

METLIFE INC
Form 10-K
February 28, 2012
Table of Contents

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, 2011

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 001-15787

MetLife, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of

incorporation or organization)

200 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y.
(Address of principal

executive offices)

13-4075851
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

10166-0188
(Zip Code)

(212) 578-2211

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.01	New York Stock Exchange
Floating Rate Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series A, par value \$0.01	New York Stock Exchange
6.50% Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series B, par value \$0.01	New York Stock Exchange
Common Equity Units	New York Stock Exchange
5.875% Senior Notes	New York Stock Exchange
5.375% Senior Notes	Irish Stock Exchange
5.25% Senior Notes	Irish Stock Exchange

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

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 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 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 Web site, 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

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 the definitions 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 common equity held by non-affiliates of the registrant at June 30, 2011 was approximately \$46 billion. At February 21, 2012, 1,060,330,384 shares of the registrant's common stock were outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Part III of this Form 10-K incorporates by reference certain information from the registrant's definitive proxy statement for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on April 24, 2012, to be filed by the registrant with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A not later than 120 days after the year ended December 31, 2011.

Table of Contents**Table of Contents**

	Page Number
Part I	
Item 1. <u>Business</u>	4
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	32
Item 1B. <u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	71
Item 2. <u>Properties</u>	71
Item 3. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	72
Item 4. <u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	72
Part II	
Item 5. <u>Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	72
Item 6. <u>Selected Financial Data</u>	74
Item 7. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	77
Item 7A. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	192
Item 8. <u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	203
Item 9. <u>Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	439
Item 9A. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	439
Item 9B. <u>Other Information</u>	441
Part III	
Item 10. <u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	442
Item 11. <u>Executive Compensation</u>	442
Item 12. <u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	442
Item 13. <u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u>	445
Item 14. <u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u>	445
Part IV	
Item 15. <u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u>	446
<u>Signatures</u>	447
<u>Exhibit Index</u>	E-1
<u>EX-3.1</u>	
<u>EX-3.2</u>	
<u>EX-3.3</u>	
<u>EX-3.4</u>	
<u>EX-3.5</u>	
<u>EX-3.6</u>	
<u>EX-4.1(a)</u>	
<u>EX-4.45</u>	
<u>EX-4.82</u>	
<u>EX-10.10</u>	

EX-10.11

EX-10.35

EX-10.45

EX-10.46

EX-10.47

EX-10.48

EX-10.49

EX-10.58

EX-10.66

EX-10.67

EX-10.74

EX-10.75

EX-10.76

EX-10.80

EX-10.81

EX-10.88

EX-10.89

EX-10.90

EX-10.93

EX-10.94

EX-12.1

EX-21.1

EX-23.1

EX-31.1

EX-31.2

EX-32.1

EX-32.2

EX-101 INSTANCE DOCUMENT

EX-101 SCHEMA DOCUMENT

EX-101 CALCULATION LINKBASE DOCUMENT

EX-101 LABELS LINKBASE DOCUMENT

EX-101 PRESENTATION LINKBASE DOCUMENT

EX-101 DEFINITION LINKBASE DOCUMENT

Table of Contents

As used in this Form 10-K, MetLife, the Company, we, our and us refer to MetLife, Inc., a Delaware corporation incorporated in 1995 and its subsidiaries and affiliates.

Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This Annual Report on Form 10-K, including Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, may contain or incorporate by reference information that includes or is based upon forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements give expectations or forecasts of future events. These statements can be identified by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. They use words such as anticipate, estimate, expect, project, intend, plan, believe and other words and terms of similar meaning in connection with a discussion of future operating or financial performance. In particular, these include statements relating to future actions, prospective services or products, future performance or results of current and anticipated services or products, sales efforts, expenses, the outcome of contingencies such as legal proceedings, trends in operations and financial results.

Any or all forward-looking statements may turn out to be wrong. They can be affected by inaccurate assumptions or by known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Many such factors will be important in determining the actual future results of MetLife, Inc., its subsidiaries and affiliates. These statements are based on current expectations and the current economic environment. They involve a number of risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. These statements are not guarantees of future performance. Actual results could differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. Risks, uncertainties, and other factors that might cause such differences include the risks, uncertainties and other factors identified in MetLife, Inc.'s filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). These factors include: (1) difficult conditions in the global capital markets; (2) concerns over U.S. fiscal policy and the trajectory of the national debt of the U.S., as well as rating agency downgrades of U.S. Treasury securities; (3) uncertainty about the effectiveness of governmental and regulatory actions to stabilize the financial system, the imposition of fees relating thereto, or the promulgation of additional regulations; (4) increased volatility and disruption of the capital and credit markets, which may affect our ability to seek financing or access our credit facilities; (5) impact of comprehensive financial services regulation reform on us; (6) economic, political, legal, currency and other risks relating to our international operations, including with respect to fluctuations of exchange rates; (7) exposure to financial and capital market risk, including as a result of the disruption in Europe and possible withdrawal of one or more countries from the Euro zone; (8) changes in general economic conditions, including the performance of financial markets and interest rates, which may affect our ability to raise capital, generate fee income and market-related revenue and finance statutory reserve requirements and may require us to pledge collateral or make payments related to declines in value of specified assets; (9) potential liquidity and other risks resulting from our participation in a securities lending program and other transactions; (10) investment losses and defaults, and changes to investment valuations; (11) impairments of goodwill and realized losses or market value impairments to illiquid assets; (12) defaults on our mortgage loans; (13) the defaults or deteriorating credit of other financial institutions that could adversely affect us; (14) our ability to address unforeseen liabilities, asset impairments, or rating actions arising from acquisitions or dispositions, including our acquisition of American Life Insurance Company and Delaware American Life Insurance Company (collectively, ALICO) and to successfully integrate and manage the growth of acquired businesses with minimal disruption; (15) uncertainty with respect to the outcome of the closing agreement entered into with the United States Internal Revenue Service in connection with the acquisition of ALICO; (16) the dilutive impact on our stockholders resulting from the settlement of common equity units issued in connection with the acquisition of ALICO or otherwise; (17) MetLife, Inc.'s primary reliance, as a holding company, on dividends from its subsidiaries to meet debt payment obligations and the applicable regulatory restrictions on the ability of the subsidiaries to pay such dividends; (18) downgrades in our claims paying ability, financial strength or credit ratings; (19) ineffectiveness of risk management policies and procedures; (20) availability and effectiveness of reinsurance or indemnification arrangements, as well as default or failure of counterparties to perform; (21) discrepancies between actual claims experience and assumptions used in setting prices for our products and establishing the liabilities for our obligations for future policy benefits and claims; (22) catastrophe losses; (23) heightened competition, including

Table of Contents

with respect to pricing, entry of new competitors, consolidation of distributors, the development of new products by new and existing competitors, distribution of amounts available under U.S. government programs, and for personnel; (24) unanticipated changes in industry trends; (25) changes in assumptions related to investment valuations, deferred policy acquisition costs, deferred sales inducements, value of business acquired or goodwill; (26) changes in accounting standards, practices and/or policies; (27) increased expenses relating to pension and postretirement benefit plans, as well as health care and other employee benefits; (28) exposure to losses related to variable annuity guarantee benefits, including from significant and sustained downturns or extreme volatility in equity markets, reduced interest rates, unanticipated policyholder behavior, mortality or longevity, and the adjustment for nonperformance risk; (29) deterioration in the experience of the closed block established in connection with the reorganization of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company; (30) adverse results or other consequences from litigation, arbitration or regulatory investigations; (31) inability to protect our intellectual property rights or claims of infringement of the intellectual property rights of others; (32) discrepancies between actual experience and assumptions used in establishing liabilities related to other contingencies or obligations; (33) regulatory, legislative or tax changes relating to our insurance, banking, international, or other operations that may affect the cost of, or demand for, our products or services, or increase the cost or administrative burdens of providing benefits to employees; (34) the effects of business disruption or economic contraction due to disasters such as terrorist attacks, cyberattacks, other hostilities, or natural catastrophes, including any related impact on our disaster recovery systems, cyber- or other information security systems and management continuity planning; (35) the effectiveness of our programs and practices in avoiding giving our associates incentives to take excessive risks; and (36) other risks and uncertainties described from time to time in MetLife, Inc.'s filings with the SEC.

MetLife, Inc. does not undertake any obligation to publicly correct or update any forward-looking statement if MetLife, Inc. later becomes aware that such statement is not likely to be achieved. Please consult any further disclosures MetLife, Inc. makes on related subjects in reports to the SEC.

Note Regarding Reliance on Statements in Our Contracts

See Exhibit Index Note Regarding Reliance on Statements in Our Contracts for information regarding agreements included as exhibits to this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Table of Contents**Part I****Item 1. Business**

As used in this Form 10-K, MetLife, the Company, we, our and us refer to MetLife, Inc., a Delaware corporation incorporated in 199 subsidiaries and affiliates.

With a more than 140-year history, we have grown to become a leading global provider of insurance, annuities and employee benefit programs, serving 90 million customers in over 50 countries. Through our subsidiaries and affiliates, we hold leading market positions in the United States, Japan, Latin America, Asia Pacific, Europe and the Middle East. Over the past several years, we have grown our core businesses, as well as successfully executed on our growth strategy. This has included completing a number of transactions that have resulted in the acquisition and, in some cases, divestiture of certain businesses while also further strengthening our balance sheet to position MetLife for continued growth.

MetLife is organized into six segments: Insurance Products, Retirement Products, Corporate Benefit Funding and Auto & Home (collectively, U.S. Business), and Japan and Other International Regions (collectively, International). In addition, the Company reports certain of its results of operations in Corporate & Other, which includes MetLife Bank, National Association (MetLife Bank) and other business activities. On November 21, 2011, MetLife, Inc. announced that it will be reorganizing its business into three broad geographic regions: The Americas; Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA); and Asia, and creating a global employee benefits business to better reflect its global reach. While the Company has initiated certain changes in response to this announcement, including the appointment of certain executive leadership into some of the roles designed for the reorganized structure, management continued to evaluate the performance of the operating segments under the existing segment structure as of December 31, 2011. In addition, management continues to evaluate the Company's segment performance and allocated resources and may adjust such measurements in the future to better reflect segment profitability.

In December 2011, MetLife Bank and MetLife, Inc. entered into a definitive agreement to sell most of the depository business of MetLife Bank. The transaction is expected to close in the second quarter of 2012, subject to certain regulatory approvals and other customary closing conditions. Additionally, in January 2012, MetLife, Inc. announced it is exiting the business of originating forward residential mortgages (together with MetLife Bank's pending actions to exit the depository business, including the aforementioned December 2011 agreement, the MetLife Bank Events). Once MetLife Bank has completely exited its depository business, MetLife, Inc. plans to terminate MetLife Bank's Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance, putting MetLife, Inc. in a position to be able to deregister as a bank holding company. See U.S. Regulation Financial Holding Company Regulation. The Company continues to originate reverse mortgages and will continue to service its current mortgage customers. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

In November 2011, the Company entered into an agreement to sell its insurance operations in the Caribbean region, Panama and Costa Rica (the Caribbean Business). The sale is expected to close in the second quarter of 2012 subject to regulatory approval and other customary closing conditions. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

On November 1, 2010 (the Acquisition Date), MetLife, Inc. completed the acquisition of American Life Insurance Company (American Life) from AM Holdings LLC (formerly known as ALICO Holdings LLC) (AM Holdings), a subsidiary of American International Group, Inc. (AIG), and Delaware American Life Insurance Company (DelAm) from AIG (American Life, together with DelAm, collectively, ALICO) (the Acquisition). ALICO's fiscal year-end is November 30. Accordingly, the Company's consolidated financial statements reflect the assets and liabilities of ALICO as of November 30, 2011 and 2010, and the operating results of ALICO for the year ended November 30, 2011 and the one month ended November 30, 2010. The assets, liabilities and operating results relating to the Acquisition are included in the Japan and Other International Regions segments. Prior year results have been adjusted to conform to the current year presentation of segments. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

In the U.S., we provide a variety of insurance and financial services products including life, dental, disability, auto and homeowners insurance, guaranteed interest and stable value products, and annuities through both proprietary and independent retail distribution channels, as well as at the workplace. This business serves approximately 60,000 group customers, including over 90 of the top one hundred FORTUNE 500® companies, and provides protection and retirement solutions to millions of individuals.

Outside the U.S., we operate in Japan and over 50 countries within Latin America, Asia Pacific, Europe and the Middle East. MetLife is the largest life insurer in Mexico and also holds leading market positions in Japan, Poland, Chile and Korea. This business provides life insurance, accident and health insurance, credit insurance, annuities, endowment and retirement & savings products to both individuals and groups. We believe our international operations will grow more quickly than our U.S. Business in the future.

Operating revenues derived from any customer did not exceed 10% of consolidated operating revenues in any of the last three years. Financial information, including revenues, expenses, operating earnings, and total assets by segment, is provided in Note 22 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Operating revenues and operating earnings are performance measures that are not based on accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations for definitions of such measures.

For financial information related to revenues, total assets, and goodwill balances by geographic region, see Note 7 and Note 22 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

We are one of the largest institutional investors in the U.S. with a \$522 billion general account portfolio invested primarily in investment grade corporate bonds, structured finance securities, commercial and agricultural mortgage loans, U.S. Treasury and agency securities, as well as real estate and corporate equity. Over the past several years, we have taken a number of actions to further diversify and strengthen our general account portfolio.

Our well-recognized brand, leading market positions, competitive and innovative product offerings and financial strength and expertise should help drive future growth and enhance shareholder value, building on a long history of fairness, honesty and integrity. Over the course of the next several years, we will pursue the following objectives to achieve our goals:

Global Presence

Focus on targeted, disciplined global growth of our businesses

Leverage our broad and diverse set of distribution channels and products

Become a more customer-centric organization

Brand

Extend the reach of our widely recognized brand to access customers in key markets

Financial Strength

Build on our strong risk management and investment expertise

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Focus on margin improvement and return on equity expansion

Maintain balance between growth, profitability and risk

Focus on pursuing growth that will add value to the Company and achieve return on equity in excess of our long-term cost of capital

Take a portfolio view of the business and invest capital in core markets

Table of Contents

Talent

Further our commitment to a diverse, high performance workplace

U.S. Business

Overview

Insurance Products

Our Insurance Products segment offers a broad range of protection products and services aimed at serving the financial needs of our customers throughout their lives. These products are sold to individuals and corporations, as well as other institutions and their respective employees. We have built a leading position in the U.S. group insurance market through long-standing relationships with many of the largest corporate employers in the U.S., and we are one of the largest issuers of individual life insurance products in the U.S. Our Insurance Products segment is organized into three distinct businesses: Group Life, Individual Life and Non-Medical Health.

Our Group Life insurance products and services include variable life, universal life, and term life products. We offer group insurance products as employer-paid benefits or as voluntary benefits where all or a portion of the premiums are paid by the employee. These group products and services also include employee paid supplemental life and are offered as standard products or may be tailored to meet specific customer needs.

Our Individual Life insurance products and services include variable life, universal life, term life and whole life products. Additionally, through our broker-dealer affiliates, we offer a full range of mutual funds and other securities products. The elimination of transactions from activity between the segments within U.S. Business occurs within Individual Life.

The major products within both Group Life and Individual Life are as follows:

Variable Life. Variable life products provide insurance coverage through a contract that gives the policyholder flexibility in investment choices and, depending on the product, in premium payments and coverage amounts, with certain guarantees. Most importantly, with variable life products, premiums and account balances can be directed by the policyholder into a variety of separate account investment options or directed to the Company's general account. In the separate account investment options, the policyholder bears the entire risk of the investment results. We collect specified fees for the management of the investment options. The policyholder's cash value reflects the investment return of the selected investment options, net of management fees and insurance-related and other charges. In some instances, third-party money management firms manage these investment options. With some products, by maintaining a certain premium level, policyholders may have the advantage of various guarantees that may protect the death benefit from adverse investment experience.

Universal Life. Universal life products provide insurance coverage on the same basis as variable life, except that premiums, and the resulting accumulated balances, are allocated only to the Company's general account. Universal life products may allow the insured to increase or decrease the amount of death benefit coverage over the term of the contract and the owner to adjust the frequency and amount of premium payments. We credit premiums to an account maintained for the policyholder. Premiums are credited net of specified expenses. Interest is credited to the policyholder's account at interest rates we determine, subject to specified minimums. Specific charges are made against the policyholder's account for the cost of insurance protection and for expenses. With some products, by maintaining a certain premium level, policyholders may have the advantage of various guarantees that may protect the death benefit from adverse investment experience.

Term Life. Term life products provide a guaranteed benefit upon the death of the insured for a specified time period in return for the periodic payment of premiums. Specified coverage periods range from one year to

Table of Contents

30 years, but in no event are they longer than the period over which premiums are paid. Death benefits may be level over the period or decreasing. Decreasing coverage is used principally to provide for loan repayment in the event of death. Premiums may be guaranteed at a level amount for the coverage period or may be non-level and non-guaranteed. Term insurance products are sometimes referred to as pure protection products, in that there are typically no savings or investment elements. Term contracts expire without value at the end of the coverage period when the insured party is still living.

Whole Life. Whole life products provide a guaranteed benefit upon the death of the insured in return for the periodic payment of a fixed premium over a predetermined period. Premium payments may be required for the entire life of the contract period, to a specified age or period, and may be level or change in accordance with a predetermined schedule. Whole life insurance includes policies that provide a participation feature in the form of dividends. Policyholders may receive dividends in cash or apply them to increase death benefits, increase cash values available upon surrender or reduce the premiums required to maintain the contract in-force. Because the use of dividends is specified by the policyholder, this group of products provides significant flexibility to individuals to tailor the product to suit their specific needs and circumstances, while at the same time providing guaranteed benefits.

Our Non-Medical Health products and services include dental insurance, group short- and long-term disability, individual disability income, long-term care (LTC), critical illness and accidental death & dismemberment coverages. Other products and services include employer-sponsored auto and homeowners insurance provided through the Auto & Home segment and prepaid legal plans. We also sell administrative services-only (ASO) arrangements to some employers. The major products in this area are:

Dental. Dental products provide insurance and ASO plans that assist employees, retirees and their families in maintaining oral health while reducing out-of-pocket expenses and providing superior customer service. Dental plans include the Preferred Dentist Program and the Dental Health Maintenance Organization.

Disability. Disability products provide a benefit in the event of the disability of the insured. In most instances, this benefit is in the form of monthly income paid until the insured reaches age 65. In addition to income replacement, the product may be used to provide for the payment of business overhead expenses for disabled business owners or mortgage payment protection. This is offered on both a group and individual basis.

Long-term Care. LTC products provide protection against the potentially high costs of LTC services. They generally pay benefits to insureds who need assistance with activities of daily living or have a cognitive impairment. Although we discontinued the sale of these products in 2010, we continue to support our existing policyholders.

Retirement Products

Our Retirement Products segment offers a variety of variable and fixed annuities that are primarily sold to individuals and employees of corporations and other institutions. The major products in this area are:

Variable Annuities. Variable annuities provide for both asset accumulation and asset distribution needs. Variable annuities allow the contractholder to make deposits into various investment options in a separate account, as determined by the contractholder. The risks associated with such investment options are borne entirely by the contractholder, except where guaranteed minimum benefits are involved. In certain variable annuity products, contractholders may also choose to allocate all or a portion of their account to the Company's general account and are credited with interest at rates we determine, subject to certain minimums. In addition, contractholders may also elect certain minimum death benefit and minimum living benefit guarantees for which additional fees are charged and where asset allocation restrictions may apply.

Fixed Annuities. Fixed annuities provide for both asset accumulation and asset distribution needs. Fixed annuities do not allow the same investment flexibility provided by variable annuities, but provide guarantees

Table of Contents

related to the preservation of principal and interest credited. Deposits made into deferred annuity contracts are allocated to the Company's general account and are credited with interest at rates we determine, subject to certain minimums. Credited interest rates are guaranteed not to change for certain limited periods of time, ranging from one to 10 years. Fixed income annuities provide a guaranteed monthly income for a specified period of years and/or for the life of the annuitant.

Corporate Benefit Funding

Our Corporate Benefit Funding segment includes an array of annuity and investment products, including guaranteed interest products and other stable value products, income annuities, and separate account contracts for the investment management of defined benefit and defined contribution plan assets. This segment also includes certain products to fund postretirement benefits and company, bank or trust owned life insurance used to finance non-qualified benefit programs for executives. The major products in this area are:

Stable Value Products. We offer general account guaranteed interest contracts, separate account guaranteed interest contracts, and similar products used to support the stable value option of defined contribution plans. We also offer private floating rate funding agreements that are used for money market funds, securities lending cash collateral portfolios and short-term investment funds.

Pensions Closeouts. We offer general account and separate account annuity products, generally in connection with the termination of defined benefit pension plans, both in the U.S. and the United Kingdom (U.K.). We also offer partial risk transfer solutions that allow for partial transfers of pension liabilities and annuity products that include single premium buyouts.

Torts and Settlements. We offer innovative strategies for complex litigation settlements, primarily structured settlement annuities.

Capital Markets Investment Products. Products offered include funding agreements, Federal Home Loan Bank advances and funding agreement-backed commercial paper.

Other Corporate Benefit Funding Products and Services. We offer specialized life insurance products designed specifically to provide solutions for non-qualified benefit and retiree benefit funding purposes.

Auto & Home

Our Auto & Home segment includes personal lines property and casualty insurance offered directly to employees at their employer's worksite, as well as to individuals through a variety of retail distribution channels, including independent agents, property and casualty specialists, direct response marketing and the individual distribution sales group. Auto & Home primarily sells auto insurance, which represented 67% of Auto & Home's total net earned premiums in 2011. Homeowners and other insurance represented 33% of Auto & Home's total net earned premiums in 2011. The major products in this area are:

Auto Coverages. Auto insurance policies provide coverage for private passenger automobiles, utility automobiles and vans, motorcycles, motor homes, antique or classic automobiles and trailers. Auto & Home offers traditional coverage such as liability, uninsured motorist, no fault or personal injury protection, as well as collision and comprehensive.

Homeowners and Other Coverages. Homeowners' insurance policies provide protection for homeowners, renters, condominium owners and residential landlords against losses arising out of damage to dwellings and contents from a wide variety of perils, as well as coverage for liability arising from ownership or occupancy. Other insurance includes personal excess liability (protection against losses in excess of amounts covered by other liability insurance policies), and coverage for recreational vehicles and boat owners. Most of Auto & Home's homeowners' policies are traditional insurance policies for dwellings, providing protection for loss on a replacement cost basis. These policies also provide additional coverage for reasonable, normal living expenses incurred by policyholders that have been displaced from their homes.

Table of Contents

In 2011, Auto & Home s business was concentrated in New York, Massachusetts and Illinois, as measured by the percentage of total direct earned premiums, of 12%, 8% and 7%, respectively, followed by Florida with 6%, and Connecticut and Texas, each with 5%.

Sales Distribution

U.S. Business markets our products and services through various distribution groups. Our life insurance and retirement products targeted to individuals are sold via sales forces, comprised of MetLife employees, in addition to third-party organizations. Our group life, non-medical health and corporate benefit funding products are sold via sales forces primarily comprised of MetLife employees. Personal lines property and casualty insurance products are directly marketed to employees at their employer s worksite. Auto & Home products are also marketed and sold to individuals by independent agents and property and casualty specialists through a direct response channel and the individual distribution sales group. MetLife sales employees work with all distribution groups to better reach and service customers, brokers, consultants and other intermediaries.

Individual Distribution

Our individual distribution sales group targets the large middle-income market, as well as affluent individuals, owners of small businesses and executives of small- to medium-sized companies. We have also been successful in selling our products in various multi-cultural markets.

Insurance Products are sold through our individual distribution sales group and also through various third-party organizations utilizing two models. In the coverage model, wholesalers sell to high net worth individuals and small- to medium-sized businesses through independent general agencies, financial advisors, consultants, brokerage general agencies and other independent marketing organizations under contractual arrangements. In the point of sale model, wholesalers sell through financial intermediaries, including regional broker-dealers, brokerage firms, financial planners and banks.

Retirement Products are sold through our individual distribution sales group and also through various third-party organizations such as regional broker-dealers, New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) brokerage firms, financial planners and banks.

The individual distribution sales group is comprised of three channels: the MetLife distribution channel, a career agency system, the New England financial distribution channel, a general agency system, and MetLife Resources, a career agency system.

The MetLife distribution channel had approximately 5,000 MetLife agents under contract in 50 agencies at December 31, 2011. The career agency sales force focuses on the large middle-income and affluent markets, including multi-cultural markets. We support our efforts in multi-cultural markets through targeted advertising, specially trained agents and sales literature written in various languages.

The New England Financial distribution channel included approximately 35 general agencies providing support to 2,100 general agents and a network of independent brokers throughout the U.S. at December 31, 2011. The New England Financial distribution channel targets high net worth individuals, owners of small businesses and executives of small- to medium-sized companies.

MetLife Resources, a focused distribution channel of MetLife, markets retirement, annuity and other financial products on a national basis through approximately 540 MetLife agents and independent brokers at December 31, 2011. MetLife Resources targets the nonprofit, educational and healthcare markets.

We market and sell Auto & Home products through independent agents, property and casualty specialists, a direct response channel and the individual distribution sales group. In recent years, we have increased the number of independent agents appointed to sell these products.

Table of Contents

Group Distribution

Insurance Products distributes its group life and non-medical health products and services through a sales force that is segmented by the size of the target customer. Marketing representatives sell either directly to corporate and other group customers or through an intermediary, such as a broker or consultant. Voluntary products are sold through the same sales channels, as well as by specialists for these products. Employers have been emphasizing such voluntary products and, as a result, we have increased our focus on communicating and marketing to such employees in order to further foster sales of those products. At December 31, 2011, the group life and non-medical health sales channels had approximately 350 marketing representatives.

Retirement Products markets its retirement, savings, investment and payout annuity products and services to sponsors and advisors of benefit plans of all sizes. These products and services are offered to private and public pension plans, collective bargaining units, nonprofit organizations, recipients of structured settlements and the current and retired members of these and other institutions.

Corporate Benefit Funding products and services are distributed through dedicated sales teams and relationship managers located in 11 offices around the country. In addition, the retirement & benefits funding organization works with individual distribution and group life and non-medical health distribution areas to better reach and service customers, brokers, consultants and other intermediaries.

Auto & Home is a leading provider of personal lines property and casualty insurance products offered to employees at their employer's worksite. At December 31, 2011, approximately 2,400 employers offered MetLife Auto & Home products to their employees.

Group marketing representatives market personal lines property and casualty insurance products to employers through a variety of means, including broker referrals and cross-selling to group customers. Once permitted by the employer, MetLife commences marketing efforts to employees. Employees who are interested in the auto and homeowners products can call a toll-free number to request a quote to purchase coverage and to request payroll deduction over the telephone. Auto & Home has also developed proprietary software that permits an employee in most states to obtain a quote for auto insurance through Auto & Home's internet website.

We have entered into several joint ventures and other arrangements with third parties to expand the marketing and distribution opportunities of group products and services. We also seek to sell our group products and services through sponsoring organizations and affinity groups. In addition, we also provide life and dental coverage to federal employees.

International

Overview

International provides life insurance, accident and health insurance, credit insurance, annuities, endowment and retirement & savings products to both individuals and groups. We focus on markets primarily within Japan, Latin America, Asia Pacific, Europe and the Middle East. We operate in international markets through subsidiaries and affiliates. See *Risk Factors - Fluctuations in Foreign Currency Exchange Rates Could Negatively Affect Our Profitability*, *Risk Factors - Our International Operations Face Political, Legal, Operational and Other Risks, Including Exposure to Local and Regional Economic Conditions, That Could Negatively Affect Those Operations or Our Profitability*, *Risk Factors - Difficult Conditions in the Global Capital Markets and the Economy Generally May Materially Adversely Affect Our Business and Results of Operations and These Conditions May Not Improve in the Near Future*, and *Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk*.

Japan

Our Japan operation is comprised of the business acquired in the Acquisition. Our Japan operation is among the largest foreign life insurers in Japan and ranks sixth in the Japanese life insurance industry measured by total

Table of Contents

premiums according to the Statistics of Life Insurance in Japan 2010. It provides life insurance products which include whole life, term life, variable life and universal life products. Our Japan operation also provides accident and health insurance, fixed and variable annuities and endowment products. These products are offered to both individuals and groups. Its products are distributed through a multi-distribution platform consisting of captive agents, independent agents, brokers, bancassurance, and direct marketing (DM).

Other International Regions

Latin America. We operate in 22 countries in Latin America, with the largest operations in Mexico, Chile and Argentina. Our Mexican operation is the largest life insurance company in Mexico in both the individual and group businesses according to Asociación Mexicana de Instituciones de Seguro, a Mexican industry trade group which provides rankings for insurance companies. Our Chilean operation is the largest annuity company in Chile, based on market share according to Superintendencia Valores y Seguros, the Chilean insurance regulator. Our Chilean operation also offers individual life insurance and group insurance products. We also actively market individual life insurance, group insurance products and credit life coverage in Argentina, but the nationalization of the pension system substantially reduced our presence in Argentina. The business environment in Argentina has been, and may continue to be, affected by governmental and legal actions which impact our results of operations. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on the pending disposition of the Caribbean Business.

Asia Pacific. We operate in four countries in Asia Pacific with wholly-owned operations in Korea, Hong Kong and Australia. Our Korean operation has significant sales of variable universal life and annuity products. Our Hong Kong operation has significant sales of variable universal life and endowment products. Our Australia operation has significant sales of credit insurance and group life products. We also operate through a joint venture in China, the results of which are reflected in net investment income and are not consolidated in our financial results. As discussed in Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, the Company sold its 50% interest in its former joint venture in Japan in the second quarter of 2011.

Europe and the Middle East. We operate in 35 countries in Europe and the Middle East with our largest operations in Poland, the U.K., France, and the United Arab Emirates, as well as through a consolidated joint venture in India. Our Poland operation is a leading provider of life insurance, accident and health insurance, and credit insurance. It is consistently ranked as a top three company in net profits according to Rzeczpospolita financial daily. Our U.K. operation provides life insurance, accident and health insurance and variable annuities in its home market and throughout Europe. Our operation in France provides life insurance, accident and health insurance and credit insurance. In the Middle East, we provide life insurance, accident and health insurance, credit insurance, annuities, endowment and retirement & savings products.

Sales Distribution

International markets its products and services through a multi-distribution strategy which varies by geographic region. The various distribution channels include: agency, bancassurance, DM, brokerage and e-commerce. In developing countries, agency covers the needs of the emerging middle class with primarily traditional products (e.g., endowment and accident and health). In more developed and mature markets, agents, while continuing to serve their existing customers to keep pace with their developing financial needs, also target upper middle class and high net worth customer bases with a more sophisticated product set including more investment-sensitive products, such as universal life, mutual fund and single premium deposits.

In the bancassurance channel, International leverages partnerships that span all regions. In addition, DM has extensive and far reaching capabilities in all regions. The DM operations deploy both broadcast marketing approaches (e.g. direct response TV, web-based lead generation) and traditional DM techniques such as telemarketing. Japan represents our largest DM market.

Table of Contents

Japan

Japan's multi-channel distribution strategy consists of captive agents, independent agents, brokers, bancassurance, and DM. While face-to-face channels continue to be core to Japan's business, other channels, including bancassurance and DM, have become a critical part of Japan's distribution strategy. Our Japan operation has maintained its position in bancassurance due to its strong distribution relationship with Japan's mega banks, trust banks and various regional banks, as well as with the Japan Post. The DM channel is supported by an industry-leading marketing platform, state-of-the-art call center infrastructure and its own campaign management system.

Our Japan operation has approximately 5,500 captive agents, 10,500 independent agents, 100 bancassurance relationships, including Japan Post, and 200 DM sponsors.

Other International Regions

Latin America. Latin America's key distribution channels include captive agents, DM, bancassurance, large multinational brokers and small-and medium-sized brokers, direct and group sales forces (mostly for group policies without broker intermediation), and worksite marketing. The region has an exclusive and captive agency distribution network with more than 2,500 agents also selling a variety of individual life, accident and health, and pension products. In the DM channel, we work with more than 50 sponsors and have a network of more than 1,600 telesales representatives selling mainly accident and health and individual life products. We currently work with over 3,000 active brokers with registered sales of group and individual life, accident and health, group medical, dental and pension products. Worksite marketing in Mexico has over 2,200 agents.

Asia Pacific. Asia Pacific distribution strategies differ by country but generally utilize a combination of captive agents, bancassurance relationships and DM. Agency sales are achieved through a force of approximately 8,500 agents and managers (which includes approximately 1,700 agents and managers related to our joint venture in China) and a growing force of independent general agents. Bancassurance sales are currently reliant upon a significant regional strategic partnership along with a number of smaller partnerships in each market. Throughout the region, our Asia Pacific operation leverages its expertise in DM operations management to conduct its own campaigns and provide those DM capabilities to third-party sponsors.

While not a significant part of the region's overall business, sales of group life and pension business are primarily achieved through independent brokers and an employee sales force.

Europe and the Middle East. Our operation in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) has a multi-channel distribution strategy, which includes significant face to face channels, built on a strong captive agency force of more than 3,400 agents, and relationships with more than 90 active independent brokers and third-party multi-level agency networks. Our CEE operation also has a group/corporate business direct sales force of more than 70 and distribution relationships with more than 100 banks, and other financial and non-financial institutions, as well as a fast growing DM channel. The primary method of distribution is captive and third party agency and captive direct sales forces, with a growing presence in bank, other financial and non-financial institutions, and DM.

Our operation in Western Europe also has a multi-channel distribution strategy, including DM, brokerage, banks and financial institutions. Our U.K. operation has built a strong position in the U.K. independent advisor sector and other third-party distributors with a focus on variable and fixed term annuities. Our U.K operation also has a growing group risk business serving small and medium sized enterprise employers and an agency sales force of approximately 600 agents which distributes accident and health and term life products.

In the Middle East, our products are distributed via a variety of channels including approximately 17,700 agents, bancassurance, brokers and DM. Agency distribution is our primary distribution channel; we have the largest captive network in the Middle East. Bancassurance is a growing channel with approximately 90 relationships, and approximately 260 programs providing access to millions of bank customers.

Table of Contents

Corporate & Other

Corporate & Other contains the excess capital not allocated to the segments, external integration costs, internal resource costs for associates committed to acquisitions, and various start-up and run-off entities. Additionally, Corporate & Other includes interest expense related to the majority of our outstanding debt, expenses associated with certain legal proceedings, the financial results of MetLife Bank and income tax audit issues. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Corporate & Other also includes the elimination of intersegment amounts, which generally relate to intersegment loans, which bear interest rates commensurate with related borrowings.

MetLife Bank is a member of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York and is subject to regulation, examination and supervision primarily by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), and secondarily by the FDIC, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the Federal Reserve Board) and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (the FRB of NY and, collectively with the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Reserve).

Policyholder Liabilities

We establish, and carry as liabilities, actuarially determined amounts that are calculated to meet our policy obligations when a policy matures or is surrendered, an insured dies or becomes disabled or upon the occurrence of other covered events, or to provide for future annuity payments. Amounts for actuarial liabilities are computed and reported in the consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP. For more details on Policyholder Liabilities see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates Liability for Future Policy Benefits and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Policyholder Liabilities.

