# Dollar Tree, Inc.

April 2019



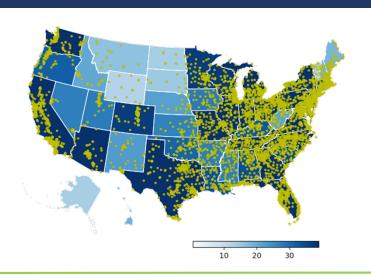
Michael Zhu Will Smith

# Company Background

## **Company Overview**

- Dollar Tree, Inc. operates discount retail stores under the brand names
   Dollar Tree, Dollar Tree Canada, and Family Dollar
- Closed acquisition of Family Dollar for ~\$9.4 billion on July 6, 2015
- Led by Executive Chairman Bob Sasser and Chief Executive Officer Gary Philbin
- Operates more than 15,000 retail locations in 48 states and 5 Canadian provinces
  - 7,001 Dollar Tree stores
  - 8,236 Family Dollar stores
  - 225 Dollar Tree Canada stores
- Dollar Tree offers merchandise at a fixed price point of \$1 while the Family Dollar prices generally range from \$1 - \$10

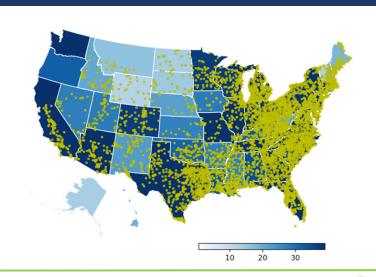
#### **Dollar Tree Locations**



# **Key Trading Statistics**

Ticker	DLTR
Date	4/5/2019
Price	105.99
Market Cap	25.25B
52 Week High	106.90
52 Week Low	78.78
Adjusted EPS	5.45
P/E Ratio	19.4x
EV/EBITDA	12.0x
Beta	0.54

### **Family Dollar Locations**





# Investment Thesis

Family Dollar Struggles

The market has grown weary of Family Dollar's struggles and is currently ascribing little value to that segment

**Activist Investors** 

Given recent activist involvement, Dollar Tree will be forced to either turn around Family Dollar and become more profitable, spinoff the segment, or sell it to a private equity firm or strategic buyer – all of these options would create significant shareholder value

Unique
Resistance to ECommerce

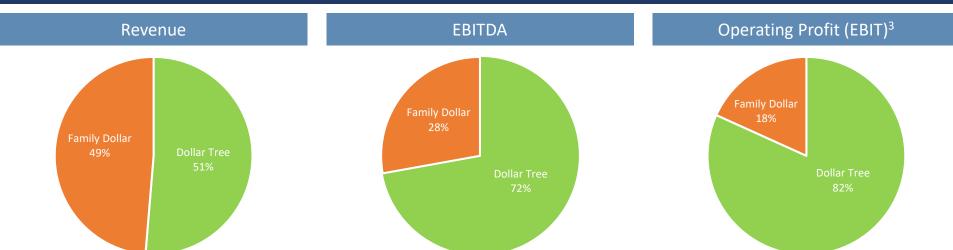
Investors have been worried about the effects of e-commerce on the retail industry, but Dollar Tree is uniquely insulated from this threat compared to other retailers due to the nature of their products and customer base



# Recent Stock Performance







Source: Company filings, Yahoo Finance



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> DLTR adjusted for "2 for 1" stock split on June 27, 2012; adjusted for "3 for 2" stock split on June 25, 2010 4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Closed acquisition of Family Dollar on July 6, 2015

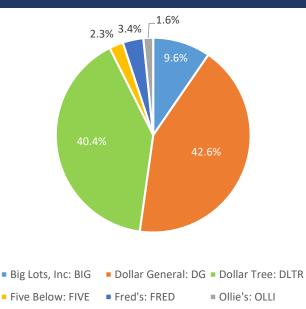
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> EBIT breakdown based on FY'2018 adjusted operating profit

