

VENTAS INC
Form 10-K
February 09, 2018

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K
(Mark
One)

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017

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

For the transition period from to
Commission File Number 1-10989

VENTAS, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)
Delaware 61-1055020
(State or Other Jurisdiction of (IRS Employer
Incorporation or Organization) Identification No.)
353 N. Clark Street, Suite 3300, Chicago, Illinois 60654
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)
(877) 483-6827
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

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

Title of Each Class	Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.25 per share	New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes " No x

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment of this Form 10-K. x

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Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer” and “smaller reporting company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act

Non-accelerated filer

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

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.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes No
The aggregate market value of shares of the Registrant’s common stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant on June 30, 2017, based on a closing price of the common stock of \$69.48 as reported on the New York Stock Exchange, was \$18.8 billion. For purposes of the foregoing calculation only, all directors, executive officers and 10% beneficial owners of the Registrant have been deemed affiliates.

As of January 31, 2018, there were 356,198,053 shares of the Registrant’s common stock outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Registrant’s definitive Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on May 15, 2018 are incorporated by reference into Part III, Items 10 through 14 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

CAUTIONARY STATEMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated or except where the context otherwise requires, the terms “we,” “us” and “our” and other similar terms in this Annual Report on Form 10-K refer to Ventas, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries.

Forward-Looking Statements

This Annual Report on Form 10-K includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). All statements regarding our or our tenants’, operators’, borrowers’ or managers’ expected future financial condition, results of operations, cash flows, funds from operations, dividends and dividend plans, financing opportunities and plans, capital markets transactions, business strategy, budgets, projected costs, operating metrics, capital expenditures, competitive positions, acquisitions, investment opportunities, dispositions, merger integration, growth opportunities, expected lease income, continued qualification as a real estate investment trust (“REIT”), plans and objectives of management for future operations, and statements that include words such as “anticipate,” “if,” “believe,” “plan,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intend,” “may,” “could,” “should,” “will,” and other similar expressions are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are inherently uncertain, and actual results may differ from our expectations. We do not undertake a duty to update these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date on which they are made.

Our actual future results and trends may differ materially from expectations depending on a variety of factors discussed in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). These factors include without limitation:

The ability and willingness of our tenants, operators, borrowers, managers and other third parties to satisfy their obligations under their respective contractual arrangements with us, including, in some cases, their obligations to indemnify, defend and hold us harmless from and against various claims, litigation and liabilities;

The ability of our tenants, operators, borrowers and managers to maintain the financial strength and liquidity necessary to satisfy their respective obligations and liabilities to third parties, including without limitation obligations under their existing credit facilities and other indebtedness;

Our success in implementing our business strategy and our ability to identify, underwrite, finance, consummate and integrate diversifying acquisitions and investments;

Macroeconomic conditions such as a disruption of or lack of access to the capital markets, changes in the debt rating on U.S. government securities, default or delay in payment by the United States of its obligations, and changes in the federal or state budgets resulting in the reduction or nonpayment of Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement rates;

The nature and extent of future competition, including new construction in the markets in which our seniors housing communities and office buildings are located;

The extent and effect of future or pending healthcare reform and regulation, including cost containment measures and changes in reimbursement policies, procedures and rates;

Increases in our borrowing costs as a result of changes in interest rates and other factors;

The ability of our tenants, operators and managers, as applicable, to comply with laws, rules and regulations in the operation of our properties, to deliver high-quality services, to attract and retain qualified personnel and to attract residents and patients;

• Changes in general economic conditions or economic conditions in the markets in which we may, from time to time, compete, and the effect of those changes on our revenues, earnings and funding sources;

• Our ability to pay down, refinance, restructure or extend our indebtedness as it becomes due;

• Our ability and willingness to maintain our qualification as a REIT in light of economic, market, legal, tax and other considerations;

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Final determination of our taxable net income for the year ended December 31, 2017 and for the year ending December 31, 2018;

The ability and willingness of our tenants to renew their leases with us upon expiration of the leases, our ability to reposition our properties on the same or better terms in the event of nonrenewal or in the event we exercise our right to replace an existing tenant, and obligations, including indemnification obligations, we may incur in connection with the replacement of an existing tenant;

Risks associated with our senior living operating portfolio, such as factors that can cause volatility in our operating income and earnings generated by those properties, including without limitation national and regional economic conditions, development of new competing properties, costs of food, materials, energy, labor and services, employee benefit costs, insurance costs and professional and general liability claims, and the timely delivery of accurate property-level financial results for those properties;

Changes in exchange rates for any foreign currency in which we may, from time to time, conduct business;

Year-over-year changes in the Consumer Price Index (“CPI”) or the U.K. Retail Price Index and the effect of those changes on the rent escalators contained in our leases and on our earnings;

- Our ability and the ability of our tenants, operators, borrowers and managers to obtain and maintain adequate property, liability and other insurance from reputable, financially stable providers;

The impact of increased operating costs and uninsured professional liability claims on our liquidity, financial condition and results of operations or that of our tenants, operators, borrowers and managers and our ability and the ability of our tenants, operators, borrowers and managers to accurately estimate the magnitude of those claims;

Risks associated with our office building portfolio and operations, including our ability to successfully design, develop and manage office buildings and to retain key personnel;

The ability of the hospitals on or near whose campuses our medical office buildings (“MOBs”) are located and their affiliated health systems to remain competitive and financially viable and to attract physicians and physician groups;

Risks associated with our investments in joint ventures and unconsolidated entities, including our lack of sole decision-making authority and our reliance on our joint venture partners’ financial condition;

- Our ability to obtain the financial results expected from our development and redevelopment projects, including projects undertaken through our joint ventures;

The impact of market or issuer events on the liquidity or value of our investments in marketable securities;

Consolidation in the seniors housing and healthcare industries resulting in a change of control of, or a competitor’s investment in, one or more of our tenants, operators, borrowers or managers or significant changes in the senior management of our tenants, operators, borrowers or managers;

The impact of litigation or any financial, accounting, legal or regulatory issues that may affect us or our tenants, operators, borrowers or managers; and

Changes in accounting principles, or their application or interpretation, and our ability to make estimates and the assumptions underlying the estimates, which could have an effect on our earnings.

Many of these factors, some of which are described in greater detail under “Risk Factors” in Part I, Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, are beyond our control and the control of our management.

Brookdale Senior Living, Kindred, Atria, Sunrise and Ardent Information

Each of Brookdale Senior Living Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, “Brookdale Senior Living”) and Kindred Healthcare, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, “Kindred”) is subject to the reporting requirements of the SEC and is required to

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file with the SEC annual reports containing audited financial information and quarterly reports containing unaudited financial information. The information related to Brookdale Senior Living and Kindred contained or referred to in this Annual Report on Form 10-K has been derived from SEC filings made by Brookdale Senior Living or Kindred, as the case may be, or other publicly available information or was provided to us by Brookdale Senior Living or Kindred, and we have not verified this information through an independent investigation or otherwise. We have no reason to believe that this information is inaccurate in any material respect, but we cannot assure you of its accuracy. We are providing this data for informational purposes only, and you are encouraged to obtain Brookdale Senior Living's and Kindred's publicly available filings, which can be found on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

Atria Senior Living, Inc. ("Atria"), Sunrise Senior Living, LLC (together with its subsidiaries, "Sunrise") and Ardent Health Partners, LLC (together with its subsidiaries, "Ardent") are not currently subject to the reporting requirements of the SEC. The information related to Atria, Sunrise and Ardent contained or referred to in this Annual Report on Form 10-K has been derived from publicly available information or was provided to us by Atria, Sunrise or Ardent, as the case may be, and we have not verified this information through an independent investigation or otherwise. We have no reason to believe that this information is inaccurate in any material respect, but we cannot assure you of its accuracy.

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PART I

ITEM 1. Business

BUSINESS

Overview

Ventas, Inc., an S&P 500 company, is a real estate investment trust (“REIT”) with a highly diversified portfolio of seniors housing and healthcare properties located throughout the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. As of December 31, 2017, we owned more than 1,200 properties (including properties owned through investments in unconsolidated entities and properties classified as held for sale), consisting of seniors housing communities, medical office buildings (“MOBs”), life science and innovation centers, inpatient rehabilitation facilities (“IRFs”) and long-term acute care facilities (“LTACs”), health systems and skilled nursing facilities (“SNFs”), and we had 14 properties under development, including four properties that are owned by unconsolidated real estate entities. Our company was originally founded in 1983 and is headquartered in Chicago, Illinois.

We primarily invest in seniors housing and healthcare properties through acquisitions and lease our properties to unaffiliated tenants or operate them through independent third-party managers. As of December 31, 2017, we leased a total of 546 properties (excluding MOBs) to various healthcare operating companies under “triple-net” or “absolute-net” leases that obligate the tenants to pay all property-related expenses, including maintenance, utilities, repairs, taxes, insurance and capital expenditures.

As of December 31, 2017, pursuant to long-term management agreements, we engaged independent operators, such as Atria Senior Living, Inc. (“Atria”) and Sunrise Senior Living, LLC (together with its subsidiaries, “Sunrise”), to manage 297 seniors housing communities for us.

Our three largest tenants, Brookdale Senior Living, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, “Brookdale Senior Living”), Ardent Health Partners, LLC (together with its subsidiaries, “Ardent”) and Kindred Healthcare, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, “Kindred”) leased from us 135 properties (excluding one property managed by Brookdale Senior Living pursuant to a long-term management agreement), 10 properties and 31 properties (excluding one MOB included within our office operations reportable business segment), respectively, as of December 31, 2017.

Through our Lillibridge Healthcare Services, Inc. (“Lillibridge”) subsidiary and our ownership interest in PMB Real Estate Services LLC (“PMBRES”), we also provide MOB management, leasing, marketing, facility development and advisory services to highly rated hospitals and health systems throughout the United States. In addition, from time to time, we make secured and non-mortgage loans and other investments relating to seniors housing and healthcare operators or properties.

We operate through three reportable business segments: triple-net leased properties, senior living operations and office operations. See our Consolidated Financial Statements and the related notes, including “NOTE 2—ACCOUNTING POLICIES” and “NOTE 19—SEGMENT INFORMATION,” included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Business Strategy

We aim to enhance shareholder value by delivering consistent, superior total returns through a strategy of:

(1) generating reliable and growing cash flows; (2) maintaining a balanced, diversified portfolio of high-quality assets; and (3) preserving our financial strength, flexibility and liquidity.

Generating Reliable and Growing Cash Flows

Generating reliable and growing cash flows from our seniors housing and healthcare assets enables us to pay regular cash dividends to stockholders and creates opportunities to increase stockholder value through profitable investments. The combination of steady contractual growth from our long-term triple-net leases, steady, reliable cash flows from our loan investments and stable cash flows from our office buildings with the higher growth potential inherent in our seniors housing operating communities drives our ability to generate sustainable, growing cash flows that are resilient to economic downturns.

Maintaining a Balanced, Diversified Portfolio

We believe that maintaining a balanced portfolio of high-quality assets diversified by investment type, geographic location, asset type, tenant/operator, revenue source and operating model diminishes the risk that any single factor or event could materially harm our business. Portfolio diversification also enhances the reliability of our cash flows by reducing our exposure to any individual tenant, operator or manager and making us less susceptible to single-state regulatory or reimbursement changes, regional climate events and local economic downturns.

Preserving Our Financial Strength, Flexibility and Liquidity

A strong, flexible balance sheet and excellent liquidity position us favorably to capitalize on strategic growth opportunities in the seniors housing and healthcare industries through acquisitions, investments and development and redevelopment projects. We maintain our financial strength to pursue profitable investment opportunities by actively managing our leverage, improving our cost of capital and preserving our access to multiple sources of liquidity, including unsecured bank debt, mortgage financings and public debt and equity markets.

2017 Highlights and Other Recent Developments

Investments and Dispositions

In March 2017, we provided secured debt financing to a subsidiary of Ardent to facilitate Ardent's acquisition of LHP Hospital Group, Inc., which included a \$700.0 million term loan and a \$60.0 million revolving line of credit feature (of which \$28.0 million was outstanding at December 31, 2017). The LIBOR-based debt financing has a five-year term, a one-year lock out feature and a weighted average interest rate of approximately 9.3% as of December 31, 2017 and is guaranteed by Ardent's parent company.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, we acquired 15 triple-net leased properties (including six assets previously owned by an equity method investee), four properties reported within our office operations reportable business segment (three life science, research and medical assets and one MOB) and three seniors housing communities (reported within our senior living operations reportable business segment) for an aggregate purchase price of \$691.3 million.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, we sold 53 triple-net leased properties, five MOBs and certain vacant land parcels for aggregate consideration of \$870.8 million, and we recognized a gain on the sale of these assets of \$717.3 million, net of taxes.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, we received aggregate proceeds of \$37.6 million for the partial prepayment and \$35.5 million for the full repayment of loans receivable, which resulted in total gains of \$0.6 million.

Liquidity, Capital and Dividends

In March 2017, we issued and sold \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount of 3.100% senior notes due 2023 at a public offering price equal to 99.280% of par, for total proceeds of \$397.1 million before the underwriting discount and expenses, and \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount of 3.850% senior notes due 2027 at a public offering price equal to 99.196% of par, for total proceeds of \$396.8 million before the underwriting discount and expenses.

In April 2017, we entered into an unsecured credit facility comprised of a \$3.0 billion unsecured revolving credit facility, priced at LIBOR plus 0.875%, that replaced our previous \$2.0 billion unsecured revolving credit facility priced at LIBOR plus 1.0%.

In April 2017, we repaid in full, at par, \$300.0 million aggregate principal amount then outstanding of our 1.250% senior notes due 2017 upon maturity.

In June 2017, we issued and sold C\$275.0 million aggregate principal amount of 2.55% senior notes, Series D due 2023 at a price equal to 99.954% of par, for total proceeds of C\$274.9 million before the agent fees and expenses. We used part of the proceeds to repay C\$124.4 million on our unsecured term loan due 2019.

In August 2017, we used most of the proceeds from the sale of 22 SNFs to repay the balances then outstanding on the 2018 and 2019 term loans.

In September 2017, we entered into a new \$400.0 million secured revolving construction credit facility which matures in 2022 and will be primarily used to finance life science and innovation center and other construction projects.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, we issued and sold 1.1 million shares of common stock under our “at-the-market” (“ATM”) equity offering program. Aggregate net proceeds for these activities were \$73.9 million, after sales agent commissions.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, we paid the first three quarterly installments of our 2017 dividend of \$0.775 per share. In December 2017, we declared the fourth quarter cash dividend on our common stock of \$0.79 per share, which grew by 2% over third quarter 2017 and was paid in January 2018.

Portfolio

The sale of the triple-net leased properties above included 36 SNFs, owned by us and operated by Kindred. These assets were sold for aggregate consideration of approximately \$700 million and we recognized a gain on the sale of \$657.6 million, net of taxes.

Other Recent Developments

In January 2018, we transitioned the management of 76 private pay seniors housing communities to Eclipse Senior Living (“ESL”). These assets, substantially all of which were previously leased by Elmcroft Senior Living (“Elmcroft”), are now operated by ESL under a management contract with us. We acquired a 34% ownership stake in ESL with customary rights and protections. ESL management owns the remaining 66% stake. We also intend to form a new joint venture with an institutional partner related to the assets previously leased by Elmcroft. However, there can be no assurance whether, when or on what terms the joint venture will be completed.

Portfolio Summary

The following table summarizes our consolidated portfolio of properties and other investments as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017:

Asset Type	# of Properties ⁽¹⁾	# of Units/ Sq. Ft./Beds ⁽²⁾	Real Estate Property Investments			Revenues			
			Real Estate Property Investment, at Cost	Percent of Total Real Estate Property Investments	Real Estate Property Investment Per Unit/Bed/Sq. Ft.	Revenue	Percent of Total Revenues		
(Dollars in thousands)									
Seniors housing communities	747	65,428	\$16,616,501	63.4	%	\$ 254.0	\$2,342,247	65.5	%
MOBs ⁽³⁾	354	19,221,003	5,332,817	20.3		0.3	579,363	16.2	
Life science and innovation centers	29	5,156,868	1,940,099	7.4		0.4	174,391	4.9	
IRFs and LTACs	37	3,115	459,753	1.8		147.6	154,094	4.3	
Health systems	12	2,064	1,475,975	5.6		715.1	109,546	3.1	
SNFs	17	1,882	204,488	0.8		108.7	64,086	1.8	
Development properties and other	10		176,200	0.7					
Total real estate investments, at cost	1,206		\$26,205,833	100.0	%				
Income from loans and investments							117,608	3.3	
Interest and other income							6,034	0.2	
Revenues related to assets classified as held for sale	8						26,780	0.7	

Total revenues \$3,574,149 100.0 %

As of December 31, 2017, we also owned 17 seniors housing communities, 13 SNFs and one MOB through investments in unconsolidated entities. Our consolidated properties were located in 46 states, the District of Columbia, seven Canadian provinces and the United Kingdom and were operated or managed by 91 unaffiliated healthcare operating companies, including the following publicly traded companies or their subsidiaries: Brookdale

- (1) Senior Living (129 properties) (excluding six properties owned through investments in unconsolidated entities and one property managed by Brookdale Senior Living pursuant to a long-term management agreement and included in the senior living operations reportable business segment); Kindred (31 properties) (excluding one MOB included in the office operations reportable business segment); 21st Century Oncology Holdings, Inc. (12 properties); Capital Senior Living Corporation (seven properties); Spire Healthcare plc (three properties); and HealthSouth Corp. (four properties).
- (2) Seniors housing communities are measured in units; MOB and life science and innovation centers are measured by square footage; and IRFs and LTACs, health systems and SNFs are measured by bed count.

As of December 31, 2017, we leased 65 of our consolidated MOB's pursuant to triple-net leases, Lillibridge or (3) PMBRES managed 270 of our consolidated MOB's and 19 of our consolidated MOB's were managed by seven unaffiliated managers. Through Lillibridge and PMBRES, we also provided management and leasing services for 105 MOB's owned by third parties as of December 31, 2017.

Seniors Housing and Healthcare Properties

As of December 31, 2017, we owned a total of 1,235 seniors housing and healthcare properties (including properties classified as held for sale) as follows:

	Consolidated (100% interest)	Consolidated (<100% interest)	Unconsolidated (5-25% interest)	Total
Seniors housing communities	738	9	17	764
MOB's	314	48	1	363
Life science and innovation centers	18	11	—	29
IRF's and LTAC's	36	1	—	37
Health systems	12	—	—	12
SNF's	17	—	13	30
Total	1,135	69	31	1,235

Seniors Housing Communities

Our seniors housing communities include independent and assisted living communities, continuing care retirement communities and communities providing care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia or memory loss. These communities offer studio, one bedroom and two bedroom residential units on a month-to-month basis primarily to elderly individuals requiring various levels of assistance. Basic services for residents of these communities include housekeeping, meals in a central dining area and group activities organized by the staff with input from the residents. More extensive care and personal supervision, at additional fees, are also available for such needs as eating, bathing, grooming, transportation, limited therapeutic programs and medication administration, which allow residents certain conveniences and enable them to live as independently as possible according to their abilities. These services are often met by home health providers and through close coordination with the resident's physician and SNF's. Charges for room, board and services are generally paid from private sources.

Medical Office Buildings

Typically, our MOB's are multi-tenant properties leased to several unrelated medical practices, although in many cases they may be associated with a large single specialty or multi-specialty group. Tenants include physicians, dentists, psychologists, therapists and other healthcare providers, who require space devoted to patient examination and treatment, diagnostic imaging, outpatient surgery and other outpatient services. MOB's are similar to commercial office buildings, although they require greater plumbing, electrical and mechanical systems to accommodate physicians' requirements such as sinks in every room, brighter lights and specialized medical equipment. As of December 31, 2017, we owned or managed for third parties approximately 23 million square feet of MOB's that are predominantly located on or near a health system.

Life Science and Innovation Centers

Our life science and innovation centers contain laboratory and office space primarily for scientific research for universities, academic medical centers, technology, biotechnology, medical device and pharmaceutical companies and other organizations involved in the life science industry. While these properties have characteristics similar to

commercial office buildings, they generally contain more advanced electrical, mechanical, and heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems. The facilities generally have specialty equipment including emergency generators, fume hoods, lab bench tops and related amenities. In many instances, life science tenants make significant investments to improve their leased space, in addition to landlord improvements, to accommodate biology, chemistry or medical device research initiatives. Our life science and innovation centers are primarily located on or contiguous to university and academic medical campuses. The campus settings allow us the opportunity to provide flexible, contiguous/adjacent expansion to accommodate the growth of existing tenants.

Inpatient Rehabilitation and Long-term Acute Care Facilities

We have 29 properties that are operated as LTACs. LTACs have a Medicare average length of stay of greater than 25 days and serve medically complex, chronically ill patients who require a high level of monitoring and specialized care, but whose conditions do not necessitate the continued services of an intensive care unit. The operators of these LTACs have the

capability to treat patients who suffer from multiple systemic failures or conditions such as neurological disorders, head injuries, brain stem and spinal cord trauma, cerebral vascular accidents, chemical brain injuries, central nervous system disorders, developmental anomalies and cardiopulmonary disorders. Chronic patients often depend on technology for continued life support, such as mechanical ventilators, total parenteral nutrition, respiration or cardiac monitors and dialysis machines, and, due to their severe medical conditions, generally are not clinically appropriate for admission to a nursing facility or rehabilitation hospital. All of our LTACs are freestanding facilities, and we do not own any “hospitals within hospitals.” We also own eight IRFs devoted to the rehabilitation of patients with various neurological, musculoskeletal, orthopedic and other medical conditions following stabilization of their acute medical issues.

Health Systems

We have 12 properties that are operated as health systems. Health systems provide medical and surgical services, including inpatient care, intensive care, cardiac care, diagnostic services and emergency services. These health systems also provide outpatient services such as outpatient surgery, laboratory, radiology, respiratory therapy, cardiology and physical therapy. In the United States, these health systems receive payments for patient services from the federal government primarily under the Medicare program, state governments under their respective Medicaid or similar programs, health maintenance organizations, preferred provider organizations, other private insurers and directly from patients.

Skilled Nursing Facilities

We have 17 properties that are operated as SNFs. SNFs provide rehabilitative, restorative, skilled nursing and medical treatment for patients and residents who do not require the high technology, care-intensive, high cost setting of an acute care or rehabilitation hospital. Treatment programs include physical, occupational, speech, respiratory and other therapies, including sub-acute clinical protocols such as wound care and intravenous drug treatment. Charges for these services are generally paid from a combination of government reimbursement and private sources.

Geographic Diversification of Properties

Our portfolio of seniors housing and healthcare properties is broadly diversified by geographic location throughout the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, with properties in only one state (California) accounting for more than 10% of our total continuing revenues and net operating income (“NOI,” which is defined as total revenues, excluding interest and other income, less property-level operating expenses and office building services costs) for the year ended December 31, 2017.

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The following table shows our continuing rental income and resident fees and services by geographic location for the year ended December 31, 2017:

Geographic Location	Rental Income and Resident Fees and Services (Dollars in thousands)	Percent of Total Revenues
California	\$546,184	15.3 %
New York	308,366	8.6
Texas	206,709	5.8
Illinois	170,846	4.8
Florida	158,889	4.4
Pennsylvania	148,882	4.2
Connecticut	114,040	3.2
Georgia	114,038	3.2
North Carolina	112,137	3.1
Arizona	104,684	2.9
Other (36 states and the District of Columbia)	1,239,588	34.8
Total U.S	3,224,363	90.3 %
Canada (7 provinces)	186,049	5.2
United Kingdom	26,418	0.7
Total ⁽¹⁾	\$3,436,830	96.2 %

(1) The remainder of our total revenues is office building and other services revenue, income from loans and investments and interest and other income.

The following table shows our continuing NOI by geographic location for the year ended December 31, 2017:

Geographic Location	NOI ⁽¹⁾ (Dollars in thousands)	Percent of Total NOI
California	\$288,435	13.9 %
Texas	132,305	6.4
New York	119,123	5.7
Illinois	107,034	5.1
Florida	93,746	4.5
Pennsylvania	82,900	4.0
Connecticut	73,121	3.5
North Carolina	60,188	2.9
Washington	42,816	2.1
Indiana	43,992	2.1
Other (36 states and the District of Columbia)	801,854	38.5
Total U.S	1,845,514	88.7 %
Canada (7 provinces)	92,112	4.4

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United Kingdom	26,418	1.3
Total ⁽²⁾	\$1,964,044	94.4 %

See “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Non-GAAP Financial (1) Measures—NOI” included in Item 7 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for a reconciliation of NOI to its most directly comparable GAAP measure, income from continuing operations.

(2) The remainder of our total NOI is income from loans and investments.

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See “NOTE 19—SEGMENT INFORMATION” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for more information regarding the geographic diversification of our portfolio.

Loans and Investments

As of December 31, 2017, we had \$1.4 billion of net loans receivable and investments relating to seniors housing and healthcare operators or properties. Our loans receivable and investments provide us with interest income, principal amortization and transaction fees and are typically secured by mortgage liens or leasehold mortgages on the underlying properties and corporate or personal guarantees by affiliates of the borrowing entity. In some cases, the loans are secured by a pledge of ownership interests in the entity or entities that own the related seniors housing or healthcare properties. From time to time, we also make investments in mezzanine loans, which are subordinated to senior secured loans held by other investors that encumber the same real estate. See “NOTE 6—LOANS RECEIVABLE AND INVESTMENTS” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Development and Redevelopment Projects

We are party to certain agreements that obligate us to develop seniors housing or healthcare properties funded through capital that we and, in certain circumstances, our joint venture partners provide. As of December 31, 2017, we had 14 properties under development pursuant to these agreements, including four properties that are owned through unconsolidated real estate entities. In addition, from time to time, we engage in redevelopment projects with respect to our existing seniors housing communities to maximize the value, increase NOI, maintain a market-competitive position, achieve property stabilization or change the primary use of the property.

Segment Information

We operate through three reportable business segments: triple-net leased properties, senior living operations and office operations. Non-segment assets, classified as “all other,” consist primarily of corporate assets, including cash, restricted cash, loans receivable and investments, and miscellaneous accounts receivable. Our chief operating decision makers evaluate performance of the combined properties in each reportable business segment and determine how to allocate resources to these segments, in significant part, based on segment NOI and related measures. For further information regarding our business segments and a discussion of our definition of segment NOI, see “NOTE 19—SEGMENT INFORMATION” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Significant Tenants, Operators and Managers

The following table summarizes certain information regarding our tenant, operator and manager concentration as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017 (excluding properties classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2017):

	Number of Properties Leased or Managed	Percent of Total Real Estate Investments (1)		Percent of Total Revenues		Percent of NOI
Senior living operations (2)	293	35.1	%	51.9	%	29.0 %
Brookdale Senior Living (3)	129	7.5		4.9		8.3
Ardent	10	4.9		3.1		5.4
Kindred (4)	32	1.1		4.3		7.5

- (1) Based on gross book value.
- (2) Excludes four properties owned through investments in unconsolidated entities.
Excludes six properties owned through investments in unconsolidated entities and one property managed by
- (3) Brookdale Senior Living pursuant to a long-term management agreement and included in the senior living operations reportable business segment.
- (4) Includes one MOB included in the office operations reportable business segment.

Triple-Net Leased Properties

Each of our leases with Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred is a triple-net lease that obligates the tenant to pay all property-related expenses, including maintenance, utilities, repairs, taxes, insurance and capital expenditures, and to comply with the terms of the mortgage financing documents, if any, affecting the properties. In addition, each of our Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred leases has a corporate guaranty. Brookdale Senior Living has multiple leases with us and those leases contain cross-default provisions tied to each other, as well as lease renewals by lease agreement or by pool of assets.

The properties we lease to Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred accounted for a significant portion of our triple-net leased properties segment revenues and NOI for the year ended December 31, 2017. If any of Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent or Kindred becomes unable or unwilling to satisfy its obligations to us or to renew its leases with us upon expiration of the terms thereof, our financial condition and results of operations could decline, and our ability to service our indebtedness and to make distributions to our stockholders could be impaired. We cannot assure you that Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred will have sufficient assets, income and access to financing to enable them to satisfy their respective obligations to us, and any failure, inability or unwillingness by Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent or Kindred to do so could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and liquidity, our ability to service our indebtedness and other obligations and our ability to make distributions to our stockholders, as required for us to continue to qualify as a REIT (a “Material Adverse Effect”). We also cannot assure you that Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred will elect to renew their respective leases with us upon expiration of the leases or that we will be able to reposition any non-renewed properties on a timely basis or on the same or better economic terms, if at all. See “Risk Factors—Risks Arising from Our Business—Our leases and other agreements with Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred account for a significant portion of our revenues and operating income; any failure, inability or unwillingness by Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent or Kindred to satisfy its obligations under our agreements could have a Material Adverse Effect on us” included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Brookdale Senior Living Leases

As of December 31, 2017, we leased 129 consolidated properties (excluding one property managed by Brookdale Senior Living pursuant to a long-term management agreement and included in the senior living operations reportable business segment) to Brookdale Senior Living pursuant to multiple lease agreements.

Pursuant to our lease agreements, Brookdale Senior Living is obligated to pay base rent, which escalates annually at a specified rate over the prior period base rent. As of December 31, 2017, the aggregate 2018 contractual cash rent due to us from Brookdale Senior Living, excluding variable interest that Brookdale Senior Living is obligated to pay as additional rent based on certain floating rate mortgage debt, was approximately \$180.3 million, and the current aggregate contractual base rent (computed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”)) due to us from Brookdale Senior Living, excluding the variable interest, was approximately \$162.3 million (in each case, excluding six properties owned through investments in unconsolidated entities as of December 31, 2017). See “NOTE 3—CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK” and “NOTE 14—COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Ardent Lease

As of December 31, 2017, we leased 10 properties to Ardent pursuant to a single, triple-net master lease agreement. Per our master lease agreement, Ardent is obligated to pay base rent, which escalates annually by the lesser of four times the increase in the consumer price index for the relevant period and 2.5%. The initial term of the master lease expires on August 31, 2035 and Ardent has one ten-year renewal option.

