

Facebook Inc  
Form 10-K  
January 28, 2016

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

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015

or

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
Commission File Number: 001-35551

FACEBOOK, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)  
1601 Willow Road, Menlo Park, California 94025  
(Address of principal executive offices and Zip Code)  
(650) 543-4800  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

20-1665019  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:  
Class A Common Stock, \$0.000006 par value  
(Title of each class)

The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC  
(Name of each exchange on which registered)

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Exchange Act) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

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

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Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§ 229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definition of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of June 30, 2015, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, was \$198 billion based upon the closing price reported for such date on the NASDAQ Global Select Market.

On January 25, 2016, the registrant had 2,294,939,865 shares of Class A common stock and 551,340,611 shares of Class B common stock outstanding.

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the registrant's Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated herein by reference in Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K to the extent stated herein. Such proxy statement will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days of the registrant's fiscal year ended December 31, 2015.

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FACEBOOK, INC.  
FORM 10-K  
TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Note About Forward-Looking Statements</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Limitations of Key Metrics and Other Data</u>	<u>4</u>
 <b><u>PART I</u></b>	
<u>Item 1. Business</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>Item 2. Properties</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>Item 3. Legal Proceedings</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	<u>27</u>
 <b><u>PART II</u></b>	
<u>Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	<u>28</u>
<u>Item 6. Selected Financial Data</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	<u>32</u>
<u>Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	<u>52</u>
<u>Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	<u>53</u>
<u>Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	<u>81</u>
<u>Item 9A. Controls and Procedures</u>	<u>81</u>
<u>Item 9B. Other Information</u>	<u>81</u>
 <b><u>PART III</u></b>	
<u>Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	<u>82</u>
<u>Item 11. Executive Compensation</u>	<u>82</u>
<u>Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	<u>82</u>
<u>Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u>	<u>82</u>
<u>Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services</u>	<u>82</u>
 <b><u>PART IV</u></b>	
<u>Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules</u>	<u>83</u>
<u>Signatures</u>	

#### NOTE ABOUT FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K other than statements of historical fact, including statements regarding our future results of operations and financial position, our business strategy and plans, and our objectives for future operations, are forward-looking statements. The words "believe," "may," "will," "estimate," "continue," "anticipate," "intend," "expect," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. We have based these forward-looking statements largely on our current expectations and projections about future events and trends that we believe may affect our financial condition, results of operations, business strategy, short-term and long-term business operations and objectives, and financial needs. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including those described in Part I, Item 1A, "Risk Factors" in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Moreover, we operate in a very competitive and rapidly changing environment. New risks emerge from time to time. It is not possible for our management to predict all risks, nor can we assess the impact of all factors on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements we may make. In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the future events and trends discussed in this Annual Report on Form 10-K may not occur and actual results could differ materially and adversely from those anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements.

We undertake no obligation to revise or publicly release the results of any revision to these forward-looking statements, except as required by law. Given these risks and uncertainties, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements.

Unless expressly indicated or the context requires otherwise, the terms "Facebook," "company," "we," "us," and "our" in this document refer to Facebook, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and, where appropriate, its wholly owned subsidiaries. The term "Facebook" may also refer to our products, regardless of the manner in which they are accessed. For references to accessing Facebook on the "web" or via a "website," such terms refer to accessing Facebook on personal computers. For references to accessing Facebook on "mobile," such term refers to accessing Facebook via a mobile application or via a mobile-optimized version of our website such as m.facebook.com, whether on a mobile phone or tablet.

#### LIMITATIONS OF KEY METRICS AND OTHER DATA

The numbers for our key metrics, which include our daily active users (DAUs), mobile DAUs, monthly active users (MAUs), mobile MAUs, and average revenue per user (ARPU), as well as certain other metrics such as mobile-only DAUs and mobile-only MAUs, are calculated using internal company data based on the activity of user accounts. While these numbers are based on what we believe to be reasonable estimates of our user base for the applicable period of measurement, there are inherent challenges in measuring usage of our products across large online and mobile populations around the world.

For example, there may be individuals who maintain one or more Facebook accounts in violation of our terms of service. We estimate, for example, that "duplicate" accounts (an account that a user maintains in addition to his or her principal account) may have represented less than 5% of our worldwide MAUs in 2015. We also seek to identify "false" accounts, which we divide into two categories: (1) user-misclassified accounts, where users have created personal profiles for a business, organization, or non-human entity such as a pet (such entities are permitted on Facebook using a Page rather than a personal profile under our terms of service); and (2) undesirable accounts, which represent user profiles that we determine are intended to be used for purposes that violate our terms of service, such as spamming. In 2015, for example, we estimate user-misclassified and undesirable accounts may have represented less than 2% of our worldwide MAUs. We believe the percentage of accounts that are duplicate or false is meaningfully lower in developed markets such as the United States or United Kingdom and higher in developing markets such as India and Turkey. However, these estimates are based on an internal review of a limited sample of accounts and we apply significant judgment in making this determination, such as identifying names that appear to be fake or other behavior that appears inauthentic to the reviewers. As such, our estimation of duplicate or false accounts may not accurately represent the actual number of such accounts. We are continually seeking to improve our ability to identify duplicate or false accounts and estimate the total number of such accounts, and such estimates may change due to improvements or changes in our methodology.

Our data limitations may affect our understanding of certain details of our business. For example, while user-provided data indicates a decline in usage among younger users, this age data is unreliable because a disproportionate number of our younger users register with an inaccurate age. Accordingly, our understanding of usage by age group may not be complete.

Some of our metrics have also been affected by applications on certain mobile devices that automatically contact our servers for regular updates with no user action involved, and this activity can cause our system to count the user associated with such a device as an active user on the day such contact occurs. The impact of this automatic activity on our metrics varies by geography because mobile usage varies in different regions of the world. In addition, our data regarding the geographic location of our users is estimated based on a number of factors, such as the user's IP address and self-disclosed location. These factors may not always accurately reflect the user's actual location. For example, a mobile-only user may appear to be accessing Facebook from the location of the proxy server that the user connects to rather than from the user's actual location. The methodologies used to measure user metrics may also be susceptible to algorithm or other technical errors. Our estimates for revenue by user location and revenue by user device are also affected by these factors. We regularly review our processes for calculating these metrics, and from time to time we may discover inaccuracies in our metrics or make adjustments to improve their accuracy, including adjustments that may result in the recalculation of our historical metrics. We believe that any such inaccuracies or adjustments are immaterial unless otherwise stated. In addition, our DAU and MAU estimates will differ from estimates published by third parties due to differences in methodology. For example, some third parties are not able to accurately measure mobile users or do not count mobile users for certain user groups or at all in their analyses.

The numbers of DAUs, mobile DAUs, MAUs, mobile MAUs, mobile-only DAUs and mobile-only MAUs discussed in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, as well as ARPU, do not include users of Instagram or WhatsApp unless they would otherwise qualify as such users, respectively, based on their other activities on Facebook. In addition, other user engagement metrics included herein do not include Instagram or WhatsApp unless otherwise specifically stated.

## PART I

### Item 1. Business

#### Overview

Our mission is to give people the power to share and make the world more open and connected.

Our top priority is to build useful and engaging products that enable people to connect and share through mobile devices and personal computers. We also help people discover and learn about what is going on in the world around them, enable people to share their opinions, ideas, photos and videos, and other activities with audiences ranging from their closest friends to the public at large, and stay connected everywhere by accessing our products, including: Facebook. Facebook is a mobile application and website that enables people to connect, share, discover, and communicate with each other on mobile devices and personal computers. We had 1.04 billion daily active users (DAUs) on average in December 2015, an increase of 17% compared to December 2014. We had 934 million DAUs who accessed Facebook from a mobile device on average in December 2015, an increase of 25% compared to December 2014. There are a number of different ways to engage with people on Facebook, the most important of which is News Feed which displays an algorithmically-ranked series of stories and advertisements individualized for each person.

**Instagram.** Instagram is a mobile application that enables people to take photos or videos, customize them with filter effects, and share them with friends and followers in a photo feed or send them directly to friends.

**Messenger.** Messenger is a messaging application available for mobile and web on a variety of platforms and devices. Messenger enables people to reach others instantly and simply, and also enables businesses to engage with customers seamlessly and securely.

**WhatsApp.** WhatsApp Messenger is a fast, simple and reliable mobile messaging application that is used by people around the world and is available on a variety of mobile platforms.

**Oculus.** Our Oculus virtual reality technology and content platform power products that allow people to enter a completely immersive and interactive environment to play games, consume content, and connect with others. We generate substantially all of our revenue from selling advertising placements to marketers. Our ads let marketers reach people based on a variety of factors including age, gender, location, interests, and behaviors. Marketers purchase ads that can appear in multiple places including on Facebook, Instagram, and third-party applications and websites.

#### Competition

Our business is characterized by innovation, rapid change, and disruptive technologies. We face significant competition in every aspect of our business, including from companies that provide tools to facilitate communications and the sharing of information, companies that enable marketers to display advertising, and companies that provide development platforms for application developers. We compete to attract, engage, and retain people who use our products, to attract and retain marketers, and to attract and retain developers to build compelling mobile and web applications that integrate with our products.

We compete with the following:

Companies that offer products that replicate the full range of capabilities we provide. For example, Google has integrated social functionality into a number of its products, including search and Android, as well as other, largely regional, social networks that have strong positions in particular countries.

Companies that develop applications, particularly mobile applications, that provide social or other communications functionality, such as messaging, photo- and video-sharing, and micro-blogging.

Companies that provide web- and mobile-based information and entertainment products and services that are designed to engage people and capture time spent on mobile devices and online.

Traditional, online, and mobile businesses that provide media for marketers to reach their audiences and/or develop tools and systems for managing and optimizing advertising campaigns.

As we introduce or acquire new products, as our existing products evolve, or as other companies introduce new products and services, we may become subject to additional competition.



## Technology

Our product development philosophy is centered on continuous innovation in creating and improving products that are social by design, which means that our products are designed to place people and their social interactions at the core of the product experience. As our user base grows, and the level of engagement from the people who use our products continues to increase, including on mobile devices, our computing needs continue to expand. We make significant investments in technology both to improve our existing products and services and to develop new ones, as well as for our marketers and developers.

We are also investing in a number of longer-term initiatives, such as connectivity efforts, artificial intelligence research, and virtual reality, to develop technologies that we believe will help us better serve our communities and pursue our mission to make the world more open and connected.

Our research and development expenses were \$4.82 billion, \$2.67 billion, and \$1.42 billion in 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively. For information about our research and development expenses, see Part II, Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Results of Operations—Research and development" of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

## Sales and Operations

The majority of our marketers use our self-service ad platform to establish accounts and to launch and manage their advertising campaigns. We also have a global sales force that is focused on attracting and retaining marketers and providing support to them throughout the stages of the advertising campaign cycle from pre-purchase decision-making to real-time optimizations to post-campaign analytics. We work directly with marketers, through traditional advertising agencies, and with an ecosystem of specialized agencies and partners. We currently operate five support offices and more than 35 sales offices around the globe. We also invest in and rely on self-service tools to provide direct customer support to our users and partners.

We own and lease data centers in various locations throughout the United States, and also own a data center facility in Sweden.

## Marketing

To date, our communities have grown organically with people inviting their friends to connect with them, supported by internal efforts to stimulate awareness and interest. In addition, we have invested and will continue to invest in marketing our products and services to build our brand, grow our user base, and increase engagement around the world. We leverage the utility of our products and our social distribution channels as our most effective marketing tools.

## Intellectual Property

To establish and protect our proprietary rights, we rely on a combination of patents, patent applications, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, including know-how, license agreements, confidentiality procedures, non-disclosure agreements with third parties, employee disclosure and invention assignment agreements, and other contractual rights. In addition, to further protect our proprietary rights, from time to time we have purchased patents and patent applications from third parties. We do not believe that our proprietary technology is dependent on any single patent or copyright or groups of related patents or copyrights. We believe the duration of our patents is adequate relative to the expected lives of our products.

## Government Regulation

We are subject to a number of U.S. federal and state and foreign laws and regulations that affect companies conducting business on the Internet. Many of these laws and regulations are still evolving and being tested in courts, and could be interpreted in ways that could harm our business. These may involve user privacy and data protection, rights of publicity, content, intellectual property, advertising, marketing, distribution, data security, data retention and deletion, personal information, electronic contracts and other communications, competition, protection of minors, consumer protection, telecommunications, product liability, taxation, economic or other trade prohibitions or sanctions, securities law compliance, and online payment services. In particular, we are subject to federal, state, and foreign laws regarding privacy and protection of people's data. Foreign data protection, privacy, and other laws and regulations can be more restrictive than those in the United States. U.S. federal and state and foreign laws and regulations, which in some cases can be enforced by private parties in addition to government entities, are constantly



evolving and can be subject to significant change. In addition, the application, interpretation, and enforcement of these laws and regulations are often uncertain, particularly in the new and rapidly-evolving industry in which we operate, and may be interpreted and applied inconsistently from country to country and inconsistently with our current policies and practices. There are also a number of legislative proposals pending before federal, state, and foreign legislative and regulatory bodies, including a data protection regulation that is pending final approval by the European legislature that may include operational requirements for companies that receive personal data that are different than those currently in place in the European Union, and that will include significant penalties for non-compliance. In addition, some countries are considering or have passed legislation implementing data protection requirements or requiring local storage and processing of data or similar requirements that could increase the cost and complexity of delivering our services.

We are currently, and may in the future, be subject to regulatory orders or consent decrees. Violation of existing or future regulatory orders or consent decrees could subject us to substantial monetary fines and other penalties that could negatively affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Various laws and regulations in the United States and abroad, such as the U.S. Bank Secrecy Act, the Dodd-Frank Act, the USA PATRIOT Act, and the Credit CARD Act, impose certain anti-money laundering requirements on companies that are financial institutions or that provide financial products and services. Under these laws and regulations, financial institutions are broadly defined to include money services businesses such as money transmitters, check cashers, and sellers or issuers of stored value or prepaid access products. Requirements imposed on financial institutions under these laws include customer identification and verification programs, record retention policies and procedures, and transaction reporting. To increase flexibility in how our use of Payments may evolve and to mitigate regulatory uncertainty, we have received certain money transmitter licenses in the United States and are applying for certain regulatory licenses in Europe, which will generally require us to demonstrate compliance with many domestic and foreign laws relating to money transmission, gift cards and other prepaid access instruments, electronic funds transfers, anti-money laundering, charitable fundraising, counter-terrorist financing, gambling, banking and lending, financial privacy and data security, and import and export restrictions.

#### Employees

As of December 31, 2015, we had 12,691 employees.

#### Corporate Information

We were incorporated in Delaware in July 2004. We completed our initial public offering in May 2012 and our Class A common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "FB." Our principal executive offices are located at 1601 Willow Road, Menlo Park, California 94025, and our telephone number is (650) 543-4800. Facebook, the Facebook logo, FB, the Like button, Instagram, Oculus, WhatsApp, and our other registered or common law trademarks, service marks, or trade names appearing in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are the property of Facebook, Inc. or its affiliates. Other trademarks, service marks, or trade names appearing in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are the property of their respective owners.

#### Information about Segment and Geographic Revenue

Information about segment and geographic revenue is set forth in Notes 1 and 14 of our Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### Available Information

Our website address is [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com). Our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to reports filed pursuant to Sections 13(a) and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (Exchange Act), are filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). We are subject to the informational requirements of the Exchange Act and file or furnish reports, proxy statements, and other information with the SEC. Such reports and other information filed by the Company with the SEC are available free of charge on our website at [investor.fb.com](http://investor.fb.com) when such reports are available on the SEC's website. We use our [investor.fb.com](http://investor.fb.com) website and Mark Zuckerberg's Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/zuck>) as means of disclosing material non-public information and for complying with our disclosure obligations under Regulation FD.

The public may read and copy any materials filed by Facebook with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, DC 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

The contents of the websites referred to above are not incorporated into this filing. Further, our references to the URLs for these websites are intended to be inactive textual references only.

## Item 1A. Risk Factors

Certain factors may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations. You should consider carefully the risks and uncertainties described below, in addition to other information contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, including our consolidated financial statements and related notes. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones we face. Additional risks and uncertainties that we are unaware of, or that we currently believe are not material, may also become important factors that adversely affect our business. If any of the following risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition, results of operations, and future prospects could be materially and adversely affected. In that event, the trading price of our Class A common stock could decline, and you could lose part or all of your investment.

### Risks Related to Our Business and Industry

If we fail to retain existing users or add new users, or if our users decrease their level of engagement with our products, our revenue, financial results, and business may be significantly harmed.

The size of our user base and our users' level of engagement are critical to our success. Our financial performance has been and will continue to be significantly determined by our success in adding, retaining, and engaging active users. We anticipate that our active user growth rate will continue to decline over time as the size of our active user base increases, and as we achieve higher market penetration rates. If people do not perceive our products to be useful, reliable, and trustworthy, we may not be able to attract or retain users or otherwise maintain or increase the frequency and duration of their engagement. A number of other social networking companies that achieved early popularity have since seen their active user bases or levels of engagement decline, in some cases precipitously. There is no guarantee that we will not experience a similar erosion of our active user base or engagement levels. Our user engagement patterns have changed over time, and user engagement can be difficult to measure, particularly as we introduce new and different products and services. Any number of factors could potentially negatively affect user retention, growth, and engagement, including if:

- users increasingly engage with other products or services;
- we fail to introduce new products or services that users find engaging or if we introduce new products or services that are not favorably received;
- users feel that their experience is diminished as a result of the decisions we make with respect to the frequency, prominence, format, size, and quality of ads that we display;
- users have difficulty installing, updating, or otherwise accessing our products on mobile devices as a result of actions by us or third parties that we rely on to distribute our products and deliver our services;
- user behavior on any of our products changes, including decreases in the quality and frequency of content shared on our products and services;
- we are unable to continue to develop products for mobile devices that users find engaging, that work with a variety of mobile operating systems and networks, and that achieve a high level of market acceptance;
- there are decreases in user sentiment about the quality or usefulness of our products or concerns related to privacy and sharing, safety, security, or other factors;
- we are unable to manage and prioritize information to ensure users are presented with content that is interesting, useful, and relevant to them;
- we are unable to obtain or attract engaging third-party content;
- users adopt new technologies where our products may be displaced in favor of other products or services, or may not be featured or otherwise available;
- there are adverse changes in our products that are mandated by legislation, regulatory authorities, or litigation, including settlements or consent decrees;
- technical or other problems prevent us from delivering our products in a rapid and reliable manner or otherwise affect the user experience, such as security breaches or failure to prevent or limit spam or similar content;
- we adopt terms, policies, or procedures related to areas such as sharing or user data that are perceived negatively by our users or the general public;



we elect to focus our user growth and engagement efforts more on longer-term initiatives, or if initiatives designed to attract and retain users and engagement are unsuccessful or discontinued, whether as a result of actions by us, third parties, or otherwise;

we fail to provide adequate customer service to users, marketers, or developers;

we, developers whose products are integrated with our products, or other companies in our industry are the subject of adverse media reports or other negative publicity; or

our current or future products, such as our development tools and application programming interfaces that enable developers to build, grow, and monetize mobile and web applications, reduce user activity on our products by making it easier for our users to interact and share on third-party mobile and web applications.

If we are unable to maintain or increase our user base and user engagement, our revenue and financial results may be adversely affected. Any decrease in user retention, growth, or engagement could render our products less attractive to users, marketers, and developers, which is likely to have a material and adverse impact on our revenue, business, financial condition, and results of operations. If our active user growth rate continues to slow, we will become increasingly dependent on our ability to maintain or increase levels of user engagement and monetization in order to drive revenue growth.

We generate substantially all of our revenue from advertising. The loss of marketers, or reduction in spending by marketers, could seriously harm our business.

Substantially all of our revenue is currently generated from third parties advertising on Facebook. For 2015, 2014, and 2013, advertising accounted for 95%, 92% and 89%, respectively, of our revenue. In addition, we have recently introduced advertising on Instagram. As is common in the industry, our marketers do not have long-term advertising commitments with us. Many of our marketers spend only a relatively small portion of their overall advertising budget with us. We expect our ability to grow advertising revenue will continue to be dependent on our ability to generate revenue from ads displayed on mobile devices. In addition, marketers may view some of our products as experimental and unproven. Marketers will not continue to do business with us, or they will reduce the prices they are willing to pay to advertise with us or the budgets they are willing to commit to us, if we do not deliver ads in an effective manner, or if they do not believe that their investment in advertising with us will generate a competitive return relative to other alternatives.

Our advertising revenue could also be adversely affected by a number of other factors, including:

decreases in user engagement, including time spent on our products;

our inability to continue to increase user access to and engagement with our mobile products;

product changes or inventory management decisions we may make that change the size, format, frequency, or relative prominence of ads displayed on our products or of other unpaid content shared by marketers on our products;

our inability to maintain or increase marketer demand, the pricing of our ads, or both;

our inability to maintain or increase the quantity or quality of ads shown to users;

changes to third-party policies that limit our ability to deliver or target advertising on mobile devices;

the availability, accuracy, and utility of analytics and measurement solutions offered by us or third parties that demonstrate the value of our ads to marketers, or our ability to further improve such tools;

loss of advertising market share to our competitors, including if prices for purchasing ads on Facebook increase or if competitors offer lower priced or more integrated products;

adverse legal developments relating to advertising, including legislative and regulatory developments and developments in litigation;

decisions by marketers to reduce their advertising as a result of adverse media reports or other negative publicity involving us, content on our products, developers with mobile and web applications that are integrated with our products, or other companies in our industry;

the degree to which users opt out of certain types of ad targeting;

the degree to which users cease or reduce the number of times they click on our ads;

changes in the way advertising on mobile devices or on personal computers is measured or priced; and the impact of macroeconomic conditions, whether in the advertising industry in general, or among specific types of marketers or within particular geographies.

