



# **Symetra Financial Corporation**

## **Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

**December 31, 2017**

*All financial information in this document is unaudited*



**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF  
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**Table of Contents**

	<b><u>Page</u></b>
<a href="#">Forward-Looking Statements</a> .....	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">Overview</a> .....	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">Results of Operations</a> .....	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">Investments</a> .....	<a href="#">15</a>
<a href="#">Liquidity and Capital Resources</a> .....	<a href="#">27</a>
<a href="#">Sources of Revenues and Expenses</a> .....	<a href="#">30</a>
<a href="#">Use of non-GAAP Financial Measures</a> .....	<a href="#">31</a>

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*Unless the context otherwise requires, references to "we," "our," "us," and "the Company" are to Symetra Financial Corporation together with its subsidiaries. References to "Symetra" refer to Symetra Financial Corporation on a stand-alone, non-consolidated basis.*

**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This report contains forward-looking statements that are intended to enhance the reader's ability to assess the Company's future financial and business performance. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements that represent the Company's beliefs concerning future operations, strategies, financial results or other developments, and contain words and phrases such as "may," "expects," "should," "believes," "anticipates," "estimates," "intends" or similar expressions. These statements are based on estimates and assumptions made by the Company in light of information currently known to management and are subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties, many of which are beyond the Company's control or are subject to change. Whether actual results and developments will conform to our expectations is subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and contingencies that could cause actual results to differ materially from expectations, or that could cause management to deviate from currently expected or intended courses of actions, including, among others:

- effects of fluctuations in interest rates, including a prolonged low interest rate environment or a rapidly rising interest rate environment, as well as management's ability to anticipate and timely respond to any such fluctuations;
- general economic, market or business conditions, including changes in national and global monetary and fiscal policy, or economic downturns and other adverse conditions in the global and domestic capital and credit markets;
- changes in laws or regulations, or their interpretation, including those that could increase our business costs, reserve levels and required capital levels, or that could restrict the manner in which we do business and produce sales, including uncertainty related to:
  - tax reform legislation commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (the "2017 Tax Act");
  - health care reform, particularly the status of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA);
  - financial regulation reform, particularly the status of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010; and
  - the evolving and potentially conflicting requirements imposed by regulators on producers selling our annuity and life insurance products, including the actions related to the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) fiduciary rule, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) potential rule-making related to the standard of care for broker-dealers and investment advisors, proposed regulations from multiple states related to fiduciary or other standards of care, and possible changes by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) to the Suitability in Annuity Transactions Model Regulation;
- effects of catastrophic events, both natural and man-made, that could adversely affect our operations and results, including impacts to claims and mortality experience, investment portfolio performance, and business operations;
- effects of significant corporate refinance activity, including bond prepayments;
- performance of our investment portfolio;
- continued availability of quality commercial mortgage loan investments and our continued capacity to invest in commercial mortgage loans;
- our ability to successfully execute on our strategies, including the effect of any potential acquisitions and divestitures, restructurings, and other strategic changes;
- accuracy and adequacy of recorded reserves, including the actuarial and other assumptions upon which those reserves are established, adjusted and maintained;
- persistency of our inforce blocks of business;
- deviations from assumptions used in setting prices for insurance and annuity products or establishing cash flow testing reserves;
- significant changes in projected future cash flows underlying the value of our intangible assets, including projections of future sales and profitability;
- continued viability of certain products under various economic, regulatory and other conditions;
- market pricing and competitive trends related to insurance products and services, including potential disruptive innovation from existing or new participants in the insurance industry;
- financial strength or credit ratings changes, particularly ours but also of other companies in our industry sector;

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF  
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

- retention of key personnel and distribution partners;
- availability and cost of capital and financing;
- adequacy and collectibility of reinsurance that we have purchased, as well as the continued availability and cost of reinsurance coverage;
- ability of subsidiaries to pay dividends to Symetra;
- our ability to implement effective risk management policies and procedures, including hedging strategies;
- our ability to maintain adequate telecommunications, information technology, or other operational systems;
- our ability to prevent or timely detect and remediate any unauthorized access to or disclosure of customer information and other sensitive business data; and
- initiation of regulatory investigations or litigation against us and the results of any regulatory proceedings.

Further, we are a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Life Insurance Company, whose financial standing or decisions may affect our business.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*The following discussion highlights significant factors influencing the results of operations and changes in financial position of Symetra Financial Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2017, the period February 1 to December 31, 2016, the period January 1 to January 31, 2016, and the year ended December 31, 2015. Amounts related to the period January 1 to January 31, 2016, and for the year ended December 31, 2015 are associated with the Predecessor Company, prior to the February 1, 2016 Sumitomo Life merger. Amounts related to the year ended December 31, 2017, the period February 1 to December 31, 2016, as of December 31, 2017, and as of December 31, 2016 are associated with the Successor Company.*

*This discussion should be read in conjunction with the December 31, 2017 audited consolidated financial statements, available on the Company's website at <http://investors.symetra.com/>.*

*Discussions related to net income are presented in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Management also considers certain non-GAAP financial measures to be useful in evaluating its financial performance and condition. For a definition and further discussion of these non-GAAP measures, see – "Use of non-GAAP Financial Measures." All dollar amounts are in millions unless otherwise stated.*

## **OVERVIEW**

We are a financial services company in the life insurance industry providing annuities, employment-based benefits, and life insurance through a national network of financial institutions, broker-dealers, benefits consultants, and independent agents and advisers. Our operations date back to 1957 and many of our distribution relationships have been in place for decades. On February 1, 2016, we became a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Life Insurance Company.

### ***Our Operations***

We manage our business through three divisions composed of four business segments:

#### *Benefits Division*

- *Benefits.* We are a multi-line carrier offering medical stop-loss; group life and disability income (DI); and limited benefit medical, group accident, and critical illness insurance products and services to employers.

#### *Retirement Division*

- *Deferred Annuities.* We offer fixed deferred annuities, including fixed indexed annuities (FIA), to consumers who want to accumulate assets for retirement on a tax-deferred basis. Certain of our FIA products also provide guaranteed lifetime withdrawals.
- *Income Annuities.* We offer single premium immediate annuities (SPIA) to customers seeking a reliable source of retirement income or protection against outliving their assets during retirement. We also service our block of structured settlement policies and offer funding services options to existing structured settlement clients.

#### *Individual Life Division*

- *Individual Life.* We offer individual life insurance products, primarily universal life (UL), including indexed UL (IUL), and term insurance. We also offer institutional products, including bank-owned life insurance (BOLI) and variable corporate-owned life insurance (COLI).

In addition, we have a fifth segment, referred to as the Other segment, which reflects our operations that are not directly related to the operating segments. This includes certain small, non-insurance businesses; unallocated investment results related to surplus invested assets; unallocated corporate expenses; interest expense on debt; and inter-segment elimination entries.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

This discussion should be read in conjunction with our audited consolidated financial statements. In 2017, the measurement of pre-tax adjusted operating income was modified, and prior period results for the Successor Company have been adjusted to reflect this change. Please see – "Use of non-GAAP Measures" for further information.

**Sumitomo Life Merger**

Results of operations for the Successor Company reflect the impact of the Company's application of the acquisition method of accounting on February 1, 2016 (referred to as purchase accounting or PGAAP). On this date, all identifiable assets and liabilities were adjusted to their fair values. Total stockholder's equity was set to equal Sumitomo Life's purchase price of \$3.7 billion, less certain after-tax, success-based merger fees. Prior period results were not restated for the new basis of accounting.

For additional discussion of the application of purchase accounting, and changes to the Successor Company's accounting policies subsequent to the Sumitomo Life merger, refer to Notes 2 and 3 of the Company's December 31, 2017 audited consolidated financial statements.

**Consolidated Results**

The following table sets forth pre-tax adjusted operating income, by segment:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income (loss):				
Benefits .....	\$ 39.5	\$ 41.0	\$ 8.3	\$ 74.0
Deferred Annuities .....	123.4	87.1	10.4	136.3
Income Annuities .....	7.3	6.3	(2.0)	20.5
Individual Life .....	25.3	25.0	0.5	36.3
Other .....	(10.2)	(32.4)	(7.6)	(71.2)
Pre-tax adjusted operating income (1) .....	<u>\$ 185.3</u>	<u>\$ 127.0</u>	<u>\$ 9.6</u>	<u>\$ 195.9</u>
Add: Excluded realized gains (losses) .....	(1.3)	(103.1)	(26.5)	(95.5)
Add: Amortization of intangible assets .....	(86.9)	(79.7)	—	—
Income (loss) from operations before income taxes .....	97.1	(55.8)	(16.9)	100.4
Total provision (benefit) for income taxes .....	(131.8)	(72.8)	(10.4)	(46.4)
Net income (loss) .....	<u>\$ 228.9</u>	<u>\$ 17.0</u>	<u>\$ (6.5)</u>	<u>\$ 146.8</u>
Less: Excluded realized gains (losses), net of taxes (2) .....	34.8	(36.4)	(17.1)	(62.1)
Less: Amortization of intangible assets, net of taxes (2) .....	(56.5)	(51.7)	—	—
Less: Excluded impact of 2017 Tax Act .....	120.2	—	—	—
Adjusted operating income (1) .....	<u>\$ 130.4</u>	<u>\$ 105.1</u>	<u>\$ 10.6</u>	<u>\$ 208.9</u>

- (1) Represents a non-GAAP measure. For further discussion, including a description of how these measures are calculated, see – "Use of non-GAAP Financial Measures."
- (2) Tax effects are calculated using the 2017 U.S. federal income tax rate of 35%. Adjusted operating income includes realized losses from our tax credit investments, see – "Use of non-GAAP Financial Measures" for further discussion.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following table sets forth detail of our other underwriting and operating expenses, which are allocated among the segments:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
Salaries, incentive compensation, and other employee costs ...	\$ 241.7	\$ 203.8	\$ 19.6	\$ 216.0
Rent and occupancy costs .....	17.6	16.5	1.3	17.0
Professional services and software licensing .....	73.1	69.7	4.8	60.1
Merger-related costs .....	—	18.1	1.9	6.0
Other .....	39.5	32.5	2.5	33.0
Total operating expenses .....	371.9	340.6	30.1	332.1
Commissions and premium-based taxes and fees .....	332.9	293.7	25.4	318.6
DAC deferrals .....	(239.9)	(215.4)	(19.6)	(247.7)
Other underwriting and operating expenses .....	\$ 464.9	\$ 418.9	\$ 35.9	\$ 403.0

Because of the application of purchase accounting, it is not meaningful to compare results from the Predecessor and Successor Companies, nor is it meaningful to compare results of the year ended December 31, 2017 to a sum of results of the year ended December 31, 2016. Certain metrics, such as sales and account values, were not affected by PGAAP and remain comparable to prior period amounts.