As of December 31, 2017, the aggregate 2018 contractual cash rent due to us from Ardent was approximately \$113.4 million, and the current aggregate contractual base rent (computed in accordance with GAAP) due to us from Ardent was also approximately \$113.4 million.

Kindred Master Leases

As of December 31, 2017, we leased 29 properties to Kindred pursuant to a master lease agreement. In November 2016, Kindred extended the lease term to 2025 for all of our LTACs operated by Kindred that were scheduled to mature in 2018 and 2020, at the current rent level.

The aggregate annual rent we receive under each Kindred master lease is referred to as “base rent.” Base rent escalates annually at a specified rate over the prior period base rent, contingent, in some cases, upon the satisfaction of specified facility revenue parameters. The annual rent escalator under the Kindred master lease for 25 properties is based on year-over-year changes in CPI, subject to a floor and cap, and is 2.7% for four properties. As of December 31, 2017, the aggregate 2018 contractual cash rent due to us from Kindred was approximately \$122.0 million, and the current aggregate contractual base rent (computed in accordance with GAAP) due to us from Kindred was approximately \$122.7 million.

Senior Living Operations

As of December 31, 2017, Atria and Sunrise, collectively, provided comprehensive property management and accounting services with respect to 269 consolidated seniors housing communities, for which we pay annual management fees pursuant to long-term management agreements. Most of our management agreements with Atria have initial terms expiring either July 31, 2024 or December 31, 2027, with successive automatic ten-year renewal periods. The management fees payable to Atria under most of the Atria management agreements range from 4.5% to 5% of revenues generated by the applicable properties, and Atria can earn up to an additional 1% of revenues based on the achievement of specified performance targets. Most of our management agreements with Sunrise have terms ranging from 25 to 30 years (which commenced as early as 2004 and as recently as 2012). The base management fees payable to Sunrise on consolidated assets under the Sunrise management agreements generally range from 5% to 7% of revenues generated by the applicable properties. See “NOTE 3—CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Because Atria and Sunrise manage our properties in exchange for the receipt of a management fee from us, we are not directly exposed to the credit risk of our managers in the same manner or to the same extent as our triple-net tenants. However, we rely on our managers’ personnel, expertise, technical resources and information systems, proprietary information, good faith and judgment to manage our senior living operations efficiently and effectively. We also rely on our managers to set appropriate resident fees and otherwise operate our seniors housing communities in compliance with the terms of our management agreements and all applicable laws and regulations. Although we have various rights as the property owner under our management agreements, including various rights to terminate and exercise remedies under those agreements as provided therein, Atria’s or Sunrise’s failure, inability or unwillingness to satisfy its respective obligations under those agreements, to efficiently and effectively manage our properties or to provide timely and accurate accounting information with respect thereto could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. In addition, significant changes in Atria’s or Sunrise’s senior management or equity ownership or any adverse developments in their businesses or financial condition could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. See “Risk Factors—Risks Arising from Our Business—The properties managed by Atria and Sunrise account for a significant portion of our revenues and operating income; adverse developments in Atria’s or Sunrise’s business and affairs or financial condition could have a Material Adverse Effect on us” and “—We have rights to terminate our management agreements with Atria and Sunrise in whole or with respect to specific properties under certain circumstances, and we may be unable to replace Atria or Sunrise if our management agreements are terminated or not renewed” included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Our 34% ownership interest in Atria entitles us to certain rights and minority protections, as well as the right to appoint two of six members on the Atria Board of Directors.

Competition

We generally compete for investments in seniors housing and healthcare assets with publicly traded, private and non-listed healthcare REITs, real estate partnerships, healthcare providers, healthcare lenders and other investors, including developers, banks, insurance companies, pension funds, government-sponsored entities and private equity firms, some of whom may have greater financial resources and lower costs of capital than we do. Increased competition challenges our ability to identify and successfully capitalize on opportunities that meet our objectives, which is affected by, among other factors, the availability of suitable acquisition or investment targets, our ability to negotiate acceptable transaction terms and our access to and cost of capital. See “Risk Factors—Risks Arising from Our Business—Our ongoing strategy depends, in part, upon future investments in and acquisitions of, or our development or redevelopment of, seniors housing and healthcare assets, and we may not be successful in identifying and consummating these transactions” included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and “NOTE 10—SENIOR NOTES PAYABLE AND OTHER DEBT” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Our tenants, operators and managers also compete on a local and regional basis with other healthcare operating companies that provide comparable services. Seniors housing community, SNF and health systems operators compete to attract and retain residents and patients to our properties based on scope and quality of care, reputation and financial condition, price, location and physical appearance of the properties, services offered, qualified personnel, physician referrals and family preferences. With respect to MOBs, we and our third-party managers compete to attract and retain tenants based on many of the same factors, in addition to quality of the affiliated health system, physician preferences and proximity to hospital campuses. The ability of our tenants, operators and managers to compete successfully could be affected by private, federal and state reimbursement programs and other laws and regulations. See “Risk Factors—Risks Arising from Our Business—Our tenants, operators and managers may be adversely affected by healthcare regulation and enforcement” and “—Changes in the reimbursement rates or methods of payment from third-party payors, including insurance companies and the Medicare and

Medicaid programs, could have a material adverse effect on certain of our tenants and operators and on us” included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Employees

As of December 31, 2017, we had 493 employees, none of which is subject to a collective bargaining agreement. We believe that relations with our employees are positive.

Insurance

We maintain or require in our lease, management and other agreements that our tenants, operators and managers maintain all applicable lines of insurance on our properties and their operations. We believe that the amount and scope of insurance coverage provided by our policies and the policies required to be maintained by our tenants, operators and managers are customary for similarly situated companies in our industry. Although we regularly monitor our tenants’, operators’ and managers’ compliance with their respective insurance requirements, we cannot assure you that they will maintain the required insurance coverages, and any failure, inability or unwillingness by our tenants, operators and managers to do so could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. We also cannot assure you that we will continue to require the same levels of insurance coverage under our lease, management and other agreements, that such insurance coverage will be available at a reasonable cost in the future or that the policies maintained will fully cover all losses related to our properties upon the occurrence of a catastrophic event, nor can we assure you of the future financial viability of the insurers.

We maintain the property insurance for all of our senior living operations, as well as the general and professional liability insurance for our seniors housing communities and related operations managed by Atria. However, Sunrise maintains the general and professional liability insurance for our seniors housing communities and related operations that it manages in accordance with the terms of our management agreements. Under our management agreements with Sunrise, we may elect, on an annual basis, whether we or Sunrise will bear responsibility for maintaining the required insurance coverage for the applicable properties, but the costs of such insurance are facility expenses paid from the revenues of those properties, regardless of who maintains the insurance.

Through our office operations, we provide engineering, construction and architectural services in connection with new development projects, and any design, construction or systems failures related to the properties we develop could result in substantial injury or damage to our clients or third parties. Any such injury or damage claims may arise in the ordinary course and may be asserted with respect to ongoing or completed projects. Although we maintain liability insurance to protect us against these claims, if any claim results in a loss, we cannot assure you that our policy limits would be adequate to cover the loss in full. If we sustain losses in excess of our insurance coverage, we may be required to pay the difference and we could lose our investment in, or experience reduced profits and cash flows from, the affected MOB or life science and innovation center, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

For various reasons, including to reduce and manage costs, many healthcare companies utilize different organizational and corporate structures coupled with self-insurance trusts or captive programs that may provide less coverage than a traditional insurance policy. As a result, companies that self-insure could incur large funded and unfunded general and professional liability expenses, which could have a material adverse effect on their liquidity, financial condition and results of operations. The implementation of a trust or captive by any of our tenants, operators or managers could adversely affect such person’s ability to satisfy its obligations under, or otherwise comply with the terms of, its respective lease, management and other agreements with us, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. Likewise, if we decide to implement a captive or self-insurance program, any large funded and unfunded general and professional liability expenses that we incur could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Additional Information

We maintain a website at www.ventasreit.com. The information on our website is not incorporated by reference in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, and our web address is included as an inactive textual reference only.

We make available, free of charge, through our website our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. In addition, our Guidelines on Governance, our Global Code of Ethics and Business Conduct (including waivers from and amendments to that document) and the charters for each of our Audit and Compliance, Nominating and Corporate Governance and Executive Compensation Committees are available on our website, and we will mail copies of the foregoing documents to

stockholders, free of charge, upon request to our Corporate Secretary at Ventas, Inc., 353 North Clark Street, Suite 3300, Chicago, Illinois 60654.

GOVERNMENTAL REGULATION

Healthcare Regulation

Overview

Our tenants, operators and managers are typically subject to extensive and complex federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to quality of care, licensure and certificate of need, government reimbursement, fraud and abuse practices, qualifications of personnel, adequacy of plant and equipment, and other laws and regulations governing the operation of healthcare facilities. Healthcare is a highly regulated industry and that trend will, in general, continue in the future. The applicable rules are wide-ranging and can subject our tenants, operators and managers to civil, criminal, and administrative sanctions, including: the possible loss of accreditation or license; denial of reimbursement; imposition of fines; suspension, decertification, or exclusion from federal and state healthcare programs; or facility closure. Changes in laws or regulations, reimbursement policies, enforcement activity and regulatory non-compliance by tenants, operators and managers can all have a significant effect on their operations and financial condition, which in turn may adversely impact us, as detailed below and set forth under “Risk Factors” in Part I, Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

In 2017, Congress came within a single vote of repealing of the Affordable Care Act (the “ACA”) and substantially reducing funding to the Medicaid program. Short of full repeal, new legislation is likely to be introduced to seek similar changes in 2018. Beyond this, significant changes to commercial health insurance and government sponsored insurance (i.e. Medicare and Medicaid) remain possible. Commercial and government payors, are likely to continue imposing greater discounts and more stringent cost controls upon operators, through changes in reimbursement rates and methodologies, discounted fee structures, the assumption by healthcare providers of all or a portion of the financial risk or otherwise. A shift toward less comprehensive health insurance coverage and increased consumer cost-sharing on health expenditures could have a material adverse effect on certain of our operators’ liquidity, financial condition and results of operations and, in turn, their ability to satisfy their contractual obligations, including making rental payments under and otherwise complying with the terms of our leases.

Licensure, Certification and CONs

In general, the operators of our inpatient rehabilitation and long-term acute care facilities, health systems and skilled nursing facilities (collectively “healthcare facilities”) must be licensed and periodically certified through various regulatory agencies that determine compliance with federal, state and local laws to participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Legal requirements pertaining to such licensure and certification relate to the quality of medical care provided by the operator, qualifications of the operator’s administrative personnel and clinical staff, adequacy of the physical plant and equipment and continuing compliance with applicable laws and regulations. A loss of licensure or certification could adversely affect a healthcare facility operator’s ability to receive payments from the Medicare and Medicaid programs, which, in turn, could adversely affect its ability to satisfy its obligations to us.

In addition, many of our healthcare facilities are subject to state certificate of need (“CON”) laws that require governmental approval prior to the development or expansion of healthcare facilities and services. The approval process in these states generally requires a facility to demonstrate the need for additional or expanded healthcare facilities or services. CONs, where applicable, are also sometimes necessary for changes in ownership or control of licensed facilities, addition of beds, investment in major capital equipment, introduction of new services or termination of services previously approved through the CON process. CON laws and regulations may restrict an operator’s ability to expand our properties and grow its business in certain circumstances, which could have an adverse

effect on the operator's revenues and, in turn, its ability to make rental payments under and otherwise comply with the terms of our leases. See "Risk Factors-Risks Arising from Our Business-If we must replace any of our tenants or operators, we might be unable to reposition the properties on as favorable terms, or at all, and we could be subject to delays, limitations and expenses, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us" included in Part I, Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

State CON laws remained largely unchanged in 2017, with the exception of North Carolina. North Carolina's CON statute, underwent minor changes in 2017 by exempting from CON review new institutional health services involving the acquisition of an unlicensed adult care home that was previously licensed.

Compared to healthcare facilities, seniors housing communities (other than those that receive Medicaid payments) do not receive significant funding from governmental healthcare programs and are subject to relatively few, if any, federal regulations. Instead, to the extent they are regulated, such regulation consists primarily of state and local laws governing licensure, provision of services, staffing requirements and other operational matters, which vary greatly from one jurisdiction to another. Although recent growth in the U.S. seniors housing industry has attracted the attention of various federal agencies that believe more federal regulation of these properties is necessary, Congress thus far has deferred to state regulation of seniors housing communities. However, as a result of this growth and increased federal scrutiny, some states have revised and strengthened their regulation of seniors housing communities, and more states are expected to do the same in the future.

As discussed in greater detail below, a number of states have instituted Medicaid waiver programs that blend the functions of healthcare and custodial care providers, and expand the scope of services that can be provided under certain licenses. The trend toward this kind of experimentation is likely to continue, and even hasten, under Republican leadership. The temporary and experimental nature of these programs means that states will also continue to adjust their licensing and certification processes which might result in some providers facing increased competition and others facing new requirements.

Fraud and Abuse Enforcement

Healthcare facilities and seniors housing communities that receive Medicaid payments are subject to various complex federal, state and local laws and regulations that govern healthcare providers' relationships and arrangements and prohibit fraudulent and abusive business practices. These laws and regulations include, among others:

- Federal and state false claims acts, which, among other things, prohibit healthcare providers from filing false claims or making false statements to receive payment from Medicare, Medicaid or other governmental healthcare programs;

- Federal and state anti-kickback and fee-splitting statutes, including the Medicare and Medicaid anti-kickback statute, which prohibit the payment, receipt or solicitation of any remuneration to induce referrals of patients for items or services covered by a governmental healthcare program, including Medicare and Medicaid;

- Federal and state physician self-referral laws, including the federal Stark Law, which generally prohibits physicians from referring patients enrolled in certain governmental healthcare programs to providers of certain designated health services in which the referring physician or an immediate family member of the referring physician has an ownership or other financial interest;

- The federal Civil Monetary Penalties Law, which authorizes the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”) to impose civil penalties administratively for fraudulent acts; and

- State and federal data privacy and security laws, including the privacy and security rules of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, which provide for the privacy and security of certain individually identifiable health information.

Violating these healthcare fraud and abuse laws and regulations may result in criminal and civil penalties, such as punitive sanctions, damage assessments, monetary penalties, imprisonment, denial of Medicare and Medicaid payments, and exclusion from the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The responsibility for enforcing these laws and regulations lies with a variety of federal, state and local governmental agencies, however many of the laws and regulations can also be enforced by private litigants through federal and state false claims acts and other laws that allow private individuals to bring whistleblower suits known as qui tam actions.

Congress has significantly increased funding to the governmental agencies charged with enforcing the healthcare fraud and abuse laws to facilitate increased audits, investigations and prosecutions of providers suspected of healthcare fraud. As a result, government investigations and enforcement actions brought against healthcare providers have increased significantly in recent years and are expected to continue. A violation of federal or state anti-fraud and abuse laws or regulations by an operator of our properties could have a material adverse effect on the operator's liquidity, financial condition or results of operations, which could adversely affect its ability to satisfy its contractual obligations, including making rental payments under and otherwise complying with the terms of our leases.

The current presidential administration has signaled it will expand current efforts to enforce healthcare fraud and abuse laws by increasing funding for the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control program. Additionally, Attorney General Jeff Sessions has stated that he will make it a high priority to prosecute fraud in federal claims while the administrator of the Centers for

Medicare and Medicaid Services (“CMS”), Seema Verma, has underscored this administration’s focus on healthcare fraud, stating that she will ensure that efforts preventing fraud and abuse are a priority. Further, many state Medicaid programs continue to devote additional resources to fraud, waste, and abuse initiatives. Medicaid reform plans might include lowering the growth rate of Medicaid spending, which will put pressure on states to exert greater scrutiny over the utilization of services. It is likely that states will have increased flexibility and incentive to monitor utilization patterns and take action against outlier providers.

Medicare’s fraud, waste, and abuse initiatives are also being retooled by the current presidential administration. Because a backlog of provider appeals in response to Medicare audits, CMS finalized significant changes intended to expedite the Medicare appeals process in 2017, particularly at the administrative law judge level of review. These changes apply to appeals of payment and coverage determinations for items and services furnished to Medicare beneficiaries, enrollees in Medicare Advantage and other Medicare competitive health plans, and enrollees in Medicare prescription drug plans, as well as to appeals of enrollment and entitlement determinations, and certain premium appeals. The Recovery Audit Contractor program, which has recovered more than \$2 billion for the Medicare program, also continues to be controversial and may be modified under the new administration.

Reimbursement

The majority of SNF reimbursement, and a significant percentage of health system, IRF and LTAC reimbursement, is through Medicare and Medicaid. Medical buildings and other healthcare related properties have provider tenants that participate in Medicare and Medicaid. These programs are often their largest source of funding. Seniors housing communities generally do not receive funding from Medicare or Medicaid, but their ability to retain their residents is impacted by policy decisions and initiatives established by the administrators of Medicare and Medicaid. The passage of the ACA in 2010 allowed formerly uninsured Americans to acquire coverage and utilize additional health care services. In addition, the ACA gave new authorities to implement Medicaid waiver and pilot programs that impact healthcare and long term custodial care reimbursement by Medicare and Medicaid. These activities promote “aging in place”, allowing senior citizens to stay longer in seniors housing communities, and diverting or delaying their admission into SNFs. The potential risks that accompany these regulatory and market changes are discussed below.

As a result of the ACA, and specifically Medicaid expansion and establishment of health insurance exchanges providing subsidized health insurance, an estimated seventeen million more Americans have health insurance than in 2010. These newly-insured Americans utilize services delivered by providers at medical buildings and other healthcare facilities. The current presidential administration and Republican-controlled Congress nearly repealed the ACA in 2017 and remain committed to repealing the ACA and replacing it with a less federalized model for providing health insurance to individuals and families unable to purchase health insurance on their own. The details of the replacement model are not yet known, but potential end results could be fewer insured individuals and families or individuals and families maintaining less comprehensive insurance coverage. Outside of ACA repeal, Republicans leaders, particularly in the House of Representatives, are committed to pursuing entitlement reforms in 2018 that could lower funding to major federal programs, particularly Medicaid and lessen the number of people covered by these programs. Even without legislation, the current presidential administration has issued regulations that may lessen the number of people who purchase ACA-compliant health insurance, which has the potential to provide less protection to people coping with expensive health conditions. Any of these outcomes could adversely impact the resources of our operators.

Enabled by the Medicare Modernization Act (2003) and subsequent laws, Medicare and Medicaid have implemented pilot programs (officially termed demonstrations or models) to “divert” elderly from SNFs and promote “aging in place” in “the least restrictive environment.” Several states have implemented home and community-based Medicaid waiver programs that increase the support services available to senior citizens in senior housing, lengthening the time that many seniors can live outside of a SNF. These Medicaid waiver programs are subject to re-approval and pilots are time-limited. The current presidential administration is not necessarily opposed to these efforts, but is committed to

giving states greater control of their Medicaid programs. The result could be the modification or curtailment of a number of existing pilots.

CMS is currently in the midst of transitioning Medicare from a traditional fee-for-service reimbursement model to capitated and value-based approaches in which the government pays a set amount for each beneficiary for a defined period of time, based on that person's underlying medical needs, rather than the actual services provided. The result is increasing use of management tools to oversee individual providers and coordinate their services. This puts downward pressure on the number and expense of services provided. Roughly 10 million Medicare beneficiaries now receive care via accountable care organizations, and another 19 million are enrolled in Medicare

Advantage health plans. The continued trend toward capitated and value-based approaches - particularly Medicare Advantage, which is expected to grow under the current presidential administration - has the potential to diminish the market for certain healthcare providers, particularly specialist physicians and providers of particular diagnostic technologies such as medical resonance imaging services. This could adversely impact the medical properties that house these physicians and medical technology providers.

The majority of Medicare payments continue to be made through traditional Medicare Part A and Part B fee-for-service schedules. Medicare's payment regulations, particularly with respect to certain hospitals, skilled nursing care, and home health services have resulted in lower net pay increases than providers of those services often desire. In addition, the Medicare and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) of 2015 establishes a multi-year transition into pay-for-quality approaches for Medicare physicians and other providers. This will include payment reductions for providers who do not meet government quality standards. The implementation of pay-for-quality models is expected to produce funding disparities that could adversely impact some provider tenants in MOB's and other health care properties. The current presidential administration has made public comments about protecting Medicare generally and improving Medicare and MACRA for healthcare providers, but few specifics are known at this time. A negative payment update in 2017 for home health reimbursement demonstrates that the current presidential administration, regardless of public statements, may take actions adverse to certain provider types.

For the year ended December 31, 2017, approximately 8.4% of our total revenues and 14.5% of our total NOI (in each case excluding amounts in discontinued operations) were attributable to healthcare facilities in which our third-party tenants receive reimbursement for their services under governmental healthcare programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid. We are neither a participant in, nor a direct recipient of, any reimbursement under these programs with respect to those leased facilities.

Life Science and Innovation Centers

In 2016, we entered the life science and innovation ("life science") sector through the acquisitions of substantially all of the university affiliated life science real estate assets of Wexford Science & Technology, LLC from affiliates of Blackstone Real Estate Partners VIII, L.P. The life science tenants of these assets are largely university-affiliated organizations. These university-affiliated life science tenants are dependent on government funding to varying degrees. Creating a new pharmaceutical product or medical device requires substantial investments of time and capital, in part because of the extensive regulation of the healthcare industry; it also entails considerable risk of failure in demonstrating that the product is safe and effective and in gaining regulatory approval and market acceptance. Therefore, our tenants in the life science industry face high levels of regulation, expense and uncertainty.

Some of our life sciences tenants require significant outlays of funds for the research, development and clinical testing of their products and technologies. If private investors, the federal government or other sources of funding are unavailable to support such activities, a tenant's life sciences operation may be adversely affected or fail. Further, the research, development, clinical testing, manufacture and marketing of some of our tenants' products requires federal, state and foreign regulatory approvals which may be costly or difficult to obtain. Even after a life sciences tenant gains regulatory approval and market acceptance for a product, the product may still present significant regulatory and liability risks, including, among others, the possible later discovery of safety concerns, competition from new products and the expiration of patent protection for the product. Our tenants with marketable products may be adversely affected by healthcare reform and government reimbursement policies, including changes under the current presidential administration or by private healthcare payors. Likewise, our tenants may be unable to adequately protect their intellectual property under patent, copyright or trade secret laws. If our life sciences tenants' businesses are adversely affected, they may have difficulty making payments to us, which could materially adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Environmental Regulation

As an owner of real property, we are subject to various federal, state and local laws and regulations regarding environmental, health and safety matters.

These laws and regulations address, among other things, asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls, fuel oil management, wastewater discharges, air emissions, radioactive materials, medical wastes, and hazardous wastes, and, in certain cases, the costs of complying with these laws and regulations and the penalties for non-compliance can be substantial. With respect to our properties that are operated or managed by third parties, we may be held primarily or jointly and severally liable for costs relating to the investigation and clean-up of any property from which there is or has been an actual or threatened release of a regulated material and any other affected properties, regardless of whether we knew of or caused the release. Such costs typically are not limited by law or regulation and could exceed the property's value. In addition, we may be liable for certain

other costs, such as governmental fines and injuries to persons, property or natural resources, as a result of any such actual or threatened release. See “Risk Factors-Risks Arising from Our Business-We could incur substantial liabilities and costs if any of our properties are found to be contaminated with hazardous substances or we become involved in any environmental disputes” included in Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Under the terms of our lease, management and other agreements, we generally have a right to indemnification by the tenants, operators and managers of our properties for any contamination caused by them. However, we cannot assure you that our tenants, operators and managers will have the financial capability or willingness to satisfy their respective indemnification obligations to us, and any failure, inability or unwillingness to do so may require us to satisfy the underlying environmental claims.

In general, we have also agreed to indemnify our tenants and operators against any environmental claims (including penalties and clean-up costs) resulting from any condition arising in, on or under, or relating to, the leased properties at any time before the applicable lease commencement date. With respect to our senior living operating portfolio, we have agreed to indemnify our managers against any environmental claims (including penalties and clean-up costs) resulting from any condition on those properties, unless the manager caused or contributed to that condition.

We did not make any material capital expenditures in connection with environmental, health, and safety laws, ordinances and regulations in 2017 and do not expect that we will be required to make any such material capital expenditures during 2018.

Canada

In Canada, seniors housing communities are currently generally subject to significantly less regulation than skilled nursing facilities and hospitals, and the regulation of such facilities is principally a matter of provincial and municipal jurisdiction. As a result, the regulatory regimes that apply to seniors housing communities vary depending on the province (and in certain circumstances, the city) in which a facility is located. Recently, certain Canadian provinces have taken steps to implement regulatory measures that could result in enhanced regulation for seniors housing communities in such provinces.

ITEM 1A. Risk Factors

This section discusses the most significant factors that affect our business, operations and financial condition. It does not describe all risks and uncertainties applicable to us, our industry or ownership of our securities. If any of the following risks, or any other risks and uncertainties that are not addressed below or that we have not yet identified, actually occur, we could be materially adversely affected and the value of our securities could decline.

We have grouped these risk factors into three general categories:

• Risks arising from our business;

• Risks arising from our capital structure; and

• Risks arising from our status as a REIT.

Risks Arising from Our Business

The properties managed by Atria and Sunrise account for a significant portion of our revenues and operating income; adverse developments in Atria’s or Sunrise’s business and affairs or financial condition could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

As of December 31, 2017, Atria and Sunrise, collectively, managed 273 of our seniors housing communities pursuant to long-term management agreements. These properties represent a substantial portion of our portfolio, based on their gross book value, and account for a significant portion of our revenues and NOI. Although we have various rights as the property owner under our management agreements, we rely on Atria’s and Sunrise’s personnel, expertise, technical resources and information systems, proprietary information, good faith and judgment to manage our senior living operations. We also rely on Atria and Sunrise to set appropriate resident fees, to provide accurate property-level financial results for our properties in a timely manner and to otherwise operate our seniors housing communities in

compliance with the terms of our management agreements and all applicable laws and regulations. For example, we depend on Atria's and Sunrise's ability to attract and retain skilled management personnel who are responsible for the day-to-day operations of our seniors housing communities. A shortage of nurses or other trained personnel or general inflationary pressures may force Atria or Sunrise to enhance its pay and benefits package to compete effectively for such personnel, but it may not be able to offset these added costs by increasing the

rates charged to residents. Any increase in labor costs and other property operating expenses, any failure by Atria or Sunrise to attract and retain qualified personnel, or significant changes in Atria's or Sunrise's senior management or equity ownership could adversely affect the income we receive from our seniors housing communities and have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Because Atria and Sunrise manage our properties in exchange for the receipt of a management fee from us, we are not directly exposed to the credit risk of our managers in the same manner or to the same extent as our triple-net tenants. However, any adverse developments in Atria's or Sunrise's business and affairs or financial condition could impair its ability to manage our properties efficiently and effectively and could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. If Atria or Sunrise experiences any significant financial, legal, accounting or regulatory difficulties due to a weak economy or otherwise, such difficulties could result in, among other adverse events, acceleration of its indebtedness, impairment of its continued access to capital, the enforcement of default remedies by its counterparties, or the commencement of insolvency proceedings by or against it under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, any one or a combination of which indirectly could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Our leases and other agreements with Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred account for a significant portion of our revenues and operating income; any failure, inability or unwillingness by Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent or Kindred to satisfy its obligations under our agreements could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

The properties we lease to Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred account for a significant portion of our revenues and NOI, and we depend on Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred to pay all insurance, taxes, utilities and maintenance and repair expenses in connection with the leased properties and properties that are collateral for the loans. We cannot assure you that Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred will have sufficient assets, income and access to financing to enable them to satisfy their respective obligations to us, and any failure, inability or unwillingness by Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent or Kindred to do so could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. In addition, any failure by Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent or Kindred to effectively conduct its operations or to maintain and improve such properties could adversely affect its business reputation and its ability to attract and retain patients and residents in such properties, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred have agreed to indemnify, defend and hold us harmless from and against various claims, litigation and liabilities arising in connection with their respective businesses, and we cannot assure you that Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred will have sufficient assets, income, access to financing and insurance coverage to enable them to satisfy their respective indemnification obligations.

We face potential adverse consequences from the bankruptcy, insolvency or financial deterioration of one or more of our tenants, operators, borrowers, managers and other obligors.

We lease our properties to unaffiliated tenants or operate them through independent third-party managers. We are also a direct or indirect lender to various tenants and operators. We have very limited control over the success or failure of our tenants' and operators' businesses and, at any time, a tenant or operator may experience a downturn in its business that weakens its financial condition. If that happens, the tenant or operator may fail to make its payments to us when due. Although our lease, loan and management agreements give us the right to exercise certain remedies in the event of default on the obligations owing to us, we may determine not to do so if we believe that enforcement of our rights would be more detrimental to our business than seeking alternative approaches.

A downturn in any of our tenants' or operators' businesses could ultimately lead to bankruptcy if it is unable to timely resolve the underlying causes, which may be largely outside of its control. Bankruptcy and insolvency laws afford certain rights to a party that has filed for bankruptcy or reorganization that may render certain of these remedies unenforceable, or, at the least, delay our ability to pursue such remedies and realize any recoveries in connection therewith. For example, we cannot evict a tenant or operator solely because of its bankruptcy filing.

