25 per security plus accrued and unpaid interest.

11. In January 2015, Ares Capital issued an additional \$200.0 million aggregate principal amount of the 2020 Notes at a premium of 100.2% of their principal amount. Total proceeds from the issuance, net of underwriting discounts and offering costs, were approximately \$198.4 million. The proceeds were used to repay outstanding indebtedness under Ares Capital's debt facilities and for general corporate purposes, including investing in portfolio companies in accordance with our investment objective.

# Summary

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# Summary

<b>Market Leader in Inefficient Asset Class</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A leader in middle market direct lending with meaningful scale advantages</li><li>• Largest BDC measured by total assets and market capitalization<sup>(1)</sup></li><li>• Less efficient market with favorable supply/demand dynamics</li></ul>
<b>Attractive and Consistent Current Income</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current annualized dividend of \$1.52 per share (yield of 8.8%)<sup>(2)</sup></li><li>• Since ARCC's IPO, paid \$15.60 per share in cumulative dividends<sup>(3)</sup></li><li>• Carried forward estimated excess taxable income of approximately \$0.58<sup>(4)</sup> per share from 2014 into 2015</li></ul>
<b>Strong Track Record</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Since IPO through 12/31/14, ARCC's total return to shareholders was 227.88% versus 130.25% for the Russell 1000 and 123.19% for the S&amp;P 500<sup>(5)</sup></li><li>• Since inception, cumulative realized losses more than offset by cumulative realized gains with net realized gains in every fiscal year except 2009</li></ul>
<b>Moderate Leverage with Strong Balance Sheet</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Net debt to equity ratio averaged 0.59x over the last five years<sup>(6)</sup>; regulatory limit of 1:1</li><li>• Financing shorter term assets with weighted average remaining duration of 4.6 years<sup>(7)</sup> with longer term liabilities with weighted average remaining duration of 6.5 years</li><li>• Investment transparency and third party valuation</li></ul>

1. Measured using total assets as of December 31, 2014 and market capitalization as of February 26, 2015.

2. Dividend yield is based on Q4-14 \$0.38 per share regular dividend annualized, which was then divided by the closing stock price of \$17.25 as of February 26, 2015. ARCC's share price will fluctuate and its market price will differ from its NAV. ARCC's performance changes over time and currently may be different from that shown.

3. From ARCC IPO in October 2004 to December 31, 2014. There can be no assurance that the dividends will continue at historical levels or at all. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

4. The amount of excess 2014 taxable income available for carry over into 2015 is only an estimate based on estimated 2014 taxable income. The calculation of estimated 2014 taxable income includes a number of estimated inputs, including information received from third parties and, as a result, actual 2014 taxable income will not be finally determined until the Company's 2014 tax return is filed in 2015. Consequently, both 2014 taxable income and the amount of excess taxable income available for carry over into 2015 is subject to change. For more information, see footnote 11 to the Company's 2014 audited financial statements filed with the Company's 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

5. Source: SNL Financial. Total return on security or index with dividends; assumes dividends are reinvested at the closing price of the security on the ex-date of the dividend.

6. Trailing last five years ended 12/31/14.

7. As of December 31, 2014. Weighted average remaining duration of investments at fair value excludes the investment in the subordinated certificates of the SSLP and equity securities. The weighted average remaining duration of investments within the SSLP portfolio was 4.4 years.

# Appendix

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# Ares Management Overview

- **Ares Management, L.P. (NYSE: ARES) is a leading global alternative asset manager with approximately \$86 billion of assets under management<sup>(1)</sup>**
  - Since our inception in 1997, we have adhered to a disciplined investment philosophy that focuses on delivering compelling risk-adjusted investment returns throughout market cycles
- **We have four distinct but complementary investment groups that have the ability to invest across the capital structure**
  - We believe each group is a market leader that has demonstrated a consistent investment track record



	Tradable Credit	Direct Lending	Private Equity	Real Estate
	<i>A leading participant in the tradable, non-investment grade corporate credit markets</i>	<i>One of the largest self-originating direct lenders to the U.S. and European middle markets</i>	<i>One of the most consistent private equity managers in the U.S. with a growing international presence</i>	<i>A leading participant in the real estate private equity markets and a growing direct lender</i>
Assets Under Management	\$32 billion	\$29 billion	\$14 billion <sup>(2)</sup>	\$11 billion
Strategies	Long-Only Credit Alternative Credit	U.S. Direct Lending European Direct Lending	U.S. / European Flexible Capital U.S. Power and Energy Assets China Growth Capital	Real Estate Debt Real Estate Equity

1. As of December 31, 2014, AUM amounts include capital available to vehicles managed or co-managed by Ares, including funds managed by Ivy Hill Asset Management, L.P. AUM is pro forma for Ares Management’s acquisition of Energy Investors Funds (“EIF”), which closed on January 1, 2015 and is included in the Private Equity Group.  
 2. Includes approximately \$4 billion of AUM as of December 31, 2014 from the acquisition of EIF on January 1, 2015.