The occurrence of any of these or other factors could result in a reduction in demand for our ads, which may reduce the prices we receive for our ads, or cause marketers to stop advertising with us altogether, either of which would negatively affect our revenue and financial results.

Our user growth, engagement, and monetization on mobile devices depend upon effective operation with mobile operating systems, networks, and standards that we do not control.

There is no guarantee that popular mobile devices will continue to feature Facebook or our other products, or that mobile device users will continue to use our products rather than competing products. We are dependent on the interoperability of Facebook and our other products with popular mobile operating systems, networks, and standards that we do not control, such as the Android and iOS operating systems. Any changes in such systems, or changes in our relationships with mobile operating system partners, handset manufacturers, or mobile carriers, or in their terms of service or policies that degrade our products' functionality, reduce or eliminate our ability to distribute our products, give preferential treatment to competitive products, limit our ability to deliver, target, or measure the effectiveness of ads, or charge fees related to the distribution of our products or our delivery of ads could adversely affect the usage of Facebook or our other products and monetization on mobile devices. Additionally, in order to deliver high quality mobile products, it is important that our products work well with a range of mobile technologies, systems, networks, and standards that we do not control, and that we have good relationships with handset manufacturers and mobile carriers. We may not be successful in maintaining or developing relationships with key participants in the mobile industry or in developing products that operate effectively with these technologies, systems, networks, or standards. In the event that it is more difficult for our users to access and use Facebook or our other products on their mobile devices, or if our users choose not to access or use Facebook or our other products on their mobile devices or use mobile products that do not offer access to Facebook or our other products, our user growth and user engagement could be harmed. From time to time, we may also take actions regarding the distribution of our products or the operation of our business based on what we believe to be in our long-term best interests. Such actions may adversely affect our users and our relationships with the operators of mobile operating systems, handset manufacturers, mobile carriers, or other business partners, and there is no assurance that these actions will result in the anticipated long-term benefits. In the event that our users are adversely affected by these actions or if our relationships with such third parties deteriorate, our user growth, engagement, and monetization could be adversely affected and our business could be harmed.

Our business is highly competitive. Competition presents an ongoing threat to the success of our business.

We face significant competition in every aspect of our business, including from companies that provide tools to facilitate communication and the sharing of information, companies that enable marketers to display advertising and companies that provide development platforms for applications developers. We compete with companies that offer products that replicate the full range of capabilities we provide. For example, Google has integrated social functionality into a number of its products, including search and Android, as well as other, largely regional, social networks that have strong positions in particular countries. We also compete with companies that develop applications, particularly mobile applications, that provide social or other communications functionality, such as messaging, photo- and video-sharing, and micro-blogging, and companies that provide web- and mobile-based information and entertainment products and services that are designed to engage users and capture time spent on mobile devices and online. In addition, we face competition from traditional, online, and mobile businesses that provide media for marketers to reach their audiences and/or develop tools and systems for managing and optimizing advertising campaigns.

Some of our current and potential competitors may have significantly greater resources or better competitive positions in certain product segments, geographic regions or user demographics than we do. These factors may allow our competitors to respond more effectively than us to new or emerging technologies and changes in market conditions. We believe that some of our users, particularly our younger users, are aware of and actively engaging with other products and services similar to, or as a substitute for, Facebook products and services, and we believe that some of

our users have reduced their engagement with Facebook in favor of increased engagement with these other products and services. In the event that our users increasingly engage with other products and services, we may experience a decline in user engagement in key user demographics or more broadly, in which case our business would likely be harmed.

Our competitors may develop products, features, or services that are similar to ours or that achieve greater acceptance, may undertake more far-reaching and successful product development efforts or marketing campaigns, or may adopt more aggressive pricing policies. In addition, developers whose mobile and web applications are integrated with Facebook may use information shared by our users through Facebook in order to develop products or features that compete with us. Certain competitors, including Google, could use strong or dominant positions in one or more markets to gain competitive advantage against us in areas where we operate, including: by integrating competing platforms, applications, or features into products they control such as mobile device operating

systems, search engines, or web browsers; by making acquisitions; by limiting or denying our access to advertising measurement or delivery systems; by limiting our ability to deliver, target, or measure the effectiveness of ads; by imposing fees or other charges related to our delivery of ads; by making access to our products more difficult; or by making it more difficult to communicate with our users. As a result, our competitors may acquire and engage users or generate advertising or other revenue at the expense of our own efforts, which may negatively affect our business and financial results. In addition, from time to time, we may take actions in response to competitive threats, but we cannot assure you that these actions will be successful or that they will not negatively affect our business and financial results.

We believe that our ability to compete effectively depends upon many factors both within and beyond our control, including:

- the popularity, usefulness, ease of use, performance, and reliability of our products compared to our competitors' products, particularly with respect to mobile products;
- the size and composition of our user base;
- the engagement of our users with our products and competing products;
- the timing and market acceptance of products, including developments and enhancements to our or our competitors' products;
- our ability to distribute our products to new and existing users;
- our ability to monetize our products;
- the frequency, size, format, quality, and relative prominence of the ads displayed by us or our competitors;
- customer service and support efforts;
- marketing and selling efforts, including our ability to measure the effectiveness of our ads and to provide marketers with a compelling return on their investments;
- our ability to establish and maintain developers' interest in building mobile and web applications that integrate with Facebook and our other products;
- our ability to establish and maintain publisher interest in integrating their content with Facebook and our other products;
- changes mandated by legislation, regulatory authorities, or litigation, including settlements and consent decrees, some of which may have a disproportionate effect on us;
- acquisitions or consolidation within our industry, which may result in more formidable competitors;
- our ability to attract, retain, and motivate talented employees, particularly software engineers, designers, and product managers;
- our ability to cost-effectively manage and grow our operations; and
- our reputation and brand strength relative to those of our competitors.

If we are not able to compete effectively, our user base and level of user engagement may decrease, we may become less attractive to developers and marketers, and our revenue and results of operations may be materially and adversely affected.

Action by governments to restrict access to Facebook or our other products in their countries could substantially harm our business and financial results.

It is possible that governments of one or more countries may seek to censor content available on Facebook or our other products in their country, restrict access to our products from their country entirely, or impose other restrictions that may affect the accessibility of our products in their country for an extended period of time or indefinitely. For example, access to Facebook has been or is currently restricted in whole or in part in China, Iran, and North Korea. In addition, government authorities in other countries may seek to restrict access to our products if they consider us to be in violation of their laws. In the event that content shown on Facebook or our other products is subject to censorship, access to our products is restricted, in whole or in part, in one or more countries, or other restrictions are imposed on our products, or our competitors are able to successfully penetrate new geographic markets or capture a greater share of existing geographic markets that we cannot access or where we face other restrictions, our ability to retain or increase our user base and user engagement may be adversely affected, we may not be able to maintain or grow our revenue as anticipated, and our financial results could be adversely affected.





Our new products and changes to existing products could fail to attract or retain users or generate revenue and profits. Our ability to retain, increase, and engage our user base and to increase our revenue depends heavily on our ability to create successful new products, both independently and in conjunction with developers or other third parties. We may introduce significant changes to our existing products, or acquire or introduce new and unproven products, including using technologies with which we have little or no prior development or operating experience. For example, in July 2014 we acquired Oculus VR, Inc. (Oculus), a company developing virtual reality technology. We do not have prior experience with consumer hardware products or virtual reality technology, which may adversely affect our ability to successfully develop and market Oculus' products or technology, and we will incur increased costs in connection with the development and marketing of such products and technology. In addition, in October 2014, we acquired WhatsApp Inc. (WhatsApp), and we have also invested significant resources in growing Messenger. We have historically monetized messaging in only a very limited fashion, and we may not be successful in our efforts to generate meaningful revenue from messaging over the long term. If these or other new or enhanced products fail to engage users, marketers, or developers, or if we are unsuccessful in our monetization efforts, we may fail to attract or retain users or to generate sufficient revenue, operating margin, or other value to justify our investments, and our business may be adversely affected.

We make product and investment decisions that may not prioritize short-term financial results.

We frequently make product and investment decisions that may not prioritize short-term financial results if we believe that the decisions are consistent with our mission and benefit the aggregate user experience and will thereby improve our financial performance over the long term. For example, from time to time we may change the size, frequency, or relative prominence of ads in order to improve ad quality and overall user experience. Similarly, from time to time we update our News Feed ranking algorithm to deliver the most relevant content to our users, which may adversely affect the distribution of content of marketers and developers and could reduce their incentive to invest in their development and marketing efforts on Facebook. We also may introduce changes to existing products, or introduce new stand-alone products, that direct users away from properties where we have a proven means of monetization. For example, we have taken action to redirect users who send messages from within the Facebook application to our stand-alone Messenger application, although we do not monetize the stand-alone Messenger application in any significant manner. In addition, we plan to continue focusing on growing the user base for WhatsApp and potentially other stand-alone applications that may have limited or no near-term monetization, and it is possible that these efforts may reduce engagement with the core Facebook application. We also may take steps that result in limiting distribution of mobile products and services in the short term in order to attempt to ensure the availability of our products and services to users over the long term. These decisions may not produce the long-term benefits that we expect, in which case our user growth and engagement, our relationships with marketers and developers, and our business and results of operations could be harmed.

If we are not able to maintain and enhance our brands, or if events occur that damage our reputation and brands, our ability to expand our base of users, marketers, and developers may be impaired, and our business and financial results may be harmed.

We believe that our brands have significantly contributed to the success of our business. We also believe that maintaining and enhancing our brands is critical to expanding our base of users, marketers, and developers. Many of our new users are referred by existing users. Maintaining and enhancing our brands will depend largely on our ability to continue to provide useful, reliable, trustworthy, and innovative products, which we may not do successfully. We may introduce new products or terms of service or policies that users do not like, which may negatively affect our brands. Additionally, the actions of our developers may affect our brands if users do not have a positive experience using third-party mobile and web applications integrated with Facebook. We will also continue to experience media, legislative, or regulatory scrutiny of our decisions regarding user privacy and other issues, which may adversely affect our reputation and brands. We also may fail to provide adequate customer service, which could erode confidence in our brands. Our brands may also be negatively affected by the actions of users that are deemed to be hostile or inappropriate to other users, or by users acting under false or inauthentic identities, by perceived or actual efforts by governments to obtain access to user information for security-related purposes, or by the use of our products or services for illicit, objectionable, or illegal ends. Maintaining and enhancing our brands may require us to make

substantial investments and these investments may not be successful. Certain of our past actions have eroded confidence in our brands, and if we fail to successfully promote and maintain our brands or if we incur excessive expenses in this effort, our business and financial results may be adversely affected.

Security breaches and improper access to or disclosure of our data or user data, or other hacking and phishing attacks on our systems, could harm our reputation and adversely affect our business.

Our industry is prone to cyber attacks, with third parties seeking unauthorized access to our data or users' data. Any failure to prevent or mitigate security breaches and improper access to or disclosure of our data or user data could result in the loss or misuse of such data, which could harm our business and reputation and diminish our competitive position. In addition, computer malware, viruses, and hacking and phishing attacks by third parties have become more prevalent in our industry, have occurred on our systems in the past, and may occur on our systems in the future. As a result of our prominence, we believe that we are a particularly attractive target for such breaches and attacks. Such attacks may cause interruptions to the services we provide, degrade the user experience,

cause users to lose confidence in our products, or result in financial harm to us. Our efforts to protect our company data or the information we receive may also be unsuccessful due to software bugs or other technical malfunctions, employee error or malfeasance, government surveillance, or other factors. In addition, third parties may attempt to fraudulently induce employees or users to disclose information in order to gain access to our data or our users' data. Although we have developed systems and processes that are designed to protect our data and user data and to prevent data loss and other security breaches, we cannot assure you that such measures will provide absolute security.

In addition, some of our developers or other partners, such as those that help us measure the effectiveness of ads, may receive or store information provided by us or by our users through mobile or web applications integrated with Facebook. We provide limited information to such third parties based on the scope of services provided to us.

However, if these third parties or developers fail to adopt or adhere to adequate data security practices, or in the event of a breach of their networks, our data or our users' data may be improperly accessed, used, or disclosed.

Affected users or government authorities could initiate legal or regulatory actions against us in connection with any security breaches or improper disclosure of data, which could cause us to incur significant expense and liability or result in orders or consent decrees forcing us to modify our business practices. Any of these events could have a material and adverse effect on our business, reputation, or financial results.

Unfavorable media coverage could negatively affect our business.

We receive a high degree of media coverage around the world. Unfavorable publicity regarding, for example, our privacy practices, terms of service, product changes, product quality, litigation or regulatory activity, government surveillance, the actions of our developers whose products are integrated with our products, the use of our products or services for illicit, objectionable, or illegal ends, the actions of our users, or the actions of other companies that provide similar services to us, could adversely affect our reputation. Such negative publicity also could have an adverse effect on the size, engagement, and loyalty of our user base and result in decreased revenue, which could adversely affect our business and financial results.

Our financial results will fluctuate from quarter to quarter and are difficult to predict.

Our quarterly financial results have fluctuated in the past and will fluctuate in the future. Additionally, we have a limited operating history with the current scale of our business, which makes it difficult to forecast our future results.

As a result, you should not rely upon our past quarterly financial results as indicators of future performance. You should take into account the risks and uncertainties frequently encountered by companies in rapidly evolving markets.

Our financial results in any given quarter can be influenced by numerous factors, many of which we are unable to predict or are outside of our control, including:

- our ability to maintain and grow our user base and user engagement;
- our ability to attract and retain marketers in a particular period;
- fluctuations in spending by our marketers due to seasonality, such as historically strong spending in the fourth quarter of each year, or other factors;
- the frequency, prominence, size, format, and quality of ads shown to users;
- the pricing of our ads and other products;
- our ability to maintain or increase Payments and other fees revenue;
- the diversification and growth of revenue sources beyond advertising on Facebook;
- the development and introduction of new products or services by us or our competitors;
- increases in marketing, sales, and other operating expenses that we will incur to grow and expand our operations and to remain competitive;
- our ability to maintain gross margins and operating margins;
- costs related to acquisitions, including costs associated with amortization and additional investments to develop the acquired technologies;
- charges associated with impairment of any assets on our balance sheet;
- our ability to obtain equipment and components for our data centers and other technical infrastructure in a timely and

- cost-effective manner;
- system failures or outages, which could prevent us from serving ads for any period of time;
- breaches of security or privacy, and the costs associated with any such breaches and remediation;
- changes in the manner in which we distribute our products or inaccessibility of our products due to third-party actions;
- fees paid to third parties for content or the distribution of our products;
- share-based compensation expense, including acquisition-related expense;
- adverse litigation judgments, settlements, or other litigation-related costs;
- changes in the legislative or regulatory environment, including with respect to privacy and data protection, or enforcement by government regulators, including fines, orders, or consent decrees;
- the overall tax rate for our business, which may be affected by a number of factors, including the financial results of our international subsidiaries and the timing, size, and integration of acquisitions we may make from time to time;
- tax obligations that may arise from changes in laws or resolutions of tax examinations that materially differ from the amounts we have anticipated;
- fluctuations in currency exchange rates and changes in the proportion of our revenue and expenses denominated in foreign currencies;
- fluctuations in the market values of our portfolio investments and in interest rates;
- changes in U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; and
- changes in global business or macroeconomic conditions.

We expect our rates of growth to decline in the future.

We expect that our user growth and revenue growth rates will decline over time as the size of our active user base increases and as we achieve greater market penetration. For example, the growth rate of our revenue declined from 58% from 2013 to 2014, to 44% from 2014 to 2015. We expect our revenue growth rate will generally decline over time as our revenue increases to higher levels. As our growth rates decline, investors' perceptions of our business may be adversely affected and the trading price of our Class A common stock could decline.

Our costs are continuing to grow, which could harm our business and profitability.

Operating our business is costly, and we expect our expenses to continue to increase in the future as we broaden our user base, as users increase the amount of content they consume and the data they share with us, as we develop and implement new products, and as we continue to hire additional employees to support our expanding operations. We expect to continue to invest in our global connectivity efforts, which may not have a clear path to monetization. We may also be subject to increased costs in order to obtain and attract third-party content or to facilitate the distribution of our products. In addition, we will incur increased costs in connection with the development and marketing of our Oculus products. Any such investments may not be successful, and any such increases in our costs may adversely affect our business and profitability.

Our business is subject to complex and evolving U.S. and foreign laws and regulations regarding privacy, data protection, and other matters. Many of these laws and regulations are subject to change and uncertain interpretation, and could result in claims, changes to our business practices, monetary penalties, increased cost of operations, or declines in user growth or engagement, or otherwise harm our business.

We are subject to a variety of laws and regulations in the United States and abroad that involve matters central to our business, including privacy and data protection, rights of publicity, content, intellectual property, advertising, marketing, distribution, data security, data retention and deletion, personal information, electronic contracts and other communications, competition, protection of minors, consumer protection, telecommunications, product liability, taxation, economic or other trade prohibitions or sanctions, securities law compliance, and online payment services. The introduction of new products or expansion of our activities in certain jurisdictions may subject us to additional laws and regulations. In addition, foreign data protection, privacy, and other laws and regulations can be more restrictive than those in the United States.

These U.S. federal and state and foreign laws and regulations, which in some cases can be enforced by private parties in addition to government entities, are constantly evolving and can be subject to significant change. As a result, the application, interpretation, and enforcement of these laws and regulations are often uncertain, particularly in the new and rapidly evolving industry in which we operate, and may be interpreted and applied inconsistently from country to country and inconsistently with our current policies and practices. For example, regulatory or legislative actions affecting the manner in which we display content to our users could adversely affect user growth and engagement.

Such actions could affect the manner in which we provide our services or adversely affect our financial results.

We are also subject to laws and regulations that dictate whether, how, and under what circumstances we can transfer, process and/or receive transnational data that is critical to our operations, including data relating to users, customers, or partners outside the United States, and those laws and regulations are uncertain and subject to change. For example, in October 2015, the European Court of Justice invalidated the European Commission's 2000 Safe Harbour Decision as a legitimate basis on which Facebook could rely for the transfer of data from the European Union to the United States. In addition, the other bases on which Facebook relies are likely to be subject to regulatory or judicial scrutiny. If Facebook is unable to transfer data between and among countries and regions in which it operates, it could affect the manner in which we provide our services or adversely affect our financial results.

Proposed legislation and regulations could also significantly affect our business. There currently are a number of proposals pending before federal, state, and foreign legislative and regulatory bodies, including a data protection regulation that is pending final approval by the European legislature that may include operational requirements for companies that receive or process personal data that are different than those currently in place in the European Union, and that will include significant penalties for non-compliance. Similarly, there are a number of legislative proposals in the United States, at both the federal and state level, that could impose new obligations in areas affecting our business, such as liability for copyright infringement by third parties. In addition, some countries are considering or have passed legislation implementing data protection requirements or requiring local storage and processing of data or similar requirements that could increase the cost and complexity of delivering our services.

These existing and proposed laws and regulations, as well as any associated inquiries, investigations, or actions, can be costly to comply with and can delay or impede the development of new products, result in negative publicity, increase our operating costs, require significant management time and attention, and subject us to remedies that may harm our business, including fines or demands or orders that we modify or cease existing business practices.

We have been subject to regulatory investigations and settlements and we expect to continue to be subject to such proceedings and other inquiries in the future, which could cause us to incur substantial costs or require us to change our business practices in a manner materially adverse to our business.

From time to time, we receive formal and informal inquiries from government authorities and regulators regarding our compliance with laws and regulations, many of which are evolving and subject to interpretation. We are and expect to continue to be the subject of investigations, inquiries, actions, and audits in the United States, Europe, and around the world, particularly in the areas of consumer and data protection, as we continue to grow and expand our operations. For example, several data protection authorities in Europe have initiated actions seeking to assert jurisdiction over Facebook Inc. and our subsidiaries and to restrict the ways in which we collect and use information, and other data protection authorities may do the same. Orders issued by, or inquiries or enforcement actions initiated by, government or regulatory authorities could cause us to incur substantial costs, expose us to unanticipated civil and criminal liability or penalties (including substantial monetary fines), or require us to change our business practices in a manner materially adverse to our business.

If we are unable to protect our intellectual property, the value of our brands and other intangible assets may be diminished, and our business may be adversely affected.

We rely and expect to continue to rely on a combination of confidentiality, assignment, and license agreements with our employees, consultants, and third parties with whom we have relationships, as well as trademark, copyright, patent, trade secret, and domain name protection laws, to protect our proprietary rights. In the United States and internationally, we have filed various applications for protection of certain aspects of our intellectual property, and we currently hold a number of issued patents in multiple jurisdictions and have acquired patents and patent applications from third parties. In addition, in the future we may acquire additional patents or patent portfolios, which could require significant cash expenditures. Third parties may knowingly or unknowingly infringe our proprietary rights, third parties may challenge proprietary rights held by us, and pending and future trademark and patent applications may not be approved. In addition, effective intellectual property protection may not be available in every country in which we operate or intend to operate our business. In any or all of these cases, we may be required to expend significant time and expense in order to prevent infringement or to enforce our rights. Although we have generally taken measures to protect our proprietary rights, there can be no assurance that others will not offer products or concepts that are substantially similar to ours and compete with our business. In addition, we regularly contribute software source code under open source licenses and have made other technology we developed available under other open licenses, and we include open source software in our products. For example, we have contributed certain specifications and designs related to our data center equipment to the Open Compute Project Foundation, a non-profit entity that shares and develops such information with the technology community, under the Open Web Foundation License. As a result of our open source contributions and the use of open source in our products, we may license or be required to license or disclose code and/or innovations that turn out to be material to our business and may also be exposed to increased litigation risk. If the protection of our proprietary rights is inadequate to prevent unauthorized use or appropriation by third parties, the value of our brands and other intangible assets may be diminished and competitors may be able to more effectively mimic our products, services, and methods of operations. Any of these events could have an adverse effect on our business and financial results.

