UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): April 29, 2021

LendingTree, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	001-34063 (Commission File Number)	26-2414818 (IRS Employer Identification No.)
1415 Vantage Park Dr., Suite 700, Charlotte (Address of principal executive offices)	NC	28203 (Zip Code)
Registrant's te	lephone number, including area code: (7	704) 541-5351
(Former na	Not Applicable ame or former address, if changed since be	last report)
Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is following provisions:	intended to simultaneously satisfy the fi	iling obligation of the registrant under any of the
\square Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under th	e Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)	
\square Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the E	xchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)	
$\hfill\Box$ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule	14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CI	FR 240.14d-2(b))
\square Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule	13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CF	FR 240.13e-4(c))
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:		
Title of each class Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share	Trading Symbol(s) TREE	Name of each exchange on which registered The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerg chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark is or revised financial accounting standards provided pursual	1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter). Emer f the registrant has elected not to use the	ging growth company \square extended transition period for complying with any new

Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On April 29, 2021, LendingTree, Inc. (the "Registrant") announced financial results for the quarter ended March 31, 2021. A copy of the related press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 and a copy of the related Shareholder Letter is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.2 and is incorporated herein by reference.

The information contained in this Current Report shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be incorporated by reference into a filing under the Securities Act of 1933, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Exhibit Description
99.1	Press Release, dated April 29, 2021, with respect to the Registrant's financial results for the quarter ended March 31, 2021.
99.2	Shareholder Letter, dated April 29, 2021
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

April 29, 2021

LENDINGTREE, INC.

By: /s/ J.D. Moriarty

J.D. Moriarty

Chief Financial Officer



LENDINGTREE REPORTS FIRST QUARTER 2021 RESULTS

Results reflect record mortgage revenue and continued recovery in Consumer segment

- Consolidated revenue of \$272.8 million
- GAAP net income from continuing operations of \$19.3 million or \$1.37 per diluted share
- Variable marketing margin of \$89.0 million
- Adjusted EBITDA of \$30.7 million
- Adjusted net income per share of \$0.18

CHARLOTTE, NC - April 29, 2021 - LendingTree, Inc. (NASDAQ: TREE), operator of LendingTree.com, the nation's leading online financial services marketplace, today announced results for the quarter ended March 31, 2021.

The company has posted a letter to shareholders on the company's website at investors.lendingtree.com.

"We're pleased to report another strong quarter at LendingTree," said Doug Lebda, Chairman and CEO. "We once again exceeded our prior guidance and each of our three segments is showing signs of momentum. Our Home segment was particularly strong in the quarter, delivering record revenue as both borrowers and lenders increasingly turn to LendingTree to meet their mortgage needs. Our Insurance segment once again posted strong growth, and our Consumer segment continued to exhibit tangible signs of recovery as the economy gradually begins to reopen."

J.D. Moriarty, CFO, added, "We remain confident in our future prospects as two of our three segments are showing considerable strength while our Consumer segment is very clearly improving off the lows experienced last Spring at the height of the pandemic. Even more encouraging is the progress we are seeing in some of our strategic growth initiatives such as My LendingTree syndication and our Insurance agency capabilities."

First Quarter 2021 Business Highlights

- Record Home segment revenue of \$128.1 million grew 62% over first quarter 2020 and produced segment profit of \$39.0 million, up 9% over the same period.
 - Within Home, record mortgage products revenue of \$116.4 million grew 74% over the prior year period.
- Insurance segment revenue of \$86.6 million grew 5% over first quarter 2020 and translated into Insurance segment profit of \$32.8 million, up 8% over the same period.
- Consumer segment revenue of \$57.9 million improved 21% sequentially over fourth quarter 2020 as trends continued to improve in credit card and personal loans.
 - Within Consumer, credit card revenue of \$17.6 million improved considerably from \$11.9 million in fourth quarter 2020.
 - Personal loans revenue of \$14.9 million improved from \$13.7 million in fourth quarter 2020.
- Through March 31, 2021, 17.7 million consumers have signed up for My LendingTree.

LendingTree Summary Financial Metrics (In millions, except per share amounts)											
		Three Months Ended March 31,				Th	ree Months Ended December 31,	Q/Q			
		2021		2020	% Change		2020	% Change			
Total revenue	\$	272.8	\$	283.1	(4)%	\$	222.3	23 %			
Income (loss) before income taxes	\$	28.0	\$	15.9	76 %	\$	(13.2)	312 %			
Income tax (expense) benefit	\$	(8.7)	\$	3.1	(381) %	\$	5.1	(271) %			
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$	19.3	\$	19.0	2 %	\$	(8.1)	338 %			
Net income (loss) from continuing operations % of revenue		7 %		7 %			(4)%				
Income (loss) per share from continuing operations											
Basic	\$	1.48	\$	1.46	1 %	\$	(0.62)	339 %			
Diluted	\$	1.37	\$	1.34	2 %	\$	(0.62)	321 %			
Variable marketing margin											
Total revenue	\$	272.8	\$	283.1	(4) %	\$	222.3	23 %			
Variable marketing expense (1)(2)	\$	(183.8)	\$	(184.9)	(1)%	\$	(140.0)	31 %			
Variable marketing margin ⁽²⁾	\$	89.0	\$	98.2	(9)%	\$	82.3	8 %			
Variable marketing margin % of revenue ⁽²⁾		33 %		35 %			37 %				
Adjusted EBITDA ⁽²⁾	\$	30.7	\$	44.9	(32)%	\$	26.3	17 %			
Adjusted EBITDA % of revenue (2)		11 %		16 %			12 %				
Adjusted net income ⁽²⁾	\$	2.5	\$	17.1	(85)%	\$	1.8	39 %			
Adjusted net income per share (2)	\$	0.18	\$	1.20	(85)%	\$	0.13	38 %			

⁽¹⁾ Represents the portion of selling and marketing expense attributable to variable costs paid for advertising, direct marketing and related expenses. Also includes the portion of cost of revenue attributable to costs paid for advertising re-sold to third parties. Excludes overhead, fixed costs and personnel-related expenses.

⁽²⁾ Variable marketing expense, variable marketing margin, variable marketing margin % of revenue, adjusted EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA % of revenue, adjusted net income and adjusted net income per share are non-GAAP measures. Please see "LendingTree's Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Measures to GAAP" and "LendingTree's Principles of Financial Reporting" below for more information.



LendingTree Segment Results (In millions)											
	Th		Ended	d March 31,	Y/Y	Th	nree Months Ended December 31,	Q/Q			
(1)		2021		2020	% Change		2020	% Change			
<u>Home</u> (1)	•	100.1	•	5 0.0	60.0/	•	00.0	44.07			
Revenue	\$	128.1	\$	79.2	62 %	\$	88.8	44 %			
Segment profit	\$	39.0	\$	35.9	9 %	\$	32.3	21 %			
Segment profit % of revenue		30 %	•	45 %			36 %				
Consumer ⁽²⁾											
Revenue	\$	57.9	\$	119.9	(52) %	\$	47.8	21 %			
Segment profit	\$	24.6	\$	43.1	(43) %	\$	22.7	8 %			
Segment profit % of revenue		42 %	,	36 %	. ,		47 %				
Insurance ⁽³⁾											
Revenue	\$	86.6	\$	82.7	5 %	\$	85.6	1 %			
Segment profit	\$	32.8	\$	30.5	8 %	\$	33.4	(2)%			
Segment profit % of revenue		38 %		37 %			39 %				
Other ⁽⁴⁾											
Revenue	\$	0.1	\$	1.2	(92) %	\$	0.1	— %			
Loss	\$	(0.1)	\$	(0.3)	(67) %	\$	(0.4)	(75)%			
Total revenue	\$	272.8	\$	283.1	(4)%	\$	222.3	23 %			
Total segment profit	\$	96.3	\$	109.2	(12)%	\$	88.0	9 %			
Brand marketing expense (5)	\$	(7.3)	\$	(11.0)	(34) %	\$	(5.7)	28 %			
Variable marketing margin	\$	89.0	\$	98.2	(9)%	\$	82.3	8 %			
Variable marketing margin % of revenue		33 %		35 %			37 %				

⁽¹⁾ The Home segment includes the following products: purchase mortgage, refinance mortgage, home equity loans and lines of credit, reverse mortgage loans, and real estate.

⁽²⁾ The Consumer segment includes the following products: credit cards, personal loans, small business loans, student loans, auto loans, deposit accounts, and other credit products such as credit repair and debt settlement.

⁽³⁾ The Insurance segment consists of insurance quote products.

⁽⁴⁾ The Other category primarily includes revenue from the resale of online advertising space to third parties and revenue from home improvement referrals, and the related variable marketing and advertising expenses.

⁽⁵⁾ Brand marketing expense represents the portion of selling and marketing expense attributable to variable costs paid for advertising, direct marketing and related expenses that are not assignable to the segments' products. This measure excludes overhead, fixed costs and personnel-related expenses.



Financial Outlook

Today we are issuing an outlook for the second quarter 2021. Our assumptions reflect current trends, although we continue to acknowledge the difficulty in forecasting the recovery of our Consumer segment and the effects of volatile interest rate movements in our Home segment.

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Our guidance assumes that year-over-year growth in our Home segment moderates relative to the extraordinary performance recorded in Q1. A sequential decline in Home revenue and segment profit should be at least partially offset by sustained improvement in our Consumer segment and an acceleration in Insurance, where we expect revenue growth of 30% or more compared to Q2 2020. Our outlook also factors in approximately \$2 million in additional expense to support the build of our Medicare agency capability.

Q2 2021 Outlook:

- Revenue is expected in the range of \$263 \$273 million.
- Variable marketing margin is expected in the range of \$86 \$92 million.
- Adjusted EBITDA is expected in the range of \$27 \$31 million.

LendingTree is not able to provide a reconciliation of projected variable marketing margin or adjusted EBITDA to the most directly comparable expected GAAP results due to the unknown effect, timing and potential significance of the effects of legal matters, tax considerations, and income and expense from changes in fair value of contingent consideration from acquisitions. Expenses associated with legal matters, tax consequences, and income and expense from changes in fair value of contingent consideration from acquisitions have in the past, and may in the future, significantly affect GAAP results in a particular period.