# Members of Investment Committee & Other Senior Professionals

	Years of Relevant Experience	Background		Years of Relevant Experience	Background
<b>Mark Affolter</b> Ares – Partner of Direct Lending Group	25	CIT – Managing Director	<b>Jim Miller</b> Ares – Partner of Direct Lending Group	15	Silver Point Capital – Vice President GE Commercial Finance – Vice President
<b>Michael Arougheti</b> Ares Capital Corporation – Co-Chairman of the Board of Directors and Executive Vice President Ares – Co-Founder, President, Senior Partner and Co-Head of Direct Lending Group	21	RBC Capital Partners – Managing Partner Indosuez Capital – Principal	<b>Bennett Rosenthal</b> Ares Capital Corporation – Co-Chairman of the Board of Directors Ares – Co-Founder, Senior Partner and Co-Head of Private Equity Group; Direct Lending Group Investment Committee Member	28	Merrill Lynch – Managing Director, Global Leveraged Finance
<b>Kipp deVeer</b> Ares Capital Corporation – Chief Executive Officer Ares – Senior Partner and Co-Head of Direct Lending Group	19	RBC Capital Partners – Partner Indosuez Capital – Vice President	<b>David Sachs</b> Ares – Senior Partner of Tradable Credit Group; Direct Lending Group Investment Committee Member	33	Taylor & Co. – Bass Family Investment Office Columbia Savings & Loan – EVP, Investment Management
<b>Mitch Goldstein</b> Ares Capital Corporation – Co-President Ares – Senior Partner of Direct Lending Group	20	Credit Suisse First Boston – Managing Director Indosuez Capital – Principal Bankers Trust – Vice President	<b>Kort Schnabel</b> Ares – Partner of Direct Lending Group	16	Walker Digital Corporation – Corporate Development Group Morgan Stanley Dean Witter – Corporate Finance Group
<b>John Kissick</b> Ares – Co-Founder and Senior Partner; Senior Partner of Private Equity Group; Direct Lending Group Investment Committee Member	39	Apollo – Co-Founder Drexel Burnham Lambert – Head of Corporate Finance	<b>David Schwartz</b> Ares – Partner of Direct Lending Group	14	RBC Capital Partners – Associate Indosuez Capital – Analyst
<b>Tim Lower</b> Ares – Partner of Direct Lending Group	16	RBC Capital Partners – Associate Salomon Smith Barney – Analyst	<b>Michael Smith</b> Ares Capital Corporation – Co-President Ares – Senior Partner of Direct Lending Group	19	RBC Capital Partners – Partner Indosuez Capital – Vice President

## Other Senior Professionals

**Joshua M. Bloomstein** – Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary  
**Carl Drake** – Managing Director / Head of IR, Ares Management  
**Miriam Krieger** – Chief Compliance Officer  
**Scott Lem** – Chief Accounting Officer, Vice President and Treasurer  
**Jana Markowicz** – Managing Director / Head of IR, ARCC

**Daniel Nguyen** – Vice President and Assistant Treasurer  
**Penni Roll** – Chief Financial Officer  
**Michael Weiner** – Vice President  
**Raymond L. Wright** – SVP and Chief Administrative Officer