We are currently, and expect to be in the future, party to patent lawsuits and other intellectual property rights claims that are expensive and time consuming, and, if resolved adversely, could have a significant impact on our business, financial condition, or results of operations.

Companies in the Internet, technology, and media industries own large numbers of patents, copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets, and frequently enter into litigation based on allegations of infringement, misappropriation, or other violations of intellectual property or other rights. In addition, various "non-practicing entities" that own patents and other intellectual property rights often attempt to aggressively assert their rights in order to extract value from technology companies. Furthermore, from time to time we may introduce or acquire new products, including in areas where we historically have not competed, which could increase our exposure to patent and other intellectual property claims from competitors and non-practicing entities.

From time to time, we receive notice letters from patent holders alleging that certain of our products and services infringe their patent rights. We presently are involved in a number of intellectual property lawsuits, and as we face increasing competition and gain an increasingly high profile, we expect the number of patent and other intellectual property claims against us to grow. Defending patent and other intellectual property litigation is costly and can impose a significant burden on management and employees, and there can be no assurances that favorable final outcomes will be obtained in all cases. In addition, plaintiffs may seek, and we may become subject to, preliminary or provisional rulings in the course of any such litigation, including potential preliminary injunctions requiring us to cease some or all of our operations. We may decide to settle such lawsuits and disputes on terms that are unfavorable to us.

Similarly, if any litigation to which we are a party is resolved adversely, we may be subject to an unfavorable judgment that may not be reversed upon appeal. The terms of such a settlement or judgment may require us to cease some or all of our operations or pay substantial amounts to the other party. In addition, we may have to seek a license to continue practices found to be in violation of a third party's rights, which may not be available on reasonable terms, or at all, and may significantly increase our operating costs and expenses. As a result, we may also be required to develop alternative non-infringing technology or practices or discontinue the practices. The development of

alternative non-infringing technology or practices could require significant effort and expense or may not be feasible. Our business, financial condition, and results of operations could be adversely affected as a result of an unfavorable resolution of the disputes and litigation referred to above.

We are involved in numerous class action lawsuits and other litigation matters that are expensive and time consuming, and, if resolved adversely, could harm our business, financial condition, or results of operations.

In addition to intellectual property claims, we are also involved in numerous other lawsuits, including putative class action lawsuits, many of which claim statutory damages and/or seek significant changes to our business operations, and we anticipate that we will continue to be a target for numerous lawsuits in the future. Because of the scale of our user base, the plaintiffs in class action cases filed against us typically claim enormous monetary damages even if the alleged per-user harm is small or non-existent. In addition, we may be subject to additional class action lawsuits based on product performance or other claims related to the use of consumer hardware and software, as well as virtual reality technology and products, which are new and unproven. Any negative



outcome from any such lawsuits could result in payments of substantial monetary damages or fines, or undesirable changes to our products or business practices, and accordingly our business, financial condition, or results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. Although the results of such lawsuits and claims cannot be predicted with certainty, we do not believe that the final outcome of those matters relating to our products that we currently face will have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, or results of operations. In addition, we are currently the subject of stockholder class action suits in connection with our IPO. We believe these lawsuits are without merit and are vigorously defending these lawsuits.

There can be no assurances that a favorable final outcome will be obtained in all our cases, and defending any lawsuit is costly and can impose a significant burden on management and employees. Any litigation to which we are a party may result in an onerous or unfavorable judgment that may not be reversed upon appeal or in payments of substantial monetary damages or fines, or we may decide to settle lawsuits on similarly unfavorable terms, which could adversely affect our business, financial conditions, or results of operations.

We may incur liability as a result of information retrieved from or transmitted over the Internet or published using our products or as a result of claims related to our products.

We have faced, currently face, and will continue to face claims relating to information that is published or made available on our products. In particular, the nature of our business exposes us to claims related to defamation, intellectual property rights, rights of publicity and privacy, and personal injury torts. This risk is enhanced in certain jurisdictions outside the United States where our protection from liability for third-party actions may be unclear and where we may be less protected under local laws than we are in the United States. We could incur significant costs investigating and defending such claims and, if we are found liable, significant damages. If any of these events occur, our business and financial results could be adversely affected.

Our CEO has control over key decision making as a result of his control of a majority of our voting stock.

Mark Zuckerberg, our founder, Chairman, and CEO, is able to exercise voting rights with respect to a majority of the voting power of our outstanding capital stock and therefore has the ability to control the outcome of matters submitted to our stockholders for approval, including the election of directors and any merger, consolidation, or sale of all or substantially all of our assets. This concentrated control could delay, defer, or prevent a change of control, merger, consolidation, or sale of all or substantially all of our assets that our other stockholders support, or conversely this concentrated control could result in the consummation of such a transaction that our other stockholders do not support. This concentrated control could also discourage a potential investor from acquiring our Class A common stock due to the limited voting power of such stock relative to the Class B common stock and might harm the trading price of our Class A common stock. In addition, Mr. Zuckerberg has the ability to control the management and major strategic investments of our company as a result of his position as our CEO and his ability to control the election or replacement of our directors. In the event of his death, the shares of our capital stock that Mr. Zuckerberg owns will be transferred to the persons or entities that he has designated. As a board member and officer, Mr. Zuckerberg owes a fiduciary duty to our stockholders and must act in good faith in a manner he reasonably believes to be in the best interests of our stockholders. As a stockholder, even a controlling stockholder, Mr. Zuckerberg is entitled to vote his shares, and shares over which he has voting control as governed by a voting agreement, in his own interests, which may not always be in the interests of our stockholders generally.

We plan to continue to make acquisitions, which could harm our financial condition or results of operations and may adversely affect the price of our common stock.

As part of our business strategy, we have made and intend to continue to make acquisitions to add specialized employees and complementary companies, products, or technologies. We may not be able to find suitable acquisition candidates, and we may not be able to complete acquisitions on favorable terms, if at all. In some cases, the costs of such acquisitions may be substantial. For example, in 2014 we paid approximately \$4.6 billion in cash and issued 178 million shares of our Class A common stock in connection with our acquisition of WhatsApp, and we paid approximately \$400 million in cash and issued 23 million shares of our Class B common stock in connection with our acquisition of Oculus. We also issued a substantial number of RSUs to help retain the employees of these companies. There is no assurance that we will receive a favorable return on investment for these or other acquisitions.

In the future, we may pay substantial amounts of cash or incur debt to pay for acquisitions, which could adversely affect our liquidity. The incurrence of indebtedness would also result in increased fixed obligations, increased interest expense, and could also include covenants or other restrictions that would impede our ability to manage our operations. We may also issue equity securities to pay for acquisitions and we regularly grant RSUs to retain the employees of acquired companies, which could increase our expenses, adversely affect our financial results, and result in dilution to our stockholders. In addition, any acquisitions we announce could be viewed negatively by users, marketers, developers, or investors, which may adversely affect our business or the price of our common stock.

We may also discover liabilities or deficiencies associated with the companies or assets we acquire that were not identified in advance, which may result in significant unanticipated costs. The effectiveness of our due diligence review and our ability to evaluate the results of such due diligence are dependent upon the accuracy and completeness of statements and disclosures made or actions taken by the companies we acquire or their representatives, as well as the limited amount of time in which acquisitions are executed. In addition, we may fail to accurately forecast the financial impact of an acquisition transaction, including tax and accounting charges. Acquisitions may also result in our recording of significant additional expenses to our results of operations and recording of substantial finite-lived intangible assets on our balance sheet upon closing. Any of these factors may adversely affect our financial condition or results of operations.

We may not be able to successfully integrate our acquisitions, and we may incur significant costs to integrate and support the companies we acquire.

The integration of acquisitions requires significant time and resources, and we may not manage these processes successfully. Our ability to successfully integrate complex acquisitions is unproven, particularly with respect to companies that have significant operations or that develop products where we do not have prior experience. For example, Oculus and WhatsApp are larger and more complex than companies we have historically acquired. In particular, Oculus builds technology and products that are new to Facebook and with which we did not have significant experience or structure in place to support prior to the acquisition. We are making substantial investments of resources to support these acquisitions, which will result in significant ongoing operating expenses and may divert resources and management attention from other areas of our business. We cannot assure you that these investments will be successful. If we fail to successfully integrate the companies we acquire, we may not realize the benefits expected from the transaction and our business may be harmed.

If our goodwill or finite-lived intangible assets become impaired, we may be required to record a significant charge to earnings.

We review our finite-lived intangible assets for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable, such as a decline in stock price and market capitalization. We test goodwill for impairment at least annually. If such goodwill or finite-lived intangible assets are deemed to be impaired, an impairment loss equal to the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the fair value of the assets would be recognized. We may be required to record a significant charge in our financial statements during the period in which any impairment of our goodwill or finite-lived intangible assets is determined, which would negatively affect our results of operations.

Our business is dependent on our ability to maintain and scale our technical infrastructure, and any significant disruption in our service could damage our reputation, result in a potential loss of users and engagement, and adversely affect our financial results.

Our reputation and ability to attract, retain, and serve our users is dependent upon the reliable performance of our products and our underlying technical infrastructure. Our systems may not be adequately designed with the necessary reliability and redundancy to avoid performance delays or outages that could be harmful to our business. If our products are unavailable when users attempt to access them, or if they do not load as quickly as expected, users may not use our products as often in the future, or at all, and our ability to serve ads may be disrupted. As our user base and engagement continue to grow, and the amount and types of information shared on Facebook and our other products continue to grow and evolve, such as increased engagement with video, we will need an increasing amount of technical infrastructure, including network capacity and computing power, to continue to satisfy the needs of our users. It is possible that we may fail to effectively scale and grow our technical infrastructure to accommodate these increased demands. In addition, our business may be subject to interruptions, delays, or failures resulting from earthquakes, adverse weather conditions, other natural disasters, power loss, terrorism, or other catastrophic events. If such an event were to occur, users may be subject to service disruptions or outages and we may not be able to recover our technical infrastructure and user data in a timely manner to restart or provide our services, which may adversely affect our financial results.

A substantial portion of our network infrastructure is provided by third parties. Any disruption or failure in the services we receive from these providers could harm our ability to handle existing or increased traffic and could

significantly harm our business. Any financial or other difficulties these providers face may adversely affect our business, and we exercise little control over these providers, which increases our vulnerability to problems with the services they provide.

We could experience unforeseen difficulties in building and operating key portions of our technical infrastructure. We have designed and built our own data centers and key portions of our technical infrastructure through which we serve our products, and we plan to continue to significantly expand the size of our infrastructure primarily through data centers and other projects. The infrastructure expansion we are undertaking is complex, and unanticipated delays in the completion of these projects or availability of components may lead to increased project costs, operational inefficiencies, or interruptions in the delivery or degradation of the quality of our products. In addition, there may be issues related to this infrastructure that are not identified during the testing phases of design and implementation, which may only become evident after we have started to fully utilize the underlying equipment, that could further degrade the user experience or increase our costs.

Our products and internal systems rely on software that is highly technical, and if it contains undetected errors or vulnerabilities, our business could be adversely affected.

Our products and internal systems rely on software, including software developed or maintained internally and/or by third parties, that is highly technical and complex. In addition, our products and internal systems depend on the ability of such software to store, retrieve, process, and manage immense amounts of data. The software on which we rely has contained, and may now or in the future contain, undetected errors, bugs, or vulnerabilities. Some errors may only be discovered after the code has been released for external or internal use. Errors, vulnerabilities, or other design defects within the software on which we rely may result in a negative experience for users and marketers who use our products, delay product introductions or enhancements, result in measurement or billing errors, compromise our ability to protect the data of our users and/or our intellectual property or lead to reductions in our ability to provide some or all of our services. For example, social games on Facebook rely on Adobe Flash, which games are currently responsible for substantially all of our Payments revenue. In July 2015, certain vulnerabilities discovered in Flash led to temporary interruption of support for Flash by popular web browsers. If similar interruptions occur in the future and disrupt our ability to provide social games to some or all of our users, our ability to generate Payments revenue would be harmed. Any errors, bugs, vulnerabilities, or defects discovered in the software on which we rely, and any associated degradations or interruptions of service, could result in damage to our reputation, loss of users, loss of revenue, or liability for damages, any of which could adversely affect our business and financial results.

Technologies have been developed that can block the display of our ads, which could adversely affect our financial results.

Technologies have been developed, and will likely continue to be developed, that can block the display of our ads, particularly advertising displayed on personal computers. We generate substantially all of our revenue from advertising, including revenue resulting from the display of ads on personal computers. Revenue generated from the display of ads on personal computers has been impacted by these technologies from time to time. As a result, these technologies have had an adverse effect on our financial results and, if such technologies continue to proliferate, in particular with respect to mobile platforms, our future financial results may be harmed.

Certain of our user metrics are subject to inherent challenges in measurement, and real or perceived inaccuracies in such metrics may harm our reputation and negatively affect our business.

The numbers for our key metrics, which include our DAUs, mobile DAUs, MAUs, mobile MAUs, and average revenue per user (ARPU), as well as certain other metrics such as mobile-only DAUs and mobile-only MAUs, are calculated using internal company data based on the activity of user accounts. While these numbers are based on what we believe to be reasonable estimates of our user base for the applicable period of measurement, there are inherent challenges in measuring usage of our products across large online and mobile populations around the world.

For example, there may be individuals who maintain one or more Facebook accounts in violation of our terms of service. We estimate, for example, that "duplicate" accounts (an account that a user maintains in addition to his or her principal account) may have represented less than 5% of our worldwide MAUs in 2015. We also seek to identify "false" accounts, which we divide into two categories: (1) user-misclassified accounts, where users have created personal profiles for a business, organization, or non-human entity such as a pet (such entities are permitted on Facebook using a Page rather than a personal profile under our terms of service); and (2) undesirable accounts, which represent user profiles that we determine are intended to be used for purposes that violate our terms of service, such as spamming. In 2015, for example, we estimate that such user-misclassified and undesirable accounts may have represented less than 2% our worldwide MAUs. We believe the percentage of accounts that are duplicate or false is meaningfully lower in developed markets such as the United States or United Kingdom and higher in developing markets such as India and Turkey. However, these estimates are based on an internal review of a limited sample of accounts and we apply significant judgment in making this determination, such as identifying names that appear to be fake or other behavior that appears inauthentic to the reviewers. As such, our estimation of duplicate or false accounts may not accurately represent the actual number of such accounts. We are continually seeking to improve our ability to identify duplicate or false accounts and estimate the total number of such accounts, and such estimates may change due to improvements or changes in our methodology.

Our data limitations may affect our understanding of certain details of our business. For example, while user-provided data indicates a decline in usage among younger users, this age data is unreliable because a disproportionate number of our younger users register with an inaccurate age. Accordingly, our understanding of usage by age group may not be complete.

Some of our metrics have also been affected by applications on certain mobile devices that automatically contact our servers for regular updates with no user action involved, and this activity can cause our system to count the user associated with such a device as an active user on the day such contact occurs. The impact of this automatic activity on our metrics varied by geography because mobile usage varies in different regions of the world. In addition, our data regarding the geographic location of our users is estimated based on a number of factors, such as the user's IP address and self-disclosed location. These factors may not always accurately reflect the user's actual location. For example, a mobile-only user may appear to be accessing Facebook from the location of the proxy server that the user connects to rather than from the user's actual location. The methodologies used to measure user metrics may also be

susceptible to algorithm or other technical errors. Our estimates for revenue by user location and revenue by user device are also affected by these factors. We regularly review our processes for calculating these metrics, and from time to time we may discover inaccuracies in our metrics or make adjustments to improve their accuracy, including adjustments that may result in the recalculation of our historical metrics. We believe that any such inaccuracies or adjustments are immaterial unless otherwise stated. In addition, our DAU and MAU estimates will differ from estimates published by third parties due to differences in methodology. For example, some third parties are not able to accurately measure mobile users or do not count mobile users for certain user groups or at all in their analyses. If marketers, developers, or investors do not perceive our user metrics to be accurate representations of our user base, or if we discover material inaccuracies in our user metrics, our reputation may be harmed and marketers and developers may be less willing to allocate their budgets or resources to Facebook, which could negatively affect our business and financial results.

We cannot assure you that we will effectively manage our growth.

Our employee headcount and the scope and complexity of our business have increased significantly, with the number of employees increasing to 12,691 as of December 31, 2015 from 9,199 as of December 31, 2014, and we expect headcount growth to continue for the foreseeable future. The growth and expansion of our business and products create significant challenges for our management, operational, and financial resources, including managing multiple relations with users, marketers, developers, and other third parties. In the event of continued growth of our operations or in the number of our third-party relationships, our information technology systems or our internal controls and procedures may not be adequate to support our operations. In addition, some members of our management do not have significant experience managing a large global business operation, so our management may not be able to manage such growth effectively. To effectively manage our growth, we must continue to improve our operational, financial, and management processes and systems and to effectively expand, train, and manage our employee base. As our organization continues to grow, and we are required to implement more complex organizational management structures, we may find it increasingly difficult to maintain the benefits of our corporate culture, including our ability to quickly develop and launch new and innovative products. This could negatively affect our business performance. The loss of one or more of our key personnel, or our failure to attract and retain other highly qualified personnel in the future, could harm our business.

We currently depend on the continued services and performance of our key personnel, including Mark Zuckerberg and Sheryl K. Sandberg. Although we have entered into employment agreements with Mr. Zuckerberg and Ms. Sandberg, the agreements have no specific duration and constitute at-will employment. In addition, many of our key technologies and systems are custom-made for our business by our personnel. The loss of key personnel, including members of management as well as key engineering, product development, marketing, and sales personnel, could disrupt our operations and have an adverse effect on our business.

As we continue to grow, we cannot guarantee we will continue to attract the personnel we need to maintain our competitive position. In particular, we intend to continue to hire a significant number of technical personnel in the foreseeable future, and we expect to face significant competition from other companies in hiring such personnel, particularly in the San Francisco Bay Area, where our headquarters are located and where the cost of living is high. As we mature, the incentives to attract, retain, and motivate employees provided by our equity awards or by future arrangements may not be as effective as in the past, and if we issue significant equity to attract additional employees, the ownership of our existing stockholders may be further diluted. Our ability to attract, retain, and motivate employees may also be adversely affected by stock price volatility. Additionally, we have a number of current employees whose equity ownership in our company has provided them a substantial amount of personal wealth, which could affect their decisions about whether or not to continue to work for us. As a result of these factors, it may be difficult for us to continue to retain and motivate our employees. If we do not succeed in attracting, hiring, and integrating excellent personnel, or retaining and motivating existing personnel, we may be unable to grow effectively.

We may not be able to continue to successfully grow usage of and engagement with mobile and web applications that integrate with Facebook and our other products.

We have made and are continuing to make investments to enable developers to build, grow, and monetize mobile and web applications that integrate with Facebook and our other products. Such existing and prospective developers may not be successful in building, growing, or monetizing mobile and/or web applications that create and maintain user engagement. Additionally, developers may choose to build on other platforms, including mobile platforms controlled by third parties, rather than building products that integrate with Facebook and our other products. We are continuously seeking to balance the distribution objectives of our developers with our desire to provide an optimal user experience, and we may not be successful in achieving a balance that continues to attract and retain such developers. For example, from time to time, we have taken actions to reduce the volume of communications from these developers to users on Facebook and our other products with the objective of enhancing the user experience, and such actions have reduced distribution from, user engagement with, and our monetization opportunities from, mobile and web applications integrated with our products. In some instances, these actions, as well as other actions to enforce our policies applicable to developers, have adversely affected our relationships with such developers. If we are not successful in our efforts to continue to grow the number of developers that choose to build products that integrate with Facebook and our other products or if we are unable to continue to build and maintain good relations with such developers, our user growth and user engagement and our financial results may be adversely affected.

We currently generate all of our Payments revenue from developers that use Facebook on personal computers, and we expect that our Payments revenue will continue to decline in the future as usage of Facebook on personal computers continues to decline.

We currently generate all of our Payments revenue from developers that use Facebook on personal computers. Specifically, applications built by developers of social games are currently responsible for substantially all of our revenue derived from Payments, and the majority of the revenue from these applications has historically been generated by a limited number of the most popular games. We have experienced and expect to see the continued decline in usage of Facebook on personal computers for the foreseeable future, which we expect will result in a continuing decline in Payments revenue. In addition, a relatively small percentage of our users have transacted with Facebook Payments. If the Facebook-integrated applications fail to grow or maintain their users and engagement, whether as a result of the continued decline in the usage of Facebook on personal computers or otherwise, if developers do not continue to introduce new applications that attract users and create engagement on Facebook, or if Facebook-integrated applications outside of social games do not gain popularity and generate significant revenue for us, our financial performance could be adversely affected.