A debtor-lessee may reject our lease in a bankruptcy proceeding, in which case our claim against the debtor-lessee for unpaid and future rents would be limited by the statutory cap of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. This statutory cap could be substantially less than the remaining rent actually owed under the lease, and any claim we have for unpaid rent might not be paid in full. In addition, a debtor-lessee may assert in a bankruptcy proceeding that our lease should be re-characterized as a financing agreement, in which case our rights and remedies as a lender, compared to a landlord, generally would be more limited. If a debtor-manager seeks bankruptcy protection, the automatic stay provisions of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code would preclude us from enforcing our remedies against the manager unless relief is first

obtained from the court having jurisdiction over the bankruptcy case. In any of these events, we also may be required to fund certain expenses and obligations (e.g., real estate taxes, debt costs and maintenance expenses) to preserve the value of our properties, avoid the imposition of liens on our properties or transition our properties to a new tenant, operator or manager.

Bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings may also result in increased costs to the operator and significant management distraction. If we are unable to transition affected properties, they could experience prolonged operational disruption, leading to lower occupancy rates and further depressed revenues. Publicity about the operator's financial condition and insolvency

proceedings may also negatively impact their and our reputations, decreasing customer demand and revenues. Any or all of these risks could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. These risks would be magnified where we lease multiple properties to a single operator under a master lease, as an operator failure or default under a master lease would expose us to these risks across multiple properties.

We have rights to terminate our management agreements with Atria and Sunrise in whole or with respect to specific properties under certain circumstances, and we may be unable to replace Atria or Sunrise if our management agreements are terminated or not renewed.

We are parties to long-term management agreements pursuant to which Atria and Sunrise, collectively, provided comprehensive property management and accounting services with respect to 273 of our seniors housing communities as of December 31, 2017. Most of our management agreements with Atria have terms expiring either July 31, 2024 or December 31, 2027, with successive automatic ten-year renewal periods, and our management agreements with Sunrise have terms ranging from 25 to 30 years (which commenced as early as 2004 and as recently as 2012). Our ability to terminate these long-term management agreements is limited to specific circumstances set forth in the agreements and may relate to all properties or a specific property or group of properties.

We may terminate any of our Atria management agreements upon the occurrence of an event of default by Atria in the performance of a material covenant or term thereof (including, in certain circumstances, the revocation of any license or certificate necessary for operation), subject in most cases to Atria's right to cure such default, or upon the occurrence of certain insolvency events relating to Atria. In addition, we may terminate our management agreements with Atria based on the failure to achieve certain NOI targets or upon the payment of a fee.

Similarly, we may terminate any of our Sunrise management agreements upon the occurrence of an event of default by Sunrise in the performance of a material covenant or term thereof (including, in certain circumstances, the revocation of any license or certificate necessary for operation), subject in most cases to Sunrise's right to cure such default, or upon the occurrence of certain insolvency events relating to Sunrise. We also may terminate most of our management agreements with Sunrise based on the failure to achieve certain NOI targets or to comply with certain expense control covenants, subject to certain rights of Sunrise to make cure payments to us, and upon the occurrence of certain other events or the existence of certain other conditions.

We continually monitor and assess our contractual rights and remedies under our management agreements with Atria and Sunrise. When determining whether to pursue any existing or future rights or remedies under those agreements, including termination rights, we consider numerous factors, including legal, contractual, regulatory, business and other relevant considerations. In the event that we exercise our rights to terminate the Atria or Sunrise management agreements for any reason or such agreements are not renewed upon expiration of their terms, we would attempt to reposition the affected properties with another manager. Although we believe that many qualified national and regional seniors housing operators would be interested in managing our seniors housing communities, we cannot assure you that we would be able to locate another suitable manager or, if we are successful in locating such a manager, that it would manage the properties effectively. Moreover, the transition to a replacement manager would require approval by the applicable regulatory authorities and, in most cases, the mortgage lenders for the properties, and we cannot assure you that such approvals would be granted on a timely basis, if at all. Any inability to replace, or a lengthy delay in replacing, Atria or Sunrise as the manager of our seniors housing communities following termination or non-renewal of the applicable management agreements could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. If we must replace any of our tenants or operators, we might be unable to reposition the properties on as favorable terms, or at all, and we could be subject to delays, limitations and expenses, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

We cannot predict whether our tenants will renew existing leases beyond their current term. If our leases with Brookdale Senior Living or Ardent, the Kindred master leases or any of our other triple-net leases are not renewed, we would attempt to reposition those properties with another tenant or operator. In case of non-renewal, we generally have one year prior to expiration of the lease term to arrange for repositioning of the properties and our tenants are required to continue to perform all of their obligations (including the payment of all rental amounts) for the non-renewed assets until such expiration. However, following expiration of a lease term or if we exercise our right to replace a tenant or operator in default, rental payments on the related properties could decline or cease altogether while we reposition the properties with a suitable replacement tenant or operator. We also might not be successful in

identifying suitable replacements or entering into leases or other arrangements with new tenants or operators on a timely basis or on terms as favorable to us as our current leases, if at all, and we may be required to fund certain expenses and obligations (e.g., real estate taxes, debt costs and maintenance expenses) to preserve the value of, and avoid the imposition of liens on, our properties while they are being repositioned. In addition, we may incur certain obligations and liabilities, including obligations to indemnify the replacement tenant or operator, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

In the event of non-renewal or a tenant default, our ability to reposition our properties with a suitable replacement tenant or operator could be significantly delayed or limited by state licensing, receivership, CON or other laws, as well as by the Medicare and Medicaid change-of-ownership rules, and we could incur substantial additional expenses in connection with any licensing, receivership or change-of-ownership proceedings. Our ability to locate and attract suitable replacement tenants also could be impaired by the specialized healthcare uses or contractual restrictions on use of the properties, and we may be forced to spend substantial amounts to adapt the properties to other uses. Any such delays, limitations and expenses could adversely impact our ability to collect rent, obtain possession of leased properties or otherwise exercise remedies for tenant default and could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Moreover, in connection with certain of our properties, we have entered into intercreditor agreements with the tenants' lenders or tri-party agreements with our lenders. Our ability to exercise remedies under the applicable leases or management agreements or to reposition the applicable properties may be significantly delayed or limited by the terms of the intercreditor agreement or tri-party agreement. Any such delay or limit on our rights and remedies could adversely affect our ability to mitigate our losses and could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Merger and acquisition activity or consolidation in the seniors housing and healthcare industries resulting in a change of control of, or a competitor's investment in, one or more of our tenants, operators or managers could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

The seniors housing and healthcare industries have recently experienced increased consolidation, including among owners of real estate and care providers. We compete with other healthcare REITs, healthcare providers, healthcare lenders, real estate partnerships, banks, insurance companies, private equity firms and other investors that pursue a variety of investments, which may include investments in our tenants, operators or managers. A competitor's investment in one of our tenants, operators or managers could enable our competitor to influence that tenant's, operator's or manager's business and strategy in a manner that impairs our relationship with the tenant, operator or manager or is otherwise adverse to our interests. Depending on our contractual agreements and the specific facts and circumstances, we may have the right to consent to, or otherwise exercise rights and remedies, including termination rights, on account of, a competitor's investment in, a change of control of, or other transactions impacting a tenant, operator or manager. In deciding whether to exercise our rights and remedies, including termination rights, we assess numerous factors, including legal, contractual, regulatory, business and other relevant considerations. In addition, in connection with any change of control of a tenant, operator or manager, the tenant's, operator's or manager's management team may change, which could lead to a change in the tenant's, operator's or manager's strategy or adversely affect the business of the tenant, operator or manager, either of which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Market conditions, including, but not limited to, interest rates and credit spreads, the availability of credit and the actual and perceived state of the real estate markets and public capital markets generally could negatively impact our business, results of operations, and financial condition.

The markets in which we operate are affected by a number of factors that are largely beyond our control but may nevertheless have a significant negative impact on us. These factors include, but are not limited to:

- Interest rates and credit spreads;
- The availability of credit, including the price, terms and conditions under which it can be obtained; and
- The actual and perceived state of the real estate market, the market for dividend-paying stocks and public capital markets in general.

In addition, increased inflation may have a pronounced negative impact on the interest expense we pay in connection with our outstanding indebtedness and our general and administrative expenses, as these costs could increase at a rate higher than our rents.

Deflation may result in a decline in general price levels, often caused by a decrease in the supply of money or credit. The predominant effects of deflation are high unemployment, credit contraction and weakened consumer demand. Restricted lending practices may impact our ability to obtain financing for our properties, which could adversely impact our growth and profitability.

Our ongoing strategy depends, in part, upon future investments in and acquisitions of, or our development or redevelopment of, seniors housing and healthcare assets, and we may not be successful in identifying and consummating these transactions.

An important part of our business strategy is to continue to expand and diversify our portfolio through accretive acquisition, investment, development and redevelopment opportunities in domestic and international seniors housing and healthcare properties. Our execution of this strategy by successfully identifying, securing and consummating beneficial transactions is made more challenging by increased competition and can be affected by many factors, including our

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relationships with current and prospective clients, our ability to obtain debt and equity capital at costs comparable to or better than our competitors and lower than the yield we earn on our acquisitions or investments, and our ability to negotiate favorable terms with property owners seeking to sell and other contractual counterparties. Our competitors for these opportunities include other healthcare REITs, real estate partnerships, healthcare providers, healthcare lenders and other investors, including developers, banks, insurance companies, pension funds, government-sponsored entities and private equity firms, some of whom may have greater financial resources and lower costs of capital than we do. See “Business—Competition” included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. If we are unsuccessful at identifying and capitalizing on investment, acquisition, development and redevelopment opportunities, our growth and profitability may be adversely affected.

Investments in and acquisitions of seniors housing and healthcare properties entail risks associated with real estate investments generally, including risks that the investment will not achieve expected returns, that the cost estimates for necessary property improvements will prove inaccurate or that the tenant, operator or manager will fail to meet performance expectations. Investments outside the United States raise legal, economic and market risks associated with doing business in foreign countries, such as currency exchange fluctuations, costly regulatory requirements and foreign tax risks. Domestic and international real estate development and redevelopment projects present additional risks, including construction delays or cost overruns that increase expenses, the inability to obtain required zoning, occupancy and other governmental approvals and permits on a timely basis, and the incurrence of significant costs prior to completion of the project. Furthermore, healthcare properties are often highly customized and the development or redevelopment of such properties may require costly tenant-specific improvements. As a result, we cannot assure you that we will achieve the economic benefit we expect from acquisition, investment, development and redevelopment opportunities.

Our significant acquisition and investment activity presents certain risks to our business and operations.

We have made and expect to continue to make significant acquisitions and investments as part of our overall business strategy. Our significant acquisition and investment activity presents certain risks to our business and operations, including, among other things, that:

- We may be unable to successfully integrate the operations, personnel or systems of acquired companies, maintain consistent standards, controls, policies and procedures, or realize the anticipated benefits of acquisitions and other investments within the anticipated time frame or at all;

- We may be unable to effectively monitor and manage our expanded portfolio of properties, retain key employees or attract highly qualified new employees;

- Projections of estimated future revenues, costs savings or operating metrics that we develop during the due diligence and integration planning process might be inaccurate;

- Our leverage could increase or our per share financial results could decline if we incur additional debt or issue equity securities to finance acquisitions and investments;

- Acquisitions and other new investments could divert management’s attention from our existing assets;

- The value of acquired assets or the market price of our common stock may decline; and

- We may be unable to continue paying dividends at the current rate.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to integrate acquisitions and investments without encountering difficulties or that any such difficulties will not have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

If the liabilities we assume in connection with acquisitions, including indemnification obligations in favor of third parties, are greater than expected, or if there are unknown liabilities, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

We may assume or incur liabilities in connection with our acquisitions, including, in some cases, contingent liabilities. As we integrate these acquisitions, we may learn additional information about the sellers, the properties, their operations and their liabilities that adversely affects us, such as:

- Liabilities relating to the clean-up or remediation of undisclosed environmental conditions;

- Unasserted claims of vendors or other persons dealing with the sellers;

- Liabilities, claims and litigation, including indemnification obligations, whether or not incurred in the ordinary course of business, relating to periods prior to or following our acquisition;

Claims for indemnification by general partners, directors, officers and others indemnified by the sellers; and
Liabilities for taxes relating to periods prior to our acquisition.

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As a result, we cannot assure you that our past or future acquisitions will be successful or will not, in fact, harm our business. Among other things, if the liabilities we assume in connection with acquisitions are greater than expected, or if we discover obligations relating to the acquired properties or businesses of which we were not aware at the time of acquisition, our business and results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

In addition, we have now, and may have in the future, certain surviving indemnification obligations in favor of third parties under the terms of acquisition agreements to which we are a party. Most of these indemnification obligations will be capped as to amount and survival period, and we do not believe that these obligations will be material in the aggregate. However, there can be no assurances as to the ultimate amount of such obligations or whether such obligations will have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Our future results will suffer if we do not effectively manage the expansion of our hospital and life science portfolios and operations following the acquisition of AHS and the Life Sciences Acquisition.

As a result of our acquisition of Ardent Medical Services, Inc. (“AHS”) in 2015, we entered into the general acute care hospital sector. Also, as a result of the acquisition of substantially all of the university affiliated life science real estate assets of Wexford Science & Technology, LLC (“Wexford”) in 2016 (the “Life Sciences Acquisition”), we entered into the university-affiliated life science sector. Part of our long-term business strategy involves expanding our hospital and life science portfolios through additional acquisitions and development of new properties. Both the asset management of our existing general acute care hospital and university-affiliated life science and innovation centers portfolios and such additional acquisitions and developments may involve complex challenges. Our future success will depend, in part, upon our ability to manage our expansion opportunities, integrate new investments into our existing business in an efficient and timely manner, successfully monitor the operations, costs, regulatory compliance and service quality of our operators and leverage our relationships with Ardent and other operators of hospitals and Wexford and other operators and developers of life science and innovation centers. It is possible that our expansion or acquisition opportunities within the general acute care hospital and life science sectors will not be successful, which could adversely impact our growth and future results.

Our investments are concentrated in seniors housing and healthcare real estate, making us more vulnerable economically to adverse changes in the real estate market and the seniors housing and healthcare industries than if our investments were diversified.

We invest primarily in seniors housing and healthcare properties and are constrained by the terms of our existing indebtedness from making investments outside those industries. This investment focus exposes us to greater economic risk than if our portfolio were to include real estate assets in other industries or assets unrelated to real estate.

The healthcare industry is highly regulated, and changes in government regulation and reimbursement can have material adverse consequences on its participants, some of which may be unintended. The healthcare industry is also highly competitive, and our operators and managers may encounter increased competition for residents and patients, including with respect to the scope and quality of care and services provided, reputation and financial condition, physical appearance of the properties, price and location. Our tenants, operators and managers are large employers who compete for labor, making their results sensitive to changes in the labor market and/or wages and benefits offered to their employees. If our tenants, operators and managers are unable to successfully compete with other operators and managers by maintaining profitable occupancy and rate levels or controlling labor costs, their ability to meet their respective obligations to us may be materially adversely affected. We cannot assure you that future changes in government regulation will not adversely affect the healthcare industry, including our seniors housing and healthcare operations, tenants and operators, nor can we be certain that our tenants, operators and managers will achieve and maintain occupancy and rate levels or labor costs levels that will enable them to satisfy their obligations to us. Any adverse changes in the regulation of the healthcare industry, or the competitiveness of our tenants, operators and managers, or costs of labor, could have a more pronounced effect on us than if we had investments outside the seniors housing and healthcare industries.

Real estate investments are relatively illiquid, and our ability to quickly sell or exchange our properties in response to changes in economic or other conditions is limited. In the event we market any of our properties for sale, the value of those properties and our ability to sell at prices or on terms acceptable to us could be adversely affected by a downturn in the real estate industry or any economic weakness in the seniors housing and healthcare industries. In addition,

transfers of healthcare properties may be subject to regulatory approvals that are not required for transfers of other types of commercial properties. We cannot assure you that we will recognize the full value of any property that we sell for liquidity or other reasons, and the inability to respond quickly to changes in the performance of our investments could adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

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Our operating assets expose us to various operational risks, liabilities and claims that could adversely affect our ability to generate revenues or increase our costs and could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Our senior living operating assets and office assets expose us to various operational risks, liabilities and claims that could increase our costs or adversely affect our ability to generate revenues, thereby reducing our profitability. These operational risks include fluctuations in occupancy levels, the inability to achieve economic resident fees (including anticipated increases in those fees), increases in the cost of food, materials, energy, labor (as a result of unionization or otherwise) or other services, rent control regulations, national and regional economic conditions, the imposition of new or increased taxes, capital expenditure requirements, professional and general liability claims, and the availability and cost of professional and general liability insurance. Any one or a combination of these factors could result in operating deficiencies in our senior living operations or office operations reportable business segments, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Our ownership of properties outside the United States exposes us to different risks than those associated with our domestic properties.

Our current or future ownership of properties outside the United States subjects us to risks that may be different or greater than those we face with our domestic properties. These risks include, but are not limited to:

- Challenges with respect to repatriation of foreign earnings and cash;
- Foreign ownership restrictions with respect to operations in countries in which we own properties;
- Regional or country-specific business cycles and economic instability;
- Challenges of complying with a wide variety of foreign laws and regulations, including those relating to real estate, corporate governance, operations, taxes, employment and legal proceedings;
- Differences in lending practices and the willingness of domestic or foreign lenders to provide financing; and
- Failure to comply with applicable laws and regulations in the United States that affect foreign operations, including, but not limited to, the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

Increased construction and development in the markets in which our seniors housing communities and MOBs are located could adversely affect our future occupancy rates, operating margins and profitability.

Limited barriers to entry in the seniors housing and MOB industries could lead to the development of new seniors housing communities or MOBs that outpaces demand. Data published by the National Investment Center for Seniors Housing & Care has indicated deliveries of new seniors housing communities will remain at elevated levels in 2018, especially in certain geographic markets. If development outpaces demand for those assets in the markets in which our properties are located, those markets may become saturated and we could experience decreased occupancy, reduced operating margins and lower profitability, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

We have now, and may have in the future, exposure to contingent rent escalators, which could hinder our growth and profitability.

We derive a significant portion of our revenues from leasing properties pursuant to long-term triple-net leases that generally provide for fixed rental rates, subject to annual escalations. In certain cases, the annual escalations are contingent upon the achievement of specified revenue parameters or based on changes in CPI, with caps and floors. If, as a result of weak economic conditions or other factors, the properties subject to these leases do not generate sufficient revenue to achieve the specified rent escalation parameters or CPI does not increase, our growth and profitability may be hindered. If strong economic conditions result in significant increases in CPI, but the escalations under our leases are capped, our growth and profitability also may be limited.

We own certain properties subject to ground lease, air rights or other restrictive agreements that limit our uses of the properties, restrict our ability to sell or otherwise transfer the properties and expose us to loss of the properties if such agreements are breached by us or terminated.

Our investments in MOBs and other properties may be made through leasehold interests in the land on which the buildings are located, leases of air rights for the space above the land on which the buildings are located, or other similar restrictive arrangements. Many of these ground lease, air rights and other restrictive agreements impose significant limitations on our uses of the subject properties, restrict our ability to sell or otherwise transfer our interests in the properties or restrict the leasing of the properties. These restrictions may limit our ability to timely sell or exchange the properties, impair the properties' value or negatively impact our ability to find suitable tenants for the properties. In addition, we could lose our interests in the subject properties if the ground lease, air rights or other

restrictive agreements are breached by us or terminated.

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We may be unable to successfully foreclose on the collateral securing our loans and other investments, and even if we are successful in our foreclosure efforts, we may be unable to successfully sell any acquired equity interests or reposition any acquired properties, which could adversely affect our ability to recover our investments.

If a borrower defaults under mortgage or other secured loans for which we are the lender, we may attempt to foreclose on the collateral securing those loans, including by acquiring any pledged equity interests or acquiring title to the subject properties, to protect our investment. In response, the defaulting borrower may contest our enforcement of foreclosure or other available remedies, seek bankruptcy protection against our exercise of enforcement or other available remedies, or bring claims against us for lender liability. If a defaulting borrower seeks bankruptcy protection, the automatic stay provisions of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code would preclude us from enforcing foreclosure or other available remedies against the borrower unless relief is first obtained from the court with jurisdiction over the bankruptcy case. In addition, we may be subject to intercreditor or tri-party agreements that delay, impact, govern or limit our ability to foreclose on a lien securing a loan or otherwise delay or limit our pursuit of our rights and remedies. Any such delay or limit on our ability to pursue our rights or remedies could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Even if we successfully foreclose on the collateral securing our mortgage loans and other investments, costs related to enforcement of our remedies, high loan-to-value ratios or declines in the value of the collateral could prevent us from realizing the full amount of our secured loans, and we could be required to record a valuation allowance for such losses. Moreover, the collateral may include equity interests that we are unable to sell due to securities law restrictions or otherwise, or properties that we are unable to reposition with new tenants or operators on a timely basis, if at all, or without making improvements or repairs. Any delay or costs incurred in selling or repositioning acquired collateral could adversely affect our ability to recover our investments.

Some of our loan investments are subordinated to loans held by third parties.

Our mezzanine loan investments are subordinated to senior secured loans held by other investors that encumber the same real estate. If a senior secured loan is foreclosed, that foreclosure would extinguish our rights in the collateral for our mezzanine loan. In order to protect our economic interest in that collateral, we would need to be prepared, on an expedited basis, to advance funds to the senior lenders in order to cure defaults under the senior secured loans and prevent such a foreclosure. If a senior secured loan has matured or has been accelerated, then in order to protect our economic interest in the collateral, we would need to be prepared, on an expedited basis, to purchase or pay off that senior secured loan, which could require an infusion of fresh capital as large or larger than our initial investment. Our ability to sell or syndicate a mezzanine loan could be limited by transfer restrictions in the intercreditor agreement with the senior secured lenders. Our ability to negotiate modifications to the mezzanine loan documents with our borrowers could be limited by restrictions on modifications in the intercreditor agreement. Since mezzanine loans are typically secured by pledges of equity rather than direct liens on real estate, our mezzanine loan investments are more vulnerable than our mortgage loan investments to losses caused by competing creditor claims, unauthorized transfers, or bankruptcies.

Our tenants, operators and managers may be adversely affected by healthcare regulation and enforcement.

Regulation of the healthcare industry generally has intensified over time both in the number and type of regulations and in the efforts to enforce those regulations. This is particularly true for large for-profit, multi-facility providers like Atria, Sunrise, Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred. Federal, state and local laws and regulations affecting the healthcare industry include those relating to, among other things, licensure, conduct of operations, ownership of facilities, addition of facilities and equipment, allowable costs, services, prices for services, qualified beneficiaries, quality of care, patient rights, fraudulent or abusive behavior, financial and other arrangements that may be entered into by healthcare providers and the research, development, clinical testing, manufacture and marketing of life science products. In addition, changes in enforcement policies by federal and state governments have resulted in an increase in the number of inspections, citations of regulatory deficiencies and other regulatory sanctions, including terminations from the Medicare and Medicaid programs, bars on Medicare and Medicaid payments for new admissions, civil monetary penalties and even criminal penalties. See “Governmental Regulation—Healthcare Regulation” included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. We are unable to predict the scope of future federal, state and local regulations and legislation, including the Medicare and Medicaid statutes and regulations, or the intensity of enforcement efforts with respect to such regulations and legislation, and any changes in the regulatory framework

could have a material adverse effect on our tenants, operators and managers, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

If our tenants, operators and managers fail to comply with the extensive laws, regulations and other requirements applicable to their businesses and the operation of our properties, they could become ineligible to receive reimbursement from governmental and private third-party payor programs, face bans on admissions of new patients or residents, suffer civil or criminal penalties or be required to make significant changes to their operations. Our tenants, operators and managers also

could face increased costs related to changes in healthcare regulation, such as the possible repeal of the ACA by the current presidential administration and Republican-controlled Congress and a shift toward less comprehensive health coverage, or be forced to expend considerable resources in responding to an investigation or other enforcement action under applicable laws or regulations. In such event, the results of operations and financial condition of our tenants, operators and managers and the results of operations of our properties operated or managed by those entities could be adversely affected, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Changes in the reimbursement rates or methods of payment from third-party payors, including insurance companies and the Medicare and Medicaid programs, could have a material adverse effect on certain of our tenants and operators and on us.

Certain of our tenants and operators rely on reimbursement from third-party payors, including the Medicare (both traditional Medicare and "managed" Medicare/Medicare Advantage) and Medicaid programs, for substantially all of their revenues. Federal and state legislators and regulators have adopted or proposed various cost-containment measures that would limit payments to healthcare providers, and budget crises and financial shortfalls have caused states to implement or consider Medicaid rate freezes or cuts. See "Governmental Regulation—Healthcare Regulation" included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Private third-party payors also have continued their efforts to control healthcare costs. In addition, coverage expansions via the ACA through Medicaid expansion and health insurance exchanges may be scaled back as the current presidential administration and some members of Congress lead efforts to repeal and replace the ACA. We cannot assure you that our tenants and operators who currently depend on governmental or private payor reimbursement will be adequately reimbursed for the services they provide. Significant limits by governmental and private third-party payors on the scope of services reimbursed or on reimbursement rates and fees, whether from legislation, administrative actions or private payor efforts, could have a material adverse effect on the liquidity, financial condition and results of operations of certain of our tenants and operators, which could affect adversely their ability to comply with the terms of our leases and have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

The healthcare industry trend away from a traditional fee for service reimbursement model towards value-based payment approaches may negatively impact certain of our tenants' revenues and profitability. Certain of our tenants, specifically those providers in the post-acute and general acute care hospital space, are subject to the broad trend in the healthcare industry toward value-based purchasing of healthcare services.

These value-based purchasing programs include both public reporting of quality data and preventable adverse events tied to the quality and efficiency of care provided by facilities. Medicare and Medicaid require healthcare facilities, including hospitals and skilled nursing facilities, to report certain quality data to receive full reimbursement updates. In addition Medicare does not reimburse for care related to certain preventable adverse events (also called "never events"). Many large commercial payors currently require healthcare facilities to report quality data, and several commercial payors do not reimburse hospitals for certain preventable adverse events.

During the Obama administration, HHS focused on tying Medicare payments to quality or value through alternative payment models, which generally aim to make providers attentive to the total costs of treatment. Examples of alternative payment models include bundled-payment arrangements. It is unclear whether such models will successfully coordinate care and reduce costs or whether they will decrease reimbursement. The value-based purchasing trend is not limited to the public sector. Several of the nation's largest commercial payors have also expressed an intent to increase reliance on value-based reimbursement arrangements. Further, many large commercial payors require hospitals to report quality data, and several commercial payors do not reimburse hospitals for certain preventable adverse events.

While the current presidential administration's and some members of Congress's desire to repeal the ACA creates unpredictability, we expect value-based purchasing programs, including programs that condition reimbursement on patient outcome measures, to become more common and to involve a higher percentage of reimbursement amounts. We are unable at this time to predict how this trend will affect the revenues and profitability of those of our tenants who are providers of healthcare services; however, if this trend significantly and adversely affects their profitability, it could in turn negatively affect their ability and willingness to comply with the terms of their leases with us and or renew those leases upon expiration, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

If controls imposed on certain of our tenants who provide healthcare services that are reimbursed by Medicare, Medicaid and other third-party payors to reduce admissions and length of stay affect inpatient volumes at our healthcare facilities, the financial condition or results of operations of those tenants could be adversely affected.

Controls imposed by Medicare, Medicaid and commercial third-party payors designed to reduce admissions and lengths of stay, commonly referred to as “utilization reviews,” have affected and are expected to continue to affect certain of

our healthcare facilities, specifically our acute care hospitals and post-acute facilities. Utilization review entails the review of the admission and course of treatment of a patient by managed care plans. Inpatient utilization, average lengths of stay and occupancy rates continue to be negatively affected by payor-required preadmission authorization and utilization review and by payor pressures to maximize outpatient and alternative healthcare delivery services for less acutely ill patients. Efforts to impose more stringent cost controls and reductions are expected to continue, which could negatively impact the financial condition of our tenants who provide healthcare services in our hospitals and post-acute facilities. If so, this could adversely affect these tenants' ability and willingness to comply with the terms of their leases with us and or renew those leases upon expiration, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

The implementation of new patient criteria for LTACs will change the basis upon which certain of our tenants are reimbursed by Medicare, which could adversely affect those tenants' revenues and profitability.

As part of the Pathway for SGR Reform Act of 2013 enacted on December 26, 2013, Congress adopted various legislative changes impacting LTACs. These legislative changes create new Medicare criteria and payment rules for LTACs, and could have a material adverse impact on the revenues and profitability of the tenants of our LTACs. This material adverse impact could, in turn, negatively affect those tenants' ability and willingness to comply with the terms of their leases with us or renew those leases upon expiration, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

The hospitals on or near whose campuses our MOBs are located and their affiliated health systems could fail to remain competitive or financially viable, which could adversely impact their ability to attract physicians and physician groups to our MOBs.

Our MOB operations depend on the competitiveness and financial viability of the hospitals on or near whose campuses our MOBs are located and their ability to attract physicians and other healthcare-related clients to our MOBs. The viability of these hospitals, in turn, depends on factors such as the quality and mix of healthcare services provided, competition for patients, physicians and physician groups, demographic trends in the surrounding community, market position and growth potential, as well as the ability of the affiliated health systems to provide economies of scale and access to capital. If a hospital on or near whose campus one of our MOBs is located fails or becomes unable to meet its financial obligations, and if an affiliated health system is unable to support that hospital, the hospital may be unable to compete successfully or could be forced to close or relocate, which could adversely impact its ability to attract physicians and other healthcare-related clients. Because we rely on proximity to and affiliations with hospitals to create leasing demand in our MOBs, a hospital's inability to remain competitive or financially viable, or to attract physicians and physician groups, could materially adversely affect our MOB operations and have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Our development and redevelopment projects, including projects undertaken through our joint ventures, may not yield anticipated returns.