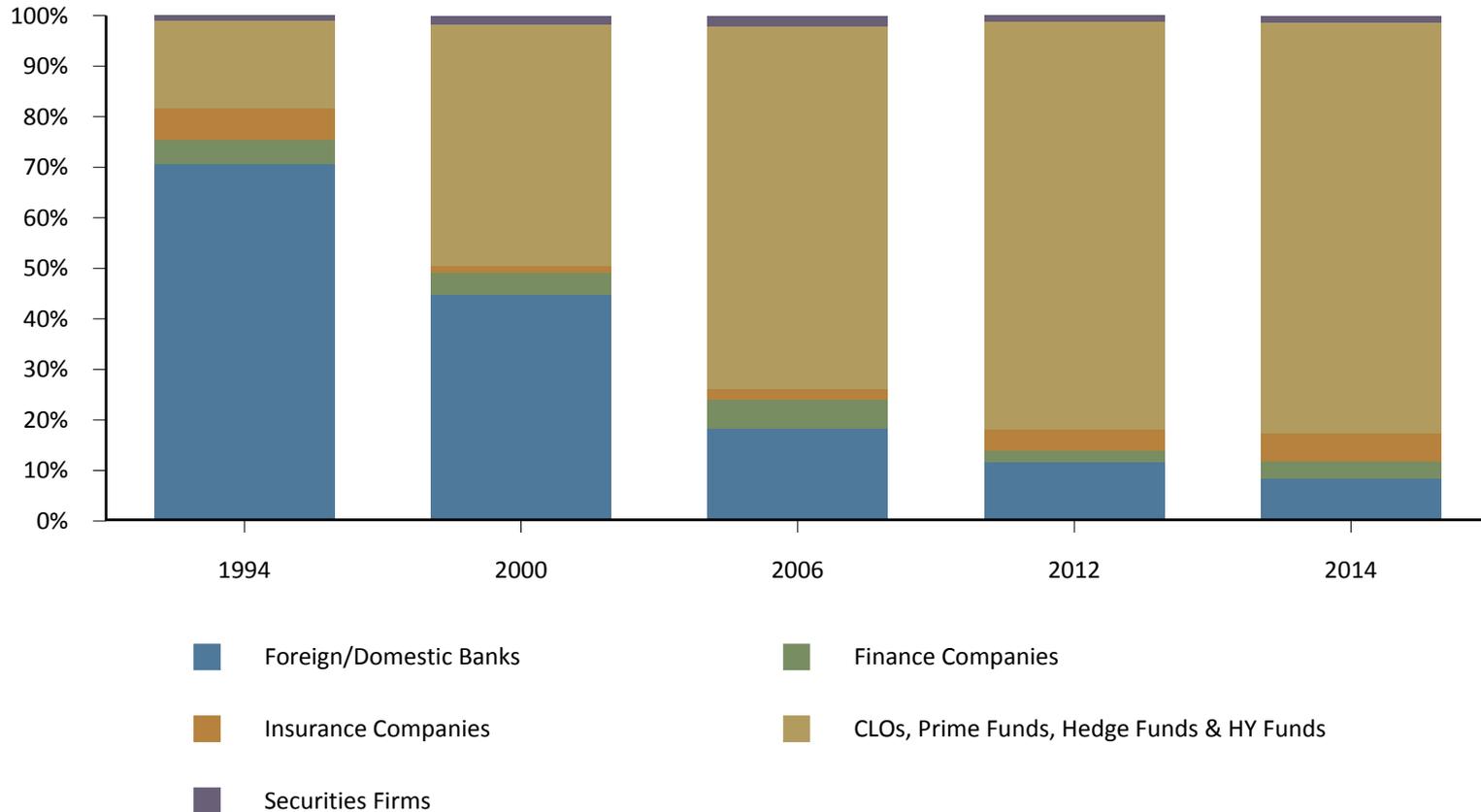
# Board of Directors

	Title	Experience
<b>Michael J Arougheti</b>	<b>Co-Chairman/Director</b>	<b>Ares Capital Corporation</b> – Co-Chairman and Executive Vice President <b>Ares Capital Management LLC</b> – Investment Committee Member <b>Ares</b> – Co-Founder and President; Senior Partner and Co-Head of Direct Lending Group; Direct Lending Group Investment Committee Member <b>Ares Management Limited</b> - Investment Committee Member <b>Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation</b> – Director <b>Ares Commercial Real Estate Management LLC</b> – Investment Committee Member <b>RBC Capital Partners</b> – Managing Partner <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Indosuez Capital</b> – Principal <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Ann Torre Bates</b>	<b>Director Chairperson – Audit Committee</b>	<b>Allied Capital Corporation</b> – Director <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Franklin Mutual Series and Recovery Funds</b> – Director <b>SLM Corporation</b> – Director <sup>(1)</sup> <b>NHP, Inc.</b> – Executive Vice President, CFO, Treasurer <sup>(1)</sup> <b>U.S. Airways</b> – Vice President, Treasurer <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Steven B. Bartlett</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>BIPAC</b> – Director <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Financial Services Roundtable</b> – President and CEO <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Dallas, Texas</b> – Mayor <sup>(1)</sup> <b>U.S. Congress</b> – Member <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Meridian Products</b> – Founder <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Steven B. McKeever</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>Hidden Beach Recordings</b> – Founder, CEO <b>Motown Records</b> – Executive Vice President <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Irell &amp; Manella LLP</b> – Associate <sup>(1)</sup> <b>College Bound, African-Ancestry.com</b> – Director <b>The Pacific Institute Spirit Board</b> – Director
