

Ascena Retail Group, Inc.  
Form SC 13G  
February 13, 2019

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

**SCHEDULE 13G**

**Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Ascena Retail Group Inc.**

(Name of Issuer)

**Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share**

(Title of Class of Securities)

**04351G101**

(CUSIP Number)

**December 31, 2018**

(Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
- Rule 13d-1(c)
- Rule 13d-1(d)

\* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be filed for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Act) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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1. Names of Reporting Persons

Nomura Holdings, Inc.

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a)

(b)

3. SEC Use Only

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization: Japan

Number of  
Shares  
Beneficially  
Owned by  
Each  
Reporting  
Person With

5. Sole Voting Power 0

6. Shared Voting Power 17,007,518(1)

7. Sole Dispositive Power 0

8. Shared Dispositive Power 17,007,518(1)

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person

17,007,518

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions)

Not applicable

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9)

8.6% (2)

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)

HC

(1) This represents 17,007,518 shares beneficially owned by Nomura Global Financial Products, Inc. ( NGFP ). NGFP is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nomura Holdings, Inc., which accordingly may be deemed to beneficially own

the shares beneficially owned by NGFP.

(2) The percent of class is calculated based on 197,437,157 shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding as of December 6, 2018 as reported in the Issuer's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended November 3, 2018 filed with the SEC on December 10, 2018.

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1. Names of Reporting Persons

Nomura Global Financial Products, Inc.

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a)

(b)

3. SEC Use Only

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization: Delaware

|   |    |                          |            |
|---|----|--------------------------|------------|
| Number of<br>Shares<br>Beneficially<br>Owned by<br>Each<br>Reporting<br>Person With | 5. | Sole Voting Power        | 0          |
|   | 6. | Shared Voting Power      | 17,007,518 |
|   | 7. | Sole Dispositive Power   | 0          |
|   | 8. | Shared Dispositive Power | 17,007,518 |

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person  
17,007,518

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions)

Not applicable

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9)  
8.6% (1)

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)  
BD

(1) The percent of class is calculated based on 197,437,157 shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding as of December 6, 2018 as reported in the Issuer's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended November 3, 2018 filed with the SEC on December 10, 2018.



CUSIP No. 04351G101

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**Item 1.** (a) Name of Issuer:

Ascena Retail Group Inc.

(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

933 Macarthur Boulevard

Mahwah ME 07430

**Item 2.** (a) Name of Person(s) Filing:

Nomura Global Financial Products, Inc.

(b) Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence:

Nomura Holdings, Inc.

1-9-1 Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103-8645, Japan

Nomura Global Financial Products, Inc.

Worldwide Plaza

309 West 49th Street

New York, NY 10019

(c) Citizenship:

Nomura Holdings, Inc.

Japan

Nomura Global Financial Products, Inc.

Delaware

(d) Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share

(e) CUSIP Number:

04351G101

**Item 3.** If this statement is filed pursuant to §§240.13d-1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:

- |     |                                  |  |
|-----|----------------------------------|--|
| (a) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | Broker or dealer registered under section 15 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78o).     |
| (b) | <input type="radio"/>            | Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).               |
| (c) | <input type="radio"/>            | Insurance company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c). |

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- (d)  Investment company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8).
  - (e)  An investment adviser in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
  - (f)  An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
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- |     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| (g) | X | A parent holding company or control person in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);  |
| (h) | O | A savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);  |
| (i) | O | A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3);                  |
| (j) | O | A non-U.S. institution in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J);  |
| (k) | O | Group, in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(K). If filing as a non-U.S. institution in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J), please specify the type of institution: |
- 

**Item 4.** Ownership.

Items 5-11 of the cover page are incorporated by reference

**Item 5.** Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following **O**.

**Item 6.** Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

Not applicable

**Item 7.** Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company or Control Person.

See Exhibit B

**Item 8.** Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

Not applicable

**Item 9.** Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not applicable

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**Item 10.** Certification.

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect, other than activities solely in connection with a nomination under § 240.14a-11.

**SIGNATURE**

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the undersigned certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

EXECUTED as a sealed instrument this 13th day of February, 2019.

Nomura Holdings, Inc.

/s/ Kentaro Okuda  
Name: Kentaro Okuda  
Title: Senior Managing Director

Nomura Global Financial Products, Inc.

/s/ Jonathan Raiff  
Name: Jonathan Raiff  
Title: Senior Managing Director

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Index to Exhibits

| Exhibit | Exhibit                |
|---------|------------------------|
| A       | Joint Filing Agreement |
| B       | Subsidiaries           |

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**EXHIBIT A**

**JOINT FILING AGREEMENT**

In accordance with Rule 13d-1(k) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the persons or entities named below agree to the joint filing on behalf of each of them of this Schedule 13G with respect to the Securities of the Issuer and further agree that this Joint Filing Agreement be included as an exhibit to this Schedule 13G. In evidence thereof, the undersigned hereby execute this Joint Filing Agreement as of February 13, 2019.

Nomura Holdings, Inc.

/s/ Kentaro Okuda  
Name: Kentaro Okuda  
Title: Senior Managing Director

Nomura Global Financial Products, Inc.

/s/ Jonathan Raiff  
Name: Jonathan Raiff  
Title: Senior Managing Director

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**EXHIBIT B**

**SUBSIDIARIES**

Nomura Global Financial Products, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nomura Holdings, Inc.

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