We consider and, when appropriate, invest in various development and redevelopment projects. In deciding whether to make an investment in a particular project, we make certain assumptions regarding the expected future performance of the property. Our assumptions are subject to risks generally associated with development and redevelopment projects, including, among others, that:

• We may be unable to obtain financing for the project on favorable terms or at all;

• We may not complete the project on schedule or within budgeted amounts;

• We may encounter delays in obtaining or fail to obtain all necessary zoning, land use, building, occupancy, environmental and other governmental permits and authorizations, or underestimate the costs necessary to develop or redevelop the property to market standards;

• Construction or other delays may provide tenants or residents the right to terminate preconstruction leases or cause us to incur additional costs;

• Volatility in the price of construction materials or labor may increase our project costs;

• In the case of our MOB developments, hospitals or health systems may maintain significant decision-making authority with respect to the development schedule;

• Our builders may fail to perform or satisfy the expectations of our clients or prospective clients;

- We may incorrectly forecast risks associated with development in new geographic regions;
- Tenants may not lease space at the quantity or rental rate levels or on the schedule projected;
- Demand for our project may decrease prior to completion, due to competition from other developments; and

Lease rates and rents at newly developed or redeveloped properties may fluctuate based on factors beyond our control, including market and economic conditions.

If any of the risks described above occur, our development and redevelopment projects, including projects undertaken through our joint ventures, may not yield anticipated returns, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Our investments in joint ventures and unconsolidated entities could be adversely affected by our lack of sole decision-making authority, our reliance on our joint venture partners' financial condition, any disputes that may arise between us and our joint venture partners, and our exposure to potential losses from the actions of our joint venture partners.

As of December 31, 2017, we owned 48 MOB's, 11 life science and innovation centers, nine seniors housing communities and one IRF through consolidated joint ventures, and we had 25% ownership interests in 17 seniors housing communities, 13 SNFs and one MOB through investments in unconsolidated entities. In addition, we had a 34% ownership interest in Atria and a 9.9% interest in Ardent as of December 31, 2017. These joint ventures and unconsolidated entities involve risks not present with respect to our wholly owned properties, including the following: We may be unable to take actions that are opposed by our joint venture partners under arrangements that require us to share decision-making authority over major decisions affecting the ownership or operation of the joint venture and any property owned by the joint venture, such as the sale or financing of the property or the making of additional capital contributions for the benefit of the property;

For joint ventures in which we have a noncontrolling interest, our joint venture partners may take actions that we oppose;

- Our ability to sell or transfer our interest in a joint venture to a third party may be restricted if we fail to obtain the prior consent of our joint venture partners;

Our joint venture partners may become bankrupt or fail to fund their share of required capital contributions, which could delay construction or development of a property or increase our financial commitment to the joint venture;

- Our joint venture partners may have business interests or goals with respect to a property that conflict with our business interests and goals, including with respect to the timing, terms and strategies for investment, which could increase the likelihood of disputes regarding the ownership, management or disposition of the property;

Disagreements with our joint venture partners could result in litigation or arbitration that increases our expenses, distracts our officers and directors, and disrupts the day-to-day operations of the property, including by delaying important decisions until the dispute is resolved; and

We may suffer losses as a result of actions taken by our joint venture partners with respect to our joint venture investments.

Events that adversely affect the ability of seniors and their families to afford daily resident fees at our seniors housing communities could cause our occupancy rates, resident fee revenues and results of operations to decline.

Assisted and independent living services generally are not reimbursable under government reimbursement programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid. A large majority of the resident fee revenues generated by our senior living operations, therefore, are derived from private pay sources consisting of the income or assets of residents or their family members. In light of the significant expense associated with building new properties and staffing and other costs of providing services, typically only seniors with income or assets that meet or exceed the comparable region median can afford the daily resident and care fees at our seniors housing communities, and a weak economy, depressed housing market or changes in demographics could adversely affect their continued ability to do so. If the managers of our seniors housing communities are unable to attract and retain seniors that have sufficient income, assets or other resources to pay the fees associated with assisted and independent living services, the occupancy rates, resident fee revenues and results of operations of our senior living operations could decline, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Our tenants in the life science industry face high levels of regulation, expense and uncertainty.

Life science tenants, particularly those involved in developing and marketing pharmaceutical products, are subject to certain unique risks, including the following:

Some of our tenants require significant outlays of funds for the research and development and clinical testing of their products and technologies. The economic environment in recent years has significantly impacted the ability of these companies to access the capital markets and venture capital funding. In addition, state and federal government and

university budgets have been negatively impacted by the recent economic environment and, as a result certain

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programs, including grants related to biotechnology research and development, may be at risk of being eliminated or cut back significantly. If private investors, the government, universities, public markets or other sources of funding are unavailable to support such development, a tenant's business may fail.

The research and development, clinical testing, manufacture and marketing of some of our tenants' products require federal, state and foreign regulatory approvals. The approval process is typically long, expensive and uncertain. Even if our tenants have sufficient funds to seek approvals, one or all of their products may fail to obtain the required regulatory approvals on a timely basis or at all. Furthermore, our tenants may only have a small number of products under development. If one product fails to receive the required approvals at any stage of development, it could significantly adversely affect our tenant's entire business and its ability to pay rent.

Our tenants may be unable to adequately protect their intellectual property under patent, copyright or trade secret laws. Failure to do so could jeopardize their ability to profit from their efforts and to protect their products from competition.

Collaborative relationships with other life science entities may be crucial to the development, manufacturing, distribution or marketing of our tenants' products. If these other entities fail to fulfill their obligations under these collaborative arrangements, our tenants' businesses will suffer.

Legislation to reform the U.S. healthcare system, including regulations and legislation relating to the ACA, may include government intervention in product pricing and other changes that adversely affect reimbursement for our tenants' marketable products. In addition, sales of many of our tenants' marketable products are dependent, in large part, on the availability and extent of reimbursement from government health administration authorities, private health insurers and other organizations. Changes in government regulations, price controls or third-party payors' reimbursement policies may reduce reimbursement for our tenants' marketable products and adversely impact our tenants' businesses.

We cannot assure you that our tenants in the life science industry will be successful in their businesses. If our tenants' businesses are adversely affected, they may have difficulty making payments to us, which could materially adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

The amount and scope of insurance coverage provided by our policies and policies maintained by our tenants, operators and managers may not adequately insure against losses.

We maintain or require in our lease, management and other agreements that our tenants, operators and managers maintain all applicable lines of insurance on our properties and their operations. Although we regularly review the amount and scope of insurance provided by our policies and required to be maintained by our tenants, operators and managers and believe the coverage provided to be customary for similarly situated companies in our industry, we cannot assure you that we or our tenants, operators and managers will continue to be able to maintain adequate levels of insurance. We also cannot assure you that we or our tenants, operators and managers will maintain the required coverages, that we will continue to require the same levels of insurance under our lease, management and other agreements, that such insurance will be available at a reasonable cost in the future or that the policies maintained will fully cover all losses on our properties upon the occurrence of a catastrophic event, nor can we make any guaranty as to the future financial viability of the insurers that underwrite our policies and the policies maintained by our tenants, operators and managers.

For various reasons, including to reduce and manage costs, many healthcare companies utilize different organizational and corporate structures coupled with self-insurance trusts or captive programs that may provide less insurance coverage than a traditional insurance policy. Companies that insure any part of their general and professional liability risks through their own captive limited purpose entities generally estimate the future cost of general and professional liability through actuarial studies that rely primarily on historical data. However, due to the rise in the number and severity of professional claims against healthcare providers, these actuarial studies may underestimate the future cost of claims, and reserves for future claims may not be adequate to cover the actual cost of those claims. As a result, the

tenants and operators of our properties who self-insure could incur large funded and unfunded general and professional liability expenses, which could materially adversely affect their liquidity, financial condition and results of operations and, in turn, their ability to satisfy their obligations to us. If we or the managers of our senior living operations decide to implement a captive or self-insurance program, any large funded and unfunded general and professional liability expenses incurred could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Should an uninsured loss or a loss in excess of insured limits occur, we could incur substantial liability or lose all or a portion of the capital we have invested in a property, as well as the anticipated future revenues from the property. Following the occurrence of such an event, we might nevertheless remain obligated for any mortgage debt or other financial obligations

related to the property. We cannot assure you that material uninsured losses, or losses in excess of insurance proceeds, will not occur in the future.

Significant legal actions or regulatory proceedings could subject us or our tenants, operators and managers to increased operating costs and substantial uninsured liabilities, which could materially adversely affect our or their liquidity, financial condition and results of operations.

From time to time, we may be subject to claims brought against us in lawsuits and other legal or regulatory proceedings arising out of our alleged actions or the alleged actions of our tenants, operators and managers for which such tenants, operators and managers may have agreed to indemnify, defend and hold us harmless. An unfavorable resolution of any such litigation or proceeding could materially adversely affect our or their liquidity, financial condition and results of operations and have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

In certain cases, we and our tenants, operators and managers may be subject to professional liability claims brought by plaintiffs' attorneys seeking significant punitive damages and attorneys' fees. Due to the historically high frequency and severity of professional liability claims against seniors housing and healthcare providers, the availability of professional liability insurance has decreased and the premiums on such insurance coverage remain costly. As a result, insurance protection against such claims may not be sufficient to cover all claims against us or our tenants, operators or managers, and may not be available at a reasonable cost. If we or our tenants, operators and managers are unable to maintain adequate insurance coverage or are required to pay punitive damages, we or they may be exposed to substantial liabilities.

The occurrence of cyber incidents could disrupt our operations, result in the loss of confidential information and/or damage our business relationships and reputation.

As our reliance on technology has increased, our business is subject to greater risk from cyber incidents, including attempts to gain unauthorized access to our or our managers' systems to disrupt operations, corrupt data or steal confidential information, and other electronic security breaches. While we and our managers have implemented measures to help mitigate these threats, such measures cannot guarantee that we will be successful in preventing a cyber incident. The occurrence of a cyber incident could disrupt our operations, or the operations of our managers, compromise the confidential information of our employees or the residents in our seniors housing communities, and/or damage our business relationships and reputation.

Our operators may be sued under a federal whistleblower statute.

Our operators who engage in business with the federal government may be sued under a federal whistleblower statute designed to combat fraud and abuse in the healthcare industry. See "Governmental Regulation—Healthcare Regulation" included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. These lawsuits can involve significant monetary damages and award bounties to private plaintiffs who successfully bring these suits. If any of these lawsuits were brought against our operators, such suits combined with increased operating costs and substantial uninsured liabilities could have a material adverse effect on our operators' liquidity, financial condition and results of operations and on their ability to satisfy their obligations under our leases, which, in turn, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

We could incur substantial liabilities and costs if any of our properties are found to be contaminated with hazardous substances or we become involved in any environmental disputes.

Under federal and state environmental laws and regulations, a current or former owner of real property may be liable for costs related to the investigation, removal and remediation of hazardous or toxic substances or petroleum that are released from or are present at or under, or that are disposed of in connection with such property. Owners of real property may also face other environmental liabilities, including government fines and penalties imposed by regulatory authorities and damages for injuries to persons, property or natural resources. Environmental laws and regulations often impose liability without regard to whether the owner was aware of, or was responsible for, the presence, release or disposal of hazardous or toxic substances or petroleum. In certain circumstances, environmental liability may result from the activities of a current or former operator of the property. Although we generally have indemnification rights against the current operators of our properties for contamination caused by them, such indemnification may not adequately cover all environmental costs. See "Governmental Regulation—Environmental Regulation" included in Item 1 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Our success depends, in part, on our ability to attract and retain talented employees, and the loss of any one of our key personnel could adversely impact our business.

The success of our business depends, in part, on the leadership and performance of our executive management team and key employees, and our ability to attract, retain and motivate talented employees could significantly impact our future performance. Competition for these individuals is intense, and we cannot assure you that we will retain our key officers and

employees or that we will be able to attract and retain other highly qualified individuals in the future. Losing any one or more of these persons could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Failure to maintain effective internal controls could harm our business, results of operations and financial condition. Pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, we are required to provide a report by management on internal control over financial reporting, including management's assessment of the effectiveness of such control. Because of its inherent limitations, including the possibility of human error, the circumvention or overriding of controls, or fraud, effective internal controls over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatement and can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements. If we fail to maintain the adequacy of our internal controls over financial reporting and our operating internal controls, including any failure to implement required new or improved controls as a result of changes to our business or otherwise, or if we experience difficulties in their implementation, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely harmed and we could fail to meet our reporting obligations.

Economic and other conditions that negatively affect geographic locations to which a greater percentage of our NOI is attributed could adversely affect our financial results.

For the year ended December 31, 2017, approximately 35.6% of our total NOI was derived from properties located in California (13.9%), Texas (6.4%), New York (5.7%), Illinois (5.1%) and Florida (4.5%). As a result, we are subject to increased exposure to adverse conditions affecting these regions, including downturns in the local economies or changes in local real estate conditions, increased construction and competition or decreased demand for our properties, regional climate events and changes in state-specific legislation, which could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

We may be adversely affected by fluctuations in currency exchange rates.

Our ownership of properties in Canada and the United Kingdom currently subjects us to fluctuations in the exchange rates between U.S. dollars and Canadian dollars or the British pound, which may, from time to time, impact our financial condition and results of operations. If we continue to expand our international presence through investments in, or acquisitions or development of, seniors housing or healthcare assets outside the United States, Canada or the United Kingdom, we may transact business in other foreign currencies. Although we may pursue hedging alternatives, including borrowing in local currencies, to protect against foreign currency fluctuations, we cannot assure you that such fluctuations will not have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Risks Arising from Our Capital Structure

We may become more leveraged.

As of December 31, 2017, we had approximately \$11.3 billion of outstanding indebtedness. The instruments governing our existing indebtedness permit us to incur substantial additional debt, including secured debt, and we may satisfy our capital and liquidity needs through additional borrowings. A high level of indebtedness would require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to the payment of debt service, thereby reducing the funds available to implement our business strategy and make distributions to stockholders. A high level of indebtedness could also have the following consequences:

- Potential limits on our ability to adjust rapidly to changing market conditions and vulnerability in the event of a downturn in general economic conditions or in the real estate or healthcare industries;
- Potential impairment of our ability to obtain additional financing to execute on our business strategy; and
- Potential downgrade in the rating of our debt securities by one or more rating agencies, which could have the effect of, among other things, limiting our access to capital and increasing our cost of borrowing.

In addition, from time to time, we mortgage certain of our properties to secure payment of indebtedness. If we are unable to meet our mortgage payments, then the encumbered properties could be foreclosed upon or transferred to the mortgagee with a resulting loss of income and asset value.

We are exposed to increases in interest rates, which could reduce our profitability and adversely impact our ability to refinance existing debt, sell assets or engage in acquisition, investment, development and redevelopment activity, and our decision to hedge against interest rate risk might not be effective.

We receive a significant portion of our revenues by leasing assets under long-term triple-net leases that generally provide for fixed rental rates subject to annual escalations, while certain of our debt obligations are floating rate obligations with interest and related payments that vary with the movement of LIBOR, Bankers' Acceptance or other

indexes. The

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generally fixed rate nature of a significant portion of our revenues and the variable rate nature of certain of our debt obligations create interest rate risk. Although our operating assets provide a partial hedge against interest rate fluctuations, if interest rates rise, the costs of our existing floating rate debt and any new debt that we incur would increase. These increased costs could reduce our profitability, impair our ability to meet our debt obligations, or increase the cost of financing our acquisition, investment, development and redevelopment activity. An increase in interest rates also could limit our ability to refinance existing debt upon maturity or cause us to pay higher rates upon refinancing, as well as decrease the amount that third parties are willing to pay for our assets, thereby limiting our ability to promptly reposition our portfolio in response to changes in economic or other conditions.

We may seek to manage our exposure to interest rate volatility with hedging arrangements that involve additional risks, including the risks that counterparties may fail to honor their obligations under these arrangements, that these arrangements may not be effective in reducing our exposure to interest rate changes, that the amount of income we earn from hedging transactions may be limited by federal tax provisions governing REITs, and that these arrangements may cause us to pay higher interest rates on our debt obligations than otherwise would be the case. Moreover, no amount of hedging activity can fully insulate us from the risks associated with changes in interest rates. Failure to hedge effectively against interest rate risk, if we choose to engage in such activities, could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

Limitations on our ability to access capital could have an adverse effect on our ability to make required payments on our debt obligations, make distributions to our stockholders or make future investments necessary to implement our business strategy.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to raise the capital necessary to meet our debt service obligations, make distributions to our stockholders or make future investments necessary to implement our business strategy, if our cash flow from operations is insufficient to satisfy these needs, and the failure to do so could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. Although we believe that we have sufficient access to capital and other sources of funding to meet our expected liquidity needs, we cannot assure you that conditions in the capital markets will not deteriorate or that our access to capital and other sources of funding will not become constrained, which could adversely affect the availability and terms of future borrowings, renewals or refinancings and our results of operation and financial condition. If we cannot access capital at an acceptable cost or at all, we may be required to liquidate one or more investments in properties at times that may not permit us to maximize the return on those investments or that could result in adverse tax consequences to us.

As a public company, our access to debt and equity capital depends, in part, on the trading prices of our senior notes and common stock, which, in turn, depend upon market conditions that change from time to time, such as the market's perception of our financial condition, our growth potential and our current and expected future earnings and cash distributions. Our failure to meet the market's expectation with regard to future earnings and cash distributions or a significant downgrade in the ratings assigned to our long-term debt could impact our ability to access capital or increase our borrowing costs. We also rely on the financial institutions that are parties to our revolving credit facilities. If these institutions become capital constrained, tighten their lending standards or become insolvent or if they experience excessive volumes of borrowing requests from other borrowers within a short period of time, they may be unable or unwilling to honor their funding commitments to us, which would adversely affect our ability to draw on our revolving credit facilities and, over time, could negatively impact our ability to consummate acquisitions, repay indebtedness as it matures, fund capital expenditures or make distributions to our stockholders.

Covenants in the instruments governing our and our subsidiaries' existing indebtedness limit our operational flexibility, and a covenant breach could materially adversely affect our operations.

The terms of the instruments governing our existing indebtedness require us to comply with certain customary financial and other covenants, such as maintaining debt service coverage, leverage ratios and minimum net worth requirements. Our continued ability to incur additional debt and to conduct business in general is subject to our compliance with these covenants, which limit our operational flexibility. Breaches of these covenants could result in defaults under the applicable debt instruments and could trigger defaults under any of our other indebtedness that is cross-defaulted against such instruments, even if we satisfy our payment obligations. In addition, covenants contained in the instruments governing our subsidiaries' outstanding mortgage indebtedness may restrict our ability to obtain cash distributions from such subsidiaries for the purpose of meeting our debt service obligations. Financial and other

covenants that limit our operational flexibility, as well as defaults resulting from our breach of any of these covenants, could have a Material Adverse Effect on us.

Risks Arising from Our Status as a REIT

Loss of our status as a REIT would have significant adverse consequences for us and the value of our common stock. If we lose our status as a REIT (currently or with respect to any tax years for which the statute of limitations has not expired), we will face serious tax consequences that will substantially reduce the funds available to satisfy our obligations, to implement our business strategy and to make distributions to our stockholders for each of the years involved because:

- We would not be allowed a deduction for distributions to stockholders in computing our taxable income and would be subject to regular U.S. federal corporate income tax;

- We could be subject to increased state and local taxes; and

- Unless we are entitled to relief under statutory provisions, we could not elect to be subject to tax as a REIT for four taxable years following the year during which we were disqualified.

In addition, in such event we would no longer be required to pay dividends to maintain REIT status, which could adversely affect the value of our common stock.

Qualification as a REIT involves the application of highly technical and complex provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”) for which there are only limited judicial and administrative interpretations. The determination of factual matters and circumstances not entirely within our control, as well as new legislation, regulations, administrative interpretations or court decisions, may adversely affect our investors or our ability to remain qualified as a REIT for tax purposes. In order to maintain our qualification as a REIT, we must satisfy a number of requirements, generally including requirements regarding the ownership of our stock, requirements regarding the composition of our assets, a requirement that at least 95% of our gross income in any year must be derived from qualifying sources, and we must make distributions to our stockholders aggregating annually at least 90% of our net taxable income, excluding capital gains. Although we believe that we currently qualify as a REIT, we cannot assure you that we will continue to qualify for all future periods.

The 90% distribution requirement will decrease our liquidity and may limit our ability to engage in otherwise beneficial transactions.

To comply with the 90% distribution requirement applicable to REITs and to avoid the nondeductible excise tax, we must make distributions to our stockholders. Such distributions reduce the funds we have available to finance our investment, acquisition, development and redevelopment activity and may limit our ability to engage in transactions that are otherwise in the best interests of our stockholders.

Although we do not anticipate any inability to satisfy the REIT distribution requirement, from time to time, we may not have sufficient cash or other liquid assets to do so. For example, timing differences between the actual receipt of income and actual payment of deductible expenses, on the one hand, and the inclusion of that income and deduction of those expenses in arriving at our taxable income, on the other hand, or non-deductible expenses such as principal amortization or repayments or capital expenditures in excess of non-cash deductions may prevent us from having sufficient cash or liquid assets to satisfy the 90% distribution requirement.

In the event that timing differences occur or we decide to retain cash or to distribute such greater amount as may be necessary to avoid income and excise taxation, we may seek to borrow funds, issue additional equity securities, pay taxable stock dividends, distribute other property or securities or engage in a transaction intended to enable us to meet the REIT distribution requirements. Any of these actions may require us to raise additional capital to meet our obligations; however, see “Risks Arising from Our Capital Structure—Limitations on our ability to access capital could have an adverse effect on our ability to make required payments on our debt obligations, make distributions to our stockholders or make future investments necessary to implement our business strategy.” The terms of the instruments governing our existing indebtedness restrict our ability to engage in certain of these transactions.

To preserve our qualification as a REIT, our certificate of incorporation contains ownership limits with respect to our capital stock that may delay, defer or prevent a change of control of our company.

To assist us in preserving our qualification as a REIT, our certificate of incorporation provides that if a person acquires beneficial ownership of more than 9.0% of our outstanding common stock or more than 9.9% of our outstanding preferred stock, the shares that are beneficially owned in excess of the applicable limit are considered “excess shares” and are automatically deemed transferred to a trust for the benefit of a charitable institution or other qualifying organization selected by our Board of Directors. The trust is entitled to all dividends with respect to the

excess shares and the trustee may exercise all voting power over the excess shares. In addition, we have the right to purchase the excess shares for a price equal to the lesser

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of (i) the price per share in the transaction that created the excess shares or (ii) the market price on the day we purchase the shares, but if we do not purchase the excess shares, the trustee of the trust is required to transfer the shares at the direction of our Board of Directors. These ownership limits could delay, defer or prevent a transaction or a change of control that might involve a premium price for our common stock or might otherwise be in the best interests of our stockholders.

Our use of TRSs is limited under the Code.

Under the Code, no more than 20% of the value of the gross assets of a REIT may be represented by securities of one or more TRSs. This limitation may affect our ability to increase the size of our TRSs' operations and assets, and there can be no assurance that we will be able to comply with the applicable limitation, or that such compliance will not adversely affect our business. Also, our TRSs may not, among other things, operate or manage certain health care facilities, which may cause us to forego investments we might otherwise make. Finally, we may be subject to a 100% excise tax on the income derived from certain transactions with our TRSs that are not on an arm's-length basis. We believe our arrangements with our TRSs are on arm's-length terms and intend to continue to operate in a manner that allows us to avoid incurring the 100% excise tax described above, but there can be no assurance that we will be able to avoid application of that tax.

The tax imposed on REITs engaging in "prohibited transactions" may limit our ability to engage in transactions which would be treated as sales for federal income tax purposes.

A REIT's net income from prohibited transactions is subject to a 100% penalty tax. In general, prohibited transactions are sales or other dispositions of property, other than foreclosure property, held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business. Although we do not intend to hold any properties that would be characterized as held for sale to customers in the ordinary course of our business, unless a sale or disposition qualifies under certain statutory safe harbors, such characterization is a factual determination and no guarantee can be given that the IRS would agree with our characterization of our properties or that we will always be able to make use of the available safe harbors.

Legislative or other actions affecting REITs could have a negative effect on our stockholders or us.

The rules dealing with federal income taxation are constantly under review by persons involved in the legislative process and by the IRS and the U.S. Treasury Department. Changes to the tax laws, with or without retroactive application, could adversely affect our investors or us. We cannot predict how changes in the tax laws might affect our investors or us. New legislation, U.S. Treasury Department regulations, administrative interpretations or court decisions could significantly and negatively affect our ability to qualify as a REIT, the federal income tax consequences of such qualification, or the federal income tax consequences of an investment in us. Also, the law relating to the tax treatment of other entities, or an investment in other entities, could change, making an investment in such other entities more attractive relative to an investment in a REIT.

The recently enacted Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (the "2017 Tax Act") has significantly changed the U.S. federal income taxation of U.S. businesses and their owners, including REITs and their stockholders. Changes made by the 2017 Tax Act that could affect us and our stockholders include:

temporarily reducing individual U.S. federal income tax rates on ordinary income; the highest individual U.S. federal income tax rate has been reduced from 39.6% to 37% for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017 and before January 1, 2026;

permanently eliminating the progressive corporate tax rate structure, which previously imposed a maximum corporate tax rate of 35%, and replacing it with a flat corporate tax rate of 21%;

- permitting a deduction for certain pass-through business income, including dividends received by our stockholders from us that are not designated by us as capital gain dividends or qualified dividend income, which will allow individuals, trusts, and estates to deduct up to 20% of such amounts for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017 and before January 1, 2026;

reducing the highest rate of withholding with respect to our distributions to non-U.S. stockholders that are treated as attributable to gains from the sale or exchange of U.S. real property interests from 35% to 21%;

limiting our deduction for net operating losses arising in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017 to 80% of REIT taxable income (prior to the application of the dividends paid deduction);
generally limiting the deduction for net business interest expense in excess of 30% of a business's "adjusted taxable income," except for taxpayers (including most equity REITs) that engage in certain real estate businesses

and elect out of this rule (provided that such electing taxpayers must use an alternative depreciation system with longer depreciation periods); and
eliminating the corporate alternative minimum tax.

Many of these changes are effective immediately, without any transition periods or grandfathering for existing transactions. The 2017 Tax Act is unclear in many respects and could be subject to potential amendments and technical corrections, as well as interpretations and implementing regulations by the U.S. Treasury Department and IRS, any of which could lessen or increase the impact of the 2017 Tax Act. In addition, it is unclear how these U.S. federal income tax changes will affect state and local taxation, which often uses federal taxable income as a starting point for computing state and local tax liabilities. While some of the changes made by the 2017 Tax Act may adversely affect us in one or more reporting periods and prospectively, other changes may be beneficial on a going forward basis. We continue to work with our tax advisors and auditors to determine the full impact that the 2017 Tax Act as a whole will have on us.

ITEM 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

ITEM 2. Properties

Seniors Housing and Healthcare Properties

As of December 31, 2017, we owned more than 1,200 properties (including properties owned through investments in unconsolidated entities and properties classified as held for sale), consisting of seniors housing communities, medical office buildings (“MOBs”), life science and innovation centers, inpatient rehabilitation facilities (“IRFs”) and long-term acute care facilities (“LTACs”), health systems and skilled nursing facilities (“SNFs”), and we had 14 properties under development, including four properties that are owned by unconsolidated real estate entities. We believe that maintaining a balanced portfolio of high-quality assets diversified by investment type, geographic location, asset type, tenant/operator, revenue source and operating model makes us less susceptible to single-state regulatory or reimbursement changes, regional climate events and local economic downturns and diminishes the risk that any single factor or event could materially harm our business.

As of December 31, 2017, we had \$1.3 billion aggregate principal amount of mortgage loan indebtedness outstanding, secured by 88 of our properties. Excluding those portions attributed to our joint venture partners, our share of mortgage loan indebtedness outstanding was \$1.2 billion.

The following table provides additional information regarding the geographic diversification of our portfolio of properties as of December 31, 2017 (including properties owned through investments in unconsolidated entities, but excluding properties classified as held for sale):

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Geographic Location	Seniors Housing Communities		SNFs		MOBs		Life Science and Innovation Centers		IRFs and LTACs		Health Systems	
	# of Properties	Units	# of Properties	Licensed Beds	# of Properties	Square Feet ⁽¹⁾	# of Properties	Square Feet ⁽¹⁾	# of Properties	Licensed Beds	# of Properties	Licensed Beds
Alabama	6	122	—	—	4	469	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arizona	28	2,394	—	—	13	830	—	—	1	60	—	—
Arkansas	4	287	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
California	92	9,633	—	—	26	2,058	—	—	6	503	—	—
Colorado	19	1,689	1	82	13	769	—	—	1	68	—	—
Connecticut	14	1,631	—	—	—	—	2	1,032	—	—	—	—
District of Columbia	—	—	—	—	2	102	—	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	50	4,582	—	—	19	404	1	259	6	511	—	—
Georgia	20	1,751	—	—	14	1,201	—	—	—	—	—	—
Idaho	1	70	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Illinois	25	2,953	1	82	36	1,448	1	129	4	430	—	—
Indiana	9	680	—	—	23	1,603	—	—	1	59	—	—
Kansas	9	541	—	—	1	33	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kentucky	10	911	2	280	4	173	—	—	1	384	—	—
Louisiana	1	58	—	—	5	361	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maine	6	445	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maryland	5	360	—	—	2	83	5	489	—	—	—	—
Massachusetts	19	2,100	6	745	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Michigan	23	1,457	—	—	14	599	—	—	—	—	—	—
Minnesota	14	855	—	—	4	241	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mississippi	—	—	—	—	1	51	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missouri	2	153	—	—	20	1,096	4	636	1	60	—	—
Montana	3	182	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nebraska	1	134	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nevada	5	589	—	—	5	416	—	—	1	52	—	—
New Hampshire	1	125	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Jersey	12	1,136	1	153	3	37	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Mexico	4	450	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	123	4	544
New York	41	4,538	—	—	4	244	—	—	—	—	—	—
North Carolina	23	1,894	—	—	18	759	8	1,371	1	124	—	—
North Dakota	2	115	—	—	1	114	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ohio	20	1,225	6	907	28	1,225	—	—	1	50	—	—
Oklahoma	8	463	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	954
Oregon	29	2,584	—	—	1	105	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pennsylvania	32	2,362	4	620	9	713	3	566	1	52	—	—
Rhode Island	6	596	—	—	—	—	2	250	—	—	—	—
South Carolina	5	402	—	—	20	1,104	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Dakota	4	182	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tennessee	18	1,420	—	—	10	395	—	—	1	49	—	—
Texas	49	3,786	—	—	18	814	—	—	9	590	1	445
Utah	3	321	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Virginia	8	655	—	—	5	231	3	425	—	—	—	—

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Washington	28	2,357	5	469	10	579	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Virginia	2	124	4	326	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wisconsin	48	2,219	—	—	21	1,105	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wyoming	2	168	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total U.S.	711	60,699	30	3,664	355	19,367	29	5,157	37	3,115	9	1,943
Canada	41	4,499	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
United Kingdom	12	779	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	121
Total	764	65,977	30	3,664	355	19,367	29	5,157	37	3,115	12	2,064

(1) Square Feet are in thousands

Corporate Offices

Our headquarters are located in Chicago, Illinois and we have an additional corporate office in Louisville, Kentucky. We lease all of our corporate offices.

