

Notes Details - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Net Income Per Share (Detail)

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Net Income Per Share (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands, except Per Share data	3 Months Ended								12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Jun. 30, 2013	Mar. 31, 2013	Dec. 31, 2012	Sep. 30, 2012	Jun. 30, 2012	Mar. 31, 2012	Dec. 31, 2011	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Antidilutive Securities Excluded From Computation Of Earnings Per Share [Line Items]											
Net income	\$ 5,633	\$ 8,591	\$ 5,877	\$ 3,842	\$ 5,189	\$ 6,941	\$ 4,979	\$ 2,263	\$ 23,943	\$ 19,372	\$ 22,988
Net income per share—Basic	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.65	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.17	\$ 1.80	\$ 1.48	\$ 1.79
Net income per share—Diluted	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.17	\$ 1.78	\$ 1.46	\$ 1.75
Average shares outstanding—Basic									13,272	13,096	12,820
Average shares outstanding—Diluted									13,439	13,267	13,120
Employee Stock Option											
Antidilutive Securities Excluded From Computation Of Earnings Per Share [Line Items]											
Incremental shares from the assumed exercise of outstanding stock options									108	122	239
Restricted Stock											
Antidilutive Securities Excluded From Computation Of Earnings Per Share [Line Items]											
Incremental shares from the assumed lapse of restrictions on restricted stock awards									59	49	61

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Additional Information (Detail)

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands, except Share data, unless otherwise specified	12 Months Ended										1 Months Ended
	Sep. 30, 2013 Right Customer Executives Award Supplier Age Tranches Stores	Sep. 30, 2012 Supplier	Sep. 30, 2011 Supplier	Sep. 30, 2013 Furniture And Equipment Minimum	Sep. 30, 2012 Furniture And Equipment Maximum	Sep. 30, 2011 Building	Sep. 30, 2013 Revolving Credit Facility	Sep. 30, 2012 Revolving Credit Facility	Nov. 30, 2012 Revolving Credit Facility	Dec. 27, 2013 Scenario Forecast	
Summary Of Significant Accounting Policies [Line Items]											
Cash overdraft	\$ 4,730	\$ 3,452									
Maturity of cash and cash equivalents	Three months or less										
Service lives of assets				5 years	10 years	40 years					
Impairment write-downs of property, plant and equipment	754	1,875	759								
Legal costs incurred in connection with a lawsuit	1,093										
Write-downs of intangible assets	32	1	9								
Aggregate amortization expense of intangible assets	149	142	135								
Amortization of deferred financing costs	203	105	170								
Writeoff of unamortized deferred financing costs	9	22	37								
Deferred financing costs	988							988			
Payments of Financing Costs	927	61	26				927	61			
Options and unvested restricted stock	196,000	321,000	164,000								
Company paid cash dividends	9,799	9,325	6,901							2,600	
Company paid cash dividends on per share	\$ 0.725	\$ 0.70	\$ 0.525							\$ 0.1875	
Interest paid, including payments made on interest rate swap agreement	360	1,359	2,266								
Income tax paid, net of refunds	16,188	7,432	9,804								
No single supplier represented of net purchases	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%								
No single provider	0	0	0								
Advertising expenses, including Internet advertising expenses	\$ 16,984	\$ 13,878	\$ 11,712								

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Trade Receivables - Additional Information (Detail)

Trade Receivables - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$)	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012
Trade receivables, net	\$ 147,000	\$ 201,000

Notes Details - Inventories (Detail)

Inventories (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012
Inventory Disclosure [Abstract]		
Finished goods	\$ 79,087	\$ 82,795
Work-in-progress	2,709	2,804
Raw materials	4,750	3,155
Total	\$ 86,546	\$ 88,754

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Property, Plant and Equipment, Net - Property, Plant and Equipment, Net (Detail)

Property, Plant and Equipment, Net - Property, Plant and Equipment, Net (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012
Property Plant And Equipment [Line Items]		
Property, plant and equipment gross	\$ 179,272	\$ 171,449
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	(125,825)	(120,371)
Property, plant and equipment, net, total	53,447	51,078
Land		
Property Plant And Equipment [Line Items]		
Property, plant and equipment gross	1,400	1,400
Building and improvements		
Property Plant And Equipment [Line Items]		
Property, plant and equipment gross	16,211	15,843
Furniture And Equipment		
Property Plant And Equipment [Line Items]		
Property, plant and equipment gross	73,363	69,504
Leasehold improvements		
Property Plant And Equipment [Line Items]		
Property, plant and equipment gross	\$ 88,298	\$ 84,702

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Property, Plant and Equipment, Net - Additional Information (Detail)