***For the Year Ended December 31, 2017 (Successor Company)***

- The Company posted net income for the year of \$228.9. In addition to items discussed below, these results reflect an elevated loss ratio in medical stop-loss, partially offset by strong base margins in our annuity and life businesses.
- The 2017 Tax Act, which made significant changes to U.S. tax law, resulted in an increase in net income of \$120.2. Among other provisions, the 2017 Tax Act reduced the maximum U.S. corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%, which necessitated a re-measurement of our deferred tax assets and liabilities, and resulted in a deferred income tax benefit totaling \$132.1. In addition, we incurred \$11.9 of impairments, net of taxes, related to our tax credit investments, due to the reduction in future benefits from these investments as a result of the lower corporate tax rate.
- Our total tax benefit of \$131.8 was driven by the deferred benefit of \$132.1 related to the 2017 Tax Act discussed above. It also reflects tax credits from our tax credit investments. In future periods, we expect the lower corporate tax rate to have a favorable impact on the GAAP effective tax rate.
- Pre-tax results for the year include \$19.4 of net prepayment-related income. Investment income from prepayments was \$53.0. This was offset by \$11.0 of related DAC, VOBA, and DSI amortization, and \$22.6 of realized losses, primarily due to the write-off of premiums established through PGAAP.
- For 2017, unlocking adjustments increased pre-tax adjusted operating income by \$7.7, which was recorded in policyholder benefits and claims, interest credited, and amortization of DAC and VOBA. See segment discussion for further information. Annual unlocking also resulted in a realized gain of \$20.1.
- Operating expenses for the year reflected increased employee-related costs, primarily driven by incentive compensation on strong sales and an increase in employee headcount to support growth in our business.

***For the Period February 1 to December 31, 2016 (Successor Company)***

- The Company posted net income of \$17.0 for the period. These results reflected merger-related expenses of \$18.1, and an elevated loss ratio in our Benefits segment. See segment discussion for further information.
- Pre-tax results for the period included \$8.8 of net prepayment-related income. Investment income from prepayments was \$58.0. This was offset by \$10.3 of related DAC, VOBA, and DSI amortization and \$38.9 of realized losses.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

- Annual unlocking in 2016 increased pre-tax adjusted operating income by \$2.4 and resulted in a realized gain of \$9.8.
- Realized losses were \$103.1 for the period, further discussed in – "Investments."
- Our income tax benefit of \$72.8 was the result of a pre-tax loss, as well as the benefits from our tax credit investments.

***For the Period January 1 to January 31, 2016 (Predecessor Company)***

- The Company posted a net loss of \$6.5 for the month. The benefit from income taxes was a result of a pre-tax loss, driven by net realized losses of \$27.0 for the month and benefits from our tax credit investments.
- Pre-tax results included net prepayment-related income of \$0.8, which consisted of \$1.0 of income from investment prepayments, less \$0.2 of related DAC amortization.
- Other underwriting and operating expenses, net of DAC deferrals, reflected \$1.9 of merger-related expenses, primarily related to professional services.

**Segment Operating Results**

**Benefits**

The following table sets forth the results of operations for our Benefits segment:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
Operating revenues:				
Premiums .....	\$ 867.4	\$ 686.7	\$ 58.6	\$ 683.2
Net investment income .....	25.7	18.8	2.1	23.4
Policy fees, contract charges, and other .....	18.5	17.4	1.4	17.7
Total operating revenues .....	911.6	722.9	62.1	724.3
Benefits and expenses:				
Policyholder benefits and claims .....	640.2	497.6	37.1	456.9
Other underwriting and operating expenses .....	229.1	183.7	16.5	191.6
Amortization of DAC and VOBA .....	2.8	0.6	0.2	1.8
Total benefits and expenses .....	872.1	681.9	53.8	650.3
Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income .....	\$ 39.5	\$ 41.0	\$ 8.3	\$ 74.0

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following table sets forth selected operating metrics for our Benefits segment:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
Loss ratio (1) .....	73.8%	71.4%	63.3%	66.9%
Expense ratio (2) .....	25.8	27.5	27.8	27.2
Combined ratio .....	99.6%	98.9%	91.1%	94.1%
Total sales (3) .....	\$ 276.6	\$ 196.9	N/A	\$ 209.1

(1) Loss ratio represents policyholder benefits and claims incurred divided by premiums earned.

(2) Expense ratio represents the sum of other underwriting and operating expenses of our insurance operations and amortization of DAC divided by premiums earned.

(3) Total sales represent annualized first-year premiums net of first year policy lapses. Sales reported for the period February 1 to December 31, 2016 represent full-year 2016 sales.

***For the Year Ended December 31, 2017 (Successor Company)***

- Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income was \$39.5, which reflected an elevated medical stop-loss loss ratio, partially offset by growth in medical stop-loss premiums due to strong January 2017 sales. Historically, January sales and renewals of existing policies represent about half of the premium we write in a calendar year. Additionally, in 2017, we transitioned a block of group life and disability business from another insurance carrier, who elected to exit the market. This business is expected to contribute approximately \$40.0 to premiums in 2018.
- Our loss ratio was 73.8% for the year, which reflected higher-than-expected medical stop-loss claims on business written in January 2017 and during 2016. This was partially offset by favorable claims experience on our group life and DI business.
- The medical stop-loss loss ratio exceeded our target range throughout 2017. We believe medical stop-loss ratios were elevated across the industry. This business is repriced annually and we have taken pricing actions to improve our loss ratio. We have a strong track record of achieving our profitability targets on the medical stop-loss business over time.
- Sales were \$276.6, up from \$196.9 in 2016. Strong January 2017 medical stop-loss sales were driven by longstanding relationships with national brokers and successful sales initiatives. We also achieved continued strong growth in group life and DI premiums.

***For the Period February 1 to December 31, 2016 (Successor Company)***

- Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income for the period was \$41.0. Our loss ratio of 71.4%, which was above our target range, reflected higher than expected severity and frequency of medical stop-loss claims, as well as unfavorable claims experience in our group life and DI business.
- Sales for the year ended December 31, 2016 totaled \$196.9, compared to \$209.1 for 2015. The decline in sales primarily related to medical stop-loss, which declined \$27.4, mostly offset by increased sales for both limited benefit medical and group life & DI products. Sales for both years were solid as we benefited from strong relationships with national brokers and sales initiatives.

***For the Period January 1 to January 31, 2016 (Predecessor Company)***

- Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income was \$8.3 for the month.
- Our overall loss ratio of 63.3% reflected favorable claims experience across all lines of business.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**Deferred Annuities**

The following table sets forth the results of operations for our Deferred Annuities segment:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
Operating revenues:				
Net investment income .....	\$ 698.7	\$ 579.5	\$ 57.3	\$ 663.6
Policy fees, contract charges, and other .....	25.8	20.4	2.0	21.7
Certain realized gains (losses) .....	2.5	0.3	(0.5)	(1.0)
Total operating revenues .....	727.0	600.2	58.8	684.3
Benefits and expenses:				
Policyholder benefits and claims .....	8.4	2.8	0.2	0.6
Interest credited .....	418.4	354.8	33.2	374.8
Other underwriting and operating expenses .....	116.0	99.0	8.4	100.8
Amortization of DAC and VOBA .....	60.8	56.5	6.6	71.8
Total benefits and expenses .....	603.6	513.1	48.4	548.0
Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income .....	\$ 123.4	\$ 87.1	\$ 10.4	\$ 136.3

The following table sets forth selected operating metrics for our Deferred Annuities segment:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
Fixed account values, excluding FIA – General account .....	\$ 11,798.7	\$ 11,943.4	\$ 11,539.5	\$ 11,486.4
Interest spread (1) .....	1.31%	1.23%	1.66%	1.90%
Base interest spread (2) .....	1.09%	0.92%	1.63%	1.64%
Fixed account values, FIA – General account .....	\$ 9,574.1	\$ 7,610.5	\$ 5,847.0	\$ 5,670.9
FIA interest spread (3) .....	1.43%	1.35%	1.56%	1.42%
FIA base interest spread (4) .....	1.34%	1.32%	1.45%	1.36%
Total sales (5) .....	\$ 3,074.6	\$ 3,566.5	N/A	\$ 3,793.0

- (1) Interest spread excludes FIA and is the difference between the net investment yield and the credited rate to policyholders. The net investment yield is the approximate yield on invested assets. The credited rate is the approximate rate credited on policyholder fixed account values. Interest credited is subject to contractual terms, including minimum guarantees.
- (2) Base interest spread excludes items that can vary significantly from period to period due to a number of factors and, therefore, may contribute to results that are not indicative of the underlying trends. This is primarily the impact of asset prepayments, such as bond make-whole premiums net of related deferred sales inducement amortization, and the mortgage-backed security (MBS) prepayment speed adjustment.
- (3) FIA interest spread is the difference between the net investment yield and the credited rate to policyholders. The net investment yield is the approximate yield on invested assets, excluding derivative assets. The credited rate represents amounts recorded in interest credited related to FIA contracts.
- (4) FIA base interest spread excludes items that can vary significantly from period to period due to a number of factors and, therefore, may contribute to results that are not indicative of the underlying trends. This is primarily the impact of asset prepayments, such as bond make-whole premiums and the MBS prepayment speed adjustment and the impact of reserve adjustments on interest credited.
- (5) Total sales represent deposits for new policies net of first year policy lapses and/or surrenders. Sales reported for the period February 1 to December 31, 2016 represent full-year 2016 sales.

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2017 (Successor Company)**

- Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income was \$123.4. Stable base spreads and our growing FIA block of business produced solid earnings for the year. We have also continued to experience elevated levels of investment prepayment activity. For our Deferred Annuities segment, base interest margin is defined as net investment income, less interest credited, and adjusted mainly to exclude the impact of asset prepayments.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

- The base interest margin for traditional deferred annuities was \$140.8, reflecting solid base spreads, driven by reinvestments in a slightly higher interest rate environment than the portfolio yields established at PGAAP. For FIA, the base interest margin was \$108.2, primarily driven by growth in account values.
- The net impact of prepayments was \$29.3, which reflected prepayment-related investment income of \$39.1 offset by \$9.8 of related DAC, VOBA, and DSI amortization.
- Pre-tax adjusted operating income reflected a \$14.1 favorable impact of unlocking, primarily driven by the expectation of lower lapses in our FIA business in a prolonged low interest rate environment.
- Sales were \$3,074.6, compared to \$3,566.5 for 2016. Strong demand for annuities has led to heightened competition, including aggressive pricing by private equity-backed annuity writers and new entrants to the FIA market. Our sales for the year reflected increased competition, as well as the impact of uncertainty on distributors regarding full implementation of the DOL fiduciary rule.
- Sales through our largest distributor, a highly-rated financial institution, were approximately 22% and 35% of total sales for 2017 and 2016, respectively.