Pursuant to state insurance laws and country regulators, MetLife, Inc.'s insurance subsidiaries establish statutory reserves, reported as liabilities, to meet their obligations on their respective policies. These statutory reserves are established in amounts sufficient to meet policy and contract obligations, when taken together with expected future premiums and interest at assumed rates. Statutory reserves and actuarial liabilities for future policy benefits generally differ based on accounting guidance.

The New York Insurance Law and regulations require certain MetLife entities to submit to the New York Superintendent of Insurance or other state insurance departments, with each annual report, an opinion and memorandum of a qualified actuary that the statutory reserves and related actuarial amounts recorded in support of specified policies and contracts, and the assets supporting such statutory reserves and related actuarial amounts, make adequate provision for their statutory liabilities with respect to these obligations. See U.S. Regulation Insurance Regulation Policy and Contract Reserve Adequacy Analysis.

Insurance regulators in many of the non-U.S. countries in which MetLife operates require certain MetLife entities to prepare a sufficiency analysis of the reserves posted in the locally required regulatory financial statements, and to submit that analysis to the regulatory authorities. See International Regulation.

Underwriting and Pricing

Underwriting

Underwriting generally involves an evaluation of applications for Insurance Products, Retirement Products, Corporate Benefit Funding, and Auto & Home by a professional staff of underwriters and actuaries, who determine the type and the amount of risk that we are willing to accept. International offers the products described above, with the exception of property and casualty insurance. They also offer credit insurance and accident and health products. We employ detailed underwriting policies, guidelines and procedures designed to assist the underwriter to properly assess and quantify risks before issuing policies to qualified applicants or groups, which are consistent for both the U.S. Business and International.

Table of Contents

Insurance underwriting considers not only an applicant's medical history, but also other factors such as financial profile, foreign travel, vocations and alcohol, drug and tobacco use. Group underwriting generally evaluates the risk characteristics of each prospective insured group, although with certain voluntary products and for certain coverages, members of a group may be underwritten on an individual basis. We generally perform our own underwriting; however, certain policies are reviewed by intermediaries under guidelines established by us. Generally, we are not obligated to accept any risk or group of risks from, or to issue a policy or group of policies to, any employer or intermediary. Requests for coverage are reviewed on their merits and generally a policy is not issued unless the particular risk or group has been examined and approved by our underwriters.

The underwriting conducted by our remote underwriting offices and intermediaries, as well as our corporate underwriting office, are subject to periodic quality assurance reviews to maintain high-standards of underwriting and consistency. Such offices are also subject to periodic external audits by reinsurers with whom we do business.

We have established senior level oversight of the underwriting process that facilitates quality sales and serves the needs of our customers, while supporting our financial strength and business objectives. Our goal is to achieve the underwriting, mortality and morbidity levels reflected in the assumptions in our product pricing. This is accomplished by determining and establishing underwriting policies, guidelines, philosophies and strategies that are competitive and suitable for the customer, the agent and us.

Auto & Home's underwriting function has six principal aspects: evaluating potential worksite marketing employer accounts and independent agencies; establishing guidelines for the binding of risks; reviewing coverage bound by agents; underwriting potential insureds, on a case by case basis, presented by agents outside the scope of their binding authority; pursuing information necessary in certain cases to enable Auto & Home to issue a policy within our guidelines; and ensuring that renewal policies continue to be written at rates commensurate with risk.

Subject to very few exceptions, agents in each of the U.S. Business distribution channels have binding authority for risks which fall within its published underwriting guidelines. Risks falling outside the underwriting guidelines may be submitted for approval to the underwriting department; alternatively, agents in such a situation may call the underwriting department to obtain authorization to bind the risk themselves. In most states, we generally have the right within a specified period (usually the first 60 days) to cancel any policy.

Pricing

Pricing reflects our corporate underwriting standards, which are consistent for both U.S. Business and International. Product pricing is based on the expected payout of benefits calculated through the use of assumptions for mortality, morbidity, expenses, persistency and investment returns, as well as certain macroeconomic factors, such as inflation. Investment-oriented products are priced based on various factors, which may include investment return, expenses, persistency and optionality. For certain investment oriented products in the U.S. and certain business sold internationally, pricing may include prospective and retrospective experience rating features. Prospective experience rating involves the evaluation of past experience for the purpose of determining future premium rates and all prior year gains and losses are borne by us. Retrospective experience rating also involves the evaluation of past experience for the purpose of determining the actual cost of providing insurance for the customer, however, the contract includes certain features that allow us to recoup certain losses or distribute certain gains back to the policyholder based on actual prior years' experience.

Rates for group life, non-medical health, and medical health products are based on anticipated results for the book of business being underwritten. Renewals are generally reevaluated annually or biannually and are repriced to reflect actual experience on such products. Products offered by Corporate Benefit Funding are priced frequently and are very responsive to bond yields, and such prices include additional margin in periods of market uncertainty. This business is predominantly illiquid, because a majority of the policyholders have no contractual rights to cash values and no options to change the form of the product's benefits.

Table of Contents

Rates for individual life insurance products are highly regulated and must be approved by the regulators of the jurisdictions in which the product is sold. Generally such products are renewed annually and may include pricing terms that are guaranteed for a certain period of time. Fixed and variable annuity products are also highly regulated and approved by the respective regulators. Such products generally include penalties for early withdrawals and policyholder benefit elections to tailor the form of the product's benefits to the needs of the opting policyholder. We periodically reevaluate the costs associated with such options and will periodically adjust pricing levels on our guarantees. Further, from time to time, we may also reevaluate the type and level of guarantee features currently being offered.

Rates for Auto & Home's major lines of insurance are based on its proprietary database, rather than relying on rating bureaus. Auto & Home determines prices in part from a number of variables specific to each risk. The pricing of personal lines insurance products takes into account, among other things, the expected frequency and severity of losses, the costs of providing coverage (including the costs of acquiring policyholders and administering policy benefits and other administrative and overhead costs), competitive factors and profit considerations. The major pricing variables for personal lines insurance include characteristics of the insured property, such as age, make and model or construction type, as well as characteristics of the insureds, such as driving record and loss experience, and the insured's personal financial management. Auto & Home's ability to set and change rates is subject to regulatory oversight.

As a condition of our license to do business in each state, Auto & Home, like all other automobile insurers, is required to write or share the cost of private passenger automobile insurance for higher risk individuals who would otherwise be unable to obtain such insurance. This involuntary market, also called the shared market, is governed by the applicable laws and regulations of each state, and policies written in this market are generally written at rates higher than standard rates.

We continually review our underwriting and pricing guidelines so that our policies remain competitive and supportive of our marketing strategies and profitability goals. Management does not expect the current economic environment, with its volatility and uncertainty, to materially impact the pricing of our products.

Reinsurance Activity

We participate in reinsurance activities in order to limit losses, minimize exposure to significant risks, and provide additional capacity for future growth. We enter into various agreements with reinsurers that cover individual risks, group risks or defined blocks of business, primarily on a coinsurance, yearly renewable term, excess or catastrophe excess basis. These reinsurance agreements spread risk and minimize the effect of losses. The extent of each risk retained by us depends on our evaluation of the specific risk, subject, in certain circumstances, to maximum retention limits based on the characteristics of coverages. We also cede first dollar mortality risk under certain contracts. In addition to reinsuring mortality risk, we reinsure other risks, as well as specific coverages. We obtain reinsurance for capital requirement purposes and also when the economic impact of the reinsurance agreement makes it appropriate to do so.

Under the terms of the reinsurance agreements, the reinsurer agrees to reimburse us for the ceded amount in the event a claim is paid. Cessions under reinsurance agreements do not discharge our obligations as the primary insurer. In the event that reinsurers do not meet their obligations under the terms of the reinsurance agreements, reinsurance balances recoverable could become uncollectible.

We reinsure our business through a diversified group of well-capitalized, highly rated reinsurers. We analyze recent trends in arbitration and litigation outcomes in disputes, if any, with our reinsurers. We monitor ratings and evaluate the financial strength of our reinsurers by analyzing their financial statements. In addition, the reinsurance recoverable balance due from each reinsurer is evaluated as part of the overall monitoring process. Recoverability of reinsurance recoverable balances is evaluated based on these analyses. We generally secure large reinsurance recoverable balances with various forms of collateral, including secured trusts, funds withheld accounts and irrevocable letters of credit.

Table of Contents

U.S. Business

For our individual life insurance products, we have historically reinsured the mortality risk primarily on an excess of retention basis or a quota share basis. We currently reinsure 90% of the mortality risk in excess of \$1 million for most products and reinsure up to 90% of the mortality risk for certain other products. In addition to reinsuring mortality risk as described above, we reinsure other risks, as well as specific coverages. Placement of reinsurance is done primarily on an automatic basis and also on a facultative basis for risks with specified characteristics. On a case by case basis, we may retain up to \$20 million per life and reinsure 100% of amounts in excess of the amount we retain. We evaluate our reinsurance programs routinely and may increase or decrease our retention at any time.

For other policies within the Insurance Products segment, we generally retain most of the risk and only cede particular risks on certain client arrangements.

Our Retirement Products segment reinsures a portion of the living and death benefit guarantees issued in connection with our variable annuities. Under these reinsurance agreements, we pay a reinsurance premium generally based on fees associated with the guarantees collected from policyholders, and receive reimbursement for benefits paid or accrued in excess of account values, subject to certain limitations.

Our Corporate Benefit Funding segment has periodically engaged in reinsurance activities, as considered appropriate.

Our Auto & Home segment purchases reinsurance to manage its exposure to large losses (primarily catastrophe losses) and to protect statutory surplus. We cede to reinsurers a portion of losses and premiums based upon the exposure of the policies subject to reinsurance. To manage exposure to large property and casualty losses, we utilize property catastrophe, casualty and property per risk excess of loss agreements.

International

For certain of our life insurance products, we reinsure risks above the corporate retention limit of up to \$5 million to external reinsurers on a yearly renewable term basis. We may also reinsure certain risks with external reinsurers depending upon the nature of the risk and local regulatory requirements.

For selected large corporate clients, International reinsures group employee benefits or credit insurance business with various client-affiliated reinsurance companies, covering policies issued to the employees or customers of the clients. Additionally, we cede and assume risk with other insurance companies when either company requires a business partner with the appropriate local licensing to issue certain types of policies in certain countries. In these cases, the assuming company typically underwrites the risks, develops the products and assumes most or all of the risk.

International also has reinsurance agreements in force that reinsure a portion of the living and death benefit guarantees issued in connection with variable annuity products. Under these agreements, we pay or receive reinsurance fees associated with the guarantees collected from policyholders, and pay or receive reimbursement for benefits paid or accrued in excess of account values, subject to certain limitations.

Corporate & Other

We also reinsure through 100% quota share reinsurance agreements certain run-off LTC and workers compensation business written by MetLife Insurance Company of Connecticut (MICC), a subsidiary of MetLife, Inc.

Catastrophe Coverage

We have exposure to catastrophes, which could contribute to significant fluctuations in our results of operations. We also use excess of retention and quota share reinsurance agreements to provide greater

Table of Contents

diversification of risk and minimize exposure to larger risks. International currently purchases catastrophe coverage to insure risks within certain countries deemed by management to be exposed to the greatest catastrophic risks.

Reinsurance Recoverables

For information regarding ceded reinsurance recoverable balances, included in premiums, reinsurance and other receivables in the consolidated balance sheets, see Note 9 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

U.S. Regulation

Insurance Regulation

In the United States, insurance is principally regulated by the states, with the federal government playing a limited role. Insurance regulation generally aims at supervising and regulating insurers individually rather than on a group-wide basis, with the goal of protecting policyholders and ensuring that each insurance company remains solvent.

Each of MetLife's insurance subsidiaries operating in the United States is licensed and regulated in each U.S. jurisdiction where it conducts insurance business. The extent of such regulation varies, but most jurisdictions have laws and regulations governing the financial aspects of insurers, including standards of solvency, statutory reserves, reinsurance and capital adequacy, and the business conduct of insurers. In addition, statutes and regulations usually require the licensing of insurers and their agents, the approval of policy forms and certain other related materials and, for certain lines of insurance, the approval of rates. Such statutes and regulations also prescribe the permitted types and concentration of investments. See *Risk Factors – Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth.*

Each insurance subsidiary is required to file reports, generally including detailed annual financial statements, with insurance regulatory authorities in each of the jurisdictions in which it does business, and its operations and accounts are subject to periodic examination by such authorities. These subsidiaries must also file, and in many jurisdictions and in some lines of insurance obtain regulatory approval for, rules, rates and forms relating to the insurance written in the jurisdictions in which they operate.

State and federal insurance and securities regulatory authorities and other state law enforcement agencies and attorneys general from time to time make inquiries regarding compliance by MetLife, Inc. and its insurance subsidiaries with insurance, securities and other laws and regulations regarding the conduct of our insurance and securities businesses. We cooperate with such inquiries and take corrective action when warranted. See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Holding Company Regulation. MetLife, Inc. and its U.S. insurance subsidiaries are subject to regulation under the insurance holding company laws of various U.S. jurisdictions. The insurance holding company laws and regulations vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, but generally require a controlled insurance company (insurers that are subsidiaries of insurance holding companies) to register with state regulatory authorities and to file with those authorities certain reports, including information concerning its capital structure, ownership, financial condition, certain intercompany transactions and general business operations.

State insurance statutes also typically place restrictions and limitations on the amount of dividends or other distributions payable by insurance company subsidiaries to their parent companies, as well as on transactions between an insurer and its affiliates. See *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Liquidity and Capital Resources – MetLife, Inc. – Liquidity and Capital Sources – Dividends from Subsidiaries.*

Table of Contents

Guaranty Associations and Similar Arrangements. Most of the U.S. jurisdictions in which our insurance subsidiaries are admitted to transact business require life and property and casualty insurers doing business within the jurisdiction to participate in guaranty associations, which are organized to pay certain contractual insurance benefits owed pursuant to insurance policies issued by impaired, insolvent or failed insurers. These associations levy assessments, up to prescribed limits, on all member insurers in a particular state on the basis of the proportionate share of the premiums written by member insurers in the lines of business in which the impaired, insolvent or failed insurer is engaged. Some states permit member insurers to recover assessments paid through full or partial premium tax offsets.

In the past five years, the aggregate assessments levied against MetLife have not been material. We have established liabilities for guaranty fund assessments that we consider adequate. See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on the insolvency assessments.

Statutory Insurance Examination. As part of their regulatory oversight process, state insurance departments conduct periodic detailed examinations of the books, records, accounts, and business practices of insurers domiciled in their states. State insurance departments also have the authority to conduct examinations of non-domiciliary insurers that are licensed in their states. During the three-year period ended December 31, 2011, MetLife has not received any material adverse findings resulting from state insurance department examinations of its insurance subsidiaries conducted during this three-year period.

Regulatory authorities in a small number of states, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and, occasionally, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), have had investigations or inquiries relating to sales of individual life insurance policies or annuities or other products by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MLIC), MetLife Securities, Inc., New England Life Insurance Company, New England Securities Corporation, General American Life Insurance Company, Walnut Street Securities, Inc., MICC and Tower Square Securities, Inc. These investigations often focus on the conduct of particular financial services representatives and the sale of unregistered or unsuitable products or the misuse of client assets. Over the past several years, these and a number of investigations by other regulatory authorities were resolved for monetary payments and certain other relief, including restitution payments. We may continue to resolve investigations in a similar manner.

Policy and Contract Reserve Adequacy Analysis. Annually, our U.S. insurance subsidiaries are required to conduct an analysis of the sufficiency of all statutory reserves. In each case, a qualified actuary must submit an opinion which states that the statutory reserves, when considered in light of the assets held with respect to such reserves, make good and sufficient provision for the associated contractual obligations and related expenses of the insurer. If such an opinion cannot be provided, the insurer must set up additional reserves by moving funds from surplus. Since inception of this requirement, our U.S. insurance subsidiaries which are required by their states of domicile to provide these opinions have provided such opinions without qualifications.

NAIC. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) is an organization, the mandate of which is to benefit state insurance regulatory authorities and consumers by promulgating model insurance laws and regulations for adoption by the states. The NAIC provides standardized insurance industry accounting and reporting guidance through its Accounting Practices and Procedures Manual (the Manual). However, statutory accounting principles continue to be established by individual state laws, regulations and permitted practices. Changes to the Manual or modifications by the various state insurance departments may impact the statutory capital and surplus of MetLife, Inc. s U.S. insurance subsidiaries.

Surplus and Capital; Risk-Based Capital. Insurers are required to maintain their capital and surplus at or above minimum levels. Regulators have discretionary authority, in connection with the continued licensing of our U.S. insurance subsidiaries, to limit or prohibit an insurer s sales to policyholders if, in their judgment, the regulators determine that such insurer has not maintained the minimum surplus or capital or that the further transaction of business will be hazardous to policyholders. Most of our U.S. insurance subsidiaries are subject to risk-based capital (RBC) requirements and report their RBC based on a formula calculated by applying factors

Table of Contents

to various asset, premium and statutory reserve items, as well as taking into account the risk characteristics of the insurer. The major categories of risk involved are asset risk, insurance risk, interest rate risk, market risk and business risk. The formula is used as an early warning regulatory tool to identify possible inadequately capitalized insurers for purposes of initiating regulatory action, and not as a means to rank insurers generally. State insurance laws provide insurance regulators the authority to require various actions by, or take various actions against, insurers whose RBC ratio does not meet or exceed certain RBC levels. As of the date of the most recent annual statutory financial statements filed with insurance regulators, the RBC of each of these subsidiaries was in excess of each of those RBC levels. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Liquidity and Capital Resources The Company Capital.

In late 2009, following rating agency downgrades of virtually all residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) from certain vintages, the NAIC engaged PIMCO Advisory (PIMCO), a provider of investment advisory services, to analyze approximately 20,000 RMBS held by insurers and evaluate the likely loss that holders of those securities would suffer in the event of a default. PIMCO's analysis showed that the severity of expected losses on those securities evaluated that are held by our U.S. insurance companies was significantly less than would be implied by the rating agencies' ratings of such securities. The NAIC incorporated the results of PIMCO's analysis into the RBC charges assigned to the evaluated securities, with a beneficial impact on the RBC of our U.S. insurance subsidiaries. The NAIC utilized the solution again for 2010. The NAIC adopted a similar solution for 2010 for commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) by selecting BlackRock Solutions, a provider of investment advisory services, to assist in the RBC determination process. BlackRock Solutions served as a third-party modeler of the 7,000 CMBS holdings of U.S. insurance companies, including our U.S. insurance subsidiaries. The impact of the implementation for 2010 of the modeling solution for CMBS on our U.S. insurance subsidiaries was minimal. Any revisions to the modeling bases for 2011 are not anticipated to have a material impact on the RBC of our U.S. insurance subsidiaries.

In 2011, the NAIC adopted a proposal that permits RBC recognition for the risk mitigation value of the use of derivatives for hedging asset (fixed maturity and equity securities) risk. The adopted measure is effective December 31, 2011 and is anticipated to have a modest, positive impact on the RBC of our U.S. insurance subsidiaries.

Regulation of Investments. Each of our U.S. insurance subsidiaries is subject to state laws and regulations that require diversification of our investment portfolios and limit the amount of investments in certain asset categories, such as below investment grade fixed income securities, equity real estate, other equity investments, and derivatives. Failure to comply with these laws and regulations would cause investments exceeding regulatory limitations to be treated as non-admitted assets for purposes of measuring surplus and, in some instances, would require divestiture of such non-qualifying investments. We believe that the investments made by each of MetLife, Inc.'s U.S. insurance subsidiaries complied, in all material respects, with such regulations at December 31, 2011.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank) includes provisions that may impact the investments and investment activities of MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries, including the federal regulation of such activities. Until the various final regulations are promulgated pursuant to Dodd-Frank, and perhaps for some time thereafter, the full impact of Dodd-Frank on such activities will remain unclear. Such provisions and regulations include, but are not limited to, the regulation of the over-the-counter derivatives markets and prohibitions on covered banking entities engaging in proprietary trading and sponsoring or investing in hedge funds or private equity funds (commonly known as the Volcker Rule). See Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Regulation of Over-the-Counter Derivatives and Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Volcker Rule.

Federal Initiatives. Although the insurance business in the United States is primarily regulated by the states, federal initiatives often have an impact on our business in a variety of ways. From time to time, federal measures are proposed which may significantly affect the insurance business. These areas include financial services regulation, securities regulation, pension regulation, health care regulation, privacy, tort reform legislation and

Table of Contents

taxation. In addition, various forms of direct and indirect federal regulation of insurance have been proposed from time to time, including proposals for the establishment of an optional federal charter for insurance companies. See Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments.

Financial Holding Company Regulation

Once MetLife Bank has completely exited its depository business, MetLife, Inc. plans to terminate MetLife Bank's FDIC insurance, putting MetLife, Inc. in a position to be able to deregister as a bank holding company. Upon completion of the foregoing, MetLife, Inc. will no longer be regulated as a bank holding company or subject to enhanced supervision and prudential standards as a bank holding company with assets of \$50 billion or more. However, if, in the future, MetLife, Inc. is designated by the Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC) as a non-bank systemically important financial institution (as discussed below), it could once again be subject to regulation by the Federal Reserve and enhanced supervision and prudential standards, such as Regulation YY (as discussed below).

The FSOC issued a notice of proposed rulemaking in October 2011, outlining the process it will follow and the criteria it will use to assess whether a non-bank financial company should be subject to enhanced supervision by the Federal Reserve as a non-bank systemically important financial institution. If MetLife, Inc. meets the quantitative thresholds set forth in the proposal, the FSOC will continue with a further analysis using qualitative and quantitative factors.

In April 2011, the Federal Reserve Board and the FDIC proposed a rule regarding the implementation of the Dodd-Frank requirement that (i) each non-bank financial company designated by the FSOC for enhanced supervision by the Federal Reserve Board (a non-bank systemically important financial institution or non-bank SIFI) and each bank holding company with assets of \$50 billion or more report periodically to the Federal Reserve Board, the FDIC and the FSOC the plan of such company for rapid and orderly resolution in the event of material financial distress or failure, and (ii) that each such company report on the nature and extent of credit exposures of such company to significant bank holding companies and significant non-bank financial companies and the nature and extent of credit exposures of significant bank holding companies and significant non-bank financial companies to such covered company. In November 2011, the Federal Reserve Board and the FDIC adopted a final rule implementing the resolution plan requirement, effective November 30, 2011, but deferred finalizing the credit exposure reporting requirement until a later date. If MetLife, Inc. remains a bank holding company on July 1, 2012, or if, in the future, it is designated by the FSOC as a non-bank SIFI, it would be required to submit a resolution plan. See Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Orderly Liquidation Authority.

In December 2011, the Federal Reserve Board issued a release proposing the adoption of enhanced prudential standards required by Dodd-Frank (Regulation YY). Regulation YY would apply to bank holding companies with assets of \$50 billion or more and non-bank systemically important financial institutions. Regulation YY would impose (i) enhanced RBC requirements, (ii) leverage limits, (iii) liquidity requirements, (iv) single counterparty exposure limits, (v) governance requirements for risk management, (vi) stress test requirements, and (vii) special debt-to-equity limits for certain companies, and would establish a procedure for early remediation based on the failure to comply with these requirements. The Federal Reserve Board invited comment on, among other things, whether and how to apply these standards to non-bank systemically important financial institutions. For further information regarding enhanced prudential standards and Regulation YY, see Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Enhanced Prudential Standards.

Regulatory Agencies. Currently, as the owner of a federally-chartered bank, MetLife, Inc. remains a bank holding company and financial holding company. As such, MetLife, Inc. continues to be subject to regulation under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended (the BHC Act), and to inspection, examination, and supervision by the Federal Reserve. In addition, MetLife Bank is subject to regulation and examination primarily by the OCC and the CFPB and secondarily by the Federal Reserve and the FDIC, as described below under Banking Regulation.

Table of Contents

Financial Holding Company Activities. As a financial holding company, MetLife, Inc.'s activities and investments are restricted by the BHC Act, as amended by the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 (the GLB Act), to those that are financial in nature or incidental or complementary such financial activities. Activities that are financial in nature include securities underwriting, dealing and market making, sponsoring mutual funds and investment companies, insurance underwriting and agency, merchant banking and activities that the Federal Reserve Board has determined to be closely related to banking. In addition, under the insurance company investment portfolio provision of the GLB Act, financial holding companies are authorized to make investments in other financial and non-financial companies, through their insurance subsidiaries, that are in the ordinary course of business and in accordance with state insurance law, provided the financial holding company does not routinely manage or operate such companies except as may be necessary to obtain a reasonable return on investment.

Capital. MetLife, Inc. and MetLife Bank are subject to risk-based and leverage capital guidelines issued by the federal banking regulatory agencies for banks and financial holding companies. The federal banking regulatory agencies are required by law to take specific prompt corrective actions with respect to institutions that do not meet minimum capital standards. MetLife, Inc. may become required to comply with further requirements relating to the calculation of capital, commonly referred to as Basel II, which could require significant investment by the Company, including software. In addition, in December 2010, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (the Basel Committee) published its final rules for increased capital and liquidity requirements (commonly referred to as Basel III) for bank holding companies, such as MetLife, Inc. Assuming these requirements are endorsed and adopted by the U.S., they are to be phased in beginning January 1, 2013. It is possible that even more stringent capital and liquidity requirements could be imposed under Basel III and Dodd-Frank as long as MetLife, Inc. remains a bank holding company or if, in the future, it is designated by the FSOC as a non-bank systemically important financial institution. Certain of our international operations could also be affected by Solvency II, a new capital adequacy regime for the European insurance industry. See International Regulation. The ability of MetLife Bank and MetLife, Inc. to pay dividends, repurchase common stock or other securities or engage in other transactions that could affect its capital or need for capital would be affected by any additional capital requirements that might be imposed as a result of the enactment of Dodd-Frank, Regulation YY and the endorsement and adoption by the U.S. of Basel III. See Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Enhanced Prudential Standards and Risk Factors Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth. At December 31, 2011, MetLife, Inc. and MetLife Bank were in compliance with applicable requirements currently in effect.

The Federal Reserve's capital plan rule requires all bank holding companies with assets of more than \$50 billion, including MetLife, Inc., to submit annual capital plans which include projections of the company's capital levels under baseline and stress scenarios over a nine-quarter period. The Federal Reserve will approve or object to a company's proposed capital actions, such as dividends and stock repurchases, based on the results of those capital plans and the Federal Reserve's assessment of the robustness of the company's capital planning processes. In addition, in recent years, the Federal Reserve has conducted its own assessment of large bank holding companies' internal capital planning processes, capital adequacy and proposed capital distributions. In 2011, the Federal Reserve conducted the Comprehensive Capital Analysis and Review of the 19 largest bank holding companies (CCAR 2011), including MetLife, Inc. See Risk Factors Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth. In January 2012, MetLife submitted to the Federal Reserve a comprehensive capital plan, as mandated by the capital plans rule, and additional information required by the 2012 Comprehensive Capital Analysis and Review (CCAR 2012). The capital plan projects MetLife's capital levels to the end of 2013 under baseline and stress scenarios, including a stress scenario developed and provided by the Federal Reserve as part of CCAR 2012. MetLife's capital plan was created in accordance with MetLife's capital policy which addresses capital management objectives, measurement and assessment of capital adequacy, and capital governance and other approval processes for distributions and other uses of capital. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Liquidity and Capital Resources Capital Management and Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk Risk Management. The Federal Reserve has stated that it will consider the results of the

Table of Contents

capital plan exercise and CCAR 2012 in evaluating proposed capital actions by participating bank holding companies, such as common stock dividend increases and stock repurchases, and that it will provide its assessment of participating institutions' capital plans in mid-March 2012.

Consumer Protection Laws. Numerous other federal and state laws also affect MetLife, Inc.'s and MetLife Bank's earnings and activities, including federal and state consumer protection laws. The GLB Act included consumer privacy provisions that, among other things, require disclosure of a financial institution's privacy policy to customers. In addition, these provisions permit states to adopt more extensive privacy protections through legislation or regulation. As part of Dodd-Frank, Congress established the CFPB to supervise and regulate institutions that provide certain financial products and services to consumers. Although the consumer financial services subject to the CFPB's jurisdiction generally exclude insurance business of the kind in which we engage, the CFPB does have authority to regulate consumer services provided by MetLife Bank and non-insurance consumer services provided elsewhere throughout MetLife. See Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments - Consumer Protection Laws.

Change of Control and Restrictions on Mergers and Acquisitions. Because MetLife, Inc. is a financial holding company and bank holding company, no person may acquire control of MetLife, Inc. without the prior approval of the Federal Reserve Board. A change of control is conclusively presumed upon acquisition of 25% or more of any class of voting securities and rebuttably presumed upon acquisition of 10% or more of any class of voting securities. Further, as a result of MetLife, Inc.'s ownership of MetLife Bank, approval from the OCC would be required in connection with a change of control (generally presumed upon the acquisition of 10% or more of any class of voting securities) of MetLife, Inc. As a result of Dodd-Frank, Federal Reserve approval is required for any acquisition of a non-bank firm by a bank holding company having more than \$10 billion of assets, such as MetLife, Inc. Further, as a bank holding company with assets of \$50 billion or more, MetLife, Inc. will be required to provide prior notice to the Federal Reserve before acquiring control of voting shares of a company engaged in financial activities that has \$10 billion or more of consolidated assets.

Banking Regulation

As a federally chartered national banking association, MetLife Bank is subject to a wide variety of banking laws, regulations and guidelines. Federal banking and consumer financial protection laws regulate most aspects of the business of MetLife Bank, but certain state laws may apply as well. MetLife Bank is principally regulated by the OCC and the CFPB and secondarily by the Federal Reserve and the FDIC. Federal banking laws and regulations address various aspects of MetLife Bank's business and operations with respect to, among other things, chartering to carry on business as a bank; the permissibility of certain activities; maintaining minimum capital ratios; capital management in relation to the bank's assets; dividend payments and repurchases of securities, including common stock; safety and soundness standards; loan loss and other related liabilities; liquidity; financial reporting and disclosure standards; counterparty credit concentration; restrictions on related party and affiliate transactions; lending limits; payment of interest; unfair or deceptive acts or practices; privacy; and relationships with MetLife, Inc. in its capacity as a bank holding company and potentially with other investors in connection with a change of control of MetLife Bank. Dodd-Frank established a statutory standard for Federal preemption of state consumer financial protection laws, which standard will require national banks to comply with many state consumer financial protection laws that previously were considered preempted by Federal law. The FDIC has the right to assess FDIC-insured banks for funds to help pay the obligations of insolvent banks to depositors. In addition, Dodd-Frank resulted in increased assessments for MetLife Bank, as a bank with assets of \$10 billion or more. Federal and state banking regulators regularly re-examine existing laws and regulations applicable to banks and their products. Changes in these laws and regulations, or in interpretations thereof, are often made for the benefit of the consumer at the expense of the bank.

Securities, Broker-Dealer and Investment Adviser Regulation

Some of our subsidiaries and their activities in offering and selling variable insurance products are subject to extensive regulation under the federal securities laws administered by the SEC. These subsidiaries issue variable

Table of Contents

annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies through separate accounts that are registered with the SEC as investment companies under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the Investment Company Act). Each registered separate account is generally divided into sub-accounts, each of which invests in an underlying mutual fund which is itself a registered investment company under the Investment Company Act. In addition, the variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies issued by these registered separate accounts are registered with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act). Other subsidiaries are registered with the SEC as broker-dealers under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and are members of, and subject to regulation by, FINRA. Further, some of our subsidiaries are registered as investment advisers with the SEC under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the Investment Advisers Act), and are also registered as investment advisers in various states, as applicable. Certain variable contract separate accounts sponsored by our subsidiaries are exempt from registration, but may be subject to other provisions of the federal securities laws.

Federal and state securities regulatory authorities and FINRA from time to time make inquiries and conduct examinations regarding compliance by MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries with securities and other laws and regulations. We cooperate with such inquiries and examinations and take corrective action when warranted.

Federal and state securities laws and regulations are primarily intended to protect investors in the securities markets and generally grant regulatory agencies broad rulemaking and enforcement powers, including the power to limit or restrict the conduct of business for failure to comply with such laws and regulations. See Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Regulation of Brokers and Dealers. We may also be subject to similar laws and regulations in the foreign countries in which we provide investment advisory services, offer products similar to those described above, or conduct other activities.

Environmental Considerations

As an owner and operator of real property, we are subject to extensive federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations. Inherent in such ownership and operation is also the risk that there may be potential environmental liabilities and costs in connection with any required remediation of such properties. In addition, we hold equity interests in companies that could potentially be subject to environmental liabilities. We routinely have environmental assessments performed with respect to real estate being acquired for investment and real property to be acquired through foreclosure. We cannot provide assurance that unexpected environmental liabilities will not arise. However, based on information currently available to us, we believe that any costs associated with compliance with environmental laws and regulations or any remediation of such properties will not have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) Considerations

We provide products and services to certain employee benefit plans that are subject to ERISA, or the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code). As such, our activities are subject to the restrictions imposed by ERISA and the Code, including the requirement under ERISA that fiduciaries must perform their duties solely in the interests of ERISA plan participants and beneficiaries and the requirement under ERISA and the Code that fiduciaries may not cause a covered plan to engage in prohibited transactions with persons who have certain relationships with respect to such plans. The applicable provisions of ERISA and the Code are subject to enforcement by the Department of Labor (DOL), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

In *John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company v. Harris Trust and Savings Bank (1993)*, the U.S. Supreme Court held that certain assets in excess of amounts necessary to satisfy guaranteed obligations under a participating group annuity general account contract are plan assets. Therefore, these assets are subject to certain fiduciary obligations under ERISA, which requires fiduciaries to perform their duties solely in the interest of ERISA plan participants and beneficiaries. On January 5, 2000, the Secretary of Labor issued final regulations indicating, in cases where an insurer has issued a policy backed by the insurer's general account to or for an

Table of Contents

employee benefit plan, the extent to which assets of the insurer constitute plan assets for purposes of ERISA and the Code. The regulations apply only with respect to a policy issued by an insurer on or before December 31, 1998 (Transition Policy). No person will generally be liable under ERISA or the Code for conduct occurring prior to July 5, 2001, where the basis of a claim is that insurance company general account assets constitute plan assets. An insurer issuing a new policy that is backed by its general account and is issued to or for an employee benefit plan after December 31, 1998 will generally be subject to fiduciary obligations under ERISA, unless the policy is a guaranteed benefit policy.

The regulations indicate the requirements that must be met so that assets supporting a Transition Policy will not be considered plan assets for purposes of ERISA and the Code. These requirements include detailed disclosures to be made to the employee benefits plan and the requirement that the insurer must permit the policyholder to terminate the policy on 90 day notice and receive without penalty, at the policyholder's option, either (i) the unallocated accumulated fund balance (which may be subject to market value adjustment) or (ii) a book value payment of such amount in annual installments with interest. We have taken and continue to take steps designed to ensure compliance with these regulations.

Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments

Dodd-Frank effected the most far-reaching overhaul of financial regulation in the U.S. in decades. The full impact of Dodd-Frank on us will depend on the numerous rulemaking initiatives required or permitted by Dodd-Frank and the various studies mandated by Dodd-Frank, which are scheduled to be completed over the next few years. See Risk Factors Various Aspects of Dodd-Frank Could Impact Our Business Operations, Capital Requirements and Profitability and Limit Our Growth.

Federal Regulation. Dodd-Frank established the Federal Insurance Office within the Department of the Treasury, which has the authority to participate in the negotiations of international insurance agreements with foreign regulators for the U.S., as well as to collect information about the insurance industry and recommend prudential standards. While not having a general supervisory or regulatory authority over the business of insurance, the director of this office will perform various functions with respect to insurance, including serving as a non-voting member of the FSOC and making recommendations to the FSOC regarding insurers to be designated for more stringent regulation. The director is also required to submit a report to Congress regarding how to modernize and improve the system of insurance regulation in the United States, including by increasing national uniformity through either a federal charter or effective action by the states.

Enhanced Prudential Standards. As a large, interconnected bank holding company with assets of \$50 billion or more or, if designated as such by the FSOC, a non-bank systemically important financial institution, MetLife, Inc. will be subject to enhanced prudential standards imposed on such companies. The FSOC has proposed rules governing the process of how it would designate non-bank financial companies that would be subject to enhanced supervision by the Federal Reserve, but these rules have not become final and no non-bank financial companies have been so designated.

As proposed, Regulation YY would subject non-bank systemically important financial institutions to the same enhanced standards as large bank holding companies. Regulation YY would impose (i) enhanced RBC requirements, (ii) leverage limits, (iii) liquidity requirements, (iv) single counterparty exposure limits, (v) governance requirements for risk management, (vi) stress test requirements, and (vii) special debt-to-equity limits for certain companies, and would establish a procedure for early remediation based on the failure to comply with these requirements. The Federal Reserve Board invited comment on, among other things, whether and how to apply these standards to non-bank systemically important financial institutions.

In addition, if it were determined that MetLife, Inc. posed a substantial threat to U.S. financial stability, the applicable federal regulators would have the right to require it to take one or more other mitigating actions to reduce that risk, including limiting its ability to merge with or acquire another company, terminating activities, restricting its ability to offer financial products or requiring it to sell assets or off-balance sheet items to

Table of Contents

unaffiliated entities. Enhanced standards would also permit, but not require, regulators to establish requirements with respect to contingent capital, enhanced public disclosures and short-term debt limits. These standards are described as being more stringent than those otherwise imposed on bank holding companies; however, the Federal Reserve Board is permitted to apply them on an institution-by-institution basis, depending on its determination of the institution's riskiness.

MetLife, Inc., as a bank holding company, will have to meet minimum leverage ratio and RBC requirements on a consolidated basis to be established by the Federal Reserve Board that are not less than those applicable to insured depository institutions under so-called prompt corrective action regulations as in effect on the date of the enactment of Dodd-Frank. One consequence of these new rules will ultimately be the inability of bank holding companies to include trust-preferred securities as part of their Tier 1 capital. Because of the phase-in period for these new rules, they should have little practical effect on MetLife's ability to treat its currently outstanding trust-preferred securities as part of its Tier 1 capital, but they do prevent MetLife, Inc. from treating the common equity units issued originally as part of the consideration for the Acquisition (and since re-sold to the public) as Tier I capital, since the new rules apply immediately to instruments issued after May 19, 2010. See Note 14 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information on these common equity units.

Under Dodd-Frank, all bank holding companies that have elected to be treated as financial holding companies, such as MetLife, Inc., are required to be well capitalized and well managed as defined by the Federal Reserve Board, on a consolidated basis, and not just at their depository institution(s), a higher standard than was applicable to financial holding companies before Dodd-Frank. If we are unable to meet these standards, we could be subject to activity restrictions, ultimately be required to divest certain operations and be restricted in our ability to pay dividends, repurchase common stock or other securities or engage in transactions that could affect our capital or need for capital. See Risk Factors Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth.

Regulation of Over-the-Counter Derivatives. Dodd-Frank also includes a new framework of regulation of the over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives markets which will require clearing of certain types of transactions currently traded OTC and could potentially impose additional costs, including new capital, reporting and margin requirements and additional regulation on the Company. Increased margin requirements on MetLife, Inc.'s part, combined with restrictions on securities that will qualify as eligible collateral, could reduce its liquidity and require an increase in its holdings of cash and government securities with lower yields causing a reduction in income. MetLife, Inc. uses derivatives to mitigate a wide range of risks in connection with its businesses, including the impact of increased benefit exposures from our annuity products that offer guaranteed benefits. The derivative clearing requirements of Dodd-Frank could increase the cost of our risk mitigation and expose us to the risk of a default by a clearinghouse with respect to MetLife, Inc.'s cleared derivative transactions. In addition, we have always been subject to the risk that hedging and other management procedures might prove ineffective in reducing the risks to which insurance policies expose us or that unanticipated policyholder behavior or mortality, combined with adverse market events, produces economic losses beyond the scope of the risk management techniques employed. Any such losses could be increased by higher costs of writing derivatives (including customized derivatives) and the reduced availability of customized derivatives that might result from the enactment of Dodd-Frank.

Volcker Rule. Dodd-Frank restricts the ability of insured depository institutions and of companies, such as MetLife, Inc., that control an insured depository institution, and their affiliates, to engage in proprietary trading and to sponsor or invest in funds (hedge funds and private equity funds) that rely on certain exemptions from the Investment Company Act. Dodd-Frank provides an exemption for investment activity by a regulated insurance company or its affiliate solely for the general account of such insurance company if such activity is in compliance with the insurance company investment laws of the state or jurisdiction in which such company is domiciled and the appropriate Federal regulators after consultation with relevant insurance commissioners have not jointly determined such laws to be insufficient to protect the safety and soundness of the institution or the financial stability of the U.S. Other exemptions, including, but not limited to, activities for risk-mitigating

Table of Contents

hedging and activities on behalf of customers, may be available for the general account or separate account activities of insurance companies. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the appropriate Federal regulatory authorities are permitted under the legislation to impose, as part of rulemaking, additional capital requirements and other restrictions on any exempted activity. Dodd-Frank provides for a period of rulemaking during which the effects of the statutory language may be clarified. Among other things, one task of the rulemaking is to appropriately accommodate the business of insurance within an insurance company subject to regulation in accordance with relevant insurance company investments laws. Until the rulemaking is complete, including the scope of the statutory exemptions to be applied to insurance companies for each of the prohibitions on proprietary trading and fund sponsoring or investing, it is unclear whether MetLife, Inc. may have to alter any of its future activities to comply, including continuing to invest in private investment funds for its general accounts or to issue certain insurance products backed by its separate accounts. See Risk Factors Various Aspects of Dodd-Frank Could Impact Our Business Operations, Capital Requirements and Profitability and Limit Our Growth.

Consumer Protection Laws. Dodd-Frank established the CFPB that supervises and regulates institutions providing certain financial products and services to consumers. Although the consumer financial services to which this legislation applies exclude insurance business of the kind in which we engage, the CFPB has authority to regulate consumer services provided by MetLife Bank and non-insurance consumer services provided elsewhere throughout MetLife. Dodd-Frank established a statutory standard for Federal preemption of state consumer financial protection laws, which standard may require national banks to comply with many state consumer financial protection laws that previously were considered preempted by Federal law. The scope of this new standard is currently the matter of some dispute between the Comptroller of the Currency and some state attorneys general, and there have been judicial decisions holding that Dodd-Frank did not change the pre-existing preemption standard as established in earlier judicial decisions. As a result of the new standard, whatever its scope is finally determined to be, the regulatory and compliance burden on MetLife Bank may increase, which could adversely affect its business and results of operations. Dodd-Frank also includes provisions on mortgage lending, anti-predatory lending and other regulatory and supervisory provisions that could also impact the business and operations of MetLife Bank.

Orderly Liquidation Authority. Under the provisions of Dodd-Frank relating to the resolution or liquidation of certain types of financial institutions, including bank holding companies, if MetLife, Inc. were to become insolvent or were in danger of defaulting on its obligations, it could be compelled to undergo liquidation with the FDIC as receiver. For this new regime to be applicable, a number of determinations would have to be made, including that a default by the affected company would have serious adverse effects on financial stability in the U.S. If the FDIC were to be appointed as the receiver for such a company, the liquidation of that company would occur under the provisions of the new liquidation authority, and not under the Bankruptcy Code. In such a liquidation, the holders of such company's debt could in certain respects be treated differently than under the Bankruptcy Code. In particular, unsecured creditors and shareholders are intended to bear the losses of the company being liquidated. As required by Dodd-Frank, the FDIC has established rules relating to the priority of creditors' claims and the potentially dissimilar treatment of similarly situated creditors. These provisions could apply to some financial institutions whose outstanding debt securities we hold in our investment portfolios. Dodd-Frank also provides for the assessment of bank holding companies with assets of \$50 billion or more, non-bank SIFIs, and other financial companies with assets of \$50 billion or more to cover the costs of liquidating any financial company subject to the new liquidation authority. In addition, regulations have been issued by the FDIC and the Federal Reserve Board regarding the advance preparation of resolution plans by all non-bank SIFIs and bank holding companies with \$50 billion or more of assets. The largest institutions will have to submit resolution plans by July 1, 2012. Under the rule, if MetLife, Inc. remains a bank holding company on this date, or if, in the future, it is designated by the FSOC as a non-bank systemically important financial institution, it would be required to submit a resolution plan. Resolution plans would have to be resubmitted annually and promptly following any event, occurrence, change in conditions or circumstances, or other change that results in, or could reasonably be foreseen to have, a material effect on the resolution plan. A failure to submit a credible resolution plan could result in the imposition a variety of measures, including additional capital, leverage, or liquidity requirements, and forced divestiture of assets or operations.

Table of Contents

Regulation of Brokers and Dealers. Dodd-Frank also authorizes the SEC to establish a standard of conduct applicable to brokers and dealers when providing personalized investment advice to retail and other customers. This standard of conduct would be to act in the best interest of the customer without regard to the financial or other interest of the broker or dealer providing the advice.

Source of Strength. Dodd-Frank statutorily imposes the requirement that MetLife, Inc. serve as a source of strength for MetLife Bank.

We cannot predict what other proposals may be made, what legislation may be introduced or enacted or the impact of any such legislation on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

International Regulation

Our international operations are regulated in the jurisdictions in which they are located or operate. This regulation includes minimum capital, solvency and operational requirements. The authority of our international operations to conduct business is subject to licensing requirements, permits and approvals, and these authorizations are subject to modification and revocation. Periodic examinations of insurance company books and records, financial reporting requirements, market conduct examinations and policy filing requirements are among the techniques used by regulators to supervise our non-U.S. insurance businesses. We also have investment and pension companies in certain foreign jurisdictions that provide mutual fund, pension and other financial products and services. Those entities are subject to securities, investment, pension and other laws and regulations, and oversight by the relevant securities, pension and other authorities of the countries in which the companies operate. In some jurisdictions, some of our insurance products are considered securities under local law and may be subject to local securities regulations and oversight by local securities regulators.

Our international operations are exposed to increased political, legal, financial, operational and other risks. Our international operations may be materially adversely affected by the actions and decisions of foreign authorities and regulators, such as through nationalization or expropriation of assets, the imposition of limits on foreign ownership of local companies, changes in laws (including tax laws and regulations), their application or interpretation, political instability, dividend limitations, price controls, currency exchange controls or other restrictions that prevent us from transferring funds from these operations out of the countries in which they operate or converting local currencies we hold into U.S. dollars or other currencies, as well as other adverse actions by foreign governmental authorities and regulators. Such actions may negatively affect our business in these jurisdictions. See *Risk Factors Our International Operations Face Political, Legal, Operational and Other Risks, Including Exposure to Local and Regional Economic Conditions, That Could Negatively Affect Those Operations or Our Profitability and Risk Factors Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth.*

Certain of our international insurance operations may be subject to assessments, generally based on their proportionate share of business written in the relevant jurisdiction, for certain obligations to policyholders and claimants resulting from the insolvency of insurance companies. We cannot predict the timing and scope of any assessments that may be made in the future, which may materially affect the results of operations of our international insurance operations in particular quarterly or annual periods.

Annually, many of our international insurance operations are required to conduct an analysis of the sufficiency of all statutory reserves. In most of those cases, a locally qualified actuary must submit an analysis of the likelihood that the reserves make good and sufficient provision for the associated contractual obligations and related expenses of the insurer. Local regulatory and actuarial standards for this vary widely; the required implied certainty of the signing actuary's opinion varies equally widely.

We are also subject to the evolving Solvency II insurance regulatory directive for each of our insurance operations throughout the European Economic Area. The European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA) established Solvency II as a new capital adequacy regime for the European insurance

Table of Contents

industry. Currently, the EIOPA anticipates final proposals for standards and guidelines to be published in September 2012. Implementation is under discussion within EIOPA, but we are proceeding with our plan for readiness by January 1, 2013. Our Solvency II program is governed by a steering committee comprised of senior management. Solvency II encompasses solvency capital requirements, allows for both standard model and internal model calculations, requires a robust governance and risk management framework fully embedded in day-to-day decision making and greater quarterly and annual reporting disclosures. As requirements are finalized by the regulators, capital requirements might be impacted in a number of jurisdictions. Compliance with these new capital standards may impact the level of capital required to be held at individual legal entities. Further, the efforts required to comply with these regulations may increase operating costs at these entities. See **Risk Factors – Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth.**

We expect the scope and extent of regulation outside of the U.S., as well as regulatory oversight, generally to continue to increase. That oversight, and the legal and regulatory environment in the countries in which we operate, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

Japan

Our operations in Japan are subject to regulation and examination by Japan's Financial Services Agency (FSA). Our operations in Japan are required to file with the FSA annual reports for each fiscal year (ending March 31) which include financial statements. These annual reports are not prepared on a U.S. GAAP basis. Similar to the U.S., Japanese law provides that insurers in Japan must maintain specified solvency standards for the protection of policyholders and to support the financial strength of licensed insurers. As of September 30, 2011, the date of our most recent regulatory filing in Japan, the solvency margin ratio of our Japan operations was 1,529.5%, which is significantly in excess of the legally mandated solvency margin of 200% in Japan. Most Japanese life insurers maintain a solvency margin ratio well in excess of the legally mandated minimum. The FSA will apply a revised method of calculating the solvency margin ratio of life insurance companies in Japan for the next fiscal year-end, which is March 31, 2012, and required the disclosure of the ratio calculated on this new basis as reference information for the last fiscal year-end, which was March 31, 2011. As of September 30, 2011, the solvency margin of our Japan operations calculated on this new basis was 923.9%. We do not expect our relative position within the industry to materially change as a result of the application of this revised method.

A portion of the annual earnings of our Japan operations may be repatriated each year, and may further be distributed to MetLife, Inc. as a dividend. We may determine not to repatriate profits from the Japan operations or to repatriate a reduced amount in order to maintain or improve the solvency margin of the Japan operations or for other reasons. In addition, the FSA may limit or not permit profit repatriations or other transfers of funds to the U.S. if such transfers would be detrimental to the solvency or financial strength of our Japan operations or for other reasons.

Our operations in Japan are subject to assessments to cover obligations to policyholders in the event of insolvency of other insurance companies. Under the Japanese Insurance Business Law, all licensed life insurers in Japan are assessed on an annual basis by the Life Insurance Policyholders Protection Corporation of Japan. These assessments are aggregated across all licensed life insurers in Japan and used to satisfy certain obligations to policyholders and claimants of insolvent life insurance companies. We cannot predict the amount of future assessments, which may materially affect our results of operations in Japan in particular quarterly or annual periods.

Competition

We believe that competition faced by our segments is based on a number of factors, including service, product features, scale, price, financial strength, claims-paying ratings, credit ratings, e-business capabilities and name recognition. We compete in the U.S. and internationally, with other insurance companies, as well as non-insurance financial services companies, such as banks, broker-dealers and asset managers, for individual consumers, employer and other group customers as well as agents and other distributors of insurance and

Table of Contents

investment products. Some of these companies offer a broader array of products, have more competitive pricing or, with respect to other insurance companies, have higher claims paying ability ratings. Our U.S. Business competes in the U.S. with over 1,000 other U.S. and foreign-owned companies. In Japan, we compete with over 40 domestic and foreign-owned life insurance companies, many of which offer products in categories on which we focus: accident and health insurance, life insurance, and annuities. However, we typically have two to three main competitors per product category. Elsewhere, we compete with the foreign insurance operations of large U.S. insurers and with global insurance groups and local companies in particular areas in which they are active. Many of our group insurance products are underwritten annually and, accordingly, there is a risk that group purchasers may be able to obtain more favorable terms from competitors rather than renewing coverage with us. See Risk Factors Competitive Factors May Adversely Affect Our Market Share and Profitability.

We believe that the turbulence in financial markets that began in the second half of 2007, its impact on the capital position of many competitors, and subsequent actions by regulators and rating agencies have altered the competitive environment. In particular, we believe that these factors have highlighted financial strength as the most significant differentiator from the perspective of some customers and certain distributors. We believe the Company is well positioned to compete in this environment. In particular, the Company distributes many of its individual products through other financial institutions such as banks and broker-dealers. These distribution partners are currently placing greater emphasis on the financial strength of the company whose products they sell. In addition, the financial market turbulence has highlighted the extent of the risk associated with certain variable annuity products and has led many companies in our industry to re-examine the pricing and features of the products they offer. The effects of current market conditions may also lead to consolidation in the life insurance industry. Although we cannot predict the ultimate impact of these conditions, we believe that the strongest companies will enjoy a competitive advantage as a result of the current circumstances.

We must attract and retain productive sales representatives to sell our insurance, annuities and investment products. Insurance companies compete for sales representatives with demonstrated ability. We compete with other insurance companies for sales representatives primarily on the basis of our financial position, support services and compensation and product features. See U.S. Business Sales Distribution. In selected global markets, we continue to undertake several initiatives to grow our career agency forces, while continuing to enhance the efficiency and production of our existing sales forces. We cannot provide assurance that these initiatives will succeed in attracting and retaining productive agents. Sales of individual insurance, annuities and investment products and our results of operations and financial position could be materially adversely affected if we are unsuccessful in attracting and retaining productive agents. See Risk Factors We May Be Unable to Attract and Retain Sales Representatives for Our Products.

Numerous aspects of our business are subject to regulation. Legislative and other changes affecting the regulatory environment can affect our competitive position within the life insurance industry and within the broader financial services industry. See U.S. Regulation, International Regulation, Risk Factors Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth, Risk Factors Governmental and Regulatory Actions for the Purpose of Stabilizing and Revitalizing the Financial Markets and Protecting Investors and Consumers May Not Achieve the Intended Effect or Could Adversely Affect Our Competitive Position and Risk Factors Changes in U.S. Federal and State Securities Laws and Regulations, and State Insurance Regulations Regarding Suitability of Annuity Product Sales, May Affect Our Operations and Our Profitability.

Employees

At December 31, 2011, we had approximately 67,000 employees. We believe that our relations with our employees are satisfactory.

Table of Contents

Executive Officers of the Registrant

Set forth below is information regarding the executive officers of MetLife, Inc.:

Steven J. Goulart, age 53, has been Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer of MetLife, Inc. since May 2011. Previously, he was Treasurer of MetLife, Inc. from July 2009 to April 2011, head of the Portfolio Management Unit as Senior Managing Director of MLIC from January 2011 to April 2011, and head of the Mergers & Acquisitions Unit as Senior Vice President of MLIC from November 2006 to July 2009 and as Director of MetLife Group, Inc. from June to November 2006. Before joining MetLife in 2006, Mr. Goulart was senior managing director in Bear Stearns financial institutions group, managing director in Morgan Stanley's global insurance group and managing director in the financial institutions group at Merrill Lynch.

Frans Hijkoop, age 51, has been Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer of MetLife, Inc. since August 2011. Previously, he was chief personnel officer and senior vice president of human resources for the American Foods division of PepsiCo Inc. from January 2008 to August 2011 and chief personnel officer and senior vice president of human resources for PepsiCo International from February 2007 to January 2008. Prior to that he was an executive committee member and group human resources director of Lloyds TSB from January 2004 to February 2007.

Beth Hirschhorn, age 47, has been Executive Vice President, Global Brand, Marketing and Communications of MetLife, Inc. since November 1, 2011. Previously, she was Chief Marketing Officer and Senior Vice President of MetLife, Inc. from November 2006 to October 2011, and managed marketing for the U.S. Individual and Institutional businesses as Vice President of MLIC from January 2003 to November 2006. Before joining MetLife in 2002, she led the consumer financial services marketing unit at JP Morgan Chase.

Steven A. Kandarian, age 59, has been Chairman of the Board of MetLife, Inc. since January 2012 and President and Chief Executive Officer of MetLife, Inc. since May 2011. Previously, he was Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer of MetLife, Inc. from April 2005 to April 2011. Before joining MetLife, he was the executive director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation from 2001 to 2004. Mr. Kandarian was founder and managing partner of Orion Capital Partners, where he managed a private equity fund specializing in venture capital and corporate acquisitions.

Michel Khalaf, age 48, has been President, EMEA, of MetLife, Inc. since November 21, 2011. He joined MetLife as a result of the Acquisition. Mr. Khalaf served as Executive Vice President of MLIC from January 2011 until November 2011, and was Regional President, Middle East, Africa and South Asia of American Life from January 2009 until November 2011. Prior to the Acquisition, Mr. Khalaf had been deputy president and chief operating officer of Philamlife, the operating company of AIG in the Philippines, from August 2006 to October 2008. Mr. Khalaf has also held a number of leadership roles with ALICO in various markets around the world, including Poland, Egypt, Italy, France, and the Caribbean.

Nicholas D. Latrenta, age 60, has been Executive Vice President of MetLife, Inc. since August 2010 and General Counsel of MetLife, Inc. since May 2010. Previously, he was Senior Chief Counsel of MLIC supporting the Insurance Group from March 2007 to April 2010, the Institutional Business, ERISA and Product Tax Legal Group from April 2006 to February 2007, and MetLife Business from July 2004 to March 2006. He also served as Senior Vice President of MLIC Institutional Business from October 2000 to June 2004. Mr. Latrenta joined the Company in 1969 and has served in various senior management positions since that time.

Martin Lippert, age 52, joined MetLife in September 2011 as Executive Vice President and Head of Global Technology of MetLife, Inc. and has been Executive Vice President and Head of Global Technology and Operations of MetLife, Inc. since November 2011. Before joining MetLife, he was chief operations and technology officer for Citigroup from July 2008 to March 2009, and was vice chairman and group head of global technology and operations for Royal Bank of Canada from August 1997 to July 2008.

Table of Contents

Maria R. Morris, age 49, has been Executive Vice President and Head of Global Employee Benefits of MetLife, Inc. since November 2011. Previously, she was Executive Vice President, Global Operations, Integration, of MetLife, Inc. from September 2011 to November 2011, and Executive Vice President, Technology and Operations, of MetLife, Inc. from January 2008 to September 2011. Previously, she was Executive Vice President, Employee Benefits Sales of MLIC from December 2005 to January 2008, Senior Vice President of Group Insurance and Voluntary Benefits Sales and Service Operations of MLIC from July 2003 to December 2005, and Vice President from March 1997 to July 2003.

Eric T. Steigerwalt, age 50, has been Executive Vice President and Interim Chief Financial Officer for MetLife, Inc. since November 2011. He has been Executive Vice President of MLIC since January 2010, prior to which he served as Senior Vice President of MLIC from June 2000 to December 2009 and Vice President of MLIC from September 1998 to June 2000. Mr. Steigerwalt also served as Senior Vice President of MetLife, Inc. from June 2000 through July 2009, and served as Treasurer of MetLife, Inc. from May 2007 to July 2009. As an officer of MLIC, he served as chief financial officer for U.S. Business from August 2009 to November 2011, chief financial officer for Individual Business from 2002 to 2003 and head of Investor Relations from 2000 to 2002.

William J. Wheeler, age 50, has been President, The Americas, of MetLife, Inc. since November 21, 2011. Previously, he was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of MetLife, Inc. from December 2003 to November 2011, prior to which he was a Senior Vice President of MLIC from 1997 to December 2003. Prior to his appointment as Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Wheeler oversaw business development, product management and marketing activities for Individual Business and served as chief financial officer of Individual Business. Before joining MLIC in 1997 as treasurer, he was senior vice president at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette, a position he held for more than five years.

Trademarks

We have a worldwide trademark portfolio that we consider important in the marketing of our products and services, including, among others, the trademark MetLife. We also have the exclusive license to use the Peanuts characters in the area of financial services and healthcare benefit services in the U.S. and internationally under an advertising and premium agreement with Peanuts Worldwide, LLC until December 31, 2014. We also have a non-exclusive license to use certain Citigroup-owned trademarks in connection with the marketing, distribution or sale of life insurance and annuity products under a licensing agreement with Citigroup until June 30, 2015. Furthermore, as result of the Acquisition, we acquired American Life and its trademarks, including the Alico trademark. We believe that our rights in our trademarks and under our Peanuts characters license and our Citigroup license are well protected.

Available Information

MetLife files periodic reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Such reports, proxy statements and other information may be obtained by visiting the Public Reference Room of the SEC at its Headquarters Office, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington D.C. 20549 or by calling the SEC at 1-202-551-8090 or 1-800-SEC-0330 (Office of Investor Education and Advocacy). In addition, the SEC maintains an internet website (www.sec.gov) that contains reports, proxy statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC, including MetLife, Inc.

MetLife makes available, free of charge, on its website (www.metlife.com) through the Investor Relations page, its annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to all those reports, as soon as reasonably practicable after filing (furnishing) such reports to the SEC. Other information found on the website is not part of this or any other report filed with or furnished to the SEC.

Table of Contents
Item 1A. Risk Factors***Difficult Conditions in the Global Capital Markets and the Economy Generally May Materially Adversely Affect Our Business and Results of Operations and These Conditions May Not Improve in the Near Future***

Our business and results of operations are materially affected by conditions in the global capital markets and the economy generally. Stressed conditions, volatility and disruptions in global capital markets, particular markets, or financial asset classes can have an adverse effect on us, in part because we have a large investment portfolio and our insurance liabilities are sensitive to changing market factors. Global market factors, including interest rates, credit spreads, equity prices, real estate markets, foreign currency exchange rates, consumer spending, business investment, government spending, the volatility and strength of the capital markets, deflation and inflation, all affect the business and economic environment and, ultimately, the amount and profitability of our business. Disruptions in one market or asset class can also spread to other markets or asset classes. Upheavals in the financial markets can also affect our business through their effects on general levels of economic activity, employment and customer behavior. While our diversified business mix and geographically diverse business operations partially mitigate these risks, correlation across regions, countries and global market factors may reduce the benefits of diversification.

Volatile conditions have continued to characterize financial markets at times, and not all global financial markets are functioning normally. Significant market volatility, and government actions taken in response, may exacerbate some of the risks we face. Beginning in 2010 and continuing throughout 2011, concerns increased about capital markets and the solvency of certain European Union member states, including Portugal, Ireland, Italy, Greece and Spain (Europe's perimeter region), and of financial institutions that have significant direct or indirect exposure to debt issued by these countries. This, in turn, created market volatility which will continue to affect the performance of various asset classes in 2012, and perhaps longer, until there is an ultimate resolution of these sovereign debt-related concerns. As a result of concerns about the ability of Europe's perimeter region to service their sovereign debt, these countries have experienced credit ratings downgrades, including the downgrade of Greece's sovereign debt in July 2011 by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. (Moody's) and Standard & Poor's Ratings Services (S&P) to Ca and CC ratings, respectively rating designations of likely in, or very near, default. On February 27, 2012, S&P downgraded Greece's credit rating to SD, a rating of selective default. Despite support programs for Europe's perimeter region, concerns about the ability to service sovereign debt subsequently expanded to other European Union member states. As a result, in late 2011 and early 2012, several other European Union member states have experienced credit ratings downgrades or have had their credit ratings outlook changed to negative. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Investments Current Environment. The Japanese economy, to which we face substantial exposure given our operations there, was significantly negatively impacted by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Although we expect modest growth in the Japanese economy during 2012, disruptions to the Japanese economy are having, and will continue to have, negative impacts on the overall global economy, not all of which can be foreseen. Although the August 2011 downgrade by S&P of U.S. Treasury securities initially had an adverse effect on financial markets, the extent of the longer-term impact cannot be predicted. In November 2011, Fitch Ratings (Fitch) warned that it may in the future downgrade the U.S. credit rating unless action is taken to reduce the national debt of the U.S. It is possible that the August 2011 S&P downgrade and any future downgrades, as well as continued concerns about U.S. fiscal policy and the trajectory of the national debt of the U.S., could have severe repercussions to the U.S. and global credit and financial markets, further exacerbate concerns over sovereign debt of other countries and could disrupt economic activity in the U.S. and elsewhere. See Concerns Over U.S. Fiscal Policy and the Trajectory of the National Debt of the U.S., as well as Rating Agency Downgrades of U.S. Treasury Securities, Could Have an Adverse Effect on Our Business, Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Investments Current Environment.

Our revenues and net investment income are likely to remain under pressure in uncertain financial market conditions and as a result of low interest rates and our profit margins could erode. Also, in the event of extreme

Table of Contents

prolonged market events, such as the recent global credit crisis, we could incur significant capital and/or operating losses. Even in the absence of a market downturn, we are exposed to substantial risk of loss due to market volatility.

We are a significant writer of variable insurance products and certain other products issued through separate accounts. The account values of these products decrease as a result of declining equity markets. Decreases in account values reduce fees generated by these products, cause the amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs (DAC) to accelerate and could increase the level of insurance liabilities we must carry to support such products issued with any associated guarantees.

Factors such as consumer spending, business investment, government spending, the volatility and strength of the capital markets, deflation and inflation all affect the business and economic environment and, ultimately, the amount and profitability of our business. In an economic downturn characterized by higher unemployment, lower family income, lower corporate earnings, lower business investment and lower consumer spending, the demand for our financial and insurance products could be adversely affected. Group insurance, in particular, is affected by the higher unemployment rate. In addition, we may experience an elevated incidence of claims and lapses or surrenders of policies. Our policyholders may choose to defer paying insurance premiums or stop paying insurance premiums altogether. Adverse changes in the economy could affect earnings negatively and could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

The recent financial crisis has precipitated, and may continue to raise the possibility of, legislative, judicial, regulatory and other governmental actions. We cannot predict whether or when such actions may occur, nor can we predict what ultimate impact, if any, either such actions or any of the legislative, judicial, regulatory and other governmental actions of the last several years could have on our business, results of operations and financial condition. See *Governmental and Regulatory Actions for the Purpose of Stabilizing and Revitalizing the Financial Markets and Protecting Investors and Consumers May Not Achieve the Intended Effect or Could Adversely Affect Our Competitive Position*, *Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth*, *Various Aspects of Dodd-Frank Could Impact Our Business Operations, Capital Requirements and Profitability and Limit Our Growth*, and *Competitive Factors May Adversely Affect Our Market Share and Profitability*.

Concerns Over U.S. Fiscal Policy and the Trajectory of the National Debt of the U.S., as well as Rating Agency Downgrades of U.S. Treasury Securities, Could Have an Adverse Effect on Our Business, Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Concerns over U.S. fiscal policy and the trajectory of the national debt could have severe repercussions to the U.S. and global credit and financial markets, further exacerbate concerns over sovereign debt of other countries and disrupt economic activity in the U.S. and elsewhere. As a result, our access to, or cost of, liquidity may deteriorate.

In August 2011, S&P downgraded the AAA rating on U.S. Treasury securities to AA+ with a negative outlook, while Moody's affirmed the Aaa rating on U.S. Treasury securities, but with a negative outlook. In October 2011, Moody's affirmed its August 2011 ratings, but revised its negative outlook to stable. In November 2011, Fitch affirmed its AAA rating on U.S. Treasury securities but changed its U.S. credit rating outlook to negative from stable, citing the failure of a special Congressional committee to agree on certain deficit reduction measures and warning that it may in the future downgrade the U.S. credit rating unless action is taken to reduce the national debt of the U.S.

As a result of downgrades of U.S. Treasury securities, the market value of some of our investments may decrease, and our capital adequacy could be adversely affected, which could require us to raise additional capital during a period of distress in financial markets, potentially at a higher cost. Further downgrades, together with the sustained current trajectory of the national debt of the U.S., would significantly exacerbate the risks we face and any resulting adverse effects on our business, financial condition and results of operations, including those

Table of Contents

described under **Difficult Conditions in the Global Capital Markets and the Economy Generally May Materially Adversely Affect Our Business and Results of Operations and These Conditions May Not Improve in the Near Future**, **Adverse Capital and Credit Market Conditions May Significantly Affect Our Ability to Meet Liquidity Needs, Access to Capital and Cost of Capital**, **Our Participation in a Securities Lending Program Subjects Us to Potential Liquidity and Other Risks** and **The Determination of the Amount of Allowances and Impairments Taken on Our Investments is Subjective and Could Materially Impact Our Results of Operations or Financial Position**. We cannot predict whether or when these adverse consequences may occur, what other unforeseen consequences may result, or the extent, severity and duration of the impact of such consequences on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Governmental and Regulatory Actions for the Purpose of Stabilizing and Revitalizing the Financial Markets and Protecting Investors and Consumers May Not Achieve the Intended Effect or Could Adversely Affect Our Competitive Position

In recent years, Congress, the Federal Reserve, the FDIC, the U.S. Treasury and other agencies of the U.S. federal government have taken a number of increasingly aggressive actions (including a series of interest rate reductions that began in the second half of 2007) intended to provide liquidity to financial institutions and markets, to avert a loss of investor confidence in particular troubled institutions, to prevent or contain the spread of the financial crisis and to spur economic growth. Most of these programs have largely run their course or been discontinued. More likely to be relevant to us are the monetary policy implemented by the Federal Reserve and the implementation of Dodd-Frank, which will significantly change financial regulation in the U.S. in a number of areas that could affect us. Given the large number of provisions of Dodd-Frank that must be implemented through regulatory action and the delay with which some aspects of this implementation are taking place, we cannot predict what impact this could have on our business, results of operations and financial condition. The impact of Dodd-Frank implementation will also be affected by MetLife Bank's pending actions to exit the depository business, MetLife Bank's decision to exit the forward mortgage origination business, MetLife, Inc.'s intention to deregister as a bank holding company, and Dodd-Frank rulemaking initiatives relating to non-bank systemically important financial institutions. See **Various Aspects of Dodd-Frank Could Impact Our Business Operations, Capital Requirements and Profitability and Limit Our Growth** and **Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments**.

The Federal Reserve Board has taken a number of actions in recent years to spur economic activity by keeping interest rates low and may take further actions to influence interest rates in the future, which may have an impact on the pricing levels of risk-bearing investments, and may adversely impact the level of product sales. There can be no assurance that these actions will have the intended effect or what impact, if any, these actions could have on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

In addition, the U.S. federal government (including the FDIC) and private lenders have instituted programs to reduce the monthly payment obligations of mortgagors and/or reduce the principal payable on residential mortgage loans. As a result of such programs or of any legislation requiring loan modifications, we may need to maintain or increase our engagement in similar activities in order to comply with program or statutory requirements and to remain competitive. Increased attention is also being paid to the practices of lenders in connection with the mortgage modification process.