# Deep Discount" Retail Industry

### **Industry Overview**

- Demand is driven by consumer spending, primarily among lower-to-middle class consumers
- "Deep discount" retailers provide a less diverse merchandise mix but are able to offer their products at a much steeper discount
- Consistently outperformed department retailers in recent years and tends to perform significantly better through economic downturns
- Dollar Tree and Dollar General represented two-thirds of all new stores in "food deserts" in 2015 and continue to undercut smaller independent grocery stores

### Market Share



#### Recent Retail Bankruptcies









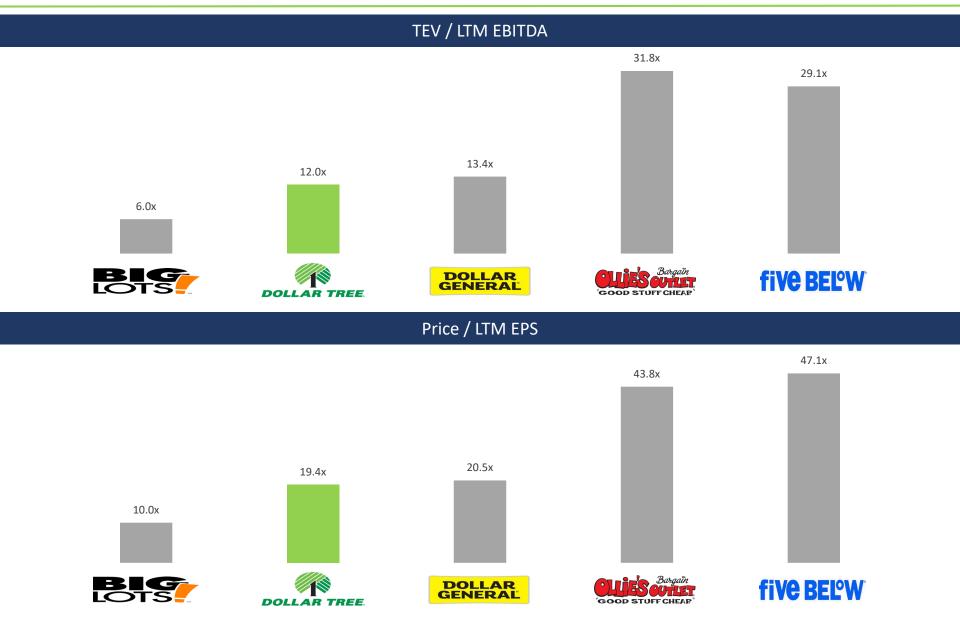


# 5-Yr. Industry Returns





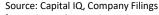
# Comparable Company Analysis





# Financial History





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on FY'2018 adjusted operating profit

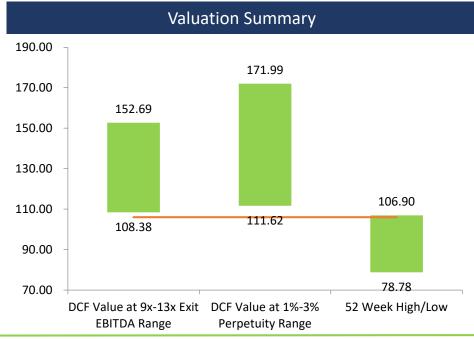


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Free cash flow defined as operating cash flow less capex