ITEM 3. Legal Proceedings

The information contained in “NOTE 14—COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K is incorporated by reference into this Item 3. Except as set forth therein, we are not a party to, nor is any of our property the subject of, any material pending legal proceedings.

ITEM 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

PART II

ITEM 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Market Information

Our common stock, par value \$0.25 per share, is listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") under the symbol "VTR." The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low sales prices of our common stock as reported on the NYSE and the dividends declared per share.

	Sales Price of Common Stock		Cash Dividends Declared
	High	Low	
2016			
First Quarter	\$63.22	\$48.43	\$ 0.73
Second Quarter	72.82	59.69	0.73
Third Quarter	76.56	67.33	0.73
Fourth Quarter	69.19	57.86	0.775
2017			
First Quarter	\$65.41	\$59.36	\$ 0.775
Second Quarter	71.93	62.63	0.775
Third Quarter	69.98	64.80	0.775
Fourth Quarter	65.39	59.84	0.79

As of January 31, 2018, we had 356.2 million shares of our common stock outstanding held by approximately 4,520 stockholders of record.

Dividends and Distributions

We pay regular quarterly dividends to holders of our common stock to comply with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") governing REITs. In order to maintain our qualification as a REIT, we are required under the Code, among other things, to distribute annually at least 90% of our REIT taxable income, determined without regard to any net capital gain. In addition, we will be subject to income tax at the regular corporate rate to the extent we distribute less than 100% of our REIT taxable income, including any net capital gains. During the year ended December 31, 2017, we paid the first three quarterly installments of our 2017 dividend of \$0.775 per share. In December 2017, we declared the fourth quarter cash dividend on our common stock of \$0.79 per share, which was paid in January 2018.

On February 9, 2018, our Board of Directors declared the first quarterly installment of our 2018 dividend on our common stock in the amount of \$0.79 per share, payable in cash on April 12, 2018 to stockholders of record on April 2, 2018. We expect to distribute at least 100% of our taxable net income, after the use of any net operating loss carryforwards, to our stockholders for 2018.

In general, our Board of Directors makes decisions regarding the nature, frequency and amount of our dividends on a quarterly basis. Because the Board considers many factors when making these decisions, including our present and future liquidity needs, our current and projected financial condition and results of operations and the performance and credit quality of our tenants, operators, borrowers and managers, we cannot assure you that we will maintain the practice of paying regular quarterly dividends to continue to qualify as a REIT. Please see "Cautionary Statements" and the risk factors included in Part I, Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for a description of other factors that may affect our distribution policy.

Director and Employee Stock Sales

Certain of our directors, executive officers and other employees have adopted and, from time to time in the future, may adopt non-discretionary, written trading plans that comply with Rule 10b5-1 under the Exchange Act, or otherwise monetize, gift or transfer their equity-based compensation. These transactions typically are conducted for estate, tax and financial planning purposes and are subject to compliance with our Amended and Restated Securities Trading Policy and Procedures (“Securities Trading Policy”), the minimum stock ownership requirements contained in our Guidelines on Governance and all applicable laws and regulations.

Our Securities Trading Policy expressly prohibits our directors, executive officers and employees from buying or selling derivatives with respect to our securities or other financial instruments that are designed to hedge or offset a decrease in the market value of our securities and from engaging in short sales with respect to our securities. In addition, our Securities Trading Policy prohibits our directors and executive officers from holding our securities in margin accounts or pledging our securities to secure loans without the prior approval of our Audit and Compliance Committee. Each of our executive officers has advised us that he or she is in compliance with the Securities Trading Policy and has not pledged any of our equity securities to secure margin or other loans.

Stock Repurchases

The table below summarizes repurchases of our common stock made during the quarter ended December 31, 2017:

	Number of Shares Repurchased (1)	Average Price Per Share
October 1 through October 31	8,378	\$ 62.51
November 1 through November 30	—	\$ —
December 1 through December 31	—	\$ —

Repurchases represent shares withheld to pay taxes on the vesting of restricted stock granted to employees under our 2006 Incentive Plan or 2012 Incentive Plan or restricted stock units granted to employees under the Nationwide Health Properties, Inc. (“NHP”) 2005 Performance Incentive Plan and assumed by us in connection with our acquisition of NHP. The value of the shares withheld is the closing price of our common stock on the date the vesting or exercise occurred (or, if not a trading day, the immediately preceding trading day) or the fair market value of our common stock at the time of the exercise, as the case may be.

Stock Performance Graph

The following performance graph compares the cumulative total return (including dividends) to the holders of our common stock from December 31, 2012 through December 31, 2017, with the cumulative total returns of the NYSE Composite Index, the FTSE NAREIT Composite REIT Index (the “Composite REIT Index”) and the S&P 500 Index over the same period. The comparison assumes \$100 was invested on December 31, 2012 in our common stock and in each of the foregoing indexes and assumes reinvestment of dividends, as applicable. We have included the NYSE Composite Index in the performance graph because our common stock is listed on the NYSE, and we have included the S&P 500 Index because we are a member of the S&P 500. We have included the Composite REIT Index because we believe that it is most representative of the industries in which we compete, or otherwise provides a fair basis for comparison with us, and is therefore particularly relevant to an assessment of our performance. The figures in the table below are rounded to the nearest dollar.

	12/31/2012	12/31/2013	12/31/2014	12/31/2015	12/31/2016	12/31/2017
Ventas	\$100	\$92.36	\$120.92	\$114.20	\$132.64	\$133.54
NYSE Composite Index	\$100	\$126.40	\$135.09	\$129.72	\$145.38	\$172.83
Composite REIT Index	\$100	\$102.34	\$130.21	\$132.88	\$145.33	\$158.84
S&P 500 Index	\$100	\$132.37	\$150.48	\$152.55	\$170.78	\$208.05

ITEM 6. Selected Financial Data

You should read the following selected financial data in conjunction with “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” included in Item 7 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and our Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, as acquisitions, dispositions, changes in accounting policies and other items may impact the comparability of the financial data.

	As of and For the Years Ended December 31,				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
	(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)				
Operating Data					
Rental income	\$ 1,593,598	\$ 1,476,176	\$ 1,346,046	\$ 1,138,457	\$ 1,036,356
Resident fees and services	1,843,232	1,847,306	1,811,255	1,552,951	1,406,005
Interest expense	448,196	419,740	367,114	292,065	249,009
Property-level operating expenses	1,483,072	1,434,762	1,383,640	1,195,388	1,109,925
General, administrative and professional fees	135,490	126,875	128,035	121,738	115,083
Income from continuing operations	643,949	554,209	389,539	359,296	375,498
Net income attributable to common stockholders	1,356,470	649,231	417,843	475,767	453,509
Per Share Data					
Income from continuing operations:					
Basic	\$ 1.81	\$ 1.61	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.28
Diluted	\$ 1.80	\$ 1.59	\$ 1.17	\$ 1.21	\$ 1.27
Net income attributable to common stockholders:					
Basic	\$ 3.82	\$ 1.88	\$ 1.26	\$ 1.62	\$ 1.55
Diluted	\$ 3.78	\$ 1.86	\$ 1.25	\$ 1.60	\$ 1.54
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 3.115	\$ 2.965	\$ 3.04	\$ 2.965	\$ 2.735
Other Data					
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 1,442,180	\$ 1,372,341	\$ 1,398,831	\$ 1,261,281	\$ 1,201,706
Net cash used in investing activities	(976,517)	(1,234,643)	(2,423,692)	(2,055,040)	(1,282,760)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(671,327)	96,838	1,023,058	751,621	108,045
FFO ⁽¹⁾	1,512,885	1,440,544	1,365,408	1,273,680	1,208,458
Normalized FFO ⁽¹⁾	1,491,241	1,438,643	1,493,683	1,330,018	1,220,709
Balance Sheet Data					
Real estate investments, at cost	\$ 26,205,833	\$ 25,327,215	\$ 23,802,454	\$ 20,196,770	\$ 21,403,592
Cash and cash equivalents	81,355	286,707	53,023	55,348	94,816
Total assets	23,954,541	23,166,600	22,261,918	21,165,913	19,731,494
Senior notes payable and other debt	11,276,062	11,127,326	11,206,996	10,844,351	9,364,992

We consider Funds From Operations (“FFO”) and normalized FFO to be useful supplemental measures of operating performance of an equity REIT. In particular, we believe that normalized FFO is useful because it allows investors, analysts and our management to compare our operating performance to the operating performance of other real

⁽¹⁾ estate companies and between periods on a consistent basis without having to account for differences caused by non-recurring items and other non-operational events such as transactions and litigation. In some cases, we provide information about identified non-cash components of FFO and normalized FFO because it allows investors, analysts and our management to assess the impact of those items on our financial results.

FFO and normalized FFO presented in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, or otherwise disclosed by us, may not be comparable to FFO and normalized FFO presented by other real estate companies due to the fact that not all real estate companies use the same definitions. FFO and normalized FFO should not be considered as alternatives to net income or income from continuing operations (both determined in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles)

(“GAAP”)) as indicators of our financial performance or as alternatives to cash flow from operating activities (determined in accordance with GAAP) as measures of our liquidity, nor are FFO and normalized FFO necessarily indicative of sufficient cash flow to fund all of our needs.

We use the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts (“NAREIT”) definition of FFO. NAREIT defines FFO as net income attributable to common stockholders (computed in accordance with GAAP), excluding gains or losses from sales of real estate property, including gains or losses on re-measurement of equity method investments, and impairment write-downs of depreciable real estate, plus real estate depreciation and amortization, and after adjustments for unconsolidated partnerships and joint ventures. Adjustments for unconsolidated partnerships and joint ventures will be calculated to reflect FFO on the same basis. We define normalized FFO as FFO excluding the following income and expense items (which may be recurring in nature): (a) merger-related costs and expenses, including amortization of intangibles, transition and integration expenses, and deal costs and expenses, including expenses and recoveries relating to acquisition lawsuits; (b) the impact of any expenses related to asset impairment and valuation allowances, the write-off of unamortized deferred financing fees, or additional costs, expenses, discounts, make-whole payments, penalties or premiums incurred as a result of early retirement or payment of our debt; (c) the non-cash effect of income tax benefits or expenses, the non-cash impact of changes to our executive equity compensation plan and derivative transactions that have non-cash mark-to-market impacts on our Consolidated Statements of Income; (d) the financial impact of contingent consideration, severance-related costs and charitable donations made to the Ventas Charitable Foundation; (e) gains and losses for non-operational foreign currency hedge agreements and changes in the fair value of financial instruments; (f) gains and losses on non-real estate dispositions and other unusual items related to unconsolidated entities; (g) expenses related to the re-audit and re-review in 2014 of our historical financial statements and related matters; and (h) net expenses or recoveries related to natural disasters.

See “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Funds From Operations and Normalized Funds from Operations” included in Item 7 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for a reconciliation of FFO and normalized FFO to our GAAP earnings.

ITEM 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following discussion provides information that management believes is relevant to an understanding and assessment of the consolidated financial condition and results of operations of Ventas, Inc. You should read this discussion in conjunction with our Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, as it will help you understand:

Our company and the environment in which we operate;

Our 2017 highlights and other recent developments;

Our critical accounting policies and estimates;

Our results of operations for the last three years;

How we manage our assets and liabilities;

Our liquidity and capital resources;

Our cash flows; and

Our future contractual obligations.

Corporate and Operating Environment

We are a real estate investment trust (“REIT”) with a highly diversified portfolio of seniors housing and healthcare properties located throughout the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. As of December 31, 2017, we owned more than 1,200 properties (including properties owned through investments in unconsolidated entities and properties classified as held for sale), consisting of seniors housing communities, medical office buildings (“MOBs”), life science and innovation centers, inpatient rehabilitation facilities (“IRFs”) and long-term acute care facilities (“LTACs”), health systems and skilled nursing facilities (“SNFs”), and we had 14 properties under development, including four properties that are owned by unconsolidated real estate entities. We are an S&P 500 company headquartered in Chicago, Illinois.

We primarily invest in seniors housing and healthcare properties through acquisitions and lease our properties to unaffiliated tenants or operate them through independent third-party managers. As of December 31, 2017, we leased a total of 546 properties (excluding MOBs) to various healthcare operating companies under “triple-net” or “absolute-net” leases that obligate the tenants to pay all property-related expenses, including maintenance, utilities, repairs, taxes, insurance and capital expenditures.

As of December 31, 2017, pursuant to long-term management agreements, we engaged independent operators, such as Atria Senior Living, Inc. (“Atria”) and Sunrise Senior Living, LLC (together with its subsidiaries, “Sunrise”), to manage 297 seniors housing communities for us.

Our three largest tenants, Brookdale Senior Living, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, “Brookdale Senior Living”), Ardent Health Partners, LLC (together with its subsidiaries, “Ardent”) and Kindred Healthcare, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, “Kindred”) leased from us 135 properties (excluding one property managed by Brookdale Senior Living pursuant to a long-term management agreement), 10 properties and 31 properties (excluding one MOB included within our office operations reportable business segment), respectively, as of December 31, 2017.

Through our Lillibridge Healthcare Services, Inc. (“Lillibridge”) subsidiary and our ownership interest in PMB Real Estate Services LLC (“PMBRES”), we also provide MOB management, leasing, marketing, facility development and advisory services to highly rated hospitals and health systems throughout the United States. In addition, from time to time, we make secured and non-mortgage loans and other investments relating to seniors housing and healthcare operators or properties.

We conduct our operations through three reportable business segments: triple-net leased properties, senior living operations and office operations. See “NOTE 19—SEGMENT INFORMATION” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

As of December 31, 2017, our consolidated portfolio included 100% ownership interests in 1,135 properties and controlling joint venture interests in 69 properties, and we had non-controlling ownership interests in 31 properties through investments in unconsolidated entities. Through Lillibridge and PMBRES, we provided management and leasing services to third parties with respect to 105 MOBs as of December 31, 2017.

We aim to enhance shareholder value by delivering consistent, superior total returns through a strategy of: (1) generating reliable and growing cash flows; (2) maintaining a balanced, diversified portfolio of high-quality assets; and (3) preserving our financial strength, flexibility and liquidity.

Our ability to access capital in a timely and cost-effective manner is critical to the success of our business strategy because it affects our ability to satisfy existing obligations, including the repayment of maturing indebtedness, and to make future investments. Factors such as general market conditions, interest rates, credit ratings on our securities, expectations of our potential future earnings and cash distributions, and the trading price of our common stock that are beyond our control and fluctuate over time all impact our access to and cost of external capital. For that reason, we generally attempt to match the long-term duration of our investments in real property with long-term financing through the issuance of shares of our common stock or the incurrence of long-term fixed rate debt.

2017 Highlights and Other Recent Developments

Investments and Dispositions

In March 2017, we provided secured debt financing to a subsidiary of Ardent to facilitate Ardent’s acquisition of LHP Hospital Group, Inc., which included a \$700.0 million term loan and a \$60.0 million revolving line of credit feature (of which \$28.0 million was outstanding at December 31, 2017). The LIBOR-based debt financing has a five-year

term, a one-year lock out feature and a weighted average interest rate of approximately 9.3% as of December 31, 2017 and is guaranteed by Ardent's parent company.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, we acquired 15 triple-net leased properties (including six assets previously owned by an equity method investee), four properties reported within our office operations reportable business segment (three life science, research and medical assets and one medical office building) and three seniors housing communities (reported within our senior living operations reportable business segment) for an aggregate purchase price of \$691.3 million.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, we sold 53 triple-net leased properties, five MOB's and certain vacant land parcels for aggregate consideration of \$870.8 million, and we recognized a gain on the sale of these assets of \$717.3 million, net of taxes.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, we received aggregate proceeds of \$37.6 million for the partial prepayment and \$35.5 million for the full repayment of loans receivable, which resulted in total gains of \$0.6 million.

Liquidity, Capital and Dividends

In March 2017, we issued and sold \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount of 3.100% senior notes due 2023 at a public offering price equal to 99.280% of par, for total proceeds of \$397.1 million before the underwriting discount and expenses, and \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount of 3.850% senior notes due 2027 at a public offering price equal to 99.196% of par, for total proceeds of \$396.8 million before the underwriting discount and expenses.

In April 2017, we entered into an unsecured credit facility comprised of a \$3.0 billion unsecured revolving credit facility, priced at LIBOR plus 0.875%, that replaced our previous \$2.0 billion unsecured revolving credit facility priced at LIBOR plus 1.0%.

In April 2017, we repaid in full, at par, \$300.0 million aggregate principal amount then outstanding of our 1.250% senior notes due 2017 upon maturity.

In June 2017, we issued and sold C\$275.0 million aggregate principal amount of 2.55% senior notes, Series D due 2023 at a price equal to 99.954% of par, for total proceeds of C\$274.9 million before the agent fees and expenses. We used part of the proceeds to repay C\$124.4 million on our unsecured term loan due 2019.

In August 2017, we used most of the proceeds from the sale of 22 SNFs to repay the balances then outstanding on the 2018 and 2019 term loans.

In September 2017, we entered into a new \$400.0 million secured revolving construction credit facility which matures in 2022 and will be primarily used to finance life science and innovation center and other construction projects.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, we issued and sold 1.1 million shares of common stock under our "at-the-market" ("ATM") equity offering program. Aggregate net proceeds for these activities were \$73.9 million, after sales agent commissions.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, we paid the first three quarterly installments of our 2017 dividend of \$0.775 per share. In December 2017, we declared the fourth quarter cash dividend on our common stock of \$0.79 per share, which grew by 2% over third quarter 2017 and was paid in January 2018.

Portfolio

The sale of the triple-net leased properties above included 36 SNFs, owned by us and operated by Kindred. These assets were sold for aggregate consideration of approximately \$700 million and we recognized a gain on the sale of \$657.6 million, net of taxes.

Other Recent Developments

In January 2018, we transitioned the management of 76 private pay seniors housing communities to Eclipse Senior Living ("ESL"). These assets, substantially all of which were previously leased by Elmcroft Senior Living ("Elmcroft"), are now operated by ESL under a management contract with us. We acquired a 34% ownership stake in ESL with

customary rights and protections. ESL management owns the remaining 66% stake. We also intend to form a new joint venture with an institutional partner related to the assets previously leased by Elmcroft. However, there can be no assurance whether, when or on what terms the joint venture will be completed.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) set forth in the Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”), as published by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”). GAAP requires us to make estimates and assumptions regarding future events that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. We base these estimates on our experience and assumptions we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. However, if our judgment or interpretation of the facts and circumstances relating to various transactions or other matters had been different, we may have applied a different accounting treatment, resulting in a different presentation of our financial statements. We periodically reevaluate our estimates and assumptions, and in the event they prove to be different from actual results, we make adjustments in subsequent periods to reflect more current estimates and assumptions about matters that are inherently uncertain. We believe that the critical accounting policies described below, among others, affect our more significant estimates and judgments used in the preparation of our financial statements. For more information regarding our critical accounting policies, see “NOTE 2—ACCOUNTING POLICIES” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Principles of Consolidation

The Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K include our accounts and the accounts of our wholly owned subsidiaries and the joint venture entities over which we exercise control. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation, and our net earnings are reduced by the portion of net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interests.

GAAP requires us to identify entities for which control is achieved through means other than voting rights and to determine which business enterprise is the primary beneficiary of variable interest entities (“VIEs”). A VIE is broadly defined as an entity with one or more of the following characteristics: (a) the total equity investment at risk is insufficient to finance the entity’s activities without additional subordinated financial support; (b) as a group, the holders of the equity investment at risk lack (i) the ability to make decisions about the entity’s activities through voting or similar rights, (ii) the obligation to absorb the expected losses of the entity, or (iii) the right to receive the expected residual returns of the entity; and (c) the equity investors have voting rights that are not proportional to their economic interests, and substantially all of the entity’s activities either involve, or are conducted on behalf of, an investor that has disproportionately few voting rights. We consolidate our investment in a VIE when we determine that we are its primary beneficiary. We may change our original assessment of a VIE upon subsequent events such as the modification of contractual arrangements that affects the characteristics or adequacy of the entity’s equity investments at risk and the disposition of all or a portion of an interest held by the primary beneficiary.

We identify the primary beneficiary of a VIE as the enterprise that has both: (i) the power to direct the activities of the VIE that most significantly impact the entity’s economic performance; and (ii) the obligation to absorb losses or the right to receive benefits of the VIE that could be significant to the entity. We perform this analysis on an ongoing basis.

As it relates to investments in joint ventures, GAAP may preclude consolidation by the sole general partner in certain circumstances based on the type of rights held by the limited partner(s). We assess limited partners’ rights and their impact on our consolidation conclusions, and we reassess if there is a change to the terms or in the exercisability of the rights of the limited partners, the sole general partner increases or decreases its ownership of limited partnership interests, or there is an increase or decrease in the number of outstanding limited partnership interests. We also apply this guidance to managing member interests in limited liability companies.

We consolidate several VIEs that share the following common characteristics:

- the VIE is in the legal form of an LP or LLC;
- the VIE was designed to own and manage its underlying real estate investments;
- we are the general partner or managing member of the VIE;
- we own a majority of the voting interests in the VIE;
- a minority of voting interests in the VIE are owned by external third parties, unrelated to us;
- the minority owners do not have substantive kick-out or participating rights in the VIE; and
- we are the primary beneficiary of the VIE.

We have separately identified certain special purpose entities that were established to allow investments in life science projects by tax credit investors (“TCIs”). We have determined that these special purpose entities are VIEs and that we are the

primary beneficiary of the VIEs, and therefore we consolidate these special purpose entities. Our primary beneficiary determination is based upon several factors, including but not limited to the rights we have in directing the activities which most significantly impact the VIEs' economic performance as well as certain guarantees which protect the TCIs from losses should a tax credit recapture event occur.

Accounting for Real Estate Acquisitions

On January 1, 2017, we adopted Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2017-01, Clarifying the Definition of a Business ("ASU 2017-01") which narrows the FASB's definition of a business and provides a framework that gives entities a basis for making reasonable judgments about whether a transaction involves an asset or a business. ASU 2017-01 states that when substantially all of the fair value of the gross assets acquired is concentrated in a single identifiable asset or group of similar identifiable assets, the acquired asset is not a business. If this initial test is not met, an acquired asset cannot be considered a business unless it includes an input and a substantive process that together significantly contribute to the ability to create output. The primary differences between business combinations and asset acquisitions include recognition of goodwill at the acquisition date and expense recognition for transaction costs as incurred. We are applying ASU 2017-01 prospectively for acquisitions after January 1, 2017.

Regardless of whether an acquisition is considered a business combination or an asset acquisition, we record the cost of the businesses or assets acquired as tangible and intangible assets and liabilities based upon their estimated fair values as of the acquisition date. Intangibles primarily include the value of in-place leases and acquired lease contracts.

We estimate the fair value of buildings acquired on an as-if-vacant basis or replacement cost basis and depreciate the building value over the estimated remaining life of the building, generally not to exceed 35 years. We determine the fair value of other fixed assets, such as site improvements and furniture, fixtures and equipment, based upon the replacement cost and depreciate such value over the assets' estimated remaining useful lives as determined at the applicable acquisition date. We determine the value of land either by considering the sales prices of similar properties in recent transactions or based on internal analyses of recently acquired and existing comparable properties within our portfolio. We generally determine the value of construction in progress based upon the replacement cost. However, for certain acquired properties that are part of a ground-up development, we determine fair value by using the same valuation approach as for all other properties and deducting the estimated cost to complete the development. During the remaining construction period, we capitalize project costs until the development has reached substantial completion. Construction in progress, including capitalized interest, is not depreciated until the development has reached substantial completion.

The fair value of acquired lease-related intangibles, if any, reflects: (i) the estimated value of any above and/or below market leases, determined by discounting the difference between the estimated market rent and in-place lease rent; and (ii) the estimated value of in-place leases related to the cost to obtain tenants, including leasing commissions, and an estimated value of the absorption period to reflect the value of the rent and recovery costs foregone during a reasonable lease-up period as if the acquired space was vacant. We amortize any acquired lease-related intangibles to revenue or amortization expense over the remaining life of the associated lease plus any assumed bargain renewal periods. If a lease is terminated prior to its stated expiration or not renewed upon expiration, we recognize all unamortized amounts of lease-related intangibles associated with that lease in operations at that time.

We estimate the fair value of purchase option intangible assets and liabilities, if any, by discounting the difference between the applicable property's acquisition date fair value and an estimate of its future option price. We do not amortize the resulting intangible asset or liability over the term of the lease, but rather adjust the recognized value of the asset or liability upon sale.

We estimate the fair value of tenant or other customer relationships acquired, if any, by considering the nature and extent of existing relationships with the tenant or customer, growth prospects for developing new business with the tenant or customer, the tenant's credit quality, expectations of lease renewals with the tenant, and the potential for significant, additional future leasing arrangements with the tenant, and we amortize that value over the expected life of the associated arrangements or leases, including the remaining terms of the related leases and any expected renewal periods. We estimate the fair value of trade names and trademarks using a royalty rate methodology and amortize that value over the estimated useful life of the trade name or trademark.

In connection with an acquisition, we may assume rights and obligations under certain lease agreements pursuant to which we become the lessee of a given property. We generally assume the lease classification previously determined by the prior lessee absent a modification in the assumed lease agreement. We assess assumed operating leases, including ground leases, to determine whether the lease terms are favorable or unfavorable to us given current market conditions on the

acquisition date. To the extent the lease terms are favorable or unfavorable to us relative to market conditions on the acquisition date, we recognize an intangible asset or liability at fair value and amortize that asset or liability to interest or rental expense in our Consolidated Statements of Income over the applicable lease term. We include all lease-related intangible assets and liabilities within acquired lease intangibles and accounts payable and other liabilities, respectively, on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

We determine the fair value of loans receivable acquired by discounting the estimated future cash flows using current interest rates at which similar loans with the same terms and length to maturity would be made to borrowers with similar credit ratings. We do not establish a valuation allowance at the acquisition date because the estimated future cash flows already reflect our judgment regarding their uncertainty. We recognize the difference between the acquisition date fair value and the total expected cash flows as interest income using an effective interest method over the life of the applicable loan. Subsequent to the acquisition date, we evaluate changes regarding the uncertainty of future cash flows and the need for a valuation allowance, as appropriate.

We estimate the fair value of noncontrolling interests assumed consistent with the manner in which we value all of the underlying assets and liabilities.

We calculate the fair value of long-term assumed debt by discounting the remaining contractual cash flows on each instrument at the current market rate for those borrowings, which we approximate based on the rate at which we would expect to incur a replacement instrument on the date of acquisition, and recognize any fair value adjustments related to long-term debt as effective yield adjustments over the remaining term of the instrument.

Impairment of Long-Lived and Intangible Assets

We periodically evaluate our long-lived assets, primarily consisting of investments in real estate, for impairment indicators. If indicators of impairment are present, we evaluate the carrying value of the related real estate investments in relation to the future undiscounted cash flows of the underlying operations. In performing this evaluation, we consider market conditions and our current intentions with respect to holding or disposing of the asset. We adjust the net book value of leased properties and other long-lived assets to fair value if the sum of the expected future undiscounted cash flows, including sales proceeds, is less than book value. We recognize an impairment loss at the time we make any such determination.

If impairment indicators arise with respect to intangible assets with finite useful lives, we evaluate impairment by comparing the carrying amount of the asset to the estimated future undiscounted net cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If estimated future undiscounted net cash flows are less than the carrying amount of the asset, then we estimate the fair value of the asset and compare the estimated fair value to the intangible asset's carrying value. We recognize any shortfall from carrying value as an impairment loss in the current period.

We evaluate our investments in unconsolidated entities for impairment at least annually, and whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of our investment may exceed its fair value. If we determine that a decline in the fair value of our investment in an unconsolidated entity is other-than-temporary, and if such reduced fair value is below the carrying value, we record an impairment.

We test goodwill for impairment at least annually, and more frequently if indicators arise. We first assess qualitative factors, such as current macroeconomic conditions, state of the equity and capital markets and our overall financial and operating performance, to determine the likelihood that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. If we determine it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, we proceed with the two-step approach to evaluating impairment. First, we estimate the fair value of the reporting unit and compare it to the reporting unit's carrying value. If the carrying value exceeds fair value, we proceed with the second step, which requires us to assign the fair value of the reporting unit to all of the assets and liabilities of

the reporting unit as if it had been acquired in a business combination at the date of the impairment test. The excess fair value of the reporting unit over the amounts assigned to the assets and liabilities is the implied value of goodwill and is used to determine the amount of impairment. We recognize an impairment loss to the extent the carrying value of goodwill exceeds the implied value in the current period.

