creditrisk monitor[®]

GNC HOLDINGS, INC. BANKRUPTCY CASE STUDY

FILED ON 06/23/2020

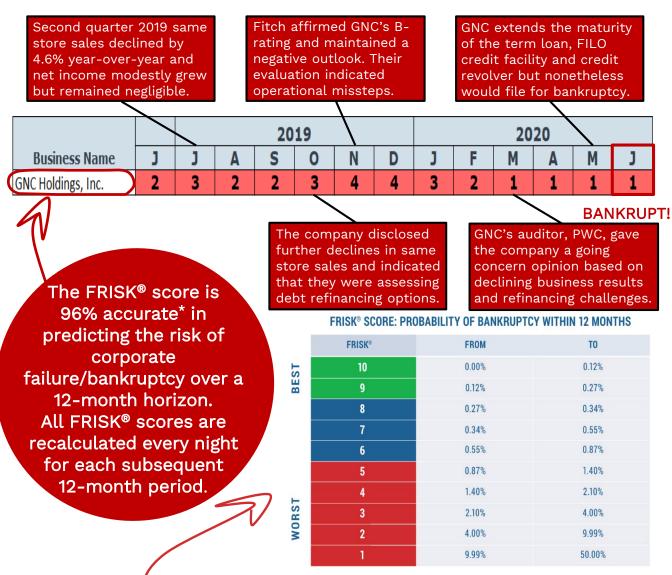


CreditRiskMonitor's warning of GNC Holdings Inc.'s ("GNC Holdings") bankruptcy risk was determined by a combination of factors:

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MONTHLY AVERAGE FRISK® SCORE

CreditRiskMonitor's FRISK® score had been warning of financial stress at GNC Holdings (NYSE: GNC) for more than a year. We issued a special High Risk Report, dated May 29, as conditions continued to deteriorate and become more troubling. The company ultimately filed for bankruptcy on June 23.



While the risk of bankruptcy varies at each FRISK® score, 96% of public companies that eventually go bankrupt enter the FRISK® "red zone" prior to filing. A FRISK® score of 5 or less is an important warning sign.

^{*} FRISK® score accuracy of 96% is based on backtesting of U.S. public companies; results may vary by country.

THE FRISK® SCORE COMPONENTS

At the core of the CreditRiskMonitor® process is our 96% accurate FRISK® score, which indicates a company's level of financial stress on a scale of 1 to 10, based on the probability of bankruptcy over a 12-month horizon. When available, the FRISK® score incorporates a number of powerful risk indicators including:

A "Merton" type model using stock market capitalization and volatility Financial ratios, including those used in the Altman Z"-Score Model

Bond agency ratings from Moody's, Fitch, & DBRS Morningstar

Crowdsourced CreditRiskMonitor® Usage Data

<u>Crowdsourcing</u> has enhanced the accuracy and timeliness of the FRISK® score. We collect and analyze data patterns from thousands of CreditRiskMonitor® subscribers, including professionals from more than 35% of the Fortune 1000 and other large corporations worldwide.

The crowdsourcing advantage is even more powerful in our FRISK® score since many of the professionals who use our service are credit managers:

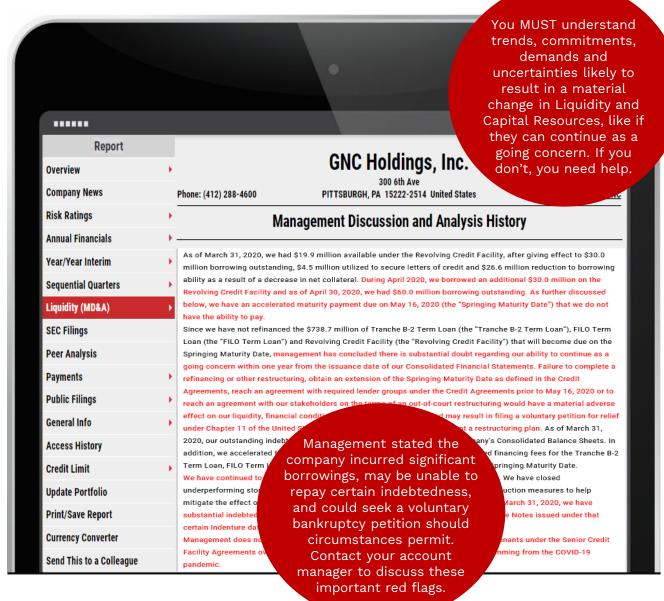
- Credit managers control one of the largest sources of working capital going into a company
- They are not held to the same "Fair Disclosure" restrictions that prevent non-disclosed information sharing on public companies
- Credit managers use a variety of non-public information sources such as their own company's management and sales representatives to be alerted to concerns in a public company's performance
- It is commonly known credit managers confidentially share information with other credit managers, thus collectively, their behavior helps to provide advanced insight to financial problems in public companies