# **Intrinsic Valuation**

Financial Projections								
(in millions USD)								
Fiscal year	2016A	2017A	2018A	2019P	2020P	2021P	2022P	2023P
Revenue	20,719	22,246	22,823	23,770	24,833	26,020	27,340	28,804
Revenue growth	33.7%	7.4%	2.6%	4.2%	4.5%	4.8%	5.1%	5.4%
Gross Profit	6,395	7,022	6,948	7,393	7,773	8,198	8,700	9,252
Gross margin	30.9%	31.6%	30.4%	31.1%	31.3%	31.5%	31.8%	32.1%
EBIT	1,705	1,999	1,841	1,997	2,086	2,239	2,439	2,655
Less: taxes	(433)	10	(282)	(381)	(403)	(440)	(483)	(529)
Add: Depreciation and amortization	693	627	621	698	734	811	898	997
Add: Stock based compensation	62	66	63	65	68	71	75	78
Less: Change in net working capital	23	(896)	(226)	(40)	(105)	(117)	(127)	(141)
Less: Capital expenditures	(565)	(632)	(817)	(1,000)	(993)	(1,041)	(1,094)	(1,152)
Unlevered Free Cash Flow	1,484	1,173	1,200	1,340	1,387	1,524	1,708	1,909

Inputs & Results							
Cost of debt		4.3%					
Cost of equity		6.6%					
ve		85.3%					
Vd		14.7%					
NACC		6.1%					
xit EV / EBITDA Multiple		12.0x					
Perpetuity growth rate		2.0%					
	Perpetuity	EBITDA					
Enterprise value	41,464	39,055					
Less: Net debt	4,336	4,336					
Equity value	37,128	34,719					
Diluted shares	238.90	238.90					
Equity value per share	\$155.41	\$145.33					
Market premium / (discount) to fair value	(31.8%)	(27.1%)					



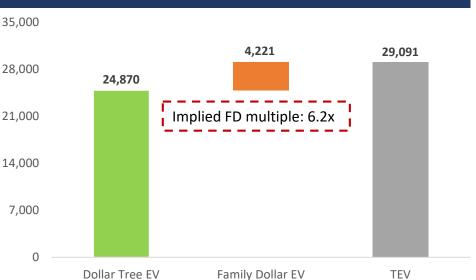


# Family Dollar

### Commentary

- While most investors view Family Dollar as an anchor that is weighing down on Dollar Tree's stock, we view it as a growth opportunity
- Recent renovations have shown comparable sales growth in excess of 10%, indicating that management is executing well on their strategy
- Although the segment is currently underperforming, it still maintains a healthy cash flow profile, making it an attractive buyout opportunity for a private equity firm
- We believe a large private equity fund would be able to pay upwards of 12.1x LTM EBITDA for Family Dollar, which is almost double its current implied multiple of 6.2x

### Sum of Parts Valuation<sup>1</sup>



# Leveraged Buyout Analysis

Terminal EBITDA	\$1,574
Exit Multiple	10.0x
Enterprise Value	\$15,739
Less: Net Debt	(2,618)
Equity Value	\$13,121
Sponsor Ownership at Exit	90.0%
Sponsor Equity Value at Exit	\$11,809
Sponsor Required IRR	25.0%
Sponsor Equity at Closing	3,869
Net Debt at Closing	4,456
Implied TEV at Closing	8,325
LTM EBITDA	686

## **Buyout Stock Price Premium**





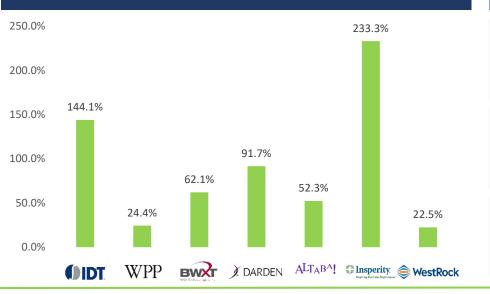
mplied EV / EBITDA

# Activist Investors

## Background

- Carl Icahn disclosed a "significant" stake in DLTR in October 2018 then exited the position in January
- Jana Capital Partners and Corvex Management both disclosed a stake in DLTR in November 2018
- Starboard Value disclosed a 1.7% stake in DLTR in January 2019
  - Expressed intent to change DLTR's \$1 pricing strategy, consider the sale of Family Dollar, and replace members of the board
  - Dropped proxy fight in early April because it has been pleased with the progress on key initiatives
  - Management announced intentions to perform a significant test of multiple price points at Dollar Tree stores