Property, Plant and Equipment, Net - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$)	12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Property Plant And Equipment [Line Items]			
Aggregate depreciation and amortization expense of property, plant and equipment	\$ 12,275,000	\$ 12,303,000	\$ 12,634,000
Impairment write-downs of property, plant and equipment	\$ 754,000	\$ 1,875,000	\$ 759,000

Notes Details - Accrued Expenses and Other Current Liabilities - Accrued Expenses and Other Current Liabilities (Detail)

Accrued Expenses and Other Current Liabilities - Accrued Expenses and Other Current Liabilities (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012
Payables and Accruals [Abstract]		
Employee compensation and benefits	\$ 9,243	\$ 5,918
Insurance, primarily self-insurance reserves	5,899	5,341
Gift certificates and store credits	4,182	4,194
Deferred rent	3,400	3,599
Sales taxes	2,876	3,097
Product return reserve	2,702	2,225
Accounting and legal	1,106	1,215
Income taxes payable	166	1,350
Other	9,843	8,605
Total	\$ 39,417	\$ 35,544

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Deferred Rent and Other Non Current Liabilities - Deferred Rent and Other Non Current Liabilities (Detail)

Deferred Rent and Other Non Current Liabilities - Deferred Rent and Other Non Current Liabilities (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012
Deferred rent and other non-current liabilities		
Deferred rent	\$ 21,132	\$ 21,245
Less: current portion included in accrued expenses and other current liabilities	(3,400)	(3,599)
Non-current deferred rent	17,732	17,646
Accrued income taxes	4,218	4,063
Other	171	175
Deferred rent and other non-current liabilities	\$ 22,121	\$ 21,884

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Line of Credit - Additional Information (Detail)

Line of Credit - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$)	1 Months Ended		3 Months Ended	12 Months Ended			15 Months Ended
	Nov. 01, 2012 Y	Jul. 31, 2011	Jun. 30, 2011	Sep. 30, 2013 Right Customer Executives Award Supplier Age Tranches Stores	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011	Nov. 01, 2012 Y
Line Of Credit Facility [Line Items]							
Senior secured revolving credit facility			\$ 65,000,000	\$ 61,000,000	\$ 55,000,000		
Line of credit maturity date			Mar. 13, 2012	Nov. 01, 2017	Jan. 13, 2013		
Additional permitted borrowings under Tranche A				15,000,000			
Increments of additional permitted borrowings under Tranche A				2,500,000			
Credit Facility extended maximum limit	70,000,000						
Credit Facility Tranches				2			
Revolving credit facility period	5						5
Minimum excess availability on borrowing base				10.00%			
Applicable margin for Base rate borrowings using LIBOR		1.00%					1.75%
Unused line fee under the Credit Facility				0.25%			
Credit Facility Description of Variable Rate Basis				The interest rate on outstanding borrowings is equal to, at the Company's election, either (1) the lender's base rate plus the applicable margin, or (2) a LIBOR rate plus the applicable margin. The applicable margin for base rate borrowings is 0.50% for Tranche A borrowings and 2.00% for Tranche A-1 borrowings. The applicable margin for LIBOR rate borrowings is 1.50% for Tranche A borrowings and 3.00% for Tranche A-1 borrowings. Tranche A-1 borrowings are deemed to be the first loans made and the last loans repaid.			
Deferred financing costs				988,000			
Payments of Financing Costs				927,000	61,000	26,000	
Increase in effective interest rate on borrowings			0.75%				
Letters of credit				5,695,000	7,084,000		

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Line of credit availability			55,305,000	47,916,000		
Line of credit, outstanding borrowings			205,000	0	0	
Line of credit borrowings during period			6,200,000			
Minimum Tranche A						
Line Of Credit Facility [Line Items]						
Prior Credit Facility borrowings interest rate			1.68%			
Maximum Tranche A						
Line Of Credit Facility [Line Items]						
Prior Credit Facility borrowings interest rate			3.75%			
Tranche A						
Line Of Credit Facility [Line Items]						
Senior secured revolving credit facility			55,000,000			
Excess interest rate over prime rate			0.50%			
Applicable margin for Base rate borrowings using LIBOR			1.50%			
Minimum Tranche A-1						
Line Of Credit Facility [Line Items]						
Prior Credit Facility borrowings interest rate			3.18%			
Maximum Tranche A-1						
Line Of Credit Facility [Line Items]						
Prior Credit Facility borrowings interest rate			5.25%			
Tranche A-1						
Line Of Credit Facility [Line Items]						
Senior secured revolving credit facility			\$ 6,000,000			
Excess interest rate over prime rate			2.00%			
Applicable margin for Base rate borrowings using LIBOR			3.00%			
Prior Credit Facility						
Line Of Credit Facility [Line Items]						
Excess interest rate over prime rate		0.00%				0.75%