<b>Frank E. O’Bryan</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>The First American Corporation</b> – Director <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Standard Pacific Corporation</b> – Director <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Farmers &amp; Merchants Bank</b> – Director <sup>(1)</sup> <b>WMC Mortgage</b> – Chairman and Vice Chairman <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Antony P. Ressler</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>Ares</b> – Chairman, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer; Senior Partner of Private Equity Group <b>Painted Turtle Camp</b> – Founding Member of Board of Directors <b>Apollo Management LP</b> – Co-Founder <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc.</b> – Senior Vice President <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Robert L. Rosen</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>Ares</b> – Operating Adviser to Private Equity Group <b>RLR Capital Partners, RLR Focus Fund</b> – Managing Partner <b>RLR Partners LLC</b> – CEO <b>National Financial Partners</b> – Founder, Chairman and CEO <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation</b> – Director <b>Dolphin Domestic Fund II</b> – Co-Managing Partner <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Damon Corporation</b> – Chairman and CEO <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Maxxam Group</b> – Vice Chairman <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Bennett Rosenthal</b>	<b>Co-Chairman/Director</b>	<b>Ares</b> – Co-Founder and Senior Partner; Co-Head and Senior Partner of Private Equity Group <b>Ares Capital Management LLC</b> – Investment Committee Member <b>National Bedding Company LLC</b> – Co-Chairman/Director <b>Merrill Lynch</b> – Managing Director, Global Leveraged Finance <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Eric B. Siegel</b>	<b>Director/Lead Independent Director</b>	<b>El Paso Electric Company</b> – Director and Chairman of the Nominating and Governance Committee <b>Kerzner International</b> – Director <sup>(1)</sup> <b>Apollo Advisors L.P. and Lion Advisors L.P.</b> – Retired Limited Partner <sup>(1)</sup>

1. Represents positions held previously.

# Banks De-Emphasizing Lending

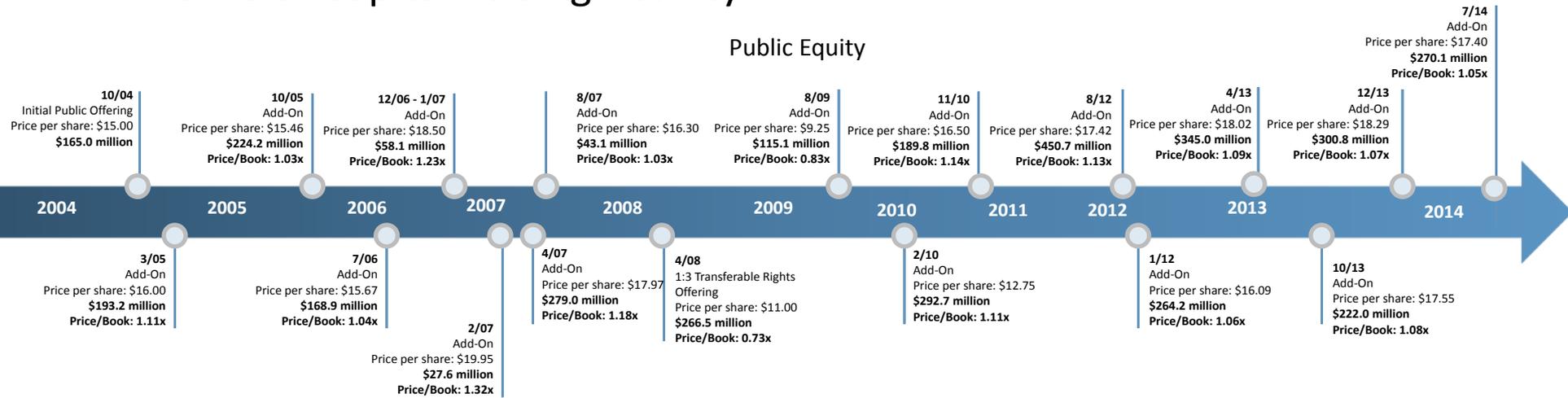
Secular Decline in Bank Funding to Leveraged Loan Market<sup>(1)</sup>