***For the Period February 1 to December 31, 2016 (Successor Company)***

- Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income was \$87.1 for the period. Base interest margin totaled \$113.2 for our traditional deferred annuities business and \$77.1 for our FIA business.
- The net impact of prepayments was \$29.6, which reflected prepayment-related investment income of \$38.2, offset by \$8.6 of related DAC, VOBA, and DSI amortization.
- Base spreads reflect PGAAP adjustments to our investment portfolio and, for our FIA business, PGAAP adjustments to reserves. These PGAAP adjustments impact all periods presented for the Successor Company.
- Sales were \$3,566.5 and \$3,793.0 for 2016 and 2015, respectively. Sales slowed in the second half of 2016, as a result of the interest rate environment, higher levels of competition, and uncertainty surrounding the status of the DOL fiduciary rule.

***For the Period January 1 to January 31, 2016 (Predecessor Company)***

- Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income was \$10.4 for the month. Base interest margin totaled \$16.2 for our traditional deferred annuities and \$7.2 for our FIA business.
- The net impact of prepayments was \$0.3, which reflected prepayment-related investment income of \$0.5, offset by \$0.2 of related DAC and DSI amortization.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**Income Annuities**

The following table sets forth the results of operations for our Income Annuities segment:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
Operating revenues:				
Net investment income .....	\$ 303.3	\$ 288.8	\$ 29.8	\$ 380.9
Policy fees, contract charges, and other .....	0.7	0.8	—	0.8
Total operating revenues .....	304.0	289.6	29.8	381.7
Benefits and expenses:				
Interest credited .....	277.8	264.2	29.7	336.0
Other underwriting and operating expenses .....	16.9	18.4	1.5	19.1
Amortization of DAC and VOBA .....	2.0	0.7	0.6	6.1
Total benefits and expenses .....	296.7	283.3	31.8	361.2
Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income (loss) .....	\$ 7.3	\$ 6.3	\$ (2.0)	\$ 20.5

The following table sets forth selected operating metrics for our Income Annuities segment:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
Reserves (1) .....	\$ 7,108.9	\$ 7,244.3	\$ 6,441.4	\$ 6,444.0
Interest spread (2) .....	0.51%	0.50%	0.46%	0.58%
Base interest spread (3) .....	0.47%	0.38%	0.58%	0.53%
Mortality gains (losses) (4) .....	\$ 2.1	\$ (3.2)	\$ (1.7)	\$ 4.3
Total sales (5) .....	257.9	243.3	N/A	303.3

- (1) Reserves represent the present value of future income annuity benefits and assumed expenses, discounted by the assumed interest rate. This metric represents the amount of in-force book of business and, for the Successor Company, also reflects an increase in the reserve due to a fair value adjustment made at PGAAP.
- (2) Interest spread is the difference between the net investment yield and the credited rate to policyholders. The net investment yield is the approximate yield on invested assets, excluding equities, attributed to the segment. The credited rate is the approximate rate credited on policyholder reserves and, for the Successor Company, includes the impact of PGAAP reserve amortization.
- (3) Base interest spread excludes items that can vary significantly from period to period due to a number of factors and, therefore, may contribute to yields that are not indicative of the underlying trends. This is primarily the impact of asset prepayments, such as bond make-whole premiums and the MBS prepayment speed adjustment.
- (4) Mortality gains (losses) represent the difference between actual and expected reserves released on our life contingent annuities.
- (5) Total sales represent deposits for new policies net of first year policy lapses and/or surrenders. Sales reported for the period February 1 to December 31, 2016 represent full-year 2016 sales.

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2017 (Successor Company)**

- Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income was \$7.3. Earnings drivers included prepayment-related income and favorable mortality experience.
- Prepayment-related investment income was \$4.0 for the year.
- Mortality gains were \$2.1, reflecting favorable mortality experience during the year, primarily during the second quarter. Mortality experience is expected to fluctuate from period to period.
- Sales remained solid at \$257.9 for the year, compared to \$243.3 for the same period in 2016, despite the competitive market in a low interest rate environment.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

***For the Period February 1 to December 31, 2016 (Successor Company)***

- Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income was \$6.3 for the period, including \$4.4 of prepayment-related investment income.
- Mortality losses were \$3.2 for the period.
- Base interest spread was reduced by PGAAP adjustments to our investment portfolio, which lowered investment income, partially offset by lower interest credited resulting from a \$0.9 billion increase in the reserve as a result of PGAAP. These PGAAP adjustments impact all periods presented for the Successor Company.
- Sales were \$243.3 for 2016, compared to \$303.3 for 2015. Sales levels reflect a competitive market in a low interest rate environment, as well as uncertainty for distributors surrounding implementation of the DOL fiduciary rule.

***For the Period January 1 to January 31, 2016 (Predecessor Company)***

- Segment pre-tax adjusted operating loss was \$2.0 for the month, driven by \$1.7 of mortality losses.
- Investment income reflected a \$0.8 mark-to-market loss on alternative investments. Subsequent to the Sumitomo Life merger, mark-to-market impacts of alternative investments are recorded in net realized gains (losses).

**Individual Life**

The following table sets forth the results of operations for our Individual Life segment:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
Operating revenues:				
Premiums .....	\$ 32.1	\$ 30.8	\$ 2.6	\$ 33.4
Net investment income .....	242.1	202.9	22.9	290.9
Policy fees, contract charges, and other .....	244.2	195.0	16.2	180.7
Total operating revenues .....	518.4	428.7	41.7	505.0
Benefits and expenses:				
Policyholder benefits and claims .....	110.1	68.4	11.1	113.3
Interest credited .....	275.5	245.5	21.6	257.8
Other underwriting and operating expenses .....	98.3	87.4	7.3	86.7
Interest expense .....	0.5	0.5	—	0.5
Amortization of DAC and VOBA .....	8.7	1.9	1.2	10.4
Total benefits and expenses .....	493.1	403.7	41.2	468.7
Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income (loss) .....	\$ 25.3	\$ 25.0	\$ 0.5	\$ 36.3

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following table sets forth selected operating metrics for our Individual Life segment:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
<b>Individual insurance:</b>				
Individual claims (1) .....	\$ 62.9	\$ 52.3	\$ 4.7	\$ 54.4
UL account values .....	1,163.3	1,018.5	881.3	876.6
Individual sales (2) .....	85.3	78.5	N/A	67.8
<b>Institutional Markets:</b>				
BOLI account values .....	\$ 5,241.3	\$ 5,129.0	\$ 5,028.1	\$ 5,016.5
BOLI ROA (3) .....	0.75%	0.62%	0.38%	0.77%
BOLI base ROA (4) .....	0.64%	0.45%	0.38%	0.70%
COLI sales (5) .....	\$ 35.7	\$ 20.5	N/A	\$ 70.5

- (1) Individual claims represents incurred claims, net of reinsurance, on our term and universal life policies.
- (2) Individual sales represents annualized first year premiums for recurring premium products and 10% of new single premium deposits, net of first year policy lapses and/or surrenders. Sales reported for the period February 1 to December 31, 2016 represent full-year 2016 sales.
- (3) BOLI ROA is a measure of the gross margin on our BOLI book of business. This metric is calculated as the difference between our BOLI revenue earnings rate and our BOLI policy benefits rate. The revenue earnings rate is calculated as revenues divided by average invested assets. The policy benefits rate is calculated as total policy benefits divided by average account values, which for the Successor Company includes the impact of PGAAP reserve amortization. The policy benefits used in this metric do not include expenses.
- (4) BOLI base ROA excludes items that can vary significantly from period to period due to a number of factors and, therefore, may contribute to yields that are not indicative of the underlying trends. These are primarily the impact of asset prepayments, such as bond make-whole premiums and the MBS prepayment speed adjustment, and reserve adjustments.
- (5) COLI sales represent deposits for new policies. Sales reported for the period February 1 to December 31, 2016 represent full-year 2016 sales. COLI sales typically occur in uneven patterns.

***For the Year Ended December 31, 2017 (Successor Company)***

- Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income was \$25.3, which reflected strong base margins in our individual and institutional lines of business, earnings contributed by our growing universal life block of business, and elevated prepayment income. For our Individual Life segment, base margin is defined as operating revenues, less policyholder benefits and claims, and interest credited, and adjusted to exclude the impact of asset prepayments.
- Base margin was \$44.0 for our institutional business, which reflected favorable claims experience.
- Base margin for our universal life and term life business was \$87.8, which reflected increased fee income from growth in universal life business. This was partially offset by related reserve increases.
- The net impact of prepayments was \$7.0, which reflected prepayment-related investment income of \$8.3, offset by \$1.3 of related DAC and VOBA amortization.
- Unlocking impact was \$6.4 unfavorable, primarily from updating lapse assumptions on our universal life business.
- Sales of individual life products, which were predominately related to universal life, were \$85.3 for 2017, compared to \$78.5 for 2016. Although sales have increased year over year, the pace of growth slowed in 2017 due to price increases and product offering changes adopted for strategic capital management purposes, in response to the prolonged low interest rate environment.

***For the Period February 1 to December 31, 2016 (Successor Company)***

- Segment pre-tax adjusted operating income was \$25.0 for the period. Base margin for our institutional business was \$24.4, while base margin for our universal life and term life business was \$79.6. These results reflected favorable claims experience for individual products, largely offset by higher than expected mortality experience for institutional products.
- The net impact of prepayments was \$9.0, which reflected prepayment-related investment income of \$10.7, less \$1.7 of related VOBA amortization.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

- DAC and VOBA amortization included a \$0.3 favorable impact from unlocking.
- Base spreads reflected lower investment income as a result of PGAAP adjustments to our investment portfolio. This impact was offset by lower policyholder benefits and claims from a \$250.6 PGAAP reserve established for our BOLI business and a \$108.7 PGAAP adjustment to our retail reserves. These PGAAP adjustments impact all periods presented for the Successor Company.
- Sales of individual life products were \$78.5 and \$67.8 for 2016 and 2015, respectively.

***For the Period January 1 to January 31, 2016 (Predecessor Company)***

- Pre-tax adjusted operating income was \$0.5 for the month. Base margin was \$2.1 for our institutional business, and \$6.8 for our universal life and term life business.