Estimates of fair value used in our evaluation of goodwill (if necessary based on our qualitative assessment), investments in real estate, investments in unconsolidated entities and intangible assets are based upon discounted future cash flow projections or other acceptable valuation techniques that are based, in turn, upon all available evidence including level three inputs, such as revenue and expense growth rates, estimates of future cash flows, capitalization rates, discount rates, general economic conditions and trends, or other available market data. Our ability to accurately predict future operating results

and cash flows and to estimate and determine fair values impacts the timing and recognition of impairments. While we believe our assumptions are reasonable, changes in these assumptions may have a material impact on our financial results.

Fair Values of Financial Instruments

Fair value is a market-based measurement, not an entity-specific measurement, and we determine fair value based on the assumptions that we expect market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. As a basis for considering market participant assumptions in fair value measurements, GAAP establishes a fair value hierarchy that distinguishes between market participant assumptions based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity (observable inputs that are classified within levels one and two of the hierarchy) and the reporting entity's own assumptions about market participant assumptions (unobservable inputs classified within level three of the hierarchy).

Level one inputs utilize unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that we have the ability to access. Level two inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included in level one that are directly or indirectly observable for the asset or liability. Level two inputs may include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets and other inputs for the asset or liability that are observable at commonly quoted intervals, such as interest rates, foreign exchange rates and yield curves. Level three inputs are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability, which typically are based on our own assumptions, because there is little, if any, related market activity. If the determination of the fair value measurement is based on inputs from different levels of the hierarchy, the level within which the entire fair value measurement falls is the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. If the volume and level of market activity for an asset or liability has decreased significantly relative to the normal market activity for such asset or liability (or similar assets or liabilities), then transactions or quoted prices may not accurately reflect fair value. In addition, if there is evidence that a transaction for an asset or liability is not orderly, little, if any, weight is placed on that transaction price as an indicator of fair value. Our assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to the asset or liability.

Revenue Recognition

Triple-Net Leased Properties and Office Operations

Certain of our triple-net leases and most of our MOB and life science and innovation center (collectively, "office operations") leases provide for periodic and determinable increases in base rent. We recognize base rental revenues under these leases on a straight-line basis over the applicable lease term when collectability is reasonably assured. Recognizing rental income on a straight-line basis generally results in recognized revenues during the first half of a lease term exceeding the cash amounts contractually due from our tenants, creating a straight-line rent receivable that is included in other assets on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Certain of our leases provide for periodic increases in base rent only if certain revenue parameters or other substantive contingencies are met. We recognize the increased rental revenue under these leases as the related parameters or contingencies are met, rather than on a straight-line basis over the applicable lease term.

Senior Living Operations

We recognize resident fees and services, other than move-in fees, monthly as services are provided. We recognize move-in fees on a straight-line basis over the average resident stay. Our lease agreements with residents generally have terms of 12 to 18 months and are cancelable by the resident upon 30 days' notice.

Other

We recognize interest income from loans and investments, including discounts and premiums, using the effective interest method when collectibility is reasonably assured. We apply the effective interest method on a loan-by-loan basis and recognize discounts and premiums as yield adjustments over the related loan term. We recognize interest income on an impaired loan to the extent our estimate of the fair value of the collateral is sufficient to support the balance of the loan, other receivables and all related accrued interest. When the balance of the loan, other receivables and all related accrued interest is equal to or less than our estimate of the fair value of the collateral, we recognize interest income on a cash basis. We provide a reserve against an impaired loan to the extent our total investment in the loan exceeds our estimate of the fair value of the loan collateral.

We recognize income from rent, lease termination fees, development services, management advisory services and all other income when all of the following criteria are met in accordance with Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) Staff Accounting Bulletin 104: (i) the applicable agreement has been fully executed and delivered; (ii) services have been rendered; (iii) the amount is fixed or determinable; and (iv) collectibility is reasonably assured.

Allowances

We assess the collectibility of our rent receivables, including straight-line rent receivables. We base our assessment of the collectibility of rent receivables (other than straight-line rent receivables) on several factors, including, among other things, payment history, the financial strength of the tenant and any guarantors, the value of the underlying collateral, if any, and current economic conditions. If our evaluation of these factors indicates it is probable that we will be unable to recover the full value of the receivable, we provide a reserve against the portion of the receivable that we estimate may not be recovered. We base our assessment of the collectibility of straight-line rent receivables on several factors, including, among other things, the financial strength of the tenant and any guarantors, the historical operations and operating trends of the property, the historical payment pattern of the tenant and the type of property. If our evaluation of these factors indicates it is probable that we will be unable to receive the rent payments due in the future, we provide a reserve against the recognized straight-line rent receivable asset for the portion, up to its full value, that we estimate may not be recovered. If we change our assumptions or estimates regarding the collectibility of future rent payments required by a lease, we may adjust our reserve to increase or reduce the rental revenue recognized in the period we make such change in our assumptions or estimates.

Federal Income Tax

We have elected to be treated as a REIT under the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), for every year beginning with the year ended December 31, 1999. Accordingly, we generally are not subject to federal income tax on net income that we distribute to our stockholders, provided that we continue to qualify as a REIT. However, with respect to certain of our subsidiaries that have elected to be treated as taxable REIT subsidiaries (“TRS” or “TRS entities”), we record income tax expense or benefit, as those entities are subject to federal income tax similar to regular corporations. Certain foreign subsidiaries are subject to foreign income tax, although they did not elect to be treated as TRSs.

We account for deferred income taxes using the asset and liability method and recognize deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of events that have been included in our financial statements or tax returns. Under this method, we determine deferred tax assets and liabilities based on the differences between the financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. Any increase or decrease in the deferred tax liability that results from a change in circumstances, and that causes us to change our judgment about expected future tax consequences of events, is included in the tax provision when such changes occur. Deferred income taxes also reflect the impact of operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. A valuation allowance is provided if we believe it is more likely than not that all or some portion of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. Any increase or decrease in the valuation allowance that results from a change in circumstances, and that causes us to change our judgment about the realizability of the related deferred tax asset, is included in the tax provision when such changes occur.

We recognize the tax benefit from an uncertain tax position claimed or expected to be claimed on a tax return only if it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on examination by taxing authorities, based on the technical merits of the position. The tax benefits recognized in the financial statements from such a position are measured based on the largest benefit that has a greater than fifty percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. We recognize interest and penalties, if applicable, related to uncertain tax positions as part of income tax benefit or expense.

Recently Issued or Adopted Accounting Standards

On January 1, 2017, we adopted ASU 2016-09, Compensation - Stock Compensation (“ASU 2016-09”) which simplifies several aspects of the accounting for employee share-based payment transactions, including the accounting for forfeitures and statutory tax withholding requirements, as well as classification in the statement of cash flows. Adoption of ASU 2016-09 did not have a significant impact on our Consolidated Financial Statements

In 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, Revenue From Contracts With Customers (“ASU 2014-09”, as codified in “ASC 606”), which outlines a comprehensive model for entities to use in accounting for revenue arising from contracts with customers. ASC 606 states that “an entity recognizes revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services.” While ASC 606 specifically references contracts with customers, it also applied to other transactions such as the sale of real

estate. ASC 606 is effective for us beginning January 1, 2018 and we plan to adopt ASC 606 using the modified retrospective method.

We have evaluated all of our revenue streams to identify whether each revenue stream would be subject to the provisions of ASC 606 and any differences in the timing, measurement or presentation of revenue recognition. Based on a review of our various revenue streams, we believe the following items in our Consolidated Statements of Income are subject to ASC 606: office building and other services revenue, certain elements of our resident fees and services and gains on the sale of real estate. Our office building and other services revenues are primarily generated by management contracts where we provide management, leasing, marketing, facility development and advisory services. Resident fees and services primarily include amounts related to resident leases (subject to ASC 840, Leases) but also includes revenues generated through point-of-sale transactions that are ancillary to the residents' contractual rights to occupy living and common-area space at the communities. While these revenue streams are subject to the provisions of ASC 606, we believe that the pattern and timing of recognition of income will be consistent with the current accounting model.

As it relates to gains on sale of real estate, we will apply the provisions of ASC 610-20, Gain or Loss From Derecognition of Non-financial Assets ("ASC 610-20"), and we expect to recognize any gains when we transfer control of a property and when it is probable that we will collect substantially all of the related consideration. We will no longer apply existing sales criteria in ASC 360, Property, Plant, and Equipment. We will recognize on January 1, 2018, through a cumulative effect adjustment to retained earnings, \$31.2 million of deferred gains relating to sales of real estate assets in 2015. Other than the cumulative effect adjustment relating to such deferred gains, the adoption of ASC 606 and ASC 610-20 will not have a significant impact on our Consolidated Financial Statements. Our remaining implementation item includes finalizing revised disclosures in accordance with the new standard.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases ("ASU 2016-02"), which introduces a lessee model that brings most leases on the balance sheet and, among other changes, eliminates the requirement in current GAAP for an entity to use bright-line tests in determining lease classification. The FASB also issued an Exposure Draft on January 5, 2018 proposing to amend ASU 2016-02, which would provide lessors with a practical expedient, by class of underlying assets, to not separate non-lease components from the related lease components and, instead, to account for those components as a single lease component, if certain criteria are met. ASU 2016-02 and the related Exposure Draft are not effective for us until January 1, 2019, with early adoption permitted. We are continuing to evaluate this guidance and the impact to us, as both lessor and lessee, on our Consolidated Financial Statements. We expect to utilize the practical expedients proposed in the Exposure Draft as part of our adoption of ASU 2016-02.

In 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-15, Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments ("ASU 2016-15"), which provides clarification regarding how certain cash receipts and cash payments are presented and classified in the statement of cash flows and ASU 2016-18, Restricted Cash ("ASU 2016-18"), which requires an entity to show the changes in total cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows. ASU 2016-15 and ASU 2016-18 are effective for us beginning January 1, 2018 and will be applied by us using a retrospective transition method. Adoption of these standards is not expected to have a significant impact on our Consolidated Financial Statements.

In 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-16, Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets Other Than Inventory ("ASU 2016-16"), which requires a company to recognize the tax consequences of an intra-entity transfer of an asset, other than inventory, when the transfer occurs. ASU 2016-16 is effective for us beginning January 1, 2018 and will be applied by us using a modified retrospective method. Adoption of this standard is not expected to have a significant impact on our Consolidated Financial Statements.

Results of Operations

In August 2015, we completed the spin-off of most of our post-acute/skilled nursing facility portfolio into an independent, publicly traded REIT name Care Capital Properties, Inc. (“CCP”) (the “CCP Spin-Off”). The historical results of operations of the CCP properties are presented as discontinued operations in the accompanying results of operations. Throughout this discussion, “continuing operations” does not include properties disposed of as part of the CCP Spin-Off.

In September 2016, we completed the acquisition of substantially all of the university affiliated life science and innovation real estate assets of Wexford Science & Technology, LLC (“Wexford”) from affiliates of Blackstone Real Estate Partners VIII, L.P. (the “Life Sciences Acquisition”). As a result, we renamed our MOB operations reportable business segment “office operations,” which now includes both MOBs and life science and innovation centers.

As of December 31, 2017, we operated through three reportable business segments: triple-net leased properties, senior living operations and office operations. Under our triple-net leased properties segment, we invest in and own seniors housing and healthcare properties throughout the United States and the United Kingdom and lease those properties to healthcare operating companies under “triple-net” or “absolute-net” leases that obligate the tenants to pay all property-related expenses. In our senior living operations segment, we invest in seniors housing communities throughout the United States and Canada and engage independent operators, such as Atria and Sunrise, to manage those communities. In our office operations segment, we primarily acquire, own, develop, lease and manage MOBs and life science and innovation centers throughout the United States. Information provided for “all other” includes income from loans and investments and other miscellaneous income and various corporate-level expenses not directly attributable to any of our three reportable business segments. Assets included in “all other” consist primarily of corporate assets, including cash, restricted cash, loans receivable and investments, and miscellaneous accounts receivable. Our chief operating decision makers evaluate performance of the combined properties in each reportable business segment and determine how to allocate resources to those segments, in significant part, based on segment NOI and related measures. For further information regarding our business segments and a discussion of our definition of segment NOI, see “NOTE 19—SEGMENT INFORMATION” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Years Ended December 31, 2017 and 2016

The table below shows our results of operations for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 and the effect of changes in those results from period to period on our net income attributable to common stockholders.

	For the Year Ended December 31,		(Decrease) Increase to Net Income	
	2017	2016	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Segment NOI:				
Triple-net leased properties	\$844,711	\$850,755	\$(6,044)	(0.7)%
Senior living operations	593,167	604,328	(11,161)	(1.8)
Office operations	524,566	444,276	80,290	18.1
All other	119,208	101,214	17,994	17.8
Total segment NOI	2,081,652	2,000,573	81,079	4.1
Interest and other income	6,034	876	5,158	nm
Interest expense	(448,196)	(419,740)	(28,456)	(6.8)
Depreciation and amortization	(887,948)	(898,924)	10,976	1.2
General, administrative and professional fees	(135,490)	(126,875)	(8,615)	(6.8)
Loss on extinguishment of debt, net	(754)	(2,779)	2,025	72.9
Merger-related expenses and deal costs	(10,535)	(24,635)	14,100	57.2
Other	(20,052)	(9,988)	(10,064)	nm
Income before unconsolidated entities, income taxes, discontinued operations, real estate dispositions and noncontrolling interests	584,711	518,508	66,203	12.8
(Loss) income from unconsolidated entities	(561)	4,358	(4,919)	nm
Income tax benefit	59,799	31,343	28,456	nm
Income from continuing operations	643,949	554,209	89,740	16.2
Discontinued operations	(110)	(922)	812	nm
Gain on real estate dispositions	717,273	98,203	619,070	nm
Net income	1,361,112	651,490	709,622	nm
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	4,642	2,259	(2,383)	nm
Net income attributable to common stockholders	\$1,356,470	\$649,231	707,239	nm

nm—not meaningful

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Segment NOI—Triple-Net Leased Properties

NOI for our triple-net leased properties reportable business segment equals the rental income and other services revenue earned from our triple-net assets. We incur no direct operating expenses for this segment.

The following table summarizes results of operations in our triple-net leased properties reportable business segment, including assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2017, but excluding assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations:

	For the Year Ended		Decrease to	
	December 31,		Segment NOI	
	2017	2016	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Segment NOI—Triple-Net Leased Properties:				
Rental income	\$840,131	\$845,834	\$(5,703)	(0.7)%
Other services revenue	4,580	4,921	(341)	(6.9)
Segment NOI	\$844,711	\$850,755	(6,044)	(0.7)

Triple-net leased properties segment NOI decreased in 2017 over the prior year primarily due the sale of 36 Kindred SNF properties during 2017, partially offset by rent increases due to contractual escalations pursuant to the terms of our leases and rent from eight seniors housing communities that we transitioned from senior living operations to triple-net leased properties during 2017.

In our triple-net leased properties segment, our revenues generally consist of fixed rental amounts (subject to annual contractual escalations) received from our tenants in accordance with the applicable lease terms. However, occupancy rates may affect the profitability of our tenants' operations. The following table sets forth average continuing occupancy rates related to the triple-net leased properties we owned at December 31, 2017 for the trailing 12 months ended September 30, 2017 (which is the most recent information available to us from our tenants) and average continuing occupancy rates related to the triple-net leased properties we owned at December 31, 2016 for the trailing 12 months ended September 30, 2016.

	Number of Properties at December 31, 2017 ⁽¹⁾	Average Occupancy for the Trailing 12 Months Ended September 30, 2017 ⁽¹⁾	%	Number of Properties at December 31, 2016 ⁽¹⁾	Average Occupancy for the Trailing 12 Months Ended September 30, 2016 ⁽¹⁾	%
Seniors housing communities	418	86.6	%	431	88.2	%
SNFs	17	86.4		53	79.9	
IRFs and LTACs	36	60.4		38	59.1	

Excludes properties included in discontinued operations and properties classified as held for sale, non-stabilized properties, properties owned through investments in unconsolidated entities and certain properties for which we do not receive occupancy information. Also excludes properties acquired during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively, and properties that transitioned operators for which we do not have eight full quarters of results subsequent to the transition.

The following table compares results of operations for our 494 same-store triple-net leased properties, unadjusted for foreign currency movements between comparison periods. With regard to our triple-net leased properties segment, "same-store" refers to properties owned, consolidated, operational and reported under a consistent business model for the full period in both comparison periods, excluding assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2017

and assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations.

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	For the Year Ended		Increase to	
	December 31,		Segment NOI	
	2017	2016	\$	%
(Dollars in thousands)				
Same-Store Segment NOI—Triple-Net Leased Properties:				
Rental income	\$769,063	\$760,848	\$8,215	1.1%
Segment NOI	\$769,063	\$760,848	8,215	1.1

Segment NOI—Senior Living Operations

The following table summarizes results of operations in our senior living operations reportable business segment, including assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2017, but excluding assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations:

	For the Year Ended		Decrease to	
	December 31,		Segment NOI	
	2017	2016	\$	%
(Dollars in thousands)				
Segment NOI—Senior Living Operations:				
Resident fees and services	\$1,843,232	\$1,847,306	\$(4,074)	(0.2)%
Less: Property-level operating expenses	(1,250,065)	(1,242,978)	(7,087)	(0.6)
Segment NOI	\$593,167	\$604,328	\$(11,161)	(1.8)

	Number of Properties at December 31,	2017	2016	Average Unit Occupancy for the Year Ended December 31,		Average Monthly Revenue Per Occupied Room for the Year Ended December 31,	
				2017	2016	2017	2016
Total communities	293	298	88.3%	90.3%	\$5,725	\$5,474	

Resident fees and services include all amounts earned from residents at our seniors housing communities, such as rental fees related to resident leases, extended health care fees and other ancillary service income. Our senior living operations segment revenues decreased in 2017 over the prior year primarily due to the transition of eight seniors housing communities to our triple-net leased properties segment and decreased occupancy at our seniors housing communities.

Property-level operating expenses related to our senior living operations segment include labor, food, utilities, marketing, management and other costs of operating the properties. Property-level operating expenses increased year over year primarily due to increases in salaries, benefits, insurance and other operating expenses and the implementation of new care technologies.

The following table compares results of operations for our 285 same-store senior living operating communities, unadjusted for foreign currency movements between periods. With regard to our senior living operations segment, “same-store” refers to properties owned, consolidated, operational and reported under a consistent business model for the full period in both comparison periods, excluding properties that transitioned operators since the start of the prior comparison period, assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2017 and assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations.

For the Year Ended

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	December 31,		Increase (Decrease) to Segment NOI	
	2017	2016	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Same-Store Segment NOI—Senior Living Operations:				
Resident fees and services	\$1,791,843	\$1,765,183	\$26,660	1.5 %
Less: Property-level operating expenses	(1,215,440)	(1,187,351)	(28,089)	(2.4)
Segment NOI	\$576,403	\$577,832	(1,429)	(0.2)

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	Number of Properties at December 31,		Average Unit Occupancy for the Year Ended December 31,		Average Monthly Revenue Per Occupied Room for the Year Ended December 31,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
Same-store communities	285	285	88.3%	90.4%	\$5,745	\$5,526

Segment NOI—Office Operations

The following table summarizes results of operations in our office operations reportable business segment, including assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2017, but excluding assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations:

	For the Year Ended December 31,		Increase (Decrease) to Segment NOI	
	2017	2016	\$	%
(Dollars in thousands)				
Segment NOI—Office Operations:				
Rental income	\$753,467	\$630,342	\$123,125	19.5 %
Office building services revenue	7,497	13,029	(5,532)	(42.5)
Total revenues	760,964	643,371	117,593	18.3
Less:				
Property-level operating expenses	(233,007)	(191,784)	(41,223)	(21.5)
Office building services costs	(3,391)	(7,311)	3,920	53.6
Segment NOI	\$524,566	\$444,276	80,290	18.1

	Number of Properties at December 31,		Occupancy at December 31,		Annualized Average Rent Per Occupied Square Foot for the Year Ended December 31,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
Total office buildings	391	388	92.0%	91.7%	\$ 32	\$ 31

The increase in our office operations segment rental income in 2017 over the prior year is attributed primarily to the office buildings we acquired during 2017 and 2016, partially offset by dispositions. The increase in our office building property-level operating expenses is due primarily to those acquired office buildings and increases in real estate taxes and other operating expenses, partially offset by dispositions.

Office building services revenue and costs both decreased in 2017 over the prior year primarily due to decreased construction activity during 2017 compared to 2016.

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The following table compares results of operations for our 350 same-store office buildings. With regard to our office operations segment, “same-store” refers to properties owned, consolidated, operational and reported under a consistent business model for the full period in both comparison periods, excluding assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2017 and assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations.

	For the Year Ended		Increase	
	December 31,		(Decrease) to	
	2017	2016	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Same-Store Segment NOI—Office Operations:				
Rental income	\$558,575	\$552,045	\$6,530	1.2 %
Less: Property-level operating expenses	(169,583)	(164,987)	(4,596)	(2.8)
Segment NOI	\$388,992	\$387,058	1,934	0.5

	Number of Properties at December 31,		Occupancy at December 31,		Annualized Average Rent Per Occupied Square Foot for the Year Ended December 31,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
Same-store office buildings	350	350	91.3%	92.0%	\$ 31	\$ 30

Segment NOI - All Other

All other increased in 2017 over the prior year due primarily to income from new loans issued during 2017, partially offset by decreased interest income attributable to loan repayments received during 2016 and 2017.

Interest and other income

Interest and other income increased \$5.2 million in 2017 over the prior year as a result of fees received from a tenant in 2017 which were not associated with a lease agreement.

Interest Expense

The \$28.5 million increase in total interest expense, is attributed primarily to a \$17.1 million increase in interest due to higher debt balances and an \$11.3 million increase due to higher effective interest rates, including the amortization of any fair value adjustments. Our effective interest rate was 3.7% for 2017, compared to 3.6% for 2016.

Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense related to continuing operations decreased during 2017 compared to 2016, primarily due to a decrease in amortization related to certain lease intangibles that were fully amortized during the third quarter of 2016, partially offset by a full year of depreciation and amortization related to the September 2016 Life Sciences Acquisition.

Loss on Extinguishment of Debt, Net

The loss on extinguishment of debt, net in 2017 resulted primarily from the repayment of term loans and the replacement of our previous \$2.0 billion unsecured revolving credit facility. The loss on extinguishment of debt, net in 2016 was due to our redemption and repayment of \$550.0 million aggregate principal amount then outstanding of our 1.55% senior notes due 2016 and term loan repayments in 2016.

Merger-Related Expenses and Deal Costs

Merger-related expenses and deal costs consist of transition, integration, deal and severance-related expenses primarily related to pending and consummated transactions required by GAAP to be expensed rather than capitalized into the asset value. The \$14.1 million decrease in merger-related expenses and deal costs in 2017 over the prior year is primarily due to the September 2016 Life Sciences Acquisition.

Other

The \$10.1 million increase in other for 2017 over 2016 is primarily due to charges related to natural disasters. We have insurance coverage to mitigate the financial impact of these types of events. However, there can be no assurance regarding the amount or timing of any insurance recoveries. Such recoveries will be recognized when collection is deemed probable.

Income from Unconsolidated Entities

The \$4.9 million decrease in income from unconsolidated entities for 2017 over 2016 is primarily due to our share of net losses related to certain unconsolidated entities in 2017 partially offset by the February 2017 fair value re-measurement of our previously held equity interest, resulting in a gain on re-measurement of \$3.0 million. Refer to “NOTE 7—INVESTMENTS IN UNCONSOLIDATED ENTITIES” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for additional information.

Income Tax Benefit

The 2017 income tax benefit is primarily due to accounting for the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (the “2017 Tax Act”), specifically a \$64.5 million benefit from the reduced U.S. federal corporate tax rate on net deferred tax liabilities and an offsetting expense of \$23.3 million to establish a valuation allowance on deferred interest carryforwards, losses of certain TRS entities and the release of a tax reserve. The 2016 income tax benefit was due primarily to losses of certain TRS entities, the reversal of a net deferred tax liability at one TRS and the release of a tax reserve. The TRS losses were mainly attributable to the depreciation and amortization of fixed and intangible assets recorded as deferred tax liabilities in purchase accounting.

Gain on Real Estate Dispositions

The increase of \$619.1 million in gain on real estate dispositions for 2017 over 2016 is due primarily to the sale of 36 Kindred SNFs in 2017.

Net Income Attributable to Noncontrolling Interests

The increase in net income attributable to noncontrolling interests of \$2.4 million for 2017 over 2016 is primarily due to the September 2016 Life Sciences Acquisition.

Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

The table below shows our results of operations for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 and the effect of changes in those results from period to period on our net income attributable to common stockholders.

	For the Year Ended December 31,		Increase (Decrease) to Net Income	
	2016	2015	\$	%
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Segment NOI:				
Triple-net leased properties	\$850,755	\$784,234	\$66,521	8.5 %
Senior living operations	604,328	601,840	2,488	0.4
Office operations	444,276	399,891	44,385	11.1
All other	101,214	89,176	12,038	13.5
Total segment NOI	2,000,573	1,875,141	125,432	6.7
Interest and other income	876	1,052	(176)	(16.7)
Interest expense	(419,740)	(367,114)	(52,626)	(14.3)
Depreciation and amortization	(898,924)	(894,057)	(4,867)	(0.5)
General, administrative and professional fees	(126,875)	(128,035)	1,160	0.9
Loss on extinguishment of debt, net	(2,779)	(14,411)	11,632	80.7
Merger-related expenses and deal costs	(24,635)	(102,944)	78,309	76.1
Other	(9,988)	(17,957)	7,969	44.4
Income before unconsolidated entities, income taxes, discontinued operations, real estate dispositions and noncontrolling interest	518,508	351,675	166,833	47.4
Income (loss) from unconsolidated entities	4,358	(1,420)	5,778	nm
Income tax benefit	31,343	39,284	(7,941)	(20.2)
Income from continuing operations	554,209	389,539	164,670	42.3
Discontinued operations	(922)	11,103	(12,025)	nm
Gain on real estate dispositions	98,203	18,580	79,623	nm
Net income	651,490	419,222	232,268	55.4

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Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	2,259	1,379	(880)	(63.8)
Net income attributable to common stockholders	\$649,231	\$417,843	231,388	55.4

nm—not meaningful

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Segment NOI—Triple-Net Leased Properties

The following table summarizes results of operations in our triple-net leased properties reportable business segment, including assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2016, but excluding assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations:

	For the Year Ended		Increase to	
	December 31,		Segment NOI	
	2016	2015	\$	%
(Dollars in thousands)				
Segment NOI—Triple-Net Leased Properties:				
Rental income	\$845,834	\$779,801	\$66,033	8.5 %
Other services revenue	4,921	4,433	488	11.0
Segment NOI	\$850,755	\$784,234	66,521	8.5

Triple-net leased properties segment NOI increased in 2016 over the prior year primarily due to rent from the properties we acquired and developed during 2016 and 2015, contractual escalations in rent pursuant to the terms of our leases, and increases in base and other rent under certain of our leases, partially offset by 2015 lease termination fees.

The following table compares results of operations for our 511 same-store triple-net leased properties, unadjusted for foreign currency movements between comparison periods. With regard to our triple-net leased properties segment, “same-store” refers to properties owned, consolidated, operational and reported under a consistent business model for the full period in both comparison periods, excluding assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2016 and assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations.

	For the Year Ended		Increase to	
	December 31,		Segment NOI	
	2016	2015	\$	%
(Dollars in thousands)				
Same-Store Segment NOI—Triple-Net Leased Properties:				
Rental income	\$695,124	\$673,706	\$21,418	3.2%
Segment NOI	\$695,124	\$673,706	21,418	3.2

Segment NOI—Senior Living Operations

The following table summarizes results of operations in our senior living operations reportable business segment, including assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2016, but excluding assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations:

	For the Year Ended		Increase	
	December 31,		(Decrease) to	
	2016	2015	\$	%
(Dollars in thousands)				
Segment NOI—Senior Living Operations:				
Resident fees and services	\$1,847,306	\$1,811,255	\$36,051	2.0 %
Less: Property-level operating expenses	(1,242,978)	(1,209,415)	(33,563)	(2.8)
Segment NOI	\$604,328	\$601,840	2,488	0.4
	Number of	Average Unit	Average	
	Properties at	Occupancy	Monthly	
	December 31, for		Revenue Per	
	the Year		Occupied	

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	Ended December 31,	Room for the Year Ended December 31,				
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
Total communities	298	305	90.3%	91.2%	\$5,474	\$5,255

Resident fees and services increased in 2016 over the prior year primarily due to seniors housing communities we acquired during 2015 and an increase in average monthly revenue per occupied room, partially offset by decreased occupancy at our seniors housing communities.

Property-level operating expenses also increased year over year primarily due to the acquired properties described above and increases in salaries, bonus, benefits, insurance, real estate tax expenses and other operating expenses.

The following table compares results of operations for our 262 same-store senior living operating communities, unadjusted for foreign currency movements between periods. With regard to our senior living operations segment, “same-store” refers to properties that we owned and were operational for the full period in both comparison periods, excluding properties that transitioned operators since the start of the prior comparison period, assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2016 and assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations.