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Long-Term Debt - Long-Term Debt (Detail)

Long-Term Debt - Long-Term Debt (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012
Debt Instrument [Line Items]		
Long-term debt		\$ 15,257
Current portion of long-term debt		(15,257)
Long-term Debt, Total		
Outstanding borrowings under Senior secured term loan B		
Debt Instrument [Line Items]		
Long-term debt		13,427
Outstanding borrowings under Industrial revenue bond		
Debt Instrument [Line Items]		
Long-term debt		1,830
Current portion of long-term debt		\$ (1,830)

Notes Details - Long-Term Debt - Long-Term Debt (Parenthetical) (Detail)

Long-Term Debt - Long-Term Debt (Parenthetical) (Detail) (USD \$)	3 Months Ended		12 Months Ended		1 Months Ended		3 Months Ended		12 Months Ended				1 Months Ended		12 Months Ended				
	Jun. 30, 2011	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Nov. 01, 2012	Senior Secured Term Loan B	Dec. 31, 2012	Senior Secured Term Loan B	Sep. 30, 2013	Senior Secured Term Loan B	Sep. 30, 2011	Senior Secured Term Loan B	Sep. 30, 2012	Senior Secured Term Loan B	Apr. 03, 2013	Industrial revenue bond	Sep. 30, 2013	Industrial revenue bond	Sep. 30, 2012	Industrial revenue bond
Debt Instrument [Line Items]																			
Senior secured term loan B, variable interest																			
Minimum quarterly repayment amount						\$ 225,000	\$ 225,000	\$ 0											
Remaining Term Loan B balance prepaid						\$ 13,427,000								\$ 1,830,000					
Line of credit maturity date	Mar. 13, 2012	Nov. 01, 2017	Jan. 13, 2013																Sep. 01, 2020

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Long-Term Debt - Additional Information (Detail)

Long-Term Debt - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$)	12 Months Ended			1 Months Ended	0 Months Ended	3 Months Ended	12 Months Ended				12 Months Ended	0 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011	Nov. 01, 2012 Senior Secured Term Loan B	Apr. 18, 2007 Senior Secured Term Loan B	Dec. 31, 2012 Senior Secured Term Loan B	Sep. 30, 2013 Senior Secured Term Loan B	Sep. 30, 2012 Senior Secured Term Loan B	Sep. 30, 2011 Senior Secured Term Loan B	Sep. 30, 2010 Senior Secured Term Loan B	Apr. 18, 2012 Senior Secured Term Loan B	Sep. 30, 2013 Term Loan And Amendments Of Prior Credit Facility	Apr. 03, 2013 Industrial revenue bond	Sep. 30, 2012 Industrial revenue bond
Debt Instrument [Line Items]														
Senior secured Term Loan proceeds					\$									
Remaining Term Loan B balance prepaid				13,427,000										
Condition for interest rate on term loan														
Excess interest rate over prime rate					1.00%									
Fixed margin minimum on term loan B LIBOR						2.25%	2.25%	2.25%						
Minimum quarterly repayment amount						225,000	225,000	0						
Percentage of Excess Cash Flow due as principal repayment							25.00%							
Minimum excess cash flow to generate additional annual principal repayment							5,000,000							
Prepayment of outstanding Term Loan							13,427,000	15,000,000	12,623,000					
Prepayment under the annual excess cash flow provision of term Loan										2,623,000				
Senior Secured Term Loan B					90,000,000									
Interest Rate on Term Loan								7.25%	7.25%					
Notional Amount of Interest Rate Swap					75,000,000					5,000,000				
Pretax losses with the exchange of interest rate payments under the swap agreement								(144,000)	(808,000)					
Payments of Financing Costs	927,000	61,000	26,000								1,112,000			
Outstanding borrowings under an Industrial Revenue Bond ("IRB")		15,257,000												1,830,000
Repayment of long-term debt	\$ 15,257,000	\$ 16,085,000	\$ 13,819,000										\$ 1,830,000	

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Fair Value Measurements - Additional Information (Detail)

Fair Value Measurements - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012
Cash equivalents held by the Company	\$ 20,425	\$ 19,462

Notes Details - Common and Preferred Stock - Additional Information (Detail)