Quarterly Conference Call

A conference call to discuss LendingTree's first quarter 2021 financial results will be webcast live today, April 29, 2021 at 9:00 AM Eastern Time (ET). The live audiocast is open to the public and will be available on LendingTree's investor relations website at investors.lendingtree.com. The call may also be accessed toll-free via phone at (877) 606-1416. Callers outside the United States and Canada may dial (707) 287-9313. Following completion of the call, a recorded replay of the webcast will be available on LendingTree's investor relations website until 12:00 PM ET on Friday, May 7, 2021. To listen to the telephone replay, call toll-free (855) 859-2056 with passcode #3708969. Callers outside the United States and Canada may dial (404) 537-3406 with passcode #3708969.



LENDINGTREE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (Unaudited)

Revenue Temperature			Three Months En March 31,			
Revenue \$ 272,750 \$ 283,084 Cots and expenses: 13,895 1,325 Celling and marketing expense (high expense (high expense) 19,503 195,388 General and administrative expense (high expense) 34,989 23,082 Product development (high expense) 3,718 3,788 Depreciation 3,718 3,785 Amortization of intangibles 11,315 1,757 Change in fair value of contingent consideration 79 (8,122) Severance 7-6 16,22 Severance 16 320 Operating (sous dand expenses) 10,907 20,329 Total cost and expenses 10,907 20,329 Operating (sol) inome 10,015 4,369 Operating (sol) inome 10,012 4,369 Operating (sol) inome 10,021 4,369 Other (expense) income, net 1,021 4,369 Interest expense, net 10,021 1,509 Income before income tax (expense) elenéti 3,030 1,505 Income jax (expense) beneft		2021		2020		
Cost and expenses: 13,895 14,252 Cost of revenue (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below)** 13,962 195,538 Selling and marketing expense (*) 34,949 32,082 General and administrative expense (*) 1,946 10,903 Depreciation 3,718 3,378 A mortization of intangibles 11,12 13,775 Change in fair value of contingent consideration - 158 Stream fair value of contingencies - 158 Litigation settlements and contingencies 74,657 262,35 Operating (loss) income (10,72) 20,789 Other (expense) income, rest (10,21) 4,834 Other (expense) income net (10,22) 4,834 Other (expense) income tax (2,95) 15,915 Income befor income taxs (expense) hence the fax 2,959 15,915 Income befor income tax (expense) hence the fax 2,959 15,915 Income before income tax (expense) hence the fax 13,07 2,955		,				
Solit freenue (exclusive of depreciation and amoritzation shown separately below)**		\$ 272,750) \$	283,084		
Selling and marketing expense (1) 197.42 195.38 General and administrative expense (1) 34,989 34,080 Product development (1) 12,468 10,963 Depreciation 37,18 3,378 Amortization in intangibles 11,312 13,757 Change in fair value of contingent consideration 79 (0,122) Severance 16 323 Litigation settlements and contingencies 16 323 Total costs and expenses 274,657 262,33 Operating (loss) income (10,215) 4,834 Other (expense) income, net 4,072 - Interest expense, net (10,215) 4,834 Other income 4,072 1,907 Income for income taxes 27,950 15,915 Income for continuing operations 13,312 14,976 Net income from continuing operations 13,312 14,976 Net income from continuing operations 13,07 14,151 Basic 13,07 12,157 Diluted 5,104						
General and administrative expense (1) 34,982 32,082 Product development (1) 12,468 10,963 Depreciation 3,718 3,378 Amortization of intangibles 11,312 13,757 Change in fair value of contingent consideration 79 (8,222) Severance - 158 Litigation settlements and contingencies 16 23 Total costs and expenses 74,957 262,35 Operating (loss) income (1,907) 20,795 Other repenses in come, net: 10,215 (4,834) Unter expense, net 40,072 Interest expense, net 10,215 (4,834) Other income 40,072 Income before income taxes 10,215 1,951 Income tax (expense) benefit (8,633) 3,601 Net income from continuing operations 13,976 1,457 District (expense) benefit 13,976 1,457 District (expense) benefit 13,070 1,257 District (expense) benefit 13,070<		13,89	5	14,252		
Product development (1) 12,468 10,963 Depreciation 3,718 3,738 Amortization of intangibles 11,312 13,757 Change in fair value of contingent consideration 797 (8,122) Severance 16 329 Litigation settlements and contingencies 16 329 Total costs and expenses 274,657 26,335 Operating (loss) income (1,907) 20,709 Other (costs) income, 10,215 (4,834) Other income 40,072 6 Income before income taxes 27,951 15,915 Income tax (expense) benefit (8,538) 3,016 Net income from continuing operations 19,312 18,976 Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax 263 14,575 Net income and comprehensive income 13,070 12,957 Basic 13,070 12,157 Basic \$ 1,40 \$ 1,45 Diluted \$ 2,00 \$ 1,36 Basic \$ 0,00 \$ 0,00 <td< td=""><td>Selling and marketing expense (1)</td><td>197,46</td><td>2</td><td>195,538</td></td<>	Selling and marketing expense (1)	197,46	2	195,538		
Depreciation 3,718 3,378 Amortization of intangibles 11,312 13,757 Change in fair value of contingent consideration 797 (8,122) Severance 3-6 158 Litigation settlements and contingencies 274,657 26,335 Oberating (loss) income (1,907) 20,495 Otter (expense) income, net: 40,072 - Interest expense, net 40,072 - Other income 40,072 - Income before income taxes 8,053 3,061 Income tax (expense) benefit 8,633 3,061 Income tax (expense) benefit 8,053 1,507 Loss from discontinual operations, net of tax 19,312 18,975 Net income and comprehensive income 19,312 18,975 Diluted overage shares outstanding: 19,312 18,975 Basic 13,070 12,957 Diluted 1,15 1,15 Basic 1,15 1,15 Basic 1,10 1,15 Basic	General and administrative expense (1)	34,989	}	32,082		
Amortization of intangibles 11,312 13,757 Change in fair value of contingent consideration 797 (8,122) Severance 16 329 Litigation settlements and contingencies 16 329 Total costs and expenses 274,67 262,335 Objecting (loss) income (1,097) 20,749 Other (expense) income, net: 40,072 - Interest expense, net 40,072 - Other income 40,072 - Income before income taxes 27,950 15,915 Income ax (expense) benefit (8,638) 3,061 Net income from continuing operations 19,312 14,975 Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax (263) 14,575 Net income and comprehensive income 3 12,957 Basic 13,070 12,957 Basic 5 1,4 15 Diluted 5 1,3 1,4 Basic 5 1,3 1,4 Basic 5 1,0 5 </td <td>Product development (1)</td> <td>12,46</td> <td>3</td> <td>10,963</td>	Product development (1)	12,46	3	10,963		
Change in fair value of contingent consideration 797 (8,122) Severance — 158 Litigation settlements and contingencies 274,657 262,335 Total costs and expenses 19,09 20,709 Operating (loss) income 19,007 20,709 Other (expense) income, net: (10,215) (4,834) Other income 40,072 — Incress expense, net (10,215) (4,834) Other income 27,950 15,956 Income before income taxs (8,638) 3,061 Net income from continuing operations 19,312 18,976 Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax (2,63) 4,575 Net income and comprehensive income 313,070 12,957 Diluted 31,070 12,957 Diluted 31,307 12,957 Diluted 31,307 12,957 Diluted 31,307 13,257 Basic 51,48 51,46 Diluted 31,07 13,257 Basic <t< td=""><td>Depreciation</td><td>3,718</td><td>}</td><td>3,378</td></t<>	Depreciation	3,718	}	3,378		
Severance — 158 Litigation settlements and contingencies 274,637 262,335 Objecting (loss) income 274,637 262,335 Operating (loss) income 1,002,15 2,04,304 Other (expense) income, net 3,002 2,002 Interest expense, net 40,072 — Other income 40,072 — Income before income taxes 27,950 15,915 Income before income taxes 19,312 18,906 Net income from continuing operations 19,312 18,906 Net income and comprehensive income 19,312 18,906 Net income and comprehensive income 18,207 14,907 Basic 13,070 12,957 Diluted 13,070 12,957 Basic 13,070 12,957 Diluted 13,070 12,957 Basic 1,00 1,00 Coss per share from continuing operations. 1,00 1,00 Basic 1,00 1,00 1,00 1,00 <t< td=""><td>Amortization of intangibles</td><td>11,31</td><td>2</td><td>13,757</td></t<>	Amortization of intangibles	11,31	2	13,757		
Litigation settlements and contingencies 16 329 Total costs and expenses 274,567 262,335 Operating (loss) income (1,907) 20,738 Other (sepnse) income, net: 200 40,072 40,834 Other income 40,072 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 50,000 15,915 40,000 15,915 40,000 15,915 40,000 15,915 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 40,000 <td>Change in fair value of contingent consideration</td> <td>79°</td> <td>7</td> <td>(8,122)</td>	Change in fair value of contingent consideration	79°	7	(8,122)		
Total costs and expenses 274,657 262,335 Operating (loss) income (1,907) 20,748 Other (expense) income, net (10,215) (4,834) Other income (40,072) — Income before income taxes 27,951 15,915 Income tax (expense) benefit (8,633) 3,061 Net income from continuing operations 19,312 18,976 Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax (263) (4,575) Net income and comprehensive income 19,049 14,101 Weighted average shares outstanding: 3,070 12,957 Diluted 1,119 14,158 Income per share from continuing operations: 3,130 1,466 Diluted 3,137 1,46 Diluted 3,137 1,46 Diluted 3,002 3,032 Loss per share from discontinued operations: 3,002 3,032 Diluted 3,002 3,032 Net income 3,002 3,032 Net income 3,002 3,032	Severance	_	-	158		
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Other income 40,072 — Income before income taxes 27,950 15,915 Income tax (expense) benefit (8,638) 3,061 Net income from continuing operations. 19,12 18,976 Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax (263) (4,575) Net income and comprehensive income 3 19,049 \$ 14,401 Weighted average shares outstanding: Basic 13,070 12,957 Diluted 13,070 12,957 Diluted 1,130 1,416 Diluted 1,37 1,34 Loss per share from discontinued operations: 8 1,48 1,46 Diluted \$ 1,37 \$ 1,33 1,34 Loss per share from discontinued operations: \$ (0,02) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) Diluted \$ (0,02) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$ (0,03) \$	Other (expense) income, net:					
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Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax (4,575) Net income and comprehensive income \$ 19,049 14,401 Weighted average shares outstanding: Basic 13,070 12,957 Diluted 14,119 14,158 Income per share from continuing operations: \$ 1,48 1,46 Diluted \$ 1,37 \$ 1,34 Loss per share from discontinued operations: \$ 1,48 1,46 Diluted \$ 0,02 \$ 0,035 Diluted \$ 0,02 \$ 0,035 Diluted \$ 0,02 \$ 0,035 Net income per share: \$ 1,46 \$ 1,11 Basic \$ 1,46 \$ 1,11 Diluted \$ 1,46 \$ 1,11 Polited \$ 1,46 \$ 1,11 Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: \$ 3,9 \$ 242 Cost of revenue \$ 3,97 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,17 9,123	Income tax (expense) benefit	(8,638	3)	3,061		
Weighted average shares outstanding: 13,070 12,957 Diluted 14,119 14,158 Income per share from continuing operations: Basic \$ 1.48 \$ 1.46 Diluted \$ 1.37 \$ 1.34 Diluted \$ (0.02) \$ (0.35) Loss per share from discontinued operations: \$ (0.02) \$ (0.35) Diluted \$ (0.02) \$ (0.32) Net income per share: \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 Net income per share: \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 3.35 \$ 1.02 Vh Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: \$ 397 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense \$ 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123	Net income from continuing operations	19,31	2	18,976		
Weighted average shares outstanding: Basic 13,070 12,957 Diluted 14,119 14,158 Income per share from continuing operations: Basic \$ 1.48 \$ 1.46 Diluted \$ 1.37 \$ 1.34 Loss per share from discontinued operations: \$ (0.02) \$ (0.35) Basic \$ (0.02) \$ (0.32) Diluted \$ (0.02) \$ (0.32) Net income per share: \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 Net income per share: Basic \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 Net income per share: Cost of revenue \$ 3.97 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123	Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	(263	3)	(4,575)		
Basic 13,070 12,957 Diluted 14,119 14,158 Income per share from continuing operations: Basic \$ 1.48 \$ 1.46 Diluted \$ 1.37 \$ 1.34 Loss per share from discontinued operations: Basic \$ (0.02) \$ (0.35) Diluted \$ (0.02) \$ (0.32) Net income per share: Basic \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 Average in the per share: Cost of revenue \$ 397 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123	Net income and comprehensive income	\$ 19,04) \$	14,401		
Basic 13,070 12,957 Diluted 14,119 14,158 Income per share from continuing operations: Basic \$ 1.48 \$ 1.46 Diluted \$ 1.37 \$ 1.34 Loss per share from discontinued operations: Basic \$ (0.02) \$ (0.35) Diluted \$ (0.02) \$ (0.32) Net income per share: Basic \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 Average in the per share: Cost of revenue \$ 397 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123	Marie land account of the control of					
Diluted 14,119 14,158 Income per share from continuing operations: Basic \$ 1,48 \$ 1,46 Diluted \$ 1,37 \$ 1,34 Loss per share from discontinued operations: Basic \$ (0,02) \$ (0,35) Diluted \$ (0,02) \$ (0,32) Net income per share: Basic \$ 1,46 \$ 1,11 Diluted \$ 1,46 \$ 1,11 Diluted \$ 1,46 \$ 1,11 Diluted \$ 3,25 \$ 1,22 (Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: \$ 397 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123		12.07	2	12.057		
Rasic		,				
Basic \$ 1.48 \$ 1.46 Diluted \$ 1.37 \$ 1.34 Loss per share from discontinued operations: Basic \$ (0.02) \$ (0.35) Diluted \$ (0.02) \$ (0.32) Net income per share: Basic \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 (1) Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: Cost of revenue \$ 397 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123		14,111	,	14,158		
Diluted \$ 1.37 \$ 1.34 Loss per share from discontinued operations: Basic \$ (0.02) \$ (0.35) Diluted Set in come per share: Basic \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 (1) Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: Cost of revenue \$ 397 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123		ф 1 4	n dr	1 40		
Loss per share from discontinued operations: Basic \$ (0.02) \$ (0.35) Diluted \$ (0.02) \$ (0.32) Net income per share: Basic \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 (¹) Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: Cost of revenue \$ 397 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123			- •			
Basic \$ (0.02) \$ (0.35) Diluted \$ (0.02) \$ (0.32) Net income per share: Basic \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 (1) Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: Cost of revenue \$ 397 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123		\$ 1.3	/ Þ	1.34		
Diluted \$ (0.02) \$ (0.32) Net income per share: \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Basic \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 (1) Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: \$ 397 \$ 242 Cost of revenue \$ 397 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123		ф (O,O)) ¢	(0.35)		
Net income per share: Basic \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 (1) Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: Cost of revenue Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123		`		. ,		
Basic \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 (1) Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: Cost of revenue Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123		\$ (0.02	.) \$	(0.32)		
Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 (1) Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: Cost of revenue \$ 397 \$ 242 Selling and marketing expense \$ 1,802 \$ 1,156 General and administrative expense \$ 12,171 \$ 9,123	The state of the s	Φ 1.4	с ф	1 11		
(1) Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: Cost of revenue Selling and marketing expense 1,802 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123			- •			
Cost of revenue\$ 397 \$ 242Selling and marketing expense1,802 1,156General and administrative expense12,171 9,123	Diluted	\$ 1.3) \$	1.02		
Selling and marketing expense1,8021,156General and administrative expense12,1719,123	(1) Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows:					
General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123	Cost of revenue	\$ 39	7 \$	242		
·	Selling and marketing expense	1,80	2	1,156		
Product development 2,066 1,396	General and administrative expense	12,17	L	9,123		
	Product development	2,06	õ	1,396		