Payment transactions may subject us to additional regulatory requirements and other risks that could be costly and difficult to comply with or that could harm our business.

Our users can purchase virtual and digital goods from developers that offer applications using our Payments infrastructure on the Facebook website. In addition, certain of our users can use our Payments infrastructure for other activities, such as sending money to other users and making donations to certain charitable organizations. We are subject to a variety of laws and regulations in the United States, Europe, and elsewhere, including those governing anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing, money transmission, gift cards and other prepaid access instruments, electronic funds transfer, charitable fundraising, and import and export restrictions. Depending on how our Payments product evolves, we may also be subject to other laws and regulations including those governing gambling, banking, and lending. In some jurisdictions, the application or interpretation of these laws and regulations is not clear. To increase flexibility in how our use of Payments may evolve and to mitigate regulatory uncertainty, we have received certain money transmitter licenses in the United States and are applying for certain regulatory licenses in Europe, which will generally require us to demonstrate compliance with many domestic and foreign laws in these areas. Our efforts to comply with these laws and regulations could be costly and result in diversion of management time and effort and may still not guarantee compliance. In the event that we are found to be in violation of any such legal or regulatory requirements, we may be subject to monetary fines or other penalties such as a cease and desist order, or we may be required to make product changes, any of which could have an adverse effect on our business and financial results.



In addition, we may be subject to a variety of additional risks as a result of Payments transactions, including:

- increased costs and diversion of management time and effort and other resources to deal with bad transactions or customer disputes;
- potential fraudulent or otherwise illegal activity by users, developers, employees, or third parties;
- restrictions on the investment of consumer funds used to transact Payments; and
- additional disclosure and reporting requirements.

We have significant international operations and plan to continue expanding our operations abroad where we have limited operating experience, and this may subject us to increased business and economic risks that could affect our financial results.

We have significant international operations and plan to continue the international expansion of our business operations and the translation of our products. We currently make Facebook available in more than 90 different languages, and we have offices or data centers in more than 30 different countries. We may enter new international markets where we have limited or no experience in marketing, selling, and deploying our products. Our products are generally available globally through the web and on mobile, but some or all of our products or functionality may not be available in certain markets due to legal and regulatory complexities. For example, Facebook is not generally available in China. We also outsource certain operational functions to third-party vendors globally. If we fail to deploy, manage, or oversee our international operations successfully, our business may suffer. In addition, we are subject to a variety of risks inherent in doing business internationally, including:

- political, social, or economic instability;
- risks related to the legal and regulatory environment in foreign jurisdictions, including with respect to privacy, tax, law enforcement, content, trade compliance, intellectual property, and terrestrial infrastructure matters;
- potential damage to our brand and reputation due to compliance with local laws, including potential censorship or requirements to provide user information to local authorities;
- fluctuations in currency exchange rates and compliance with currency controls;
- foreign exchange controls and tax regulations that might prevent us from repatriating cash earned in countries outside the United States or otherwise limit our ability to move cash freely, and impede our ability to invest such cash efficiently;
- higher levels of credit risk and payment fraud;
- enhanced difficulties of integrating any foreign acquisitions;
- burdens of complying with a variety of foreign laws;
- reduced protection for intellectual property rights in some countries;
- difficulties in staffing, managing, and overseeing global operations and the increased travel, infrastructure, and legal compliance costs associated with multiple international locations;
- compliance with the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, the U.K. Bribery Act, and similar laws in other jurisdictions;
- and
- compliance with statutory equity requirements and management of tax consequences.

If we are unable to expand internationally and manage the complexity of our global operations successfully, our financial results could be adversely affected.

We face design, manufacturing, and supply chain risks that, if not properly managed, could adversely impact our financial results.

We face a number of risks related to design, manufacturing, and supply chain management with respect to our Oculus products. For example, the Oculus products we sell may have quality issues resulting from the design or manufacture of the products, or from the software used in the products. Sometimes, these issues may be caused by components we purchase from other manufacturers or suppliers. If the quality of our Oculus products does not meet our customers' expectations or such products are found to be defective, then our financial results could be adversely affected.

We rely on third parties to manufacture our Oculus products. We may experience supply shortages or other supply chain disruptions in the future that could negatively impact our operations. We could be negatively affected if we are not able to engage third parties with the necessary capabilities or capacity on reasonable terms, or if those we engage with fail to meet their obligations (whether due to financial difficulties or other reasons), or make adverse changes in the pricing or other material terms of such arrangements with them.

We also require the suppliers and business partners of our Oculus products to comply with law and certain company policies regarding sourcing practices, but we do not control them or their practices. If any of them violates laws or implements practices regarded as unethical, we could experience supply chain disruptions, canceled orders, terminations of or damage to our reputation.

In addition, the Securities and Exchange Commission's conflict minerals rule requires disclosure by public companies of the origin, source and chain of custody of specified minerals, known as conflict minerals, that are necessary to the functionality or production of products manufactured or contracted to be manufactured. We may incur significant costs associated with complying with the rule, such as costs related to the determination of the origin, source and chain of custody of the minerals used in Oculus products, the adoption of conflict minerals-related governance policies, processes and controls, and possible changes to products or sources of supply as a result of such activities.

We may face inventory risk with respect to our Oculus products.

We may be exposed to inventory risks with respect to our Oculus products as a result of rapid changes in product cycles and pricing, defective merchandise, changes in consumer demand and consumer spending patterns, changes in consumer tastes with respect to Oculus products, and other factors. We endeavor to accurately predict these trends and avoid overstocking or understocking products Oculus may sell. Demand for products, however, can change significantly between the time inventory or components are ordered and the date of sale. In addition, when we begin selling or manufacturing a new Oculus product, it may be difficult to establish vendor relationships, determine appropriate product or component selection, and accurately forecast demand. The acquisition of certain types of inventory or components may require significant lead-time and prepayment and they may not be returnable. Any one of these factors may adversely affect our operating results.

We may incur a substantial amount of indebtedness, which could adversely affect our financial condition.

In August 2013, we entered into a five-year senior unsecured revolving credit facility under which we may borrow up to \$6.5 billion to fund working capital and general corporate purposes. As of December 31, 2015, no amounts were outstanding under this facility. If we draw down on this facility in the future, our interest expense and principal repayment requirements will increase significantly, which could have an adverse effect on our financial results. We may require additional capital to support our business growth, and this capital may not be available on acceptable terms, if at all.

We may require additional capital to support our business growth or to respond to business opportunities, challenges or unforeseen circumstances. Our ability to obtain additional capital, if and when required, will depend on our business plans, investor demand, our operating performance, the condition of the capital markets, and other factors. If we raise additional funds through the issuance of equity, equity-linked or debt securities, those securities may have rights, preferences, or privileges senior to the rights of our Class A common stock, and our existing stockholders may experience dilution. If we are unable to obtain additional capital when required, or are unable to obtain additional capital on satisfactory terms, our ability to continue to support our business growth or to respond to business opportunities, challenges, or unforeseen circumstances could be adversely affected, and our business may be harmed. We may have exposure to greater than anticipated tax liabilities.

Our income tax obligations are based in part on our corporate operating structure and intercompany arrangements, including the manner in which we operate our business, develop, value, manage, protect, and use our intellectual property and the valuations of our intercompany transactions. The tax laws applicable to our business, including the laws of the United States and other jurisdictions, are subject to interpretation and certain jurisdictions are aggressively interpreting their laws in new ways in an effort to raise additional tax revenue from companies such as Facebook. The taxing authorities of the jurisdictions in which we operate may challenge our methodologies for valuing developed technology or intercompany arrangements, which could increase our worldwide effective tax rate and harm our financial position and results of operations. We are subject to regular review and audit by U.S. federal and state and foreign tax authorities. Tax authorities may disagree with certain positions we have taken and any adverse outcome of such a review or audit could have a negative effect on our financial position and results of operations. In addition, the determination of our worldwide provision for income taxes and other tax liabilities requires significant judgment by management, and there are many transactions where the ultimate tax determination is uncertain. Our provision for income taxes is also determined by the manner in which we operate our business, and any changes to such operations or laws applicable to such operations may affect our effective tax rate. Although we believe that our estimates are reasonable, the ultimate tax outcome may differ from the amounts recorded in our financial statements and may

materially affect our financial results in the period or periods for which such determination is made. In addition, our future income taxes could be adversely affected by earnings being lower than anticipated in jurisdictions that have lower statutory tax rates and higher than anticipated in jurisdictions that have higher statutory tax rates, by changes in the valuation of our deferred tax assets and liabilities, or by changes in tax laws, regulations, or accounting principles. For example, we have previously incurred losses in certain international subsidiaries that resulted in an effective tax rate that is significantly higher than the statutory tax rate in the United States and this could continue to happen in the future.

Changes in tax laws or tax rulings could materially affect our financial position and results of operations. The tax regimes we are subject to or operate under are unsettled and may be subject to significant change. Changes in tax laws or tax rulings, or changes in interpretations of existing laws, could materially affect our financial position and results of operations. Many countries in Europe, as well as a number of other countries and organizations, have recently proposed or recommended changes to existing tax laws or have enacted new laws that could significantly increase our tax obligations in many countries where we do business or require us to change the manner in which we operate our business. For example, in 2015 the United Kingdom enacted the Diverted Profits Tax and Australia passed The Tax Integrity Multinational Anti-avoidance Law, both of which could increase our tax obligations. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development has been working on a Base Erosion and Profit Sharing Project, and has issued in 2015, and is expected to continue to issue, guidelines and proposals that may change various aspects of the existing framework under which our tax obligations are determined in many of the countries in which we do business. The European Commission has conducted investigations in multiple countries focusing on whether local country tax rulings or tax legislation provides preferential tax treatment that violates European Union state aid rules. These investigations may result in changes to the tax treatment of our foreign operations. In addition, the current U.S. administration and key members of Congress have made public statements indicating that tax reform is a priority. Certain changes to U.S. tax laws, including limitations on the ability to defer U.S. taxation on earnings outside of the United States until those earnings are repatriated to the United States, could affect the tax treatment of our foreign earnings. Due to the large and expanding scale of our international business activities, many of these types of changes to the taxation of our activities could increase our worldwide effective tax rate and harm our financial position and results of operations.

#### Risks Related to Ownership of Our Class A Common Stock

The trading price of our Class A common stock has been and will likely continue to be volatile.

The trading price of our Class A common stock has been, and is likely to continue to be, volatile. Since shares of our Class A common stock were sold in our IPO in May 2012 at a price of \$38.00 per share, our stock price has ranged from \$17.55 to \$110.65 through December 31, 2015. In addition to the factors discussed in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, the trading price of our Class A common stock may fluctuate significantly in response to numerous factors, many of which are beyond our control, including:

- actual or anticipated fluctuations in our revenue and other operating results;
- the financial projections we may provide to the public, any changes in these projections or our failure to meet these projections;
- actions of securities analysts who initiate or maintain coverage of us, changes in financial estimates by any securities analysts who follow our company, or our failure to meet these estimates or the expectations of investors;
- additional shares of our Class A common stock being sold into the market by us, our existing stockholders, or in connection with acquisitions, including shares sold by our employees to cover tax liabilities in connection with RSU vesting events, or the anticipation of such sales;
- investor sentiment with respect to our competitors, our business partners, and our industry in general;
- announcements by us or our competitors of significant products or features, technical innovations, acquisitions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures, or capital commitments;
- announcements by us or estimates by third parties of actual or anticipated changes in the size of our user base, the level of user engagement, or the effectiveness of our ad products;
- changes in operating performance and stock market valuations of technology companies in our industry, including our developers and competitors;
- price and volume fluctuations in the overall stock market, including as a result of trends in the economy as a whole;
- the inclusion or deletion of our Class A common stock from any trading indices, such as the S&P 500 Index;
- media coverage of our business and financial performance;
- lawsuits threatened or filed against us;
- developments in anticipated or new legislation and pending lawsuits or regulatory actions, including interim or final rulings by tax, judicial, or regulatory bodies; and
- other events or factors, including those resulting from war or incidents of terrorism, or responses to these events.



In addition, the stock markets have experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have affected and continue to affect the market prices of equity securities of many technology companies. Stock prices of many technology companies have fluctuated in a manner unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of those companies. We are currently subject to securities litigation in connection with our IPO. We may experience more such litigation following future periods of volatility. Any securities litigation could subject us to substantial costs, divert resources and the attention of management from our business, and adversely affect our business.

We do not intend to pay dividends for the foreseeable future.

We have never declared or paid cash dividends on our capital stock. We currently intend to retain any future earnings to finance the operation and expansion of our business, and we do not expect to declare or pay any dividends in the foreseeable future. As a result, you may only receive a return on your investment in our Class A common stock if the trading price of our Class A common stock increases. In addition, our credit facility contains restrictions on our ability to pay dividends.

The dual class structure of our common stock and a voting agreement between certain stockholders have the effect of concentrating voting control with our CEO and certain other holders of our Class B common stock; this will limit or preclude your ability to influence corporate matters.

Our Class B common stock has ten votes per share, and our Class A common stock has one vote per share.

Stockholders who hold shares of Class B common stock, including certain of our executive officers, employees, and directors and their affiliates, together hold a substantial majority of the voting power of our outstanding capital stock. Because of the ten-to-one voting ratio between our Class B and Class A common stock, the holders of our Class B common stock collectively control a majority of the combined voting power of our common stock and therefore are able to control all matters submitted to our stockholders for approval so long as the shares of Class B common stock represent at least 9.1% of all outstanding shares of our Class A and Class B common stock. This concentrated control will limit or preclude your ability to influence corporate matters for the foreseeable future.

Transfers by holders of Class B common stock will generally result in those shares converting to Class A common stock, subject to limited exceptions, such as certain transfers effected for estate planning or charitable purposes. The conversion of Class B common stock to Class A common stock will have the effect, over time, of increasing the relative voting power of those holders of Class B common stock who retain their shares in the long term. If, for example, Mr. Zuckerberg retains a significant portion of his holdings of Class B common stock for an extended period of time, he could, in the future, continue to control a majority of the combined voting power of our Class A common stock and Class B common stock.

We have elected to take advantage of the "controlled company" exemption to the corporate governance rules for NASDAQ-listed companies, which could make our Class A common stock less attractive to some investors or otherwise harm our stock price.

Because we qualify as a "controlled company" under the corporate governance rules for NASDAQ-listed companies, we are not required to have a majority of our board of directors be independent, nor are we required to have a compensation committee or an independent nominating function. In light of our status as a controlled company, our board of directors determined not to have an independent nominating function and chose to have the full board of directors be directly responsible for nominating members of our board, and in the future we could elect not to have a majority of our board of directors be independent or not to have a compensation committee. Accordingly, should the interests of our controlling stockholder differ from those of other stockholders, the other stockholders may not have the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are subject to all of the corporate governance rules for NASDAQ-listed companies. Our status as a controlled company could make our Class A common stock less attractive to some investors or otherwise harm our stock price.

Delaware law and provisions in our restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws could make a merger, tender offer, or proxy contest difficult, thereby depressing the trading price of our Class A common stock.

Our status as a Delaware corporation and the anti-takeover provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law may discourage, delay, or prevent a change in control by prohibiting us from engaging in a business combination with an interested stockholder for a period of three years after the person becomes an interested stockholder, even if a change of control would be beneficial to our existing stockholders. In addition, our restated certificate of incorporation and



bylaws contain provisions that may make the acquisition of our company more difficult, including the following: until the first date on which the outstanding shares of our Class B common stock represent less than 35% of the combined voting power of our common stock, any transaction that would result in a change in control of our company requires the approval of a majority of our outstanding Class B common stock voting as a separate class; we have a dual class common stock structure, which provides Mr. Zuckerberg with the ability to control the outcome of matters requiring stockholder approval, even if he owns significantly less than a majority of the shares of our outstanding

Class A and Class B common stock;

when the outstanding shares of our Class B common stock represent less than a majority of the combined voting power of common stock, certain amendments to our restated certificate of incorporation or bylaws will require the approval of two-thirds of the combined vote of our then-outstanding shares of Class A and Class B common stock;

when the outstanding shares of our Class B common stock represent less than a majority of the combined voting power of our common stock, vacancies on our board of directors will be able to be filled only by our board of directors and not by stockholders;

when the outstanding shares of our Class B common stock represent less than a majority of the combined voting power of our common stock, our board of directors will be classified into three classes of directors with staggered three-year terms and directors will only be able to be removed from office for cause;

when the outstanding shares of our Class B common stock represent less than a majority of the combined voting power of our common stock, our stockholders will only be able to take action at a meeting of stockholders and not by written consent;

only our chairman, our chief executive officer, our president, or a majority of our board of directors are authorized to call a special meeting of stockholders;

- advance notice procedures apply for stockholders to nominate candidates for election as directors or to bring matters before an annual meeting of stockholders;

our restated certificate of incorporation authorizes undesignated preferred stock, the terms of which may be established, and shares of which may be issued, without stockholder approval; and

certain litigation against us can only be brought in Delaware.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 2. Properties

Our corporate headquarters are located in Menlo Park, California. As of December 31, 2015, we owned and leased approximately two million square feet for our corporate headquarters and 114 acres of land to accommodate anticipated future growth.

In addition, we leased office and data center facilities around the world totaling three million square feet. We also own data centers in various locations throughout the United States, and a data center facility in Sweden.

During 2015, we entered into an agreement to lease an entire office building in London, United Kingdom, that is currently under construction. As a result of our involvement during the construction period, we are considered for accounting purposes to be the owner of the construction project. As such, we have excluded the square footage from the total leased space and owned properties, disclosed above.

We believe that our facilities are adequate for our current needs.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

Beginning on May 22, 2012, multiple putative class actions, derivative actions, and individual actions were filed in state and federal courts in the United States and in other jurisdictions against us, our directors, and/or certain of our officers alleging violation of securities laws or breach of fiduciary duties in connection with our initial public offering (IPO) and seeking unspecified damages. We believe these lawsuits are without merit, and we intend to continue to vigorously defend them. The vast majority of the cases in the United States, along with multiple cases filed against The NASDAQ OMX Group, Inc. and The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (collectively referred to herein as NASDAQ) alleging technical and other trading-related errors by NASDAQ in connection with our IPO, were ordered centralized for coordinated or consolidated pre-trial proceedings in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. In a series of rulings in 2013 and 2014, the court denied our motion to dismiss the consolidated securities class action and granted our motions to dismiss the derivative actions against our directors and certain of our officers. On July 24, 2015, the court of appeals affirmed the dismissal of the derivative actions. On December 11, 2015, the court granted plaintiffs' motion for class certification in the consolidated securities action. In addition, the events surrounding our IPO became the subject of various state and federal government inquiries. In May 2014, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) notified us that it had terminated its inquiry and that no enforcement action had been recommended by the SEC.

In addition, we are also currently parties to multiple other lawsuits related to our products, including intellectual property lawsuits as well as class action lawsuits brought by users and marketers, and we may in the future be subject to additional lawsuits and disputes. We are also involved in other claims, government and regulatory investigations, and proceedings arising from the ordinary course of our business.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

## PART II

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

## Market Information for Common Stock

Our Class A common stock has been listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "FB" since May 18, 2012. Prior to that time, there was no public market for our stock. The following table sets forth for the indicated periods the high and low intra-day sales prices per share for our Class A common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market.

	2015		2014	
	High	Low	High	Low
First Quarter	\$86.07	\$73.45	\$72.59	\$51.85
Second Quarter	\$89.40	\$76.79	\$68.00	\$54.66
Third Quarter	\$99.24	\$72.00	\$79.71	\$62.21
Fourth Quarter	\$110.65	\$88.36	\$82.17	\$70.32

Our Class B common stock is not listed nor traded on any stock exchange.

## Holders of Record

As of December 31, 2015, there were 5,086 stockholders of record of our Class A common stock, and the closing price of our Class A common stock was \$104.66 per share as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market. Because many of our shares of Class A common stock are held by brokers and other institutions on behalf of stockholders, we are unable to estimate the total number of stockholders represented by these record holders. As of December 31, 2015, there were 46 stockholders of record of our Class B common stock.

## Dividend Policy

We have never declared or paid any cash dividend on our common stock. We intend to retain any future earnings and do not expect to pay dividends in the foreseeable future. In addition, our credit facility contains restrictions on our ability to pay dividends.

## Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers

The table below provides information with respect to repurchases of unvested shares of our Class A common stock.

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased <sup>(1)</sup>	Weighted Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
October 1 – October 31, 2015	1,132	\$1.09	—	—
November 1 – November 30, 2015	—	—	—	—
December 1 – December 31, 2015	—	—	—	—

(1) Unvested acquisition shares are subject to a right of repurchase by us in the event the recipient of such unvested acquisition shares is no longer employed by us. All shares in the above table were shares repurchased as a result of us exercising this right and not pursuant to a publicly announced plan or program.

## Recent Sale of Unregistered Securities and Use of Proceeds

## Recent Sale of Unregistered Securities

None.

#### Stock Performance Graph

This performance graph shall not be deemed "soliciting material" or to be "filed" with the SEC for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (Exchange Act), or otherwise subject to the liabilities under that Section, and shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing of Facebook, Inc. under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act.

The following graph shows a comparison from May 18, 2012 (the date our Class A common stock commenced trading on the NASDAQ Global Select Market) through December 31, 2015 of the cumulative total return for our Class A common stock, the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index (S&P 500 Index) and the Nasdaq Composite Index (NASDAQ Composite). The graph assumes that \$100 was invested at the market close on May 18, 2012 in the Class A common stock of Facebook, Inc., the S&P 500 Index and the NASDAQ Composite and data for the S&P 500 Index and the NASDAQ Composite assumes reinvestments of gross dividends. The stock price performance of the following graph is not necessarily indicative of future stock price performance.

#### Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

The information required by this item with respect to our equity compensation plans is incorporated by reference to our Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days of the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015.

## Item 6. Selected Financial Data.

You should read the following selected consolidated financial data in conjunction with Part II, Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and our consolidated financial statements and the related notes included in Part II, Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The consolidated statements of income data for each of the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013 and the consolidated balance sheets data as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements included in Part II, Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The consolidated statements of income data for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 and the consolidated balance sheets data as of December 31, 2013, 2012, and 2011 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements, except as otherwise noted, that are not included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Our historical results are not necessarily indicative of our results in any future period.

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
	(in millions, except per share data)				
<b>Consolidated Statements of Income Data:</b>					
Revenue	\$17,928	\$12,466	\$7,872	\$5,089	\$3,711
Total costs and expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	11,703	7,472	5,068	4,551	1,955
Income from operations	6,225	4,994	2,804	538	1,756
Income before provision for income taxes	6,194	4,910	2,754	494	1,695
Net income	3,688	2,940	1,500	53	1,000
Net income attributable to Class A and Class B common stockholders	3,669	2,925	1,491	32	668
<b>Earnings per share attributable to Class A and Class B common stockholders<sup>(2)</sup>:</b>					
Basic	\$1.31	\$1.12	\$0.62	\$0.02	\$0.52
Diluted	\$1.29	\$1.10	\$0.60	\$0.01	\$0.46

(1) Total costs and expenses include \$2.97 billion, \$1.84 billion, \$906 million, \$1.57 billion, and \$217 million of share-based compensation for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, and 2011, respectively.

(2) See Note 3 of the accompanying notes to our consolidated financial statements for a description of our computation of basic and diluted earnings per share attributable to Class A and Class B common stockholders.

	As of December 31,				
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
	(in millions)				
<b>Consolidated Balance Sheets Data:</b>					
Cash, cash equivalents, and marketable securities	\$18,434	\$11,199	\$11,449	\$9,626	\$3,908
Working capital <sup>(1)</sup>	19,727	11,966	11,801	9,939	3,679
Property and equipment, net	5,687	3,967	2,882	2,391	1,475
Total assets <sup>(1)</sup>	49,407	39,966	17,858	14,982	6,331
Capital lease obligations	114	233	476	856	677
Long-term debt	—	—	—	1,500	—
Total liabilities <sup>(1)</sup>	5,189	3,870	2,388	3,227	1,432
Additional paid-in capital	34,886	30,225	12,297	10,094	2,684
Total stockholders' equity	44,218	36,096	15,470	11,755	4,899

(1) In November 2015, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2015-17, Income Taxes (Topic 740):

Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes (ASU 2015-17), which simplifies the presentation of deferred income taxes by requiring deferred tax assets and liabilities be classified as noncurrent on the balance sheet. We early adopted this standard retrospectively and reclassified all of our current deferred tax assets to noncurrent

deferred tax assets on our consolidated balance sheets data for all periods presented. As a result of the reclassifications, certain noncurrent deferred tax liabilities as of December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012 were netted with noncurrent deferred tax assets.

## Free Cash Flow

In addition to other financial measures presented in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), we monitor free cash flow (FCF) as a non-GAAP measure to manage our business, make planning decisions, evaluate our performance, and allocate resources. We define FCF as net cash provided by operating activities reduced by purchases of property and equipment and property and equipment acquired under capital leases.

We believe that FCF is one of the key financial indicators of our business performance over the long term and provides useful information regarding how cash provided by operating activities compares to the property and equipment investments required to maintain and grow our business. We have chosen to subtract both purchases of property and equipment and property and equipment acquired under capital leases in our calculation of FCF because we believe that these two items collectively represent the amount of property and equipment we need to procure to support our business, regardless of whether we finance such property or equipment with a capital lease. The market for financing servers and other technical equipment is dynamic and we expect our use of capital leases could vary significantly from year to year.

We have chosen our definition for FCF because we believe that this methodology can provide useful supplemental information to help investors better understand underlying trends in our business. We use FCF in discussions with our senior management and board of directors.

FCF has limitations as an analytical tool, and you should not consider it in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of other GAAP financial measures, such as net cash provided by operating activities. Some of the limitations of FCF are:

- FCF does not reflect our future contractual commitments; and
- other companies in our industry present similarly titled measures differently than we do, limiting their usefulness as comparative measures.

Management compensates for the inherent limitations associated with using the FCF measure through disclosure of such limitations, presentation of our financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and reconciliation of FCF to the most directly comparable GAAP measure, net cash provided by operating activities, as presented below.

The following is a reconciliation of FCF to the most comparable GAAP measure, net cash provided by operating activities:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
	(in millions)				
Net cash provided by operating activities <sup>(1)</sup>	\$8,599	\$5,457	\$4,222	\$1,612	\$1,549
Purchases of property and equipment	(2,523 )	(1,831 )	(1,362 )	(1,235 )	(606 )
Property and equipment acquired under capital leases	—	—	(11 )	(340 )	(473 )
Free cash flow	\$6,076	\$3,626	\$2,849	\$37	\$470

For the year ended December 31, 2012, net cash provided by operating activities was reduced by \$451 million of income tax refundable from income tax loss carrybacks due to the recognition of tax benefits related to share-based (1) compensation from restricted stock units granted prior to January 1, 2011. We received substantially all of this refund in 2013 which increased our net cash provided by operating activities and FCF for the year ended December 31, 2013.



## Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

You should read the following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes included in Part II, Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. In addition to our historical consolidated financial information, the following discussion contains forward-looking statements that reflect our plans, estimates, and beliefs. Our actual results could differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to these differences include those discussed below and elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, particularly in Part I, Item 1A, "Risk Factors." For a discussion of limitations in the measurement of certain of our user metrics, see the section entitled "Limitations of Key Metrics and Other Data" in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Certain revenue information in the sections entitled "Executive Overview of Full Year 2015 Results" and "—Revenue—Foreign Exchange Impact on Revenue" is presented on a constant currency basis. This information is a non-GAAP financial measure. To calculate revenue on a constant currency basis, we translated revenue for the fourth quarter of and full year 2015 using 2014 monthly exchange rates for our settlement currencies other than the U.S. dollar. This non-GAAP financial measure is not intended to be considered in isolation or as a substitute for, or superior to, financial information prepared and presented in accordance with GAAP. This measure may be different from non-GAAP financial measures used by other companies, limiting its usefulness for comparison purposes. Moreover, presentation of revenue on a constant currency basis is provided for year-over-year comparison purposes, and investors should be cautioned that the effect of changing foreign currency exchange rates has an actual effect on our operating results. We believe this non-GAAP financial measure provides investors with useful supplemental information about the financial performance of our business, enable comparison of financial results between periods where certain items may vary independent of business performance, and allows for greater transparency with respect to key metrics used by management in operating our business.

### Executive Overview of Full Year 2015 Results

Our key user metrics and financial results for 2015 are as follows:

#### User growth:

• Daily active users (DAUs) were 1.04 billion on average for December 2015, an increase of 17% year-over-year.

• Mobile DAUs were 934 million on average for December 2015, an increase of 25% year-over-year.

• Monthly active users (MAUs) were 1.59 billion as of December 31, 2015, an increase of 14% year-over-year.

• Mobile MAUs were 1.44 billion as of December 31, 2015, an increase of 21% year-over-year.

#### Financial results:

• Revenue was \$17.93 billion, up 44% year-over-year (or 53% year-over-year on a constant currency basis), and ad revenue was \$17.08 billion, up 49% year-over-year (or 59% year-over-year on a constant currency basis).

• Total costs and expenses were \$11.70 billion.

• Income from operations was \$6.23 billion.

• Net income was \$3.69 billion with diluted earnings per share of \$1.29.

• Capital expenditures were \$2.52 billion.

• Effective tax rate was 40%.

• Cash and cash equivalents, and marketable securities were \$18.43 billion as of December 31, 2015.

• Headcount was 12,691 as of December 31, 2015.

In 2015, we continued to make progress on our three main revenue growth priorities: (i) continuing to capitalize on the shift to mobile, (ii) growing the number of marketers using our ad products, and (iii) making our ads more relevant and effective through continued adoption of newer ad formats and tools for marketers.

In addition, we invested, and will continue to invest, across three priorities: (i) our core products and services to better serve our existing communities and businesses, (ii) our next generation of services, such as Instagram, Messenger and WhatsApp, and (iii) our long-term innovation efforts, such as connectivity efforts, virtual reality, and artificial intelligence research. We expect these investments will continue to drive significant overall year-over-year expense growth compared to 2015.



### Trends in Our User Metrics

The numbers for our key metrics, our daily active users (DAUs), mobile DAUs, MAUs, mobile MAUs, and average revenue per user (ARPU), and certain other metrics such as mobile-only DAUs and mobile-only MAUs, do not include Instagram or WhatsApp users unless they would otherwise qualify as such users, respectively, based on their other activities on Facebook. In addition, other user engagement metrics do not include Instagram or WhatsApp unless otherwise specifically stated.

Trends in the number of users affect our revenue and financial results by influencing the number of ads we are able to show, the value of our ads to marketers, the volume of Payments transactions, as well as our expenses and capital expenditures.

**Daily Active Users (DAUs).** We define a daily active user as a registered Facebook user who logged in and visited Facebook through our website or a mobile device, or used our Messenger application (and is also a registered Facebook user), on a given day. We view DAUs, and DAUs as a percentage of MAUs, as measures of user engagement.

Note: For purposes of reporting DAUs, MAUs, and ARPU by geographic region, Europe includes all users in Russia and Turkey and Rest of World includes all users in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.

Worldwide DAUs increased 17% to 1.04 billion on average during December 2015 from 890 million during December 2014. We experienced growth in DAUs across major markets, including India, the United States, and Brazil. Overall growth in DAUs was driven by increased mobile usage of Facebook, and the number of DAUs accessing Facebook on personal computers decreased in December 2015, compared to the same period in 2014. We believe that use of Facebook through personal computers will continue to decline in all regions.

**Mobile DAUs.** We define a mobile DAU as a user who accessed Facebook via a mobile application or via mobile versions of our website such as m.facebook.com, whether on a mobile phone or tablet, or used our Messenger application (and is also a registered Facebook user) on a given day. We define a mobile-only DAU as a user who accessed Facebook solely through mobile applications or mobile versions of our website on a given day, whereas a mobile DAU may have also accessed Facebook on a personal computer on that day.

Worldwide mobile DAUs increased 25% to 934 million on average during December 2015 from 745 million during December 2014. In all regions, an increasing number of our DAUs accessed Facebook through mobile devices on average during December 2015, as compared to the same period during 2014, with users in India, Brazil, and the United States representing key sources of mobile DAU growth on average during December 2015. On average during December 2015, there were 789 million mobile-only DAUs, increasing 34% from 589 million mobile-only DAUs during the same period in 2014. The remaining mobile DAUs accessed Facebook from both mobile devices and personal computers. We anticipate that growth in mobile users will continue to be the driver of our user growth for the foreseeable future.

Monthly Active Users (MAUs). We define a monthly active user as a registered Facebook user who logged in and visited Facebook through our website or a mobile device, or used our Messenger application (and is also a registered Facebook user), in the last 30 days as of the date of measurement. MAUs are a measure of the size of our global active user community.

As of December 31, 2015, we had 1.59 billion MAUs, an increase of 14% from December 31, 2014. Users in India, the United States, and Brazil represented key sources of growth in 2015. Overall growth in MAUs was driven by increased mobile usage of Facebook, and the number of MAUs accessing Facebook on personal computers decreased in December 2015, compared to the same period in 2014. We believe that use of Facebook through personal computers will continue to decline in all regions.

Mobile MAUs. We define a mobile MAU as a user who accessed Facebook via a mobile application or via mobile versions of our website such as m.facebook.com, whether on a mobile phone or tablet, or used our Messenger application (and is also a registered Facebook user) during the period of measurement. We define a mobile-only MAU as a user who accessed Facebook solely through mobile applications or mobile versions of our website during the period of measurement, whereas a mobile MAU may have also accessed Facebook on a personal computer during the period of measurement.

Worldwide mobile MAUs increased 21% to 1.44 billion as of December 31, 2015 from 1.19 billion as of December 31, 2014. In all regions, an increasing number of our MAUs accessed Facebook through mobile devices in 2015, as compared to the same period in 2014, with users in India, Brazil, and the United States representing key sources of mobile MAU growth in 2015. There were 823 million mobile-only MAUs as of December 31, 2015, increasing 56% from 526 million mobile-only MAUs during the same period in 2014. The remaining 619 million mobile MAUs accessed Facebook from both mobile devices and personal computers during December 2015. We anticipate that growth in mobile users will continue to be the driver of our user growth for the foreseeable future.

#### Trends in Our Monetization by User Geography

We calculate our revenue by user geography based on our estimate of the geography in which ad impressions are delivered or virtual and digital goods are purchased. We define ARPU as our total revenue in a given geography during a given quarter, divided by the average of the number of MAUs in the geography at the beginning and end of the quarter. While ARPU includes all sources of revenue, the number of MAUs used in this calculation only includes users of Facebook and Messenger as described in the definition of MAU above. The geography of our users affects our revenue and financial results because we currently monetize users in different geographies at different average rates. Our revenue and ARPU in regions such as United States & Canada and Europe are relatively higher primarily due to the size and maturity of those online and mobile advertising markets. For example, ARPU in 2015 in the United States & Canada region was more than seven times higher than in the Asia-Pacific region.

Note: Our revenue by user geography in the charts above is geographically apportioned based on our estimation of the geographic location of our users when they perform a revenue-generating activity. This allocation differs from our revenue by geography disclosure in our consolidated financial statements where revenue is geographically apportioned based on the location of the marketer or developer.

For 2015, worldwide ARPU was \$11.96, an increase of 27% from 2014. Over this period, ARPU increased by 45% in United States & Canada, 23% in Europe, 22% in Asia-Pacific, and 15% in Rest of World. The general strengthening of the U.S. dollar relative to certain foreign currencies from 2014 to 2015 had an unfavorable impact on the growth rate of our ARPU outside the United States and Canada region. In addition, user growth was more rapid in geographies with relatively lower ARPU, such as Asia-Pacific and Rest of World. We expect that user growth in the future will be primarily concentrated in those regions where ARPU is relatively lower, such as Asia-Pacific and Rest of World, such that worldwide ARPU may continue to increase at a slower rate relative to ARPU in any geographic region, or potentially decrease even if ARPU increases in each geographic region.

#### Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The preparation of these consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue, costs and expenses, and related disclosures. We evaluate our estimates and assumptions on an ongoing basis. Our estimates are based on historical experience and various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Our actual results could differ from these estimates.

An accounting policy is deemed to be critical if it requires an accounting estimate to be made based on assumptions about matters that are highly uncertain at the time the estimate is made, if different estimates reasonably could have been used, or if changes in the estimate that are reasonably possible could materially impact the financial statements. We believe that the assumptions and estimates associated with revenue recognition for payments and other fees, income taxes, share-based compensation, loss contingencies, and business combinations and valuation of goodwill and other acquired intangible assets have the greatest potential impact on our consolidated financial statements.

Therefore, we consider these to be our critical accounting policies and estimates. For further information on all of our significant accounting policies, see Note 1 of our accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### Revenue Recognition for Payments and Other Fees

We enable Payments from people to purchase virtual and digital goods from developers. People can make payments on Facebook by using debit and credit cards, PayPal, mobile phone payments, gift cards, or other methods. We receive a fee from developers when a person engages in a payment transaction for the purchase of a virtual or digital good on the Facebook website. The price of the virtual or digital good is a price that is solely determined by the developer. We remit to the developer an amount that is based on the total amount of transaction less the processing fee that we charge the developer for the service performed. Our revenue is the net amount of the transaction representing our processing fee for the transaction. We record revenue on a net basis as we do not consider ourselves to be the principal in the sale of the virtual or digital good to the person. Under GAAP guidance related to reporting revenue gross as a principal versus net as an agent, the indicators used to determine whether an entity is a principal or an agent to a transaction are subject to judgment. We consider ourselves the agent to these transactions when we apply the indicators to our facts. Should material subsequent changes in the substance or nature of the transactions with developers result in us being considered the principal in such sales, we would reflect the virtual and digital goods sale as revenue and the amounts paid to the developers as an associated cost.

#### Income Taxes

We are subject to income taxes in the United States and numerous foreign jurisdictions. Significant judgment is required in determining our provision for income taxes and income tax assets and liabilities, including evaluating uncertainties in the application of accounting principles and complex tax laws.

We record a provision for income taxes for the anticipated tax consequences of the reported results of operations using the asset and liability method. Under this method, we recognize deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences between the financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities, as well as for operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using the tax rates that are expected to apply to taxable income for the years in which those tax assets and liabilities are expected to be realized or settled. We record a valuation allowance to reduce our deferred tax assets to the net amount that we believe is more likely than not to be realized.



We recognize tax benefits from uncertain tax positions only if we believe that it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on examination by the taxing authorities based on the technical merits of the position. Although we believe that we have adequately reserved for our uncertain tax positions, we can provide no assurance that the final tax outcome of these matters will not be materially different. We make adjustments to these reserves when facts and circumstances change, such as the closing of a tax audit or the refinement of an estimate. To the extent that the final tax outcome of these matters is different than the amounts recorded, such differences will affect the provision for income taxes in the period in which such determination is made and could have a material impact on our financial condition and operating results. The provision for income taxes includes the effects of any reserves that we believe are appropriate, as well as the related net interest and penalties.

### Share-based Compensation

We account for share-based employee compensation plans under the fair value recognition and measurement provisions in accordance with applicable accounting standards, which require all share-based payments to employees, including grants of stock options and restricted stock units (RSUs), to be measured based on the grant date fair value of the awards, with the resulting expense generally recognized on a straight-line basis over the period during which the employee is required to perform service in exchange for the award.

Share-based compensation expense is recorded net of estimated forfeitures in our consolidated statements of income and as such is recorded for only those share-based awards that we expect to vest. We estimate the forfeiture rate based on historical forfeitures of equity awards and adjust the rate to reflect changes in facts and circumstances, if any. We will revise our estimated forfeiture rate if actual forfeitures differ from our initial estimates.

We have historically issued unvested restricted shares to employee stockholders of certain acquired companies. As these awards are generally subject to continued post-acquisition employment, we have accounted for them as post-acquisition share-based compensation expense. We recognize compensation expense equal to the grant date fair value of the common stock on a straight-line basis over the period during which the employee is required to perform service in exchange for the award.

### Loss Contingencies

We are involved in various lawsuits, claims, investigations, and proceedings that arise in the ordinary course of business. Certain of these matters include speculative claims for substantial or indeterminate amounts of damages. We record a liability when we believe that it is both probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Significant judgment is required to determine both probability and the estimated amount. We review these provisions at least quarterly and adjust these provisions accordingly to reflect the impact of negotiations, settlements, rulings, advice of legal counsel, and updated information.

We believe that the amount or estimable range of reasonably possible loss, will not, either individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on our business, consolidated financial position, results of operations, or cash flows with respect to loss contingencies for legal and other contingencies as of December 31, 2015. However, the outcome of litigation is inherently uncertain. Therefore, if one or more of these legal matters were resolved against us for amounts in excess of management's expectations, our results of operations and financial condition, including in a particular reporting period, could be materially adversely affected.

### Business Combinations and Valuation of Goodwill and Other Acquired Intangible Assets

We allocate the fair value of purchase consideration to the tangible assets acquired, liabilities assumed, and intangible assets acquired based on their estimated fair values. The excess of the fair value of purchase consideration over the fair values of these identifiable assets and liabilities is recorded as goodwill. Such valuations require management to make significant estimates and assumptions, especially with respect to intangible assets. Significant estimates in valuing certain intangible assets include, but are not limited to, future expected cash flows from acquired users, acquired technology, and trade names from a market participant perspective, useful lives, and discount rates.

Management's estimates of fair value are based upon assumptions believed to be reasonable, but which are inherently uncertain and unpredictable and, as a result, actual results may differ from estimates. During the measurement period, which is one year from the acquisition date, we may record adjustments to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed, with the corresponding offset to goodwill. Upon the conclusion of the measurement period, any subsequent adjustments are recorded to earnings.

We review goodwill for impairment at least annually or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances would more likely than not reduce the fair value of our single reporting unit below its carrying value. We evaluate indefinite-lived intangible assets for impairment annually or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that it is more likely than not that the asset is impaired. As of December 31, 2015, no impairment of goodwill or indefinite-lived intangible assets has been identified.

Acquired finite-lived intangible assets are amortized over their estimated useful lives. We evaluate the recoverability of our intangible assets for possible impairment whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of such assets may not be recoverable. The evaluation is performed at the lowest level for which identifiable cash flows are largely independent of the cash flows of other assets and liabilities. Recoverability of these assets is

measured by a comparison of the carrying amounts to the future undiscounted cash flows the assets are expected to generate. If such review indicates that the carrying amount of property and equipment and intangible assets is not recoverable, the carrying amount of such assets is reduced to fair value. We have not recorded any significant impairment charges during the years presented.

In addition to the recoverability assessment, we routinely review the remaining estimated useful lives of our finite-lived intangible assets. If we reduce the estimated useful life assumption for any asset, the remaining unamortized balance would be amortized over the revised estimated useful life.