Common and Preferred Stock - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$)	1 Months Ended		12 Months Ended	
	Jul. 31, 2012	Jul. 30, 2008	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012
Repurchase of the Company's outstanding common stock	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 7,000,000		
Preferred stock, shares authorized			1,656,381	1,656,381
Preferred stock, par value			\$ 0.01	
Series B junior participating preferred stock, shares issued			0	0
Series B junior participating preferred stock, shares outstanding			0	0
Class of warrants rights preference share conversion ratio			0.10%	
Series B Unit voting rights			One share of common stock	
Series B junior participating preferred stock				
Preferred stock, shares authorized			300,000	300,000
Preferred stock, par value			\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01
Series B junior participating preferred stock, shares outstanding				

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Rights Agreement - Additional Information (Detail)

Rights Agreement - Additional Information (Detail)	12 Months Ended
	Sep. 30, 2013 Right Customer Executives Award Supplier Age Tranches Stores
Rights Agreement (Textual) [Abstract]	
Number of right for each common share	1
Number of Series B unit purchased	1
Right Exercise Price	85
Beneficial Ownership Percentage To make right agreement inoperative for Acquiring Person	15.00%
Number of Days For commencement of a tender offer or exchange offer	10 days
Mandatorily redeemable rights redemption price	0.01
Rights to receive Series B units or common stock of the acquiring company	Two times

Notes Details - Equity Award Plans - Stock Option Activity for All Plans (Detail)

Equity Award Plans - Stock Option Activity for All Plans (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands, except Per Share data	12 Months Ended
	Sep. 30, 2013
Stock option activity for all plans	
Share-based compensation Arrangement by share-based payment award, options, outstanding, number, beginning balance	607
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, grants	107
Exercise of stock options, shares	(163)
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, forfeitures in period	(1)
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, expirations in period	(2)
Share-based compensation Arrangement by share-based payment award, options, outstanding, number, Ending balance	548
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, exercisable, number	210
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, outstanding, weighted average exercise price, beginning balance	\$ 13.05
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, weighted average exercise price	\$ 20.23
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, exercises in period, weighted average exercise price	\$ 10.01
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, forfeitures in period, weighted average exercise price	\$ 10.70
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, expirations in period, weighted average exercise price	\$ 18.70
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, outstanding, weighted average exercise price, Ending balance	\$ 15.35
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, exercisable, weighted average exercise price	\$ 11.40
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, outstanding, weighted average remaining contractual term	6 years 10 months 24 days
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, exercisable, weighted average remaining contractual term	5 years 2 months 12 days
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, outstanding, intrinsic value	\$ 9,021
Share-based compensation arrangement by share-based payment award, options, exercisable, intrinsic value	\$ 4,280

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Equity Award Plans - Weighted-Average Assumptions for Option Grants (Detail)

Equity Award Plans - Weighted-Average Assumptions for Option Grants (Detail)	12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Weighted-average assumptions for option grants			
Expected dividend yield	3.50%	4.50%	3.20%
Expected price volatility	59.60%	63.00%	62.50%
Risk-free interest rate	0.80%	1.00%	2.40%
Expected life	5 years 6 months	5 years 6 months	5 years 9 months 18 days

Notes Details - Equity Award Plans - Summarizes Information about Stock Options Outstanding (Detail)

Equity Award Plans - Summarizes Information about Stock Options Outstanding (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands, except Per Share data	12 Months Ended
	Sep. 30, 2013
Range one	
Summary of information about stock options outstanding	
Range of Exercise Prices, lower range	\$ 3.52
Range of Exercise Prices, upper range	\$ 6.50
Number of Options Outstanding	35
Options Outstanding, Weighted Average Remaining Life	3 years
Option Outstanding, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 5.10
Number of Options Exercisable	30
Option Exercisable, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 5.41
Range two	
Summary of information about stock options outstanding	
Range of Exercise Prices, lower range	\$ 6.51
Range of Exercise Prices, upper range	\$ 7.00
Number of Options Outstanding	90
Options Outstanding, Weighted Average Remaining Life	4 years 7 months 6 days
Option Outstanding, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 6.87
Number of Options Exercisable	90
Option Exercisable, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 6.87
Range three	
Summary of information about stock options outstanding	
Range of Exercise Prices, lower range	\$ 7.01
Range of Exercise Prices, upper range	\$ 14.00
Number of Options Outstanding	92
Options Outstanding, Weighted Average Remaining Life	5 years 10 months 24 days
Option Outstanding, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 11.79
Number of Options Exercisable	27
Option Exercisable, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 11.55
Range four	
Summary of information about stock options outstanding	
Range of Exercise Prices, lower range	\$ 14.01
Range of Exercise Prices, upper range	\$ 19.00