We cannot predict whether the funds made available by the U.S. federal government and its agencies, or other actions taken by the government, will stabilize or further revive the financial markets or harm them or, if the U.S. federal government decides to distribute additional amounts, either by Federal Reserve Board action or by Congressional appropriation, whether those additional actions will have positive or negative effects.

The choices made by the U.S. Treasury, the Federal Reserve and the FDIC in their distribution of funds under any future asset purchase programs, as well as any decisions made regarding the imposition of additional regulation on large financial institutions may have, over time, the effect of supporting or burdening some aspects of the financial services industry more than others. Some of our competitors have received, or may in the future

Table of Contents

receive, benefits under one or more of the federal government's programs. This could adversely affect our competitive position. See **Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth**, **Governmental and Regulatory Actions for the Purpose of Stabilizing and Revitalizing the Financial Markets and Protecting Investors and Consumers May Not Achieve the Intended Effect or Could Adversely Affect Our Competitive Position**, and **Competitive Factors May Adversely Affect Our Market Share and Profitability**.

Adverse Capital and Credit Market Conditions May Significantly Affect Our Ability to Meet Liquidity Needs, Access to Capital and Cost of Capital

The capital and credit markets are sometimes subject to periods of extreme volatility and disruption. Such volatility and disruption could cause liquidity and credit capacity for certain issuers to be limited.

We need liquidity to pay our operating expenses, interest on our debt and dividends on our capital stock, maintain our securities lending activities and replace certain maturing liabilities. Without sufficient liquidity, we will be forced to curtail our operations, and our business will suffer. The principal sources of our liquidity are insurance premiums, annuity considerations, deposit funds, and cash flow from our investment portfolio and assets, consisting mainly of cash or assets that are readily convertible into cash. Sources of liquidity in normal markets also include short-term instruments such as funding agreements and commercial paper. Sources of capital in normal markets include long-term instruments, medium- and long-term debt, junior subordinated debt securities, capital securities and equity securities.

In the event market or other conditions have an adverse impact on our capital and liquidity, or any required regulatory stress-testing indicates that such conditions could have such an impact beyond expectations and our current resources do not satisfy our needs or regulatory requirements, we may have to seek additional financing. The availability of additional financing will depend on a variety of factors such as market conditions, regulatory considerations, the general availability of credit, the volume of trading activities, the overall availability of credit to the financial services industry, our credit ratings and credit capacity, as well as the possibility that customers or lenders could develop a negative perception of our long- or short-term financial prospects if we incur large investment losses or if the level of our business activity decreases due to a market downturn. Similarly, our access to funds may be impaired if regulatory authorities or rating agencies take negative actions against us. Our internal sources of liquidity may prove to be insufficient and, in such case, we may not be able to successfully obtain additional financing on favorable terms, or at all.

Our liquidity requirements may change if, among other things, we are required to return significant amounts of cash collateral on short notice under securities lending agreements.

Disruptions, uncertainty or volatility in the capital and credit markets may also limit our access to capital required to operate our business, most significantly our insurance operations. Such market conditions may limit our ability to replace, in a timely manner, maturing liabilities; satisfy regulatory capital requirements (under both insurance and banking laws); and access the capital necessary to grow our business. See **Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Conditions and Results of Operations** **Industry Trends** **Regulatory Changes**. See also **Business** **U.S. Regulation** **Financial Holding Company Regulation** for information relating to the possible impact on us of Regulation YY, Basel II and Basel III, **Business** **U.S. Regulation** **Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments** for a discussion of the possible impact on us of Dodd-Frank, and **Business** **International Regulation** for information relating to Solvency II. As a result, we may be forced to delay raising capital, issue different types of securities than we would have otherwise, less effectively deploy such capital, issue shorter tenor securities than we prefer, or bear an unattractive cost of capital which could decrease our profitability and significantly reduce our financial flexibility. Our results of operations, financial condition, cash flows and statutory capital position could be materially adversely affected by disruptions in the financial markets.

Table of Contents

Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth

Insurance Regulation U.S. Our insurance operations are subject to a wide variety of insurance and other laws and regulations. See *Business U.S. Regulation Insurance Regulation*. State insurance laws regulate most aspects of our U.S. insurance businesses, and our U.S. insurance subsidiaries are regulated by the insurance regulators of the states in which they are domiciled and the states in which they are licensed.

State laws in the U.S. grant insurance regulatory and other state authorities broad administrative powers with respect to, among other things:

licensing companies and agents to transact business;

calculating the value of assets to determine compliance with statutory requirements;

mandating certain insurance benefits;

regulating certain premium rates;

reviewing and approving policy forms;

regulating unfair trade and claims practices, including through the imposition of restrictions on marketing and sales practices, distribution arrangements and payment of inducements, and identifying and paying to the states benefits and other property that is not claimed by the owners;

regulating advertising;

protecting privacy;

establishing statutory capital and reserve requirements and solvency standards;

fixing maximum interest rates on insurance policy loans and minimum rates for guaranteed crediting rates on life insurance policies and annuity contracts;

approving changes in control of insurance companies;

restricting the payment of dividends and other transactions between affiliates; and

regulating the types, amounts and valuation of investments.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

State insurance guaranty associations have the right to assess insurance companies doing business in their state for funds to help pay the obligations of insolvent insurance companies to policyholders and claimants. Because the amount and timing of an assessment is beyond our control, the liabilities that we have currently established for these potential liabilities may not be adequate. See [Business U.S. Regulation Insurance Regulation Guaranty Associations and Similar Arrangements](#).

State insurance regulators and the NAIC regularly re-examine existing laws and regulations applicable to insurance companies and their products. Changes in these laws and regulations, or in interpretations thereof, that are made for the benefit of the consumer sometimes lead to additional expense for the insurer and, thus, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

U.S. Federal Regulation Affecting Insurance. Currently, the U.S. federal government does not directly regulate the business of insurance. However, Dodd-Frank allows federal regulators to compel state insurance regulators to liquidate an insolvent insurer under some circumstances if the state regulators have not acted within a specific period. It also establishes the Federal Insurance Office within the Department of the Treasury, which has the authority to participate in the negotiations of international insurance agreements with foreign regulators for the U.S., as well as to collect information about the insurance industry and recommend prudential standards.

Table of Contents

While not having a general supervisory or regulatory authority over the business of insurance, the director of this office will perform various functions with respect to insurance, including serving as a non-voting member of the FSOC and making recommendations to the FSOC regarding insurers to be designated for more stringent regulation. The director is also required to submit a report to Congress regarding how to modernize and improve the system of insurance regulation in the United States, including by increasing national uniformity through either a federal charter or effective action by the states.

Federal legislation and administrative policies in several areas can significantly and adversely affect insurance companies. These areas include financial services regulation, securities regulation, derivatives regulation, mortgage regulation, pension regulation, health care regulation, privacy, tort reform legislation and taxation. In addition, various forms of direct and indirect federal regulation of insurance have been proposed from time to time, including proposals for the establishment of an optional federal charter for insurance companies. Other aspects of our insurance operations could also be affected by Dodd-Frank. For example, Dodd-Frank imposes restrictions on the ability of affiliates of insured depository institutions (such as MetLife Bank) to engage in proprietary trading or sponsor or invest in hedge funds or private equity funds. See [Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Volcker Rule](#).

Banking and Bank Holding Company Regulation. As a federally chartered national banking association, MetLife Bank is subject to a wide variety of banking laws, regulations and guidelines. Federal banking and consumer financial protection laws regulate most aspects of the business of MetLife Bank, but certain state laws may apply as well. MetLife Bank is principally regulated by the OCC and the CFPB, and secondarily by the Federal Reserve and the FDIC.

Federal banking laws and regulations address various aspects of MetLife Bank's business and operations with respect to, among other things:

chartering to carry on business as a bank;

the permissibility of certain activities;

maintaining minimum capital ratios;

capital management in relation to the bank's assets;

dividend payments and repurchases of securities, including common stock;

safety and soundness standards;

loan loss and other related liabilities;

liquidity;

financial reporting and disclosure standards;

counterparty credit concentration;

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

restrictions on related party and affiliate transactions;

lending limits (and, in addition, Dodd-Frank includes the credit exposures arising from securities lending by MetLife Bank within lending limits otherwise applicable to loans);

payment of interest;

unfair or deceptive acts or practices;

mortgage servicing practices;

privacy; and

relationships with MetLife, Inc. in its capacity as a bank holding company and potentially with other investors in connection with a change in control of MetLife Bank.

Table of Contents

Federal banking regulators regularly re-examine existing laws and regulations applicable to banks and their products. Changes in these laws and regulations, or in interpretations thereof, are often made for the benefit of the consumer at the expense of the bank and, thus, could have a material adverse effect on the financial condition and results of operations of MetLife Bank.

From 2008 until January 2012, MetLife Bank significantly increased its mortgage servicing activities by acquiring servicing portfolios. Currently, MetLife Bank services approximately 1% of the aggregate principal amount of the mortgage loans serviced in the U.S. In January 2012, MetLife, Inc. announced that MetLife Bank was exiting its forward mortgage origination business. The Company continues to originate reverse mortgages and will continue to service its current mortgage customers.

State and federal regulatory and law enforcement authorities have initiated various inquiries, investigations or examinations of alleged irregularities in the foreclosure practices of the residential mortgage servicing industry. Mortgage servicing practices have also been the subject of Congressional attention. Authorities have publicly stated that the scope of the investigations extends beyond foreclosure documentation practices to include mortgage loan modification and loss mitigation practices. See [The Resolution of Several Issues Affecting the Financial Services Industry Could Have a Negative Impact on Our Reported Results or on Our Relations with Current and Potential Customers](#).

In addition, Dodd-Frank established the CFPB that supervises and regulates institutions providing certain financial products and services to consumers. Although the consumer financial services to which this legislation applies exclude insurance business of the kind in which we engage, the CFPB has authority to regulate consumer services provided by MetLife Bank and non-insurance consumer services provided elsewhere throughout MetLife. See [Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Consumer Protection Laws](#). We cannot predict how regulation by the CFPB might affect our business.

In December 2010, the Basel Committee published Basel III for bank holding companies, such as MetLife, Inc. Assuming these requirements are endorsed and adopted by the U.S., they are to be phased in beginning January 1, 2013. It is possible that even more stringent capital and liquidity requirements could be imposed on us under Basel III and Dodd-Frank as long as MetLife, Inc. remains a bank holding company or if, in the future, it is designated by the FSOC as a non-bank systemically important financial institution. In December 2011, the Federal Reserve Board issued a release proposing the adoption of Regulation YY. Regulation YY would apply to bank holding companies with assets of \$50 billion or more and non-bank SIFIs. The ability of MetLife Bank and MetLife, Inc. to pay dividends, repurchase common stock or other securities or engage in other transactions that could affect its capital or need for capital would be affected by any additional capital requirements that might be imposed as a result of the enactment of Dodd-Frank, Regulation YY and the endorsement and adoption by the U.S. of Basel III and other regulatory initiatives. We are also subject to the evolving Solvency II insurance regulatory directive for each of our insurance operations throughout the European Economic Area. As requirements are finalized by the regulators, capital requirements might be impacted in a number of jurisdictions. In addition, our legal entity structure throughout Europe may impact our capital requirements, risk management infrastructure and reporting by country. See [Business U.S. Regulation, Business International Regulation and Management s Discussion and Analysis Financial Condition and Results of Operations Industry Trends](#). The Basel Committee has also published rules requiring a capital surcharge for globally systemically important banks, which are to be phased in beginning in 2016 and will become fully effective in 2019 if they are endorsed and adopted by the U.S. banking regulators.

The Federal Reserve s capital plan rule requires all bank holding companies with assets of more than \$50 billion, including MetLife, Inc., to submit annual capital plans which include projections of the company s capital levels under baseline and stress scenarios over a nine-quarter period. The Federal Reserve will approve or object to a company s proposed capital actions, such as dividends and stock repurchases, based on the results of those capital plans and the Federal Reserve s assessment of the robustness of the company s capital planning processes. In addition, in recent years the Federal Reserve has conducted its own assessment of large bank holding companies internal capital planning processes, capital adequacy and proposed capital distributions. In 2011, the Federal Reserve conducted the CCAR 2011. In October 2011, we announced that the Federal Reserve

Table of Contents

had concluded that our planned capital actions submitted as part of CCAR 2011 should be tested under a revised adverse macroeconomic scenario developed for those firms participating in the CCAR 2012. As a result, the Federal Reserve did not approve MetLife, Inc.'s planned dividend increase and other proposed capital actions. In January 2012, we submitted to the Federal Reserve a comprehensive capital plan, as mandated by the capital plans rule, and additional information required by CCAR 2012. The capital plan projects MetLife's capital levels to the end of 2013 under baseline and stress scenarios, including a stress scenario developed and provided by the Federal Reserve as part of CCAR 2012. The Federal Reserve has stated that it will consider the results of the capital plan exercise and CCAR 2012 in evaluating proposed capital actions by participating bank holding companies, such as common stock dividend increases and stock repurchases, and that it will provide its assessment of participating institutions' capital plans in mid-March 2012. There can be no assurance that the Federal Reserve will approve our capital plans.

Under Dodd-Frank, all bank holding companies that have elected to be treated as financial holding companies, such as MetLife, Inc., are required to be well capitalized and well managed as defined by the Federal Reserve, on a consolidated basis, and not just at their depository institution(s), a higher standard than was applicable to financial holding companies before Dodd-Frank. If we are unable to meet these standards, we could be subject to activity restrictions, ultimately be required to divest certain operations and be restricted in our ability to pay dividends, repurchase common stock or other securities, or engage in transactions that could affect our capital or need for capital. See Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments.

Once MetLife Bank has completely exited its depository business, MetLife, Inc. plans to terminate MetLife Bank's FDIC insurance, putting MetLife, Inc. in a position to be able to deregister as a bank holding company. Upon completion of the foregoing, we will no longer be regulated as a bank holding company or subject to enhanced supervision and prudential standards as a bank holding company with assets of \$50 billion or more. However, if, in the future, MetLife, Inc. is designated by the FSOC as a non-bank systemically important financial institution, it would once again be subject to regulation by the Federal Reserve and enhanced supervision and prudential standards, such as Regulation YY. In October 2011, the FSOC issued a notice of proposed rulemaking outlining the process it will follow and the criteria it will use to assess whether a non-bank financial company should be subject to enhanced supervision by the Federal Reserve as a non-bank systemically important financial institution. If MetLife, Inc. meets the quantitative thresholds set forth in the proposal, the FSOC will continue with a further analysis using qualitative and quantitative factors. See Business U.S. Regulation Financial Holding Company Regulation and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Industry Trends.

The FDIC has the right to assess FDIC-insured banks for funds to help pay the obligations of insolvent banks to depositors. Because the amount and timing of an assessment is beyond our control, the liabilities that we have currently established for these potential liabilities may not be adequate. In addition, Dodd-Frank will result in increased assessments for banks with assets of \$10 billion or more, which includes MetLife Bank. In addition, large bank holding companies and non-bank systemically important financial institutions can be assessed under Dodd-Frank for any uncovered costs arising in connection with the resolution of a systemically important financial company and, under a proposal of the U.S. Treasury published on January 3, 2012, will be assessed to cover the expenses of the Office of Financial Research, an agency established by Dodd-Frank to improve the quality of financial data available to policymakers and facilitate more robust and sophisticated analysis of the financial system.

Regulation of Brokers and Dealers. Dodd-Frank also authorizes the SEC to establish a standard of conduct applicable to brokers and dealers when providing personalized investment advice to retail and other customers. This standard of conduct would be to act in the best interest of the customer without regard to the financial or other interest of the broker or dealer providing the advice. See Business U.S. Regulation Securities, Broker-Dealer and Investment Adviser Regulation and Changes in U.S. Federal and State Securities Laws and Regulations, and State Insurance Regulations Regarding Suitability of Annuity Product Sales, May Affect Our Operations and Our Profitability.

Table of Contents

International Regulation. Our international insurance operations are principally regulated by insurance regulatory authorities in the jurisdictions in which they are located or operate. See *Business International Regulation* and *Our International Operations Face Political, Legal, Operational and Other Risks, Including Exposure to Local and Regional Economic Conditions, That Could Negatively Affect Those Operations or Our Profitability*. A significant portion of our revenues is generated through operations in foreign jurisdictions, including many countries in early stages of economic and political development. Our international operations may be materially adversely affected by the actions and decisions of foreign authorities and regulators, such as through nationalization or expropriation of assets, the imposition of limits on foreign ownership of local companies, changes in laws (including tax laws and regulations), their application or interpretation, political instability, dividend limitations, price controls, changes in applicable currency, currency exchange controls or other restrictions that prevent us from transferring funds from these operations out of the countries in which they operate or converting local currencies we hold to U.S. dollars or other currencies. This may also impact many of our customers and independent sales intermediaries. Changes in the regulations that affect their operations also may affect our business relationships with them and their ability to purchase or distribute our products. Accordingly, these changes and actions may negatively affect our business in these jurisdictions.

We expect the scope and extent of regulation outside of the U.S., as well as regulatory oversight, generally to continue to increase. The authority of our international operations to conduct business is subject to licensing requirements, permits and approvals, and these authorizations are subject to modification and revocation. The regulatory environment in the countries in which we operate and changes in laws could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations. See *Our International Operations Face Political, Legal, Operational and Other Risks, Including Exposure to Local and Regional Economic Conditions, That Could Negatively Affect Those Operations or Our Profitability* and *Business International Regulation*.

Compliance with applicable laws and regulations is time consuming and personnel-intensive, and changes in these laws and regulations may materially increase our direct and indirect compliance and other expenses of doing business, thus having a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Summary. From time to time, regulators raise issues during examinations or audits of MetLife, Inc.'s regulated subsidiaries that could, if determined adversely, have a material impact on us. We cannot predict whether or when regulatory actions may be taken that could adversely affect our operations. In addition, the interpretations of regulations by regulators may change and statutes may be enacted with retroactive impact, particularly in areas such as accounting or statutory reserve requirements. We are also subject to other regulations and may in the future become subject to additional regulations. See *Business U.S. Regulation* and *Business International Regulation*.

Our International Operations Face Political, Legal, Operational and Other Risks, Including Exposure to Local and Regional Economic Conditions, That Could Negatively Affect Those Operations or Our Profitability

Our international operations are exposed to increased political, legal, financial, operational and other risks. Our international operations may be materially adversely affected by the actions and decisions of foreign authorities and regulators, such as through nationalization or expropriation of assets, the imposition of limits on foreign ownership of local companies, changes in laws (including tax laws and regulations), their application or interpretation, political instability, dividend limitations, price controls, changes in applicable currency, currency exchange controls or other restrictions that prevent us from transferring funds from these operations out of the countries in which they operate or converting local currencies we hold into U.S. dollars or other currencies, as well as other adverse actions by foreign governmental authorities and regulators, such as the retroactive application of new requirements to sales made prior to their introduction. Such actions may negatively affect our business in these jurisdictions and could indirectly affect our business in other jurisdictions as well. Some of our foreign insurance operations are, and are likely to continue to be, in emerging markets where these risks are heightened. See *Business International Regulation*, *Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Heavily Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth* and *Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk*. In

Table of Contents

addition, we rely on local sales forces in these countries and may encounter labor problems resulting from workers' associations and trade unions in some countries. In several countries, including China and India, we operate with local business partners with the resulting risk of managing partner relationships to the business objectives. If our business model is not successful in a particular country, we may lose all or most of our investment in building and training the sales force in that country.

We are expanding our international operations in certain markets where we operate and in selected new markets. This may require considerable management time, as well as start-up expenses for market development before any significant revenues and earnings are generated. Operations in new foreign markets may achieve low margins or may be unprofitable, and expansion in existing markets may be affected by local economic and market conditions. Therefore, as we expand internationally, we may not achieve expected operating margins and our results of operations may be negatively impacted.

In addition, in recent years, the operating environment in Argentina has been very challenging. In Argentina, we were formerly principally engaged in the pension business. In December 2008, the Argentine government nationalized the Social Security System and moved pension fund assets into the government-run system, effectively eliminating the private pension companies in Argentina. As a result, we have experienced and will continue to experience reductions in the operation's revenues and cash flows. In February 2011, the Argentine Superintendent of Insurance (SSN) enacted a resolution effectively prohibiting cross-border reinsurance operations. In October 2011, the SSN enacted a resolution which affects our ability to invest and diversify abroad as of December 31, 2011, all investments and funds must be located in Argentina. Further governmental or legal actions related to our operations in Argentina could negatively impact our operations in Argentina and result in future losses. See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

We also have operations in the Middle East where the legal and political systems and regulatory frameworks are subject to instability and disruptions. Lack of legal certainty and stability in the region exposes our operations to increased risk of disruption and to adverse or unpredictable actions by regulators and may make it more difficult for us to enforce our contracts, which may negatively impact our business in this region.

We have market presence in over 50 different countries and increased exposure to risks posed by local and regional economic conditions. Europe has recently experienced a deep recession and countries such as Italy, Spain, Portugal, Greece and Ireland have been particularly affected by the recession, resulting in increased national debts and depressed economic activity. We have significant operations and investments in these countries which could be adversely affected by economic developments such as higher taxes, growing inflation, decreasing government spending, rising unemployment and currency instability. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Investments - Current Environment.

We face increased exposure to the Japanese markets as a result of our considerable presence there. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Investments - Current Environment, and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Results of Operations - Japan. The Japanese economy was significantly negatively impacted by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami, and the resulting serious disruption to power supplies and release of radiation from a damaged nuclear power plant in northeastern Japan. The impact of these events is uncertain and difficult to predict. Deterioration in Japan's economic environment could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition. Any weakening of the yen against the U.S. dollar would adversely affect the estimated fair value of our yen-denominated investments, our investments in Japan subsidiaries and our net income from operations in Japan. See Fluctuations in Foreign Currency Exchange Rates Could Negatively Affect Our Profitability. Changes in market interest rates may also have an adverse effect on our investments and operations in Japan. See Changes in Market Interest Rates May Significantly Affect Our Profitability.

Table of Contents

Various Aspects of Dodd-Frank Could Impact Our Business Operations, Capital Requirements and Profitability and Limit Our Growth

On July 21, 2010, President Obama signed Dodd-Frank. Various provisions of Dodd-Frank could affect our business operations, capital requirements and profitability and limit our growth. See [Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments](#).

The addition of a new regulatory regime over us, the likelihood of additional regulations, and the other changes discussed in [Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments](#) could require changes to our operations. Whether such changes would affect our competitiveness in comparison to other institutions is uncertain, since the Federal Reserve has stated that at least some of our competitors, in particular insurance holding companies that control thrifts, rather than banks, will be similarly affected. Competitive effects are possible, however, if MetLife, Inc. were required to pay any new or increased assessments and/or satisfy additional capital requirements but its competitors were not, and to the extent any new prudential supervisory standards are imposed on MetLife, Inc. but not on its competitors. The impact could be different if MetLife, Inc. is no longer subject to regulation as a bank holding company, although it could still be subject to enhanced supervision as a non-bank systemically important financial institution. See [Business U.S. Regulation Financial Holding Company Regulation](#). We cannot predict whether other proposals will be adopted, or what impact, if any, the adoption of Dodd-Frank or other proposals and the resulting regulations could have on our business, financial condition or results of operations or on our dealings with other financial companies. See also [Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth](#).

Moreover, Dodd-Frank potentially affects such a wide range of the activities and markets in which we engage and participate that it may not be possible to anticipate all of the ways in which it could affect us. For example, many of our methods for managing risk and exposures are based upon the use of observed historical market behavior or statistics based on historical models. Historical market behavior may be altered by the enactment of Dodd-Frank. As a result of this enactment and otherwise, these methods may not fully predict future exposures, which could be significantly greater than our historical measures indicate.

The Resolution of Several Issues Affecting the Financial Services Industry Could Have a Negative Impact on Our Reported Results or on Our Relations with Current and Potential Customers

We will continue to be subject to legal and regulatory actions in the ordinary course of our business, both in the U.S. and internationally. This could result in a challenge of business sold in the past under previously acceptable market practices at the time. Regulators are increasingly interested in the approach that product providers use to select third-party distributors and to monitor the appropriateness of sales made by them. In some cases, product providers can be held responsible for the deficiencies of third-party distributors. In addition, regulators are auditing compliance by life insurers with state unclaimed property laws. See [Litigation and Regulatory Investigations Are Increasingly Common in Our Businesses and May Result in Significant Financial Losses and/or Harm to Our Reputation](#).

As a result of publicity relating to widespread perceptions of industry abuses, there have been numerous regulatory inquiries and proposals for legislative and regulatory reforms.

MetLife Bank's mortgage servicing has been the subject of recent inquiries and requests by state and federal regulatory and law enforcement authorities. MetLife Bank is cooperating with the authorities' review of this business. On April 13, 2011, the OCC entered into consent decrees with several banks, including MetLife Bank. The consent decrees require an independent review of foreclosure practices and set forth new residential mortgage servicing standards, including a requirement for a designated point of contact for a borrower during the loss mitigation process. In addition, the Federal Reserve Board entered into consent decrees with the affiliated bank holding companies of these banks, including MetLife, Inc., to enhance the supervision of the mortgage servicing activities of their banking subsidiaries. In a February 9, 2012 press release, the Federal Reserve Board announced that it had issued monetary sanctions against five banking organizations for deficiencies in the

Table of Contents

organizations servicing of residential mortgage loans and processing of foreclosures. The Federal Reserve Board also stated that it plans to announce monetary penalties against six other institutions under its supervision against whom it had issued enforcement actions in 2011 for deficiencies in servicing of residential mortgage loans and processing foreclosures. The Federal Reserve Board did not identify these six institutions, but MetLife, Inc. is among the institutions that entered into consent decrees with the Federal Reserve Board in 2011. MetLife Bank has also had a meeting with the Department of Justice regarding mortgage servicing and foreclosure practices. It is possible that various state or federal regulatory and law enforcement authorities may seek monetary penalties from MetLife Bank relating to foreclosure practices. MetLife Bank is responding to a subpoena issued by the New York State Department of Financial Services regarding hazard insurance and flood insurance that MetLife Bank obtains to protect the lienholder's interest when the borrower's insurance has lapsed.

These consent decrees, as well as the inquiries or investigations referred to above, could adversely affect our reputation or result in material fines, penalties, equitable remedies or other enforcement actions, and result in significant legal costs in responding to governmental investigations or other litigation. We cannot predict the outcome of any such actions or reviews. In addition, the changes to the mortgage servicing business required by the consent decrees and the resolution of any other inquiries or investigations may affect the profitability of such business. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Industry Trends.

The MetLife Bank Events may not relieve MetLife from complying with the consent decrees, or protect it from the inquiries and investigations relating to residential mortgage servicing and foreclosure activities, or any fines, penalties, equitable remedies or enforcement actions that may result, the costs of responding to any such governmental investigations, or other litigation.

We Are Exposed to Significant Financial and Capital Markets Risk Which May Adversely Affect Our Results of Operations, Financial Condition and Liquidity, and May Cause Our Net Investment Income to Vary from Period to Period

We are exposed to significant financial and capital markets risk, including changes in interest rates, credit spreads, equity prices, real estate markets, foreign currency exchange rates, market volatility, the performance of the global economy in general, the performance of the specific obligors, including governments, included in our portfolio and other factors outside our control.

Our exposure to interest rate risk relates primarily to the market price and cash flow variability associated with changes in interest rates. Changes in interest rates will impact the net unrealized gain or loss position of our fixed income investment portfolio. If long-term interest rates rise dramatically within a six to 12 month time period, certain of our life insurance businesses and fixed annuity business may be exposed to disintermediation risk. Disintermediation risk refers to the risk that our policyholders may surrender their contracts in a rising interest rate environment, requiring us to liquidate fixed income investments in an unrealized loss position. Due to the long-term nature of the liabilities associated with certain of our life insurance businesses, guaranteed benefits on variable annuities, and structured settlements, sustained declines in long-term interest rates may subject us to reinvestment risks and increased hedging costs. In other situations, declines in interest rates may result in increasing the duration of certain life insurance liabilities, creating asset-liability duration mismatches.

Our investment portfolio also contains interest rate sensitive instruments, such as fixed income securities, which may be adversely affected by changes in interest rates from governmental monetary policies, domestic and international economic and political conditions and other factors beyond our control. Changes in interest rates will impact both the net unrealized gain or loss position of our fixed income portfolio and the rates of return we receive on funds invested. Our mitigation efforts with respect to interest rate risk are primarily focused towards maintaining an investment portfolio with diversified maturities that has a weighted average duration that is approximately equal to the duration of our estimated liability cash flow profile. For certain of our liability portfolios, it is not possible to invest assets to the full liability duration, thereby creating some amount of ALM mismatch. For this and other reasons, we also use derivative instruments to mitigate interest rate risk. However, our estimate of the liability cash flow profile may be inaccurate and we may be forced to liquidate fixed income

Table of Contents

investments prior to maturity at a loss in order to cover the cash flow profile of the liability. Although we take measures to manage the economic risks of investing in a changing interest rate environment, we may not be able to mitigate the interest rate risk of our fixed income investments relative to our liabilities. See also [Changes in Market Interest Rates May Significantly Affect Our Profitability](#).

Our exposure to credit spreads primarily relates to market price volatility and cash flow variability associated with changes in credit spreads. A widening of credit spreads will adversely impact both the net unrealized gain or loss position of the fixed-income investment portfolio, will increase losses associated with credit-based non-qualifying derivatives where we assume credit exposure, and, if issuer credit spreads increase significantly or for an extended period of time, will likely result in higher other-than-temporary impairments (OTTI). Credit spread tightening will reduce net investment income associated with new purchases of fixed maturity securities. In addition, market volatility can make it difficult to value certain of our securities if trading becomes less frequent. As such, valuations may include assumptions or estimates that may have significant period-to-period changes which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition. If there is a resumption of significant volatility in the markets, it could cause changes in credit spreads and defaults and a lack of pricing transparency which, individually or in tandem, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition, liquidity or cash flows through realized investment losses, impairments, and changes in unrealized loss positions.

Our primary exposure to equity risk relates to the potential for lower earnings associated with certain of our insurance businesses where fee income is earned based upon the estimated fair value of the assets under management. Downturns and volatility in equity markets can have a material adverse effect on the revenues and investment returns from our savings and investment products and services. Because these products and services generate fees related primarily to the value of assets under management, a decline in the equity markets could reduce our revenues from the reduction in the value of the investments we manage. The retail variable annuity business in particular is highly sensitive to equity markets, and a sustained weakness in the equity markets could decrease revenues and earnings in variable annuity products. Furthermore, certain of our variable annuity products offer guaranteed benefits which increase our potential benefit exposure should equity markets decline. We use derivatives and reinsurance to mitigate the impact of such increased potential benefit exposures. We are also exposed to interest rate and equity risk based upon the discount rate and expected long-term rate of return assumptions associated with our pension and other postretirement benefit obligations. Sustained declines in long-term interest rates or equity returns likely would have a negative effect on the funded status of these plans. Lastly, we invest a portion of our investments in public and private equity securities, leveraged buy-out funds, hedge funds and other private equity funds and the estimated fair value of such investments may be impacted by downturns or volatility in equity markets.

Our primary exposure to real estate risk relates to commercial and agricultural real estate. Our exposure to commercial and agricultural real estate risk stems from various factors. These factors include, but are not limited to, market conditions including the demand and supply of leasable commercial space, creditworthiness of tenants and partners, capital markets volatility and the inherent interest rate movement. In addition, our real estate joint venture development program is subject to risks, including, but not limited to, reduced property sales and decreased availability of financing which could adversely impact the joint venture developments and/or operations. The state of the economy and speed of recovery in fundamental and capital market conditions in the commercial and agricultural real estate sectors will continue to influence the performance of our investments in these sectors. These factors and others beyond our control could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition, liquidity or cash flows through net investment income, realized investment losses and levels of valuation allowances.

Our investment portfolio contains investments in government bonds issued by certain European Union member States, including Portugal, Ireland, Italy, Greece and Spain, commonly referred to as Europe s perimeter region, as well as Cyprus, and in financial institutions that have significant direct or indirect exposure to debt issued by those nations. Recently, the European Union member states have experienced above average public debt, inflation and unemployment as the global economic downturn has developed. A number of member states are significantly impacted by the economies of their more influential neighbors, such as Germany.

Table of Contents

In addition, financial troubles of one nation can lead to troubles in others. In particular, a number of large European banks hold significant amounts of sovereign and/or financial institution debt of other European nations and could experience difficulties as a result of defaults or declines in the value of such debt. These difficulties or concern that they may occur could disrupt the functioning of the financial markets. Our investment portfolio also contains investments in revenue bonds issued under the auspices of U.S. states and municipalities and a limited amount of general obligation bonds of U.S. states and municipalities (collectively, Municipal Bonds). Recently, certain U.S. states and municipalities have faced budget deficits and financial difficulties. There can be no assurance that the financial difficulties of such U.S. states and municipalities would not have an adverse impact on our Municipal Bond portfolio.

A possible result of the disruption in Europe is the withdrawal of one or more countries from the Euro zone. The extent to which our results of operations, financial condition, liquidity and net investment income would be affected by any such withdrawal will depend on a number of factors, including the identity of the withdrawing country and the likelihood that other countries will follow suit. Risks related to any such withdrawal could include overall economic disruption; capital flight, with attendant risks to the integrity of the European Union banking system; conversion to a national currency, which may be subject to devaluation as discussed further below; inflation risks; increased costs and diminished effectiveness in hedging against declines in the value of the Euro; declines in the value of our investments; credit losses; and an increase in foreign currency exchange rate risks, among others.

Our primary foreign currency exchange risks are described under **Fluctuations in Foreign Currency Exchange Rates Could Negatively Affect Our Profitability**. Changes in these factors, which are significant risks to us, can affect our net investment income in any period, and such changes can be substantial. Foreign currency exchange risk will increase if a country withdraws from the Euro zone. The national currency to which such a country may revert will likely be devalued and contracts using the Euro will need to be renegotiated. It is possible that any such devaluation could be significant. We cannot predict the extent of such a devaluation, or the effect of it on our contracts, on our investments in bonds governed by the law of any such country, or on our investments in financial institutions that have significant direct or indirect exposure to debt issued by any such country. Any operations we may have in any such withdrawing country could also be materially adversely affected by legal or governmental actions related to conversion from the Euro to a national currency.

A portion of our investments is made in leveraged buy-out funds, hedge funds and other private equity funds, many of which make private equity investments. The amount and timing of net investment income from such investment funds tends to be uneven as a result of the performance of the underlying investments, including private equity investments. The timing of distributions from the funds, which depends on particular events relating to the underlying investments, as well as the funds' schedules for making distributions and their needs for cash, can be difficult to predict. As a result, the amount of net investment income that we record from these investments can vary substantially from quarter to quarter. Significant volatility could adversely impact returns and net investment income on these alternative investment classes. In addition, the extent to which MetLife, Inc. can continue to invest in such funds is uncertain under Dodd-Frank.