## Components of Results of Operations

### Revenue

**Advertising.** We generate substantially all of our revenue from advertising. Our advertising revenue is generated by displaying ad products on Facebook properties, including our mobile applications, and third-party affiliated websites or mobile applications. Marketers pay for ad products either directly or through their relationships with advertising agencies, based on the number of clicks made by people, the number of actions taken by people, or the number of impressions delivered. We recognize revenue from the delivery of click-based ads in the period in which a person clicks on the content, and action-based ads in the period in which a person takes the action the marketer contracted for. We recognize revenue from the display of impression-based ads in the contracted period in which the impressions are delivered. Impressions are considered delivered when an ad is displayed to people. The number of ads we show is subject to methodological changes as we continue to evolve our ads business and the structure of our ads products. We calculate price per ad as total ad revenue divided by the number of ads delivered, representing the effective price paid per impression by a marketer regardless of their desired objective such as impression, click, or action. For advertising revenue arrangements where we are not the primary obligor, we recognize revenue on a net basis.

**Payments and other fees.** We enable Payments from people to purchase virtual and digital goods from our developers. People can transact and make payments on the Facebook website by using debit and credit cards, PayPal, mobile phone payments, gift cards, or other methods. We receive a fee from developers when people make purchases in these applications using our Payments infrastructure. We recognize revenue net of amounts remitted to our developers. We have mandated the use of our Payments infrastructure for game applications on Facebook, and fees related to Payments are generated almost exclusively from games. Our other fees revenue, which has not been significant in recent periods, consists primarily of revenue from our ad serving and measurement products and the delivery of virtual reality platform devices.

### Cost of Revenue and Operating Expenses

**Cost of revenue.** Our cost of revenue consists primarily of expenses associated with the delivery and distribution of our products. These include expenses related to the operation of our data centers, such as facility and server equipment depreciation, energy and bandwidth costs, and salaries, benefits, and share-based compensation for employees on our operations teams. Cost of revenue also includes credit card and other transaction fees related to processing customer transactions, amortization of intangible assets, costs associated with data partner arrangements, and cost of virtual reality platform device inventory sold.

**Research and development.** Research and development expenses consist primarily of share-based compensation, salaries, and benefits for employees on our engineering and technical teams who are responsible for building new products as well as improving existing products. We expense all of our research and development costs as they are incurred.

**Marketing and sales.** Our marketing and sales expenses consist of salaries, benefits, and share-based compensation for our employees engaged in sales, sales support, marketing, business development, and customer service functions. Our marketing and sales expenses also include marketing and promotional expenditures, as well as amortization of intangible assets.

**General and administrative.** Our general and administrative expenses consist primarily of salaries, benefits, and share-based compensation for certain of our executives as well as our legal, finance, human resources, corporate communications and policy, and other administrative employees. In addition, general and administrative expenses include professional and legal services. General and administrative expenses also include depreciation of property and equipment and amortization of intangible assets we have acquired.

## Results of Operations

The following tables set forth our consolidated statements of income data:

Consolidated Statements of Income Data:	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(in millions)		
Revenue	\$ 17,928	\$ 12,466	\$ 7,872
Costs and expenses:			
Cost of revenue	2,867	2,153	1,875
Research and development	4,816	2,666	1,415
Marketing and sales	2,725	1,680	997
General and administrative	1,295	973	781
Total costs and expenses	11,703	7,472	5,068
Income from operations	6,225	4,994	2,804
Interest and other income/(expense), net	(31)	(84)	(50)
Income before provision for income taxes	6,194	4,910	2,754
Provision for income taxes	2,506	1,970	1,254
Net income	\$ 3,688	\$ 2,940	\$ 1,500
Share-based compensation expense included in costs and expenses:			

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(in millions)		
Cost of revenue	\$ 81	\$ 62	\$ 42
Research and development	2,350	1,328	604
Marketing and sales	320	249	133
General and administrative	218	198	127
Total share-based compensation expense	\$ 2,969	\$ 1,837	\$ 906

The following tables set forth our consolidated statements of income data (as a percentage of revenue):

Consolidated Statements of Income Data:	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
Revenue	100	% 100	% 100
Costs and expenses:			
Cost of revenue	16	17	24
Research and development	27	21	18
Marketing and sales	15	13	13
General and administrative	7	8	10
Total costs and expenses	65	60	64
Income from operations	35	40	36
Interest and other income/(expense), net	—	(1)	(1)
Income before provision for income taxes	35	39	35
Provision for income taxes	14	16	16
Net income	21	% 24	% 19

Share-based compensation expense included in costs and expenses (as a percentage of revenue):

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2015	2014	2013		
Cost of revenue	—	% —	% 1		%
Research and development	13	11	8		
Marketing and sales	2	2	2		
General and administrative	1	2	2		
Total share-based compensation expense	17	% 15	% 12		%

#### Revenue

	Year Ended December 31,			2015 vs 2014	2014 vs 2013	
	2015	2014	2013	% Change	% Change	
	(in millions)					
Advertising	\$17,079	\$11,492	\$6,986	49	% 65	%
Payments and other fees	849	974	886	(13	)% 10	%
Total revenue	\$17,928	\$12,466	\$7,872	44	% 58	%

2015 Compared to 2014. Revenue in 2015 increased \$5.46 billion, or 44% compared to 2014. The increase was primarily due to an increase in advertising revenue.

The most important factor driving advertising revenue growth was an increase in revenue from ads in News Feed on mobile devices. In 2015, we estimate that mobile advertising revenue represented approximately 77% of total advertising revenue, as compared with approximately 65% in 2014. Factors that influenced our mobile advertising revenue growth in 2015 included (i) an increase in demand for our ad inventory, in part driven by an increase in the number of marketers actively advertising on Facebook, (ii) an increase in mobile user growth and engagement, and (iii) an increase in the number and frequency of ads displayed in News Feed, as well as the quality, relevance, and performance of those ads.

In 2015 compared to 2014, the average price per ad increased by 140% and the number of ads delivered decreased by 38%. The increase in average price per ad was driven by a product change related to certain non-News Feed ads during the third quarter of 2014, which decreased the number of ads displayed but increased the prominence of each ad. Average price per ad was also driven by a mix shift towards a greater percentage of our ads being shown in News Feed. The reduction in ads delivered was driven by factors including the product change described above as well as the shift in usage towards mobile devices where people are shown fewer ads as compared to personal computers.

Advertising revenue in the fourth quarter of 2015 increased 57% compared to the same period in 2014. The increase in advertising revenue in the fourth quarter of 2015 was driven by the same factors that drove 2015 annual advertising revenue growth, primarily an increase in revenue from ads in News Feed on mobile devices. For the fourth quarter of 2015, we estimate that mobile advertising revenue represented approximately 80% of total advertising revenue, as compared with 69% in the same period in 2014.

Advertising spending is traditionally seasonally strong in the fourth quarter of each year. We believe that this seasonality in advertising spending affects our quarterly results, which generally reflect significant growth in advertising revenue between the third and fourth quarters and a decline in advertising spending between the fourth and subsequent first quarters. For instance, our advertising revenue increased 31%, 22%, and 30% between the third and fourth quarters of 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively, while advertising revenue for the first quarters of 2015 and 2014 declined 8% and 3% compared to the fourth quarters of 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Payments and other fees revenue in 2015 decreased \$125 million, or 13%, compared to 2014. The decrease in Payments and other fees revenue was a result of decreased Payments revenue from games played on personal computers, partially offset by an increase in other fees revenue related to acquisitions closed in the second half of 2014.

Payments and other fees revenue in the fourth quarter of 2015 decreased \$53 million, or 21%, compared to the same period in 2014.

Payments and other fees revenue is currently based predominantly on Payments revenue from games played on personal computers. As users shift their usage to mobile devices, Facebook usage on personal computers has been declining and will continue to decline in the future, resulting in a decline in our Payments revenue.

2014 Compared to 2013. Revenue in 2014 increased \$4.59 billion, or 58% compared to 2013. The increase was due primarily to a 65% increase in advertising revenue during 2014 as compared to 2013.

The most important factor driving advertising revenue growth was an increase in revenue from ads in News Feed on both mobile devices and personal computers. News Feed ads are displayed more prominently, have significantly higher levels of engagement and a higher price per ad relative to our other ad placements. In 2014, we estimate that mobile advertising revenue represented approximately 65% of total advertising revenue, as compared with 45% in 2013. Other factors that influenced our advertising revenue growth in 2014 included (i) an increase in the number of marketers actively advertising on Facebook, which we believe increased demand for our ad inventory, (ii) other product changes to increase the value and performance of our ads, and (iii) an increase in user growth and engagement.

In 2014 compared to 2013, the average price per ad increased by 173% and the number of ads delivered decreased by 40%. The increase in average price per ad was driven by a product change related to certain non-News Feed ads during the third quarter of 2014, which decreased the number of ads displayed but increased the prominence of each ad. Average price per ad was also driven by a mix shift towards a greater percentage of our ads being shown in News Feed. The reduction in ads delivered was driven by factors including the product change described above as well as the shift in usage towards mobile devices where people are shown fewer ads as compared to personal computers.

Payments and other fees revenue in 2014 increased \$88 million, or 10%, compared to 2013. The increase in Payments and other fees revenue is a result of increased revenue from our ad serving and measurement products and the delivery of virtual reality platform devices.

No customer represented 10% or more of total revenue during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013.

#### Foreign Exchange Impact on Revenue

The general strengthening of the U.S. dollar relative to certain foreign currencies (primarily the Euro) from the fourth quarter of and full year 2014 to the same periods in 2015 had an unfavorable impact on our revenue. If we had translated revenue for the fourth quarter of and full year 2015 using 2014 monthly exchange rates for our settlement currencies other than the U.S. dollar, our total revenue would have been \$6.16 billion and \$19.11 billion, respectively, and our advertising revenue would have been \$5.96 billion and \$18.26 billion, respectively. Using these constant rates, both revenue and advertising revenue would have been \$322 million and \$1.19 billion higher than actual revenue and advertising revenue for the fourth quarter of and full year 2015, respectively.

There were no material foreign exchange impacts on our revenue and advertising revenue from the full year 2013 to the same period in 2014.

#### Cost of revenue

	Year Ended December 31,			2015 vs 2014 % Change	2014 vs 2013 % Change
	2015	2014	2013		
	(dollars in millions)				
Cost of revenue	\$2,867	\$2,153	\$1,875	33	% 15
Percentage of revenue	16	% 17	% 24	%	

2015 Compared to 2014. Cost of revenue in 2015 increased \$714 million, or 33%, compared to 2014. The increase was primarily due to an increase in operational expenses related to our data centers and technical infrastructure of \$480 million, compared to 2014. Amortization of our intangible assets in 2015 also increased \$100 million compared to 2014, mostly due to the full year impact of acquisitions completed in the second half of 2014.

2014 Compared to 2013. Cost of revenue in 2014 increased \$278 million, or 15%, compared to 2013. The increase was primarily due to operational expenses related to our data center and technical infrastructure and increased



amortization of our intangible assets. These increases were partially offset by items related to data center lease abandonment: we reversed \$34 million of lease abandonment expense in 2014 due to our decision to re-occupy and utilize a previously exited data center, compared to a recognition of \$117 million of lease abandonment expense in 2013.

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In 2016, we anticipate that the cost of revenue will increase as we expand our data center capacity and technical infrastructure to support user growth, increased user engagement, and the delivery of new products and services.

Research and development

	Year Ended December 31,			2015 vs 2014 % Change	2014 vs 2013 % Change	
	2015	2014	2013			
	(dollars in millions)					
Research and development	\$4,816	\$2,666	\$1,415	81	% 88	%
Percentage of revenue	27	% 21	% 18	%		

2015 Compared to 2014. Research and development expenses in 2015 increased \$2.15 billion, or 81%, compared to 2014. The majority of the increase was due to an increase in share-based compensation expense of \$1.02 billion compared to 2014, which reflected the full year impact of share-based compensation related to the acquisitions completed in the second half of 2014. In addition, other payroll and benefits expense increased as a result of a 43% growth in employee headcount from December 31, 2014 to December 31, 2015 in engineering and other technical functions.

2014 Compared to 2013. Research and development expenses in 2014 increased \$1.25 billion, or 88%, compared to 2013. The increase was primarily due to an increase of \$724 million in share-based compensation expense compared to 2013, and an increase in other payroll and benefits expense resulting from a 48% growth in employee headcount from December 31, 2013 to December 31, 2014 in engineering and other technical functions. Share-based compensation expense also increased due to the acquisitions we completed in 2014.

In 2016, we plan to continue hiring software engineers and other technical employees and increasing our investment to support our research and development initiatives.

Marketing and sales

	Year Ended December 31,			2015 vs 2014 % Change	2014 vs 2013 % Change	
	2015	2014	2013			
	(dollars in millions)					
Marketing and sales	\$2,725	\$1,680	\$997	62	% 69	%
Percentage of revenue	15	% 13	% 13	%		

2015 Compared to 2014. Marketing and sales expenses in 2015 increased \$1.05 billion, or 62%, compared to 2014. The majority of the increase was due to increases in amortization of our intangible assets of \$305 million due to the full year impact of acquisitions completed in the second half of 2014, and in payroll and benefits expenses as a result of a 32% increase in employee headcount from December 31, 2014 to December 31, 2015 in our marketing and sales functions. Additionally, our marketing expenses increased \$258 million in 2015, compared to 2014.

2014 Compared to 2013. Marketing and sales expenses in 2014 increased \$683 million, or 69%, compared to 2013. The increase was primarily due to an increase in payroll and benefits expenses resulting from a 44% increase in employee headcount from December 31, 2013 to December 31, 2014 in our marketing and sales functions. Our marketing expenses also increased \$150 million in 2014, compared to 2013. Additionally, share-based compensation expense also increased \$116 million compared to 2013.

In 2016, we plan to continue to increase our investment and hire marketing and sales employees to support our marketing efforts.

General and administrative

	Year Ended December 31,			2015 vs 2014 % Change	2014 vs 2013 % Change	
	2015	2014	2013			
	(dollars in millions)					

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General and administrative	\$1,295	\$973	\$781	33	% 25	%
Percentage of revenue	7	% 8	% 10	%		

2015 Compared to 2014. General and administrative expenses in 2015 increased \$322 million, or 33%, compared to 2014. The increase was primarily due to an increase in payroll and benefits expenses as a result of a 36% increase in employee headcount from December 31, 2014 to December 31, 2015 in general and administrative functions, including an increase of \$20 million in share-based compensation expense in 2015, and to a lesser extent, higher legal and other professional services fees.

2014 Compared to 2013. General and administrative expenses in 2014 increased \$192 million, or 25%, compared to 2013. The increase was primarily due to an increase in payroll and benefits expenses resulting from a 55% increase in employee headcount in general and administrative functions. Share-based compensation expense also increased \$71 million compared to 2013. Additionally, professional services expense in 2014 also increased \$58 million primarily due to higher consulting and other professional service fees.

In 2016, we plan to increase general and administrative employee headcount to support overall company growth.

Interest and other income/(expense), net

	Year Ended December 31,			2015 vs 2014 % Change	2014 vs 2013 % Change	
	2015	2014	2013			
	(in millions)					
Interest income/(expense), net	\$29	\$4	\$(37)	625	% 111	%
Other income/(expense), net	(60)	(88)	(13)	32	% (577)	%
Interest and other income/(expense), net	\$(31)	\$(84)	\$(50)	63	% (68)	%

2015 Compared to 2014. Interest and other income/(expense), net in 2015 increased \$53 million, or 63%, compared to 2014. Other income/(expense), net increased primarily due to a decrease in foreign exchange losses resulting from the periodic re-measurement of our foreign currency balances. In addition, interest income/(expense), net increased due to higher invested cash balances and interest rates.

2014 Compared to 2013. Interest and other income/(expense), net in 2014 decreased \$34 million, or 68%, compared to 2013. Other income/(expense), net decreased primarily due to \$87 million in foreign exchange losses resulting from the periodic re-measurement of our foreign currency balances. The decrease in other income/(expense), net was partially offset by a decrease in interest expense due to the repayment of our long-term debt in August 2013 and lower capital lease payments.

Provision for income taxes

	Year Ended December 31,			2015 vs 2014 % Change	2014 vs 2013 % Change	
	2015	2014	2013			
	(dollars in millions)					
Provision for income taxes	\$2,506	\$1,970	\$1,254	27	% 57	%
Effective tax rate	40	% 40	% 46	%		

2015 Compared to 2014. Our provision for income taxes in 2015 increased \$536 million, or 27%, compared to 2014, primarily due to an increase in income before provision for income taxes. Our effective tax rate in 2015 remained flat, compared to 2014.

Our effective tax rate differs from the U.S. statutory rate primarily because of the impact of acquiring intellectual property and integrating it into our business, non-deductible share-based compensation, operations in jurisdictions with tax rates lower than the U.S., and tax research credits. Our effective tax rate in the future will depend on the portion of our profits earned within and outside the United States, which will also be affected by our methodologies for valuing our intellectual property and intercompany transactions. Our future effective tax rate will also be affected by the timing, size, and integration of any acquisitions we make.

On July 27, 2015, the United States Tax Court issued an opinion in *Altera Corp. v. Commissioner* related to the treatment of share-based compensation expense in an intercompany cost-sharing arrangement. This

opinion concluded that related parties in a cost-sharing arrangement are not required to share share-based compensation. A final decision was issued by the Tax Court, however, this decision may be appealed by the Commissioner. The impact of the conclusions stated by the Tax Court in its opinion was not material to our consolidated financial statements.

2014 Compared to 2013. Our provision for income taxes in 2014 increased \$716 million, or 57%, compared to 2013, primarily due to an increase in income before provision for income taxes. Our effective tax rate differs from the statutory rate due to non-deductible share-based compensation, operations in jurisdictions with tax rates lower than the U.S., and tax research credits. Our effective tax rate decreased primarily due to a change in our geographic mix of pre-tax income.

## Quarterly Results of Operations Data

The following tables set forth our unaudited quarterly consolidated statements of income data in dollars and as a percentage of total revenue for each of the eight quarters in the period ended December 31, 2015. We have prepared the quarterly consolidated statements of income data on a basis consistent with the audited consolidated financial statements included in Part II, Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. In the opinion of management, the financial information reflects all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, which we consider necessary for a fair presentation of this data. This information should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and related notes included in Part II, Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The results of historical periods are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations for any future period.

	Three Months Ended							
	Dec 31, 2015	Sep 30, 2015	Jun 30, 2015	Mar 31, 2015	Dec 31, 2014	Sep 30, 2014	Jun 30, 2014	Mar 31, 2014
	(in millions)							
<b>Consolidated Statements of Income Data:</b>								
<b>Revenue:</b>								
Advertising	\$5,637	\$4,299	\$3,827	\$3,317	\$3,594	\$2,957	\$2,676	\$2,265
Payments and other fees	204	202	215	226	257	246	234	237
Total revenue	5,841	4,501	4,042	3,543	3,851	3,203	2,910	2,502
<b>Costs and expenses:</b>								
Cost of revenue	824	720	668	654	653	565	473	462
Research and development	1,314	1,271	1,170	1,062	1,111	608	492	455
Marketing and sales	772	706	626	620	624	374	358	323
General and administrative	371	345	305	274	330	259	197	187
Total costs and expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	3,281	3,042	2,769	2,610	2,718	1,806	1,520	1,427
Income from operations	2,560	1,459	1,273	933	1,133	1,397	1,390	1,075
Interest and other income/(expense), net	(3)	(27)	—	(1)	(19)	(61)	(4)	—
Income before provision for income taxes	2,557	1,432	1,273	932	1,114	1,336	1,386	1,075
Provision for income taxes	995	536	554	420	413	530	595	433
Net income	\$1,562	\$896	\$719	\$512	\$701	\$806	\$791	\$642
Less: Net income attributable to participating securities	7	5	4	3	5	4	3	3
Net income attributable to Class A and Class B common stockholders	\$1,555	\$891	\$715	\$509	\$696	\$802	\$788	\$639
<b>Earnings per share attributable to Class A and Class B common stockholders:</b>								
Basic	\$0.55	\$0.32	\$0.26	\$0.18	\$0.25	\$0.31	\$0.31	\$0.25
Diluted	\$0.54	\$0.31	\$0.25	\$0.18	\$0.25	\$0.30	\$0.30	\$0.25

Share-based compensation expense included in costs and expenses:

	Three Months Ended							
	Dec 31, 2015	Sep 30, 2015	Jun 30, 2015	Mar 31, 2015	Dec 31, 2014	Sep 30, 2014	Jun 30, 2014	Mar 31, 2014
	(in millions)							
Cost of revenue	\$22	\$21	\$21	\$17	\$18	\$16	\$16	\$12
Research and development	583	598	603	566	685	243	219	181
Marketing and sales	84	82	82	72	103	53	50	43
General and administrative	57	56	57	48	90	41	29	38
Total share-based compensation expense	\$746	\$757	\$763	\$703	\$896	\$353	\$314	\$274

(1) Total costs and expenses increased in the fourth quarter of 2014 compared to the third quarter of 2014, primarily due to increases in share-based compensation expense and amortization of intangible assets related to our acquisitions.