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Number of Options Outstanding	85
Options Outstanding, Weighted Average Remaining Life	8 years 2 months 12 days
Option Outstanding, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 15.96
Number of Options Exercisable	13
Option Exercisable, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 16.88
Range five	
Summary of information about stock options outstanding	
Range of Exercise Prices, lower range	\$ 19.01
Range of Exercise Prices, upper range	\$ 20.00
Number of Options Outstanding	105
Options Outstanding, Weighted Average Remaining Life	9 years 1 month 6 days
Option Outstanding, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 19.86
Number of Options Exercisable	1
Option Exercisable, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 19.17
Range six	
Summary of information about stock options outstanding	
Range of Exercise Prices, lower range	\$ 20.01
Range of Exercise Prices, upper range	\$ 22.00
Number of Options Outstanding	40
Options Outstanding, Weighted Average Remaining Life	7 years 8 months 12 days
Option Outstanding, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 20.62
Number of Options Exercisable	16
Option Exercisable, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 20.62
Range seven	
Summary of information about stock options outstanding	
Range of Exercise Prices, lower range	\$ 22.01
Range of Exercise Prices, upper range	\$ 29.63
Number of Options Outstanding	101
Options Outstanding, Weighted Average Remaining Life	7 years 6 months
Option Outstanding, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 22.43
Number of Options Exercisable	33
Option Exercisable, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 22.13
Range eight	
Summary of information about stock options outstanding	
Range of Exercise Prices, lower range	\$ 3.52
Range of Exercise Prices, upper range	\$ 29.63
Number of Options Outstanding	548

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Options Outstanding, Weighted Average Remaining Life	6 years 10 months 24 days
Option Outstanding, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 15.35
Number of Options Exercisable	210
Option Exercisable, Weighted Average Exercise Price	\$ 11.40

Notes Details - Equity Award Plans - Restricted Stock Activity (Detail)

Equity Award Plans - Restricted Stock Activity (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands, except Per Share data	12 Months Ended
	Sep. 30, 2013
Restricted stock activity for the 2005 Plan	
Outstanding Shares, Nonvested, beginning balance	215
Outstanding Shares, Granted	107
Outstanding Shares, Vested	(86)
Outstanding Shares, Forfeited	(10)
Outstanding Shares, Nonvested, ending balance	226
Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value, Nonvested, beginning balance	\$ 16.02
Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value, Granted	\$ 20.98
Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value, Vested	\$ 14.52
Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value, Forfeited	\$ 16.75
Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value, Nonvested, ending balance	\$ 18.92

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Equity Award Plans - Additional Information (Detail)

Equity Award Plans - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$)	12 Months Ended			
	Sep. 30, 2013 Right Customer Executives Award Supplier Age Tranches Stores	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011	Dec. 09, 2007
Deferred Compensation Arrangement With Individual Share Based Payments [Line Items]				
Number of equity award plans	3			
Options unavailable for grant upon expiration of 1987 Plan				521,354
Share-based payment award, expiration period	10 years			
Restricted stock, shares vested to non-employee director	4,000			
Number of options granted with exercise price less than fair market value on grant date	0			
Total intrinsic value of options exercised	\$ 2,080,000	\$ 1,544,000	\$ 9,659,000	
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	744,000	107,000	2,285,000	
Actual tax benefit realized for tax deductions from option exercised	784,000	580,000	3,617,000	
Exercise of stock options, shares	163,000			
Exercise of stock options, net	744,000	107,000	2,285,000	
Net-share settled by company	39,934	51,041	109,926	
Weighted average fair value of stock options	\$ 7.98	\$ 6.17	\$ 9.69	
Cumulative operating income during performance period, fiscal 2012 through fiscal 2014, minimum	109,582,000	120,000,000		
Maximum Cumulative Operating Income During Performance Period	132,201,000	132,000,000		
Number of executive officers granted performance based RSU	4			
Unrecognized compensation cost	5,143,000			
Weighted-average period recognized compensation cost	1 year 3 months 18 days			
Repurchase of common stock, shares	34,125	30,849	128,646	
Payments for tax obligations to the tax authorities on exercise or vesting date	725,000	597,000	2,786,000	
1987 Plan				
Deferred Compensation Arrangement With Individual Share Based Payments [Line Items]				
Options to be issued	4,350,000			
Minimum 2005 Plan				
Deferred Compensation Arrangement With Individual Share Based Payments [Line Items]				
Share-based payment award, expiration period	1 year			
Maximum 2005 Plan				