Read more in Credit Research Foundation's quarterly journal article, "Assessing Public Company Financial Risk by Crowdsourcing the Research of Credit Professionals"

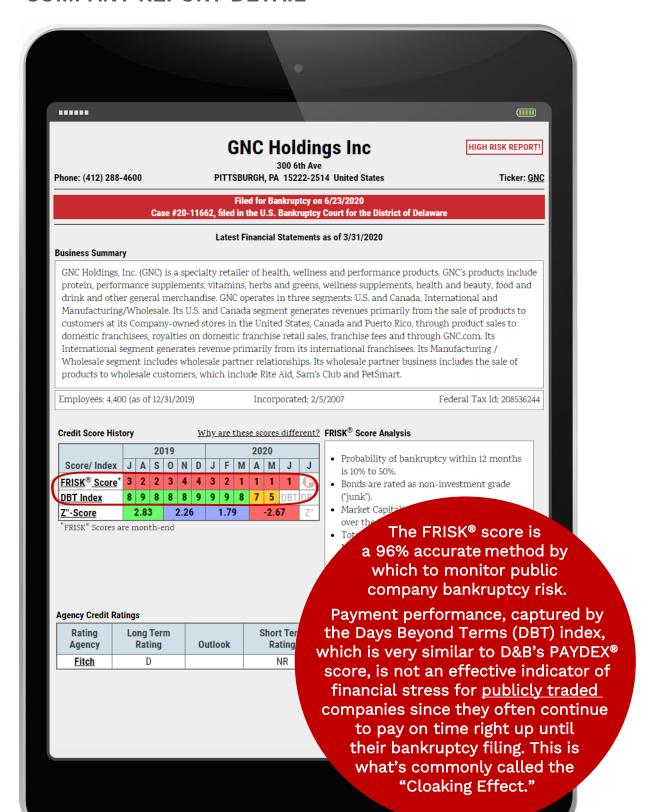
DO NOT MISS THIS - MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)

Making misleading or fraudulent statements in an MD&A is <u>against the law</u> – and Sarbanes-Oxley subjects CEOs and CFOs to heavy fines or even <u>jail time</u> for doing so. A vital feature of the CreditRiskMonitor service is the ability to quickly access a Company's Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) history. Let it sink in: there are no two people in the world with better knowledge of a company's liquidity risk than the CEO and CFO. More than any credit manager. More than any trade group. And they're personally liable if they're lying.

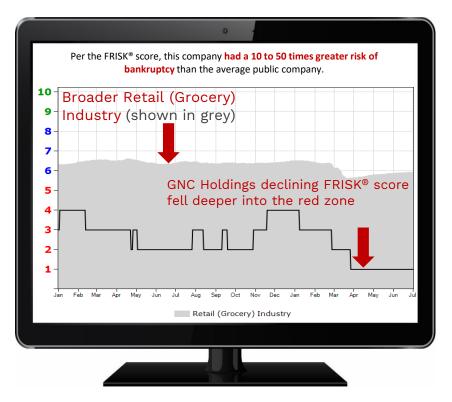
According to the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), "MD&A should provide a balanced presentation that includes both positive and negative information about the topics discussed."