LENDINGTREE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)

		March 31, 2021	December 31, 2020		
	(in	t par v unts)	value and share		
ASSETS:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	162,091	\$	169,932	
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		79		117	
Accounts receivable		123,067		89,841	
Prepaid and other current assets		28,638		27,949	
Current assets of discontinued operations		8,556		8,570	
Total current assets		322,431		296,409	
Property and equipment		71,572		62,381	
Operating lease right-of-use assets		81,622		84,109	
Goodwill		420,139		420,139	
Intangible assets, net		117,189		128,502	
Deferred income tax assets		87,586		96,224	
Equity investment		121,253		80,000	
Other non-current assets		5,403		5,334	
Non-current assets of discontinued operations		15,982		15,892	
Total assets	\$	1,243,177	\$	1,188,990	
LIABILITIES:		7 222		10.111	
Accounts payable, trade		7,230		10,111	
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities		113,442		101,196	
Current contingent consideration		9,046			
Current liabilities of discontinued operations		803		536	
Total current liabilities		130,521		111,843	
Long-term debt		619,502		611,412	
Operating lease liabilities		97,352		92,363	
Non-current contingent consideration				8,249	
Other non-current liabilities		359		362	
Total liabilities		847,734		824,229	
Commitments and contingencies					
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY:					
Preferred stock \$.01 par value; 5,000,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding		_		_	
Common stock \$.01 par value; 50,000,000 shares authorized; 15,797,177 and 15,766,193 shares issued, respectively, and 13,155,859 and 13,124,875 shares outstanding, respectively		158		158	
Additional paid-in capital		1,200,306		1,188,673	
Accumulated deficit		(621,860)		(640,909)	
Treasury stock; 2,641,318 shares		(183,161)		(183,161)	
Total shareholders' equity		395,443		364,761	
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$	1,243,177	\$	1,188,990	



LENDINGTREE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)

	Three Mor	nths En ch 31,	ded
	 2021		2020
	(in tho	usands)	
Cash flows from operating activities attributable to continuing operations:			
Net income and comprehensive income	\$ 19,049	\$	14,401
Less: Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	263		4,575
Income from continuing operations	19,312		18,976
Adjustments to reconcile income from continuing operations to net cash provided by operating activities attributable to continuing operations:			
Loss on disposal of assets	348		530
Amortization of intangibles	11,312		13,757
Depreciation	3,718		3,378
Non-cash compensation expense	16,436		11,917
Deferred income taxes	8,638		(3,061)
Change in fair value of contingent consideration	797		(8,122)
Unrealized gain on investments	(40,072)		_
Bad debt expense	516		880
Amortization of debt issuance costs	1,275		582
Amortization of convertible debt discount	7,346		3,111
Reduction in carrying amount of ROU asset, offset by change in operating lease liabilities	7,132		(196)
Changes in current assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(33,743)		(6,952)
Prepaid and other current assets	(915)		(1,430)
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other current liabilities	7,154		(3,271)
Income taxes receivable	(89)		65
Other, net	(240)		(862)
Net cash provided by operating activities attributable to continuing operations	8,925		29,302
Cash flows from investing activities attributable to continuing operations:			
Capital expenditures	(10,553)		(4,189)
Equity investment	(1,180)		(80,000)
Net cash used in investing activities attributable to continuing operations	(11,733)		(84,189)
Cash flows from financing activities attributable to continuing operations:			
Payments related to net-share settlement of stock-based compensation, net of proceeds from exercise of stock options	(4,801)		(5,087)
Net proceeds from revolving credit facility			55,000
Payment of debt issuance costs	(168)		(306)
Contingent consideration payments	<u> </u>		(3,000)
Other financing activities	(31)		(6)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities attributable to continuing operations	(5,000)		46,601
Total cash used in continuing operations	(7,808)		(8,286)
Discontinued operations:			
Net cash used in operating activities attributable to discontinued operations	(71)		(752)
Total cash used in discontinued operations	(71)		(752)
Net decrease in cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents	(7,879)		(9,038)
Cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents at beginning of period	 170,049		60,339
Cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 162,170	\$	51,301



Variable Marketing Expense

Below is a reconciliation of selling and marketing expense to variable marketing expense. See "LendingTree's Principles of Financial Reporting" for further discussion of the Company's use of this non-GAAP measure.

	Three Months Ended						
	 March 31, 2021	December 31, 2020	March 31, 2020				
	(in thousands)						
Selling and marketing expense	\$ 197,462	\$ 153,275	\$ 195,538				
Non-variable selling and marketing expense (1)	(13,760)	(13,248)	(11,772)				
Cost of advertising re-sold to third parties (2)	_	_	1,086				
Variable marketing expense	\$ 183,702	\$ 140,027	\$ 184,852				

⁽¹⁾ Represents the portion of selling and marketing expense not attributable to variable costs paid for advertising, direct marketing and related expenses. Includes overhead, fixed costs and personnel-related expenses.

⁽²⁾ Represents the portion of cost of revenue attributable to costs paid for advertising re-sold to third parties. Excludes overhead, fixed costs, and personnel-related expenses.