Continuing challenges include continued weakness in the U.S. real estate market, investor anxiety over the U.S. and European economies, defaults or declines in the value of sovereign or financial institution debt, rating agency downgrades of various structured products and financial issuers, unresolved issues with structured investment vehicles and monoline financial guarantee insurers, deleveraging of financial institutions and hedge funds, sustained high levels of unemployment and the continuing recovery in the inter-bank market. Significant volatility in the markets could cause changes in interest rates, declines in equity prices, and the strengthening or weakening of foreign currencies against the U.S. dollar which, individually or in tandem, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition, liquidity or cash flows through realized investment losses, impairments, increased valuation allowances and changes in unrealized gain or loss positions.

Changes in Market Interest Rates May Significantly Affect Our Profitability

Some of our products, principally traditional whole life insurance, fixed annuities and guaranteed interest contracts, expose us to the risk that changes in interest rates will reduce our investment margin or spread, or

Table of Contents

the difference between the amounts that we are required to pay under the contracts in our general account and the rate of return we are able to earn on general account investments intended to support obligations under the contracts. Our spread is a key component of our net income.

As interest rates decrease or remain at low levels, we may be forced to reinvest proceeds from investments that have matured or have been prepaid or sold at lower yields, reducing our investment margin. Moreover, borrowers may prepay or redeem the fixed income securities, commercial or agricultural mortgage loans and mortgage-backed securities in our investment portfolio with greater frequency in order to borrow at lower market rates, which exacerbates this risk. Lowering interest crediting rates can help offset decreases in investment margins on some products. However, our ability to lower these rates could be limited by competition or contractually guaranteed minimum rates and may not match the timing or magnitude of changes in asset yields. As a result, our spread could decrease or potentially become negative. Our expectation for future spreads is an important component in the amortization of DAC and value of business acquired (VOBA), and significantly lower spreads may cause us to accelerate amortization, thereby reducing net income in the affected reporting period. In addition, during periods of declining interest rates, life insurance and annuity products may be relatively more attractive investments to consumers, resulting in increased premium payments on products with flexible premium features, repayment of policy loans and increased persistency, or a higher percentage of insurance policies remaining in force from year to year, during a period when our new investments carry lower returns. A decline in market interest rates could also reduce our return on investments that do not support particular policy obligations. Accordingly, declining interest rates may materially affect our results of operations, financial position and cash flows and significantly reduce our profitability. In January 2012, the Federal Reserve Board announced its plans to keep interest rates low until at least through late 2014, 18 months longer than previously planned.

Increases in market interest rates could also negatively affect our profitability. In periods of rapidly increasing interest rates, we may not be able to replace, in a timely manner, the investments in our general account with higher yielding investments needed to fund the higher crediting rates necessary to keep interest sensitive products competitive. We, therefore, may have to accept a lower spread and, thus, lower profitability or face a decline in sales and greater loss of existing contracts and related assets. In addition, policy loans, surrenders and withdrawals may tend to increase as policyholders seek investments with higher perceived returns as interest rates rise. This process may result in cash outflows requiring that we sell investments at a time when the prices of those investments are adversely affected by the increase in market interest rates, which may result in realized investment losses. Unanticipated withdrawals and terminations may cause us to accelerate the amortization of DAC and VOBA, which reduces net income and may also cause us to accelerate negative VOBA, which increases net income. An increase in market interest rates could also have a material adverse effect on the value of our investment portfolio, for example, by decreasing the estimated fair values of the fixed income securities that comprise a substantial portion of our investment portfolio. Finally, an increase in interest rates could result in decreased fee income associated with a decline in the value of variable annuity account balances invested in fixed income funds.

Some of Our Investments Are Relatively Illiquid and Are in Asset Classes That Have Been Experiencing Significant Market Valuation Fluctuations

We hold certain investments that may lack liquidity, such as privately-placed fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans, policy loans and leveraged leases, equity real estate, including real estate joint ventures and funds, and other limited partnership interests. These asset classes represented 28.3% of the carrying value of our total cash and investments at December 31, 2011. In recent years, even some of our very high quality investments experienced reduced liquidity during periods of market volatility or disruption. If we require significant amounts of cash on short notice in excess of normal cash requirements or are required to post or return cash collateral in connection with our investment portfolio, derivatives transactions or securities lending program, we may have difficulty selling these investments in a timely manner, be forced to sell them for less than we otherwise would have been able to realize, or both. The reported value of our relatively illiquid types of investments, our investments in the asset classes described above and, at times, our high quality, generally liquid asset classes, do not necessarily reflect the lowest current market price for the asset. If we were forced to sell certain of our

Table of Contents

investments in the global market, there can be no assurance that we will be able to sell them for the prices at which we have recorded them and we could be forced to sell them at significantly lower prices. Some provisions of Dodd-Frank may lower the prices for certain fund investments by forcing them to be sold over a relatively short period of time.

Our Participation in a Securities Lending Program Subjects Us to Potential Liquidity and Other Risks

We participate in a securities lending program whereby blocks of securities, which are included in fixed maturity securities and short-term investments, are loaned to third parties, primarily brokerage firms and commercial banks. We obtain collateral, usually cash, in an amount generally equal to 102% of the estimated fair value of the securities loaned, which is obtained at the inception of a loan and maintained at a level greater than or equal to 100% for the duration of the loan. Returns of loaned securities by the third parties would require us to return the collateral associated with such loaned securities. In addition, in some cases, the maturity of the securities held as invested collateral (i.e., securities that we have purchased with cash collateral received from the third parties) may exceed the term of the related securities on loan and the estimated fair value may fall below the amount of cash received as collateral and invested. If we are required to return significant amounts of cash collateral on short notice and we are forced to sell securities to meet the return obligation, we may have difficulty selling such collateral that is invested in securities in a timely manner, be forced to sell securities in a volatile or illiquid market for less than we otherwise would have been able to realize under normal market conditions, or both. In addition, under stressful capital market and economic conditions, liquidity broadly deteriorates, which may further restrict our ability to sell securities. If we decrease the amount of our securities lending activities over time, the amount of net investment income generated by these activities will also likely decline. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Investments Securities Lending and Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Our Requirements to Pledge Collateral or Make Payments Related to Declines in Estimated Fair Value of Specified Assets May Adversely Affect Our Liquidity and Expose Us to Counterparty Credit Risk

Some of our transactions with financial and other institutions specify the circumstances under which the parties are required to pledge collateral related to any decline in the estimated fair value of the specified assets. In addition, under the terms of some of our transactions, we may be required to make payments to our counterparties related to any decline in the estimated fair value of the specified assets. The amount of collateral we may be required to pledge and the payments we may be required to make under these agreements may increase under certain circumstances and will likely increase under Dodd-Frank, which could adversely affect our liquidity. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Liquidity and Capital Resources The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Collateral Financing Arrangements, Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments and Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Gross Unrealized Losses on Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities and Defaults, Downgrades or Other Events May Result in Future Impairments to the Carrying Value of Such Securities, Resulting in a Reduction in Our Net Income

Fixed maturity securities represent a significant portion of our investment portfolio. Fixed maturity and equity securities classified as available-for-sale are reported at their estimated fair value. Unrealized gains or losses on available-for-sale securities are recognized as a component of other comprehensive income (loss) and are, therefore, excluded from net income. Our gross unrealized gains and gross unrealized losses on fixed maturity and equity securities available for sale at December 31, 2011 were \$26.1 billion and \$5.8 billion, respectively. The portion of the \$5.8 billion of gross unrealized losses for fixed maturity and equity securities where the estimated fair value has declined and remained below amortized cost or cost by 20% or more for six months or greater was \$1.4 billion at December 31, 2011. The accumulated change in estimated fair value of these available-for-sale securities is recognized in net income when the gain or loss is realized upon the sale of the security or in the event that the decline in estimated fair value is determined to be other-than-temporary and an impairment charge to earnings is taken.

Table of Contents

The occurrence of a major economic downturn, acts of corporate malfeasance, widening risk spreads, or other events that adversely affect the issuers, guarantors or underlying collateral of structured securities could cause the estimated fair value of our fixed maturity securities portfolio and our earnings to decline and the default rate of the fixed maturity securities in our investment portfolio to increase. A ratings downgrade affecting issuers or guarantors of particular securities, or similar trends that could worsen the credit quality of issuers, such as the corporate issuers of securities in our investment portfolio, could also have a similar effect. With economic uncertainty, credit quality of issuers or guarantors could be adversely affected. Similarly, a ratings downgrade affecting a security we hold could indicate the credit quality of that security has deteriorated and could increase the capital we must hold to support that security to maintain our RBC levels. Levels of writedowns or impairments are impacted by our assessment of intent to sell, or whether it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell, fixed maturity securities and the intent and ability to hold equity securities which have declined in value until recovery. If we determine to reposition or realign portions of the portfolio so as not to hold certain equity securities, or intend to sell or determine that it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell, certain fixed maturity securities in an unrealized loss position prior to recovery, then we will incur an OTTI charge in the period that the decision was made not to hold the equity security to recovery, or to sell, or the determination was made it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell the fixed maturity security. Realized losses or impairments may have a material adverse effect on our net income in a particular quarterly or annual period.

The Determination of the Amount of Allowances and Impairments Taken on Our Investments is Subjective and Could Materially Impact Our Results of Operations or Financial Position

The determination of the amount of allowances and impairments varies by investment type and is based upon our periodic evaluation and assessment of known and inherent risks associated with the respective asset class. Such evaluations and assessments are revised as conditions change and new information becomes available. We update our evaluations regularly and reflect changes in allowances and impairments in net investment losses as such evaluations are revised. Additional impairments may need to be taken or allowances provided for in the future. Furthermore, historical trends may not be indicative of future impairments or allowances.

For example, the cost of our fixed maturity and equity securities is adjusted for impairments deemed to be other-than-temporary. The assessment of whether impairments have occurred is based on our case-by-case evaluation of the underlying reasons for the decline in estimated fair value. The review of our fixed maturity and equity securities for impairment includes an analysis of gross unrealized losses by three categories of securities: (i) securities where the estimated fair value has declined and remained below cost or amortized cost by less than 20%; (ii) securities where the estimated fair value has declined and remained below cost or amortized cost by 20% or more for less than six months; and (iii) securities where the estimated fair value has declined and remained below cost or amortized cost by 20% or more for six months or greater.

Additionally, we consider a wide range of factors about the security issuer and use our best judgment in evaluating the cause of the decline in the estimated fair value of the security and in assessing the prospects for near-term recovery. Inherent in our evaluation of the security are assumptions and estimates about the operations of the issuer and its future earnings potential. Considerations in the impairment evaluation process include, but are not limited to: (i) the length of time and the extent to which the estimated fair value has been below cost or amortized cost; (ii) the potential for impairments of securities when the issuer is experiencing significant financial difficulties; (iii) the potential for impairments in an entire industry sector or sub-sector; (iv) the potential for impairments in certain economically depressed geographic locations; (v) the potential for impairments of securities where the issuer, series of issuers or industry has suffered a catastrophic type of loss or has exhausted natural resources; (vi) with respect to fixed maturity securities, whether we have the intent to sell or will more likely than not be required to sell a particular security before recovery of the decline in estimated fair value below cost or amortized cost; (vii) with respect to equity securities, whether we have the ability and intent to hold a particular security for a period of time sufficient to allow for the recovery of its estimated fair value to an amount at least equal to its cost; (viii) with respect to structured securities, changes in forecasted cash flows after considering the quality of the underlying collateral; timing of expected prepayment; current and

Table of Contents

forecasted loss severity; consideration of the payment terms of the underlying assets backing a particular security; and the payment priority within the tranche structure of the security; and (ix) other subjective factors, including concentrations and information obtained from regulators and rating agencies.

Defaults on Our Mortgage Loans and Volatility in Performance May Adversely Affect Our Profitability

Our mortgage loans face default risk and are principally collateralized by commercial, agricultural and residential properties. We establish valuation allowances for estimated impairments at the balance sheet date. Such valuation allowances are based on the excess carrying value of the loan over the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's original effective interest rate, the estimated fair value of the loan's collateral if the loan is in the process of foreclosure or otherwise collateral dependent, or the loan's observable market price. We also establish valuation allowances for loan losses for pools of loans with similar risk characteristics, such as property types, loan-to-value ratios and debt service coverage ratios when, based on past experience, it is probable that a credit event has occurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. These valuation allowances are based on loan risk characteristics, historical default rates and loss severities, real estate market fundamentals and outlook, as well as other relevant factors. At December 31, 2011, mortgage loans that were either delinquent or in the process of foreclosure totaled less than 0.4% of our mortgage loan investments. The performance of our mortgage loan investments, however, may fluctuate in the future. In addition, substantially all of our mortgage loans held-for-investment have balloon payment maturities. An increase in the default rate of our mortgage loan investments could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition through realized investment losses or increases in our valuation allowances.

Further, any geographic or sector concentration of our mortgage loans may have adverse effects on our investment portfolios and consequently on our results of operations or financial condition. While we seek to mitigate this risk by having a broadly diversified portfolio, events or developments that have a negative effect on any particular geographic region or sector may have a greater adverse effect on the investment portfolios to the extent that the portfolios are concentrated. Moreover, our ability to sell assets relating to such particular groups of related assets may be limited if other market participants are seeking to sell at the same time. In addition, legislative proposals that would allow or require modifications to the terms of mortgage loans could be enacted. We cannot predict whether these proposals will be adopted, or what impact, if any, such proposals or, if enacted, such laws, could have on our business or investments. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Investments Mortgage Loans.

The Defaults or Deteriorating Credit of Other Financial Institutions Could Adversely Affect Us

We have exposure to many different industries and counterparties, and routinely execute transactions with counterparties in the financial services industry, including brokers and dealers, commercial banks, investment banks, hedge funds and other investment funds and other institutions. Many of these transactions expose us to credit risk in the event of default of our counterparty. In addition, with respect to secured transactions, our credit risk may be exacerbated when the collateral held by us cannot be realized or is liquidated at prices not sufficient to recover the full amount of the loan or derivative exposure due to us. We also have exposure to these financial institutions in the form of unsecured debt instruments, non-redeemable and redeemable preferred securities, derivative transactions, joint venture, hedge fund and equity investments. Further, potential action by governments and regulatory bodies in response to the financial crisis affecting the global banking system and financial markets, such as investment, nationalization, conservatorship, receivership and other intervention, whether under existing legal authority or any new authority that may be created, or lack of action by European Union member governments and central banks, as well as deterioration in the banks' credit standing, could negatively impact these instruments, securities, transactions and investments or limit the Company's ability to trade with them. There can be no assurance that any such losses or impairments to the carrying value of these investments or other changes would not materially and adversely affect our business and results of operations.

Table of Contents

We Face Unforeseen Liabilities, Asset Impairments or Rating Actions Arising from Acquisitions, Including ALICO, and Dispositions of Businesses or Difficulties Integrating and Managing Growth of Such Businesses

We have engaged in dispositions and acquisitions of businesses in the past, and expect to continue to do so in the future. Acquisition and disposition activity exposes us to a number of risks.

There could be unforeseen liabilities or asset impairments, including goodwill impairments, that arise in connection with the businesses that we may sell or the businesses that we may acquire in the future.

In addition, there may be liabilities or asset impairments that we fail, or are unable, to discover in the course of performing due diligence investigations on each business that we have acquired or may acquire. Furthermore, even for obligations and liabilities that we do discover during the due diligence process, neither the valuation adjustment nor the contractual protections we negotiate may be sufficient to fully protect us from losses. For example, in connection with the acquisition of ALICO, we may be exposed to obligations and liabilities of ALICO that are not adequately covered, in amount, scope or duration, by the indemnification provisions in the stock purchase agreement, dated as of March 7, 2010 (as amended, the Stock Purchase Agreement), entered into in connection with the Acquisition, by and among MetLife, Inc., AIG and AM Holdings, or reflected or reserved for in ALICO's historical financial statements. Although we have rights to indemnification from AM Holdings under the Stock Purchase Agreement for certain losses, our rights are limited by survival periods for bringing claims and monetary limitations on the amount we may recover, and we cannot be certain that indemnification will be, among other things, collectible or sufficient in amount, scope or duration to fully offset any loss we may suffer. We are indemnified under the Stock Purchase Agreement for various tax matters, including U.S. federal income taxes attributable to periods during which the ALICO business was included in AIG's consolidated federal income tax return. We cannot be certain that any such indemnification will ultimately be fully collectible.

Furthermore, the use of our own funds as consideration in any acquisition would consume capital resources, which could affect our capital plan and render those funds unavailable for other corporate purposes. We also may not be able to raise sufficient funds to consummate an acquisition if, for example, we are unable to sell our securities or close related bridge credit facilities. Moreover, as a result of uncertainty and risks associated with potential acquisitions and dispositions of businesses, rating agencies may take certain actions with respect to the ratings assigned to MetLife, Inc. and/or its subsidiaries.

Our ability to achieve certain benefits we anticipate from any acquisitions of businesses will depend in large part upon our ability to successfully integrate such businesses in an efficient and effective manner. We may not be able to integrate such businesses smoothly or successfully, and the process may take longer than expected. The integration of operations and differences in operational culture may require the dedication of significant management resources, which may distract management's attention from day-to-day business. If we are unable to successfully integrate the operations of such acquired businesses, we may be unable to realize the benefits we expect to achieve as a result of such acquisitions and our business and results of operations may be less than expected.

The success with which we are able to integrate acquired operations will depend on our ability to manage a variety of issues, including the following:

Loss of key personnel or higher than expected employee attrition rates could adversely affect the performance of the acquired business and our ability to integrate it successfully.

Customers of the acquired business may reduce, delay or defer decisions concerning their use of its products and services as a result of the acquisition or uncertainty related to the consummation of the acquisition, including, for example, potential unfamiliarity with the MetLife brand in regions where we did not have a market presence prior to the acquisition.

Table of Contents

If the acquired business relies upon independent distributors to distribute its products, these distributors may not continue to generate the same volume of business for us after the acquisition. Independent distributors may reexamine the scope of their relationship with the acquired business or us as a result of the acquisition and decide to curtail or eliminate distribution of our products.

Integrating acquired operations with our existing operations may require us to coordinate geographically separated organizations, address possible differences in corporate culture and management philosophies, merge financial processes and risk and compliance procedures, combine separate information technology platforms and integrate operations that were previously closely tied to the former parent of the acquired business or other service providers.

In cases where we or an acquired business operates in certain markets through joint ventures, the acquisition may affect the continued success and prospects of the joint venture. Our ability to exercise management control or influence over these joint venture operations and our investment in them will depend on the continued cooperation between the joint venture participants and on the terms of the joint venture agreements, which allocate control among the joint venture participants. We may face financial or other exposure in the event that any of these joint venture partners fail to meet their obligations under the joint venture, encounter financial difficulty or elect to alter, modify or terminate the relationship.

We may incur significant costs in connection with any acquisition and the related integration. The costs and liabilities actually incurred in connection with an acquisition and subsequent integration process may exceed those anticipated.

All of these challenges are present in our integration of ALICO, which we expect to extend over a substantial period.

The prospects of our business also may be materially and adversely affected if we are not able to manage the growth of any acquired business successfully. For example, the life insurance markets in many of the international markets we entered through the Acquisition have experienced significant growth in recent years. Management of growth in these markets to date has required significant management and operational resources and is likely to continue to do so. Future growth of our combined business will require, among other things, the continued development of adequate underwriting and claim handling capabilities and skills, sufficient capital base, increased marketing and sales activities, and the hiring and training of new personnel.

There can be no assurance that we will be successful in managing future growth of any acquired business. In particular, there may be difficulties in hiring and training sufficient numbers of customer service personnel and agents to keep pace with any future growth in the number of customers in our developing or developed markets. In addition, we may experience difficulties in upgrading, developing and expanding information technology systems quickly enough to accommodate any future growth. If we are unable to manage future growth, our prospects may be materially and adversely affected.

There Can Be No Assurance That the Closing Agreement American Life Entered Into With the IRS Will Achieve Its Intended Effect, or That American Life Will Be Able to Comply with the Related Agreed Upon Plan

On March 4, 2010, American Life entered into a closing agreement with the Commissioner of the IRS with respect to a U.S. withholding tax issue arising from payments by foreign branches of a life insurance company incorporated under U.S. law. IRS Revenue Ruling 2004-75, effective January 1, 2005, requires foreign branches of U.S. life insurance companies in certain circumstances to withhold U.S. income taxes on payments of taxable income made with respect to certain insurance and annuity products paid to customers resident in a foreign country. The closing agreement provides transitional relief under Section 7805(b) of the Code to American Life, such that American Life's foreign branches will not be required to withhold U.S. income tax on the income portion of payments made pursuant to American Life's life insurance and annuity contracts (Covered Payments) under IRS Revenue Ruling 2004-75 for any tax periods beginning on January 1, 2005 and ending on December 31, 2013 (the Deferral Period). In accordance with the closing agreement, American Life submitted

Table of Contents

a plan to the IRS indicating the steps American Life will take (on a country by country basis) to ensure that no substantial amount of U.S. withholding tax will arise from Covered Payments made by American Life's foreign branches to foreign customers after the Deferral Period. In addition, the closing agreement requires that such plan be updated in quarterly filings with the IRS. The closing agreement is final and binding upon American Life and the IRS; provided, however, that the agreement can be reopened in the event of malfeasance, fraud or a misrepresentation of a material fact, and is subject to change of law risk that occurs after the effective date of the closing agreement (with certain exceptions). In addition, the closing agreement provides that no legislative amendment to Section 861(a)(1)(A) of the Code shall shorten the Deferral Period, regardless of when such amendment is enacted. The plan American Life delivered to the IRS involves the transfer of businesses from certain of the foreign branches of American Life to one or more existing or newly-formed foreign affiliates of American Life; however, the plan is subject to change pursuant to the quarterly updates that American Life will provide to the IRS. An estimate of the costs to comply with the plan has been recorded in the financial statements. Also the achievement of the plan presented to the IRS within the required time frame of December 31, 2013 is contingent upon regulatory approvals and other requirements. Failure to achieve the plan in a timely manner could cause American Life to be required to withhold U.S. income taxes on the taxable portion of payments made by American Life's foreign branches after December 31, 2013 to customers resident in a foreign country, which could put American Life at a competitive disadvantage with its competitors that sell similar products through foreign entities and could have a material adverse effect on American Life's future revenues or expenses or both.

The Settlement of Common Equity Units Issued in Connection with the Acquisition Will Have a Dilutive Impact on MetLife, Inc.'s Stockholders

As part of the consideration paid to AM Holdings pursuant to the terms of the Stock Purchase Agreement, MetLife, Inc. issued \$3.0 billion aggregate stated amount of common equity units, which initially consist of (x) purchase contracts obligating the holder to purchase a variable number of shares of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock on each of three specified future settlement dates (expected to occur on October 10, 2012, September 11, 2013 and October 8, 2014, subject to deferral under certain circumstances) for a fixed amount per purchase contract (an aggregate of \$1.0 billion on each settlement date) (the "Stock Purchase Contracts") and (y) an interest in each of three series of debt securities of MetLife, Inc. AM Holdings subsequently sold all of the common equity units in a public offering. The aggregate amount of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock issuable upon settlement of the Stock Purchase Contracts is expected to be approximately 67.8 million to 84.7 million shares. As a result, more shares of common stock will be outstanding and each existing stockholder will own a smaller percentage of our common stock than outstanding.

Fluctuations in Foreign Currency Exchange Rates Could Negatively Affect Our Profitability

We are exposed to risks associated with fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates against the U.S. dollar resulting from our holdings of non-U.S. dollar denominated investments, investments in foreign subsidiaries and net income from foreign operations and issuance of non-U.S. dollar denominated instruments, including guaranteed interest contracts and funding agreements. These risks relate to potential decreases in estimated fair value and income resulting from a strengthening or weakening in foreign exchange rates versus the U.S. dollar. In general, the weakening of foreign currencies versus the U.S. dollar will adversely affect the estimated fair value of our non-U.S. dollar denominated investments, our investments in foreign subsidiaries, and our net income from foreign operations. Although we use foreign currency derivatives to mitigate foreign currency exchange rate risk, we cannot provide assurance that these methods will be effective or that our counterparties will perform their obligations. See "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk."

From time to time, various emerging market countries have experienced severe economic and financial disruptions, including significant devaluations of their currencies. Our exposure to foreign exchange rate risk is exacerbated by our investments in certain emerging markets.

Historically, we have matched substantially all of our foreign currency liabilities in our foreign subsidiaries with investments denominated in their respective foreign currency, which limits the effect of currency exchange

Table of Contents

rate fluctuation on local operating results; however, fluctuations in such rates affect the translation of these results into our U.S. dollar basis consolidated financial statements. Although we take certain actions to address this risk, foreign currency exchange rate fluctuation could materially adversely affect our reported results due to unhedged positions or the failure of hedges to effectively offset the impact of the foreign currency exchange rate fluctuation. See [Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk](#).

We face substantial exposure to risks associated with fluctuations in the yen/ U.S. dollar exchange rate because we now have substantial operations in Japan and a significant portion of our premiums and investment income in Japan are received in yen. Most claims and expenses associated with our operations in Japan are also paid in yen and we primarily purchase yen-denominated assets to support yen-denominated policy liabilities. These and other yen-denominated financial statement items are, however, translated into U.S. dollars for financial reporting purposes. Accordingly, fluctuations in the yen/U.S. dollar exchange rate can have a significant effect on our reported financial position and results of operations. Our Japan operation does assume some currency exposure by backing a portion of surplus and yen denominated liabilities with U.S. dollar assets. Although this represents risk to our Japan operation, this activity reduces yen exposure at the enterprise level.

Due to our significant international operations, during periods when any foreign currency in which we derive our revenues (such as the Japanese yen) weakens, translating amounts expressed in that currency into U.S. dollars causes fewer U.S. dollars to be reported. When the relevant foreign currency strengthens, translating such currency into U.S. dollars causes more U.S. dollars to be reported. Any unrealized foreign currency translation adjustments are reported in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss). The weakening of a foreign currency relative to the U.S. dollar will generally adversely affect the value of investments in U.S. dollar terms and reduce the level of reserves denominated in that currency.

As a Holding Company, MetLife, Inc. Depends on the Ability of Its Subsidiaries to Transfer Funds to It to Meet Its Obligations and Pay Dividends

MetLife, Inc. is a holding company for its insurance and financial subsidiaries and does not have any significant operations of its own. Dividends from its subsidiaries and permitted payments to it under its tax sharing arrangements with its subsidiaries are its principal sources of cash to meet its obligations and to pay preferred and common stock dividends. If the cash MetLife, Inc. receives from its subsidiaries is insufficient for it to fund its debt service and other holding company obligations, MetLife, Inc. may be required to raise cash through the incurrence of debt, the issuance of additional equity or the sale of assets.

The payment of dividends and other distributions to MetLife, Inc. by its U.S. insurance subsidiaries is regulated by insurance laws and regulations. In general, dividends in excess of prescribed limits require insurance regulatory approval. In addition, insurance regulators may prohibit the payment of dividends or other payments by its insurance subsidiaries to MetLife, Inc. if they determine that the payment could be adverse to our policyholders or contractholders. The payment of dividends and other distributions by insurance companies is also influenced by business conditions and rating agency considerations. See [Business U.S. Regulation Insurance Regulation and Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Liquidity and Capital Resources MetLife, Inc. Liquidity and Capital Sources Dividends from Subsidiaries](#). The ability of MetLife Bank to pay dividends is also subject to regulation by the OCC. See also [Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth](#).

Any payment of interest, dividends, distributions, loans or advances by our foreign subsidiaries and branches to MetLife, Inc. could be subject to taxation or other restrictions on dividends or repatriation of earnings under applicable law, monetary transfer restrictions and foreign currency exchange regulations in the jurisdiction in which such foreign subsidiaries operate. See [Business International Regulation and Our International Operations Face Political, Legal, Operational and Other Risks, Including Exposure to Local and Regional Economic Conditions, That Could Negatively Affect Those Operations or Our Profitability](#).

Table of Contents

A Downgrade or a Potential Downgrade in Our Financial Strength or Credit Ratings Could Result in a Loss of Business and Materially Adversely Affect Our Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Financial strength ratings, which various Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations (NRSRO) publish as indicators of an insurance company's ability to meet contractholder and policyholder obligations, are important to maintaining public confidence in our products, our ability to market our products and our competitive position.

Downgrades in our financial strength ratings could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations in many ways, including:

reducing new sales of insurance products, annuities and other investment products;

adversely affecting our relationships with our sales force and independent sales intermediaries;

materially increasing the number or amount of policy surrenders and withdrawals by contractholders and policyholders;

requiring us to reduce prices for many of our products and services to remain competitive; and

adversely affecting our ability to obtain reinsurance at reasonable prices or at all.

In addition to the financial strength ratings of our insurance subsidiaries, various NRSROs also publish credit ratings for MetLife, Inc. and several of its subsidiaries. Credit ratings are indicators of a debt issuer's ability to meet the terms of debt obligations in a timely manner and are important factors in our overall funding profile and ability to access certain types of liquidity. Downgrades in our credit ratings could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations in many ways, including adversely limiting our access to capital markets, potentially increasing the cost of debt, and requiring us to post collateral. See Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the impact of a one-notch downgrade with respect to derivative transactions with credit rating downgrade triggers. Also, at December 31, 2011, \$188 million of liabilities associated with funding agreements and other capital market products were subject to credit ratings downgrade triggers that permit early termination subject to a notice period of 90 days.

In view of the difficulties experienced by many financial institutions as a result of the global recession, including our competitors in the insurance industry, we believe it is possible that the NRSROs will continue to heighten the level of scrutiny that they apply to such institutions, will continue to increase the frequency and scope of their credit reviews, will continue to request additional information from the companies that they rate, and may adjust upward the capital and other requirements employed in the NRSRO models for maintenance of certain ratings levels. Rating agencies use an outlook statement of positive, stable, negative or developing to indicate a medium- or long-term trend in a company's fundamentals which, if continued, may lead to a ratings change. A rating may have a stable outlook to indicate that the rating is not expected to change; however, a stable rating does not preclude a rating agency from changing a rating at any time, without notice. Certain rating agencies assign rating modifiers such as CreditWatch or Under Review to indicate their opinion regarding the potential direction of a rating. These ratings modifiers are generally assigned in connection with certain events such as potential mergers and acquisitions, or material changes in a company's results, in order for the rating agencies to perform their analyses to fully determine the rating implications of the event.

We cannot predict what actions rating agencies may take, or what actions we may take in response to the actions of rating agencies, which could adversely affect our business. As with other companies in the financial services industry, our ratings could be downgraded at any time and without any notice by any NRSRO.

An Inability to Access Our Credit Facilities Could Result in a Reduction in Our Liquidity and Lead to Downgrades in Our Credit and Financial Strength Ratings

In August 2011, we entered into a \$3 billion unsecured five-year credit agreement by amending and restating our October 2010 unsecured 364-day credit agreement, and reduced the outstanding commitment under our

Table of Contents

October 2010 unsecured three-year credit facility to \$1 billion. We also have other facilities which we enter into in the ordinary course of business. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Liquidity and Capital Resources—The Company—Liquidity and Capital Sources—Credit and Committed Facilities—and Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

We rely on our credit facilities as a potential source of liquidity. The availability of these facilities could be critical to our credit and financial strength ratings and our ability to meet our obligations as they come due in a market when alternative sources of credit are tight. The credit facilities contain certain administrative, reporting, legal and financial covenants. We must comply with covenants under our credit facilities, including a requirement to maintain a specified minimum consolidated net worth.

Our right to borrow funds under these facilities is subject to the fulfillment of certain important conditions, including our compliance with all covenants, and our ability to borrow under these facilities is also subject to the continued willingness and ability of the lenders that are parties to the facilities to provide funds. Our failure to comply with the covenants in the credit facilities or fulfill the conditions to borrowings, or the failure of lenders to fund their lending commitments (whether due to insolvency, illiquidity or other reasons) in the amounts provided for under the terms of the facilities, would restrict our ability to access these credit facilities when needed and, consequently, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Our Risk Management Policies and Procedures May Leave Us Exposed to Unidentified or Unanticipated Risk, Which Could Negatively Affect Our Business

Management of risk requires, among other things, policies and procedures to record properly and verify a large number of transactions and events. We have devoted significant resources to develop and periodically update our risk management policies and procedures to reflect ongoing review of our risks and expect to continue to do so in the future. Nonetheless, our policies and procedures may not be comprehensive. Many of our methods for managing risk and exposures are based upon the use of observed historical market behavior or statistics based on historical models. As a result, these methods may not fully predict future exposures, which can be significantly greater than our historical measures indicate. Other risk management methods depend upon the evaluation of information regarding markets, clients, catastrophe occurrence or other matters that is publicly available or otherwise accessible to us. This information may not always be accurate, complete, up-to-date or properly evaluated. In addition, more extensive and perhaps different risk management policies and procedures might have to be implemented under Regulation YY. See Business—U.S. Regulation—Financial Holding Company Regulation—and Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

Reinsurance May Not Be Available, Affordable or Adequate to Protect Us Against Losses

As part of our overall risk management strategy, we purchase reinsurance for certain risks underwritten by our various business segments. See Business—Reinsurance Activity. While reinsurance agreements generally bind the reinsurer for the life of the business reinsured at generally fixed pricing, market conditions beyond our control determine the availability and cost of the reinsurance protection for new business. In certain circumstances, the price of reinsurance for business already reinsured may also increase. Any decrease in the amount of reinsurance will increase our risk of loss and any increase in the cost of reinsurance will, absent a decrease in the amount of reinsurance, reduce our earnings. Accordingly, we may be forced to incur additional expenses for reinsurance or may not be able to obtain sufficient reinsurance on acceptable terms, which could adversely affect our ability to write future business or result in the assumption of more risk with respect to those policies we issue.

If the Counterparties to Our Reinsurance or Indemnification Arrangements or to the Derivative Instruments We Use to Hedge Our Business Risks Default or Fail to Perform, We May Be Exposed to Risks We Had Sought to Mitigate, Which Could Materially Adversely Affect Our Financial Condition and Results of Operations

We use reinsurance, indemnification and derivative instruments to mitigate our risks in various circumstances. In general, reinsurance does not relieve us of our direct liability to our policyholders, even when the reinsurer is

Table of Contents

liable to us. Accordingly, we bear credit risk with respect to our reinsurers and indemnitors. We cannot provide assurance that our reinsurers will pay the reinsurance recoverables owed to us or that indemnitors will honor their obligations now or in the future or that they will pay these recoverables on a timely basis. A reinsurer's or indemnitor's insolvency, inability or unwillingness to make payments under the terms of reinsurance agreements or indemnity agreements with us could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, we use derivative instruments to hedge various business risks. We enter into a variety of derivative instruments, including options, forwards, interest rate, credit default and currency swaps with a number of counterparties. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Investments. If our counterparties fail or refuse to honor their obligations under these derivative instruments, our hedges of the related risk will be ineffective. This is a more pronounced risk to us in view of the stresses suffered by financial institutions over the past few years. Such failure could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Differences Between Actual Claims Experience and Underwriting and Reserving Assumptions May Adversely Affect Our Financial Results

Our earnings significantly depend upon the extent to which our actual claims experience is consistent with the assumptions we use in setting prices for our products and establishing liabilities for future policy benefits and claims. Our liabilities for future policy benefits and claims are established based on estimates by actuaries of how much we will need to pay for future benefits and claims. For life insurance and annuity products, we calculate these liabilities based on many assumptions and estimates, including estimated premiums to be received over the assumed life of the policy, the timing of the event covered by the insurance policy, the amount of benefits or claims to be paid and the investment returns on the investments we make with the premiums we receive. We establish liabilities for property and casualty claims and benefits based on assumptions and estimates of damages and liabilities incurred. To the extent that actual claims experience is less favorable than the underlying assumptions we used in establishing such liabilities, we could be required to increase our liabilities.