COMPANY REPORT DETAIL



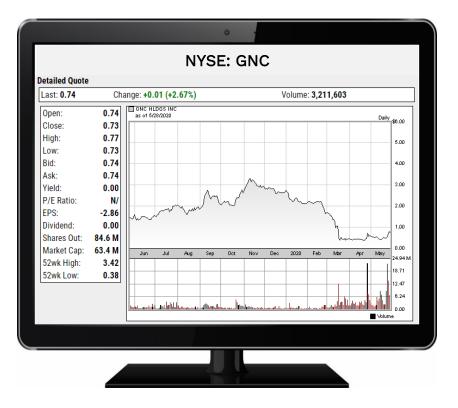
FRISK® DEEP DIVE



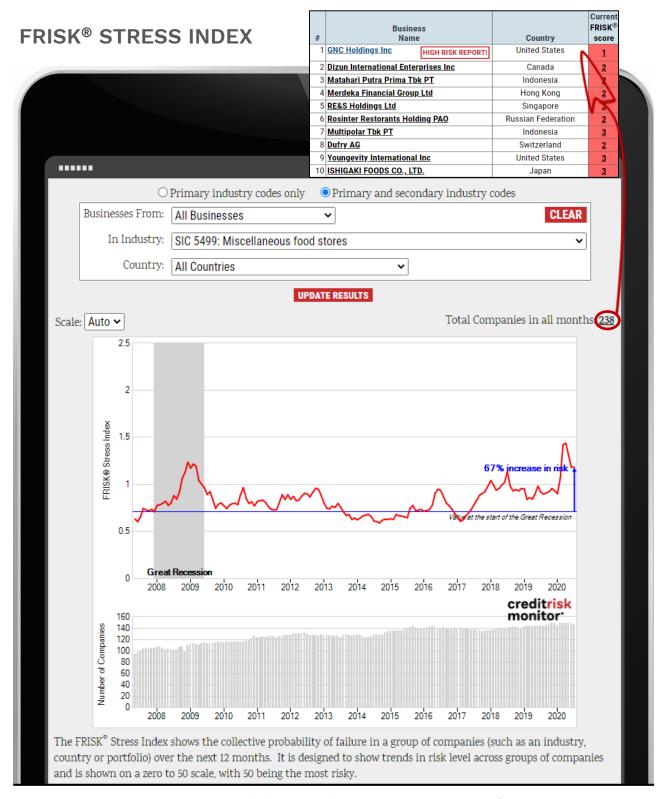
The FRISK® score relative to the broader Retail (Grocery) industry raised an additional red flag signaling heightened risk relative to peers, as well...

MAKING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED.

ADJUSTED MARKET CAP VOLATILITY

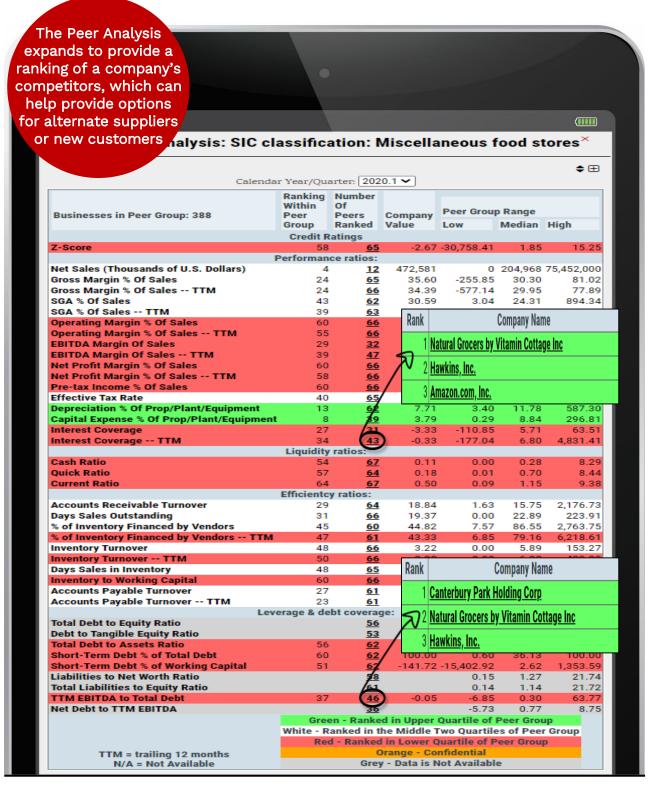


One of the inputs of the FRISK® score is a company's market cap volatility, adjusted for dividends, over the course of a year. Incorporating this information allows us to capture the "wisdom of markets" on a daily basis. This ensures our subscribers are getting the most up to date view of the risks they face since stocks tend to be more liquid and faster moving than bond prices and ratings.