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Deferred Compensation Arrangement With Individual Share Based Payments [Line Items]				
Share-based payment award, expiration period	5 years			
2005 Plan				
Deferred Compensation Arrangement With Individual Share Based Payments [Line Items]				
Options to be issued	2,800,000			
Common stock shares issued, restricted stock units under 2005 Plan	1,500,000			
Common stock available for grant under the 2005 Plan	1,095,106			
Shares issued in respect of restricted stock under the 2005 Plan	641,347			
Exercise of stock options, shares	101,949	119,600	368,800	
Exercise of stock options, net	\$ 890,000	\$ 1,007,000	\$ 2,428,000	
Director Plan				
Deferred Compensation Arrangement With Individual Share Based Payments [Line Items]				
Share based compensation arrangement by share based payment award number of shares authorized to be issued as stock options	400,000			
Non-executive chairman				
Deferred Compensation Arrangement With Individual Share Based Payments [Line Items]				
Restricted stock, shares vested to non-employee director	6,000			
Minimum				
Deferred Compensation Arrangement With Individual Share Based Payments [Line Items]				
Share-based payment award, vesting period	4 years			
Minimum Executive RSUs				
Deferred Compensation Arrangement With Individual Share Based Payments [Line Items]				
Cumulative restricted stock units available for future declaration	18,541	19,531		
Maximum				
Deferred Compensation Arrangement With Individual Share Based Payments [Line Items]				
Share-based payment award, vesting period	5 years			
Maximum Executive RSUs				
Deferred Compensation Arrangement With Individual Share Based Payments [Line Items]				
Cumulative restricted stock units available for future declaration	55,621	58,590		

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Income Taxes - Income Tax Provision (Details)

Income Taxes - Income Tax Provision (Details) (USD \$) In Thousands	12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Summary of income tax provisions			
Current provision	\$ 16,017	\$ 13,874	\$ 10,307
Deferred (benefit) provision	(1,791)	(1,378)	2,679
Deferred benefit of state net operating loss carryforwards, net of federal effect, recognized based on change in tax regulations	(1,216)		
Federal provision	11,485	8,517	12,047
State provision	380	2,170	924
Foreign provision	1,145	1,809	15
Income Tax Expense (Benefit)	\$ 13,010	\$ 12,496	\$ 12,986

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Income Taxes - Reconciliations of the Statutory Federal Tax Rate to the Company's Effective Income Tax Rates (Details)

Income Taxes - Reconciliations of the Statutory Federal Tax Rate to the Company's Effective Income Tax Rates (Details)	12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Reconciliations of the statutory federal tax rate to the Company's effective income tax rates			
Statutory federal tax rate	35.00%	35.00%	35.00%
State tax rate, net of federal benefit	2.70%	2.70%	3.30%
Provision for (benefit from) uncertain income tax positions, net of federal effect	1.30%	2.40%	(1.50%)
Benefit of state net operating loss carryforwards, net of federal effect, recognized based on change in tax regulations	(3.30%)		
Other	(0.50%)	(0.90%)	(0.70%)
Effective income tax rate, continuing operations, total	35.20%	39.20%	36.10%

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Income Taxes - Deferred Tax Effects of Temporary Differences Giving Rise to the Company's Net Deferred Tax Assets (Details)

Income Taxes - Deferred Tax Effects of Temporary Differences Giving Rise to the Company's Net Deferred Tax Assets (Details) (USD \$) In Thousands	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012
Deferred tax assets:		
Deferred rent	\$ 7,964	\$ 7,981
State net operating loss carryforwards	3,141	
Employee benefit accruals	3,071	2,915
Depreciation and amortization	2,245	1,729
Stock-based compensation	1,029	733
Inventory reserves	745	637
Foreign tax credit carryforwards		447
Other accruals	3,203	2,866
Other	1,529	1,444
Deferred tax assets (excluding state net operating loss carryforwards)	22,927	18,752
Valuation allowance	(1,925)	
Deferred tax asset, net of valuation allowance	21,002	18,752
Deferred tax liability:		
Prepaid expenses	(520)	(528)
Net deferred tax assets	\$ 20,482	\$ 18,224

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Income Taxes - Summary of Income Tax Contingencies (Details)

Income Taxes - Summary of Income Tax Contingencies (Details) (USD \$) In Thousands	12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Reconciliation of gross unrecognized tax benefits for uncertain tax positions			
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 4,063	\$ 2,591	\$ 3,830
Additions for current year tax positions	476	1,377	203
Additions for prior year tax positions	331	266	154
Reductions of prior year tax positions	(12)	(20)	(1,104)
Settlements	(640)	(151)	(492)
Balance at end of year	\$ 4,218	\$ 4,063	\$ 2,591

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Income Taxes - Additional Information (Detail)