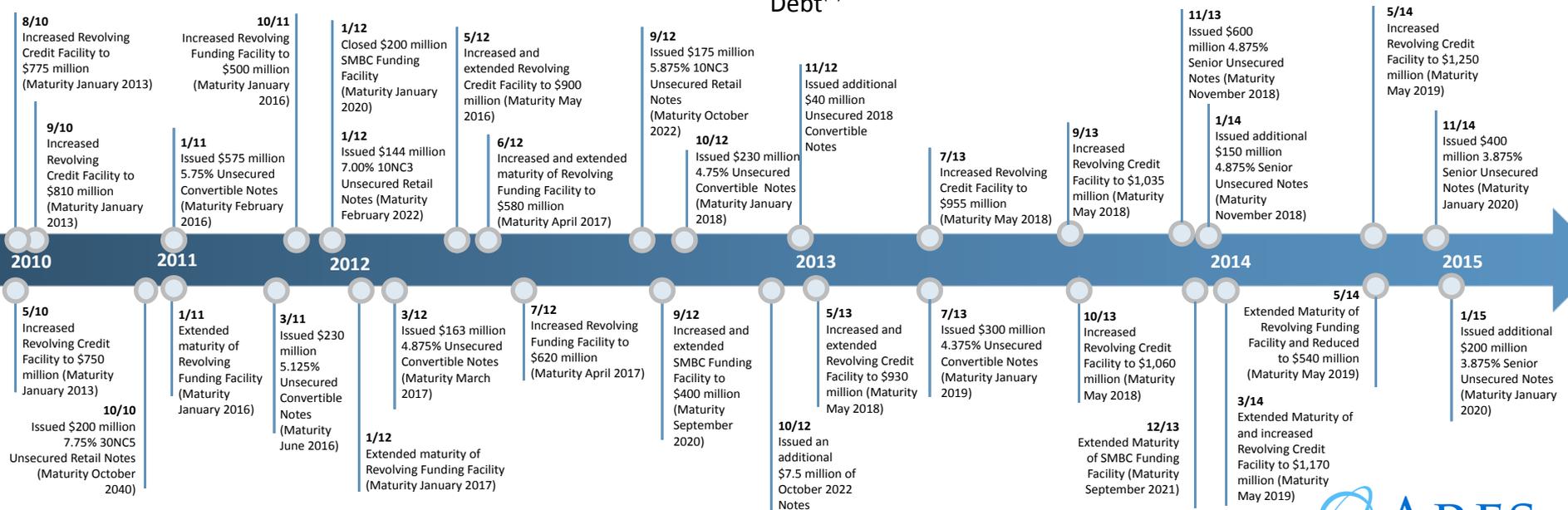
1. Source: S&P LCD Leveraged Lending Review Q4-14. Excludes left and right agent commitments (including administrative, syndication and documentation agent as well as arranger).