#### 3-Yr. Returns after Starboard Involvement



#### **Activist Initiatives**

#### **Accelerate Family Dollar renovations**

### Change Dollar Tree's \$1 pricing strategy

#### **Explore a sale of the Family Dollar segment**

Improve operational efficiencies and margins

Take control of board seats to hold management accountable

### **Select Case Studies**

### PETSMART

Jana announced a 10% stake in Petsmart in 2014 and pushed a sale months later for \$8.7B

# Yum! Brands.

Corvex accumulated a stake in Yum! Brands in 2015 and successfully split Yum! Brands and Yum! China

#### DARDEN

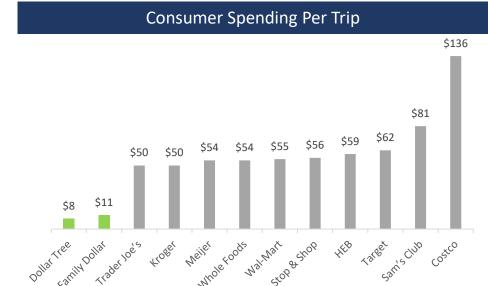
Starboard replaced the entire board of Darden and set changes to improve food quality, diner experiences, and kitchen operations





## Commentary

- Based on our customer survey, online shopping is increasingly competitive for infrequent purchases, but most people still visit a store for daily consumer goods
- The most popular items at Dollar Tree are generally unaffected by e-commerce
- Average ticket sizes at Dollar Tree and Family Dollar are much smaller than traditional retailers, making them less vulnerable to e-commerce disruption
- Investors have been concerned about Amazon's entry into the retail space, but they are not a near to medium term threat to deep discount retailers, such as Dollar Tree and Family Dollar







# **Conclusion**

#### **Investment Thesis**

- ✓ Our group has assigned a Strong Buy rating on DLTR stock
- ✓ While investors and analysts have many concerns with Dollar Tree, deeper digging reveals that many of these concerns have been overblown and could even serve as catalysts for further growth for the company
- ✓ The below are areas where we believe investors and analysts have been misguided:
  - ✓ **Family Dollar Struggles** The market has grown weary of Family Dollar's struggles, and is currently ascribing little value to that segment
  - ✓ **Activist Investors** Given recent activist involvement, Dollar Tree will be forced to either turn around Family Dollar and become more profitable, spinoff the segment, or sell it to a private equity firm or strategic buyer all of these options would create significant shareholder value
  - ✓ **Unique Resistance to E-Commerce** Investors have been worried about the effect of e-commerce on the retail industry, but Dollar Tree is uniquely insulated to this threat compared to other retailers due to the nature of their products and customer base
- ✓ As Dollar Tree management and activist investors execute a strategic turnaround or potential sale of the lagging Family Dollar segment, we believe the market will react positively, and Dollar Tree will begin to trade at a multiple that reflects their status as a leader in the retail industry