Income Taxes - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands	12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Income Taxes (Textual) [Abstract]			
Benefit of state net operating loss carryforwards, net of federal effect, from change in tax regulations	\$ (1,216)		
Increase deferred tax assets excluding state net operating loss carryforwards	679		
Unrecognized tax benefits related to uncertain income tax positions	1,957		
Unrecognized tax benefits related to uncertain income tax position accrued interest and penalties	341	577	(386)
Recognized liabilities for unrecognized tax benefits that impact effective tax rate	2,985		
Recoverable income taxes	648		
Gross unrecognized tax benefits increase for uncertain tax positions	399		
Approximate gross unrecognized tax benefit that would impact the effective tax rate	\$ 278		

Notes Details - Commitments and Contingencies - Future Annual Minimum Operating Lease Payments (Detail)

Commitments and Contingencies - Future Annual Minimum Operating Lease Payments (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands	Sep. 30, 2013
Future annual minimum operating lease payments	
2014	\$ 42,200
2015	33,704
2016	28,360
2017	23,447
2018	18,973
2019 and thereafter	72,732
Total	\$ 219,416

Notes Details - Commitments and Contingencies - Additional Information (Detail)

Commitments and Contingencies - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$)	12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Total rent expense	\$ 61,253,000	\$ 65,412,000	\$ 67,496,000
Contingent rentals based upon a percentage of sales	\$ 1,574,000	\$ 1,428,000	\$ 1,563,000

Notes Details - Executive Officer Employment Agreements - Additional Information (Detail)

Executive Officer Employment Agreements Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$)	12 Months Ended				12 Months Ended				12 Months Ended				12 Months Ended															
	Dec. 04, 2013	Dec. 04, 2013	Dec. 04, 2013	Dec. 04, 2013	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011	Dec. 02, 2010	Aug. 03, 2010	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011	Jun. 01, 2011	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011	Dec. 01, 2010	Dec. 02, 2009	Oct. 02, 2009	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011	Dec. 01, 2010	Dec. 02, 2010	Apr. 27, 2010			
	Subsequent Event Chief Executive Officer	Subsequent Event President	Subsequent Event Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	Subsequent Event Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer	Chief Executive Officer	Chief Executive Officer	Chief Executive Officer	Chief Executive Officer	Chief Executive Officer	President	President	President	President	President and Chief Financial Officer	President and Chief Financial Officer	President and Chief Financial Officer	President and Chief Financial Officer	President and Chief Financial Officer	President and Chief Financial Officer	President and Chief Financial Officer	Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer	Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer	Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer	Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer	Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer	Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer		
Defined Benefit Plan Disclosure (Line Items)																												
Actual base salary	\$ 800,000	\$ 535,000	\$ 405,000	\$ 390,000				\$ 750,000	\$ 650,000				\$ 525,000							\$ 385,000	\$ 375,000	\$ 332,000				\$ 360,000	\$ 320,000	\$ 275,000
Base salary earned					\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 733,000			\$ 525,000	\$ 525,000	\$ 175,000		\$ 369,000	\$ 375,000	\$ 368,000				\$ 353,000	\$ 320,000	\$ 312,000						

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Postretirement Obligations - Changes in the benefit obligation under Supplemental Executive Retirement Agreements (Detail)

Postretirement Obligations - Changes in the benefit obligation under Supplemental Executive Retirement Agreements (Detail) (USD \$)	12 Months Ended			42 Months Ended
	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011	Sep. 30, 2012
Changes in the benefit obligation under Supplemental Executive Retirement Agreement				
Interest cost		\$ 18,000	\$ 88,000	
SERP Agreements				
Changes in the benefit obligation under Supplemental Executive Retirement Agreement				
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	150,000	732,000		
Interest cost		18,000		
Benefit payments	(150,000)	(600,000)	(4,166,000)	(3,960,000)
Benefit obligation at end of year		150,000	732,000	150,000
Less: current portion included in accrued expenses and other current liabilities		(150,000)		(150,000)
Non-current benefit obligation at end of year				

Notes Details - Postretirement Obligations - Additional Information (Detail)

Postretirement Obligations - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$)	1 Months Ended	12 Months Ended			42 Months Ended	1 Months Ended	12 Months Ended			
	Dec. 31, 2010	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2013 SERP Agreements	Sep. 30, 2012 SERP Agreements	Sep. 30, 2011 SERP Agreements	Sep. 30, 2012 SERP Agreements	Dec. 31, 2010 SERP Agreements Mr. Matthias	Sep. 30, 2013 SERP Agreements Mr. Matthias	Sep. 30, 2012 SERP Agreements Mr. Matthias	Sep. 30, 2011 SERP Agreements Mr. Matthias
Defined Benefit Plan Disclosure [Line Items]										
Annual retainer paid under Agreement		\$ 200,000								
SERP Agreement benefits paid to former CEO			150,000	600,000	4,166,000	3,960,000	4,166,000	150,000	600,000	750,000
Company received a distribution of the remaining assets		\$ 1,504,000								