Due to the nature of the underlying risks and the high degree of uncertainty associated with the determination of liabilities for future policy benefits and claims, we cannot determine precisely the amounts which we will ultimately pay to settle our liabilities. Such amounts may vary from the estimated amounts, particularly when those payments may not occur until well into the future. We evaluate our liabilities periodically based on accounting requirements, which change from time to time, the assumptions used to establish the liabilities, as well as our actual experience. We charge or credit changes in our liabilities to expenses in the period the liabilities are established or re-estimated. If the liabilities originally established for future benefit payments prove inadequate, we must increase them. Such increases could affect earnings negatively and have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Catastrophes May Adversely Impact Liabilities for Policyholder Claims and Reinsurance Availability

Our insurance operations are exposed to the risk of catastrophic events. The extent of losses from a catastrophe is a function of both the total amount of insured exposure in the area affected by the event and the severity of the event. Most catastrophes are restricted to small geographic areas; however, hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis and man-made catastrophes may produce significant damage or loss of life in larger areas, especially those that are heavily populated. Claims resulting from natural or man-made catastrophic events could cause substantial volatility in our financial results for any fiscal quarter or year and could materially reduce our profitability or harm our financial condition. Also, catastrophic events could harm the financial condition of issuers of obligations we hold in our investment portfolio, resulting in impairments to these obligations, and the financial condition of our reinsurers and thereby increase the probability of default on reinsurance recoveries. Large-scale catastrophes may also reduce the overall level of economic activity in affected countries which could hurt our business and the value of our investments. Our ability to write new business could also be affected. It is possible that increases in the value, caused by the effects of inflation or other factors, and geographic concentration of insured property, could increase the severity of claims from catastrophic events in the future.

Table of Contents

Our life insurance operations are exposed to the risk of catastrophic mortality, such as a pandemic or other event that causes a large number of deaths. Significant influenza pandemics have occurred three times in the last century; however the likelihood, timing, and severity of a future pandemic cannot be predicted. A significant pandemic could have a major impact on the global economy or the economies of particular countries or regions, including travel, trade, tourism, the health system, food supply, consumption, overall economic output and, eventually, on the financial markets. In addition, a pandemic that affected our employees or the employees of our distributors or of other companies with which we do business could disrupt our business operations. The effectiveness of external parties, including governmental and non-governmental organizations, in combating the spread and severity of such a pandemic could have a material impact on the losses experienced by us. In our group insurance operations, a localized event that affects the workplace of one or more of our group insurance customers could cause a significant loss due to mortality or morbidity claims. These events could cause a material adverse effect on our results of operations in any period and, depending on their severity, could also materially and adversely affect our financial condition.

Our Auto & Home business has experienced, and will likely in the future experience, catastrophe losses that may have a material adverse impact on the business, results of operations and financial condition of the Auto & Home segment. Although Auto & Home makes every effort to manage our exposure to catastrophic risks through volatility management and reinsurance programs, these efforts do not eliminate all risk. Catastrophes can be caused by various events, including hurricanes, windstorms, earthquakes, hail, tornadoes, explosions, severe winter weather (including snow, freezing water, ice storms and blizzards), fires and man-made events such as terrorist attacks. Historically, substantially all of our catastrophe-related claims have related to homeowners coverages. However, catastrophes may also affect other Auto & Home coverages. Due to their nature, we cannot predict the incidence, timing and severity of catastrophes. In addition, changing climate conditions, primarily rising global temperatures, may be increasing, or may in the future increase, the frequency and severity of natural catastrophes such as hurricanes.

Hurricanes and earthquakes are of particular note for our homeowners coverages. Areas of major hurricane exposure include coastal sections of the northeastern U.S. (including lower New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts), the Gulf Coast (including Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas) and Florida. We also have some earthquake exposure, primarily along the New Madrid fault line in the central U.S. and in the Pacific Northwest.

Most of the jurisdictions in which our U.S. insurance subsidiaries are admitted to transact business require life and property and casualty insurers doing business within the jurisdiction to participate in guaranty associations, which are organized to pay contractual benefits owed pursuant to insurance policies issued by impaired, insolvent or failed insurers. These associations levy assessments, up to prescribed limits, on all member insurers in a particular state on the basis of the proportionate share of the premiums written by member insurers in the lines of business in which the impaired, insolvent or failed insurer is engaged. In addition, certain states have government owned or controlled organizations providing life and property and casualty insurance to their citizens. The activities of such organizations could also place additional stress on the adequacy of guaranty fund assessments. Many of these organizations also have the power to levy assessments similar to those of the guaranty associations described above. Some states permit member insurers to recover assessments paid through full or partial premium tax offsets. See Business U.S. Regulation Insurance Regulation Guaranty Associations and Similar Arrangements and Business International Regulation.

While in the past five years, the aggregate assessments levied against MetLife, Inc.'s insurance subsidiaries have not been material, it is possible that a large catastrophic event could render such guaranty funds inadequate and we may be called upon to contribute additional amounts, which may have a material impact on our financial condition or results of operations in a particular period. We have established liabilities for guaranty fund assessments that we consider adequate, but additional liabilities may be necessary. See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Consistent with industry practice and accounting standards, we establish liabilities for claims arising from a catastrophe only after assessing the probable losses arising from the event. We cannot be certain that the

Table of Contents

liabilities we have established will be adequate to cover actual claim liabilities. From time to time, states have passed legislation that has the effect of limiting the ability of insurers to manage risk, such as legislation restricting an insurer's ability to withdraw from catastrophe-prone areas. While we attempt to limit our exposure to acceptable levels, subject to restrictions imposed by insurance regulatory authorities, a catastrophic event or multiple catastrophic events could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our ability to manage this risk and the profitability of our property and casualty and life insurance businesses depends in part on our ability to obtain catastrophe reinsurance, which may not be available at commercially acceptable rates in the future. See [Reinsurance May Not Be Available, Affordable or Adequate to Protect Us Against Losses](#).

Our Statutory Reserve Financings May Be Subject to Cost Increases and New Financings May Be Subject to Limited Market Capacity

To support statutory reserves for several products, including, but not limited to, our level premium term life and universal life with secondary guarantees and MLIC's closed block, we currently utilize capital markets solutions for financing a portion of our statutory reserve requirements. While we have financing facilities in place for our previously written business and have remaining capacity in existing facilities to support writings through the end of 2011 or later, certain of these facilities are subject to cost increases upon the occurrence of specified ratings downgrades of MetLife or are subject to periodic repricing. Any resulting cost increases could negatively impact our financial results.

Future capacity for these statutory reserve funding structures in the marketplace is not guaranteed. If capacity becomes unavailable for a prolonged period of time, hindering our ability to obtain funding for these new structures, our ability to write additional business in a cost effective manner may be impacted.

Competitive Factors May Adversely Affect Our Market Share and Profitability

Our segments are subject to intense competition. We believe that this competition is based on a number of factors, including service, product features, scale, price, financial strength, claims-paying ratings, credit ratings, e-business capabilities and name recognition. We compete in the U.S. and internationally, with a large number of other insurance companies, as well as non-insurance financial services companies, such as banks, broker-dealers and asset managers, for individual consumers, employers and other group customers and agents and other distributors of insurance and investment products. Some of these companies offer a broader array of products, have more competitive pricing or, with respect to other insurance companies, have higher claims paying ability ratings. Some may also have greater financial resources with which to compete. National banks, which may sell annuity products of life insurers in some circumstances, also have pre-existing customer bases for financial services products. Many of our group insurance products are underwritten annually, and, accordingly, there is a risk that group purchasers may be able to obtain more favorable terms from competitors rather than renewing coverage with us. The effect of competition may, as a result, adversely affect the persistency of these and other products, as well as our ability to sell products in the future.

In addition, the investment management and securities brokerage businesses have relatively few barriers to entry and continually attract new entrants. See [Business Competition](#).

Finally, numerous aspects of our business are subject to regulation. Legislative and other changes affecting the

regulatory environment can affect our competitive position within the life insurance industry and within the

broader financial services industry. See [Business U.S. Regulation](#), [Business International Regulation](#), [Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth](#), [Governmental and Regulatory Actions for the Purpose of Stabilizing and Revitalizing the Financial Markets and Protecting Investors and Consumers May Not Achieve the Intended Effect or Could Adversely Affect Our Competitive Position](#) and [Changes in U.S. Federal and State Securities Laws and Regulations, and State Insurance Regulations Regarding Suitability of Annuity Product Sales, May Affect Our Operations and Our Profitability](#).

Table of Contents

Industry Trends, Including the Consolidation of Distributors of Insurance Products, Could Adversely Affect the Profitability of Our Businesses

Our segments continue to be influenced by a variety of trends that affect the insurance industry, including competition with respect to product features, price, distribution capability, customer service and information technology. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Industry Trends. The insurance industry distributes many of its individual products through other financial institutions such as banks and broker-dealers. An increase in bank and broker-dealer consolidation activity may negatively impact the industry's sales, and such consolidation could increase competition for access to distributors, result in greater distribution expenses and impair our ability to market insurance products to our current customer base or to expand our customer base. Consolidation of distributors and/or other industry changes may also increase the likelihood that distributors will try to renegotiate the terms of any existing selling agreements to terms less favorable to us.

The impact on our business and on the life insurance industry generally of the volatility and instability of the financial markets is difficult to predict, and our business plans, financial condition and results of operations may be negatively impacted or affected in other unexpected ways. The Federal Reserve Board has taken a number of actions in recent years to spur economic activity by keeping interest rates low and may take further actions to influence interest rates in the future, which may have an impact on the pricing levels of risk-bearing investments, and may adversely impact the level of product sales. See Governmental and Regulatory Actions for the Purpose of Stabilizing and Revitalizing the Financial Markets and Protecting Investors and Consumers May Not Achieve the Intended Effect or Could Adversely Affect Our Competitive Position. In addition, the life insurance industry is subject to state regulation and, as complex products are introduced, regulators may refine capital requirements and introduce new reserving standards. Dodd-Frank, Regulation YY, Basel III, Solvency II and other regulatory initiatives may also lead to changes in regulation that may benefit or disadvantage us relative to some of our competitors. See Business Competition, Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Heavily Regulated, and Changes in Regulation May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth and Competitive Factors May Adversely Affect Our Market Share and Profitability.

Our Valuation of Fixed Maturity, Equity and Trading and Other Securities and Short-Term Investments May Include Methodologies, Estimations and Assumptions Which Are Subject to Differing Interpretations and Could Result in Changes to Investment Valuations That May Materially Adversely Affect Our Results of Operations or Financial Condition

Fixed maturity, equity, and trading and other securities and short-term investments which are reported at estimated fair value on the consolidated balance sheets represent the majority of our total cash and investments. We have categorized these securities into a three-level hierarchy, based on the priority of the inputs to the respective valuation technique.

The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). An asset or liability's classification within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level significant input to its valuation. See Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the three input levels.

At December 31, 2011, 9.4%, 85.3% and 5.3% of these securities represented Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3, respectively. The Level 1 securities primarily consist of certain U.S. Treasury and agency securities, foreign government securities, RMBS principally to-be-announced securities, exchange traded common stock, exchange traded registered mutual fund interests and short-term money market securities, including U.S. Treasury bills. The Level 2 assets include fixed maturity and equity securities priced principally through independent pricing services using observable inputs. These fixed maturity securities include most U.S. Treasury and agency securities, as well as the majority of U.S. and foreign corporate securities, RMBS, foreign government securities, CMBS, state and political subdivision securities, foreign government securities, and ABS. Equity securities classified as Level 2 primarily consist of non-redeemable preferred securities and certain equity securities where market quotes are available but are not considered actively traded and are priced by independent pricing services. We review the valuation methodologies used by the independent pricing services on an ongoing basis and ensure

Table of Contents

that any changes to valuation methodologies are justified. Level 3 assets include fixed maturity securities priced principally through independent non-binding broker quotations or market standard valuation methodologies using inputs that are not market observable or cannot be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. Level 3 consists of less liquid fixed maturity securities with very limited trading activity or where less price transparency exists around the inputs to the valuation methodologies including: U.S. and foreign corporate securities including below investment grade private placements; RMBS; CMBS; ABS and foreign government securities. Equity securities classified as Level 3 securities consist principally of nonredeemable preferred stock and common stock of companies that are privately held or companies for which there has been very limited trading activity or where less price transparency exists around the inputs to the valuation.

Prices provided by independent pricing services and independent non-binding broker quotations can vary widely even for the same security. The determination of estimated fair values by management in the absence of quoted market prices is based on: (i) valuation methodologies; (ii) securities we deem to be comparable; and (iii) assumptions deemed appropriate given the circumstances. The fair value estimates are made at a specific point in time, based on available market information and judgments about financial instruments, including estimates of the timing and amounts of expected future cash flows and the credit standing of the issuer or counterparty. Factors considered in estimating fair value include: coupon rate, maturity, estimated duration, call provisions, sinking fund requirements, credit rating, industry sector of the issuer, and quoted market prices of comparable securities. The use of different methodologies and assumptions may have a material effect on the estimated fair value amounts. During periods of market disruption including periods of significantly rising or high interest rates, rapidly widening credit spreads or illiquidity, it may be difficult to value certain of our securities, for example sub-prime mortgage-backed securities, mortgage-backed securities where the underlying loans are Alt-A and CMBS, if trading becomes less frequent and/or market data becomes less observable. In times of financial market disruption, certain asset classes that were in active markets with significant observable data may become illiquid. In such cases, more securities may fall to Level 3 and thus require more subjectivity and management judgment. As such, valuations may include inputs and assumptions that are less observable or require greater estimation, as well as valuation methods which are more sophisticated or require greater estimation thereby resulting in estimated fair values which may be greater or less than the amount at which the investments may be ultimately sold. Further, rapidly changing and unprecedented credit and equity market conditions could materially impact the valuation of securities as reported within our consolidated financial statements and the period-to-period changes in estimated fair value could vary significantly. Decreases in value may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

If Our Business Does Not Perform Well, We May Be Required to Recognize an Impairment of Our Goodwill or Other Long-Lived Assets or to Establish a Valuation Allowance Against the Deferred Income Tax Asset, Which Could Adversely Affect Our Results of Operations or Financial Condition

Goodwill is the excess of cost over the estimated fair value of net assets acquired which represents the future economic benefits arising from such net assets acquired that could not be individually identified. As of December 31, 2011, our goodwill was \$11.9 billion. Goodwill is not amortized but is tested for impairment at least annually, or more frequently if events or circumstances, such as adverse changes in the business climate, indicate that the implied fair value of the reporting unit is less than the carrying value of that reporting unit. We perform our annual goodwill impairment testing during the third quarter of each year based upon data as of the close of the second quarter. Goodwill associated with a business acquisition is not tested for impairment during the year the business is acquired unless there is a significant identified impairment event. Impairment testing is performed using the fair value approach, which requires the use of estimates and judgment, at the reporting unit level. A reporting unit is the operating segment or a business one level below the operating segment, if discrete financial information is prepared and regularly reviewed by management at that level.

The estimated fair value of the reporting unit is impacted by the performance of the business. The performance of our businesses may be adversely impacted by prolonged market declines. If it is determined that the goodwill has been impaired, we must write down the goodwill by the amount of the impairment, with a corresponding charge to net income. Such writedowns could have an adverse effect on our results of operation or financial

Table of Contents

position. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates Goodwill and Note 7 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Long-lived assets, including assets such as real estate, also require impairment testing to determine whether changes in circumstances indicate that we will be unable to recover the carrying amount of the asset group through future operations of that asset group or market conditions that will impact the estimated fair value of those assets. Such writedowns could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial position.

Deferred income tax represents the tax effect of the differences between the book and tax basis of assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets are assessed periodically by management to determine if they are realizable. Factors in management's determination include the performance of the business including the ability to generate future taxable income. If based on available information, it is more likely than not that the deferred income tax asset will not be realized then a valuation allowance must be established with a corresponding charge to net income. Such charges could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial position.

If Our Business Does Not Perform Well or if Actual Experience Versus Estimates Used in Valuing and Amortizing DAC, Deferred Sales Inducements (DSI) and VOBA Vary Significantly, We May Be Required to Accelerate the Amortization and/or Impair the DAC, DSI and VOBA Which Could Adversely Affect Our Results of Operations or Financial Condition

We incur significant costs in connection with acquiring new and renewal insurance business. Costs that vary with and relate to the production of new and renewal insurance business are deferred as DAC. Bonus amounts credited to certain policyholders, either immediately upon receiving a deposit or as excess interest credits for a period of time, are referred to as DSI. The recovery of DAC and DSI is dependent upon the future profitability of the related business. The amount of future profit or margin is dependent principally on investment returns in excess of the amounts credited to policyholders, mortality, morbidity, persistency, interest crediting rates, dividends paid to policyholders, expenses to administer the business, creditworthiness of reinsurance counterparties and certain economic variables, such as inflation. Of these factors, we anticipate that investment returns are most likely to impact the rate of amortization of such costs. The aforementioned factors enter into management's estimates of gross profits or margins, which generally are used to amortize such costs.

If the estimates of gross profits or margins were overstated, then the amortization of such costs would be accelerated in the period the actual experience is known and would result in a charge to income. Significant or sustained equity market declines could result in an acceleration of amortization of DAC and DSI related to variable annuity and variable universal life contracts, resulting in a charge to income. Such adjustments could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

VOBA represents the excess of book value over the estimated fair value of acquired insurance, annuity, and investment-type contracts in-force at the acquisition date. The estimated fair value of the acquired liabilities is based on actuarially determined projections, by each block of business, of future policy and contract charges, premiums, mortality and morbidity, separate account performance, surrenders, operating expenses, investment returns, nonperformance risk adjustment and other factors. Actual experience on the purchased business may vary from these projections. Revisions to estimates result in changes to the amounts expensed in the reporting period in which the revisions are made and could result in a charge to income. Also, as VOBA is amortized similarly to DAC and DSI, an acceleration of the amortization of VOBA would occur if the estimates of gross profits or margins were overstated. Accordingly, the amortization of such costs would be accelerated in the period in which the actual experience is known and would result in a charge to net income. Significant or sustained equity market declines could result in an acceleration of amortization of the VOBA related to variable annuity and variable universal life contracts, resulting in a charge to income. Such adjustments could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition. See Changes in Accounting Standards Issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board or Other Standard-Setting Bodies May Adversely Affect Our Financial Statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results

Table of Contents

of Operations Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs and Value of Business Acquired and Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further consideration of DAC and VOBA.

Changes in Accounting Standards Issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board or Other Standard-Setting Bodies May Adversely Affect Our Financial Statements

Our financial statements are subject to the application of GAAP, which is periodically revised and/or expanded. Accordingly, from time to time we are required to adopt new or revised accounting standards issued by recognized authoritative bodies, including the Financial Accounting Standards Board. Market conditions have prompted accounting standard setters to expose new guidance which further interprets or seeks to revise accounting pronouncements related to financial instruments, structures or transactions, as well as to issue new standards expanding disclosures. The impact of accounting pronouncements that have been issued but not yet implemented is disclosed in our reports filed with the SEC. We will adopt new guidance regarding accounting for DAC in the first quarter of 2012. Under the new guidance, only incremental direct costs associated with the successful acquisition of new or renewal contracts may be capitalized, and direct-response advertising costs may be capitalized under certain conditions. We plan to apply this guidance retrospectively to all prior periods presented in our consolidated financial statements for all insurance contracts; this will result in a reduction of DAC and total equity. See Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. An assessment of proposed standards is not provided as such proposals are subject to change through the exposure process and, therefore, the effects on our financial statements cannot be meaningfully assessed. It is possible that future accounting standards we are required to adopt could change the current accounting treatment that we apply to our consolidated financial statements and that such changes could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Changes in Our Discount Rate, Expected Rate of Return and Expected Compensation Increase Assumptions for Our Pension and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans May Result in Increased Expenses and Reduce Our Profitability

We determine our pension and other postretirement benefit plan costs based on our best estimates of future plan experience. These assumptions are reviewed regularly and include discount rates, expected rates of return on plan assets and expected increases in compensation levels and expected medical inflation. Changes in these assumptions may result in increased expenses and reduce our profitability. See Note 17 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for details on how changes in these assumptions would affect plan costs.

Guarantees Within Certain of Our Products that Protect Policyholders Against Significant Downturns in Equity Markets May Decrease Our Earnings, Increase the Volatility of Our Results if Hedging or Risk Management Strategies Prove Ineffective, Result in Higher Risk Management Costs and Expose Us to Increased Counterparty Risk

Certain of our variable annuity products include guaranteed minimum benefits. These include guaranteed minimum death benefits, guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits, guaranteed minimum accumulation benefits, and guaranteed minimum income benefits. Periods of significant and sustained downturns in equity markets, increased equity volatility, or reduced interest rates could result in an increase in the valuation of the future policy benefit or policyholder account balance liabilities associated with such products, resulting in a reduction to net income. We use reinsurance in combination with derivative instruments to mitigate the liability exposure and the volatility of net income associated with these liabilities, and while we believe that these and other actions have mitigated the risks related to these benefits, we remain liable for the guaranteed benefits in the event that reinsurers or derivative counterparties are unable or unwilling to pay. In addition, we are subject to the risk that hedging and other management procedures prove ineffective or that unanticipated policyholder behavior or mortality, combined with adverse market events, produces economic losses beyond the scope of the risk management techniques employed. These, individually or collectively, may have a material adverse effect on net income, financial condition or liquidity. We are also subject to the risk that the cost of hedging these guaranteed minimum benefits increases as implied volatilities increase and/or interest rates decrease, resulting in a reduction to net income.

Table of Contents

The valuation of certain of the foregoing liabilities (carried at fair value) includes an adjustment for nonperformance risk that reflects the credit standing of the issuing entity. This adjustment, which is not hedged, is based in part on publicly available information regarding credit spreads related to MetLife, Inc.'s debt, including credit default swaps. In periods of extreme market volatility, movements in these credit spreads can have a significant impact on net income.

Contractual Features Within Certain of Our Life and Annuity Products May Increase Our Exposure to Foreign Exchange Risk, and Decrease Our Earnings

Certain of our life and annuity products are exposed to foreign exchange risk. Payments under these contracts, depending on the circumstances, may be required to be made in different currencies and may not be the legal tender in the country whose law governs the particular product. Changes in exchange rate movements and the imposition of capital controls may also directly impact the liability valuation that may not be entirely hedged. If the currency upon which expected future payments are made strengthens, the liability valuation may increase, which may result in a reduction of net income.

We May Need to Fund Deficiencies in Our Closed Block; Assets Allocated to the Closed Block Benefit Only the Holders of Closed Block Policies

MLIC's plan of reorganization, as amended (the Plan), required that we establish and operate an accounting mechanism, known as a closed block, to ensure that the reasonable dividend expectations of policyholders who own certain individual insurance policies of MLIC are met. See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. We allocated assets to the closed block in an amount that will produce cash flows which, together with anticipated revenue from the policies included in the closed block, are reasonably expected to be sufficient to support obligations and liabilities relating to these policies, including, but not limited to, provisions for the payment of claims and certain expenses and tax, and to provide for the continuation of the policyholder dividend scales in effect for 1999, if the experience underlying such scales continues, and for appropriate adjustments in such scales if the experience changes. We cannot provide assurance that the closed block assets, the cash flows generated by the closed block assets and the anticipated revenue from the policies included in the closed block will be sufficient to provide for the benefits guaranteed under these policies. If they are not sufficient, we must fund the shortfall. Even if they are sufficient, we may choose, for competitive reasons, to support policyholder dividend payments with our general account funds.

The closed block assets, the cash flows generated by the closed block assets and the anticipated revenues from the policies in the closed block will benefit only the holders of the policies in the closed block. In addition, to the extent that these amounts are greater than the amounts estimated at the time the closed block was funded, dividends payable in respect of the policies included in the closed block may be greater than they would be in the absence of a closed block. Any excess earnings will be available for distribution over time only to closed block policyholders.

Litigation and Regulatory Investigations Are Increasingly Common in Our Businesses and May Result in Significant Financial Losses and/or Harm to Our Reputation

We face a significant risk of litigation and regulatory investigations and actions in the ordinary course of operating our businesses, including the risk of class action lawsuits. Our pending legal and regulatory actions include proceedings specific to us and others generally applicable to business practices in the industries in which we operate. In connection with our insurance operations, plaintiffs' lawyers may bring or are bringing class actions and individual suits alleging, among other things, issues relating to sales or underwriting practices, claims payments and procedures, product design, disclosure, administration, denial or delay of benefits and breaches of fiduciary or other duties to customers. Plaintiffs in class action and other lawsuits against us may seek very large or indeterminate amounts, including punitive and treble damages. Modern pleading practice in the U.S. permits considerable variation in the assertion of money damages or other relief. This variability in pleadings, together

Table of Contents

with our actual experience in litigating or resolving through settlement numerous claims over an extended period of time, demonstrates to management that the monetary relief which may be specified in a lawsuit or claim bears little relevance to its merits or disposition value. See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Due to the vagaries of litigation, the outcome of a litigation matter and the amount or range of potential loss at particular points in time may normally be difficult to ascertain. Uncertainties can include how fact finders will evaluate documentary evidence and the credibility and effectiveness of witness testimony, and how trial and appellate courts will apply the law in the context of the pleadings or evidence presented, whether by motion practice, or at trial or on appeal. Disposition valuations are also subject to the uncertainty of how opposing parties and their counsel will themselves view the relevant evidence and applicable law.

The Company establishes liabilities for litigation and regulatory loss contingencies when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities have been established for a number of matters noted in Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. It is possible that some of the matters could require us to pay damages or make other expenditures or establish accruals in amounts that could not be estimated at December 31, 2011.

Over the past several years, we have faced numerous claims, including class action lawsuits, alleging improper marketing or sales of individual life insurance policies, annuities, mutual funds or other products.

In addition, MLIC is and has been a defendant in a large number of lawsuits seeking compensatory and punitive damages for personal injuries allegedly caused by exposure to asbestos. These lawsuits principally have focused on allegations with respect to certain research, publication and other activities of one or more of MLIC's employees during the period from the 1920's through approximately the 1950's and have alleged that MLIC learned or should have learned of certain health risks posed by asbestos and, among other things, improperly publicized or failed to disclose those health risks. Additional litigation relating to these matters may be commenced in the future. The ability of MLIC to estimate its ultimate asbestos exposure is subject to considerable uncertainty, and the conditions impacting its liability can be dynamic and subject to change. The availability of reliable data is limited and it is difficult to predict the numerous variables that can affect liability estimates, including the number of future claims, the cost to resolve claims, the disease mix and severity of disease in pending and future claims, the impact of the number of new claims filed in a particular jurisdiction and variations in the law in the jurisdictions in which claims are filed, the possible impact of tort reform efforts, the willingness of courts to allow plaintiffs to pursue claims against MLIC when exposure to asbestos took place after the dangers of asbestos exposure were well known, and the impact of any possible future adverse verdicts and their amounts. The number of asbestos cases that may be brought, the aggregate amount of any liability that MLIC may incur, and the total amount paid in settlements in any given year are uncertain and may vary significantly from year to year.

The ability to make estimates regarding ultimate asbestos exposure declines significantly as the estimates relate to years further in the future. In our judgment, there is a future point after which losses cease to be probable and reasonably estimable. It is reasonably possible that our total exposure to asbestos claims may be materially greater than the asbestos liability currently accrued and that future charges to income may be necessary. The potential future charges could be material in the particular quarterly or annual periods in which they are recorded.

We are also subject to various regulatory inquiries, such as information requests, subpoenas and books and record examinations, from state and federal regulators and other authorities. A substantial legal liability or a significant regulatory action against us could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Moreover, even if we ultimately prevail in the litigation, regulatory action or investigation, we could suffer significant reputational harm, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations, including our ability to attract new customers, retain our current customers and recruit and retain employees. Regulatory inquiries and litigation may cause volatility in the price of stocks of companies in our industry.

Table of Contents

More than 30 U.S. jurisdictions are auditing MetLife, Inc. and certain of its affiliates for compliance with unclaimed property laws. Additionally, MLIC and certain of its affiliates have received subpoenas and other regulatory inquiries from certain regulators and other officials relating to claims-payment practices and compliance with unclaimed property laws. An examination of these practices by the Illinois Department of Insurance has been converted into a multistate targeted market conduct exam. On July 5, 2011, the New York Insurance Department issued a letter requiring life insurers doing business in New York to use data available on the U.S. Social Security Administration's Death Master File or a similar database to identify instances where death benefits under life insurance policies, annuities, and retained asset accounts are payable, to locate and pay beneficiaries under such contracts, and to report the results of the use of the data. It is possible that other jurisdictions may pursue similar investigations or inquiries, may join the multistate market conduct exam, or issue directives similar to the New York Insurance Department's letter. In the third quarter of 2011, we incurred a \$117 million after tax charge to increase reserves in connection with our use of the U.S. Social Security Administration's Death Master File and similar databases to identify potential life insurance claims that have not yet been presented to us. It is possible that the audits, market conduct exam, and related activity may result in additional payments to beneficiaries, additional escheatment of funds deemed abandoned under state laws, administrative penalties, interest, and changes to our procedures for the identification and escheatment of abandoned property. We believe that payments for life insurance claims not yet presented and interest thereon will not be materially different from the reserve charge noted above. To the extent we can estimate the reasonably possible amount of potential additional payments, it has been included in the aggregate estimate of reasonably possible loss provided in Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. It is possible that there will be additional payments or other expenses incurred with respect to changes in procedures and we are not currently able to estimate these additional possible amounts, but such costs may be substantial.

We cannot give assurance that current claims, litigation, unasserted claims probable of assertion, investigations and other proceedings against us will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. It is also possible that related or unrelated claims, litigation, unasserted claims probable of assertion, investigations and proceedings may be commenced in the future, and we could become subject to further investigations and have lawsuits filed or enforcement actions initiated against us. The number of countries in which we currently operate has greatly expanded as a result of the Acquisition and, consequently, we may be subject to additional investigations and lawsuits in such jurisdictions. Increased regulatory scrutiny and any resulting investigations or proceedings in any of the countries where we operate could result in new legal actions and precedents and industry-wide regulations that could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We May Not be Able to Protect Our Intellectual Property and May be Subject to Infringement Claims

We rely on a combination of contractual rights with third parties and copyright, trademark, patent and trade secret laws to establish and protect our intellectual property. Although we endeavor to protect our rights, third parties may infringe or misappropriate our intellectual property. We may have to litigate to enforce and protect our copyrights, trademarks, patents, trade secrets and know-how or to determine their scope, validity or enforceability. This would represent a diversion of resources that may be significant and our efforts may not prove successful. The inability to secure or protect our intellectual property assets could have a material adverse effect on our business and our ability to compete.

We may be subject to claims by third parties for (i) patent, trademark or copyright infringement, (ii) breach of copyright, trademark or license usage rights, or (iii) misappropriation of trade secrets. Any such claims and any resulting litigation could result in significant expense and liability for damages. If we were found to have infringed or misappropriated a third-party patent or other intellectual property right, we could in some circumstances be enjoined from providing certain products or services to our customers or from utilizing and benefiting from certain methods, processes, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets or licenses. Alternatively, we could be required to enter into costly licensing arrangements with third parties or implement a costly work around. Any of these scenarios could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Table of Contents

Legislative and Regulatory Activity in Health Care and Other Employee Benefits Could Increase the Costs or Administrative Burdens of Providing Benefits to Our Employees or Hinder or Prevent Us From Attracting and Retaining Employees, or Affect our Profitability As a Provider of Life Insurance, Annuities, and Non-Medical Health Insurance Benefit Products

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, signed into law on March 23, 2010, and The Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, signed into law on March 30, 2010 (together, the Health Care Act), may lead to fundamental changes in the way that employers, including us, provide health care benefits, other benefits, and other forms of compensation to their employees and former employees. Among other changes, and subject to various effective dates, the Health Care Act generally restricts certain limits on benefits, mandates coverage for certain kinds of care, extends the required coverage of dependent children through age 26, eliminates pre-existing condition exclusions or limitations, requires cost reporting and, in some cases, requires premium rebates to participants under certain circumstances, limits coverage waiting periods, establishes several penalties on employers who fail to offer sufficient coverage to their full-time employees, and requires employers under certain circumstances to provide employees with vouchers to purchase their own health care coverage. The Health Care Act also provides for increased taxation of high cost coverage, restricts the tax deductibility of certain compensation paid by health insurers, reduces the tax deductibility of retiree health care costs to the extent of any retiree prescription drug benefit subsidy provided to the employer by the federal government, increases Medicare taxes on certain high earners, and establishes health insurance exchanges for individual purchases of health insurance.

The impact of the Health Care Act on us as an employer and on the benefit plans we sponsor for employees or retirees and their dependents, whether those benefits remain competitive or effective in meeting their business objectives, and our costs to provide such benefits and our tax liabilities in connection with benefits or compensation, cannot be predicted. Furthermore, we cannot predict the impact of choices that will be made by various regulators, including the U.S. Treasury, the IRS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and state regulators, to promulgate regulations or guidance, or to make determinations under or related to the Health Care Act. Either the Health Care Act or any of these regulatory actions could adversely affect our ability to attract, retain, and motivate talented associates. They could also result in increased or unpredictable costs to provide employee benefits, and could harm our competitive position if we are subject to fees, penalties, tax provisions or other limitations in the Health Care Act and our competitors are not.

The Health Care Act also imposes requirements on us as a provider of non-medical health insurance benefit products, subject to various effective dates. It also imposes requirements on the purchasers of certain of these products and has implications for certain other MLIC products, such as annuities. We cannot predict the impact of the Act or of regulations, guidance or determinations made by various regulators, on the various products that we offer. Either the Health Care Act or any of these regulatory actions could adversely affect our ability to offer certain of these products in the same manner as we do today. They could also result in increased or unpredictable costs to provide certain products, and could harm our competitive position if the Health Care Act has a disparate impact on our products compared to products offered by our competitors.

Litigation in U.S. federal courts has challenged whether the Health Care Act, or parts of it, are valid and consistent with the U.S. constitution. Some of the recent court decisions on these issues have held that the Health Care Act is unconstitutional, in whole or in part, and it is expected that the U.S. Supreme Court will decide these issues in 2012. If the Health Care Act is ruled unconstitutional, the resulting disruption to the system of regulation of health care benefits, other benefits, and other forms of compensation in the U.S., and uncertainty regarding the future course of that system of regulation, may have impacts, some of them potentially negative, on the way that we provide health care benefits, other benefits and other forms of compensation to employees, and on our ability to do so in an efficient manner, which could adversely affect our ability to attract, retain, and motivate talented associates and could also result in increased or unpredictable costs. Such a ruling, and the uncertainty it creates, could also result in negative effects on us as a provider of non-medical health insurance benefit products, affecting our ability to offer certain products in the same manner as we do today or resulting in increased or unpredictable costs to provide certain products.