# Timeline of Capital Raising Activity

## Public Equity



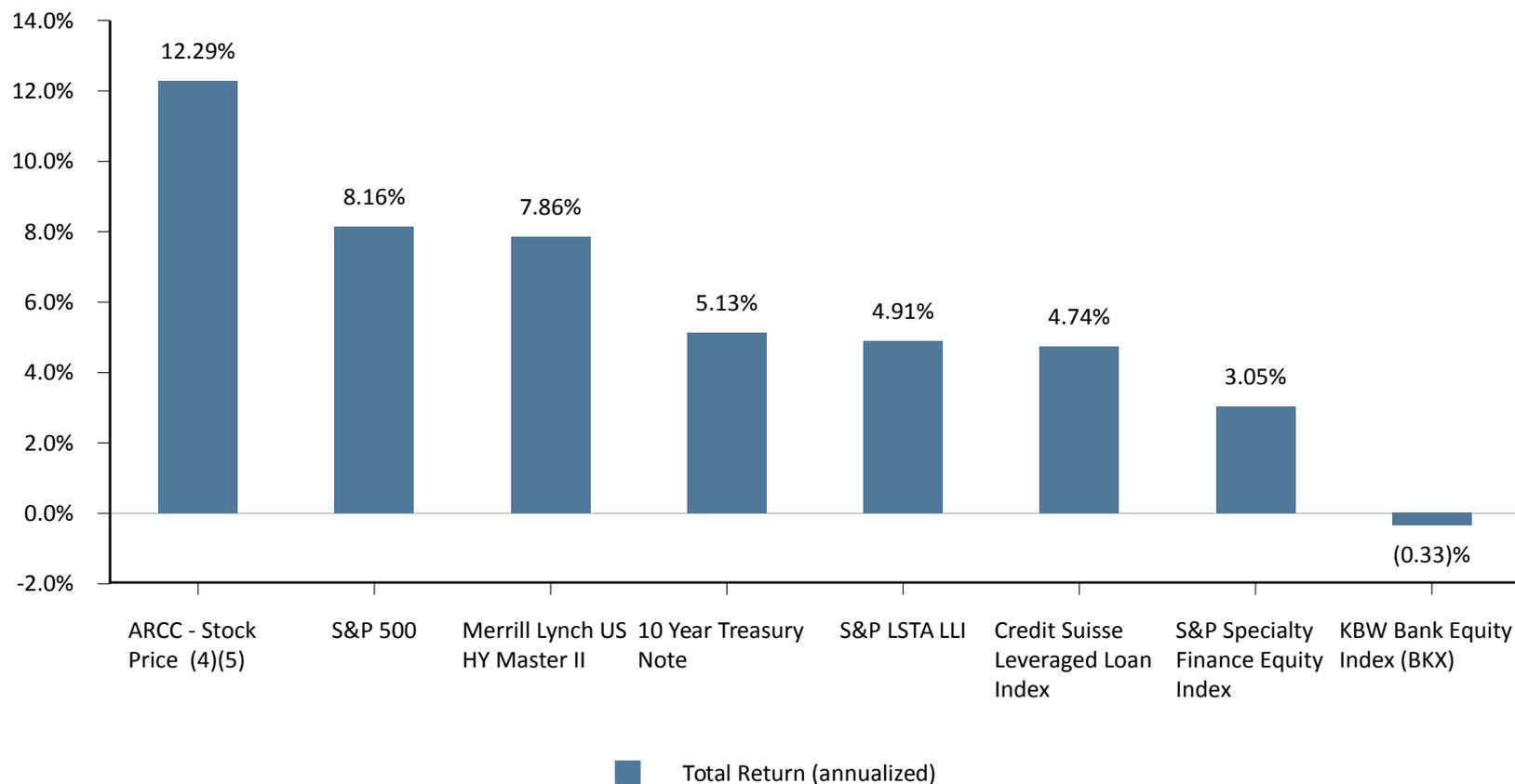
## Debt<sup>(1)</sup>



1. ARCC's use of debt capital is subject to borrowing base and leverage restrictions.

# ARCC Has Delivered Strong Returns Since 2004

Annualized Total Return since 10/7/2004  
10/7/04 – 12/31/14 <sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup>

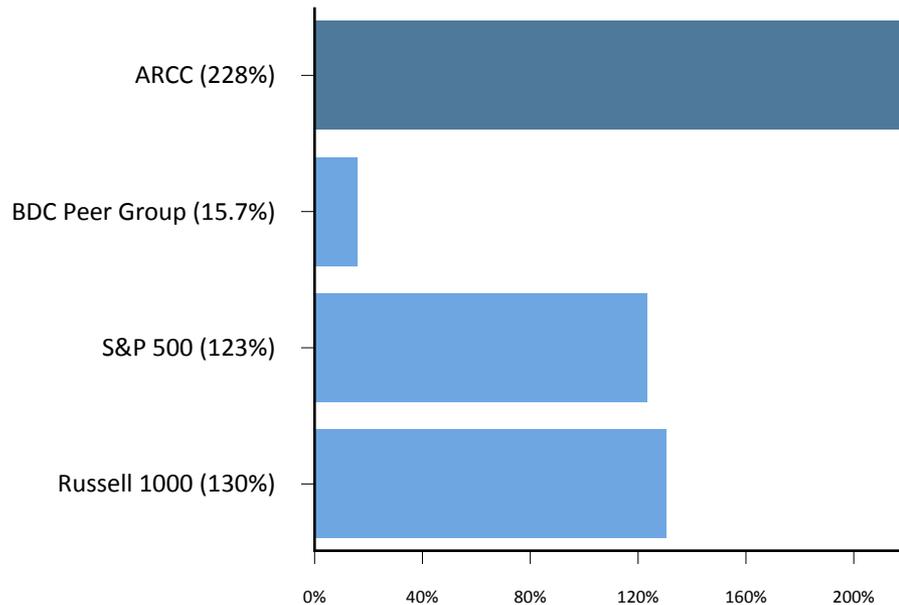


1. The benchmarks included represent investments in either the U.S. non-investment grade credit or equity market. The Merrill Lynch US HY Master II is a broad index tracking high-yield corporate bonds, the S&P 500 Index is a broad index tracking the U.S. equity markets, the S&P LSTA LLI is a broad index tracking the U.S. loan market and the Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Index is a broad index tracking the non-investment grade bank loans.
2. Time period selected to include ARCC IPO in October 2004.
3. Past performance is not indicative of future results.
4. Ares Capital's stock price-based total return is calculated assuming dividends are reinvested at the end of day stock price on the relevant quarterly ex-dividend dates.
5. Total return is calculated assuming investors did not participate in Ares Capital's rights offering issuance as of March 20, 2008.