Variable Marketing Margin

Below is a reconciliation of net income (loss) from continuing operations to variable marketing margin and net income (loss) from continuing operations % of revenue to variable marketing margin % of revenue. See "LendingTree's Principles of Financial Reporting" for further discussion of the Company's use of these non-GAAP measures.

	Three Months Ended					
	 March 31, 2021	December 31, 2020	March 31, 2020			
	(in the	ousands, except perce	ntages)			
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 19,312	\$ (8,117)	\$ 18,976			
Net income (loss) from continuing operations % of revenue	7%	(4)%	7%			
Adjustments to reconcile to variable marketing margin:						
Cost of revenue	13,895	13,558	14,252			
Cost of advertising re-sold to third parties (1)	_	_	(1,086)			
Non-variable selling and marketing expense (2)	13,760	13,248	11,772			
General and administrative expense	34,989	34,825	32,082			
Product development	12,468	10,384	10,963			
Depreciation	3,718	3,738	3,378			
Amortization of intangibles	11,312	12,475	13,757			
Change in fair value of contingent consideration	797	(2,384)	(8,122)			
Severance	_	105	158			
Litigation settlements and contingencies	16	40	329			
Interest expense, net	10,215	9,894	4,834			
Other income	(40,072)	(369)	_			
Income tax expense (benefit)	8,638	(5,095)	(3,061)			
Variable marketing margin	\$ 89,048	\$ 82,302	\$ 98,232			
Variable marketing margin % of revenue	33%	37%	35%			

⁽¹⁾ Represents the portion of cost of revenue attributable to costs paid for advertising re-sold to third parties. Excludes overhead, fixed costs, and personnel-related expenses.

⁽²⁾ Represents the portion of selling and marketing expense not attributable to variable costs paid for advertising, direct marketing and related expenses. Includes overhead, fixed costs and personnel-related expenses.



Adjusted EBITDA

Below is a reconciliation of net income (loss) from continuing operations to adjusted EBITDA and net income (loss) from continuing operations % of revenue to adjusted EBITDA % of revenue. See "LendingTree's Principles of Financial Reporting" for further discussion of the Company's use of these non-GAAP measures.

	Three Months Ended							
	March 31, 2021	December 31, 2020		rch 31, 2020				
	(in th	ousands, except perce	ntages)					
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 19,312	\$ (8,117)	\$	18,976				
Net income (loss) from continuing operations % of revenue	7%	(4)%		7%				
Adjustments to reconcile to adjusted EBITDA:								
Amortization of intangibles	11,312	12,475		13,757				
Depreciation	3,718	3,738		3,378				
Severance	_	105		158				
Loss on disposal of assets	348	474		530				
Unrealized gain on investments	(40,072)	_		_				
Non-cash compensation	16,436	14,497		11,917				
Costs of secondary public offering	_	863		_				
Change in fair value of contingent consideration	797	(2,384)		(8,122)				
Acquisition expense	29	(188)		2,180				
Litigation settlements and contingencies	16	40		329				
Interest expense, net	10,215	9,894		4,834				
Income tax expense (benefit)	8,638	(5,095)		(3,061)				
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 30,749	\$ 26,302	\$	44,876				
Adjusted EBITDA % of revenue	11%	12%		16%				



Adjusted Net Income

Below is a reconciliation of net income (loss) from continuing operations to adjusted net income and net income (loss) per diluted share from continuing operations to adjusted net income per share. See "LendingTree's Principles of Financial Reporting" for further discussion of the Company's use of these non-GAAP measures.

		Three Months Ende	d	
	 March 31, 2021	December 31, 2020		March 31, 2020
	(in thou	sands, except per shar	e amo	ounts)
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 19,312	\$ (8,117)	\$	18,976
Adjustments to reconcile to adjusted net income:				
Severance	_	105		158
Loss on disposal of assets	348	474		530
Unrealized gain on investments	(40,072)	_		_
Non-cash compensation	16,436	14,497		11,917
Costs of secondary public offering	_	863		_
Change in fair value of contingent consideration	797	(2,384)		(8,122)
Acquisition expense	29	(188)		2,180
Litigation settlements and contingencies	16	40		329
Income tax expense (benefit) from adjusted items	5,699	(3,402)		(1,760)
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation	(32)	(51)		(1,054)
Income tax benefit from CARES Act	_	_		(6,104)
Adjusted net income	\$ 2,533	\$ 1,837	\$	17,050
Net income (loss) per diluted share from continuing operations	\$ 1.37	\$ (0.62)	\$	1.34
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) from continuing operations to adjusted net income	(1.19)	0.76		(0.14)
Adjustments to reconcile effect of dilutive securities		(0.01)		
Adjusted net income per share	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.13	\$	1.20
Adjusted weighted average diluted shares outstanding	14,119	14,163		14,158
Effect of dilutive securities	_	1,112		
Weighted average diluted shares outstanding	14,119	13,051		14,158
Effect of dilutive securities	1,049	_		1,201
Weighted average basic shares outstanding	13,070	13,051		12,957
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LENDINGTREE'S PRINCIPLES OF FINANCIAL REPORTING

LendingTree reports the following non-GAAP measures as supplemental to GAAP:

- Variable marketing margin, including variable marketing expense
- Variable marketing margin % of revenue
- Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization, as adjusted for certain items discussed below ("Adjusted EBITDA")
- Adjusted EBITDA % of revenue
- · Adjusted net income
- Adjusted net income per share

Variable marketing margin is a measure of the efficiency of the Company's operating model, measuring revenue after subtracting variable marketing and advertising costs that directly influence revenue. The Company's operating model is highly sensitive to the amount and efficiency of variable marketing expenditures, and the Company's proprietary systems are able to make rapidly changing decisions concerning the deployment of variable marketing expenditures (primarily but not exclusively online and mobile advertising placement) based on proprietary and sophisticated analytics. Variable marketing margin and variable marketing margin % of revenue are primary metrics by which the Company measures the effectiveness of its marketing efforts.

Adjusted EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA % of revenue are primary metrics by which LendingTree evaluates the operating performance of its businesses, on which its marketing expenditures and internal budgets are based and, in the case of adjusted EBITDA, by which management and many employees are compensated in most years.

Adjusted net income and adjusted net income per share supplement GAAP income from continuing operations and GAAP income per diluted share from continuing operations by enabling investors to make period to period comparisons of those components of the nearest comparable GAAP measures that management believes better reflect the underlying financial performance of the Company's business operations during particular financial reporting periods. Adjusted net income and adjusted net income per share exclude certain amounts, such as non-cash compensation, non-cash asset impairment charges, gain/loss on disposal of assets, gain/loss on investments, severance, litigation settlements and contingencies, acquisition and disposition income or expenses including with respect to changes in fair value of contingent consideration, gain/loss on extinguishment of debt, one-time items which are recognized and recorded under GAAP in particular periods but which might be viewed as not necessarily coinciding with the underlying business operations for the periods in which they are so recognized and recorded, the effects to income taxes of the aforementioned adjustments and any excess tax benefit or expense associated with stock-based compensation recorded in net income in conjunction with FASB pronouncement ASU 2016-09. LendingTree believes that adjusted net income and adjusted net income per share are useful financial indicators that provide a different view of the financial performance of the Company than adjusted EBITDA (the primary metric by which LendingTree evaluates the operating performance of its businesses) and the GAAP measures of net income from continuing operations and GAAP income per diluted share from continuing operations.

These non-GAAP measures should be considered in addition to results prepared in accordance with GAAP, but should not be considered a substitute for or superior to GAAP results. LendingTree provides and encourages investors to examine the reconciling adjustments between the GAAP and non-GAAP measures set forth above.

Definition of LendingTree's Non-GAAP Measures

Variable marketing margin is defined as revenue less variable marketing expense. Variable marketing expense is defined as the expense attributable to variable costs paid for advertising, direct marketing and related expenses, including the portion of cost of revenue attributable to costs paid for advertising re-sold to third parties, and excluding overhead, fixed costs and personnel-related expenses. The majority of these variable advertising costs are expressly intended to drive traffic to our websites and these variable advertising costs are included in selling and marketing expense on the Company's consolidated statements of operations and consolidated income. When

advertising inventory is re-sold to third parties, the proceeds of such transactions are included in revenue for the purposes of calculating variable marketing margin, and the costs of such re-sold advertising are included in cost of revenue in the company's consolidated statements of operations and consolidated income and are included in variable marketing expense for purposes of calculating variable marketing margin.

EBITDA is defined as net income from continuing operations excluding interest, income taxes, amortization of intangibles and depreciation.

Adjusted EBITDA is defined as EBITDA excluding (1) non-cash compensation expense, (2) non-cash impairment charges, (3) gain/loss on disposal of assets, (4) gain/loss on investments, (5) restructuring and severance expenses, (6) litigation settlements and contingencies, (7) acquisitions and dispositions income or expense (including with respect to changes in fair value of contingent consideration), and (8) onetime items.

Adjusted net income is defined as net income (loss) from continuing operations excluding (1) non-cash compensation expense, (2) non-cash impairment charges, (3) gain/loss on disposal of assets, (4) gain/loss on investments, (5) restructuring and severance expenses, (6) litigation settlements and contingencies, (7) acquisitions and dispositions income or expense (including with respect to changes in fair value of contingent consideration), (8) gain/loss on extinguishment of debt, (9) one-time items, (10) the effects to income taxes of the aforementioned adjustments, and (11) any excess tax benefit or expense associated with stock-based compensation recorded in net income in conjunction with FASB pronouncement ASU 2016-09.

Adjusted net income per share is defined as adjusted net income divided by the adjusted weighted average diluted shares outstanding. For periods which the Company reports GAAP loss from continuing operations, the effects of potentially dilutive securities are excluded from the calculation of net loss per diluted share from continuing operations because their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive. In periods where the Company reports GAAP loss from continuing operations but reports positive non-GAAP adjusted net income, the effects of potentially dilutive securities are included in the denominator for calculating adjusted net income per share.

LendingTree endeavors to compensate for the limitations of these non-GAAP measures by also providing the comparable GAAP measures with equal or greater prominence and descriptions of the reconciling items, including quantifying such items, to derive the non-GAAP measures. These non-GAAP measures may not be comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies.