The average probability of failure for SIC code 5499 (Miscellaneous food stores) has increased 67% since 2007. GNC Holdings was among the weakest names in the industry as evidenced by its FRISK® score of 1.

PEER ANALYSIS ON ALTERNATE SUPPLIERS AND CUSTOMERS



GNC Holdings demonstrated bottom quartile ranking in key financial ratios (shown in red) versus its industry peers.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE RATIOS

Sales declined and net losses in four of the last five fiscal quarters

Poor interest coverage ratio & extremely limited free cash flow

Performance Ratios - Sequential Quarters (Thousands of U.S. Dollars)

	(Thousands	of U.S. Dollars)			
	3 mos	3 mos	3 mos	3 mos	3 mos
Period Ended	3/31/2020	12/31/2019	9/30/2019	6/30/2019	3/31/2019
Net Sales \$	\$472,581	\$470,351	\$499,076	\$533,997	
% change	0.47%	-5.76%	-6.54%	-5.45%	3.09%
Gross Margin \$	\$168,218	\$154,919	\$162,628	\$193,744	\$203,091
% change	8.58%	-4.74%	-16.06%	-4.60%	17.78%
% of sales	35.60%	32.94%	32.59%	36.28%	35.96%
change as % of incremental sales	596.37%	n/m	n/m	n/m	181.37%
SG&A \$	\$144,542	\$138,519	\$135,795	\$143,840	\$148,303
% change	4.35%	2.01%	-5.59%	-3.01%	-2.25%
% of sales	30.59%	29.45%	27.21%	26.94%	26.26%
change as % of incremental sales	270.09%	n/m	n/m	n/m	-20.22%
Operating margin \$	(\$166,034)	\$13,889	\$26,654	\$51,932	\$18,695
% change	-1,295.44%	-47.89%	-48.68%	177.79%	-78.15%
% of sales	-35.13%	2.95%	5.34%	9.73%	3.31%
change as % of incremental sales	-8,068.30%	n/m	n/m	n/m	-395.51%
EBITDA \$	(\$158,176)	\$22,141	\$35,120	\$60,446	\$28,885
% change	-814.40%	-36.96%	-41.90%	109.26%	-70.27%
% of sales	-33.47%	4.71%	7.04%	11.32%	5.11%
change as % of incremental sales	-8,085.96%	n/m	n/m	n/m	-403.95%
EBIT \$	(\$166,034)	\$13,889	\$26,654	\$51,932	\$18,695
% change	-1,295.44%	-47.89%	-48.68%	177.79%	-78.28%
% of sales	-35.13%	2.95%	5.34%	9.73%	3.31%
change as % of incremental sales	-8,068.30%	n/m	n/m	n/m	-398.54%
Pre-tax income \$ % change	(\$213,478)	(\$10,444) -575.16%	\$2,198 -91.85%	\$26,968 289.10%	(\$1 4,261) -128.85%
% of sales	-1,944.03% -45.17%	-2.22%	0.44%	5.05%	-2.53%
change as % of incremental sales	-9,104.66%	-2.22% n/m	0.44% n/m	0.03% n/m	-376.80%
Net income (loss) \$	(\$200,086)	(\$33,490)	(\$2,418)	\$16,058	(\$15,262)
% change	-497.45%	-1,285.03%	-115.06%	205.22%	-125.94%
% of sales	-42.34%	-7.12%	-0.48%	3.01%	-2.70%
change as % of incremental sales	-7,470.67%	n/m	n/m	n/m	-438.39%
Tax expense \$	(\$53,035)	\$24,150	\$5,733	\$13,030	\$1,956
Effective tax rate	24.84%	-231.23%	260.83%	48.32%	-13.72%
Depreciation expense \$	\$7,858	\$8,252	\$8,466	\$8,514	\$10,190
% of sales	1.66%	1.75%	1.70%	1.59%	1.80%
% of capital expenses	203.68%	195.64%	189.27%	247.28%	337.75%
% of PP&E, net (annualized)	7.71%	7.42%	7.33%	7.03%	12.50%
Capital expenditures \$	\$3,858	\$4,218	\$4,473	\$3,443	\$3,017
% change	-8.53%	-5.70%	29.92%	14.12%	-46.37%
% of PP&E, net (annualized)	3.79%	3.79%	3.87%	2.84%	3.70%
% of working capital (annualized)	-5.59%	17.58%	9.47%	5.01%	3.65%
Interest coverage ratio	(3.33)	0.91	1.44	2.42	0.88
% change	-465.71%	-36.64%	-40.69%	176.25%	-66.95%
Free cash flow \$	(\$15,943)	(\$5,336)	\$27,842	(\$6,831)	\$65,694
% change	-198.78%	-119.17%	507.58%	-110.40%	90.13%
Source:	10-Q	10-K	10-Q	10-Q	10-Q
	5/11/2020	3/25/2020	10/25/2019	7/22/2019	5/2/2019