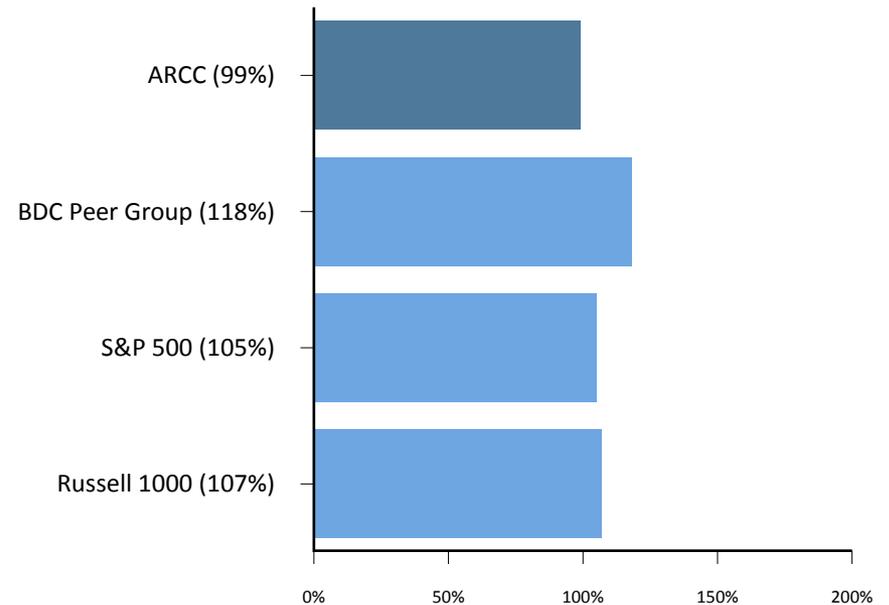
# ARCC's Relative Performance

## ARCC Total Return vs. BDC Peers and Other Indices<sup>(1)(2)</sup>

Total Return since 10/7/04<sup>(5)</sup>  
10/7/04 – 12/31/14<sup>(3)</sup>



Five-Year Total Return  
1/1/10 – 12/31/14<sup>(4)</sup>



1. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

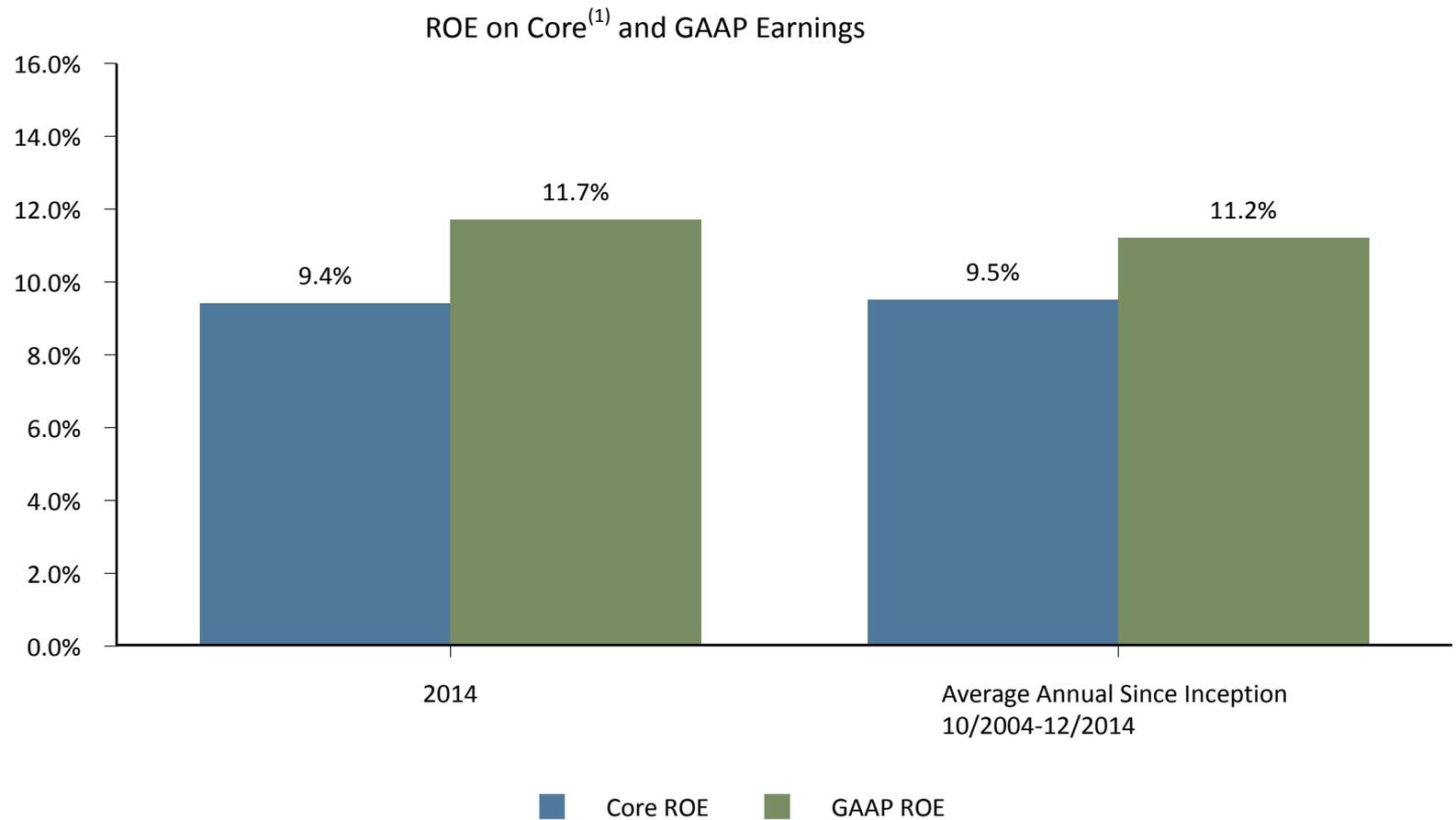
2. Source: SNL Financial. Total return on security or index with dividends; assumes dividends are reinvested at the closing price of the security on the ex-date of the dividend.