**Other**

The following table sets forth the results of operations for our Other segment:

	<b>Successor Company</b>		<b>Predecessor Company</b>	
	<b>For the Year Ended December 31, 2017</b>	<b>February 1 to December 31, 2016</b>	<b>January 1 to January 31, 2016</b>	<b>For the Year Ended December 31, 2015</b>
Operating revenues:				
Net investment income .....	\$ 20.7	\$ 20.5	\$ (1.7)	\$ (22.4)
Policy fees, contract charges, and other .....	1.3	1.5	0.2	2.0
Total operating revenues .....	22.0	22.0	(1.5)	(20.4)
Benefits and expenses:				
Interest credited .....	(0.9)	(0.9)	(0.1)	(1.4)
Other underwriting and operating expenses .....	4.6	30.4	2.4	7.8
Interest expense .....	28.5	24.9	3.8	44.4
Total benefits and expenses .....	32.2	54.4	6.1	50.8
Segment pre-tax adjusted operating loss .....	<u>\$ (10.2)</u>	<u>\$ (32.4)</u>	<u>\$ (7.6)</u>	<u>\$ (71.2)</u>

***Summary of Results***

- For the period February 1 to December 31, 2016, pre-tax adjusted operating loss included \$18.1 of merger-related expenses. Merger-related expenses were \$1.9 for the period January 1 to January 31, 2016.
- Predecessor Company included pass through activity on our tax credit investments in net investment income. Successor Company includes this activity in realized gains (losses), which is excluded from pre-tax adjusted operating income.

**INVESTMENTS**

Our investment portfolio is intended to support the expected cash flows of our liabilities and produce stable returns over the long term. The composition of our portfolio reflects our asset management philosophy of protecting principal and receiving appropriate reward for risk. As of December 31, 2017, our investment portfolio consisted of high quality fixed maturities and commercial mortgage loans we originated, as well as a smaller allocation of high-yield fixed maturities, marketable equity securities, investments in limited partnerships (primarily tax credit investments and alternative investments, which include private equity and hedge funds), derivatives, and other investments. Our equity investments primarily consist of common stock and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) and mainly support asset-liability matching strategies for long-duration insurance products in our Income Annuities segment. We believe that prudent levels of equity investments offer enhanced long-term, after-tax total returns.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**Investment Returns**

**Net Investment Income**

Return on invested assets is an important element of our financial results. The following tables set forth the income yield and net investment income, excluding realized gains (losses), for each major investment category:

Investment Type:	Successor Company			
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017		February 1 to December 31, 2016	
	Yield (1)	Amount	Yield (1)	Amount
Fixed maturities (2) .....	3.49%	\$ 1,021.2	3.44%	\$ 879.2
Marketable equity securities .....	2.96	17.9	3.35	19.4
Mortgage loans, net (2) .....	3.86	228.0	3.75	182.4
Other income producing assets (3) .....	3.73	10.2	2.80	7.5
Income before expenses and prepayments .....	3.55	1,277.3	3.48	1,088.5
Prepayment-related income .....	0.14	53.0	0.19	58.0
Investment expenses .....	(0.11)	(39.8)	(0.11)	(36.0)
Net investment income .....	3.58%	\$ 1,290.5	3.56%	\$ 1,110.5

  

Investment Type:	Predecessor Company			
	January 1 to January 31, 2016		For the Year Ended December 31, 2015	
	Yield (1)	Amount	Yield (1)	Amount
Fixed maturities (2) .....	4.45%	\$ 96.1	4.51%	\$ 1,116.2
Marketable equity securities .....	0.59	0.3	3.16	18.1
Mortgage loans, net (2) .....	5.13	20.5	5.22	230.9
Investments in limited partnerships (4) .....	*	(4.4)	*	(60.0)
Other income producing assets (3) .....	0.79	0.2	2.25	8.0
Income before expenses and prepayments .....	4.24	112.7	4.32	1,313.2
Prepayment-related income .....	0.04	1.0	0.20	61.0
Investment expenses .....	(0.12)	(3.3)	(0.12)	(37.8)
Net investment income .....	4.16%	\$ 110.4	4.40%	\$ 1,336.4

\* Yield is not meaningful.

- (1) Yields are determined based on monthly averages calculated using beginning and end-of-period balances. Yields for fixed maturities and equity securities are based on amortized cost. Yields for all other asset types are based on carrying values.
- (2) Excludes investment income related to prepayment activity.
- (3) Other income producing assets include policy loans, other invested assets, and cash and cash equivalents.
- (4) Subsequent to the Sumitomo Life merger, pass through activity from our tax credit investments and the impact of changes in fair value of investments in limited partnerships are recorded in net realized gains (losses) on the consolidated statements of income (loss). The negative impact on pre-tax income from the tax credit investments is more than offset by U.S. federal income tax benefits. For further discussion, see – "Investments in Limited Partnerships - Tax Credit Investments."

As of February 1, 2016, the book values of our investment portfolio were marked to fair value. Based on interest rates at that time, this resulted in the establishment of a \$1.3 billion premium for our investments in fixed maturities and commercial mortgage loans. The resulting amortization of this premium over the life of the assets decreases net investment income for the Successor Company. Because of the application of purchase accounting, it is not meaningful to compare results from the Predecessor and Successor Companies, nor is it meaningful to compare results of the year ended December 31, 2017 to a sum of results of the year ended December 31, 2016.

Prepayment-related income shown above includes make-whole payments and consent fees on early calls or tenders of fixed maturities, prepayment speed adjustments on structured securities, and fees on mortgage loan payments received prior to the stated maturity or outside a rate resetting window. Prepayments of our fixed maturities and commercial

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

mortgage loans result in the write-off of the premium or discount associated with the investment, which is recorded in net realized gains (losses). For the year ended December 31, 2017 and the period February 1 to December 31, 2016, we recognized \$22.6 and \$38.9, respectively, of realized losses related to prepayments, primarily due to premiums established for PGAAP. Due to the low interest rate environment, we continue to experience elevated levels of prepayment activity. As interest rates rise, we reinvest the proceeds from prepayments at rates that are higher than the portfolio yields established at PGAAP.

*Net Realized Gains (Losses)*

The following table sets forth the detail of our net realized gains (losses) before taxes:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
Fixed maturities: .....				
Gain (loss) on sales, net .....	\$ 13.3	\$ (3.6)	\$ 1.2	\$ (8.5)
Credit loss .....	(0.2)	(5.0)	—	(16.1)
Intent-to-sell .....	(6.2)	(5.7)	(3.8)	(22.5)
Total impairments .....	(6.4)	(10.7)	(3.8)	(38.6)
Net gain (loss) — marketable equity securities, available for sale	26.6	0.5	—	7.3
Alternative investments .....	(0.2)	15.2	—	—
Tax credit investments .....	(54.9)	(47.1)	(0.6)	(44.8)
Net gain (loss) — FIA (1) .....	48.1	0.7	(4.2)	(16.1)
DAC and VOBA adjustment .....	(16.6)	3.7	(0.5)	7.2
Prepayment-related loss .....	(22.6)	(38.9)	*	*
Other net gains (losses) (2) .....	13.9	(22.6)	3.4	(13.0)
Marketable equity securities, trading .....	—	—	(22.5)	10.0
Total net realized gains (losses) .....	\$ 1.2	\$ (102.8)	\$ (27.0)	\$ (96.5)

\* Not meaningful.

(1) Includes changes in fair value of the FIA embedded derivative (VED) and related options, excluding options related to our block of FIA business sold during the late 1990s.

(2) Includes net gains (losses) on changes in the fair value of the Company's derivatives not designated for hedge accounting and convertible securities.

Highlights of net realized gains (losses) include:

- Sales of marketable equity securities resulted in a gain of \$26.6 for the year ended December 31, 2017, as we liquidated a portion of our holdings to reduce our equity exposure and to rebalance our equity portfolio.
- Annual unlocking resulted in net gains of \$20.1, which is reflected in net gains on FIA and in the DAC, VOBA, and DSI adjustment.
- The 2017 Tax Act caused a decrease in the expected future tax benefits from our tax credit investments due to the reduction in the corporate tax rate to 21% from 35%, resulting in \$18.3 of impairments.
- For the year ended December 31, 2017, we recognized fixed maturity impairments of \$6.4, which included \$3.1 related to our intent to sell U.S. treasury securities that are held for cash management purposes.
- As a result of accounting guidance adopted on January 1, 2018, future changes in fair value of marketable equity securities will be recognized in realized gains (losses), similar to how trading securities were recorded for the Predecessor Company.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

***Fixed Maturity Securities***

Fixed maturities represented 80.0% and 80.3% of invested assets as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The majority of our fixed maturities are invested in highly marketable or publicly traded securities. A modest allocation of our portfolio is invested in privately placed fixed maturities to enhance the overall value of the portfolio and obtain higher yields than can ordinarily be obtained with comparable securities in public markets. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, privately placed fixed maturities represented 5.0% and 4.8%, respectively, of our total fixed maturity portfolio at fair value.

***Fixed Maturity Securities Credit Quality***

The Securities Valuation Office (SVO) of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) evaluates the investments of insurers for regulatory reporting purposes and assigns fixed maturities to one of the six categories called "NAIC Designations." NAIC designations of "1" or "2" include fixed maturities considered investment grade, which generally include securities rated BBB- or higher by Standard & Poor's (S&P). NAIC designations of "3" through "6" are referred to as below investment grade, which generally include securities rated BB+ or lower by S&P. The SVO applies a modeling approach to determine the NAIC designation for non-agency commercial and residential mortgage-backed securities. As a result, the NAIC designation for such securities may not correspond to the S&P designations.