QUARTERLY LEVERAGE RATIOS

COVID-19
impairment charge
sent shareholders'
equity into a deficit
and further
weakens tangible
net worth

Short-term debt increased to 100%, indicating funding pressures and high refinancing risk

Leverage Ratios - Sequential Quarters

net worth	(Thousands of	U.S. Dollars)			
Period Ended	3/31/2020	12/31/2019	9/30/2019	6/30/2019	3/31/2019
Total debt \$	\$895,022	\$862,565	\$858,586	\$854,740	\$888,353
% change	3.76%	0.46%	0.45%	-3.78%	-22.91%
Stockholders' equity \$	(\$190,995)	\$4,132	\$35,727	\$37,543	\$22,311
% change	-4,722.34%	-88.43%	-4.84%	68.27%	119.52%
Total debt to equity ratio	n/a	208.75	24.03	22.77	39.82
% change	n/a	768.65%	5.56%	-42.82%	n/a
Tangible net worth \$	(\$523,438)	(\$446,995)	(\$416,744)	(\$416,571)	(\$432,983)
% change	-17.10%	-7.26%	-0.04%	3.79%	33.24%
Total assets \$	\$1,415,957	\$1,650,587	\$1,683,881	\$1,688,207	\$1,770,137
% change	-14.21%	-1.98%	-0.26%	-4.63%	15.86%
Total debt to assets ratio	0.63	0.52	0.51	0.51	0.50
% change	20.95%	2.49%	0.71%	0.88%	-33.45%
Tangible assets \$	\$1,083,514	\$1,199,460	\$1,231,410	\$1,234,093	\$1,314,843
% change	-9.67%	-2.59%	-0.22%	-6.14%	32.33%
Short-term debt \$	\$895,022	\$180,566	\$152,919	\$0	\$0
% change	395.68%	18.08%	n/m	n/m	-100.00%
Short-term debt % of total debt	100.00%	20.93%	17.81%	0.00%	0.00%
% change	377.70%	17.53%	n/m	n/m	-100.00%
Short-term debt % of working capital	-141.72%	228.75%	135.37%	0.00%	0.00%
% change	-161.95%	68.98%	n/m	n/m	-100.00%
Total liabilities \$	\$1,606,952	\$1,646,455	\$1,648,154	\$1,650,664	\$1,747,826
% change	-2.40%	-0.10%	-0.15%	-5.56%	6.43%
Total liabilities to equity ratio	n/a	398.46	46.13	43.97	78.34
% change	n/a	763.75%	4.92%	-43.88%	n/a
Total debt to EBITDA ratio (annualized)	n/a	9.74	6.11	3.54	7.69
% change	n/a	59.36%	72.89%	-54.02%	159.32%
Source:			10-Q	10-Q	10-Q
	Total d	ebt to	10/25/2019	7/22/2019	5/2/2019