Table of Contents

The Preservation of Access to Care for Medicare Beneficiaries and Pension Relief Act of 2010 also includes certain provisions for defined benefit pension plan funding relief. These provisions may impact the likelihood and/or timing of corporate plan sponsors terminating their plans and/or engaging in transactions to partially or fully transfer pension obligations to an insurance company. As part of our Corporate Benefit Funding segment, we offer general account and separate account group annuity products that enable a plan sponsor to transfer these risks, often in connection with the termination of defined benefit pension plans. Consequently, this legislation could indirectly affect the mix of our business, with fewer closeouts and more non-guaranteed funding products, and adversely impact our results of operations.

Changes in U.S. Federal and State Securities Laws and Regulations, and State Insurance Regulations Regarding Suitability of Annuity Product Sales, May Affect Our Operations and Our Profitability

Federal and state securities laws and regulations apply to insurance products that are also securities, including variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. As a result, some of MetLife, Inc.'s subsidiaries and their activities in offering and selling variable insurance contracts and policies are subject to extensive regulation under these securities laws. These subsidiaries issue variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies through separate accounts that are registered with the SEC as investment companies under the Investment Company Act. Each registered separate account is generally divided into sub-accounts, each of which invests in an underlying mutual fund which is itself a registered investment company under the Investment Company Act. In addition, the variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies issued by the separate accounts are registered with the SEC under the Securities Act. Other subsidiaries are registered with the SEC as broker-dealers under the Exchange Act, and are members of and subject to regulation by FINRA. Further, some of our subsidiaries are registered as investment advisers with the SEC under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, and are also registered as investment advisers in various states, as applicable.

Federal and state securities laws and regulations are primarily intended to ensure the integrity of the financial markets and to protect investors in the securities markets, as well as protect investment advisory or brokerage clients. These laws and regulations generally grant regulatory agencies broad rulemaking and enforcement powers, including the power to limit or restrict the conduct of business for failure to comply with the securities laws and regulations. A number of changes have recently been suggested to the laws and regulations that govern the conduct of our variable insurance products business and our distributors that could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. For example, Dodd-Frank authorizes the SEC to establish a standard of conduct applicable to brokers and dealers when providing personalized investment advice to retail and other customers. This standard of conduct would be to act in the best interest of the customer without regard to the financial or other interest of the broker or dealer providing the advice. Further, proposals have been made that the SEC establish a self-regulatory organization with respect to registered investment advisers, which could increase the level of regulatory oversight over such investment advisers.

In addition, state insurance regulators are becoming more active in adopting and enforcing suitability standards with respect to sales of annuities, both fixed and variable. In particular, the NAIC has adopted a revised Suitability in Annuity Transactions Model Regulation (SAT) that will, if enacted by the states, place new responsibilities upon issuing insurance companies with respect to the suitability of annuity sales, including responsibilities for training agents. Several states have already enacted laws based on the SAT.

We also may be subject to similar laws and regulations in the foreign countries in which we offer products or conduct other activities similar to those described above. See Business International Regulation.

Changes in Tax Laws, Tax Regulations, or Interpretations of Such Laws or Regulations Could Increase Our Corporate Taxes; Changes in Tax Laws Could Make Some of Our Products Less Attractive to Consumers

Changes in tax laws, Treasury and other regulations promulgated thereunder, or interpretations of such laws or regulations could increase our corporate taxes. The Obama Administration has proposed corporate tax changes. Changes in corporate tax rates could affect the value of deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities. Furthermore, the value of deferred tax assets could be impacted by future earnings levels.

Table of Contents

Changes in tax laws could make some of our products less attractive to consumers. A shift away from life insurance and annuity contracts and other tax-deferred products would reduce our income from sales of these products, as well as the assets upon which we earn investment income. The Obama Administration has proposed certain changes to individual income tax rates and rules applicable to certain policies.

We cannot predict whether any tax legislation impacting corporate taxes or insurance products will be enacted, what the specific terms of any such legislation will be or whether, if at all, any legislation would have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Changes to Regulations Under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 Could Adversely Affect Our Distribution Model by Restricting Our Ability to Provide Customers With Advice

The prohibited transaction rules of ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code generally restrict the provision of investment advice to ERISA plans and participants and Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) if the investment recommendation results in fees paid to the individual advisor, his or her firm or their affiliates that vary according to the investment recommendation chosen. In October 2011, the DOL issued final regulations which provide limited relief from these investment advice restrictions. If no additional relief is provided regarding these investment advice restrictions, the ability of our affiliated broker-dealers and their registered representatives to provide investment advice to ERISA plans and participants, and with respect to IRAs, would likely be significantly restricted. Also, the fee and revenue arrangements of certain advisory programs may be required to be revenue neutral, resulting in potential lost revenues for these broker-dealers and their affiliates.

Other proposed investment advice regulatory initiatives under ERISA also may negatively impact the current business model of our broker-dealers. In particular, the DOL issued a proposed regulation in October 2010 that would, if adopted as proposed, significantly broaden the circumstances under which a person or entity providing investment advice with respect to ERISA plans or IRAs would be deemed a fiduciary under ERISA or the Internal Revenue Code. If adopted, the proposed regulations may make it easier for the DOL in enforcement actions, and for plaintiffs attorneys in ERISA litigation, to attempt to extend fiduciary status to advisors who would not be deemed fiduciaries under current regulations. In September 2011, the DOL announced it will re-propose these fiduciary definition regulations, and a new proposal is expected in 2012.

In addition, the DOL has issued a number of regulations recently that increase the level of disclosure that must be provided to plan sponsors and participants. The participant disclosure regulations were issued in final form in October 2010 and become effective in 2012, and the regulations which require service providers to disclose fee and other information to plan sponsors take effect in 2012. These ERISA disclosure requirements will likely increase the regulatory and compliance burden upon us, resulting in increased costs.

We May Be Unable to Attract and Retain Sales Representatives for Our Products

We must attract and retain productive sales representatives to sell our insurance, annuities and investment products. Strong competition exists among insurers for sales representatives with demonstrated ability. In addition, there is competition for representatives with other types of financial services firms, such as independent broker-dealers.

We compete with other insurers for sales representatives primarily on the basis of our financial position, support services and compensation and product features. We continue to undertake several initiatives to grow our career agency force while continuing to enhance the efficiency and production of our existing sales force. We cannot provide assurance that these initiatives will succeed in attracting and retaining new agents. Sales of individual insurance, annuities and investment products and our results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected if we are unsuccessful in attracting and retaining agents. See Business Competition.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc. s Board of Directors May Control the Outcome of Stockholder Votes on Many Matters Due to the Voting Provisions of the MetLife Policyholder Trust

Under the Plan, we established the MetLife Policyholder Trust (the Trust) to hold the shares of MetLife, Inc. common stock allocated to eligible policyholders not receiving cash or policy credits under the plan. As of February 21, 2012, the Trust held 211,500,239 shares, or 19.9%, of the outstanding shares of MetLife, Inc. common stock. Because of the number of shares held in the Trust and the voting provisions of the Trust, the Trust may affect the outcome of matters brought to a stockholder vote. Except on votes regarding certain fundamental corporate actions described below, the trustee will vote all of the shares of common stock held in the Trust in accordance with the recommendations given by MetLife, Inc. s Board of Directors to its stockholders or, if the Board gives no such recommendations, as directed by the Board. As a result of the voting provisions of the Trust, the Board of Directors may be able to control votes on matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, excluding those fundamental corporate actions, so long as the Trust holds a substantial number of shares of common stock.

If the vote relates to fundamental corporate actions specified in the Trust, the trustee will solicit instructions from the Trust beneficiaries and vote all shares held in the Trust in proportion to the instructions it receives. These actions include:

an election or removal of directors in which a stockholder has properly nominated one or more candidates in opposition to a nominee or nominees of MetLife, Inc. s Board of Directors or a vote on a stockholder s proposal to oppose a Board nominee for director, remove a director for cause or fill a vacancy caused by the removal of a director by stockholders, subject to certain conditions;

a merger or consolidation, a sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of the assets, or a recapitalization or dissolution, of MetLife, Inc., in each case requiring a vote of stockholders under applicable Delaware law;

any transaction that would result in an exchange or conversion of shares of common stock held by the Trust for cash, securities or other property; and

any proposal requiring MetLife, Inc. s Board of Directors to amend or redeem the rights under MetLife, Inc. s stockholder rights plan, other than a proposal with respect to which we have received advice of nationally-recognized legal counsel to the effect that the proposal is not a proper subject for stockholder action under Delaware law. MetLife, Inc. does not currently have a stockholder rights plan.

If a vote concerns any of these fundamental corporate actions, the trustee will vote all of the shares of common stock held by the Trust in proportion to the instructions it received, which will give disproportionate weight to the instructions actually given by Trust beneficiaries.

The MetLife Policyholder Trust Agreement provides that we may terminate the Trust once the percentage of outstanding shares held in the Trust falls to 25%. We must terminate the Trust 90 days after we provide the trustee with notice that the percentage of outstanding shares held in the Trust is 10% or less. In connection with any termination of the Trust, all of the shares of common stock then held in the Trust will need to be distributed to the respective Trust beneficiaries, unless we offer to purchase all or a portion of such Trust shares. In connection with such a distribution, we may incur costs related to an increase in the number of shareholders, which may include increased mailing and proxy solicitation expenses.

State Laws, Federal Laws, Our Certificate of Incorporation and Our By-Laws May Delay, Deter or Prevent Takeovers and Business Combinations that Stockholders Might Consider in Their Best Interests

State laws and our certificate of incorporation and by-laws may delay, deter or prevent a takeover attempt that stockholders might consider in their best interests. For instance, they may prevent stockholders from receiving the benefit from any premium over the market price of MetLife, Inc. s common stock offered by a bidder in a takeover context. Even in the absence of a takeover attempt, the existence of these provisions may adversely affect the prevailing market price of MetLife, Inc. s common stock if they are viewed as discouraging takeover attempts in the future.

Table of Contents

Any person seeking to acquire a controlling interest in us would face various regulatory obstacles which may delay, deter or prevent a takeover attempt that stockholders of MetLife, Inc. might consider in their best interests. First, the insurance laws and regulations of the various states in which MetLife, Inc.'s U.S. insurance subsidiaries are organized may delay or impede a business combination involving us. State insurance laws prohibit an entity from acquiring control of an insurance company without the prior approval of the domestic insurance regulator. Under most states' statutes, an entity is presumed to have control of an insurance company if it owns, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of the voting stock of that insurance company or its parent company. We are also subject to banking regulations, and may in the future become subject to additional regulations. Dodd-Frank contains provisions that could restrict or impede consolidation, mergers and acquisitions by systemically significant firms and/or large bank holding companies. See Business U.S. Regulation Financial Holding Company Regulation Change of Control and Restrictions on Mergers and Acquisitions. In addition, the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, would require approval by the contract owners of our variable contracts in order to effectuate a change of control of any affiliated investment adviser to a mutual fund underlying our variable contracts. Finally, FINRA approval would be necessary for a change of control of any FINRA registered broker-dealer that is a direct or indirect subsidiary of MetLife, Inc.

In addition, Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law may affect the ability of an interested stockholder to engage in certain business combinations, including mergers, consolidations or acquisitions of additional shares, for a period of three years following the time that the stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. An interested stockholder is defined to include persons owning, directly or indirectly, 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of a corporation.

MetLife, Inc.'s certificate of incorporation and by-laws also contain provisions that may delay, deter or prevent a takeover attempt that stockholders might consider in their best interests. These provisions may adversely affect prevailing market prices for MetLife, Inc.'s common stock and include: a prohibition on the calling of special meetings by stockholders; advance notice procedures for the nomination of candidates to the Board of Directors and stockholder proposals to be considered at stockholder meetings; and supermajority voting requirements for the amendment of certain provisions of the certificate of incorporation and by-laws.

The Continued Threat of Terrorism and Ongoing Military Actions May Adversely Affect the Level of Claim Losses We Incur and the Value of Our Investment Portfolio

The continued threat of terrorism, both within the U.S. and abroad, ongoing military and other actions and heightened security measures in response to these types of threats may cause significant volatility in global financial markets and result in loss of life, property damage, additional disruptions to commerce and reduced economic activity. Some of the assets in our investment portfolio may be adversely affected by declines in the credit and equity markets and reduced economic activity caused by the continued threat of terrorism. We cannot predict whether, and the extent to which, companies in which we maintain investments may suffer losses as a result of financial, commercial or economic disruptions, or how any such disruptions might affect the ability of those companies to pay interest or principal on their securities or, to the extent not covered by the terrorism insurance maintained by our commercial and agricultural mortgagees, mortgage loans. The continued threat of terrorism also could result in increased reinsurance prices and reduced insurance coverage and potentially cause us to retain more risk than we otherwise would retain if we were able to obtain reinsurance at lower prices. Terrorist actions also could disrupt our operations centers in the U.S. or abroad. In addition, the occurrence of terrorist actions could result in higher claims under our insurance policies than anticipated. See Difficult Conditions in the Global Capital Markets and the Economy Generally May Materially Adversely Affect Our Business and Results of Operations and These Conditions May Not Improve in the Near Future.

The Occurrence of Events Unanticipated in Our Disaster Recovery Systems and Management Continuity Planning, as well as a Failure in Cyber- or Other Information Security Systems, Could Result in a Loss or Disclosure of Confidential Information, Damage Our Reputation and Could Impair Our Ability to Conduct Business Effectively

In the event of a disaster such as a natural catastrophe, an epidemic, an industrial accident, a blackout, a computer virus, a terrorist attack, a cyberattack or war, unanticipated problems with our disaster recovery

Table of Contents

systems could have a material adverse impact on our ability to conduct business and on our results of operations and financial position, particularly if those problems affect our computer-based data processing, transmission, storage and retrieval systems and destroy valuable data. In addition, in the event that a significant number of our managers were unavailable in the event of a disaster, our ability to effectively conduct business could be severely compromised. These interruptions also may interfere with our suppliers' ability to provide goods and services and our employees' ability to perform their job responsibilities.

We depend heavily upon computer systems to provide reliable service. Despite our implementation of a variety of security measures, our computer systems could be subject to physical and electronic break-ins, cyberattacks and similar disruptions from unauthorized tampering, including threats that may come from external factors, such as governments, organized crime, hackers and third parties to whom we outsource certain functions, or may originate internally from within the Company.

If one or more of these events occurs, it could potentially jeopardize the confidential, proprietary and other information processed and stored in, and transmitted through, our computer systems and networks, or otherwise cause interruptions or malfunctions in our, as well as our customers or other third parties', operations, which could result in damage to our reputation, financial losses, litigation, increased costs, regulatory penalties and/or customer dissatisfaction or loss. Although we take steps to prevent and detect such attacks, it is possible that we may not become aware of a cyber incident for some time after it occurs, which could increase our exposure to these consequences.

Our Associates May Take Excessive Risks Which Could Negatively Affect Our Financial Condition and Business

As an insurance enterprise, we are in the business of being paid to accept certain risks. The associates who conduct our business, including executive officers and other members of management, sales managers, investment professionals, product managers, sales agents, and other associates, do so in part by making decisions and choices that involve exposing us to risk. These include decisions such as setting underwriting guidelines and standards, product design and pricing, determining what assets to purchase for investment and when to sell them, which business opportunities to pursue, and other decisions. Although we endeavor, in the design and implementation of our compensation programs and practices, to avoid giving our associates incentives to take excessive risks, associates may take such risks regardless of the structure of our compensation programs and practices. Similarly, although we employ controls and procedures designed to monitor associates' business decisions and prevent us from taking excessive risks, there can be no assurance that these controls and procedures are or may be effective. If our associates take excessive risks, the impact of those risks could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or business operations.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

MetLife has no unresolved comments from the SEC staff regarding its periodic or current reports under the Exchange Act.

Item 2. Properties

In 2006, we signed a lease for 410,000 rentable square feet on 12 floors in an office building in Manhattan, New York, which is occupied by U.S. Business, Corporate & Other, and International. The term of that lease commenced during 2008 and continues for 21 years. In August 2009, we subleased 32,000 rentable square feet of that space to a subtenant, which has met our standards of review with respect to creditworthiness and we currently have approximately 33,000 rentable square feet of the 410,000 rentable square feet available for sublease. We moved certain operations from our Long Island City, New York facility, to the Manhattan space in late 2008, but continue to maintain an on-going presence in Long Island City. Our lease in Long Island City covers 686,000 rentable square feet, which is occupied by Corporate & Other, under a long-term lease arrangement that commenced during 2003 and continues for 20 years. In connection with the move of certain

Table of Contents

operations to Manhattan, in late 2008, we subleased 330,000 rentable square feet to four subtenants, each of which has met our standards of review with respect to creditworthiness. To date, with our occupancy and the four subtenants we have secured, we are fully subscribed at the Long Island City location.

In connection with the 2005 sale of the 200 Park Avenue property, we have retained rights to existing signage and are leasing space for associates in the property for 20 years with optional renewal periods through 2205, which is occupied by U.S. Business, Corporate & Other, and International.

We continue to own 15 other buildings in the U.S. that we use in the operation of our business. These buildings contain approximately four million rentable square feet and are located in the following states: Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. Our computer center in Rensselaer, New York is not owned in fee but rather is occupied pursuant to a long-term ground lease. We lease space in 709 other locations throughout the U.S., and these leased facilities consist of 8.9 million rentable square feet. Approximately 39% of these leases are occupied as sales offices for the U.S. Business operations. The balance of space is utilized for corporate functions supporting business activities. We also own 75 properties outside the U.S. for associates in International, including 10 significant properties, as well as smaller facilities and condominium units. We lease approximately 1,200 sites in various locations outside the U.S. We believe that these properties are suitable and adequate for our current and anticipated business operations.

We arrange for property and casualty coverage on our properties, taking into consideration our risk exposures and the cost and availability of commercial coverages, including deductible loss levels. In connection with the renewal of those coverages, we have arranged \$700 million of property insurance, including coverage for terrorism, on our real estate portfolio through May 1, 2012, its renewal date.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

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

MetLife, Inc.'s common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, began trading on the NYSE under the symbol MET on April 5, 2000.

The following table presents high and low closing prices for the common stock on the NYSE for the periods indicated:

	2011			
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Common Stock Price				
High	\$ 48.63	\$ 46.79	\$ 44.38	\$ 36.82
Low	\$ 42.28	\$ 39.24	\$ 26.82	\$ 26.60

	2010			
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Common Stock Price				
High	\$ 43.34	\$ 47.10	\$ 42.73	\$ 44.92
Low	\$ 33.64	\$ 37.76	\$ 36.49	\$ 37.74

Table of Contents

At February 21, 2012, there were 91,277 stockholders of record of common stock.

The table below presents dividend declaration, record and payment dates, as well as per share and aggregate dividend amounts, for the common stock:

Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend	
			Per Share	Aggregate
			(In millions, except per share data)	
October 25, 2011	November 9, 2011	December 14, 2011	\$ 0.74	\$ 787
October 26, 2010	November 9, 2010	December 14, 2010	\$ 0.74	\$ 784 (1)

(1) Includes dividends paid on convertible preferred stock.

Future common stock dividend decisions will be determined by MetLife, Inc.'s Board of Directors after taking into consideration factors such as our current earnings, expected medium-term and long-term earnings, financial condition, regulatory capital position, and applicable governmental regulations and policies. The payment of dividends and other distributions by MetLife, Inc. to its security holders is subject to regulation by the Federal Reserve. See Business U.S. Regulation Financial Holding Company Regulation, and Note 18 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

See Item 12 for information about our equity compensation plans.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Purchases of common stock made by or on behalf of MetLife, Inc. or its affiliates during the quarter ended December 31, 2011 are set forth below:

Period	(a) Total Number of Shares Purchased (1)	(b) Average Price Paid per Share	(c) Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	(d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (2)
October 1- October 31, 2011	1,922	\$ 32.59		\$ 1,260,735,127
November 1- November 30, 2011	7,300	\$ 29.61		\$ 1,260,735,127
December 1- December 31, 2011	21,393	\$ 30.57		\$ 1,260,735,127

(1) During the periods October 1 through October 31, 2011, November 1 through November 30, 2011 and December 1 through December 31, 2011, separate account and other affiliates of MetLife, Inc. purchased 1,922 shares, 7,300 shares and 21,393 shares, respectively, of common stock on the open market in nondiscretionary transactions to rebalance index funds. Except as disclosed above, there were no shares of common stock which were repurchased by MetLife, Inc.

(2)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

At December 31, 2011, MetLife, Inc. had \$1.3 billion remaining under its common stock repurchase program authorizations. In April 2008, MetLife, Inc.'s Board of Directors authorized an additional \$1.0 billion common stock repurchase program, which will begin after the completion of the January 2008 \$1.0 billion common stock repurchase program, of which \$261 million remained outstanding at December 31, 2011. Under these authorizations, MetLife, Inc. may purchase its common stock from the MetLife Policyholder Trust, in the open market (including pursuant to the terms of a pre-set trading plan meeting the requirements of Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) and in privately negotiated transactions. Any future common stock repurchases will be dependent upon several factors, including the Company's capital position, its liquidity, its financial strength and credit ratings, general market conditions and the market price of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock compared to management's assessment of the stock's underlying value and applicable regulatory approvals, as well as other legal and accounting factors. See Business U.S. Regulation Financial Holding Company Regulation.

Table of Contents**Item 6. Selected Financial Data**

The following selected financial data has been derived from the Company's audited consolidated financial statements. The statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, and the balance sheet data at December 31, 2011 and 2010 have been derived from the Company's audited financial statements included elsewhere herein. The statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the balance sheet data at December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007 have been derived from the Company's audited financial statements not included herein. The selected financial data set forth below should be read in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere herein.

	Years Ended December 31,				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
	(In millions)				
Statements of Operations Data (1)					
Revenues					
Premiums	\$ 36,361	\$ 27,071	\$ 26,157	\$ 25,604	\$ 22,671
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	7,806	6,028	5,197	5,373	5,233
Net investment income	19,606	17,511	14,741	16,181	17,965
Other revenues	2,532	2,328	2,329	1,585	1,465
Net investment gains (losses)	(867)	(408)	(2,901)	(2,085)	(318)
Net derivative gains (losses)	4,824	(265)	(4,866)	3,910	(260)
Total revenues	70,262	52,265	40,657	50,568	46,756
Expenses					
Policyholder benefits and claims	35,457	29,185	28,003	27,094	23,452
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	5,603	4,919	4,845	4,787	5,458
Policyholder dividends	1,446	1,485	1,649	1,749	1,722
Other expenses	17,730	12,764	10,521	11,908	10,373
Total expenses	60,236	48,353	45,018	45,538	41,005
Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax	10,026	3,912	(4,361)	5,030	5,751
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	3,075	1,165	(2,025)	1,568	1,664
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	6,951	2,747	(2,336)	3,462	4,087
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	20	39	58	(184)	378
Net income (loss)	6,971	2,786	(2,278)	3,278	4,465
Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	(10)	(4)	(32)	69	148
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	6,981	2,790	(2,246)	3,209	4,317
Less: Preferred stock dividends	122	122	122	125	137
Preferred stock redemption premium	146				
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 6,713	\$ 2,668	\$ (2,368)	\$ 3,084	\$ 4,180

Table of Contents

	2011	2010	December 31, 2009 (In millions)	2008	2007
Balance Sheet Data (1)					
Assets:					
General account assets (2)	\$ 596,602	\$ 547,768	\$ 390,460	\$ 380,981	\$ 399,099
Separate account assets	203,023	183,138	148,854	120,697	160,050
Total assets	\$ 799,625	\$ 730,906	\$ 539,314	\$ 501,678	\$ 559,149
Liabilities:					
Policyholder liabilities and other policy-related balances (3)	\$ 421,244	\$ 399,125	\$ 281,487	\$ 280,345	\$ 259,682
Payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions	33,716	27,272	24,196	31,059	44,136
Bank deposits	10,507	10,316	10,211	6,884	4,534
Short-term debt	686	306	912	2,659	667
Long-term debt (2)	23,692	27,586	13,220	9,667	9,100
Collateral financing arrangements	4,647	5,297	5,297	5,192	4,882
Junior subordinated debt securities	3,192	3,191	3,191	3,758	4,075
Other (2)	38,642	25,562	18,448	17,432	35,038
Separate account liabilities	203,023	183,138	148,854	120,697	160,050
Total liabilities	739,349	681,793	505,816	477,693	522,164
Redeemable noncontrolling interests in partially owned consolidated securities	105	117			
Equity:					
MetLife, Inc. s stockholders equity:					
Preferred stock, at par value	1	1	1	1	1
Convertible preferred stock, at par value					
Common stock, at par value	11	10	8	8	8
Additional paid-in capital	26,782	26,423	16,859	15,811	17,098
Retained earnings	27,289	21,363	19,501	22,403	19,884
Treasury stock, at cost	(172)	(172)	(190)	(236)	(2,890)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	5,886	1,000	(3,058)	(14,253)	1,078
Total MetLife, Inc. s stockholders equity	59,797	48,625	33,121	23,734	35,179
Noncontrolling interests	374	371	377	251	1,806
Total equity	60,171	48,996	33,498	23,985	36,985
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 799,625	\$ 730,906	\$ 539,314	\$ 501,678	\$ 559,149

Table of Contents

	2011	2010	Years Ended December 31, 2009	2008	2007
	(In millions, except per share data)				
Other Data (1), (4)					
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc. s common shareholders	\$ 6,713	\$ 2,668	\$ (2,368)	\$ 3,084	\$ 4,180
Return on MetLife, Inc. s common equity	12.8 %	6.9 %	(9.0) %	11.2 %	12.9 %
Return on MetLife, Inc. s common equity, excluding accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	13.8 %	7.0 %	(6.8) %	9.1 %	13.3 %
EPS Data (1), (5)					
Income (loss) from continuing operations available to MetLife, Inc. s common shareholders per common share:					
Basic	\$ 6.32	\$ 2.98	\$ (2.96)	\$ 4.57	\$ 5.30
Diluted	\$ 6.27	\$ 2.96	\$ (2.96)	\$ 4.52	\$ 5.17
Income (loss) from discontinued operations per common share:					
Basic	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.07	\$ (0.38)	\$ 0.32
Diluted	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.07	\$ (0.38)	\$ 0.31
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc. s common shareholders per common share:					
Basic	\$ 6.34	\$ 3.02	\$ (2.89)	\$ 4.19	\$ 5.62
Diluted	\$ 6.29	\$ 3.00	\$ (2.89)	\$ 4.14	\$ 5.48
Cash dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.74

- (1) On November 1, 2010, MetLife, Inc. acquired ALICO. The results of the Acquisition are reflected in the 2011 and 2010 selected financial data from the Acquisition Date. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (2) At December 31, 2011, general account assets, long-term debt and other liabilities include amounts relating to variable interest entities of \$7.3 billion, \$3.1 billion and \$60 million, respectively. At December 31, 2010, general account assets, long-term debt and other liabilities include amounts relating to variable interest entities of \$11.1 billion, \$6.9 billion and \$93 million, respectively.
- (3) Policyholder liabilities and other policy-related balances include future policy benefits, policyholder account balances, other policy-related balances, policyholder dividends payable and the policyholder dividend obligation.
- (4) Return on MetLife, Inc. s common equity is defined as net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc. s common shareholders divided by MetLife, Inc. s average common stockholders equity.
- (5) For the year ended December 31, 2009, shares related to the assumed exercise or issuance of stock-based awards have been excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per common share as these assumed shares are anti-dilutive.

Table of Contents

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

For purposes of this discussion, MetLife, the Company, we, our and us refer to MetLife, Inc., a Delaware corporation incorporated in 199 subsidiaries and affiliates. Following this summary is a discussion addressing the consolidated results of operations and financial condition of the Company for the periods indicated. This discussion should be read in conjunction with Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements, Risk Factors, Selected Financial Data and the Company's consolidated financial statements included elsewhere herein.

This Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations may contain or incorporate by reference information that includes or is based upon forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements give expectations or forecasts of future events. These statements can be identified by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. They use words such as anticipate, estimate, expect, project, intend, plan, believe and other terms of similar meaning in connection with a discussion of future operating or financial performance. In particular, these include statements relating to future actions, prospective services or products, future performance or results of current and anticipated services or products, sales efforts, expenses, the outcome of contingencies such as legal proceedings, trends in operations and financial results. Any or all forward-looking statements may turn out to be wrong. Actual results could differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. See Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.

The following discussion includes references to our performance measures, operating earnings and operating earnings available to common shareholders, that are not based on accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Operating earnings is the measure of segment profit or loss we use to evaluate segment performance and allocate resources. Consistent with GAAP accounting guidance for segment reporting, operating earnings is our measure of segment performance. Operating earnings is also a measure by which senior management's and many other employees' performance is evaluated for the purposes of determining their compensation under applicable compensation plans.

Operating earnings is defined as operating revenues less operating expenses, both net of income tax. Operating earnings available to common shareholders is defined as operating earnings less preferred stock dividends.

Operating revenues and operating expenses exclude results of discontinued operations and other businesses that have been or will be sold or exited by MetLife, Inc. (Divested Businesses). Operating revenues also excludes net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses).

The following additional adjustments are made to GAAP revenues, in the line items indicated, in calculating operating revenues:

Universal life and investment-type product policy fees excludes the amortization of unearned revenue related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses) and certain variable annuity guaranteed minimum income benefits (GMIB) fees (GMIB Fees);

Net investment income: (i) includes amounts for scheduled periodic settlement payments and amortization of premium on derivatives that are hedges of investments but do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment, (ii) includes income from discontinued real estate operations, (iii) excludes post-tax operating earnings adjustments relating to insurance joint ventures accounted for under the equity method, (iv) excludes certain amounts related to contractholder-directed unit-linked investments, and (v) excludes certain amounts related to securitization entities that are variable interest entities (VIEs) consolidated under GAAP; and

Other revenues are adjusted for settlements of foreign currency earnings hedges.

Table of Contents

The following additional adjustments are made to GAAP expenses, in the line items indicated, in calculating operating expenses:

Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends excludes: (i) changes in the policyholder dividend obligation related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses), (ii) inflation-indexed benefit adjustments associated with contracts backed by inflation-indexed investments and amounts associated with periodic crediting rate adjustments based on the total return of a contractually referenced pool of assets, (iii) benefits and hedging costs related to GMIBs (GMIB Costs), and (iv) market value adjustments associated with surrenders or terminations of contracts (Market Value Adjustments);

Interest credited to policyholder account balances includes adjustments for scheduled periodic settlement payments and amortization of premium on derivatives that are hedges of policyholder account balances (PABs) but do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment and excludes amounts related to net investment income earned on contractholder-directed unit-linked investments;

Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs (DAC) and value of business acquired (VOBA) excludes amounts related to: (i) net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses), (ii) GMIB Fees and GMIB Costs, and (iii) Market Value Adjustments;

Amortization of negative VOBA excludes amounts related to Market Value Adjustments;

Interest expense on debt excludes certain amounts related to securitization entities that are VIEs consolidated under GAAP; and

Other expenses excludes costs related to: (i) noncontrolling interests, (ii) implementation of new insurance regulatory requirements, and (iii) business combinations.

We believe the presentation of operating earnings and operating earnings available to common shareholders as we measure it for management purposes enhances the understanding of our performance by highlighting the results of operations and the underlying profitability drivers of our business. Operating revenues, operating expenses, operating earnings, and operating earnings available to common shareholders, should not be viewed as substitutes for the following financial measures calculated in accordance with GAAP: GAAP revenues, GAAP expenses, GAAP income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, and GAAP net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders, respectively. Reconciliations of these measures to the most directly comparable GAAP measures are included in Results of Operations.

In 2011, management modified its definition of operating earnings to exclude the impacts of Divested Businesses, which includes certain operations of MetLife Bank, National Association (MetLife Bank) and our insurance operations in the Caribbean region, Panama and Costa Rica (the Caribbean Business), as these results are not relevant to understanding the Company's ongoing operating results. Consequently, prior years results for Corporate & Other and total consolidated operating earnings have been decreased by \$111 million, net of \$66 million of income tax, and \$211 million, net of \$139 million of income tax, for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

In addition, in 2011, management modified its definition of operating earnings and operating earnings available to common shareholders to exclude impacts related to certain variable annuity guarantees and Market Value Adjustments to better conform to the way it manages and assesses its business. Accordingly, such results are no longer reported in operating earnings and operating earnings available to common shareholders. Consequently, prior years results for Retirement Products and total consolidated operating earnings have been increased by \$64 million, net of \$34 million of income tax, and \$90 million, net of \$49 million of income tax, for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Table of Contents

In this discussion, we sometimes refer to sales activity for various products. These sales statistics do not correspond to revenues under GAAP, but are used as relevant measures of business activity. Additionally, the impact of changes in our foreign currency exchange rates is calculated using the average foreign currency exchange rates for the current year and is applied to each of the comparable years.

Executive Summary

MetLife is a leading global provider of insurance, annuities and employee benefit programs throughout the United States, Japan, Latin America, Asia Pacific, Europe and the Middle East. Through its subsidiaries and affiliates, MetLife offers life insurance, annuities, auto and homeowners insurance, mortgage and deposit products and other financial services to individuals, as well as group insurance and retirement & savings products and services to corporations and other institutions. MetLife is organized into six segments: Insurance Products, Retirement Products, Corporate Benefit Funding and Auto & Home (collectively, U.S. Business), and Japan and Other International Regions (collectively, International). In addition, the Company reports certain of its results of operations in Corporate & Other, which includes MetLife Bank and other business activities.

On November 21, 2011, MetLife, Inc. announced that it will be reorganizing its business into three broad geographic regions: The Americas; Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA); and Asia, and creating a global employee benefits business to better reflect its global reach. While the Company has initiated certain changes in response to this announcement, including the appointment of certain executive leadership into some of the roles designed for the reorganized structure, management continued to evaluate the performance of the operating segments under the existing segment structure as of December 31, 2011. In addition, management continues to evaluate the Company's segment performance and allocated resources and may adjust such measurements in the future to better reflect segment profitability.