The following table presents our fixed maturities by NAIC designation and S&P equivalent credit ratings, as well as the percentage of total fixed maturities, based upon fair value, that each designation comprises:

	As of December 31, 2017			As of December 31, 2016		
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	% of Total Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	% of Total Fair Value
<b>NAIC: S&amp;P Equivalent:</b>						
1: AAA, AA, A .....	\$ 15,607.6	\$ 15,790.4	51.8%	\$ 14,946.5	\$ 14,902.7	52.1%
2: BBB .....	13,142.6	13,563.6	44.5	12,222.6	12,408.4	43.3
Total investment grade .....	28,750.2	29,354.0	96.3	27,169.1	27,311.1	95.4
3: BB .....	615.1	665.0	2.2	711.8	756.2	2.6
4: B .....	376.6	405.3	1.3	443.8	469.0	1.7
5: CCC & lower .....	43.0	47.6	0.2	69.8	75.4	0.3
6: In or near default .....	1.6	1.5	—	2.0	2.9	—
Total below investment grade .....	1,036.3	1,119.4	3.7	1,227.4	1,303.5	4.6
Total .....	<u>\$ 29,786.5</u>	<u>\$ 30,473.4</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>\$ 28,396.5</u>	<u>\$ 28,614.6</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*Fixed Maturity Securities and Unrealized Gains and Losses by Security Sector*

The following tables set forth the fair value of our fixed maturities by sector, as well as the associated gross unrealized gains and losses and the percentage of total fixed maturities that each sector comprises as of the dates indicated:

	As of December 31, 2017				
	Cost or Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	% of Total Fair Value
<b>Security Sector</b>					
Corporate securities:					
Consumer discretionary .....	\$ 3,303.5	\$ 97.7	\$ (12.9)	\$ 3,388.3	11.1%
Consumer staples .....	2,667.2	64.6	(10.2)	2,721.6	8.9
Energy .....	2,000.0	137.4	(1.6)	2,135.8	7.0
Financial .....	2,744.2	85.6	(3.7)	2,826.1	9.3
Health care .....	2,627.7	43.7	(11.4)	2,660.0	8.7
Industrial .....	4,354.5	136.4	(6.8)	4,484.1	14.7
Information technology .....	658.6	14.8	(0.8)	672.6	2.2
Materials .....	1,248.4	48.4	(1.8)	1,295.0	4.3
Telecommunication services .....	756.8	27.9	(1.4)	783.3	2.6
Utilities .....	2,995.3	117.5	(9.9)	3,102.9	10.2
Total corporate securities .....	23,356.2	774.0	(60.5)	24,069.7	79.0
U.S. government and agencies .....	446.2	0.2	(4.9)	441.5	1.4
State and political subdivisions .....	794.3	5.0	(6.9)	792.4	2.6
Residential mortgage-backed securities:					
Agency .....	2,312.1	1.8	(48.6)	2,265.3	7.4
Non-agency:					
Prime .....	203.7	3.4	(1.5)	205.6	0.7
Alt-A .....	19.4	1.4	—	20.8	0.1
Total residential mortgage-backed securities .....	2,535.2	6.6	(50.1)	2,491.7	8.2
Commercial mortgage-backed securities:					
Agency .....	42.3	0.2	(0.8)	41.7	0.1
Non-agency .....	752.7	3.6	(2.3)	754.0	2.5
Total commercial mortgage-backed securities .....	795.0	3.8	(3.1)	795.7	2.6
Collateralized loan obligations .....	1,128.1	18.5	—	1,146.6	3.8
Other debt obligations .....	731.5	9.8	(5.5)	735.8	2.4
Total .....	<u>\$ 29,786.5</u>	<u>\$ 817.9</u>	<u>\$ (131.0)</u>	<u>\$ 30,473.4</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

As of December 31, 2016

	Cost or Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	% of Total Fair Value
<b>Security Sector</b>					
Corporate securities:					
Consumer discretionary .....	\$ 2,988.7	\$ 53.6	\$ (19.0)	\$ 3,023.3	10.5%
Consumer staples .....	2,815.7	28.1	(19.2)	2,824.6	9.9
Energy .....	1,693.5	133.7	(3.7)	1,823.5	6.4
Financial .....	2,268.3	32.1	(19.0)	2,281.4	8.0
Health care .....	2,897.2	15.7	(33.3)	2,879.6	10.1
Industrial .....	4,040.5	54.3	(17.1)	4,077.7	14.2
Information technology .....	579.7	10.6	(6.3)	584.0	2.0
Materials .....	1,291.4	34.1	(5.0)	1,320.5	4.6
Telecommunication services .....	718.8	19.9	(1.8)	736.9	2.6
Utilities .....	2,467.4	46.1	(28.1)	2,485.4	8.7
Total corporate securities .....	21,761.2	428.2	(152.5)	22,036.9	77.0
U.S. government and agencies .....	397.3	0.4	(5.6)	392.1	1.4
State and political subdivisions .....	943.0	1.3	(13.5)	930.8	3.3
Residential mortgage-backed securities:					
Agency .....	2,386.1	0.6	(49.6)	2,337.1	8.2
Non-agency:					
Prime .....	244.8	2.2	(2.8)	244.2	0.8
Alt-A .....	26.8	0.9	(0.1)	27.6	0.1
Total residential mortgage-backed securities .....	2,657.7	3.7	(52.5)	2,608.9	9.1
Commercial mortgage-backed securities:					
Agency .....	57.4	0.1	(1.2)	56.3	0.2
Non-agency .....	873.5	2.6	(5.2)	870.9	3.0
Total commercial mortgage-backed securities .....	930.9	2.7	(6.4)	927.2	3.2
Collateralized loan obligations .....	1,198.7	18.7	(3.8)	1,213.6	4.2
Other debt obligations .....	507.7	4.2	(6.8)	505.1	1.8
Total .....	<u>\$ 28,396.5</u>	<u>\$ 459.2</u>	<u>\$ (241.1)</u>	<u>\$ 28,614.6</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Our fixed maturities holdings are diversified by industry and issuer. As of December 31, 2017, the fair value of our ten largest issuers of corporate securities holdings was \$1,841.5, or 7.7% of total corporate securities. The fair value of our largest exposure to a single issuer of corporate securities was \$199.2, or 0.8% of total corporate securities, and all securities of this issuer were rated investment grade. As of December 31, 2016, the fair value of our ten largest issuers of corporate securities holdings was \$1,684.1, or 7.6% of total corporate securities. The fair value of our largest exposure to a single issuer of corporate securities was \$196.6, or 0.9% of total corporate securities, and all securities of this issuer were rated investment grade.

Our investments in U.S. government and agency securities are generally purchases of U.S. treasury bonds as part of our cash management and asset-liability matching strategies to obtain higher yields and match liability durations from incoming cash flows until investments with adequate spreads are found. Our holdings of these securities will fluctuate from quarter to quarter based on sales volume and timing of cash deployment. In addition, these holdings may fluctuate to support collateral needs for our derivatives program.

As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the fair value of our state and political subdivision securities included \$741.7 and \$870.7, respectively, of municipal revenue bonds and \$50.7 and \$60.1, respectively, of municipal general obligation bonds. We have municipal holdings of \$6.0 and \$6.1 in Illinois as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively, and no exposure to municipal holdings in Michigan, Connecticut, or Puerto Rico.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*Exposure to Foreign Fixed Maturities*

As part of our strategy to improve portfolio yields, we invest in high-quality foreign corporate securities. The majority of these holdings are denominated in U.S. dollars. We utilize foreign currency swaps and forwards to hedge our exposure to those denominated in foreign currencies. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, fixed maturities with fair values of \$689.3 and \$637.3, respectively, were denominated in a foreign currency and reported in U.S. dollars based on period-end exchange rates.

The following tables summarize our exposure to foreign fixed maturity holdings by sovereign debt, financial industry and other corporate debt exposures. The country designation is based on the issuer's country of incorporation.

As of December 31, 2017						
	Sovereign Debt	Financial Industry	Other Corporate	Total Fair Value	% of Exposure	Amortized Cost
United Kingdom .....	\$ —	\$ 124.8	\$ 774.8	\$ 899.6	14.8%	\$ 873.6
Netherlands .....	—	25.1	765.1	790.2	13.0	771.6
Luxembourg .....	—	20.8	331.6	352.4	5.8	345.9
Ireland .....	—	—	306.6	306.6	5.0	302.1
France .....	—	25.8	255.5	281.3	4.6	269.1
Switzerland .....	—	141.1	—	141.1	2.3	140.7
Other European countries .....	31.9	—	110.3	142.2	2.3	135.1
Total European holdings .....	\$ 31.9	\$ 337.6	\$ 2,543.9	\$ 2,913.4	47.8%	\$ 2,838.1
Cayman Islands (1) .....	57.1	1,084.3	112.4	1,253.8	20.7	1,235.5
Canada .....	12.4	1.7	1,179.1	1,193.2	19.7	1,128.3
Mexico .....	—	—	365.8	365.8	6.0	352.1
Australia .....	—	1.2	202.4	203.6	3.4	190.5
Other foreign countries .....	—	21.6	121.5	143.1	2.4	138.4
Total foreign holdings .....	\$ 101.4	\$ 1,446.4	\$ 4,525.1	\$ 6,072.9	100.0%	\$ 5,882.9

(1) Holdings primarily relate to collateralized loan obligations issued by Cayman Island entities with underlying collateral in the United States.

As of December 31, 2016						
	Sovereign Debt	Financial Industry	Other Corporate	Total Fair Value	% of Exposure	Amortized Cost
United Kingdom .....	\$ —	\$ 134.6	\$ 735.4	\$ 870.0	15.5%	\$ 850.9
Netherlands .....	—	24.1	578.5	602.6	10.7	592.2
Luxembourg .....	—	18.5	321.9	340.4	6.1	337.4
Ireland .....	—	—	331.4	331.4	5.9	332.1
France .....	—	24.5	256.7	281.2	5.0	271.2
Switzerland .....	—	112.2	—	112.2	2.0	114.1
Other European countries .....	28.7	—	83.8	112.5	1.9	106.1
Total European holdings .....	\$ 28.7	\$ 313.9	\$ 2,307.7	\$ 2,650.3	47.1%	\$ 2,604.0
Cayman Islands (1) .....	64.3	1,140.7	88.7	1,293.7	23.0	1,279.8
Canada .....	12.9	—	1,012.1	1,025.0	18.2	972.6
Mexico .....	—	1.0	354.5	355.5	6.3	352.9
Australia .....	—	1.2	208.2	209.4	3.7	195.3
Other foreign countries .....	—	6.7	85.2	91.9	1.7	92.3
Total foreign holdings .....	\$ 105.9	\$ 1,463.5	\$ 4,056.4	\$ 5,625.8	100.0%	\$ 5,496.9

(1) Holdings primarily relate to collateralized loan obligations issued by Cayman Island entities with underlying collateral in the United States.

As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the fair value of our exposure to foreign fixed maturities was 19.9% and 19.7%, respectively, of our total fixed maturities portfolio. Our gross unrealized losses on these securities were \$13.3 and \$30.6 as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

In June 2016, the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union (EU), and while European markets have stabilized since the decision, there is still uncertainty in the economic outlook for Europe. In March 2017, the United Kingdom formally submitted its decision to leave the EU and is in the process of negotiating the terms of its exit. We hold less than 3% of total fixed maturities in United Kingdom issuers, 80% of which are investment grade.

Further, the European banking industry has faced difficulties recently, with increased regulation and the low interest rate environment. We continue to monitor this industry and our exposure to European financial institutions, which was \$337.6, or 1.1% of the total fixed maturities portfolio as of December 31, 2017.

The fair value of our total exposure to Italy and Spain was \$10.2 and \$2.5 as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. We have no exposure to issuers in Greece, Portugal, Russia or Ukraine.