EBITDA ratio trended on par with a highly speculative corporate borrower

QUARTERLY LIQUIDITY RATIOS AND RATES OF RETURN

Rapid decline in working capital	Liquidity Rati	ios - Sequen		qui	Meager ash and ick ratios
Period Ended	3/31/2020	12/31/2019	9/30/2019	6/30/2019	3/31/2019
Current assets \$	\$629,673	\$639,761	\$645,051	\$628,061	\$684,948
% change	-1.58%	-0.82%	2.71%	-8.31%	-14.82%
% of short-term debt	70.35%	354.31%	421.83%	n/a	n/a
Current liabilities \$	\$1,261,209	\$560,825	\$532,088	\$363,147	\$399,545
% change	124.88%	5.40%	46.52%	-9.11%	-6.58%
Working capital \$	(\$631,536)	\$78,936	\$112,963	\$264,914	\$285,403
% change	-900.06%	-30.12%	-57.36%	-7.18%	-24.19%
% of sales (annualized)	-33.41%	4.20%	5.66%	12.40%	12.63%
Cash \$	\$137,444	\$117,046	\$121,857	\$95,893	\$137,117
% change	17.43%	-3.95%	27.08%	-30.06%	103.97%
% of short-term debt	15.36%	64.82%	79.69%	n/a	n/a
Cash ratio	0.11	0.21	0.23	0.26	0.34
% change	-47.77%	-8.86%	-13.29%	-23.05%	118.32%
Quick assets \$	\$227,923	\$227,226	\$232,910	\$206,889	\$256,469
% change	0.31%	-2.44%	12.58%	-19.33%	31.83%
% of short-term debt	25.47%	125.84%	152.31%	n/a	n/a
Quick ratio	0.18	0.41	0.44	0.57	0.64
% change	-55.40%	-7.43%	-23.17%	-11.25%	41.14%
Current ratio	0.50	1.14	1.21	1.73	1.71
% change	-56.23%	-5.91%	-29.90%	0.89%	-8.82%
Source:	10-Q 5/11/2020	10-K 3/25/2020	10-Q 10/25/2019	10-Q 7/22/2019	10-Q 5/2/2019

rns on ty and	te of Return -	Sequentia	ıl Quarters	_	(III
sets	(Thousan	ds of U.S. Dollars	s)		
Period Ended	13 weeks 10/29/2016	13 weeks 7/30/2016	13 weeks 4/30/2016	13 weeks 1/30/2016	13 weeks 10/31/2015
Return on equity	-17.64%	-18.28%	-4.64%	3.17%	-7.57%
% change	3.49%	-293.64%	-246.27%	141.93%	2.26%
Return on net tangible equity	-18.89%	-19.33%	-4.90%	3.35%	-7.97%
% change	2.27%	-294.69%	-246.09%	142.09%	1.92%
Return on total assets	-1.86%	-2.56%	-0.70%	0.42%	-1.02%
% change	27.25%	-263.96%	-268.34%	140.83%	17.41%
Return on tangible assets	-1.87%	-2.58%	-0.71%	0.42%	-1.03%
% change	27.29%	-263.86%	-268.52%	140.83%	17.46%
Source:	10-Q 12/8/2016	10-Q 9/8/2016	10-Q 6/8/2016	10-K 4/1/2016	10-Q 12/10/2015

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

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The state of the s					
ly temporarily					(IIII)
support cash flow	tatement of	Cash Flows -		ndardized	
	12 mos				
Period Ended	12/31/2019	12/31/2018	12/31/2017	12/31/2016	12/31/2015
			Reclassified	Reclassified	
			12/31/2018	12/31/2018	
Cash Flows from Operation					
Net income	(\$35,112)	\$69,780	(\$150,262)	(\$285,219)	\$219,299
Depreciation/depletion	35,422	47,105	56,809	60,038	57,237
Deferred taxes	20,596	(23,265)	(191,578)	(30,427)	450
Non-cash Items	61,207	(20,794)	468,003	482,042	33,454
Changes in working capital	14,407	23,042	37,536	(18,236)	44,093
Total cash from	96,520	95,868	220,508	208,198	354,533
operating activities					
Cash Flows from Investin					
Capital expenditures	(15,151)	(18,981)	(32,123)		(45,827)
Other investing cash flow items, total	88,537	2,514	8,361	37,159	178
Total cash from	73,386	(16,467)	(23,762)	(22,420)	(45,649)
investing activities	73,300	(10,407)	(23,702)	(22,420)	(43,043)
Cash Flows from Financia	ng Activities:				
Financing cash flow	(10,598)	(35,531)	(253)	(2,834)	(8,195)
items					
Total cash dividends	n/a	0	0	(55,336)	(59,648)
paid Issuance/retirement of	187,136	96,413	0	(228,816)	(478,055)
stock, net	107,130	90,413	U	(220,010)	(4/0,000)
Issuance/retirement of	(295,794)	(136,650)	(167,853)	79,450	161,440
debt, net	, , , , ,	, , , , , , ,	, , , , , , ,	,	,
Total cash from financing activities	(119,256)	(75,768)	(168,106)	(207,536)	(384,458)
Foreign exchange	(828)	(410)	897	(240)	(1,798)
Net change in cash	49,822	3,223	29,537	(21,998)	(77,372)
Net cash-beginning	67,224	64,001	34,464	56,462	133,834
balance	/	/	/	/	,
Net cash-ending	\$117,046	\$67,224	\$64,001	\$34,464	\$56,462
balance					
Supplemental Disclosure		A	A=4 00=	A 47 F07	A 40 0
Cash interest paid	\$83,284	\$104,342	\$51,205	\$47,597	\$42,911
Cash taxes paid, supplemental	\$13,808	(\$3,841)	\$35,476	\$93,216	\$121,006
Auditor/Opinion:	Pricewaterhouse	Pricewaterhouse	Pricewaterhouse	Pricewaterhouse	Pricewaterhouse
	Coopers LLP				
	Unqualified	Unqualified	Unqualified	Unqualified	Unqualified
Source:	10-K	10-K	10-K	10-K	10-K
4	3/25/2020	3/13/2019	3/13/2019	3/13/2019	2/11/2016