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Family Dollar

**Activist Investors** 

E-commerce

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# **Appendix**

Stock Trends with Retail

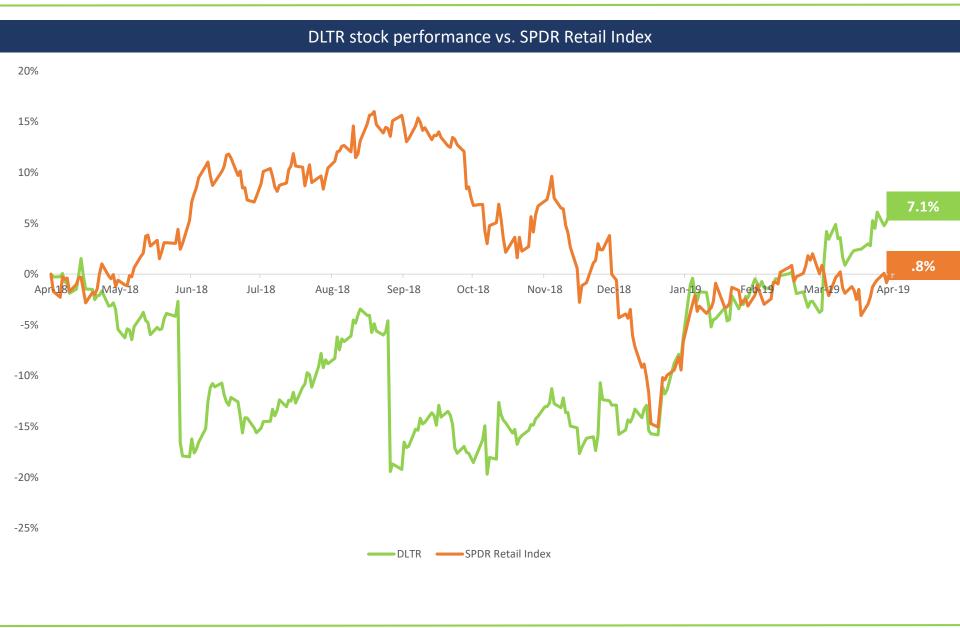
Long-term Debt

**Operating Comparables** 

Balance sheet Comparables



# **DLTR Stock Trends with Retail**





# **Credit Analysis**

Lon	g-t	ern	n D	eb	t

As of February 2, 2019

Principal	Interest rate	Maturity
0.0	L + 1.125%	NA
300.0	5.00%	2021
750.0	L + 0.70%	2020
1,000.0	3.70%	2023
1,000.0	4.00%	2025
1,250.0	4.20%	2028
4,300.0		
•		
	Principal  0.0  300.0  750.0  1,000.0  1,000.0  1,250.0	0.0 L + 1.125% 300.0 5.00% 750.0 L + 0.70% 1,000.0 3.70% 1,000.0 4.00% 1,250.0 4.20%

# Leverage Metrics

"As a result of our successful progress with integration and free cash flow in excess of investment needs,
we expect to pay down our variable rate outstanding debt" – CEO, Gary Philbin



1.75x

1.55x 1 11.48x

Debt / EBITDA

Net Debt / EBITDA

EBITDA / Interest

# operating Comparables

Operating Comparables								
		Operat	ing Statistics (5 Ye	ar Avg.)	Profit	ability (5 Year Av	/g.)	
		Sales Growth	EPS Growth	EBITDA Margin	ROA	ROE	ROIC	
Company	Ticker	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	
			Deep Discount Re	etailers				
DOLLAR TREE	DLTR	5.9%	21.9%	12.7%	13.2%	27.5%	18.3%	
DOLLAR GENERAL	DG	7.9%	14.6%	11.2%	10.6%	22.0%	14.2%	
BIG LOTS.	BIG	0.2%	6.8%	6.9%	9.4%	20.9%	18.6%	
five BEL°W	FIVE	25.0%	NA	13.9%	16.7%	29.1%	27.3%	
Bargain Bargain GOOD STUFF CHEAR"	OLLI <sup>1</sup>	14.8%	37.4%	12.1%	6.1%	10.3%	7.5%	



# Balance Sheet Comparables



(7.0%)





3.0%

**five BEL°W** 

9.6%



	DLTR	DG	BIG	FIVE	OLLI
	J2111				
Total Cash	\$422	\$236	\$46	\$252	\$52
Net PPE	\$3,445	\$2,971	\$822	\$301	\$119
Total Debt	\$4,265	\$2,853	\$374	\$0	\$0
Current Ratio	2.0x	1.5x	1.8x	2.5x	2.4x
Quick Ratio	0.2x	0.1x	0.1x	1.3x	0.3x
Debt / Equity Ratio	75.6%	44.6%	74.8%	0.0%	0.1%
Debt / EBITDA	1.8x	1.1x	1.5x	0.0x	0.0x

10.9%

6.2%

**Net Income Margin**