The fair value of our ten largest foreign security holdings by issuer was \$1,439.4, or 4.7% of the fixed maturities portfolio as of December 31, 2017, and \$1,190.9, or 4.2%, as of December 31, 2016. Nearly all of the holdings of our ten largest foreign issuers were investment grade securities as of December 31, 2017, while all were investment grade as of December 31, 2016.

Our largest exposure to a single foreign issuer was \$178.2, or 0.6% of the portfolio, and \$176.4, or 0.6% of the portfolio, as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The issuer is based in Ireland and the holdings are investment grade.

*Mortgage-Backed Securities*

Our fixed maturities portfolio included \$3.29 billion of residential and commercial mortgage-backed securities at fair value as of December 31, 2017, of which 70.2% were agency securities. Additionally, 19.8% of our mortgage-backed securities are AAA-rated non-agency securities in the most senior tranche of the structure type.

Our mortgage-backed securities may have prepayment options. Accounting standards require us to make estimates regarding prepayments when recognizing interest income on these securities. Prepayments that vary from our estimates in amount or timing cause fluctuations in our yields due to an acceleration or deceleration of unamortized premiums or discounts associated with the securities in our portfolio. These adjustments, which relate primarily to residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS), are recorded in net investment income and can create volatility between periods.

*Residential Mortgage-Backed Securities (RMBS)*

We classify our investments in RMBS as agency, prime, Alt-A, and subprime. Agency RMBS are guaranteed or otherwise supported by the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, or the Government National Mortgage Association. Prime RMBS have underlying loans to customers with good quality credit profiles, and subprime RMBS have underlying loans to customers with a greater risk of default. Alt-A RMBS have overall credit quality between prime and subprime, based on a review of their underlying mortgage loans and factors such as credit scores and financial ratios. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, non-agency RMBS made up 9.1% and 10.4% of our total RMBS portfolio, respectively. Of this amount, 90.8% and 89.8%, respectively, were classified as prime. The Company had no exposure to subprime RMBS as of December 31, 2017 or 2016.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following table provides additional information on our RMBS prepayment exposure, by type and vintage:

As of December 31, 2017						
	Amortized Cost	Unrealized Gains/ (Losses)	Fair Value	Gross Discount	Gross Premium	Average Mortgage Loan Rate
<b>Agency:</b>						
CMO:						
2009-2017 .....	\$ 1,779.6	\$ (39.7)	\$ 1,739.9	\$ 4.3	\$ (55.9)	4.0%
2006-2008 .....	1.8	—	1.8	—	(0.1)	5.5
2005 and prior .....	254.5	(1.5)	253.0	—	(23.5)	6.1
Total Agency CMO .....	<u>\$ 2,035.9</u>	<u>\$ (41.2)</u>	<u>\$ 1,994.7</u>	<u>\$ 4.3</u>	<u>\$ (79.5)</u>	<u>4.3%</u>
Passthrough:						
2009-2017 .....	\$ 250.0	\$ (5.2)	\$ 244.8	\$ 0.3	\$ (12.7)	4.1%
2006-2008 .....	11.7	(0.2)	11.5	—	(1.2)	6.3
2005 and prior .....	14.5	(0.2)	14.3	—	(1.4)	5.9
Total Agency Passthrough .....	<u>276.2</u>	<u>(5.6)</u>	<u>270.6</u>	<u>0.3</u>	<u>(15.3)</u>	<u>4.3</u>
Total Agency RMBS .....	<u>\$ 2,312.1</u>	<u>\$ (46.8)</u>	<u>\$ 2,265.3</u>	<u>\$ 4.6</u>	<u>\$ (94.8)</u>	<u>4.3%</u>
<b>Non-Agency:</b>						
2009-2017 .....	\$ 150.1	\$ (1.2)	\$ 148.9	\$ 0.1	\$ (1.9)	4.0%
2006-2008 .....	25.7	2.0	27.7	5.9	—	5.1
2005 and prior .....	47.3	2.5	49.8	2.8	(0.1)	5.3
Total Non-Agency RMBS .....	<u>223.1</u>	<u>3.3</u>	<u>226.4</u>	<u>8.8</u>	<u>(2.0)</u>	<u>4.4</u>
<b>Total RMBS</b>	<u>\$ 2,535.2</u>	<u>\$ (43.5)</u>	<u>\$ 2,491.7</u>	<u>\$ 13.4</u>	<u>\$ (96.8)</u>	<u>4.3%</u>

As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, 75.8% and 74.4%, respectively, of the fair value of our non-agency RMBS had super senior subordination. The super senior class has priority with respect to all principal and interest cash flows and will not experience any loss of principal until subordinate tranches are written down to zero. Therefore, the majority of our RMBS investments have less exposure to defaults and delinquencies in the underlying collateral than if we held the more subordinated classes.

*Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities (CMBS)*

The following table sets forth the total fair value, and amortized cost of our non-agency CMBS by credit quality and vintage.

As of December 31, 2017				
Highest Rating Agency Rating				
	Investment Grade	Below Investment Grade	Total	December 31, 2016
<b>Vintage:</b>				
2009-2017 .....	\$ 661.5	\$ 24.9	\$ 686.4	\$ 640.4
2006-2008 .....	—	—	—	165.3
2005 and prior .....	66.3	—	66.3	67.8
Total amortized cost .....	<u>\$ 727.8</u>	<u>\$ 24.9</u>	<u>\$ 752.7</u>	<u>\$ 873.5</u>
Net unrealized gains (losses) .....	0.6	0.7	1.3	(2.6)
Total fair value .....	<u>\$ 728.4</u>	<u>\$ 25.6</u>	<u>\$ 754.0</u>	<u>\$ 870.9</u>

As of December 31, 2017, our CMBS portfolio was highly concentrated in the most senior tranches, with 78.2% of our AAA-rated securities in the most senior tranche, based on amortized cost. The senior class has priority over the mezzanine and junior classes to all principal and interest cash flows and will not experience any loss of principal until both the entire mezzanine and junior tranches are written down to zero.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The weighted-average credit enhancement of our CMBS portfolio was 34.8% as of December 31, 2017. We believe this additional credit enhancement is significant, especially in the event of a deep real estate downturn during which losses would be expected to increase substantially.

***Mortgage Loans***

Our mortgage loan department originates commercial mortgages and manages our existing commercial mortgage loan portfolio. We specialize in originating loans of \$1.0 to \$5.0, which are generally secured by first-mortgage liens on income-producing commercial real estate. All loans are underwritten consistently to our standards based on loan-to-value (LTV) ratios and debt service coverage ratios (DSCR). LTV ratios and DSCRs are based on income and detailed market, property and borrower analyses using our experience in commercial mortgage lending. A large majority of our loans have personal guarantees, and all loans are inspected and evaluated annually. We diversify our mortgage loans by geographic region, loan size and scheduled maturity.

As of February 1, 2016, the book value of the Company's mortgage loans was marked to fair value through the application of PGAAP, establishing a \$283.4 net premium for the portfolio. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the unamortized premium balance was \$177.1 and \$228.4, respectively. Amounts in the following discussion reflect the outstanding principal balance of our loans, unless otherwise indicated, and do not reflect the PGAAP premium or any allowance for losses, deferred loan origination costs, and unearned mortgage loan fees.

As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, 72.9% and 72.1%, respectively, of our mortgage loans had an outstanding principal under \$5.0.

We continue to increase our investments in mortgage loans, as this strategy has resulted in increased net investment yields when compared to fixed maturity investments. We believe a disciplined increase in commercial mortgage loan investments will help maintain the overall quality of our investment portfolio and obtain appropriate yields to match our policyholder liabilities. We originated \$1,076.5 of mortgage loans during the year ended December 31, 2017.

During 2017, several large natural disasters affected states where we have mortgage loans outstanding, primarily California, Texas, and Florida. The majority of our underlying properties impacted by these disasters were not materially affected, and we did not incur losses as a result.

We believe we have maintained our disciplined underwriting approach as we have increased our mortgage loan portfolio. The following table presents information about our mortgage loan originations:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016
Weighted average LTV ratio of loans originated .....	49.1%	50.3%	50.6%
Weighted average DSCR of loans originated .....	1.92	1.90	1.92

***Credit Quality***

We use the LTV ratio and DSCR as our primary metrics to assess mortgage loan quality. These factors are also considered in the evaluation of our allowance for mortgage loan losses. For more information and further discussion of the allowance for mortgage loan losses, see Note 5 to our audited consolidated financial statements.

The LTV ratio compares the outstanding principal of the loan to the estimated fair value of the underlying property collateralizing the loan. In the year of funding, LTV ratios are calculated using independent appraisals performed by Member of the Appraisal Institute (MAI) designated appraisers. Subsequent to the year of funding, LTV ratios are updated annually using internal valuations based on property income and estimated market capitalization rates, which are based on geographic region, property type and economic climate. Property income and market capitalization rates are typically updated during the third quarter of each year. LTV ratios greater than 100% indicate that the loan amount is greater than the collateral value. A smaller LTV ratio generally indicates a higher quality loan.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following table sets forth the LTV ratios for our mortgage loan portfolio:

	As of December 31, 2017		As of December 31, 2016	
	Outstanding Principal	% of Total	Outstanding Principal	% of Total
<b>Loan-to-Value Ratio:</b>				
< or = 50% .....	\$ 3,105.8	51.2%	\$ 2,717.0	49.8%
51% - 60% .....	1,790.4	29.5	1,559.4	28.5
61% - 70% .....	937.3	15.5	960.8	17.6
71% - 75% .....	131.3	2.2	148.4	2.7
76% - 80% .....	45.6	0.8	39.5	0.7
81% - 100% .....	44.5	0.7	34.2	0.6
> 100% .....	7.1	0.1	4.0	0.1
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$ 6,062.0</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 5,463.3</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

The following table sets forth the weighted-average LTV ratios for our mortgage loan portfolio by year of origination:

	As of December 31, 2017			As of December 31, 2016		
	Outstanding Principal	% of Total Value	Weighted Average LTV	Outstanding Principal	% of Total Value	Weighted Average LTV
<b>Origination Year:</b>						
2017 .....	\$ 1,076.5	17.8%	49.1%			
2016 .....	1,099.1	18.1	55.2	\$ 1,128.0	20.6%	50.3%
2015 .....	950.9	15.7	52.8	999.6	18.3	55.0
2014 .....	812.4	13.4	50.8	867.4	15.9	52.8
2013 .....	543.7	9.0	46.5	609.0	11.1	49.5
2012 .....	564.3	9.3	47.7	631.0	11.6	49.0
2011 .....	526.5	8.7	45.7	591.8	10.8	47.8
2010 and prior .....	488.6	8.0	41.3	636.5	11.7	43.6
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$ 6,062.0</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>49.7%</b>	<b>\$ 5,463.3</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>50.3%</b>