	Three Months Ended							
	Dec 31, 2015	Sep 30, 2015	Jun 30, 2015	Mar 31, 2015	Dec 31, 2014	Sep 30, 2014	Jun 30, 2014	Mar 31, 2014
	(as a percentage of total revenue)							

Consolidated Statements of  
Income Data:

Revenue:

Advertising	97	% 96	% 95	% 94	% 93	% 92	% 92	% 91	%
Payments and other fees	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	
Total revenue	100	% 100	% 100	% 100	% 100	% 100	% 100	% 100	%
Costs and expenses:									
Cost of revenue	14	16	17	18	17	18	16	18	
Research and development	22	28	29	30	29	19	17	18	
Marketing and sales	13	16	15	17	16	12	12	13	
General and administrative	6	8	8	8	9	8	7	7	
Total costs and expenses	56	68	69	74	71	56	52	57	
Income from operations	44	32	31	26	29	44	48	43	
Interest and other income/(expense), net	—	(1 )	—	—	—	(2 )	—	—	
Income before provision for income taxes	44	32	31	26	29	42	48	43	
Provision for income taxes	17	12	14	12	11	17	20	17	
Net income	27	% 20	% 18	% 14	% 18	% 25	% 27	% 26	%
Less: Net income attributable to participating securities	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Net income attributable to Class A and Class B common stockholders	27	% 20	% 18	% 14	% 18	% 25	% 27	% 26	%



Share-based compensation expense included in costs and expenses:

	Three Months Ended							
	Dec 31, 2015	Sep 30, 2015	Jun 30, 2015	Mar 31, 2015	Dec 31, 2014	Sep 30, 2014	Jun 30, 2014	Mar 31, 2014
	(as a percentage of total revenue)							
Cost of revenue	—	% —	% 1	% —	% —	% 1	% —	%
Research and development	10	13	15	16	18	8	8	7
Marketing and sales	1	2	2	2	3	2	2	2
General and administrative	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2
Total share-based compensation expense	13	% 17	% 19	% 20	% 23	% 11	% 11	% 11

#### Liquidity and Capital Resources

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(in millions)		
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows Data:			
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$8,599	\$5,457	\$4,222
Net cash used in investing activities	(9,434)	) (5,913)	) (2,624)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	1,582	1,571	(667)
Purchases of property and equipment	(2,523)	) (1,831)	) (1,362)
Depreciation and amortization	1,945	1,243	1,011
Share-based compensation	2,960	1,786	906

Our principal sources of liquidity are our cash and cash equivalents, marketable securities, and cash generated from operations. Cash and cash equivalents, and marketable securities consist primarily of cash on deposit with banks, investments in money market funds, and investments in U.S. government securities, U.S. government agency securities, and corporate debt securities. Cash and cash equivalents, and marketable securities were \$18.43 billion as of December 31, 2015, an increase of \$7.24 billion from December 31, 2014, primarily due to \$8.60 billion of cash generated from operations and \$1.72 billion in excess tax benefits from share-based award activity, partially offset by \$2.52 billion for purchases of property and equipment and \$313 million for acquisitions of businesses and other assets. Cash paid for income taxes (net of refunds) was \$270 million for the year ended December 31, 2015. As of December 31, 2015, our federal net operating loss carryforward was \$2.70 billion, although we anticipate only a relatively small portion of this will be available to offset our federal taxable income in 2016. As of December 31, 2015, we had \$1.08 billion of federal tax credits, substantially all of which will be available to offset our federal tax liabilities in 2016. We expect that the amount of cash paid for income taxes to significantly increase in 2016.

In August 2013, we entered into a five-year senior unsecured revolving credit facility (2013 Revolving Credit Facility) that allows us to borrow up to \$6.5 billion to fund working capital and general corporate purposes with interest payable on the borrowed amounts set at LIBOR plus 1.0%, as well as an annual commitment fee of 0.10% on the daily undrawn balance of the facility. We paid origination fees at closing of the 2013 Revolving Credit Facility, which fees are being amortized over the term of the facility. Any amounts outstanding under this facility will be due and payable on August 15, 2018. As of December 31, 2015, no amounts had been drawn down and we were in compliance with the covenants under this credit facility.

As of December 31, 2015, \$1.90 billion of the \$18.43 billion in cash and cash equivalents, and marketable securities was held by our foreign subsidiaries. Substantially all of these funds are in jurisdictions for which we are indefinitely reinvesting the earnings of the local subsidiary. We have provided residual taxes in jurisdictions where we do not intend to indefinitely reinvest the earnings of the local subsidiary, however the amount of taxes provided has been insignificant.

We currently anticipate that our available funds, credit facility, and cash flow from operations will be sufficient to meet our operational cash needs for the foreseeable future.



#### Cash Provided by Operating Activities

Cash flow from operating activities during 2015, mostly consisted of net income, adjusted for certain non-cash items, such as share-based compensation expense of \$2.96 billion and total depreciation and amortization of \$1.95 billion. The increase in cash flow from operating activities during 2015 compared to 2014, was primarily due to an increase in net income, as adjusted for share-based compensation expense, and higher income tax payable as of December 31, 2015 compared to 2014.

Cash flow from operating activities during 2014, primarily consisted of net income, adjusted for certain non-cash items, such as share-based compensation expense of \$1.79 billion and total depreciation and amortization of \$1.24 billion. The cash flow from operating activities during 2014 compared to 2013 increased mainly due to an increase in net income of \$1.44 billion, as adjusted for certain non-cash items described above, partially offset by a decrease in income tax refunds of \$415 million.

Cash flow from operating activities during 2013, primarily consisted of net income, adjusted for certain non-cash items, such as depreciation and amortization of \$1.01 billion and share-based compensation expense of \$906 million, and an increase in other liabilities related to uncertain tax positions. The cash flow from operating activities during 2013 compared to 2012 increased mainly due to an increase in net income of \$1.45 billion and uncertain tax position of \$786 million. In addition, we received income tax refunds of \$421 million in 2013.

#### Cash Used in Investing Activities

Cash used in investing activities was \$9.43 billion during 2015, primarily due to \$6.70 billion for net purchases of marketable securities and \$2.52 billion for capital expenditures as we continued to invest in servers, data centers, network infrastructure, and office buildings. The increase in cash used in investing activities during 2015 compared to 2014 was mainly due to increases in net purchases of marketable securities, partially offset by a decrease in acquisitions of businesses and purchases of intangible assets.

Cash used in investing activities during 2014 primarily resulted from \$4.98 billion for the acquisition of businesses and \$1.83 billion for capital expenditures related to network infrastructure and the construction of data centers and office buildings, partially offset by \$1.24 billion for the net sales and maturities of marketable securities. The increase in cash used in investing activities during 2014 compared to 2013 was mainly due to increases in acquisitions of businesses and purchases of intangible assets, and capital expenditures, partially offset by net sales of marketable securities.

Cash used in investing activities during 2013 primarily resulted from \$1.36 billion for capital expenditures related to the purchase of servers, network infrastructure, and the construction of data centers, as well as \$882 million for the net purchase of marketable securities and \$368 million for the acquisition of businesses and other assets, such as patents. The decrease in cash used in investing activities during 2013 compared to 2012 was mainly due to decreases in the purchase of marketable securities and the acquisitions of businesses and purchases of intangible assets.

We anticipate making capital expenditures in 2016 of approximately \$4.0 billion to \$4.5 billion.

#### Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities

Cash flow from financing activities during 2015, mostly consisted of excess tax benefit from share-based award activity and principal payments on capital lease obligations. The increase in cash provided by financing activities was mostly due to lower principal payments related to our capital lease transactions and lower tax payments related to the net share settlement, partially offset by a decrease of excess tax benefit from share-based award activity.

Cash provided by financing activities during 2014 was \$1.57 billion, which primarily resulted from \$1.87 billion of excess tax benefit from share-based award activity, partially offset by \$243 million of payments related to our capital lease transactions, and \$73 million of tax payments related to net share settlement resulting mainly from the vested merger consideration of an acquisition.

Cash used in financing activities during 2013 was \$667 million, which primarily resulted from \$1.50 billion for repayment of debt and \$889 million of tax payments related to the net share settlement, partially offset by \$1.48 billion in net proceeds from the completion of our follow-on equity offering in December 2013.

#### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We did not have any off-balance sheet arrangements as of December 31, 2015.



### Contractual Obligations

Our principal commitments consist of obligations under operating and capital leases for equipment, office, and data center facilities. The following table summarizes our commitments to settle contractual obligations in cash as of December 31, 2015 (in millions):

	Total	Payment Due by Period			
		Less than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More than 5 Years
Operating lease obligations	\$1,452	\$209	\$446	\$359	\$438
Capital lease obligations	174	16	31	33	94
Financing obligation - building in progress - leased facility <sup>(1)</sup>	337	—	—	38	299
Other contractual commitments <sup>(2)</sup>	1,222	752	86	73	311
Total contractual obligations	\$3,185	\$977	\$563	\$503	\$1,142

Financing obligation - building in progress - leased facility represents our commitment to lease an entire office building in London, United Kingdom, that is currently under construction. As of December 31, 2015, \$62 million (1) of the total obligation was recorded as a liability and is included in other liabilities on our consolidated balance sheets. See Note 10 of the accompanying notes to our consolidated financial statements for additional information related to this financing obligation.

(2) Other contractual commitments primarily relate to network infrastructure for our data center operations and, to a lesser extent, construction commitments related to our data center sites.

In addition, our other liabilities include \$2.46 billion related to uncertain tax positions as of December 31, 2015. Due to uncertainties in the timing of the completion of tax audits, the timing of the resolution of these positions is uncertain and we are unable to make a reasonably reliable estimate of the timing of payments in individual years beyond 12 months. As a result, this amount is not included in the above contractual obligations table.

### Contingencies

We are involved in claims, lawsuits, government investigations, and other legal proceedings. We record a provision for a liability when we believe that it is both probable that a liability has been incurred, and that the amount can be reasonably estimated. Significant judgment is required to determine both probability and the estimated amount. Such legal proceedings are inherently unpredictable and subject to significant uncertainties, some of which are beyond our control. Should any of these estimates and assumptions change or prove to be incorrect, it could have a material impact on our results of operations, financial position, and cash flows.

See Note 10 of the accompanying notes to our consolidated financial statements included in Part II, Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" and Part I, Item 3, "Legal Proceedings" of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for additional information regarding these contingencies.

### Recently Issued and Adopted Accounting Pronouncement

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606) (ASU 2014-09), which amends the existing accounting standards for revenue recognition. In August 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-14, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606): Deferral of the Effective Date, which delays the effective date of ASU 2014-09 by one year. The FASB also agreed to allow entities to choose to adopt the standard as of the original effective date. As such, the updated standard will be effective for us in the first quarter of 2018, with the option to adopt it in the first quarter of 2017. We are still evaluating the effect that the updated standard will have on our consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In November 2015, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2015-17, Income Taxes (Topic 740): Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes (ASU 2015-17), which simplifies the presentation of deferred income taxes by requiring deferred tax assets and liabilities be classified as noncurrent on the balance sheet. The updated standard is effective for us beginning on January 1, 2017 with early application permitted as of the beginning of any interim or annual reporting period. We early adopted this standard retrospectively, and reclassified our current deferred tax assets to noncurrent deferred tax assets for all periods presented. As a result of the reclassifications, certain noncurrent

deferred tax liabilities were netted with noncurrent deferred tax assets.

51

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Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

We are exposed to market risks, including changes to foreign currency exchange rates, interest rates, and inflation.

Foreign Currency Exchange Risk

We have foreign currency risks related to our revenue and operating expenses denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar, primarily the Euro. In general, we are a net receiver of currencies other than the U.S. dollar.

Accordingly, changes in exchange rates, and in particular a strengthening of the U.S. dollar, have negatively affected our revenue and other operating results as expressed in U.S. dollars.

We have experienced and will continue to experience fluctuations in our net income as a result of transaction gains or losses related to revaluing certain current asset and current liability balances that are denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the entities in which they are recorded. At this time we have not entered into, but in the future we may enter into, derivatives or other financial instruments in an attempt to hedge our foreign currency exchange risk. It is difficult to predict the effect hedging activities would have on our results of operations. We recognized foreign currency losses of \$66 million, \$87 million, and \$14 million in 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively.

Interest Rate Sensitivity

Our exposure to changes in interest rates relates primarily to interest earned and market value on our cash and cash equivalents, and marketable securities.

Our cash and cash equivalents, and marketable securities consist of cash, certificates of deposit, time deposits, money market funds, U.S. government securities, U.S. government agency securities, and corporate debt securities. Our investment policy and strategy are focused on preservation of capital and supporting our liquidity requirements.

Changes in U.S. interest rates affect the interest earned on our cash and cash equivalents and marketable securities, and the market value of those securities. A hypothetical 100 basis point increase in interest rates would have resulted in a decrease of \$173 million and \$63 million in the market value of our available-for-sale debt securities as of December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively. Any realized gains or losses resulting from such interest rate changes would only occur if we sold the investments prior to maturity.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

FACEBOOK, INC.

INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

<u>Reports of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	<u>54</u>
Consolidated Financial Statements:	
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets</u>	<u>56</u>
<u>Consolidated Statements of Income</u>	<u>57</u>
<u>Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income</u>	<u>58</u>
<u>Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity</u>	<u>59</u>
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	<u>62</u>

The supplementary financial information required by this Item 8, is included in Part II, Item 7 under the caption "Quarterly Results of Operations Data," which is incorporated herein by reference.

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders of Facebook, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Facebook, Inc. as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Facebook, Inc. at December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Facebook, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) and our report dated January 28, 2016 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP  
San Francisco, California  
January 28, 2016

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm  
The Board of Directors and Stockholders of Facebook, Inc.

We have audited Facebook, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) (the COSO criteria). Facebook, Inc.'s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, Facebook, Inc. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the 2015 consolidated financial statements of Facebook, Inc. and our report dated January 28, 2016 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP  
San Francisco, California  
January 28, 2016



## FACEBOOK, INC.

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(In millions, except for number of shares and par value)

	December 31,	
	2015	2014
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$4,907	\$4,315
Marketable securities	13,527	6,884
Accounts receivable, net of allowances for doubtful accounts of \$68 and \$39 as of December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively	2,559	1,678
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	659	513
Total current assets	21,652	13,390
Property and equipment, net	5,687	3,967
Intangible assets, net	3,246	3,929
Goodwill	18,026	17,981
Other assets	796	699
Total assets	\$49,407	\$39,966
Liabilities and stockholders' equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$196	\$176
Partners payable	217	202
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	1,449	866
Deferred revenue and deposits	56	66
Current portion of capital lease obligations	7	114
Total current liabilities	1,925	1,424
Capital lease obligations, less current portion	107	119
Other liabilities	3,157	2,327
Total liabilities	5,189	3,870
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$0.000006 par value; 5,000 million Class A shares authorized, 2,293 million and 2,234 million shares issued and outstanding, including 8 million and 13 million outstanding shares subject to repurchase, as of December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively; 4,141 million Class B shares authorized, 552 million and 563 million shares issued and outstanding, including 3 million and 6 million outstanding shares subject to repurchase, as of December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively	—	—
Additional paid-in capital	34,886	30,225
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(455	) (228 )
Retained earnings	9,787	6,099
Total stockholders' equity	44,218	36,096
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$49,407	\$39,966
See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.		

FACEBOOK, INC.  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME  
(In millions, except per share amounts)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
Revenue	\$17,928	\$12,466	\$7,872
Costs and expenses:			
Cost of revenue	2,867	2,153	1,875
Research and development	4,816	2,666	1,415
Marketing and sales	2,725	1,680	997
General and administrative	1,295	973	781
Total costs and expenses	11,703	7,472	5,068
Income from operations	6,225	4,994	2,804
Interest and other income/(expense), net	(31	) (84	) (50
Income before provision for income taxes	6,194	4,910	2,754
Provision for income taxes	2,506	1,970	1,254
Net income	\$3,688	\$2,940	\$1,500
Less: Net income attributable to participating securities	19	15	9
Net income attributable to Class A and Class B common stockholders	\$3,669	\$2,925	\$1,491
Earnings per share attributable to Class A and Class B common stockholders:			
Basic	\$1.31	\$1.12	\$0.62
Diluted	\$1.29	\$1.10	\$0.60
Weighted average shares used to compute earnings per share attributable to Class A and Class B common stockholders:			
Basic	2,803	2,614	2,420
Diluted	2,853	2,664	2,517
Share-based compensation expense included in costs and expenses:			
Cost of revenue	\$81	\$62	\$42
Research and development	2,350	1,328	604
Marketing and sales	320	249	133
General and administrative	218	198	127
Total share-based compensation expense	\$2,969	\$1,837	\$906

See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

## FACEBOOK, INC.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(In millions)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
Net income	\$3,688	\$2,940	\$1,500
Other comprehensive income (loss):			
Change in foreign currency translation adjustment, net of tax	(202	) (239	) 11
Change in unrealized gain/loss on available-for-sale investments and other, net of tax	(25	) (3	) 1
Comprehensive income	\$3,461	\$2,698	\$1,512
See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.			

58

## FACEBOOK, INC.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

(In millions)

	Class A and Class B Common Shares	Stock Par Value	Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income	Retained Earnings	Total Stockholders' Equity
Balances at December 31, 2012	2,372	\$ —	\$ 10,094	\$ 2	\$ 1,659	\$ 11,755
Issuance of common stock, net of issuance costs	27	—	1,478	—	—	1,478
Issuance of common stock for cash upon exercise of stock options	101	—	26	—	—	26
Issuance of common stock to nonemployees for past services	—	—	3	—	—	3
Issuance of common stock related to acquisitions	9	—	77	—	—	77
Issuance of common stock for settlement of RSUs	65	—	—	—	—	—
Shares withheld related to net share settlement	(27)	) —	(889)	) —	—	(889)
Share-based compensation, related to employee share-based awards	—	—	906	—	—	906
Tax benefit from share-based award activity	—	—	602	—	—	602
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	12	—	12
Net income	—	—	—	—	1,500	1,500
Balances at December 31, 2013	2,547	—	12,297	14	3,159	15,470
Issuance of common stock for cash upon exercise of stock options	9	—	18	—	—	18
Issuance of common stock related to acquisitions	201	—	14,344	—	—	14,344
Issuance of common stock for settlement of RSUs	41	—	—	—	—	—
Shares withheld related to net share settlement	(1)	) —	(73)	) —	—	(73)
Share-based compensation, related to employee share-based awards	—	—	1,786	—	—	1,786
Tax benefit from share-based award activity	—	—	1,853	—	—	1,853
Other comprehensive loss	—	—	—	(242)	) —	(242)
Net income	—	—	—	—	2,940	2,940
Balances at December 31, 2014	2,797	—	30,225	(228)	) 6,099	36,096
Issuance of common stock for cash upon exercise of stock options	4	—	—	—	—	—
Issuance of common stock for settlement of RSUs	44	—	—	—	—	—
Shares withheld related to net share settlement	—	—	(20)	) —	—	(20)
Share-based compensation, related to employee share-based awards	—	—	2,960	—	—	2,960
Tax benefit from share-based award activity	—	—	1,721	—	—	1,721
Other comprehensive loss	—	—	—	(227)	) —	(227)
Net income	—	—	—	—	3,688	3,688
Balances at December 31, 2015	2,845	\$ —	\$ 34,886	\$ (455)	) \$ 9,787	\$ 44,218

See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

59

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FACEBOOK, INC.  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
(In millions)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net income	\$3,688	\$2,940	\$1,500
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	1,945	1,243	1,011
Lease abandonment	—	(31	) 117
Share-based compensation	2,960	1,786	906
Deferred income taxes	(795	) (210	) (37
Tax benefit from share-based award activity	1,721	1,853	602
Excess tax benefit from share-based award activity	(1,721	) (1,869	) (609
Other	17	7	56
Changes in assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(973	) (610	) (378
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(144	) (123	) 355
Other assets	(3	) (216	) (142
Accounts payable	18	31	26
Partners payable	17	(28	) 12
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	513	328	(38
Deferred revenue and deposits	(9	) 10	8
Other liabilities	1,365	346	833
Net cash provided by operating activities	8,599	5,457	4,222
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchases of property and equipment	(2,523	) (1,831	) (1,362
Purchases of marketable securities	(15,938	) (9,104	) (7,433
Sales of marketable securities	6,928	8,438	2,988
Maturities of marketable securities	2,310	1,909	3,563
Acquisitions of businesses, net of cash acquired, and purchases of intangible assets	(313	) (4,975	) (368
Change in restricted cash and deposits	102	(348	) (11
Other investing activities, net	—	(2	) (1
Net cash used in investing activities	(9,434	) (5,913	) (2,624
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net proceeds from issuance of common stock	—	—	1,478
Taxes paid related to net share settlement	(20	) (73	) (889
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	—	18	26
Repayment of long-term debt	—	—	(1,500
Principal payments on capital lease obligations	(119	) (243	) (391
Excess tax benefit from share-based award activity	1,721	1,869	609
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	1,582	1,571	(667
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(155	) (123	) 8
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	592	992	939
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	4,315	3,323	2,384
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$4,907	\$4,315	\$3,323
See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.			



FACEBOOK, INC.  
 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
 (In millions)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
Supplemental cash flow data			
Cash paid during the period for:			
Interest	\$ 10	\$ 14	\$ 38
Income taxes	\$ 273	\$ 184	\$ 82
Cash received during the period for:			
Income taxes	\$ 3	\$ 6	\$ 421
Non-cash investing and financing activities:			
Net change in accounts payable, accrued expenses and other current liabilities, and other liabilities related to property and equipment additions	\$ 88	\$ 91	\$ 53
Property and equipment acquired under capital leases	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 11
Fair value of shares issued related to acquisitions of businesses	\$ —	\$ 14,344	\$ 77
Promissory note payable issued in connection with an acquisition	\$ 198	\$ —	\$ —

See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

## FACEBOOK, INC.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

## Organization and Description of Business

Facebook was incorporated in Delaware in July 2004. Our mission is to give people the power to share and make the world more open and connected. We generate substantially all of our revenue from advertising.