3. BDC Peer Group includes American Capital, Apollo Investment Corp., Gladstone Capital Corp., MCG Capital Corp. and Prospect Capital Corp.

4. BDC Peer Group includes American Capital, Apollo Investment Corp., Blackrock Kelso Capital, Fifth Street Finance Corp., Gladstone Capital Corp., Hercules Technology Growth Capital, Main Street Capital Corp., MCG Capital Corp., PennantPark Investment Corp., Prospect Capital Corp and Triangle Capital Corp.

5. Time period selected to include ARCC IPO in October 2004.

# Consistent ROE



1. Core Earnings is a non-GAAP financial measure. Core Earnings is the net increase (decrease) in stockholders' equity resulting from operations less realized and unrealized gains and losses, any capital gains incentive fees attributable to such realized and unrealized gains and losses and any income taxes related to such realized gains and losses. Please see slide 35 for a reconciliation of core earnings to GAAP earnings.

# Reconciliation of Core Earnings<sup>(1)</sup>

## Reconciliations of Core Earnings to earnings computed in accordance with GAAP:

(in 000's)	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Core Earnings	\$ 2,715	\$ 28,103	\$ 64,266	\$ 94,949	\$ 126,992	\$ 133,406	\$ 233,925	\$ 316,116	\$ 380,724	\$ 442,046	\$ 473,086
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses)	475	14,727	13,063	(4,117)	(266,447)	69,287	280,142	37,050	159,317	58,115	153,147
Gain on the Allied Acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-	195,876	-	-	-	-
Incentive fees attributable to net realized and unrealized gains and losses	-	(979)	(3,448)	-	-	-	(15,609)	(33,348)	(31,863)	(11,640)	(29,467)
Income tax expense related to realized gains and losses	-	-	(4,186)	-	-	-	(2,500)	(365)	-	-	(5,817)
GAAP Earnings	\$ 3,190	\$ 41,851	\$ 69,695	\$ 90,832	\$ (139,455)	\$ 202,693	\$ 691,834	\$ 319,453	\$ 508,178	\$ 488,521	\$ 590,949

1. Core earnings is a non-GAAP financial measure. Core earnings is the net per share increase (decrease) in stockholders' equity resulting from operations less realized and unrealized gains and losses, any capital gains incentive fees attributable to such realized and unrealized gains and losses and any income taxes related to such realized gains and losses. GAAP earnings is the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. Ares Capital believes that core earnings provides useful information to investors regarding financial performance because it is one method Ares Capital uses to measure its financial condition and results of operations. The presentation of this additional information is not meant to be considered in isolation or as a substitute for financial results prepared in accordance with GAAP.