	For the Year Ended December 31,		Increase (Decrease) to Segment NOI	
	2016	2015	\$	%
(Dollars in thousands)				
Same-Store Segment NOI—Senior Living Operations:				
Total revenues	\$1,667,279	\$1,617,757	\$49,522	3.1 %
Less: Property-level operating expenses	(1,116,109)	(1,077,510)	(38,599)	(3.6)
Segment NOI	\$551,170	\$540,247	10,923	2.0
			Average	
	Number of Properties at December 31,	Average Unit Occupancy for the Year Ended December 31,	Monthly Revenue Per Room for the Year Ended December 31,	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Same-store communities	262	262	90.4%	91.1%
			\$5,578	\$5,379

Segment NOI—Office Operations

The following table summarizes results of operations in our office operations reportable business segment, including assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2016, but excluding assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations:

	For the Year Ended December 31,		Increase (Decrease) to Segment NOI	
	2016	2015	\$	%
(Dollars in thousands)				
Segment NOI—Office Operations:				
Rental income	\$630,342	\$566,245	\$64,097	11.3 %
Office building services revenue	13,029	34,436	(21,407)	(62.2)
Total revenues	643,371	600,681	42,690	7.1
Less:				
Property-level operating expenses	(191,784)	(174,225)	(17,559)	(10.1)
Office building services costs	(7,311)	(26,565)	19,254	72.5
Segment NOI	\$444,276	\$399,891	44,385	11.1

	Number of Properties at December 31,		Occupancy at December 31,		Annualized Average Rent Per Occupied Square Foot for the Year Ended December 31,	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
Total office buildings	388	369	91.7%	91.7%	\$ 31	\$ 29

The increase in our office operations segment rental income in 2016 over the prior year is attributed primarily to the MOBs we acquired during 2016 and 2015 and the Life Sciences Acquisition, as well as in-place lease escalations. The increase in our office building property-level operating expenses is due primarily to those acquired MOBs and life science and innovation centers and increases in real estate taxes and other operating expenses.

Office building services revenue and costs both decreased in 2016 over the prior year primarily due to decreased construction activity during 2016 compared to 2015.

The following table compares results of operations for our 272 same-store office buildings. With regard to our office operations segment, “same-store” refers to properties owned, consolidated, operational and reported under a consistent business model for the full period in both comparison periods, excluding assets sold or classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2016 and assets whose operations were classified as discontinued operations.

	For the Year Ended December 31,		(Decrease) Increase to Segment NOI	
	2016	2015	\$	%
(Dollars in thousands)				
Same-Store Segment NOI—Office Operations:				
Rental income	\$432,657	\$434,022	\$(1,365)	(0.3)%
Less: Property-level operating expenses	(142,826)	(144,218)	1,392	1.0
Segment NOI	\$289,831	\$289,804	27	0.0

	Number of Properties at December 31,		Occupancy at December 31,		Annualized Average Rent Per Occupied Square Foot for the Year Ended December 31,	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
Same-store office buildings	272	272	90.6%	91.2%	\$ 31	\$ 31

Segment NOI - All Other

All other increased in 2016 over the prior year due primarily to a February 2016 \$140.0 million secured mezzanine loan investment that has an annual interest rate of 9.95%, partially offset by decreased interest income due to loans repaid during 2016.

Interest Expense

The \$7.8 million decrease in total interest expense, including interest allocated to discontinued operations of \$60.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2015, is attributed primarily to an \$11.5 million reduction in interest due to lower debt balances, partially offset by a \$3.7 million increase due to higher effective interest rates, including the amortization of any fair value adjustments. Our effective interest rate was 3.63% for 2016, compared to 3.60% for 2015.

Loss on Extinguishment of Debt, Net

The loss on extinguishment of debt, net in 2016 and 2015 resulted primarily from various debt repayments we made to improve our credit profile. The 2016 activity related to the redemption and repayment of the \$550.0 million aggregate

principal amount then outstanding of our 1.55% senior notes due 2016 and term loan repayments. The 2015 repayments were made primarily with proceeds from the distribution paid to us at the time of the CCP Spin-Off.

Merger-Related Expenses and Deal Costs

The \$78.3 million decrease in merger-related expenses and deal costs in 2016 over the prior year is primarily due to the January 2015 acquisition of American Realty Capital Healthcare Trust, Inc. and the August 2015 acquisition of Ardent Health Services, Inc., partially offset by costs incurred relating to the September 2016 Life Sciences Acquisition.

Income Tax Benefit

Income tax benefit for 2016 was due primarily to losses of certain TRS entities, the reversal of a net deferred tax liability at one TRS and the release of a tax reserve. Income tax benefit for 2015 was due primarily to the income tax benefit of ordinary losses of certain TRS entities. The TRS losses were mainly attributable to the depreciation and amortization of fixed and intangible assets recorded as deferred tax liabilities in purchase accounting.

Discontinued Operations

Discontinued operations for 2016 reflects \$0.9 million of separation costs relating to the CCP Spin-Off. Discontinued operations for 2015 are primarily the result of \$46.4 million of transaction and separation costs associated with the CCP Spin-Off and net income for the CCP operations from January 1, 2015 through August 17, 2015, the date of the CCP Spin-Off.

Gain on Real Estate Dispositions

The \$79.6 million increase in gain on real estate dispositions in 2016 over the same period in 2015 primarily relates to the 2016 sale of one triple-net leased property.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

We consider certain non-GAAP financial measures to be useful supplemental measures of our operating performance. A non-GAAP financial measure is a measure of historical or future financial performance, financial position or cash flows that excludes or includes amounts that are not so excluded from or included in the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. Described below are the non-GAAP financial measures used by management to evaluate our operating performance and that we consider most useful to investors, together with reconciliations of these measures to the most directly comparable GAAP measures.

The non-GAAP financial measures we present in this Annual Report on Form 10-K may not be comparable to those presented by other real estate companies due to the fact that not all real estate companies use the same definitions. You should not consider these measures as alternatives to net income or income from continuing operations (both determined in accordance with GAAP) as indicators of our financial performance or as alternatives to cash flow from operating activities (determined in accordance with GAAP) as measures of our liquidity, nor are these measures necessarily indicative of sufficient cash flow to fund all of our needs. In order to facilitate a clear understanding of our consolidated historical operating results, you should examine these measures in conjunction with net income and income from continuing operations as presented in our Consolidated Financial Statements and other financial data included elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Funds From Operations and Normalized Funds From Operations

Historical cost accounting for real estate assets implicitly assumes that the value of real estate assets diminishes predictably over time. However, since real estate values historically have risen or fallen with market conditions, many industry investors deem presentations of operating results for real estate companies that use historical cost accounting to be insufficient by themselves. For that reason, we consider Funds From Operations (“FFO”) and normalized FFO to be appropriate supplemental measures of operating performance of an equity REIT. In particular, we believe that normalized FFO is useful because it allows investors, analysts and our management to compare our operating performance to the operating performance of other real estate companies and between periods on a consistent basis without having to account for differences caused by non-recurring items and other non-operational events such as transactions and litigation. In some cases, we provide information about identified non-cash components of FFO and

normalized FFO because it allows investors, analysts and our management to assess the impact of those items on our financial results.

We use the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts (“NAREIT”) definition of FFO. NAREIT defines FFO as net income attributable to common stockholders (computed in accordance with GAAP), excluding gains or losses from sales of real estate property, including gains or losses on re-measurement of equity method investments, and impairment write-downs of depreciable real estate, plus real estate depreciation and amortization, and after adjustments for unconsolidated partnerships and joint ventures. Adjustments for unconsolidated partnerships and joint ventures will be calculated to reflect FFO on the same basis. We define normalized FFO as FFO excluding the following income and expense items (which may be recurring in nature): (a) merger-related costs and expenses, including amortization of intangibles, transition and integration expenses, and deal costs and expenses, including expenses and recoveries relating to acquisition lawsuits; (b) the impact of any expenses related to asset impairment and valuation allowances, the write-off of unamortized deferred financing fees, or

additional costs, expenses, discounts, make-whole payments, penalties or premiums incurred as a result of early retirement or payment of our debt; (c) the non-cash effect of income tax benefits or expenses, the non-cash impact of changes to our executive equity compensation plan and derivative transactions that have non-cash mark-to-market impacts on our Consolidated Statements of Income; (d) the financial impact of contingent consideration, severance-related costs and charitable donations made to the Ventas Charitable Foundation; (e) gains and losses for non-operational foreign currency hedge agreements and changes in the fair value of financial instruments; (f) gains and losses on non-real estate dispositions and other unusual items related to unconsolidated entities; (g) expenses related to the re-audit and re-review in 2014 of our historical financial statements and related matters; and (h) net expenses or recoveries related to natural disasters. We believe that income from continuing operations is the most comparable GAAP measure because it provides insight into our continuing operations.

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The following table summarizes our FFO and normalized FFO for each of the five years ended December 31, 2017. Our normalized FFO for the year ended December 31, 2017 increased over the prior year due primarily to improved property performance and accretive investments.

	For the Years Ended December 31,				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
	(In thousands)				
Income from continuing operations	\$643,949	\$554,209	\$389,539	\$359,296	\$375,498
Discontinued operations	(110)	(922)	11,103	99,735	79,171
Gain on real estate dispositions	717,273	98,203	18,580	17,970	—
Net income	1,361,112	651,490	419,222	477,001	454,669
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	4,642	2,259	1,379	1,234	1,160
Net income attributable to common stockholders	1,356,470	649,231	417,843	475,767	453,509
Adjustments:					
Real estate depreciation and amortization	881,088	891,985	887,126	718,649	624,245
Real estate depreciation related to noncontrolling interests	(7,565)	(7,785)	(7,906)	(10,314)	(10,512)
Real estate depreciation related to unconsolidated entities	4,231	5,754	7,353	5,792	6,543
(Gain) loss on real estate dispositions related to unconsolidated entities	(1,057)	(439)	19	—	—
(Gain) loss on re-measurement of equity interest upon acquisition, net	(3,027)	—	176	—	(1,241)
Gain on real estate dispositions related to noncontrolling interests	18	—	—	—	—
Gain on real estate dispositions discontinued operations:	(717,273)	(98,203)	(18,580)	(17,970)	—
Loss (gain) on real estate dispositions	—	1	(231)	(1,494)	(4,059)
Depreciation on real estate assets	—	—	79,608	103,250	139,973
FFO attributable to common stockholders	1,512,885	1,440,544	1,365,408	1,273,680	1,208,458
Adjustments:					
Change in fair value of financial instruments	(41)	62	460	5,121	449
Non-cash income tax benefit	(22,387)	(34,227)	(42,384)	(9,431)	(11,828)
Effect of the 2017 Tax Act	(36,539)	—	—	—	—
Loss on extinguishment of debt, net	839	2,779	15,797	5,013	1,048
Gain on non-real estate dispositions related to unconsolidated entities	(39)	(557)	—	—	—
Merger-related expenses, deal costs and re-audit costs	14,823	28,290	152,344	54,389	21,560
Amortization of other intangibles	1,458	1,752	2,058	1,246	1,022
Other items related to unconsolidated entities	3,188	—	—	—	—
Non-cash impact of changes to equity plan	5,453	—	—	—	—
Natural disaster expenses (recoveries), net	11,601	—	—	—	—
Normalized FFO attributable to common stockholders	\$1,491,241	\$1,438,643	\$1,493,683	\$1,330,018	\$1,220,709

Adjusted EBITDA

We consider Adjusted EBITDA an important supplemental measure because it provides another manner in which to evaluate our operating performance and serves as another indicator of our credit strength and our ability to service our debt obligations. We define Adjusted EBITDA as consolidated earnings, which includes amounts in discontinued operations, before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (including non-cash stock-based compensation expense), excluding gains or losses on extinguishment of debt, our consolidated joint venture partners' share of EBITDA, merger-related expenses and deal costs, expenses related to the re-audit and re-review in 2014 of our historical financial statements, net gains or losses on real estate activity, gains or losses on re-measurement of equity interest upon acquisition, changes in the fair value of financial instruments, unrealized foreign currency gains or losses and net expenses or recoveries related to natural disasters, and including our share of EBITDA from unconsolidated entities and adjustments for other immaterial or identified items. The following table sets forth a reconciliation of income from continuing operations to Adjusted EBITDA for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015:

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
	(In thousands)		
Income from continuing operations	\$643,949	\$554,209	\$389,539
Discontinued operations	(110)	(922)	11,103
Gain on real estate dispositions	717,273	98,203	18,580
Net income	1,361,112	651,490	419,222
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	4,642	2,259	1,379
Net income attributable to common stockholders	1,356,470	649,231	417,843
Adjustments:			
Interest	448,196	419,740	427,542
Loss on extinguishment of debt, net	754	2,779	14,411
Taxes (including amounts in general, administrative and professional fees)	(57,307)	(29,129)	(37,112)
Depreciation and amortization	887,948	898,924	973,665
Non-cash stock-based compensation expense	26,543	20,958	19,537
Merger-related expenses, deal costs and re-audit costs	12,653	25,141	150,290
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests, net of consolidated joint venture partners' share of EBITDA	(12,975)	(12,654)	(12,722)
(Income) loss from unconsolidated entities, net of Ventas share of EBITDA from unconsolidated entities	32,219	25,246	18,806
Gain on real estate dispositions	(717,273)	(98,202)	(18,811)
Unrealized foreign currency gains	(612)	(1,440)	(1,727)
Changes in fair value of financial instruments	(61)	51	460
(Gain) loss on re-measurement of equity interest upon acquisition, net	(3,027)	—	176
Natural disaster expenses (recoveries), net	11,601	—	—
Adjusted EBITDA	\$1,985,129	\$1,900,645	\$1,952,358

NOI

We also consider NOI an important supplemental measure because it allows investors, analysts and our management to assess our unlevered property-level operating results and to compare our operating results with those of other real estate companies and between periods on a consistent basis. We define NOI as total revenues, less interest and other income, property-level operating expenses and office building services costs. Cash receipts may differ due to straight-line recognition of certain rental income and the application of other GAAP policies. The following table sets forth a reconciliation of income

from continuing operations to NOI for the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015:

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
	(In thousands)		
Income from continuing operations	\$643,949	\$554,209	\$389,539
Discontinued operations	(110)	(922)	11,103
Gain on real estate dispositions	717,273	98,203	18,580
Net income	1,361,112	651,490	419,222
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	4,642	2,259	1,379
Net income attributable to common stockholders	1,356,470	649,231	417,843
Adjustments:			
Interest and other income	(6,034)	(876)	(1,115)
Interest	448,196	419,740	427,542
Depreciation and amortization	887,948	898,924	973,665
General, administrative and professional fees	135,490	126,875	128,044
Loss on extinguishment of debt, net	754	2,779	14,411
Merger-related expenses and deal costs	10,645	25,556	149,346
Other	20,052	9,988	19,577
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	4,642	2,259	1,499
Loss (income) from unconsolidated entities	561	(4,358)	1,420
Income tax benefit	(59,799)	(31,343)	(39,284)
Gain on real estate dispositions	(717,273)	(98,202)	(18,811)
NOI (including amounts in discontinued operations)	2,081,652	2,000,573	2,074,137
Discontinued operations	—	—	(198,996)
NOI (excluding amounts in discontinued operations)	\$2,081,652	\$2,000,573	\$1,875,141

Asset/Liability Management

Asset/liability management, a key element of enterprise risk management, is designed to support the achievement of our business strategy, while ensuring that we maintain appropriate and tolerable levels of market risk (primarily interest rate risk and foreign currency exchange risk) and credit risk. Effective management of these risks is a contributing factor to the absolute levels and variability of our FFO and net worth. The following discussion addresses our integrated management of assets and liabilities, including the use of derivative financial instruments.

Market Risk

We are exposed to market risk related to changes in interest rates with respect to borrowings under our unsecured revolving credit facility and our unsecured term loans, certain of our mortgage loans that are floating rate obligations, mortgage loans receivable that bear interest at floating rates and marketable debt securities. These market risks result primarily from changes in LIBOR rates or prime rates. To manage these risks, we continuously monitor our level of floating rate debt with respect to total debt and other factors, including our assessment of current and future economic conditions.

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The table below sets forth certain information with respect to our debt, excluding premiums and discounts.

	As of December 31,			
	2017	2016	2015	
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Balance:				
Fixed rate:				
Senior notes and other, unhedged portion	\$8,218,369	\$7,854,264	\$7,534,459	
Floating to fixed rate swap on term loan	200,000	200,000	—	
Mortgage loans and other ⁽¹⁾	1,010,517	1,426,837	1,554,062	
Variable rate:				
Fixed to floating rate swap on senior notes	400,000	—	—	
Unsecured revolving credit facility	535,832	146,538	180,683	
Unsecured term loans, unhedged portion	700,000	1,271,215	1,568,477	
Secured revolving construction credit facility	2,868	—	—	
Mortgage loans and other ⁽¹⁾	298,047	292,060	433,339	
Total	\$11,365,633	\$11,190,914	\$11,271,020	
Percent of total debt:				
Fixed rate:				
Senior notes and other, unhedged portion	72.3	% 70.2	% 66.9	%
Floating to fixed rate swap on term loan	1.8	1.8	—	
Mortgage loans and other ⁽¹⁾	8.9	12.7	13.8	
Variable rate:				
Fixed to floating rate swap on senior notes	3.5	—	—	
Unsecured revolving credit facility	4.7	1.3	1.6	
Unsecured term loans, unhedged portion	6.2	11.4	13.9	
Secured revolving construction credit facility	0.0	—	—	
Mortgage loans and other ⁽¹⁾	2.6	2.6	3.8	
Total	100.0	% 100.0	% 100.0	%
Weighted average interest rate at end of period:				
Fixed rate:				
Senior notes and other, unhedged portion	3.7	% 3.6	% 3.5	%
Floating to fixed rate swap on term loan	2.1	2.2	—	
Mortgage loans and other ⁽¹⁾	5.2	5.6	5.7	
Variable rate:				
Fixed to floating rate swap on senior notes	2.3	—	—	
Unsecured revolving credit facility	2.3	1.9	1.4	
Unsecured term loans, unhedged portion	2.3	1.7	1.4	
Secured revolving construction credit facility	3.1	—	—	
Mortgage loans and other ⁽¹⁾	2.9	2.1	2.0	
Total	3.6	3.6	3.5	

Excludes mortgage debt of \$57.4 million and \$22.9 million related to real estate assets classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2017 and 2015, respectively. All amounts were included in liabilities related to assets held for sale on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

The variable rate debt in the table above reflects, in part, the effect of \$549.9 million notional amount of interest rate swaps with maturities ranging from March 2018 to January 2023 that effectively convert fixed rate debt to variable rate debt. In addition, the fixed rate debt in the table above reflects, in part, the effect of \$250.9 million notional amount of interest rate

swaps with maturities ranging from October 2018 to September 2027, in each case that effectively convert variable rate debt to fixed rate debt.

In February 2016, we entered into a \$200 million notional amount interest rate swap with a maturity of August 3, 2020 that effectively converts LIBOR-based floating rate debt to fixed rate debt, setting LIBOR at 1.132% through the maturity date of the swap.

In July 2016, we entered into \$225 million notional forward starting swaps that reduced our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates between July and the September issuance of 3.25% senior notes due 2026. On the issuance date, we realized a gain of \$1.9 million from these swaps that is being recognized over the life of the notes using an effective interest method.

In January and February 2017, we entered into a total of \$275 million of notional forward starting swaps with an effective date of April 3, 2017 that reduced our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates related to changes in rates between the trade dates of the swaps and the forecasted issuance of long-term debt. The rate on the notional amounts was locked at a weighted average rate of 2.33%. In March 2017, these swaps were terminated in conjunction with the issuance of the 3.850% senior notes due 2027, which resulted in a \$0.8 million gain that is being recognized over the life of the notes using the effective interest method.

In March 2017, we entered into interest rate swaps totaling a notional amount of \$400.0 million with a maturity of January 15, 2023, effectively converting fixed rate debt to three month LIBOR-based floating rate debt. As a result, we will receive a fixed rate on the swap of 3.10% and will pay a floating rate equal to three month LIBOR plus a weighted average swap spread of 0.98%.

In June 2017, we entered into a total of \$125 million of notional forward starting swaps with an effective date of January 15, 2018 and a maturity of January 15, 2028, that reduced our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates related to changes in rates between the trade dates of the swaps and the forecasted issuance of long-term debt. The rate on the notional amounts was locked at a weighted average rate of 2.1832%.

In December 2017, we entered into a total of \$75 million of notional forward starting swaps with an effective date of February 15, 2018 and a maturity of February 15, 2028, that reduced our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates related to changes in rates between the trade dates of the swaps and the forecasted issuance of long-term debt. The rate on the notional amounts was locked at a weighted average rate of 2.3705%.

The increase in our outstanding variable rate debt at December 31, 2017 compared to December 31, 2016 is primarily attributable to the \$400.0 million notional amount interest rate swap mentioned above and increased borrowings under our unsecured revolving credit facility, partially offset by term loan repayments.

Pursuant to the terms of certain leases with one of our tenants, if interest rates increase on certain variable rate debt that we have totaling \$80.0 million as of December 31, 2017, our tenant is required to pay us additional rent (on a dollar-for-dollar basis) in an amount equal to the increase in interest expense resulting from the increased interest rates. Therefore, the increase in interest expense related to this debt is equally offset by an increase in additional rent due to us from the tenant. Assuming a 100 basis point increase in the weighted average interest rate related to our variable rate debt and assuming no change in our variable rate debt outstanding as of December 31, 2017, interest expense for 2018 would increase by approximately \$18.2 million, or \$0.05 per diluted common share.

As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, our joint venture partners' aggregate share of total debt was \$76.7 million and \$80.9 million, respectively, with respect to certain properties we owned through consolidated joint ventures. Total debt does not include our portion of debt related to investments in unconsolidated entities, which was \$90.3 million and \$122.0 million as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

The fair value of our fixed and variable rate debt is based on current interest rates at which we could obtain similar borrowings. For fixed rate debt, interest rate fluctuations generally affect the fair value, but not our earnings or cash flows. Therefore, interest rate risk does not have a significant impact on our fixed rate debt obligations until their maturity or earlier prepayment and refinancing. If interest rates have risen at the time we seek to refinance our fixed rate debt, whether at maturity or otherwise, our future earnings and cash flows could be adversely affected by additional borrowing costs. Conversely, lower interest rates at the time of refinancing may reduce our overall borrowing costs.

To highlight the sensitivity of our fixed rate debt to changes in interest rates, the following summary shows the effects of a hypothetical instantaneous change of 100 basis points in interest rates as of December 31, 2017 and 2016:

	As of December 31,	
	2017	2016
	(In thousands)	
Gross book value	\$9,428,886	\$9,481,101
Fair value ⁽¹⁾	9,640,893	9,600,621
Fair value reflecting change in interest rates ⁽¹⁾ :		
-100 basis points	10,148,313	10,117,238
+100 basis points	9,184,409	9,133,292

The change in fair value of our fixed rate debt from December 31, 2016 to December 31, 2017 was due primarily ⁽¹⁾ to changes in the fair market value interest rates and 2017 senior note issuances, partially offset by repayments of senior notes and fixed rate mortgage debt.

As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the fair value of our secured and non-mortgage loans receivable, based on our estimates of currently prevailing rates for comparable loans, was \$1.3 billion and \$709.6 million, respectively. See “NOTE 6—LOANS RECEIVABLE AND INVESTMENTS” and “NOTE 11—FAIR VALUES OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

As a result of our Canadian and United Kingdom operations, we are subject to fluctuations in certain foreign currency exchange rates that may, from time to time, affect our financial condition and operating performance. Based solely on our results for the year ended December 31, 2017 (including the impact of existing hedging arrangements), if the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the British pound and Canadian dollar were to increase or decrease by one standard deviation compared to the average exchange rate during the year, our normalized FFO per share for the year ended December 31, 2017 would decrease or increase, as applicable, by less than \$0.01 per share or 0.1%. We will continue to mitigate these risks through a layered approach to hedging looking out for the next year and continual assessment of our foreign operational capital structure. Nevertheless, we cannot assure you that any such fluctuations will not have an effect on our earnings.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the amount of foreign currency translation loss included in accumulated other comprehensive loss on our Consolidated Balance Sheets decreased by \$20.6 million, primarily as a result of the remeasurement of our properties located in the United Kingdom.

Concentration and Credit Risk

We use concentration ratios to identify, understand and evaluate the potential impact of economic downturns and other adverse events that may affect our asset types, geographic locations, business models, and tenants, operators and managers. We evaluate concentration risk in terms of investment mix and operations mix. Investment mix measures the percentage of our investments that is concentrated in a specific asset type or that is operated or managed by a particular tenant, operator or manager. Operations mix measures the percentage of our operating results that is attributed to a particular tenant, operator or manager, geographic location or business model. The following tables reflect our concentration risk as of the dates and for the periods presented:

	As of	
	December 31,	
	2017	2016
Investment mix by asset type ⁽¹⁾ :		
Seniors housing communities	60.2%	61.8%
MOBs	19.7	20.7
Life science and innovation centers	7.4	6.1
Health systems	5.4	5.6
IRFs and LTACs	1.7	1.7
SNFs	0.7	1.4
Secured loans receivable and investments, net	4.9	2.7
Investment mix by tenant, operator and manager ⁽¹⁾ :		
Atria	22.3%	22.6%
Sunrise	10.8	11.3
Brookdale Senior Living	7.5	8.1
Ardent	4.9	5.1
Kindred	1.1	1.8
All other	53.4	51.1

⁽¹⁾ Ratios are based on the gross book value of consolidated real estate investments (excluding properties classified as held for sale) as of each reporting date.

	For the Year Ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
Operations mix by tenant and operator and business model:			
Revenues ⁽¹⁾ :			
Senior living operations	51.6%	53.6%	55.1%
Brookdale Senior Living ⁽²⁾	4.7	4.8	5.3
Ardent	3.1	3.1	1.3
Kindred	4.7	5.4	5.7
All others	35.7	33.1	32.6
Adjusted EBITDA ⁽³⁾ :			
Senior living operations	28.7%	30.9%	29.7%
Brookdale Senior Living ⁽²⁾	7.6	7.9	8.2
Ardent	5.1	5.1	2.0
Kindred	7.7	8.9	8.8
All others	50.9	47.2	51.3
NOI ⁽⁴⁾ :			
Senior living operations	28.5%	30.2%	32.1%
Brookdale Senior Living ⁽²⁾	8.0	8.3	9.3
Ardent	5.3	5.3	2.3
Kindred	8.1	9.2	9.9
All others	49.9	47.0	46.4
Operations mix by geographic location ⁽⁵⁾ :			
California	15.3%	15.3%	15.4%
New York	8.6	8.8	8.8
Texas	5.8	6.3	6.1
Illinois	4.8	4.9	4.9
Florida	4.4	4.5	4.6
All others	61.1	60.2	60.2

Total revenues include medical office building and other services revenue, revenue from loans and investments and (1) interest and other income (excluding amounts in discontinued operations and including amounts related to assets classified as held for sale).

(2) Excludes one seniors housing community included in the senior living operations reportable business segment.

(3) Includes amounts in discontinued operations.

(4) Excludes amounts in discontinued operations.

(5) Ratios are based on total revenues (excluding amounts in discontinued operations and including amounts related to assets classified as held for sale) for each period presented.

See “Non-GAAP Financial Measures” included elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K for additional disclosure and reconciliations of income from continuing operations, as computed in accordance with GAAP, to Adjusted EBITDA and NOI, respectively.

We derive a significant portion of our revenues by leasing assets under long-term triple-net leases in which the rental rate is generally fixed with annual escalators, subject to certain limitations. Some of our triple-net lease escalators are contingent upon the satisfaction of specified facility revenue parameters or based on increases in the Consumer Price Index (“CPI”), with caps, floors or collars. We also earn revenues directly from individual residents in our seniors housing communities that are managed by independent operators, such as Atria and Sunrise, and tenants in our office buildings. For the year ended December 31, 2017, 52.9% of our Adjusted EBITDA (including amounts in

discontinued operations) was derived from our senior living operations and office operations, for which rental rates may fluctuate more frequently upon lease rollovers and renewals due to shorter term leases and changing economic or market conditions.

The concentration of our triple-net leased properties segment revenues and operating income that are attributed to Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred creates credit risk. If any of Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent or Kindred becomes unable or unwilling to satisfy its obligations to us or to renew its leases with us upon expiration of the terms thereof, our financial condition and results of operations could decline, and our ability to service our indebtedness and to make distributions to our stockholders could be impaired. See “Risk Factors—Risks Arising from Our Business—Our leases and other agreements with Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent and Kindred account for a significant portion of our revenues and operating income; any failure, inability or unwillingness by Brookdale Senior Living, Ardent or Kindred to satisfy its obligations under our agreements could have a Material Adverse Effect on us” included in Part I, Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and “NOTE 3—CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

We regularly monitor and assess any changes in the relative credit risk of our significant tenants, and in particular those tenants that have recourse obligations under our triple-net leases. The ratios and metrics we use to evaluate a significant tenant’s liquidity and creditworthiness depend on facts and circumstances specific to that tenant and the industry or industries in which it operates, including without limitation the tenant’s credit history and economic conditions related to the tenant, its operations and the markets in which the tenant operates, that may vary over time. Among other things, we may (i) review and analyze information regarding the real estate, seniors housing and healthcare industries generally, publicly available information regarding the significant tenant, and information required to be provided by the tenant under the terms of its lease agreements with us, (ii) examine monthly and/or quarterly financial statements of the significant tenant to the extent publicly available or otherwise provided under the terms of our lease agreements, and (iii) participate in periodic discussions and in-person meetings with representatives of the significant tenant. Using this information, we calculate multiple financial ratios (which may, but do not necessarily, include net debt to EBITDAR or EBITDARM, fixed charge coverage and tangible net worth), after making certain adjustments based on our judgment, and assess other metrics we deem relevant to an understanding of the significant tenant’s credit risk.