The DSCR compares the amount of rental income a property is generating to the amount of the mortgage payments due on the property. A higher DSCR generally indicates a higher quality loan. DSCRs are calculated using the most current annual operating history for the collateral, which is typically updated annually during the third quarter. The portfolio's weighted average DSCR was 1.91 and 1.88 as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The following table sets forth the distribution of DSCRs for our mortgage loan portfolio:

	As of December 31, 2017		As of December 31, 2016	
	Outstanding Principal	% of Total	Outstanding Principal	% of Total
<b>Debt Service Coverage Ratio:</b>				
> or = 1.60 .....	\$ 3,934.4	64.9%	\$ 3,415.7	62.5%
1.40 - 1.59 .....	963.0	15.9	932.5	17.1
1.20 - 1.39 .....	651.3	10.7	697.0	12.8
1.00 - 1.19 .....	367.6	6.1	310.1	5.7
0.85 - 0.99 .....	61.5	1.0	42.2	0.8
< 0.85 .....	84.2	1.4	65.8	1.1
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$ 6,062.0</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 5,463.3</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As of December 31, 2017, loans with an aggregate carrying value of \$145.7 had a DSCR of less than 1.00. The average outstanding principal balance of these loans was \$2.0 with a weighted average LTV of 68.0%.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*Composition of Mortgage Loans*

The following table sets forth our investments in mortgage loans by state:

	As of December 31, 2017		As of December 31, 2016	
	Outstanding Principal	% of Total	Outstanding Principal	% of Total
<b>State:</b>				
California .....	\$ 1,634.9	27.0%	\$ 1,485.9	27.2%
Texas .....	660.9	10.9	620.1	11.4
Washington .....	404.5	6.7	398.1	7.3
Ohio .....	255.7	4.2	226.7	4.1
Florida .....	243.3	4.0	225.5	4.1
Nevada .....	220.6	3.6	196.4	3.6
Illinois .....	211.0	3.5	205.9	3.8
New York .....	204.9	3.4	195.4	3.6
Oregon .....	197.6	3.3	174.0	3.2
Other .....	2,028.6	33.4	1,735.3	31.7
Total .....	<u>\$ 6,062.0</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>\$ 5,463.3</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

The following table sets forth our investments in mortgage loans by property type:

	As of December 31, 2017		As of December 31, 2016	
	Outstanding Principal	% of Total	Outstanding Principal	% of Total
<b>Property Type:</b>				
Shopping centers and retail .....	\$ 3,014.1	49.7%	\$ 2,739.7	50.2%
Office buildings .....	1,106.0	18.2	1,072.7	19.6
Industrial .....	972.4	16.0	832.3	15.2
Multi-family .....	503.4	8.3	433.0	7.9
Other .....	466.1	7.8	385.6	7.1
Total .....	<u>\$ 6,062.0</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>\$ 5,463.3</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Our shopping centers and retail portfolio is well diversified among several sub-categories including anchored shopping centers, restaurants, car care centers, and other service-oriented businesses. Current stress in the retail sector is primarily affecting large malls and big box retailers as they navigate the impact of Internet sales on their business models, and we do not have significant amounts of outstanding loans in this part of the retail sector. Our portfolio continues to perform well, and we see high occupancy levels among our underlying properties.

*Maturity Date of Mortgage Loans*

The following table sets forth our investments in mortgage loans by contractual maturity date:

	As of December 31, 2017	
	Outstanding Principal	% of Total
<b>Years to Maturity:</b>		
Due in one year or less .....	\$ 71.9	1.2%
Due after one year through five years .....	793.3	13.1
Due after five years through ten years .....	1,657.6	27.3
Due after ten years .....	3,539.2	58.4
Total .....	<u>\$ 6,062.0</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Prior to their contractual maturity, some of our mortgage loans have one or more specified rate resetting windows during which the loan typically can be prepaid without a fee. During these windows, we expect that a portion of these loans will

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

either be reset or refinanced at market terms, given the current interest rate environment. These loan features are considered in our asset-liability management, and we align our expected mortgage loan cash inflows and duration with the amount and timing of liability cash outflows. These dates were also considered in establishing the expected maturity for each loan with respect to amortization of the PGAAP premium.

Additionally, our loan terms usually allow borrowers to prepay their mortgage loan prior to the stated maturity or outside specified rate resetting windows. Prepayments are driven by factors specific to the activities of our borrowers as well as the interest rate environment. However, the majority of our mortgage loans contain yield maintenance prepayment provisions that we believe mitigate the impact of such prepayments. Most loans that existed at PGAAP are carried at a premium to the loan's outstanding principal. Upon prepayment of one of these loans, the unamortized premium balance is recorded as a realized loss.

***Investments in Limited Partnerships — Tax Credit Investments***

We invest in limited partnerships where the primary return on investment is in the form of income tax credits and the tax benefit on the pass-through of partnership activity. These partnerships are established to invest in low-income housing and other qualifying purposes (collectively referred to as "tax credit investments"). Although these investments decrease our income on a pre-tax basis, they contribute to net income by providing significant tax benefits that lower our effective tax rate. Refer to Notes 2 and 4 to the audited consolidated financial statements for further discussion related to our investments in low-income housing project investments. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the Company's tax credit investments had carrying values of \$173.0 and \$195.2, respectively

The following table sets forth the impact of these investments on net income:

	Successor Company		Predecessor Company	
	For the Year Ended December 31, 2017	February 1 to December 31, 2016	January 1 to January 31, 2016	For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
Pass through activity, net of taxes .....	\$ (16.2)	\$ (24.6)	\$ (2.3)	\$ (26.2)
Write downs, net of taxes .....	(19.5)	(6.0)	(0.4)	(26.6)
Tax credits, net .....	37.0	52.0	4.1	79.8
Impact to net income .....	\$ 1.3	\$ 21.4	\$ 1.4	\$ 27.0

The 2017 Tax Act caused a decrease in our expected tax benefits from future pass through activity due to the reduction in the corporate tax rate to 21% from 35%, resulting in impairments of \$11.9, net of tax, during the year ended December 31, 2017.

The majority of our investments in limited partnerships relate to low-income housing. The tax credits from these partnerships are generally delivered in the first ten years of the investment, with the largest portions provided in the middle years. Other tax credit investments generally provide tax credits during the first two years of the investment.

**LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

Symetra conducts its operations through its operating subsidiaries, and its liquidity requirements primarily have been and will continue to be met by funds from such subsidiaries. Dividends from subsidiaries are Symetra's principal source of cash to pay dividends to its stockholder and meet its obligations, including payments of principal and interest on notes payable. Payments of dividends from its insurance subsidiaries are subject to restrictions under state insurance regulations.

We actively manage our liquidity in light of changing market, economic, and business conditions, and we believe that our liquidity levels are more than adequate to cover our exposures, as evidenced in the discussion below.

**Liquid Assets**

Symetra's insurance company subsidiaries have investment strategies intended to provide adequate funds to pay benefits without forced sales of investments. Products that have liabilities with longer durations, such as certain life insurance policies and structured settlement annuities, are matched with investments which have similar estimated lives such as long-term fixed maturities, commercial mortgage loans, and marketable equity securities. Shorter-term liabilities are

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

matched with shorter-term fixed maturities. In addition, our insurance subsidiaries hold sufficient levels of highly liquid, high quality assets to fund anticipated operating expenses, surrenders, and withdrawals.

We define liquid assets to include cash, cash equivalents, short-term investments, and publicly traded and highly-marketable fixed maturities and equity securities. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, our insurance company subsidiaries had liquid assets of \$29.88 billion and \$27.99 billion, respectively, and Symetra had liquid assets of \$197.2 and \$358.7, respectively. The portion of our total liquid assets consisting of cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments was \$362.6 and \$390.7 as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

As of December 31, 2017, we had the ability to borrow, on an unsecured basis, a principal amount of \$400.0 under a revolving line of credit arrangement with an expansion feature providing access to up to \$100.0, for a total maximum principal amount of \$500.0.

### **Liquidity Requirements**

The liquidity requirements of Symetra's insurance company subsidiaries primarily relate to obligations associated with their insurance policies and investment contracts, operating expenses, the payment of dividends to Symetra, and the payment of income taxes. Obligations associated with insurance policies and investment contracts include the payment of benefits, as well as cash payments made in connection with policy and contract surrenders and withdrawals. Historically, Symetra's insurance company subsidiaries have used cash flows from operations and invested assets to fund their liquidity requirements.

In managing the liquidity of our insurance operations, we consider the risk of policyholder and contract holder withdrawals of funds occurring earlier than assumed when selecting assets to support these contractual obligations. We use surrender charges, market value adjustments (MVAs), and other contract provisions to mitigate the extent, timing, and profitability impact of such withdrawals. While certain policy lapses and surrenders occur in the normal course of business, the current low interest rate environment generally has resulted in lower than expected lapses of our fixed annuities, as policyholders have limited alternatives to seek a higher return on their funds. If interest rates rise significantly, we will likely experience an increase in lapses.

Our asset-liability management process takes into account the expected cash flows on investments and expected policyholder payments, as well as the specific nature and risk profile of the liabilities. Considering the size and liquidity profile of our investment portfolio, we believe that we have appropriately mitigated the risk of policyholder behavior varying from our projections. We also consider attributes of the various categories of liquid assets, for example, type of asset and credit quality, in evaluating the adequacy of our insurance operations' liquidity under a variety of stress scenarios. We believe that the liquidity profile of our assets is sufficient to satisfy our liquidity requirements.

### **Capitalization**

Our primary sources of capital are through retained earnings from our operating subsidiaries, access to the credit facility discussed above, access to debt financing markets, and additional capital from our parent, Sumitomo Life. The following table summarizes our capital structure:

	As of December 31, 2017	As of December 31, 2016
Notes payable .....	\$ 706.6	\$ 707.5
Stockholder's equity (includes AOCI of \$544.9 and \$143.5, respectively) .....	4,216.4	3,838.2
<b>Total capital .....</b>	<b>\$ 4,923.0</b>	<b>\$ 4,545.7</b>

The payment of dividends and other distributions to Symetra by its insurance subsidiaries is subject to insurance laws and regulations. In general, dividends in excess of prescribed limits are deemed "extraordinary" and require regulatory approval.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, Symetra received cash dividends of \$50.0 from its insurance subsidiaries, and paid a \$180.0 dividend to our parent company, Sumitomo Life. Of this amount, \$161.0 was recorded as a return of capital and deducted from paid-in capital.