One-Time Items

Adjusted EBITDA and adjusted net income are adjusted for one-time items, if applicable. Items are considered one-time in nature if they are non-recurring, infrequent or unusual, and have not occurred in the past two years or are not expected to recur in the next two years, in accordance with SEC rules. For the periods presented in this report, there are no adjustments for one-time items, except for the \$6.1 million income tax benefit from the CARES Act in Q1 2020 and the Q4 2020 expenses incurred in connection with a secondary public offering of our common stock by our largest shareholder, for which we did not receive any proceeds.

Non-Cash Expenses That Are Excluded From LendingTree's Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income

Non-cash compensation expense consists principally of expense associated with the grants of restricted stock, restricted stock units and stock options. These expenses are not paid in cash and LendingTree includes the related shares in its calculations of fully diluted shares outstanding. Upon settlement of restricted stock units, exercise of certain stock options or vesting of restricted stock awards, the awards may be settled on a net basis, with LendingTree remitting the required tax withholding amounts from its current funds. Cash expenditures for employer payroll taxes on non-cash compensation are included within adjusted EBITDA and adjusted net income.

Amortization of intangibles are non-cash expenses relating primarily to acquisitions. At the time of an acquisition, the intangible assets of the acquired company, such as purchase agreements, technology and customer relationships,

are valued and amortized over their estimated lives. Amortization of intangibles are only excluded from adjusted EBITDA.

Safe Harbor Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

The matters contained in the discussion above may be considered to be "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Those statements include statements regarding the intent, belief or current expectations or anticipations of LendingTree and members of our management team. Factors currently known to management that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements include the following: uncertainty regarding the duration and scope of the coronavirus referred to as COVID-19 pandemic; actions governments and businesses take in response to the pandemic, including actions that could affect levels of advertising activity; the impact of the pandemic and actions taken in response to the pandemic on national and regional economies and economic activity; the pace of recovery when the COVID-19 pandemic subsides; adverse conditions in the primary and secondary mortgage markets and in the economy, particularly interest rates; default rates on loans, particularly unsecured loans; demand by investors for unsecured personal loans; the effect of such demand on interest rates for personal loans and consumer demand for personal loans; seasonality of results; potential liabilities to secondary market purchasers; changes in the Company's relationships with network lenders, including dependence on certain key network lenders; breaches of network security or the misappropriation or misuse of personal consumer information; failure to provide competitive service; failure to maintain brand recognition; ability to attract and retain consumers in a cost-effective manner; the effects of potential acquisitions of other businesses, including the ability to integrate them successfully with LendingTree's existing operations; accounting rules related to contingent consideration and excess tax benefits or expenses on stock-based compensation that could materially affect earnings in future periods; ability to develop new products and services and enhance existing ones; competition; allegations of failure to comply with existing or changing laws, rules or regulations, or to obtain and maintain required licenses; failure of network lenders or other affiliated parties to comply with regulatory requirements; failure to maintain the integrity of systems and infrastructure; liabilities as a result of privacy regulations; failure to adequately protect intellectual property rights or allegations of infringement of intellectual property rights; and changes in management. These and additional factors to be considered are set forth under "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2020 and in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. LendingTree undertakes no obligation to update or revise forward-looking statements to reflect changed assumptions, the occurrence of unanticipated events or changes to future operating results or expectations.

About LendingTree, Inc.

LendingTree, Inc. is the parent of LendingTree, LLC and several companies owned by LendingTree, LLC (collectively, "LendingTree" or the "Company").

LendingTree operates what it believes to be the leading online consumer platform that connects consumers with the choices they need to be confident in their financial decisions. The Company offers consumers tools and resources, including free credit scores, that facilitate comparison-shopping for mortgage loans, home equity loans and lines of credit, reverse mortgage loans, auto loans, credit cards, deposit accounts, personal loans, student loans, small business loans, insurance quotes and other related offerings. The Company primarily seeks to match in-market consumers with multiple providers on its marketplace who can provide them with competing quotes for loans, deposit products, insurance or other related offerings they are seeking. The Company also serves as a valued partner to partners and other providers seeking an efficient, scalable and flexible source of customer acquisition with directly measurable benefits, by matching the consumer inquiries it generates with these providers.

LendingTree, Inc. is headquartered in Charlotte, NC. For more information, please visit www.lendingtree.com.

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April 29, 2021

Fellow Shareholders:

Our first quarter results demonstrate continued momentum at the Company, and the core strength of our franchise, as our Home segment posted record results. Insurance saw sustained growth and further diversification, and our recovering Consumer segment once again made great progress quarter-over-quarter. We are incredibly pleased with the quarter's results and the progress we have made over the last year in what has certainly been a challenging time.

Over the last several months, it has become clear that our Company has reached an interesting crossroads where each of the markets we serve are very much subject to their own nuances and intricacies. The supply and demand dynamics of our two-sided marketplace have evolved in varying ways across our suite of products. Those dynamics have influenced our business performance over the last year as interest rates have fluctuated and consumer credit and risk appetites have ebbed and flowed.

Today, in addition to our Q1 results, we are announcing a reorganization of our leadership team that aims to put more focus on strategic growth initiatives. Going forward, we are organizing the business around three key divisions – the core LendingTree marketplaces, the QuoteWizard insurance business, and our strategic growth initiatives including the evolution of the consumer experience, My LendingTree, strategic partnerships, enterprise sales, corporate development, and enterprise operations.

Neil Salvage will continue to run the core LendingTree marketplaces as President, LendingTree Marketplace. Scott Peyree is going to continue to oversee all of our efforts in insurance as President, Insurance. J.D. Moriarty, currently CFO, will take on an operating role as President, LendingTree Next. In this role, he will lead the evolution of the company with a number growth initiatives that build off our core marketplace assets. Finally, Trent Ziegler, who has held leadership roles throughout our finance organization over the last 8 years, will be assuming the role of Chief Financial Officer, effective as of May 17, 2021. All four leaders will report directly to Doug Lebda, Chairman & CEO, in their new respective roles.

We believe these changes will provide focus and accountability across the organization. These moves aim to ensure that our more strategic goals and priorities receive the necessary resources and attention while our core business operations become more streamlined. We continue to view the breadth and scale of our marketplace business as a core competitive advantage, and we are aligning our organization to capitalize on that advantage and take our company to the next level.



SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED FINANCIALS											
(millions, except per share amounts)				2	2020					2021	Y/Y
		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		Q1	% Change
Total revenue	\$	283.1	\$	184.3	\$	220.3	\$	222.3	\$	272.8	(4)%
Income (loss) before income taxes	\$	15.9	\$	(12.5)	\$	(32.7)	\$	(13.2)	\$	28.0	76%
Income tax (expense) benefit	\$	3.1	\$	3.9	\$	7.9	\$	5.1	\$	(8.7)	(381)%
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$	19.0	\$	(8.6)	\$	(24.8)	\$	(8.1)	\$	19.3	2%
Net income (loss) from continuing operations % of revenue		7%		(5)%		(11)%		(4)%		7%	
Income (loss) per share from continuing operations											
Basic	\$	1.46	\$	(0.66)	\$	(1.90)	\$	(0.62)	\$	1.48	1%
Diluted	\$	1.34	\$	(0.66)	\$	(1.90)	\$	(0.62)	\$	1.37	2%
Variable marketing margin											
Total revenue	\$	283.1	\$	184.3	\$	220.3	\$	222.3	\$	272.8	(4)%
Variable marketing expense (1)(2)	\$	(184.9)	\$	(101.8)	\$	(142.2)	\$	(140.0)	\$	(183.8)	(1)%
Variable marketing margin ⁽²⁾	\$	98.2	\$	82.5	\$	78.1	\$	82.3	\$	89.0	(9)%
Variable marketing margin % of revenue ⁽²⁾		35%		45%		35%		37%		33%	
Adjusted EBITDA ⁽²⁾	\$	44.9	\$	30.8	\$	21.7	\$	26.3	 	30.7	(32)%
Adjusted EBITDA % of revenue ⁽²⁾		16%		17%		10%		12%		11%	, ,
Adjusted net income (loss) (2)	\$	17.1	\$	6.4	\$	(3.4)	\$	1.8	\$	2.5	(85)%
Adjusted net income (loss) per share ⁽²⁾	\$	1.20	\$	0.46	\$	(0.26)	\$	0.13	\$	0.18	(85)%

⁽¹⁾ Represents the portion of selling and marketing expense attributable to variable costs paid for advertising, direct marketing and related expenses. Also includes the portion of cost of revenue attributable to costs paid for advertising re-sold to third parties. Excludes overhead, fixed costs and personnel-related expenses.

⁽²⁾ Variable marketing expense, variable marketing margin, variable marketing margin % of revenue, adjusted EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA % of revenue, adjusted net income and adjusted net income per share are non-GAAP measures. Please see "LendingTree's Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Measures to GAAP" and "LendingTree's Principles of Financial Reporting" below for more information.



Q1 2021 CONSOLIDATED RESULTS

The first quarter's results once again exceeded our prior guidance as we continue to see upward momentum across the majority of our businesses.

Consolidated revenue of \$272.8 million exceeded the high end of our previous guidance and improved 23% sequentially from the fourth quarter as Home continued to surge and the recovery in Consumer continues to materialize.

Variable Marketing Margin of \$89.0 million also improved substantially over the prior quarter with much of the upside driven by out-performance in Home.

Adjusted EBITDA of \$30.7 million also substantially exceeded the high end of our prior guidance thanks to favorable Variable Marketing Margin and continued discipline in managing non-marketing expenses.

GAAP net income from continuing operations of \$19.3 million benefited from a \$40.1 million increase in the carrying value of our strategic equity investment in Stash Financial, Inc.