NEWS ALERTS: A TIMELINE OF CONCERNING NEWS ITEMS

04/18/2019	CRMZ News Service	GNC Holdings, Inc. files (8-K) Disclosing Change in Directors or Principal Officers
store closures. I		e of 7% fueled by a combination of declining customer traffic and terialized in physical retail locations, although ecommerce contribute the previous year.
05/02/2019	CRMZ News Service	GNC Holdings, Inc.: a Form 10-Q has been filed with the SEC
would affect 28		announced the closure of 700-900 stores. Most of the closings were primarily based in U.S. malls, which had comparatively anemic strip centers.
07/24/2019	CRMZ News Service	GNC To Shutter Up To 900 Stores
10101 ago anta ao		arginally within compliance.
		GNC Holdings, Inc. – updated financials available stated it would be late in releasing its Form 10-K filing and also sufficient cash flow to repay its outstanding Notes or Tranche B-2
GNC Holdings pi revealed that th Term Loan upor	rovided a notification that ey did not expect to have n maturity. Substantial dou	
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GNC Holdings prevealed that the Term Loan upor also raised with 03/16/2020 GNC Holdings wincluded a hiring	rovided a notification that ey did not expect to have a maturity. Substantial dou in the notice. CRMZ News Service ould make several busines of freeze, store and corporate.	stated it would be late in releasing its Form 10-K filing and also sufficient cash flow to repay its outstanding Notes or Tranche B-2 ubt about the company's ability to continue as a going concern was GNC Holdings, Inc. files Notification of Late Filing for its Form 10-with the Securities and Exchange Commission as decisions related to the coronavirus pandemic. Some actions ate layoffs, among other cost reduction initiatives. About a month
GNC Holdings provealed that the Term Loan upon also raised with 03/16/2020 GNC Holdings wincluded a hiring following this are 04/03/2020 GNC Holdings standard facilitating the page ABL credit agrees	rovided a notification that ey did not expect to have a maturity. Substantial dou in the notice. CRMZ News Service ould make several busines of freeze, store and corpora nouncement, first quarter Globe Newswire cated that it would restructorocess, the company wou	stated it would be late in releasing its Form 10-K filing and also sufficient cash flow to repay its outstanding Notes or Tranche B-2 ubt about the company's ability to continue as a going concern was GNC Holdings, Inc. files Notification of Late Filing for its Form 10-with the Securities and Exchange Commission as decisions related to the coronavirus pandemic. Some actions ate layoffs, among other cost reduction initiatives. About a month reales nosedived by 16% on a year-over-year basis.

ABOUT THIS REPORT/CONTACT CREDITRISKMONITOR®



CreditRiskMonitor® is a financial risk analysis and news service that helps credit, supply chain and financial professionals stay ahead of and manage risk quickly, accurately and cost effectively. More than 35% of the Fortune 1000, plus over a thousand other large corporations worldwide, rely on our financial risk coverage of over 58,000 global public companies.

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about methods they can apply to assess bankruptcy
risk using CreditRiskMonitor's proprietary FRISK® score,
robust financial database and timely news alerts.

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