Additionally, in March 2018, the Board of Directors declared a \$70.0 dividend to our parent company. For a more detailed discussion on dividends, see Note 16 of our December 31, 2017 audited consolidated financial statements.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The NAIC establishes risk-based capital (RBC) standards for life insurance companies. If an insurer's RBC falls below specified levels, the insurer would be subject to different degrees of regulatory action depending upon the level of deficiency. As of December 31, 2017, Symetra Life Insurance Company, our primary insurance company subsidiary, had an RBC ratio of 421%, which is well above regulatory action levels. Symetra Life Insurance Company's Statutory capital and surplus, including asset valuation reserve, was \$2,567.2 as of December 31, 2017.

## Debt

The following table summarizes our debt instruments:

Description:	Maturity Date	Maximum Amount Available		Amount Outstanding	
		As of December 31,		As of December 31,	
		2017	2016	2017	2016
Term loan credit agreement .....	3/30/2018	\$ 300.0	\$ 300.0	\$ 300.0	\$ 300.0
Senior notes, due 2024 .....	7/15/2024	250.0	250.0	250.0	250.0
Capital Efficient Notes (CENts) .....	10/15/2067	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0
Revolving credit facility .....	8/28/2019	400.0	400.0	—	—
Surplus note .....	12/31/2039	107.2	107.2	—	—
Total .....		<u>\$ 1,207.2</u>	<u>\$ 1,207.2</u>	<u>\$ 700.0</u>	<u>\$ 700.0</u>

See Note 14 of our consolidated financial statements for a more detailed description of these instruments.

### ***Term Loan Credit Agreement***

In March 2016, Symetra borrowed \$300.0 under a delayed draw term loan agreement to settle its \$300.0 Senior Notes, which matured in April 2016. The term loans bore interest at a variable annual rate based on the LIBOR rate, or an alternate base rate, plus an applicable margin. In January 2018, the term loans were redeemed in full, using proceeds from the \$450.0 Sumitomo Life loan discussed below.

### ***Senior Notes Due 2024***

In August 2014, we issued \$250.0 of 4.25% Senior Notes. Interest on the notes is payable semi-annually.

### ***Capital Efficient Notes (CENts) Due 2067***

In October 2007, we issued \$150.0 aggregate principal amount CENts. For the initial ten-year period following the original issuance date, the CENts carried a fixed interest rate of 8.300% payable semi-annually. From October 15, 2017 until the final maturity date, interest on the CENts was accrued at a variable annual rate equal to the three-month London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus 4.177%, payable quarterly. During January 2018, the CENts were redeemed in full, using proceeds from the \$450.0 Sumitomo Life loan discussed below.

### ***Revolving Credit Facility***

In August 2014, we entered into a \$400.0 senior unsecured revolving credit facility with a syndicate of lending institutions. The facility also provides access to up to \$100.0 of additional financing, subject to the availability of additional commitments from lenders. As of December 31, 2017, we have not made any borrowings under the facility.

### ***Surplus Note***

In December 2014, in association with a reserve financing transaction on certain universal life policies, one of our insurance subsidiaries issued a surplus note. The note had no initial principal balance, and there have been no borrowings under this note as of December 31, 2017.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

***Sumitomo Life Insurance Company Loan Agreement***

In November 2017, the Company entered into a loan agreement with its parent company, Sumitomo Life. The Company borrowed \$450.0 in January 2018. The loan bears interest at a fixed annual rate of 2.68%, payable quarterly, and matures in January 2021. The Company used the proceeds of the loan to redeem the \$150.0 CENTs and the \$300.0 term loans in January 2018.

**SOURCES OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES**

Our revenues generally come from our policyholders in the form of premiums and policy fees, as well as investment income earned on our investment portfolio. Our main expenses are benefits to policyholders, including interest credited, expenses for operations, and amortization. These items are discussed in further detail below.

Each of our four business segments maintains its own portfolio of invested assets, which are managed in accordance with specific guidelines. The net investment income and realized gains (losses) are reported in the segment in which they occur. We also allocate net investment income generated by our surplus portfolio to each segment using a risk-based capital formula. The unallocated portion of net investment income is reported in the Other segment. Investment expenses, which are recorded as a reduction of net investment income, are allocated to each segment based on its portfolio of invested assets. We allocate shared services operating expenses to each segment using multiple factors, including employee headcount and time study results.

As a result of the Sumitomo Life merger, the reporting of our revenues and expenses was affected by PGAAP.

***Revenues***

***Premiums***

Premiums consist primarily of premiums from our medical stop-loss; group life and DI; limited benefit medical, group accident, and critical illness; individual term; and whole life insurance products, net of reinsurance premiums paid.

***Net investment income***

Net investment income represents the income earned on our investments, net of investment expenses, including prepayment-related income such as bond make-whole payments.

***Policy fees, contract charges and other***

Policy fees, contract charges and other includes COI charges primarily on our UL, COLI, and BOLI policies, surrender and other administrative charges to policyholders, revenues from our non-insurance businesses, and reinsurance allowance fees.

***Net realized gains (losses)***

Net realized gains (losses) consists mainly of realized gains (losses) from sales of our investments, realized losses from investment impairments, prepayment-related gains (losses), and changes in fair value of our marked-to-market financial instruments. It also includes the portion of DAC and Voba amortization due to changes in estimated gross profits (EGPs) related to these items. For Successor company, net realized gains (losses) also reflects changes in the fair value of our alternative investments and expense from pass through activity of tax credit investments. For Predecessor company, these items were recorded in net investment income.

***Benefits and Expenses***

***Policyholder benefits and claims***

Policyholder benefits and claims consist of benefits paid, net of reinsurance recoveries, and reserve changes on group insurance, annuity products with death benefits, individual life, COLI and BOLI products.

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*Interest credited*

Interest credited represents interest credited to policyholder reserves and contract holder general account balances, the impact of mortality and funding services activity within our Income Annuities segment, and the impact of deferred sales inducements.

*Other underwriting and operating expenses*

Other underwriting and operating expenses represent non-deferrable costs related to the acquisition and the ongoing maintenance of insurance and investment contracts, including certain non-deferrable commissions, policy issuance expenses and other business and administrative operating costs.

*Interest expense*

Interest expense primarily includes interest on corporate debt, including the amortization of any associated premiums or discounts and related debt issuance costs.

*Amortization of DAC and VOBA*

We defer as assets certain commissions, distribution costs, new business processing costs, and other underwriting costs that are directly related to the successful acquisition of new and renewal business. In addition, as a result of the Sumitomo Life merger, we established a balance for VOBA, which represents the right to receive future gross profits from cash flows and earnings of our existing business. Amortization of previously capitalized DAC and VOBA is recorded as an expense.

*Amortization of intangible assets*

Intangible assets include value of distribution acquired (VODA), value of customer relationships acquired (VOCRA), trade names, and technology. These intangible assets have finite lives and are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives.

**USE OF NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES**

Certain tables and related disclosures in this report include non-GAAP financial measures. We believe these measures provide useful information when evaluating our financial performance or condition. Non-GAAP financial measures are not a substitute for their most directly comparable GAAP measures and should be read together with such measures. The adjustments made to derive non-GAAP measures are important to understanding our overall results of operations and financial position and, if evaluated without proper context, non-GAAP measures possess material limitations. These measures may be calculated differently from similarly titled measures of different companies.

We have provided reconciliations between non-GAAP financial measures and their most directly comparable GAAP financial measures in the – "Results of Operations" section of this report. Subsequent to the Sumitomo Life merger (Successor Company), we modified our definitions of Adjusted Operating Income and Pre-tax Adjusted Operating Income. In the following discussion we provide the Successor Company definitions of these non-GAAP measures.

*Adjusted Operating Income*

Adjusted operating income consists of net income, excluding intangible asset amortization and most net realized gains (losses). These adjustments are net of taxes, calculated at the 2017 U.S. federal statutory income tax rate. Excluded realized gains (losses) are associated with investment sales or disposals, investment impairments, changes in the fair value of mark-to-market investments and derivative investments (except for certain index options associated with FIA policies primarily sold in the late 1990s), and changes in the fair value of embedded derivatives related to FIA products, as well as the DAC, VOBA and DSI impacts related to these items. For 2017, adjusted operating income also excludes the impact of the 2017 Tax Act.

Effective in the first quarter of 2017, pre-tax adjusted operating income was modified to exclude all intangible asset amortization. Management considers this most meaningful when assessing the results of its core business operations. Prior period results for the Successor Company have been adjusted to reflect this change.

Net income is the most directly comparable GAAP measure to adjusted operating income. Net income for any period presents the results of our insurance operations, as well as our net realized gains (losses) and intangible asset amortization. We consider investment income generated by our invested assets to be part of the results of our insurance

**SYMETRA FINANCIAL CORPORATION**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF**  
**FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

operations because these assets are acquired and generally held to maturity to generate income that we use to meet our insurance-related obligations. Conversely, we do not consider many of the activities reported through net realized gains (losses) to be part of the results of our insurance operations. The timing and amount of these gains (losses) are driven by investment decisions and external economic developments unrelated to our management of the insurance and underwriting aspects of our business. We also consider it useful to exclude the amortization of intangible assets and the impact of the 2017 Tax Act to focus on results of our core business operations.

Certain realized gains (losses) are included in adjusted operating income. These include gains (losses) on certain index options supporting FIA policies primarily sold in the late 1990s and the realized losses associated with our tax credit investments. The Company's tax credit investment strategy results in realized losses on a pre-tax basis, which are more than offset by the tax benefits they provide. Our management of the business incorporates this investment strategy and, therefore, we include these realized gains (losses) along with the tax benefits they provide in adjusted operating income.

We believe it is useful to review a measure of the results of our insurance operations separately from most of the gain and loss activity attributable to our investment portfolio, the amortization of intangible assets, and the impact of the 2017 Tax Act because it assists in determining whether our insurance-related revenues, composed primarily of premiums, net investment income and policy fees, contract charges and other, have been sufficient to generate operating earnings after meeting our insurance-related obligations, composed primarily of claims paid to policyholders, investment returns credited to policyholder accounts, and underwriting and other operating costs.

*Pre-tax Adjusted Operating Income*

Pre-tax adjusted operating income represents the total of segment pre-tax adjusted operating income, which at the segment level is a GAAP measure. Income from operations before income taxes is the most directly comparable GAAP measure to pre-tax adjusted operating income. In presenting pre-tax adjusted operating income, we are excluding most pre-tax net realized gains (losses), and the amortization of intangible assets, as described above. This includes realized losses associated with our tax credit investments (note: such results, on an after-tax basis, along with the tax credits provided by these investments, are included in adjusted operating income). In addition to using pre-tax adjusted operating income to evaluate our insurance operations, our management and board of directors have other uses for this measure, including assessing achievement of our financial plan.