SEGMENT RESULTS

(millions)	2020						2021	Y/Y	
	Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4	Q1	% Change
Home ⁽¹⁾									
Revenue	\$ 79.2	\$	74.1	\$	78.9	\$	88.8	\$ 128.1	62%
Segment profit	\$ 35.9	\$	38.7	\$	25.2	\$	32.3	\$ 39.0	9%
Segment profit % of revenue	45%		52%		32%		36%	30%	
Consumer (2)									
Revenue	\$ 119.9	\$	37.1	\$	48.4	\$	47.8	\$ 57.9	(52)%
Segment profit	\$ 43.1	\$	19.4	\$	21.6	\$	22.7	\$ 24.6	(43)%
Segment profit % of revenue	36%		52%		45%		47%	42%	
Insurance ⁽³⁾									
Revenue	\$ 82.7	\$	72.9	\$	92.5	\$	85.6	\$ 86.6	5%
Segment profit	\$ 30.5	\$	30.1	\$	37.0	\$	33.4	\$ 32.8	8%
Segment profit % of revenue	37%		41%		40%		39%	38%	
Other Category ⁽⁴⁾									
Revenue	\$ 1.2	\$	0.2	\$	0.5	\$	0.1	\$ 0.1	(92)%
(Loss) profit	\$ (0.3)	\$	0.1	\$	_	\$	(0.4)	\$ (0.1)	(67)%
Total									
Revenue	\$ 283.1	\$	184.3	\$	220.3	\$	222.3	\$ 272.8	(4)%
Segment profit	\$ 109.2	\$	88.3	\$	83.8	\$	88.0	\$ 96.3	(12)%
Segment profit % of revenue	39%		48%		38%		40%	35%	
Brand marketing expense ⁽⁵⁾	\$ (11.0)	\$	(5.8)	\$	(5.7)	\$	(5.7)	\$ (7.3)	(34)%
	,							` ,	
Variable marketing margin	\$ 98.2	\$	82.5	\$	78.1	\$	82.3	\$ 89.0	(9)%
Variable marketing margin % of revenue	35%		45%		35%		37%	33%	

⁽¹⁾ The Home segment includes the following products: purchase mortgage, refinance mortgage, home equity loans and lines of credit, reverse mortgage loans, and real estate.

⁽²⁾ The Consumer segment includes the following products: credit cards, personal loans, small business loans, student loans, auto loans, deposit accounts, and other credit products such as credit repair and debt settlement.

⁽³⁾ The Insurance segment consists of insurance quote products.

⁽⁴⁾ The Other category primarily includes revenue from the resale of online advertising space to third parties and revenue from home improvement referrals, and the related variable marketing and advertising expenses.

⁽⁵⁾ Brand marketing expense represents the portion of selling and marketing expense attributable to variable costs paid for advertising, direct marketing and related expenses that are not assignable to the segments' products. This measure excludes overhead, fixed costs and personnel-related expenses.



HOME

The Home segment performed exceedingly well in Q1, driving record revenue of \$128.1 million, up 62% over the prior year while segment profit improved to \$39.0 million, up 9%. Within Home, our core mortgage business drove revenue of \$116.4 million, up 74% year-over-year, continuing to be led by revenue from refinance inquiries.

As mortgage interest rates began ticking higher from all-time lows experienced in Q4, the market saw a surge in refinance activity in the first half Q1 which began to slow in the latter part of the quarter. Our business performed well throughout as we serve as an integral piece of our partners' marketing mix. Demand for our services, and competition on our network, continued to increase with mortgage revenue per lead improving 53% over the prior year period. As is typical in our mortgage business when revenue accelerates sharply, and as was contemplated in our guidance, the margin profile in Home contracted to 30% of revenue as we further extended into lower-margin channels to help fulfill rising lender demand.

As we enter the second quarter, the interest rate environment, and its impact on refinance activity, remains fluid. The 30-year fixed rate jumped to 3.18% for the week ended April 1, but has fallen back below 3% in the most recent week ended April 22. While the near-term volatility in rates drives some uncertainty in the operating environment, we are confident that our market-leading position and flexible model will enable us to thrive as this market continues to evolve.

CONSUMER

We are encouraged by the progress we are seeing across our Consumer businesses as the year progresses, and many partners have renewed their perspectives on marketing investments and origination growth as the consumer economy gradually reopens.

In our credit card business, demand for our services is recovering remarkably well. Revenue of \$17.6 million in Q1 was up 48% sequentially over Q4 as issuers continue to re-open budgets and increase payouts overall. The card business is an incredibly important one for most issuing banks and one that we're confident they will continue to lean into as we see sustained signs of increasing consumer health and spending. The profitability of our credit card business remains constrained, in part due to lower approval rates and less aggressive bidding by our partners compared to pre-COVID levels. Additionally, we have seen somewhat higher costs to drive consumer traffic in an environment where government stimulus has temporarily reduced consumers' desire to take on additional debt.

Personal loans revenue of \$14.9 million also grew nicely quarter-over-quarter. While the lender appetite in this category continues to recover, consumer behavior remains a challenge. As many consumers have looked to de-risk their own personal balance sheets over the course of the pandemic, the aggregate demand for unsecured loans among consumers has remained depressed. We continue to view this market with optimism over the medium to long-term and see a large runway for growth, but the near-term dynamics remain a bit uncertain.

We believe strongly that these key markets will return to 2019 levels and beyond in the years to come. We see consistent signs of progress and recovery, but we acknowledge that the speed of that recovery in these key categories will be a major determinant of our financial performance in 2021 and forecasting the trajectory of that recovery remains challenging.

D

INSURANCE

Insurance continued its run of steady performance, delivering revenue of \$86.6 million, up 5% against a strong Q1 2020 comparison, and segment profit of \$32.8 million, up 8%. While the quarter in total did not enjoy the growth rates we have become accustomed to, the business is on a stronger trajectory heading into Q2 as the month of March exhibited year-on-year revenue growth of 31% and was an all-time high. Performance earlier in the quarter was, in part, challenged by a couple isolated technical issues. The primary issue took place at one of our top partners and forced them to pause activity on our network for approximately five business days in January.

We remain focused on expanding our presence in Insurance by augmenting our strength in search engine marketing with additional traffic acquisition sources, growing existing carrier relationships, and increasing our efforts to scale non-auto categories.

In Q1, our publisher platform continued to scale, delivering record volume, revenue, and margin. Our inbound channel, which redistributes pre-qualified traffic from third-party sources, also achieved record revenue and margin in the quarter. These additional traffic sources enable incremental growth while reducing our reliance on paid search marketing.

Additionally, our efforts to scale in non-auto insurance categories continue to pay off. Revenue from our home insurance products grew to record levels in Q1, up 36% over the prior year, as we increasingly leverage our presence in mortgage. And, as discussed in prior quarters, we are making significant investments in the Medicare vertical, rapidly building out our agency capabilities and marketing support.

My LENDINGTREE

My LendingTree remains integral to our ongoing efforts to build a comprehensive and engaging financial management tool for consumers.

Continuing a trend from the fourth quarter, we continued to add new signups at an impressive rate, adding 1.2 million in the quarter and bringing cumulative signups to 17.7 million. A substantial portion of the acceleration in new signups is being driven by our heightened focus on syndication partnerships. Having now architected our platforms to make them extensible to third-party audiences, we believe we have a unique and differentiated approach to the market, and one that will enable us to scale the usership of our tools, content, and marketplaces in a more meaningful way.

This syndication effort, along with continuing to add value-enhancing functionality for our users, are the top priorities for My LendingTree throughout the remainder of the year. For example, we will soon be launching a credit score simulation tool that quantifies the effects of recommended behaviors for our users. Additionally, we remain confident that our efforts to further align the platform with our Insurance marketplace will be very productive longer term.



(millions)						
		20	2021	Y/Y		
My LendingTree	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	% Change
Cumulative Sign-ups (at quarter-end)	14.7	15.2	15.7	16.6	17.7	20 %
Revenue Contribution % of total revenue	\$ 18.7 6.6 %	\$ 9.1 4.9 %	\$ 9.6 4.4 %	\$ 9.8 4.4 %	\$ 11.2 4.1 %	(40)%

BALANCE SHEET & CASH FLOW

We ended the quarter with \$162.1 million of cash on hand and our \$500 million revolver remains fully undrawn.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK*

Today we're issuing an outlook for the second quarter 2021. Our assumptions reflect current trends, although we continue to acknowledge the difficulty in forecasting the recovery of our Consumer segment and the effects of volatile interest rate movements in our Home segment.

Our guidance assumes that year-over-year growth in our Home segment moderates relative to the extraordinary performance recorded in Q1. A sequential decline in Home revenue and segment profit should be at least partially offset by sustained improvement in our Consumer segment and an acceleration in Insurance, where we expect revenue growth of 30% or more compared to Q2 2020. Our outlook also factors in approximately \$2 million in additional expense to support the build of our Medicare agency capability.

Q2 2021 Outlook:

• Revenue: \$263 - \$273 million

Variable Marketing Margin: \$86 - \$92 million

Adjusted EBITDA: \$27 - \$31 million

*LendingTree is not able to provide a reconciliation of projected variable marketing margin or adjusted EBITDA to the most directly comparable expected GAAP results due to the unknown effect, timing and potential significance of the effects of legal matters, tax considerations, and income and expense from changes in fair value of contingent consideration from acquisitions. Expenses associated with legal matters, tax consequences, and income and expense from changes in fair value of contingent consideration from acquisitions have in the past, and may in the future, significantly affect GAAP results in a particular period.



CONCLUSION

We are once again pleased to be able to report better-than-expected results for the quarter at hand. Our Home and Insurance segments continue to perform well. Our Consumer segment continues to make tangible signs of progress one quarter after another. The breadth and depth of supply we have built across financial services is an undeniable competitive advantage, and we are relentlessly focused on leveraging that advantage to scale this company into the quarters and years ahead.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Doug Lebda Chairman & CEO

J.D. Moriarty CFO

LendingTree, Inc.