Because Atria and Sunrise manage our properties in exchange for the receipt of a management fee from us, we are not directly exposed to the credit risk of our managers in the same manner or to the same extent as our triple-net tenants. However, we rely on our managers’ personnel, expertise, technical resources and information systems, proprietary information, good faith and judgment to manage our senior living operations efficiently and effectively. We also rely on Atria and Sunrise to set appropriate resident fees, to provide accurate property-level financials results for our properties in a timely manner and otherwise operate our seniors housing communities in compliance with the terms of our management agreements and all applicable laws and regulations. Although we have various rights as the property owner under our management agreements, including various rights to terminate and exercise remedies under the agreements as provided therein, Atria’s or Sunrise’s failure, inability or unwillingness to satisfy its respective obligations under those agreements, to efficiently and effectively manage our properties or to provide timely and accurate accounting information with respect thereto could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. See “Risk Factors—Risks Arising from Our Business—The properties managed by Atria and Sunrise account for a significant portion of our revenues and operating income; adverse developments in Atria’s or Sunrise’s business and affairs or financial condition could have a Material Adverse Effect on us” and “—We have rights to terminate our management agreements with Atria and Sunrise in whole or with respect to specific properties under certain circumstances, and we may be unable to replace Atria or Sunrise if our management agreements are terminated or not renewed” included in Part I, Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Our 34% ownership interest in Atria entitles us to certain rights and minority protections, as well as the right to appoint two of six members on the Atria Board of Directors.

Triple-Net Lease Expirations

If our tenants are not able or willing to renew our triple-net leases upon expiration, we may be unable to reposition the applicable properties on a timely basis or on the same or better economic terms, if at all. Although our lease expirations are staggered, the non-renewal of some or all of our triple-net leases that expire in any given year could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. During the year ended December 31, 2017, we had no triple-net lease renewals or expirations without renewal that, in the aggregate, had a material impact on our financial condition or results of operations for that period. See “Risk Factors—Risks Arising from Our Business—If we must replace any of our tenants or operators, we might be unable to reposition the properties on as favorable terms, or at all, and we could be subject to delays, limitations and expenses, which could have a Material Adverse Effect on us” included in Part I, Item IA of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The following table summarizes our triple-net lease expirations currently scheduled to occur over the next ten years (excluding leases related to assets classified as held for sale as of December 31, 2017):

	2017 Number of Rental Properties Income	% of 2017 Total Triple-Net Leased Properties Segment Rental Income
(Dollars in thousands)		
2018— \$	—	%
201970	120,625	14.4
202042	36,129	4.3
202153	52,509	6.3
202226	18,536	2.2
202310	30,542	3.6
202436	22,487	2.7
202559	128,433	15.3
202647	42,632	5.1
20277	8,625	1.0

Liquidity and Capital Resources

As of December 31, 2017, we had a total of \$81.4 million of unrestricted cash and cash equivalents, operating cash and cash related to our senior living operations and office operations reportable business segments that is deposited and held in property-level accounts. Funds maintained in the property-level accounts are used primarily for the payment of property-level expenses, debt service payments and certain capital expenditures. As of December 31, 2017, we also had escrow deposits and restricted cash of \$106.9 million, \$2.4 billion of unused borrowing capacity available under our unsecured revolving credit facility and \$397.1 million of unused borrowing capacity available under our secured revolving credit facility.

During 2017, our principal sources of liquidity were cash flows from operations, proceeds from the issuance of debt securities, proceeds from asset sales and cash on hand.

For the next 12 months, our principal liquidity needs are to: (i) fund operating expenses; (ii) meet our debt service requirements; (iii) repay maturing mortgage and other debt, including \$700.0 million of senior notes; (iv) fund capital expenditures; (v) fund acquisitions, investments and commitments, including development and redevelopment activities; and (vi) make distributions to our stockholders and unitholders, as required for us to continue to qualify as a REIT. In addition, we may elect to prepay outstanding indebtedness prior to maturity based on our analysis of various factors. We expect that these liquidity needs generally will be satisfied by a combination of the following: cash flows from operations, cash on hand, debt assumptions and financings (including secured financings), issuances of debt and equity securities, dispositions of assets (in whole or in part through joint venture arrangements with third parties) and borrowings under our revolving credit facilities. However, an inability to access liquidity through multiple capital sources concurrently could have a Material Adverse Effect on us. See “Risk Factors—Risks Arising from Our Capital Structure—Limitations on our ability to access capital could have an adverse effect on our ability to make required payments on our debt obligations, make distributions to our stockholders or make future investments necessary to implement our business strategy” included in Part I, Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Credit Facilities and Unsecured Term Loans

In April 2017, we entered into an unsecured credit facility comprised of a \$3.0 billion unsecured revolving credit facility, priced at LIBOR plus 0.875%, that replaced our previous \$2.0 billion unsecured revolving credit facility priced at LIBOR plus 1.0%. The new unsecured credit facility was also comprised of our \$200.0 million term loan that was scheduled to mature in 2018 and our \$278.6 million term loan that was scheduled to mature in 2019. The 2018 and 2019 term loans were priced at LIBOR plus 1.05%. In August 2017, we used most of the proceeds from the sale of 22 SNFs to repay the balances then outstanding on the 2018 and 2019 term loans, and recognized a loss on extinguishment of debt of \$0.5 million. See "NOTE 5—DISPOSITIONS" of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The unsecured revolving credit facility matures in 2021, but may be extended at our option subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions for two additional periods of six months each. The unsecured revolving credit facility also includes an accordion feature that permits us to increase our aggregate borrowing capacity thereunder to up to \$3.75 billion.

As of December 31, 2017, we had \$535.8 million of borrowings outstanding, \$14.5 million of letters of credit outstanding and \$2.4 billion of unused borrowing capacity available under our unsecured revolving credit facility.

As of December 31, 2017, we also had a \$900.0 million term loan due 2020 priced at LIBOR plus 0.975%.

In September 2017, we entered into a new \$400.0 million secured revolving construction credit facility which matures in 2022 and will be primarily used to finance life science and innovation center and other construction projects. As of December 31, 2017, we had \$2.9 million borrowings outstanding under the secured revolving construction credit facility.

The agreements governing our credit facilities require us to comply with various financial and other restrictive covenants. See “NOTE 10—SENIOR NOTES PAYABLE AND OTHER DEBT” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. We were in compliance with all of these covenants at December 31, 2017.

Senior Notes

As of December 31, 2017, we had \$7.6 billion aggregate principal amount of senior notes issued by our subsidiary, Ventas Realty, Limited Partnership (“Ventas Realty”), and guaranteed by Ventas, Inc. outstanding as follows:

• \$700.0 million principal amount of 2.00% senior notes due 2018 (co-issued with Ventas Realty’s wholly owned subsidiary, Ventas Capital Corporation);

• \$600.0 million principal amount of 4.00% senior notes due 2019 (co-issued with Ventas Realty’s wholly owned subsidiary, Ventas Capital Corporation);

• \$500.0 million principal amount of 2.700% senior notes due 2020 (co-issued with Ventas Realty’s wholly owned subsidiary, Ventas Capital Corporation);

• \$700.0 million principal amount of 4.750% senior notes due 2021 (co-issued with Ventas Realty’s wholly owned subsidiary, Ventas Capital Corporation);

• \$600.0 million principal amount of 4.25% senior notes due 2022 (co-issued with Ventas Realty’s wholly owned subsidiary, Ventas Capital Corporation);

• \$500.0 million principal amount of 3.25% senior notes due 2022 (co-issued with Ventas Realty’s wholly owned subsidiary, Ventas Capital Corporation);

• \$400.0 million principal amount of 3.125% senior notes due 2023;

• \$400.0 million principal amount of 3.100% senior notes due 2023;

\$400.0 million principal amount of 3.750% senior notes due 2024;

\$600.0 million principal amount of 3.500% senior notes due 2025;

\$500.0 million principal amount of 4.125% senior notes due 2026;

\$450.0 million principal amount of 3.25% senior notes due 2026;

\$400.0 million principal amount of 3.850% senior notes due 2027;

\$258.8 million principal amount of 5.45% senior notes due 2043 (co-issued with Ventas Realty's wholly owned subsidiary, Ventas Capital Corporation);

\$300.0 million principal amount of 5.70% senior notes due 2043; and

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\$300.0 million principal amount of 4.375% senior notes due 2045.

As of December 31, 2017, we had \$75.4 million aggregate principal amount of senior notes of our subsidiary, Nationwide Health Properties, LLC (“NHP LLC”), as successor to NHP, outstanding as follows:

\$52.4 million principal amount of 6.90% senior notes due 2037 (subject to earlier repayment at the option of the holder); and

\$23.0 million principal amount of 6.59% senior notes due 2038 (subject to earlier repayment at the option of the holder).

In addition, as of December 31, 2017, we had \$0.9 billion aggregate principal amount of senior notes of our wholly owned subsidiary, Ventas Canada Finance Limited, and guaranteed by Ventas, Inc. outstanding as follows:

\$318.0 million (C\$400.0 million) principal amount of 3.00% senior notes, series A due 2019;

\$198.8 million (C\$250.0 million) principal amount of 3.300% senior notes, Series C due 2022;

\$218.7 million (C\$275.0 million) principal amount of 2.55% senior notes, series D due 2023; and

\$198.8 million (C\$250.0 million) principal amount of 4.125% senior notes, series B due 2024.

In May 2016, Ventas Realty issued and sold \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount of 3.125% senior notes due 2023 at a public offering price equal to 99.343% of par, for total proceeds of \$397.4 million before the underwriting discount and expenses.

In June 2016, we redeemed \$455.5 million aggregate principal amount then outstanding of our 1.55% senior notes due September 2016 at a public offering price of 100.335% of par, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the redemption date, and recognized a loss on extinguishment of debt of \$2.1 million. The redemption was funded using proceeds from our May 2016 senior note issuance, cash on hand and borrowings under our unsecured revolving credit facility. In July 2016, we repaid the remaining balance then outstanding of our 1.55% senior notes due September 2016 of \$94.5 million and recognized a loss on extinguishment of debt of \$0.3 million.

In September 2016, Ventas Realty issued and sold \$450.0 million aggregate principal amount of 3.25% senior notes due 2026 at a public offering price equal to 99.811% of par, for total proceeds of \$449.1 million before the underwriting discount and expenses.

In March 2017, Ventas Realty issued and sold \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount of 3.100% senior notes due 2023 at a public offering price equal to 99.280% of par, for total proceeds of \$397.1 million before the underwriting discount and expenses, and \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount of 3.850% senior notes due 2027 at a public offering price equal to 99.196% of par, for total proceeds of \$396.8 million before the underwriting discount and expenses.

In April 2017, we repaid in full, at par, \$300.0 million aggregate principal amount then outstanding of our 1.250% senior notes due 2017 upon maturity.

In June 2017, Ventas Canada Finance Limited issued and sold C\$275.0 million aggregate principal amount of 2.55% senior notes, Series D due 2023 at a price equal to 99.954% of par, for total proceeds of C\$274.9 million before the agent fees and expenses. The notes were offered on a private placement basis in Canada. We used part of the proceeds to repay C\$124.4 million on our unsecured term loan due 2019.

We may, from time to time, seek to retire or purchase our outstanding senior notes for cash or in exchange for equity securities in open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions or otherwise. Such repurchases or exchanges, if any, will depend on prevailing market conditions, our liquidity requirements, contractual restrictions, prospects for future access to capital and other factors. The amounts involved may be material.

The indentures governing our outstanding senior notes require us to comply with various financial and other restrictive covenants. See “NOTE 10—SENIOR NOTES PAYABLE AND OTHER DEBT” of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. We were in compliance with all of these covenants at December 31, 2017.

Mortgage Loan Obligations

At December 31, 2017 and 2016, our consolidated aggregate principal amount of mortgage debt outstanding was \$1.3 billion and \$1.7 billion, of which our share was \$1.2 billion and \$1.6 billion, respectively.

For the years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015, we repaid in full mortgage loans in the aggregate principal amounts of \$411.4 million, \$337.8 million and \$461.9 million, respectively.

Under certain circumstances, contractual and legal restrictions, including those contained in the instruments governing our subsidiaries' outstanding mortgage indebtedness, may restrict our ability to obtain cash from our subsidiaries for the purpose of meeting our debt service obligations, including our payment guarantees with respect to Ventas Realty's and Ventas Canada Finance Limited's senior notes.

See "NOTE 4—ACQUISITIONS OF REAL ESTATE PROPERTY" and "NOTE 10—SENIOR NOTES PAYABLE AND OTHER DEBT" of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Derivatives and Hedging

In February 2016, we entered into a \$200 million notional amount interest rate swap with a maturity of August 3, 2020 that effectively converts LIBOR-based floating rate debt to fixed rate debt, setting LIBOR at 1.132% through the maturity date of the swap.

In July 2016, we entered into \$225 million notional forward starting swaps that reduced our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates between July and the September issuance of 3.25% senior notes due 2026. On the issuance date, we realized a gain of \$1.9 million from these swaps that is being recognized over the life of the notes using an effective interest method.

In January and February 2017, we entered into a total of \$275 million of notional forward starting swaps with an effective date of April 3, 2017 that reduced our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates related to changes in rates between the trade dates of the swaps and the forecasted issuance of long-term debt. The rate on the notional amounts was locked at a weighted average rate of 2.33%. In March 2017, these swaps were terminated in conjunction with the issuance of the 3.850% senior notes due 2027, which resulted in a \$0.8 million gain that is being recognized over the life of the notes using the effective interest method.

In March 2017, we entered into interest rate swaps totaling a notional amount of \$400 million with a maturity of January 15, 2023, effectively converting fixed rate debt to three month LIBOR-based floating rate debt. As a result, we will receive a fixed rate on the swap of 3.10% and will pay a floating rate equal to three month LIBOR plus a weighted average swap spread of 0.98%.

In June 2017, we entered into a total of \$125 million of notional forward starting swaps with an effective date of January 15, 2018 and a maturity of January 15, 2028, that reduced our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates related to changes in rates between the trade dates of the swaps and the forecasted issuance of long-term debt. The rate on the notional amounts was locked at a weighted average rate of 2.1832%.

In December 2017, we entered into a total of \$75 million of notional forward starting swaps with an effective date of February 15, 2018 and a maturity of February 15, 2028, that reduced our exposure to fluctuations in interest rates related to changes in rates between the trade dates of the swaps and the forecasted issuance of long-term debt. The rate on the notional amounts was locked at a weighted average rate of 2.3705%.

Dividends

In order to continue to qualify as a REIT, we must make annual distributions to our stockholders of at least 90% of our REIT taxable income (excluding net capital gain). In addition, we will be subject to income tax at the regular corporate rate to the extent we distribute less than 100% of our REIT taxable income, including any net capital gains. In 2017, our Board of Directors declared dividends on our common stock aggregating \$3.115 per share, which exceeds 100% of our 2017 estimated taxable income after the use of any net operating loss carryforwards. We paid the first three quarterly installments of our 2017 dividend of \$0.775 per share during 2017. In December 2017, we declared the fourth quarter cash dividend on our common stock of \$0.79 per share, which was paid in January 2018. We intend to pay dividends greater than 100% of our taxable income, after the use of any net operating loss carryforwards, for 2018.

We expect that our cash flows will exceed our REIT taxable income due to depreciation and other non-cash deductions in computing REIT taxable income and that we will be able to satisfy the 90% distribution requirement. However, from time to time, we may not have sufficient cash on hand or other liquid assets to meet this requirement or we may decide to retain cash or distribute such greater amount as may be necessary to avoid income and excise taxation. If we do not have sufficient cash on hand or other liquid assets to enable us to satisfy the 90% distribution requirement, or if we desire to retain cash, we may borrow funds, issue additional equity securities, pay taxable stock dividends, if possible, distribute other property or securities or engage in a transaction intended to enable us to meet the REIT distribution requirements or any combination of the foregoing.

Capital Expenditures

The terms of our triple-net leases generally obligate our tenants to pay all capital expenditures necessary to maintain and improve our triple-net leased properties. However, from time to time, we may fund the capital expenditures for our triple-net leased properties through loans or advances to the tenant, which may increase the amount of rent payable with respect to the properties in certain cases. We may also fund capital expenditures for which we may become responsible upon expiration of our triple-net leases or in the event that our tenants are unable or unwilling to meet their obligations under those leases or capital expenditures related to our senior living operations and office operations reportable business segments. We expect that these liquidity needs generally will be satisfied by a combination of the following: cash flows from operations, cash on hand, debt assumptions and financings (including secured financings), issuances of debt and equity securities, dispositions of assets (in whole or in part through joint venture arrangements with third parties) and borrowings under our revolving credit facilities.

To the extent that unanticipated capital expenditure needs arise or significant borrowings are required, our liquidity may be affected adversely. Our ability to borrow additional funds may be restricted in certain circumstances by the terms of the instruments governing our outstanding indebtedness.

We are party to certain agreements that obligate us to develop seniors housing or healthcare properties funded through capital that we and, in certain circumstances, our joint venture partners provide. As of December 31, 2017, we had 14 properties under development pursuant to these agreements, including four properties that are owned by unconsolidated real estate entities. In addition, from time to time, we engage in redevelopment projects with respect to our existing seniors housing communities to maximize the value, increase NOI, maintain a market-competitive position, achieve property stabilization or change the primary use of the property.

Equity Offerings and Related Events

In March 2015, we replaced our previous shelf registration statement that was scheduled to expire in accordance with the SEC's rules with a new universal shelf registration statement, rendering our previous ATM program inaccessible. In connection with our new universal shelf registration statement, we established a new ATM program pursuant to which we may sell, from time to time, up to an aggregate of \$1.0 billion of our common stock.

For the year ended December 31, 2017, we issued and sold 1.1 million shares of common stock under our ATM equity offering program for aggregate net proceeds of \$73.9 million, after sales agent commissions. As of December 31, 2017, approximately \$155.6 million of our common stock remained available for sale under our ATM equity offering program.

Other

We received proceeds of \$16.3 million and \$20.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively, from the exercises of outstanding stock options. Future proceeds from the exercises of stock options will be affected primarily by the future trading price of our common stock and the number of options outstanding. The

number of options outstanding increased to 5.0 million as of December 31, 2017, from 3.8 million as of December 31, 2016. The weighted average exercise price was \$58.57 as of December 31, 2017.

Cash Flows

The following table sets forth our sources and uses of cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016:

	For the Years Ended December 31,		Increase (Decrease) to Cash	
	2017	2016	\$	%
(Dollars in thousands)				
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	\$286,707	\$53,023	\$233,684	nm
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,442,180	1,372,341	69,839	5.1 %
Net cash used in investing activities	(976,517)	(1,234,643)	258,126	20.9
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(671,327)	96,838	(768,165)	nm
Effect of foreign currency translation on cash and cash equivalents	312	(852)	1,164	nm
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$81,355	\$286,707	(205,352)	(71.6)

nm—not meaningful

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

Cash flows from operating activities increased \$69.8 million during the year ended December 31, 2017 over the same period in 2016 due primarily to investments made during 2016 and 2017, partially offset by dispositions during the same periods.

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

Cash used in investing activities decreased \$258.1 million during 2017 over 2016 primarily due to decreased investment in real estate property during 2017 and proceeds from the 2017 sale of 36 SNFs owned by us and operated by Kindred, partially offset by the \$700.0 million term loan we provided in March 2017 to facilitate Ardent's acquisition of LHP, increases in development project expenditures and investments in unconsolidated entities and decreased loan receivable payments received during 2017.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities

Cash provided by financing activities decreased \$768.2 million during 2017 over 2016 primarily due to increased debt repayments and decreased proceeds from the issuance of common stock during 2017, partially offset by increased senior note issuances and borrowings on our unsecured revolving credit facility during 2017 over 2016.

Contractual Obligations

The following table summarizes the effect that minimum debt (which includes principal and interest payments) and other material noncancelable commitments are expected to have on our cash flow in future periods as of December 31, 2017:

	Total	Less than 1 year ⁽³⁾	1 - 3 years ⁽⁴⁾	3 - 5 years ⁽⁵⁾	More than 5 years ⁽⁶⁾
(In thousands)					
Long-term debt obligations ^{(1) (2)}	\$14,444,492	\$1,214,444	\$3,499,792	\$3,252,070	\$6,478,186
Operating obligations, including ground lease obligations	738,508	27,498	47,159	40,389	623,462
Total	\$15,183,000	\$1,241,942	\$3,546,951	\$3,292,459	\$7,101,648

- (1) Amounts represent contractual amounts due, including interest.
- (2) Interest on variable rate debt was based on forward rates obtained as of December 31, 2017.
- (3) Includes \$700.0 million outstanding principal amount of our 2.00% senior notes due 2018.
Includes \$600.0 million outstanding principal amount of our 4.00% senior notes due 2019, \$318.0 million
- (4) outstanding principal amount of our 3.00% senior notes, series A due 2019, \$500.0 million outstanding principal amount of our 2.700% senior notes due 2020, and \$900.0 million of borrowings under our unsecured term loan due 2020.

Includes \$535.8 million of borrowings outstanding on our unsecured revolving credit facility, \$2.9 million of borrowings outstanding on our secured revolving construction credit facility, \$700.0 million outstanding principal amount of our 4.750% senior notes due 2021, \$600.0 million outstanding principal amount of our 4.25% senior notes due 2022, \$500.0 million outstanding principal amount of our 3.250% senior notes due 2022 and \$198.8 million outstanding principal amount of our 3.300% senior notes, Series C due 2022.

Includes \$4.4 billion aggregate principal amount outstanding of our senior notes maturing between 2023 and 2045. \$52.4 million aggregate principal amount outstanding of our 6.90% senior notes due 2037 are subject to repurchase, at the option of the holders, on October 1, 2027, and \$23.0 million aggregate principal amount outstanding of our 6.59% senior notes due 2038 are subject to repurchase, at the option of the holders, on July 7 in each of 2018, 2023 and 2028.

As of December 31, 2017, we had \$16.8 million of unrecognized tax benefits that are excluded from the table above, as we are unable to make a reasonable reliable estimate of the period of cash settlement, if any, with the respective tax authority.

ITEM 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The information set forth in Item 7 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K under “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Asset/Liability Management” is incorporated by reference into this Item 7A.

ITEM 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

Ventas, Inc.

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MANAGEMENT REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. This system is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of consolidated financial statements for external purposes in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting is not intended to provide absolute assurance that a misstatement of our financial statements would be prevented or detected.

Management, with the participation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, conducted an assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on the criteria set forth in Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Based on this assessment, management has concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective at the reasonable assurance level as of December 31, 2017.

The effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2017 has been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report included herein.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the stockholders and board of directors
Ventas, Inc.:

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Ventas, Inc. and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three year period ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes and financial statement schedules II, III and IV (collectively, the “consolidated financial statements”). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the three year period ended December 31, 2017, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”), the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2017, based on criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, and our report dated February 9, 2018 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ KPMG LLP

We have served as the Company’s auditor since 2014.

Chicago, Illinois
February 9, 2018

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM
ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

To the stockholders and board of directors
Ventas, Inc.:

Opinion on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

We have audited Ventas, Inc. and subsidiaries' (the "Company") internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2017, based on criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2017, based on criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB"), the consolidated balance sheets of the Company as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes and financial statement schedules II, III, and IV (collectively, the "consolidated financial statements"), and our report dated February 9, 2018 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

Basis for Opinion

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management Report on the Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB. We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Definition and Limitations of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that

controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Chicago, Illinois
February 9, 2018

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VENTAS, INC.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	As of December 31,	
	2017	2016
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)	
Assets		
Real estate investments:		
Land and improvements	\$2,147,621	\$2,089,591
Buildings and improvements	22,177,088	21,516,396
Construction in progress	343,129	210,599
Acquired lease intangibles	1,537,995	1,510,629
	26,205,833	25,327,215
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(5,617,453)	(4,932,461)
Net real estate property	20,588,380	20,394,754
Secured loans receivable and investments, net	1,346,359	702,021
Investments in unconsolidated real estate entities	123,639	95,921
Net real estate investments	22,058,378	21,192,696
Cash and cash equivalents	81,355	286,707
Escrow deposits and restricted cash	106,898	80,647
Goodwill	1,034,641	1,033,225
Assets held for sale	100,324	54,961
Other assets	572,945	518,364
Total assets	\$23,954,541	\$23,166,600
Liabilities and equity		
Liabilities:		
Senior notes payable and other debt	\$11,276,062	\$11,127,326
Accrued interest	93,958	83,762
Accounts payable and other liabilities	1,182,552	907,928
Liabilities related to assets held for sale	61,202	1,462
Deferred income taxes	250,092	316,641
Total liabilities	12,863,866	12,437,119
Redeemable OP unitholder and noncontrolling interests	158,490	200,728
Commitments and contingencies		
Equity:		
Ventas stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$1.00 par value; 10,000 shares authorized, unissued	—	—
Common stock, \$0.25 par value; 600,000 shares authorized, 356,187 and 354,125 shares issued at December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively	89,029	88,514
Capital in excess of par value	13,053,057	12,917,002
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(35,120)	(57,534)
Retained earnings (deficit)	(2,240,698)	(2,487,695)
Treasury stock, 1 share at December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively	(42)	(47)
Total Ventas stockholders' equity	10,866,226	10,460,240
Noncontrolling interests	65,959	68,513
Total equity	10,932,185	10,528,753
Total liabilities and equity	\$23,954,541	\$23,166,600
See accompanying notes.		

VENTAS, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)		
Revenues			
Rental income:			
Triple-net leased	\$840,131	\$845,834	\$779,801
Office	753,467	630,342	566,245
	1,593,598	1,476,176	1,346,046
Resident fees and services	1,843,232	1,847,306	1,811,255
Office building and other services revenue	13,677	21,070	41,492
Income from loans and investments	117,608	98,094	86,553
Interest and other income	6,034	876	1,052
Total revenues	3,574,149	3,443,522	3,286,398
Expenses			
Interest	448,196	419,740	367,114
Depreciation and amortization	887,948	898,924	894,057
Property-level operating expenses:			
Senior living	1,250,065	1,242,978	1,209,415
Office	233,007	191,784	174,225
	1,483,072	1,434,762	1,383,640
Office building services costs	3,391	7,311	26,565
General, administrative and professional fees	135,490	126,875	128,035
Loss on extinguishment of debt, net	754	2,779	14,411
Merger-related expenses and deal costs	10,535	24,635	102,944
Other	20,052	9,988	17,957
Total expenses	2,989,438	2,925,014	2,934,723
Income before unconsolidated entities, income taxes, discontinued operations, real estate dispositions and noncontrolling interests	584,711	518,508	351,675
(Loss) income from unconsolidated entities	(561)	4,358	(1,420)
Income tax benefit	59,799	31,343	39,284
Income from continuing operations	643,949	554,209	389,539
Discontinued operations	(110)	(922)	11,103
Gain on real estate dispositions	717,273	98,203	18,580
Net income	1,361,112	651,490	419,222
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	4,642	2,259	1,379
Net income attributable to common stockholders	\$1,356,470	\$649,231	\$417,843
Earnings per common share			
Basic:			
Income from continuing operations	\$1.81	\$1.61	\$1.18
Net income attributable to common stockholders	3.82	1.88	1.26
Diluted:			
Income from continuing operations	\$1.80	\$1.59	\$1.17
Net income attributable to common stockholders	3.78	1.86	1.25
Weighted average shares used in computing earnings per common share:			
Basic	355,326	344,703	330,311
Diluted	358,566	348,390	334,007
See accompanying notes.			

VENTAS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2017	2016	2015
	(In thousands)		
Net income	\$1,361,112	\$651,490	\$419,222
Other comprehensive income (loss):			
Foreign currency translation	20,612	(52,266)	(14,792)
Unrealized loss on government-sponsored pooled loan investments	(437)	(310)	(5,236)
Other	2,239	2,607	(658)
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	22,414	(49,969)	(20,686)
Comprehensive income	1,383,526	601,521	398,536
Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interests	4,642	2,259	1,379
Comprehensive income attributable to common stockholders	\$1,378,884	\$599,262	\$397,157
See accompanying notes.			

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VENTAS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY

For the Years Ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015

	Common Stock Par Value	Capital in Excess of Par Value	Accumulated Other Comprehens Income (Loss)	Retained Earnings (Deficit)	Treasury Stock	Total Ventas Stockholders' Equity	Non- controlling Interests	Total Equity
(In thousands, except per share amounts)								
Balance at January 1, 2015	\$74,656	\$10,119,306	\$13,121	\$(1,526,388)	\$(511)	\$8,680,184	\$74,213	\$8,754,397
Net income	—	—	—	417,843	—	417,843	1,379	419,222
Other comprehensive loss	—	—	(20,686)	—	—	(20,686)	—	(20,686)
Acquisition-related activity	7,103	2,209,202	—	—	—	2,216,305	853	2,217,158
Impact of CCP Spin-Off	—	(1,247,356)	—	—	—	(1,247,356)	(4,717)	(1,252,073)
Net change in noncontrolling interests	—	—	—	—	—	—	(12,530)	(12,530)
Dividends to common stockholders—\$3.04 per share	—	—	—	(1,003,413)	—	(1,003,413)	—	(1,003,413)
Issuance of common stock	1,797	489,227	—	—	—	491,024	—	491,024
Issuance of common stock for stock plans	23	6,068	—	—	5,945	12,036	—	12,036
Change in redeemable noncontrolling interests	—	(374)	—	—	—	(374)	1,902	1,528
Adjust redeemable OP unitholder interests to current fair value	—	7,831	—	—	—	7,831	—	7,831
Redemption of OP units	—	1,719	—	—	—	1,719	—	1,719
Grant of restricted stock, net of forfeitures	—	17,215	—	—	(8,001)	9,214	—	9,214
Balance at December 31, 2015	83,579	11,602,838	(7,565)	(2,111,958)	(2,567)	9,564,327	61,100	9,625,427
Net income	—	—	—	649,231	—	649,231	2,259	651,490
Other comprehensive loss	—	—	(49,969)	—	—	(49,969)	—	(49,969)
Impact of CCP Spin-Off	—	640	—	—	—	640	—	640

Net change in
noncontrolling interests — (2,179) —