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Employee Benefit Plans - Additional Information (Detail)

Employee Benefit Plans - Additional Information (Detail) (USD \$)	12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013 Right Customer Executives Award Supplier Age	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Employee Benefit Plans (Textual) [Abstract]			
Service of employees under savings plan	6 months		
Minimum age of employees under savings plan	18		
Contribution made by employees	20.00%		
Contributions made by company	\$ 121,000	\$ 39,000	\$ 146,000
Cumulative plan forfeitures applied against company matching contribution	\$ 12,000	\$ 100,000	
Discretionary contributions to the plan	6 years		

Notes Details - Quarterly Financial Information (Unaudited) (Detail)

Quarterly Financial Information (Unaudited) (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands, except Per Share data	3 Months Ended								12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Jun. 30, 2013	Mar. 31, 2013	Dec. 31, 2012	Sep. 30, 2012	Jun. 30, 2012	Mar. 31, 2012	Dec. 31, 2011	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Quarterly financial results											
Net sales	\$ 128,250	\$ 141,886	\$ 134,859	\$ 135,264	\$ 128,487	\$ 138,847	\$ 137,792	\$ 136,350	\$ 540,259	\$ 541,476	\$ 545,394
Gross profit	69,525	77,288	72,980	71,168	71,588	75,756	73,761	69,606	290,961	290,711	296,897
Net income	\$ 5,633	\$ 8,591	\$ 5,877	\$ 3,842	\$ 5,189	\$ 6,941	\$ 4,979	\$ 2,263	\$ 23,943	\$ 19,372	\$ 22,988
Net income per share—Basic	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.65	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.17	\$ 1.80	\$ 1.48	\$ 1.79
Net income per share—Diluted	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.17	\$ 1.78	\$ 1.46	\$ 1.75

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Segment and Enterprise Wide Disclosures - Operations by Geographic Area (Detail)

Segment and Enterprise Wide Disclosures - Operations by Geographic Area (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands	3 Months Ended								12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Jun. 30, 2013	Mar. 31, 2013	Dec. 31, 2012	Sep. 30, 2012	Jun. 30, 2012	Mar. 31, 2012	Dec. 31, 2011	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Net Sales to Unaffiliated Customers											
Net sales	\$ 128,250	\$ 141,886	\$ 134,859	\$ 135,264	\$ 128,487	\$ 138,847	\$ 137,792	\$ 136,350	\$ 540,259	\$ 541,476	\$ 545,394
United States Reportable Geographical Components											
Net Sales to Unaffiliated Customers											
Net sales									512,585	514,779	520,023
Long-Lived Assets, Net											
Long-Lived Assets	53,992				51,449				53,992	51,449	
Foreign Reportable Geographical Components											
Net Sales to Unaffiliated Customers											
Net sales									27,674	26,697	25,371
Long-Lived Assets, Net											
Long-Lived Assets	\$ 1,799				\$ 976				\$ 1,799	\$ 976	

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Segment and Enterprise Wide Disclosures - Additional Information (Detail)

Segment and Enterprise Wide Disclosures - Additional Information (Detail)	12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013 Right Customer Executives Award Supplier Age	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Segment Reporting [Abstract]			
Number of customer who represented more than 10% of net sales	0		
Percentage of contribution by the customer	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%

Notes Details - Interest Expense, Net (Detail)

Interest Expense, Net (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands	12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Interest expense, net			
Interest expense	\$ 557	\$ 1,256	\$ 2,266
Interest income	(25)	(41)	(33)
Interest expense, net	\$ 532	\$ 1,215	\$ 2,233

Source: Destination Maternity Corp, XBRL, 12/13/2013 | Powered by Intelligize

Notes Details - Valuation and Qualifying Accounts - (Detail)

Valuation and Qualifying Accounts - (Detail) (Product return reserve, USD \$) In Thousands	12 Months Ended		
	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Product return reserve			
Valuation And Qualifying Accounts Disclosure [Line Items]			
Balance at beginning of period	\$ 2,225	\$ 2,083	\$ 1,469
Additions charged to costs and expenses	477	142	614
Deductions and reclassifications			
Balance at end of period	\$ 2,702	\$ 2,225	\$ 2,083

Notes Details - Valuation and Qualifying Accounts - (Parenthetical) (Detail)

Valuation and Qualifying Accounts - (Parenthetical) (Detail) (USD \$) In Thousands	Sep. 30, 2013	Sep. 30, 2012	Sep. 30, 2011
Cost value of estimated product returns	\$ 1,160	\$ 919	\$ 853