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LENDINGTREE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (Unaudited)

Three Months Ended March 31, 2021 2020 (in thousands, except per share amounts) 272,750 \$ 283,084 \$ Revenue Costs and expenses: Cost of revenue (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below) (1) 13,895 14,252 Selling and marketing expense (1) 197,462 195,538 General and administrative expense $^{\left(1\right) }$ 34,989 32,082 Product development (1) 12,468 10,963 Depreciation 3,718 3,378 Amortization of intangibles 11,312 13,757 Change in fair value of contingent consideration 797 (8,122)Severance 158 Litigation settlements and contingencies 16 329 Total costs and expenses 274,657 262,335 Operating (loss) income (1,907)20,749 Other (expense) income, net: (10,215)Interest expense, net (4,834)40,072 Other income **Income before income taxes** 27,950 15,915 (8,638)Income tax (expense) benefit 3,061 Net income from continuing operations 19,312 18,976 Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax (263)(4,575)Net income and comprehensive income \$ 19,049 14,401 \$ Weighted average shares outstanding: Basic 13,070 12.957 Diluted 14,119 14,158 Income per share from continuing operations: \$ \$ 1.46 1.48 Basic \$ 1.34 Diluted 1.37 \$ Loss per share from discontinued operations: \$ Basic (0.02)(0.35)Diluted \$ (0.02) \$ (0.32)**Net income per share:** Basic \$ 1.46 \$ 1.11 Diluted \$ 1.35 \$ 1.02 (1) Amounts include non-cash compensation, as follows: Cost of revenue \$ 397 \$ 242 1,802 Selling and marketing expense 1,156 General and administrative expense 12,171 9,123 Product development 2,066 1,396



LENDINGTREE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)

		March 31, 2021	Dec	ember 31, 2020
	(in t	housands, excep	t par v unts)	alue and share
ASSETS:		umo	шиз	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	162,091	\$	169,932
•		79		117
Accounts receivable		123,067		89,841
Prepaid and other current assets		28,638		27,949
Current assets of discontinued operations		8,556		8,570
Total current assets		322,431		296,409
Property and equipment		71,572		62,381
Operating lease right-of-use assets		81,622		84,109
Goodwill		420,139		420,139
Intangible assets, net		117,189		128,502
Deferred income tax assets		87,586		96,224
Equity investment		121,253		80,000
Other non-current assets		5,403		5,334
Non-current assets of discontinued operations		15,982		15,892
Total assets	\$	1,243,177	\$	1,188,990
LIABILITIES:				
Accounts payable, trade		7,230		10,111
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities		113,442		101,196
Current contingent consideration		9,046		_
Current liabilities of discontinued operations		803		536
Total current liabilities		130,521		111,843
Long-term debt		619,502		611,412
Operating lease liabilities		97,352		92,363
Non-current contingent consideration				8,249
Other non-current liabilities		359		362
Total liabilities		847,734		824,229
Commitments and contingencies				
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY:				
Preferred stock \$.01 par value; 5,000,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding				
Common stock \$.01 par value; 50,000,000 shares authorized; 15,797,177 and 15,766,193 shares issued, respectively, and 13,155,859 and 13,124,875 shares outstanding, respectively		158		158
Additional paid-in capital		1,200,306		1,188,673
Accumulated deficit		(621,860)		(640,909)
Treasury stock; 2,641,318 shares		(183,161)		(183,161)
Total shareholders' equity		395,443		364,761
Cash and cash equivalents Restricted cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable Prepaid and other current assets Current assets of discontinued operations tal current assets poerty and equipment perating lease right-of-use assets podwill Rangible assets, net referred income tax assets quity investment her non-current assets por-current assets of discontinued operations tal assets ABILITIES: Accounts payable, trade Accrued expenses and other current liabilities Current contingent consideration Current liabilities ong-term debt perating lease liabilities on-current tiabilities tal liabilities maintents and contingencies HAREHOLDERS' EQUITY: Preferred stock \$.01 par value; 50,000,000 shares authorized; none issued or outstanding Common stock \$.01 par value; 50,000,000 shares authorized; 15,797,177 and 15,766,193 shares issued, respectively Accimulated deficit Reasury stock; 2,641,318 shares		1,243,177	\$	1,188,990



LENDINGTREE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)

Three Months Ended March 31, 2021 2020 (in thousands) Cash flows from operating activities attributable to continuing operations: 14,401 Net income and comprehensive income \$ 19,049 \$ Less: Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax 263 4,575 19,312 18,976 Income from continuing operations Adjustments to reconcile income from continuing operations to net cash provided by operating activities attributable to continuing operations: 348 530 Loss on disposal of assets Amortization of intangibles 11,312 13,757 Depreciation 3,718 3,378 Non-cash compensation expense 16,436 11,917 Deferred income taxes 8,638 (3,061)Change in fair value of contingent consideration 797 (8,122)Unrealized gain on investments (40,072)880 Bad debt expense 516 Amortization of debt issuance costs 1,275 582 Amortization of convertible debt discount 7,346 3,111 Reduction in carrying amount of ROU asset, offset by change in operating lease liabilities 7,132 (196)Changes in current assets and liabilities: Accounts receivable (33,743)(6,952)Prepaid and other current assets (915)(1,430)Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other current liabilities 7,154 (3,271)Income taxes receivable (89)65 (240)(862)Other, net Net cash provided by operating activities attributable to continuing operations 8,925 29,302 Cash flows from investing activities attributable to continuing operations: Capital expenditures (10,553)(4,189)Equity investment (1,180)(80,000)Net cash used in investing activities attributable to continuing operations (11,733)(84,189)Cash flows from financing activities attributable to continuing operations: Payments related to net-share settlement of stock-based compensation, net of proceeds from exercise of stock options (4,801)(5,087)Net proceeds from revolving credit facility 55,000 Payment of debt issuance costs (168)(306)(3,000)Contingent consideration payments Other financing activities (31)(6) Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities attributable to continuing operations (5,000)46,601 Total cash used in continuing operations (7,808)(8,286)Discontinued operations: Net cash used in operating activities attributable to discontinued operations Total cash used in discontinued operations (71)(752)Net decrease in cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents (7,879)(9,038)170,049 60,339 Cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents at beginning of period 162,170 Cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents at end of period 51,301

01,2021



Variable Marketing Expense

Below is a reconciliation of selling and marketing expense to variable marketing expense. See "LendingTree's Principles of Financial Reporting" for further discussion of the Company's use of this non-GAAP measure.

	Three Months Ended										
	March 31, 2020	June 30, 2020		September 30, 2020	December 31, 2020			March 31, 2021			
					(in thousands)						
Selling and marketing expense	\$ 195,538	\$	113,921	\$	154,670	\$	153,275	\$	197,462		
Non-variable selling and marketing expense (1)	(11,772)		(12,091)		(12,541)		(13,248)		(13,760)		
Cost of advertising re-sold to third parties (2)	1,086		_		_		_				
Variable marketing expense	\$ 184,852	\$	101,830	\$	142,129	\$	140,027	\$	183,702		

⁽¹⁾ Represents the portion of selling and marketing expense not attributable to variable costs paid for advertising, direct marketing and related expenses. Includes overhead, fixed costs and personnel-related expenses.

⁽²⁾ Represents the portion of cost of revenue attributable to costs paid for advertising re-sold to third parties. Excludes overhead, fixed costs, and personnel-related expenses.



Variable Marketing Margin

Below is a reconciliation of net income (loss) from continuing operations to variable marketing margin and net income (loss) from continuing operations % of revenue to variable marketing margin % of revenue. See "LendingTree's Principles of Financial Reporting" for further discussion of the Company's use of these non-GAAP measures.

	Three Months Ended											
		March 31, 2020		June 30, 2020	S	eptember 30, 2020		December 31, 2020		March 31, 2021		
				(in the	ousan	ds, except perce	enta	ges)				
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$	18,976	\$	(8,616)	\$	(24,809)	\$	(8,117)	\$	19,312		
Net income (loss) from continuing operations % of revenue		7%		(5)%		(11)%		(4)%		7%		
Adjustments to reconcile to variable marketing margin:												
Cost of revenue		14,252		13,464		13,220		13,558		13,895		
Cost of advertising re-sold to third parties (1)		(1,086)		_		_				_		
Non-variable selling and marketing expense (2)		11,772		12,091		12,541		13,248		13,760		
General and administrative expense		32,082		28,489		33,705		34,825		34,989		
Product development		10,963		10,812		11,477		10,384		12,468		
Depreciation		3,378		3,550		3,535		3,738		3,718		
Amortization of intangibles		13,757		13,756		13,090		12,475		11,312		
Change in fair value of contingent consideration		(8,122)		9,175		6,658		(2,384)		797		
Severance		158		32		_		105		_		
Litigation settlements and contingencies		329		(1,325)		13		40		16		
Interest expense, net		4,834		4,955		16,617		9,894		10,215		
Other income		_		(7)		_		(369)		(40,072)		
Income tax (benefit) expense		(3,061)		(3,880)		(7,925)		(5,095)		8,638		
Variable marketing margin	\$	98,232	\$	82,496	\$	78,122	\$	82,302	\$	89,048		
Variable marketing margin % of revenue		35%		45%		35%		37%		33%		

⁽¹⁾ Represents the portion of cost of revenue attributable to costs paid for advertising re-sold to third parties. Excludes overhead, fixed costs, and personnel-related expenses.

⁽²⁾ Represents the portion of selling and marketing expense not attributable to variable costs paid for advertising, direct marketing and related expenses. Includes overhead, fixed costs and personnel-related expenses.



Adjusted EBITDA

Below is a reconciliation of net income (loss) from continuing operations to adjusted EBITDA and net income (loss) from continuing operations % of revenue to adjusted EBITDA % of revenue. See "LendingTree's Principles of Financial Reporting" for further discussion of the Company's use of these non-GAAP measures.

	Three Months Ended												
		March 31, 2020		June 30, 2020	S	September 30, 2020		December 31, 2020		March 31, 2021			
	(in thousands, except percentages)												
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$	18,976	\$	(8,616)	\$	(24,809)	\$	(8,117)	\$	19,312			
Net income (loss) from continuing operations % of revenue		7%		(5)%		(11)%		(4)%		7%			
Adjustments to reconcile to adjusted EBITDA:													
Amortization of intangibles		13,757		13,756		13,090		12,475		11,312			
Depreciation		3,378		3,550		3,535		3,738		3,718			
Severance		158		32		_		105		_			
Loss on disposal of assets		530		22		134		474		348			
Unrealized gain on investments		_		_		_		_		(40,072)			
Non-cash compensation		11,917		13,158		14,161		14,497		16,436			
Costs of secondary public offering		_		_		_		863		_			
Change in fair value of contingent consideration		(8,122)		9,175		6,658		(2,384)		797			
Acquisition expense		2,180		20		205		(188)		29			
Litigation settlements and contingencies		329		(1,325)		13		40		16			
Interest expense, net		4,834		4,955		16,617		9,894		10,215			
Income tax (benefit) expense		(3,061)		(3,880)		(7,925)		(5,095)		8,638			
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	44,876	\$	30,847	\$	21,679	\$	26,302	\$	30,749			
Adjusted EBITDA % of revenue		16%		17%		10%		12%		11%			



Adjusted Net Income

Below is a reconciliation of net income (loss) from continuing operations to adjusted net income (loss) and net income (loss) per diluted share from continuing operations to adjusted net income (loss) per share. See "LendingTree's Principles of Financial Reporting" for further discussion of the Company's use of these non-GAAP measures.