## Basis of Presentation

We prepared the consolidated financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Facebook, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated.

## Use of Estimates

Conformity with GAAP requires the use of estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. These estimates form the basis for judgments we make about the carrying values of our assets and liabilities, which are not readily apparent from other sources. We base our estimates and judgments on historical information and on various other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. GAAP requires us to make estimates and judgments in several areas, including, but not limited to, those related to revenue recognition, collectability of accounts receivable, contingent liabilities, fair value of financial instruments, fair value of acquired intangible assets and goodwill, useful lives of intangible assets and property and equipment, and income taxes. These estimates are based on management's knowledge about current events and expectations about actions we may undertake in the future. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

## Revenue Recognition

We recognize revenue once all of the following criteria have been met:

- persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists;
- delivery of our obligations to our customer has occurred;
- the price is fixed or determinable; and
- collectability of the related receivable is reasonably assured.

Revenue for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013 consists of the following (in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
Advertising	\$17,079	\$11,492	\$6,986
Payments and other fees	849	974	886
Total revenue	\$17,928	\$12,466	\$7,872

## Advertising

Advertising revenue is generated by displaying ad products on the Facebook properties, including our mobile applications, and third-party affiliated websites or mobile applications. The arrangements are evidenced by either online acceptance of terms and conditions or contracts that stipulate the types of advertising to be delivered, the timing and the pricing. Marketers pay for ad products either directly or through their relationships with advertising agencies, based on the number of clicks made by our users, the number of actions taken by our users, or the number of impressions delivered. The typical term of an advertising arrangement is less than one month with billing generally occurring after the delivery of the advertisement.

We recognize revenue from the delivery of click-based ads in the period in which a user clicks on the content, and action-based ads in the period in which a user takes the action the marketer contracted for. We recognize revenue from the display of impression-based ads in the contracted period in which the impressions are delivered. Impressions are considered delivered when an ad is displayed to users.



#### Payments and Other Fees

We enable Payments from people to purchase virtual and digital goods from our developers. People can transact and make payments on the Facebook website by using debit cards and credit cards, PayPal, mobile phone payments, gift cards, or other methods.

When a person engages in a payment transaction for the purchase of a virtual or digital good from a developer, we remit to the developer an amount that is based on the total amount of the transaction less the processing fee that we charge the developer. The price of the purchase is an amount that is solely determined by the developer. Our revenue is the net amount of the transaction, representing our processing fee for the service performed. We record revenue on a net basis as we do not consider ourselves to be the principal in the sale of the virtual or digital good to the person. Additionally, we record all Payments revenue at the time of the purchase of the related virtual goods, net of estimated refunds or chargebacks.

Other fees, which includes our ad serving and measurement products and the delivery of virtual reality platform devices, were not material in all periods presented in our financial statements.

Revenue is recognized net of applicable sales and other taxes.

#### Cost of Revenue

Our cost of revenue consists primarily of expenses associated with the delivery and distribution of our products. These include expenses related to the operation of our data centers, such as facility and server equipment depreciation, energy and bandwidth costs, and salaries, benefits, and share-based compensation for employees on our operations teams. Cost of revenue also includes credit card and other transaction fees related to processing customer transactions, amortization of intangible assets, costs associated with data partner arrangements, and cost of virtual reality platform device inventory sold.

#### Share-based Compensation

We account for share-based employee compensation plans under the fair value recognition and measurement provisions of GAAP. Those provisions require all share-based payments to employees, including grants of stock options and restricted stock units (RSUs), to be measured based on the grant date fair value of the awards, with the resulting expense generally recognized on a straight-line basis in our consolidated statements of income over the period during which the employee is required to perform service in exchange for the award. The majority of our awards are earned over a service period of four years.

Share-based compensation expense is recorded net of estimated forfeitures in our consolidated statements of income and as such, only those share-based awards that we expect to vest are recorded. We estimate the forfeiture rate based on historical forfeitures of equity awards and adjust the rate to reflect changes in facts and circumstances, if any. We will revise our estimated forfeiture rate if actual forfeitures differ from our initial estimates.

We have historically issued unvested restricted shares to employee stockholders of certain acquired companies. As these awards are generally subject to continued post-acquisition employment, we have accounted for them as post-acquisition share-based compensation expense. We recognize compensation expense equal to the grant date fair value of the common stock on a straight-line basis over the period during which the employee is required to perform service in exchange for the award.

During the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, we realized tax benefits from share-based award activity of \$1.72 billion, \$1.85 billion, and \$602 million, respectively. These amounts reflect the extent that the total reduction to our income tax liability from share-based award activity was greater than the amount of the deferred tax assets that we had previously recorded in anticipation of these benefits. These amounts are the aggregate of the individual transactions in which the reduction to our income tax liability was greater than the deferred tax assets that we recorded, reduced by any individual transactions in which the reduction to our income tax liability was less than the deferred tax assets that were recorded. These net amounts were recorded as an adjustment to stockholders' equity in each period, as an increase to cash flows from operating activities, and were not recognized in our consolidated statements of income.

In addition, we reported excess tax benefits that decreased our cash flows from operating activities and increased our cash flows from financing activities for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, by \$1.72 billion, \$1.87 billion, and \$609 million, respectively. The amounts of these excess tax benefits reflect the total of the individual

transactions in which the reduction to our income tax liability was greater than the deferred tax assets that were recorded, but were not reduced by any of the individual transactions in which the reduction to our income tax liability was less than the deferred tax assets that were recorded.

**Income Taxes**

We recognize income taxes under the asset and liability method. We recognize deferred income tax assets and liabilities for the expected future consequences of temporary differences between the financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities. These differences are measured using the enacted statutory tax rates that are expected to apply to taxable income for the years in which differences

are expected to reverse. We recognize the effect on deferred income taxes of a change in tax rates in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

We record a valuation allowance to reduce our deferred tax assets to the net amount that we believe is more likely than not to be realized. We consider all available evidence, both positive and negative, including historical levels of income, expectations and risks associated with estimates of future taxable income and ongoing tax planning strategies in assessing the need for a valuation allowance.

We recognize tax benefits from uncertain tax positions only if we believe that it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on examination by the taxing authorities based on the technical merits of the position. We make adjustments to these reserves when facts and circumstances change, such as the closing of a tax audit or the refinement of an estimate. The provision for income taxes includes the effects of any reserves that are considered appropriate, as well as the related net interest and penalties.

#### Advertising Expense

Advertising costs are expensed when incurred and are included in marketing and sales expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of income. We incurred advertising expenses of \$281 million, \$135 million, and \$117 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents, and Marketable Securities

Cash and cash equivalents primarily consist of cash on deposit with banks and investments in money market funds with maturities of 90 days or less from the date of purchase.

We hold investments in marketable securities, consisting of U.S. government securities, U.S. government agency securities, and corporate debt securities. We classify our marketable securities as available-for-sale investments in our current assets because they represent investments of cash available for current operations. Our available-for-sale investments are carried at estimated fair value with any unrealized gains and losses, net of taxes, included in accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income in stockholders' equity. Unrealized losses are charged against interest and other income/(expense), net when a decline in fair value is determined to be other-than-temporary. We have not recorded any such impairment charge in the periods presented. We determine realized gains or losses on sale of marketable securities on a specific identification method, and record such gains or losses as interest and other income/(expense), net.

We classify certain restricted cash balances within prepaid expenses and other current assets and other assets on the accompanying consolidated balance sheets based upon the term of the remaining restrictions.

#### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

We apply fair value accounting for all financial assets and liabilities and non-financial assets and liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis. We define fair value as the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. When determining the fair value measurements for assets and liabilities, which are required to be recorded at fair value, we consider the principal or most advantageous market in which we would transact and the market-based risk measurements or assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, such as risks inherent in valuation techniques, transfer restrictions and credit risk. Fair value is estimated by applying the following hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used to measure fair value into three levels and bases the categorization within the hierarchy upon the lowest level of input that is available and significant to the fair value measurement:

Level 1-Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2-Observable inputs other than quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.

Level 3-Inputs that are generally unobservable and typically reflect management's estimate of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability.

Our valuation techniques used to measure the fair value of money market funds and marketable debt securities were derived from quoted market prices or alternative pricing sources and models utilizing market observable inputs. Our valuation technique used to measure the fair value of our contingent consideration liability was based on the present



value of probability-weighted future cash flows related to the contingent earn-out criteria and the fair value of our common stock on each reporting date.

**Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts**

Accounts receivable are recorded and carried at the original invoiced amount less an allowance for any potential uncollectible amounts. We make estimates for the allowance for doubtful accounts based upon our assessment of various factors, including historical

experience, the age of the accounts receivable balances, credit quality of our customers, current economic conditions, and other factors that may affect customers' ability to pay.

#### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment, which includes amounts recorded under capital leases, are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets or the remaining lease term, in the case of a capital lease, whichever is shorter.

The estimated useful lives of property and equipment are described below:

Property and Equipment	Useful Life
Network equipment	Three to five years
Buildings	Three to 30 years
Computer software, office equipment and other	Three to five years
Leased equipment and leasehold improvements	Lesser of estimated useful life or remaining lease term

Land and assets held within construction in progress are not depreciated. Construction in progress is related to the construction or development of property and equipment that have not yet been placed in service for their intended use. The cost of maintenance and repairs is expensed as incurred. When assets are retired or otherwise disposed of, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from their respective accounts, and any gain or loss on such sale or disposal is reflected in income from operations.

#### Lease Obligations

We lease office space, data centers, and equipment under non-cancelable capital and operating leases with various expiration dates through 2032. Certain of the operating lease agreements contain rent holidays, rent escalation provisions, and purchase options. Rent holidays and rent escalation provisions are considered in determining the straight-line rent expense to be recorded over the lease term. The lease term begins on the date of initial possession of the leased property for purposes of recognizing lease expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. We do not assume renewals in our determination of the lease term unless the renewals are deemed to be reasonably assured at lease inception.

We record assets and liabilities for the estimated construction costs incurred by third parties under build-to-suit lease arrangements to the extent that we are involved in the construction of structural improvements or bear construction risk prior to commencement of a lease.

#### Loss Contingencies

We are involved in various lawsuits, claims, investigations, and proceedings that arise in the ordinary course of business. We record a liability when we believe that it is both probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Significant judgment is required to determine both probability and the estimated amount. We review these provisions at least quarterly and adjust these provisions accordingly to reflect the impact of negotiations, settlements, rulings, advice of legal counsel, and updated information.

#### Business Combinations

We allocate the fair value of purchase consideration to the tangible assets acquired, liabilities assumed and intangible assets acquired based on their estimated fair values. The excess of the fair value of purchase consideration over the fair values of these identifiable assets and liabilities is recorded as goodwill. Such valuations require management to make significant estimates and assumptions, especially with respect to intangible assets. Significant estimates in valuing certain intangible assets include, but are not limited to, future expected cash flows from acquired users, acquired technology, and trade names from a market participant perspective, useful lives and discount rates. Management's estimates of fair value are based upon assumptions believed to be reasonable, but which are inherently uncertain and unpredictable and, as a result, actual results may differ from estimates. During the measurement period, which is one year from the acquisition date, we may record adjustments to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed, with the corresponding offset to goodwill. Upon the conclusion of the measurement period, any subsequent adjustments are recorded to earnings.

#### Long-Lived Assets, Including Goodwill and Other Acquired Intangible Assets

We evaluate the recoverability of property and equipment and finite-lived intangible assets for possible impairment whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of such assets may not be recoverable. The evaluation is performed at the lowest level for which identifiable cash flows are largely independent of the cash flows of other assets and liabilities. Recoverability of these assets is measured by a comparison of the carrying amounts to the future undiscounted cash flows the assets are expected to generate. If

65

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such review indicates that the carrying amount of property and equipment and intangible assets is not recoverable, the carrying amount of such assets is reduced to fair value. We have not recorded any significant impairment charges during the years presented.

We review goodwill for impairment at least annually or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances would more likely than not reduce the fair value of our single reporting unit below its carrying value. We evaluate indefinite-lived intangible assets for impairment annually or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that it is more likely than not that the asset is impaired. As of December 31, 2015, no impairment of goodwill or indefinite-lived intangible assets has been identified.

Acquired indefinite-lived intangible assets related to our in-process research and development (IPR&D) are capitalized and subject to impairment testing until completion or abandonment of the projects. Upon successful completion of each project, we will make a separate determination of useful life of the acquired indefinite-lived intangible assets and the related amortization will be recorded as an expense over the estimated useful life of the specific projects.

Acquired finite-lived intangible assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. We routinely review the remaining estimated useful lives of property and equipment and finite-lived intangible assets. If we reduce the estimated useful life assumption for any asset, the remaining unamortized balance would be amortized or depreciated over the revised estimated useful life.

#### Deferred Revenue and Deposits

Deferred revenue consists of billings in advance of revenue recognition. Deposits relate to unused balances held on behalf of our users. Once this balance is utilized by a user, approximately 70% of this amount would then be payable to the developer and the balance would be recognized as revenue.

Deferred revenue and deposits consists of the following (in millions):

	December 31,	
	2015	2014
Deferred revenue	\$28	\$38
Deposits	28	28
Total deferred revenue and deposits	\$56	\$66

#### Foreign Currency

Generally the functional currency of our international subsidiaries is the local currency. We translate the financial statements of these subsidiaries to U.S. dollars using month-end rates of exchange for assets and liabilities, and average rates of exchange for revenue, costs, and expenses. Translation gains and losses are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income as a component of stockholders' equity. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, we had a cumulative translation loss, net of tax of \$430 million and \$227 million, respectively. Net losses resulting from foreign exchange transactions were \$66 million, \$87 million, and \$14 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively. These losses were recorded as interest and other income/(expense), net in our consolidated statements of income.

#### Credit Risk and Concentration

Our financial instruments that are potentially subject to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash, marketable securities, and accounts receivable. Cash equivalents consist of short-term money market funds, which are managed by reputable financial institutions. Marketable securities consist of investments in U.S. government securities, U.S. government agency securities, and corporate debt securities. Our investment policy limits investment instruments to U.S. government securities, U.S. government agency securities, and corporate debt securities with the main objective of preserving capital and maintaining liquidity.

Accounts receivable are typically unsecured and are derived from revenue earned from customers across different industries and countries. We generated 47%, 45%, and 46% of our revenue for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively, from marketers and developers based in the United States, with the majority of revenue outside of the United States coming from customers located in western Europe, China, Brazil, Canada, and Australia.

We perform ongoing credit evaluations of our customers, and generally do not require collateral. We maintain an allowance for estimated credit losses. During the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, our bad debt expenses were \$44 million, \$19 million, and \$21 million, respectively. In the event that accounts receivable collection cycles deteriorate, our operating results and financial position could be adversely affected.

No customer represented 10% or more of total revenue during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013.

## Segments

Our chief operating decision-maker is our Chief Executive Officer who makes resource allocation decisions and assesses performance based on financial information presented on a consolidated basis. There are no segment managers who are held accountable by the chief operating decision-maker, or anyone else, for operations, operating results, and planning for levels or components below the consolidated unit level. Accordingly, we have determined that we have a single reportable segment and operating unit structure.

### Recently Issued and Adopted Accounting Pronouncement

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606) (ASU 2014-09), which amends the existing accounting standards for revenue recognition. In August 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-14, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606): Deferral of the Effective Date, which delays the effective date of ASU 2014-09 by one year. The FASB also agreed to allow entities to choose to adopt the standard as of the original effective date. As such, the updated standard will be effective for us in the first quarter of 2018, with the option to adopt it in the first quarter of 2017. We are still evaluating the effect that the updated standard will have on our consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In November 2015, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2015-17, Income Taxes (Topic 740): Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes (ASU 2015-17), which simplifies the presentation of deferred income taxes by requiring deferred tax assets and liabilities be classified as noncurrent on the balance sheet. The updated standard is effective for us beginning on January 1, 2017 with early application permitted as of the beginning of any interim or annual reporting period. We early adopted this standard retrospectively, and reclassified \$280 million of our current deferred tax assets to noncurrent deferred tax assets as of December 31, 2014. This resulted in net adjustments of \$62 million increase and \$218 million decrease to our noncurrent deferred tax assets and noncurrent deferred tax liability, respectively, on our December 31, 2014 consolidated balance sheet.

### Note 2. Acquisitions

During the year ended December 31, 2015, we completed several business acquisitions for total consideration of \$488 million, primarily related to a business combination involving land and buildings adjacent to our headquarters in Menlo Park. Included in this amount is a \$198 million promissory note payable issued in connection with this particular acquisition. This promissory note payable is classified under accrued expenses and other current liabilities in our consolidated balance sheets. These acquisitions were not material to our consolidated financial statements, either individually or in the aggregate. Accordingly, pro forma historical results of operations related to these business acquisitions during the year ended December 31, 2015 have not been presented. We have included the financial results of these business acquisitions in our consolidated financial statements from their respective dates of acquisition. The following table summarizes the allocation of the total consideration transferred during the year ended December 31, 2015, including the related estimated useful lives, where applicable:

	(in millions)	Useful lives (in years)
Finite-lived intangible assets:		
Acquired technology	\$30	3
Other	5	3
Land acquired	379	
Other net tangible assets acquired	12	
Deferred tax assets, net	17	
Net assets acquired	\$443	
Goodwill	45	
Total fair value consideration	\$488	

Goodwill generated from all business acquisitions completed during the year ended December 31, 2015 is primarily attributable to expected synergies from future growth and potential monetization opportunities. The amount of goodwill generated during this period that is deductible for tax purposes is not material.

### Note 3. Earnings per Share

We compute earnings per share (EPS) of Class A and Class B common stock using the two-class method required for participating securities. We consider restricted stock awards to be participating securities because holders of such shares have non-forfeitable dividend rights in the event of our declaration of a dividend for common shares. Undistributed earnings allocated to participating securities are subtracted from net income in determining net income attributable

to common stockholders. Basic EPS is computed by dividing net income attributable to common stockholders by the weighted-average number of shares of our Class A and Class B common stock outstanding, adjusted for outstanding shares that are subject to repurchase.

For the calculation of diluted EPS, net income attributable to common stockholders for basic EPS is adjusted by the effect of dilutive securities, including awards under our equity compensation plans and inducement awards under separate non-plan RSU award agreements. In addition, the computation of the diluted EPS of Class A common stock assumes the conversion of our Class B common stock to Class A common stock, while the diluted EPS of Class B common stock does not assume the conversion of those shares to Class A common stock. Diluted EPS attributable to common stockholders is computed by dividing the resulting net income attributable to common stockholders by the weighted-average number of fully diluted common shares outstanding.

Basic and dilutive securities in our basic and diluted EPS calculation for the year ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 do not include contingent earn-out shares. Issuance of these earn-out shares is dependent upon the completion of certain milestones. These milestones have not been met as of December 31, 2015 and accordingly, these shares have been excluded from the effect of basic and dilutive securities.

The RSUs excluded from the EPS calculation because the impact would be anti-dilutive, were not material for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively.

Basic and diluted EPS are the same for each class of common stock because they are entitled to the same liquidation and dividend rights.



The numerators and denominators of the basic and diluted EPS computations for our common stock are calculated as follows (in millions, except per share amounts):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2015		2014		2013	
	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class
	A	B	A	B	A	B
<b>Basic EPS:</b>						
Numerator						
Net income	\$2,959	\$729	\$2,308	\$632	\$1,114	\$386
Less: Net income attributable to participating securities	15	4	12	3	7	2
Net income attributable to common stockholders	\$2,944	\$725	\$2,296	\$629	\$1,107	\$384
Denominator						
Weighted average shares outstanding	2,259	559	2,059	568	1,803	631
Less: Shares subject to repurchase	10	5	6	7	5	9
Number of shares used for basic EPS computation	2,249	554	2,053	561	1,798	622
Basic EPS	\$1.31	\$1.31	\$1.12	\$1.12	\$0.62	\$0.62
<b>Diluted EPS:</b>						
Numerator						
Net income attributable to common stockholders	\$2,944	\$725	\$2,296	\$629	\$1,107	\$384
Reallocation of net income attributable to participating securities	19	—	15	—	9	—
Reallocation of net income as a result of conversion of Class B to Class A common stock	725	—	629	—	384	—
Reallocation of net income to Class B common stock	—	15	—	23	—	39
Net income attributable to common stockholders for diluted EPS	\$3,688	\$740	\$2,940	\$652	\$1,500	\$423
Denominator						
Number of shares used for basic EPS computation	2,249	554	2,053	561	1,798	622
Conversion of Class B to Class A common stock	554	—	561	—	622	—
Weighted average effect of dilutive securities:						
Employee stock options	8	8	13	13	65	65
RSUs	37	9	30	13	25	15
Shares subject to repurchase	5	2	7	4	7	7
Number of shares used for diluted EPS computation	2,853	573	2,664	591	2,517	709
Diluted EPS	\$1.29	\$1.29	\$1.10	\$1.10	\$0.60	\$0.60

Note 4. Cash and Cash Equivalents, and Marketable Securities

The following table sets forth the cash and cash equivalents, and marketable securities (in millions):

	December 31, 2015	2014
Cash and cash equivalents:		
Cash	\$ 1,703	