	Three Months Ended									
		March 31, 2020		June 30, 2020		eptember 30, 2020		December 31, 2020		March 31, 2021
				(in thous	ands,	except per shar	e ar	nounts)		
Net income (loss) from continuing operations	\$	18,976	\$	(8,616)	\$	(24,809)	\$	(8,117)	\$	19,312
Adjustments to reconcile to adjusted net income (loss):										
Severance		158		32		_		105		_
Loss on disposal of assets		530		22		134		474		348
Unrealized gain on investments		_		_		_		_		(40,072)
Non-cash compensation		11,917		13,158		14,161		14,497		16,436
Costs of secondary public offering		_		_		_		863		_
Change in fair value of contingent consideration		(8,122)		9,175		6,658		(2,384)		797
Acquisition expense		2,180		20		205		(188)		29
Litigation settlements and contingencies		329		(1,325)		13		40		16
Loss on extinguishment of debt		_		_		7,768		_		_
Income tax (benefit) expense from adjusted items		(1,760)		(5,357)		(7,361)		(3,402)		5,699
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation		(1,054)		(753)		(175)		(51)		(32)
Income tax benefit from CARES Act		(6,104)		_		_				_
Adjusted net income (loss)	\$	17,050	\$	6,356	\$	(3,406)	\$	1,837	\$	2,533
Net income (loss) per diluted share from continuing operations	\$	1.34	\$	(0.66)	\$	(1.90)	\$	(0.62)	\$	1.37
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) from continuing operations to adjusted net income (loss)		(0.14)		1.15		1.64		0.76		(1.19)
Adjustments to reconcile effect of dilutive securities		_		(0.03)		_		(0.01)		_
Adjusted net income (loss) per share	\$	1.20	\$	0.46	\$	(0.26)	\$	0.13	\$	0.18
Adjusted weighted average diluted shares outstanding		14,158		13,814		13,033		14,163		14,119
Effect of dilutive securities		_		830		_		1,112		_
Weighted average diluted shares outstanding		14,158		12,984		13,033		13,051		14,119
Effect of dilutive securities		1,201		_		_		_		1,049
Weighted average basic shares outstanding		12,957		12,984		13,033		13,051		13,070



LENDINGTREE'S PRINCIPLES OF FINANCIAL REPORTING

LendingTree reports the following non-GAAP measures as supplemental to GAAP:

- Variable marketing margin, including variable marketing expense
- Variable marketing margin % of revenue
- Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization, as adjusted for certain items discussed below ("Adjusted EBITDA")
- · Adjusted EBITDA % of revenue
- Adjusted net income
- Adjusted net income per share

Variable marketing margin is a measure of the efficiency of the Company's operating model, measuring revenue after subtracting variable marketing and advertising costs that directly influence revenue. The Company's operating model is highly sensitive to the amount and efficiency of variable marketing expenditures, and the Company's proprietary systems are able to make rapidly changing decisions concerning the deployment of variable marketing expenditures (primarily but not exclusively online and mobile advertising placement) based on proprietary and sophisticated analytics. Variable marketing margin and variable marketing margin % of revenue are primary metrics by which the Company measures the effectiveness of its marketing efforts.

Adjusted EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA % of revenue are primary metrics by which LendingTree evaluates the operating performance of its businesses, on which its marketing expenditures and internal budgets are based and, in the case of adjusted EBITDA, by which management and many employees are compensated in most years.

Adjusted net income and adjusted net income per share supplement GAAP income from continuing operations and GAAP income per diluted share from continuing operations by enabling investors to make period to period comparisons of those components of the nearest comparable GAAP measures that management believes better reflect the underlying financial performance of the Company's business operations during particular financial reporting periods. Adjusted net income and adjusted net income per share exclude certain amounts, such as non-cash compensation, non-cash asset impairment charges, gain/loss on disposal of assets, gain/loss on investments, severance, litigation settlements and contingencies, acquisition and disposition income or expenses including with respect to changes in fair value of contingent consideration, gain/loss on extinguishment of debt, one-time items which are recognized and recorded under GAAP in particular periods but which might be viewed as not necessarily coinciding with the underlying business operations for the periods in which they are so recognized and recorded, the effects to income taxes of the aforementioned adjustments and any excess tax benefit or expense associated with stock-based compensation recorded in net income in conjunction with FASB pronouncement ASU 2016-09. LendingTree believes that adjusted net income and adjusted net income per share are useful financial indicators that provide a different view of the financial performance of the Company than adjusted EBITDA (the primary metric by which LendingTree evaluates the operating performance of its businesses) and the GAAP measures of net income from continuing operations and GAAP income per diluted share from continuing operations.

These non-GAAP measures should be considered in addition to results prepared in accordance with GAAP, but should not be considered a substitute for or superior to GAAP results. LendingTree provides and encourages investors to examine the reconciling adjustments between the GAAP and non-GAAP measures set forth above.



Definition of LendingTree's Non-GAAP Measures

Variable marketing margin is defined as revenue less variable marketing expense. Variable marketing expense is defined as the expense attributable to variable costs paid for advertising, direct marketing and related expenses, including the portion of cost of revenue attributable to costs paid for advertising re-sold to third parties, and excluding overhead, fixed costs and personnel-related expenses. The majority of these variable advertising costs are expressly intended to drive traffic to our websites and these variable advertising costs are included in selling and marketing expense on the Company's consolidated statements of operations and consolidated income. When advertising inventory is re-sold to third parties, the proceeds of such transactions are included in revenue for the purposes of calculating variable marketing margin, and the costs of such re-sold advertising are included in cost of revenue in the company's consolidated statements of operations and consolidated income and are included in variable marketing expense for purposes of calculating variable marketing margin.

EBITDA is defined as net income from continuing operations excluding interest, income taxes, amortization of intangibles and depreciation.

Adjusted EBITDA is defined as EBITDA excluding (1) non-cash compensation expense, (2) non-cash impairment charges, (3) gain/loss on disposal of assets, (4) gain/loss on investments, (5) restructuring and severance expenses, (6) litigation settlements and contingencies, (7) acquisitions and dispositions income or expense (including with respect to changes in fair value of contingent consideration), and (8) one-time items.

Adjusted net income is defined as net income (loss) from continuing operations excluding (1) non-cash compensation expense, (2) non-cash impairment charges, (3) gain/loss on disposal of assets, (4) gain/loss on investments, (5) restructuring and severance expenses, (6) litigation settlements and contingencies, (7) acquisitions and dispositions income or expense (including with respect to changes in fair value of contingent consideration), (8) gain/loss on extinguishment of debt, (9) one-time items, (10) the effects to income taxes of the aforementioned adjustments, and (11) any excess tax benefit or expense associated with stock-based compensation recorded in net income in conjunction with FASB pronouncement ASU 2016-09.

Adjusted net income per share is defined as adjusted net income divided by the adjusted weighted average diluted shares outstanding. For periods which the Company reports GAAP loss from continuing operations, the effects of potentially dilutive securities are excluded from the calculation of net loss per diluted share from continuing operations because their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive. In periods where the Company reports GAAP loss from continuing operations but reports positive non-GAAP adjusted net income, the effects of potentially dilutive securities are included in the denominator for calculating adjusted net income per share.

LendingTree endeavors to compensate for the limitations of these non-GAAP measures by also providing the comparable GAAP measures with equal or greater prominence and descriptions of the reconciling items, including quantifying such items, to derive the non-GAAP measures. These non-GAAP measures may not be comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies.

One-Time Items

Adjusted EBITDA and adjusted net income are adjusted for one-time items, if applicable. Items are considered one-time in nature if they are non-recurring, infrequent or unusual, and have not occurred in the past two years or are not expected to recur in the next two years, in accordance with SEC rules. For the periods presented in this report, there are no adjustments for one-time items, except for the \$6.1 million income tax benefit from the CARES Act in Q1 2020 and the Q4 2020 expenses incurred in connection with a secondary public offering of our common stock by our largest shareholder, for which we did not receive any proceeds.



Non-Cash Expenses That Are Excluded From LendingTree's Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income

Non-cash compensation expense consists principally of expense associated with the grants of restricted stock, restricted stock units and stock options. These expenses are not paid in cash and LendingTree includes the related shares in its calculations of fully diluted shares outstanding. Upon settlement of restricted stock units, exercise of certain stock options or vesting of restricted stock awards, the awards may be settled on a net basis, with LendingTree remitting the required tax withholding amounts from its current funds. Cash expenditures for employer payroll taxes on non-cash compensation are included within adjusted EBITDA and adjusted net income.

Amortization of intangibles are non-cash expenses relating primarily to acquisitions. At the time of an acquisition, the intangible assets of the acquired company, such as purchase agreements, technology and customer relationships, are valued and amortized over their estimated lives. Amortization of intangibles are only excluded from adjusted EBITDA.

Safe Harbor Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

The matters contained in the discussion above may be considered to be "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Those statements include statements regarding the intent, belief or current expectations or anticipations of LendingTree and members of our management team. Factors currently known to management that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements include the following: uncertainty regarding the duration and scope of the coronavirus referred to as COVID-19 pandemic; actions governments and businesses take in response to the pandemic, including actions that could affect levels of advertising activity; the impact of the pandemic and actions taken in response to the pandemic on national and regional economies and economic activity; the pace of recovery when the COVID-19 pandemic subsides; adverse conditions in the primary and secondary mortgage markets and in the economy, particularly interest rates; default rates on loans, particularly unsecured loans; demand by investors for unsecured personal loans; the effect of such demand on interest rates for personal loans and consumer demand for personal loans; seasonality of results; potential liabilities to secondary market purchasers; changes in the Company's relationships with network lenders, including dependence on certain key network lenders; breaches of network security or the misappropriation or misuse of personal consumer information; failure to provide competitive service; failure to maintain brand recognition; ability to attract and retain consumers in a cost-effective manner; the effects of potential acquisitions of other businesses, including the ability to integrate them successfully with LendingTree's existing operations; accounting rules related to contingent consideration and excess tax benefits or expenses on stock-based compensation that could materially affect earnings in future periods; ability to develop new products and services and enhance existing ones; competition; allegations of failure to comply with existing or changing laws, rules or regulations, or to obtain and maintain required licenses; failure of network lenders or other affiliated parties to comply with regulatory requirements; failure to maintain the integrity of systems and infrastructure; liabilities as a result of privacy regulations; failure to adequately protect intellectual property rights or allegations of infringement of intellectual property rights; and changes in management. These and additional factors to be considered are set forth under "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2020 and in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. LendingTree undertakes no obligation to update or revise forward-looking statements to reflect changed assumptions, the occurrence of unanticipated events or changes to future operating results or expectations.

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