In December 2011, MetLife Bank and MetLife, Inc. entered into a definitive agreement to sell most of the depository business of MetLife Bank. The transaction is expected to close in the second quarter of 2012, subject to certain regulatory approvals and other customary closing conditions. Additionally, in January 2012, MetLife, Inc. announced it is exiting the business of originating forward residential mortgages (together with MetLife Bank's pending actions to exit the depository business, including the aforementioned December 2011 agreement, the MetLife Bank Events). Once MetLife Bank has completely exited its depository business, MetLife, Inc. plans to terminate MetLife Bank's Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance, putting MetLife, Inc. in a position to be able to deregister as a bank holding company. See Business U.S. Regulation Financial Holding Company Regulation. The Company continues to originate reverse mortgages and will continue to service its current mortgage customers. As a result of the MetLife Bank Events, for the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company recorded charges totaling \$212 million, net of income tax, which included intent-to-sell other-than-temporary impairment (OTTI) investment charges, charges related to the de-designation of certain cash flow hedges, a goodwill impairment charge and other employee-related charges. In addition, the Company expects to incur additional charges of \$90 million to \$110 million, net of income tax, during 2012, related to exiting the forward residential mortgage origination business, with no expected impact on the Company's operating earnings. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

On November 1, 2010 (the Acquisition Date), MetLife, Inc. completed the acquisition of American Life Insurance Company (American Life) from AM Holdings LLC (formerly known as ALICO Holdings LLC) (AM Holdings), a subsidiary of American International Group, Inc. (AIG), and Delaware American Life Insurance Company (DelAm) from AIG (American Life, together with DelAm, collectively, ALICO) (the Acquisition). ALICO's fiscal year-end is November 30. Accordingly, the Company's consolidated financial statements reflect the assets and liabilities of ALICO as of November 30, 2011 and 2010, and the operating results of ALICO for the year ended November 30, 2011 and the one month ended November 30, 2010. The assets, liabilities and operating results relating to the Acquisition are included in the Japan and Other International Regions segments. Prior year results have been adjusted to conform to the current year presentation of segments. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

We continue to experience an increase in market share and sales in several of our businesses; however, the general economic conditions, including the high levels of unemployment, negatively impacted the demand for certain of our products. Portfolio growth in response to the higher sales levels drove improved investment results despite lower yields experienced in connection with the continued decline in interest rates in 2011. The declining interest rate environment, however, also generated significant derivative gains in 2011. Current year results were negatively impacted by severe weather, including the earthquake and tsunami in Japan in the first quarter, record numbers of tornadoes in the second quarter and Hurricane Irene in the third quarter.

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010 (In millions)	2009
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	\$ 6,951	\$ 2,747	\$ (2,336)
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	(867)	(408)	(2,901)
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	4,824	(265)	(4,866)
Less: Other adjustments to continuing operations (1)	(1,641)	(914)	480
Less: Provision for income tax (expense) benefit	(845)	379	2,597
Operating earnings	5,480	3,955	2,354
Less: Preferred stock dividends	122	122	122
Operating earnings available to common shareholders	\$ 5,358	\$ 3,833	\$ 2,232

(1) See definitions of operating revenues and operating expenses for the components of such adjustments.
Year Ended December 31, 2011 compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2010

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, increased \$4.2 billion to \$7.0 billion from \$2.8 billion in 2010. The change was predominantly due to a \$5.1 billion favorable change in net derivative gains (losses), before income tax, and a \$1.5 billion favorable change in operating earnings available to common shareholders, which includes the impact of the Acquisition.

The favorable change in net derivative gains (losses) of \$3.3 billion was primarily driven by favorable changes in freestanding derivatives, partially offset by unfavorable changes in embedded derivatives. The favorable change in freestanding derivatives was primarily attributable to the impact of falling long-term and mid-term interest rates and equity market movements and volatility.

The Acquisition drove the majority of the \$1.5 billion increase in operating earnings available to common shareholders. In addition, improved investment performance was the result of portfolio growth in response to increased sales across many of our businesses, which more than offset the negative impact of the declining interest rate environment on yields. Current year results were negatively impacted by severe weather, as well as, in the third quarter, a charge to increase reserves in connection with the Company's use of the U.S. Social Security Administration's Death Master File and similar databases to identify potential life insurance claims that have not been presented to the Company (Death Master File) and expenses incurred related to a liquidation plan filed by the New York State Department of Financial Services (the Department of Financial Services) for Executive Life Insurance Company of New York (ELNY).

Year Ended December 31, 2010 compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

During the year ended December 31, 2010, MetLife's income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax increased \$5.1 billion to a gain of \$2.8 billion from a loss of \$2.3 billion in 2009, of which \$2 million in losses is from the inclusion of ALICO results for one month in 2010 and the impact of financing costs for the

Table of Contents

Acquisition. The change was predominantly due to a \$4.6 billion favorable change in net derivative gains (losses), before income tax, and a \$2.5 billion favorable change in net investment gains (losses), before income tax. Offsetting these favorable variances were unfavorable changes in adjustments related to continuing operations of \$1.4 billion, before income tax, and \$2.2 billion of income tax, resulting in a total favorable variance of \$3.5 billion. In addition, operating earnings available to common shareholders increased \$1.6 billion to \$3.8 billion in 2010 from \$2.2 billion in 2009.

The favorable change in net derivative gains (losses) of \$3.0 billion was primarily driven by net gains on freestanding derivatives in 2010 compared to net losses in 2009, partially offset by an unfavorable change in embedded derivatives from gains in 2009 to losses in 2010. The favorable change in freestanding derivatives was primarily attributable to market factors, including falling long-term and mid-term interest rates, a stronger recovery in equity markets in 2009 than 2010, equity volatility, which decreased more in 2009 as compared to 2010, a strengthening U.S. dollar and widening corporate credit spreads in the financial services sector. The favorable change in net investment gains (losses) of \$1.6 billion was primarily driven by a decrease in impairments and a decrease in the provision for credit losses on mortgage loans. These favorable changes in net derivative and net investment gains (losses) were partially offset by an unfavorable change of \$518 million in related adjustments.

The improvement in the financial markets, which began in the second quarter of 2009 and continued into 2010, was a key driver of the \$1.6 billion increase in operating earnings available to common shareholders. Such market improvement was most evident in higher net investment income and policy fees, as well as a decrease in variable annuity guarantee benefit costs. These increases were partially offset by an increase in amortization of DAC, VOBA and deferred sales inducements (DSI) as a result of an increase in average separate account balances and higher 2010 gross margins in the closed block driven by increased investment yields and the impact of dividend scale reductions. The 2010 period also includes one month of ALICO results, contributing \$114 million to the increase in operating earnings. The favorable impact of a reduction in discretionary spending associated with our enterprise-wide cost reduction and revenue enhancement initiative was more than offset by an increase in other expenses related to our Other International Regions segment. This increase primarily stemmed from the impact of a benefit recorded in the prior year related to the pesification in Argentina, as well as current year business growth in the segment.

Consolidated Company Outlook

In 2012, we expect a solid improvement in the operating earnings of the Company over 2011, driven primarily by the following:

Premiums, fees and other revenues growth in 2012 is expected to be driven by:

Rational pricing strategy in the group insurance marketplace.

Higher fees earned on separate accounts primarily due to favorable net flows of variable annuities, which are expected to remain strong in 2012, thereby increasing the value of those separate accounts; and

Increases in our International businesses, notably accident and health, from continuing organic growth throughout our various geographic regions.

Focus on disciplined underwriting. We see no significant changes to the underlying trends that drive underwriting results and continue to anticipate solid results in 2012; however, unanticipated catastrophes, similar to those that occurred during 2011, could result in a high volume of weather-related claims.

Focus on expense management. We continue to focus on expense control throughout the Company, and managing the costs associated with the integration of ALICO.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Continued disciplined approach to investing and asset/liability management, including significant hedging to protect against low interest rates.

Table of Contents

As a result of new financial accounting guidance for DAC which we intend to adopt in the first quarter of 2012, we estimate that, on the date of adoption, DAC will be reduced by approximately \$3.1 billion to \$3.6 billion and total equity will be reduced by approximately \$2.1 billion to \$2.4 billion, net of income tax. Additionally, we estimate that there will be a negative impact on our 2012 operating earnings primarily in Japan, with no impact on our on-going cash flows. The Company plans to apply this accounting change retrospectively to all prior periods presented in its consolidated financial statements for all insurance contracts.

We expect only modest investment losses in 2012, but more difficult to predict is the impact of potential changes in fair value of freestanding and embedded derivatives as even relatively small movements in market variables, including interest rates, equity levels and volatility, can have a large impact on the fair value of derivatives and net derivative gains (losses). Additionally, changes in fair value of embedded derivatives within certain insurance liabilities may have a material impact on net derivative gains (losses) related to the inclusion of an adjustment for nonperformance risk.

Industry Trends

We continue to be impacted by the unstable global financial and economic environment that has been affecting the industry.

Financial and Economic Environment. Our business and results of operations are materially affected by conditions in the global capital markets and the economy generally. Stressed conditions, volatility and disruptions in global capital markets, particular markets, or financial asset classes can have an adverse effect on us, in part because we have a large investment portfolio and our insurance liabilities are sensitive to changing market factors. Global market factors, including interest rates, credit spreads, equity prices, real estate markets, foreign currency exchange rates, consumer spending, business investment, government spending, the volatility and strength of the capital markets, deflation and inflation all affect the business and economic environment and, ultimately, the amount and profitability of our business. Disruptions in one market or asset class can also spread to other markets or asset classes. Upheavals in the financial markets can also affect our business through their effects on general levels of economic activity, employment and customer behavior. While our diversified business mix and geographically diverse business operations partially mitigate these risks, correlation across regions, countries and global market factors may reduce the benefits of diversification.

Beginning in 2010 and continuing throughout 2011, concerns increased about capital markets and the solvency of certain European Union member states, including Portugal, Ireland, Italy, Greece and Spain (Europe s perimeter region), and of financial institutions that have significant direct or indirect exposure to their sovereign debt. See Investments Current Environment for information regarding credit ratings downgrades and support programs for Europe s perimeter region. These ratings downgrades and implementation of European Union and private sector support programs have increased concerns that other European Union member states could experience similar financial troubles, that some countries could default on their obligation or have to restructure their outstanding debt, that financial institutions with significant holdings of sovereign or private debt issued by borrowers in peripheral European countries could experience financial stress, or that one or more countries may exit the Euro zone, any of which could have significant adverse effects on the European and global economies and on financial markets, generally. See Risk Factors We Are Exposed to Significant Financial and Capital Markets Risk Which May Adversely Affect Our Results of Operations, Financial Condition and Liquidity, and May Cause Our Net Investment Income to Vary from Period to Period.

Although the downgrade by Standard & Poor s Ratings Services (S&P) of U.S. Treasury securities initially had an adverse effect on financial markets, the extent of the longer-term impact cannot be predicted. Fitch Ratings (Fitch) warned that it may in the future downgrade the U.S. credit rating unless action is taken to reduce the national debt of the U.S. See Risk Factors Concerns Over U.S. Fiscal Policy and the Trajectory of the National Debt of the U.S., as well as Rating Agency Downgrades of U.S. Treasury Securities, Could Have an

Table of Contents

Adverse Effect on Our Business, Financial Condition and Results of Operations. See also Investments Current Environment for further information about European region support programs announced in July 2011 and October 2011, ratings actions and our exposure to obligations of European governments and private obligors.

All of these factors have had and could continue to have an adverse effect on the financial results of companies in the financial services industry, including MetLife. Such global economic conditions, as well as the global financial markets, continue to impact our net investment income, our net investment and net derivative gains (losses), and the demand for and the cost and profitability of certain of our products, including variable annuities and guarantee benefits. See Results of Operations and Liquidity and Capital Resources.

As a financial holding company with significant operations in the U.S., we are affected by the monetary policy of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the Federal Reserve Board) and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (the FRB of NY and, collectively with the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Reserve). The Federal Reserve Board has taken a number of actions in recent years to spur economic activity by keeping interest rates low and may take further actions to influence interest rates in the future, which may have an impact on the pricing levels of risk-bearing investments, and may adversely impact the level of product sales. In January 2012, the Federal Reserve Board announced its plans to keep interest rates low until at least through late 2014, 18 months longer than previously planned in order to revive the slow recovery from stressed economic conditions. See Risk Factors Governmental and Regulatory Actions for the Purpose of Stabilizing and Revitalizing the Financial Markets and Protecting Investors and Consumers May Not Achieve the Intended Effect or Could Adversely Affect Our Competitive Position and Investments Current Environment.

Competitive Pressures. The life insurance industry remains highly competitive. The product development and product life-cycles have shortened in many product segments, leading to more intense competition with respect to product features. Larger companies have the ability to invest in brand equity, product development, technology and risk management, which are among the fundamentals for sustained profitable growth in the life insurance industry. In addition, several of the industry s products can be quite homogeneous and subject to intense price competition. Sufficient scale, financial strength and financial flexibility are becoming prerequisites for sustainable growth in the life insurance industry. Larger market participants tend to have the capacity to invest in additional distribution capability and the information technology needed to offer the superior customer service demanded by an increasingly sophisticated industry client base. We believe that the turbulence in financial markets that began in the second half of 2007, its impact on the capital position of many competitors, and subsequent actions by regulators and rating agencies have highlighted financial strength as a significant differentiator from the perspective of customers and certain distributors. In addition, the financial market turbulence and the economic recession have led many companies in our industry to re-examine the pricing and features of the products they offer and may lead to consolidation in the life insurance industry.

Regulatory Changes. The U.S. life insurance industry is regulated primarily at the state level, with some products and services also subject to Federal regulation. As life insurers introduce new and often more complex products, regulators refine capital requirements and introduce new reserving standards for the life insurance industry. Regulations recently adopted or currently under review can potentially impact the statutory reserve and capital requirements of the industry. In addition, regulators have undertaken market and sales practices reviews of several markets or products, including equity-indexed annuities, variable annuities and group products. The regulation of the financial services industry in the U.S. and internationally has received renewed scrutiny as a result of the disruptions in the financial markets. Significant regulatory reforms have been recently adopted and additional reforms proposed, and these or other reforms could be implemented. See Business U.S. Regulation, Business International Regulation, Risk Factors Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth and Risk Factors Changes in U.S. Federal and State Securities Laws and Regulations, and State Insurance Regulations Regarding Suitability of Annuity Product Sales, May Affect Our Operations and Our Profitability.

Table of Contents

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank), which was signed by President Obama in July 2010, effected the most far-reaching overhaul of financial regulation in the U.S. in decades. The full impact of Dodd-Frank on us will depend on the numerous rulemaking initiatives required or permitted by Dodd-Frank which are scheduled to be completed over the next few years. See Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments and Risk Factors Various Aspects of Dodd-Frank Could Impact Our Business Operations, Capital Requirements and Profitability and Limit Our Growth.

As a federally chartered national banking association, MetLife Bank is subject to a wide variety of banking laws, regulations and guidelines, as is MetLife, Inc., as a bank holding company. See Business U.S. Regulation Banking Regulation and Business U.S. Regulation Financial Holding Company Regulation. In December 2011, MetLife Bank and MetLife, Inc. entered into a definitive agreement to sell most of the depository business of MetLife Bank. In January 2012, MetLife, Inc. announced it is exiting the business of originating forward residential mortgages. Once MetLife Bank has completely exited its depository business, MetLife, Inc. plans to terminate MetLife Bank's FDIC insurance, putting MetLife, Inc. in a position to be able to deregister as a bank holding company. Upon completion of the foregoing, MetLife, Inc. will no longer be regulated as a bank holding company or subject to enhanced supervision and prudential standards as a bank holding company with assets of \$50 billion or more. However, if, in the future, MetLife, Inc. is designated by the Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC) as a non-bank systemically important financial institution (as discussed below), it could once again be subject to regulation by the Federal Reserve and enhanced supervision and prudential standards, such as Regulation YY (as discussed below). In October 2011, the FSOC issued a notice of proposed rulemaking, outlining the process it will follow and the criteria it will use to assess whether a non-bank financial company should be subject to enhanced supervision by the Federal Reserve as a non-bank systemically important financial institution. If MetLife, Inc. meets the quantitative thresholds set forth in the proposal, the FSOC will continue with a further analysis using qualitative and quantitative factors.

In December 2010, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision published its final rules for increased capital and liquidity requirements (commonly referred to as Basel III) for bank holding companies, such as MetLife, Inc. Assuming these requirements are endorsed and adopted by the U.S. banking regulators, they are to be phased in beginning January 1, 2013. It is possible that even more stringent capital and liquidity requirements could be imposed under Basel III, Dodd-Frank and Regulation YY, as long as MetLife, Inc. remains a bank holding company or if, in the future, it is designated by the FSOC as a non-bank systemically important financial institution. The Basel Committee has also published rules requiring a capital surcharge for globally systemically important banks, which are to be phased in beginning January 2016 if they are endorsed and adopted by the U.S. banking regulators. As currently proposed, this surcharge would not apply to global non-bank systemically important financial institutions. However, international regulatory bodies are currently engaged in evaluating standards to identify such companies and to develop a regulatory regime that would apply to them, which may include enhanced capital requirements or other measures. The ability of MetLife Bank and MetLife, Inc. to pay dividends, repurchase common stock or other securities or engage in other transactions that could affect its capital or need for capital could be reduced by any additional capital requirements that might be imposed as a result of the enactment of Dodd-Frank, Regulation YY and/or the endorsement and adoption by the U.S. of Basel III and other regulatory initiatives. See Risk Factors Our Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth.

In April 2011, the Federal Reserve Board and the FDIC proposed a rule regarding the implementation of the Dodd-Frank requirement that (i) each non-bank financial company designated by the FSOC for enhanced supervision by the Federal Reserve Board (a non-bank systemically important financial institution or non-bank SIFI) and each bank holding company with assets of \$50 billion or more report periodically to the Federal Reserve Board, the FDIC and the FSOC the plan of such company for rapid and orderly resolution in the event of material financial distress or failure, and (ii) that each such company report on the nature and extent of credit exposures of such company to significant bank holding companies and significant non-bank financial companies

Table of Contents

and the nature and extent of credit exposures of significant bank holding companies and significant non-bank financial companies to such covered company. In November 2011, the Federal Reserve Board and the FDIC adopted a final rule implementing the resolution plan requirement, effective November 30, 2011, but deferred finalizing the credit exposure reporting requirement until a later date. If MetLife, Inc. remains a bank holding company on July 1, 2012, or if, in the future, it is designated by the FSOC as a non-bank SIFI, it would be required to submit a resolution plan. See *Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Orderly Liquidation Authority*.

In December 2011, the Federal Reserve Board issued a release proposing the adoption of enhanced prudential standards required by Dodd-Frank (Regulation YY). Regulation YY would apply to bank holding companies with assets of \$50 billion or more and non-bank SIFIs. Regulation YY would impose (i) enhanced risk-based capital (RBC) requirements, (ii) leverage limits, (iii) liquidity requirements, (iv) single counterparty exposure limits, (v) governance requirements for risk management, (vi) stress test requirements, and (vii) special debt-to-equity limits for certain companies, and would establish a procedure for early remediation based on the failure to comply with these requirements. As proposed, Regulation YY would apply the same enhanced regulatory standards to non-bank systemically important financial institutions as would apply to systemically important banks; the Federal Reserve Board has solicited comments on the appropriateness of this treatment. For further information regarding enhanced prudential standards and Regulation YY, see *Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Enhanced Prudential Standards*. Dodd-Frank also includes provisions that may impact the investment and investment activities of MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries, including the federal regulation of such activities. Such provisions include the regulation of the over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives markets and the prohibitions on covered banking entities engaging in proprietary trading or sponsoring or investing in hedge funds or private equity funds. See *Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Regulation of Over-the-Counter Derivatives* and *Business U.S. Regulation Dodd-Frank and Other Legislative and Regulatory Developments Volcker Rule*.

Mortgage and Foreclosure-Related Exposures In 2008, MetLife Bank acquired certain assets to enter the forward and reverse residential mortgage origination and servicing business, including rights to service residential mortgage loans. At various times since then, including most recently in the third quarter of 2010, MetLife Bank has acquired additional residential mortgage loan servicing rights. On January 10, 2012, MetLife, Inc. announced that it is exiting the business of originating forward residential mortgages, but will continue to service its current mortgage customers. As an originator and servicer of mortgage loans, which are usually sold to an investor shortly after origination, MetLife Bank has obligations to repurchase loans or compensate for losses upon demand by the investor due to defects in servicing of the loans or a determination that material representations made in connection with the sale of the loans (relating, for example, to the underwriting and origination of the loans) are incorrect. MetLife Bank is indemnified by the sellers of the acquired assets, for various periods depending on the transaction and the nature of the claim, for origination and servicing deficiencies that occurred prior to MetLife Bank's acquisition, including indemnification for any repurchase claims made from investors who purchased mortgage loans from the sellers. Substantially all mortgage servicing rights (MSRs) that were acquired by MetLife Bank relate to loans sold to Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA) or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC). MetLife Bank has originated and sold mortgages primarily to FNMA and FHLMC and sold Federal Housing Administration and loans guaranteed by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs in mortgage-backed securities guaranteed by Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA) (collectively, the Agency Investors) and, to a limited extent, a small number of private investors. Currently 99.5% of MetLife Bank's \$82.0 billion servicing portfolio consists of Agency Investors' product. Other than repurchase obligations which are subject to indemnification by sellers of acquired assets as described above, MetLife Bank's exposure to repurchase obligations and losses related to origination deficiencies is limited to the approximately \$58.6 billion of loans originated by MetLife Bank (all of which have been originated since August 2008). Reserves for representation and warranty repurchases and indemnifications were \$69 million and \$56 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. MetLife Bank is exposed to losses due to servicing deficiencies on loans originated and sold, as

Table of Contents

well as servicing acquired, to the extent such servicing deficiencies occurred after the date of acquisition. Management is satisfied that adequate provision has been made in the Company's consolidated financial statements for all probable and reasonably estimable repurchase obligations and losses.

Currently, MetLife Bank services approximately 1% of the aggregate principal amount of the mortgage loans serviced in the U.S. State and federal regulatory and law enforcement authorities have initiated various inquiries, investigations or examinations of alleged irregularities in the foreclosure practices of the residential mortgage servicing industry. Mortgage servicing practices have also been the subject of Congressional attention. Authorities have publicly stated that the scope of the investigations extends beyond foreclosure documentation practices to include mortgage loan modification and loss mitigation practices.

MetLife Bank's mortgage servicing has been the subject of recent inquiries and requests by state and federal regulatory and law enforcement authorities. MetLife Bank is cooperating with the authorities' review of this business. On April 13, 2011, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) entered into consent decrees with several banks, including MetLife Bank. The consent decrees require an independent review of foreclosure practices and set forth new residential mortgage servicing standards, including a requirement for a designated point of contact for a borrower during the loss mitigation process. In addition, the Federal Reserve Board entered into consent decrees with the affiliated bank holding companies of these banks, including MetLife, Inc., to enhance the supervision of the mortgage servicing activities of their banking subsidiaries. In a February 9, 2012 press release, the Federal Reserve Board announced that it had issued monetary sanctions against five banking organizations for deficiencies in the organizations' servicing of residential mortgage loans and processing of foreclosures. The Federal Reserve Board also stated that it plans to announce monetary penalties against six other institutions under its supervision against whom it had issued enforcement actions in 2011 for deficiencies in servicing of residential mortgage loans and processing foreclosures. The Federal Reserve Board did not identify these six institutions, but MetLife, Inc. is among the institutions that entered into consent decrees with the Federal Reserve Board in 2011. MetLife Bank has also had a meeting with the Department of Justice regarding mortgage servicing and foreclosure practices. It is possible that various state or federal regulatory and law enforcement authorities may seek monetary penalties from MetLife Bank relating to foreclosure practices. MetLife Bank is responding to a subpoena issued by the Department of Financial Services regarding hazard insurance and flood insurance that MetLife Bank obtains to protect the lienholder's interest when the borrower's insurance has lapsed.

These consent decrees, as well as the inquiries or investigations referred to above, could adversely affect MetLife's reputation or result in material fines, penalties, equitable remedies or other enforcement actions, and result in significant legal costs in responding to governmental investigations or other litigation. In addition, the changes to the mortgage servicing business required by the consent decrees and the resolution of any other inquiries or investigations may affect the profitability of such business.

The MetLife Bank Events may not relieve MetLife from complying with the consent decrees, or protect it from the inquiries and investigations relating to residential mortgage servicing and foreclosure activities, or any fines, penalties, equitable remedies or enforcement actions that may result, the costs of responding to any such governmental investigations, or other litigation.

Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to adopt accounting policies and make estimates and assumptions that affect amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements. For a discussion of the Company's significant accounting policies see Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The most critical estimates include those used in determining:

- (i) estimated fair values of investments in the absence of quoted market values;
- (ii) investment impairments;
- (iii) estimated fair values of freestanding derivatives and the recognition and estimated fair value of embedded derivatives requiring bifurcation;

Table of Contents

- (iv) amortization of DAC and the establishment and amortization of VOBA;
- (v) measurement of goodwill and related impairment, if any;
- (vi) liabilities for future policyholder benefits and the accounting for reinsurance;
- (vii) measurement of income taxes and the valuation of deferred tax assets;
- (viii) measurement of employee benefit plan liabilities; and
- (ix) liabilities for litigation and regulatory matters.

In addition, the application of acquisition accounting requires the use of estimation techniques in determining the estimated fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed – the most significant of which relate to aforementioned critical accounting estimates. In applying the Company’s accounting policies, we make subjective and complex judgments that frequently require estimates about matters that are inherently uncertain. Many of these policies, estimates and related judgments are common in the insurance and financial services industries; others are specific to the Company’s business and operations. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Estimated Fair Value of Investments

In determining the estimated fair value of fixed maturity securities, equity securities, trading and other securities, short-term investments, cash equivalents, mortgage loans and MSRs, various methodologies, assumptions and inputs are utilized.

When quoted prices in active markets are not available, the determination of estimated fair value is based on market standard valuation methodologies, giving priority to observable inputs. The market standard valuation methodologies utilized include: discounted cash flow methodologies, matrix pricing or other similar techniques. The inputs to these market standard valuation methodologies include, but are not limited to: interest rates, credit standing of the issuer or counterparty, industry sector of the issuer, coupon rate, call provisions, sinking fund requirements, maturity, estimated duration and management’s assumptions regarding liquidity and estimated future cash flows. Accordingly, the estimated fair values are based on available market information and management’s judgments about financial instruments.

The significant inputs to the market standard valuation methodologies for certain types of securities with reasonable levels of price transparency are inputs that are observable in the market or can be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. Such observable inputs include benchmarking prices for similar assets in active, liquid markets, quoted prices in markets that are not active and observable yields and spreads in the market.

When observable inputs are not available, the market standard valuation methodologies for determining the estimated fair value of certain types of securities that trade infrequently, and therefore have little or no price transparency, rely on inputs that are significant to the estimated fair value that are not observable in the market or cannot be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. These unobservable inputs can be based in large part on management judgment or estimation, and cannot be supported by reference to market activity. Even though unobservable, these inputs are based on assumptions deemed appropriate given the circumstances and consistent with what other market participants would use when pricing such securities.

The estimated fair value of residential mortgage loans held-for-sale and securitized reverse residential mortgage loans is determined based on observable pricing for securities backed by similar types of loans, adjusted to convert the securities prices to loan prices, or from independent broker quotations, which is intended to approximate the amounts that would be received from third parties. Certain other mortgage loans that were previously designated as held-for-investment, but now are designated as held-for-sale, are recorded at the lower

Table of Contents

of amortized cost or estimated fair value, or for collateral dependent loans, estimated fair value of the collateral less expected disposition costs determined on an individual loan basis. For these loans, estimated fair value is determined using independent broker quotations, or values provided by independent valuation specialists, or when the loan is in foreclosure or otherwise collateral dependent, the estimated fair value of the underlying collateral is estimated using internal models.

The estimated fair value of MSR's is principally determined through the use of internal discounted cash flow models which utilize various assumptions. Valuation inputs and assumptions include generally observable items such as type and age of loan, loan interest rates, current market interest rates, and certain unobservable inputs, including assumptions regarding estimates of discount rates, loan prepayments and servicing costs, all of which are sensitive to changing markets conditions. The use of different valuation assumptions and inputs, as well as assumptions relating to the collection of expected cash flows, may have a material effect on the estimated fair values of MSR's.

Financial markets are susceptible to severe events evidenced by rapid depreciation in asset values accompanied by a reduction in asset liquidity. The Company's ability to sell securities, or the price ultimately realized for these securities, depends upon the demand and liquidity in the market and increases the use of judgment in determining the estimated fair value of certain securities.

See Note 5 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding the estimated fair value of investments.

Investment Impairments

One of the significant estimates related to available-for-sale securities is the evaluation of investments for impairments. The assessment of whether impairments have occurred is based on our case-by-case evaluation of the underlying reasons for the decline in estimated fair value. The Company's review of its fixed maturity and equity securities for impairment includes an analysis of gross unrealized losses by three categories of severity and/or age of gross unrealized loss. An extended and severe unrealized loss position on a fixed maturity security may not have any impact on the ability of the issuer to service all scheduled interest and principal payments and the Company's evaluation of recoverability of all contractual cash flows or the ability to recover an amount at least equal to its amortized cost based on the present value of the expected future cash flows to be collected. In contrast, for certain equity securities, greater weight and consideration are given by the Company to a decline in estimated fair value and the likelihood such estimated fair value decline will recover.

Additionally, we consider a wide range of factors about the security issuer and use our best judgment in evaluating the cause of the decline in the estimated fair value of the security and in assessing the prospects for near-term recovery. Inherent in our evaluation of the security are assumptions and estimates about the operations of the issuer and its future earnings potential. Considerations used by the Company in the impairment evaluation process include, but are not limited to:

- (i) the length of time and the extent to which the estimated fair value has been below cost or amortized cost;
- (ii) the potential for impairments of securities when the issuer is experiencing significant financial difficulties;
- (iii) the potential for impairments in an entire industry sector or sub-sector;
- (iv) the potential for impairments in certain economically depressed geographic locations;
- (v) the potential for impairments of securities where the issuer, series of issuers or industry has suffered a catastrophic type of loss or has exhausted natural resources;

Table of Contents

- (vi) with respect to fixed maturity securities, whether the Company has the intent to sell or will more likely than not be required to sell a particular security before recovery of the decline in estimated fair value below amortized cost;
- (vii) with respect to equity securities, whether the Company's ability and intent to hold a particular security for a period of time sufficient to allow for the recovery of its estimated fair value to an amount at least equal to its cost;
- (viii) with respect to structured securities, changes in forecasted cash flows after considering the quality of underlying collateral; expected prepayment speeds; current and forecasted loss severity; consideration of the payment terms of the underlying assets backing a particular security; and the payment priority within the tranche structure of the security; and
- (ix) other subjective factors, including concentrations and information obtained from regulators and rating agencies.

The determination of the amount of allowances and impairments on other invested asset classes is highly subjective and is based upon the Company's periodic evaluation and assessment of known and inherent risks associated with the respective asset class. Such evaluations and assessments are revised as conditions change and new information becomes available.

See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information relating to investment impairments.

Derivative Financial Instruments

The determination of estimated fair value of freestanding derivatives, when quoted market values are not available, is based on market standard valuation methodologies and inputs that management believes are consistent with what other market participants would use when pricing the instruments. Derivative valuations can be affected by changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, financial indices, credit spreads, default risk, nonperformance risk, volatility, liquidity and changes in estimates and assumptions used in the pricing models. See Note 5 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional details on significant inputs into the OTC derivative pricing models and credit risk adjustment.

The Company issues certain variable annuity products with guaranteed minimum benefits, which are measured at estimated fair value separately from the host variable annuity product, with changes in estimated fair value reported in net derivative gains (losses). The estimated fair values of these embedded derivatives are determined based on the present value of projected future benefits minus the present value of projected future fees. The projections of future benefits and future fees require capital market and actuarial assumptions including expectations concerning policyholder behavior. A risk neutral valuation methodology is used under which the cash flows from the guarantees are projected under multiple capital market scenarios using observable risk free rates. The valuation of these embedded derivatives also includes an adjustment for the Company's nonperformance risk and risk margins for non-capital market inputs. The nonperformance risk adjustment, which is captured as a spread over the risk free rate in determining the discount rate to discount the cash flows of the liability, is determined by taking into consideration publicly available information relating to spreads in the secondary market for MetLife, Inc.'s debt, including related credit default swaps. These observable spreads are then adjusted, as necessary, to reflect the priority of these liabilities and the claims paying ability of the issuing insurance subsidiaries compared to MetLife, Inc. Risk margins are established to capture the non-capital market risks of the instrument which represent the additional compensation a market participant would require to assume the risks related to the uncertainties in certain actuarial assumptions. The establishment of risk margins requires the use of significant management judgment, including assumptions of the amount and cost of capital needed to cover the guarantees.

Table of Contents

As part of its regular review of critical accounting estimates, the Company periodically assesses inputs for estimating nonperformance risk in fair value measurements. During the second quarter of 2010, the Company completed a study that aggregated and evaluated data, including historical recovery rates of insurance companies, as well as policyholder behavior observed during the recent financial crisis. As a result, at the end of the second quarter of 2010, the Company refined the manner in which its insurance subsidiaries incorporate expected recovery rates into the nonperformance risk adjustment for purposes of estimating the fair value of investment-type contracts and embedded derivatives within insurance contracts. The refinement impacted the Company's income from continuing operations, net of income tax, with no effect on operating earnings.

The table below illustrates the impact that a range of reasonably likely variances in credit spreads would have on the Company's consolidated balance sheet, excluding the effect of income tax. However, these estimated effects do not take into account potential changes in other variables, such as equity price levels and market volatility, that can also contribute significantly to changes in carrying values. Therefore, the table does not necessarily reflect the ultimate impact on the consolidated financial statements under the credit spread variance scenarios presented below.

In determining the ranges, the Company has considered current market conditions, as well as the market level of spreads that can reasonably be anticipated over the near term. The ranges do not reflect extreme market conditions experienced during the recent financial crisis as the Company does not consider those to be reasonably likely events in the near future.

	Carrying Value At December 31, 2011	
	PABs	DAC and VOBA
	(In millions)	
100% increase in the Company's credit spread	\$ 2,449	\$ 700
As reported	\$ 4,176	\$ 958
50% decrease in the Company's credit spread	\$ 5,479	\$ 1,110

The accounting for derivatives is complex and interpretations of accounting standards continue to evolve in practice. If it is determined that hedge accounting designations were not appropriately applied, reported net income could be materially affected. Differences in judgment as to the availability and application of hedge accounting designations and the appropriate accounting treatment may result in a differing impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Company from that previously reported. Assessments of hedge effectiveness and measurements of ineffectiveness of hedging relationships are also subject to interpretations and estimations and different interpretations or estimates may have a material effect on the amount reported in net income.

Variable annuities with guaranteed minimum benefits may be more costly than expected in volatile or declining equity markets. Market conditions including, but not limited to, changes in interest rates, equity indices, market volatility and foreign currency exchange rates, changes in the Company's nonperformance risk, variations in actuarial assumptions regarding policyholder behavior, mortality and risk margins related to non-capital market inputs, may result in significant fluctuations in the estimated fair value of the guarantees that could materially affect net income. If interpretations change, there is a risk that features previously not bifurcated may require bifurcation and reporting at estimated fair value in the consolidated financial statements and respective changes in estimated fair value could materially affect net income.

Additionally, the Company ceded the risk associated with certain of the variable annuities with guaranteed minimum benefits described in the preceding paragraphs. The value of the embedded derivatives on the ceded risk is determined using a methodology consistent with that described previously for the guarantees directly written by the Company with the exception of the input for nonperformance risk that reflects the credit of the

Table of Contents

reinsurer. Because certain of the direct guarantees do not meet the definition of an embedded derivative and, thus are not accounted for at fair value, significant fluctuations in net income may occur since the change in fair value of the embedded derivative on the ceded risk is being recorded in net income without a corresponding and offsetting change in fair value of the direct guarantee.

See Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on the Company's derivatives and hedging programs.

Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs and Value of Business Acquired

The Company incurs significant costs in connection with acquiring new and renewal insurance business. Costs that vary with and relate to the production of new and renewal insurance business are deferred as DAC. Such costs consist principally of commissions, certain agency expenses, policy issuance expenses and certain advertising costs. VOBA represents the excess of book value over the estimated fair value of acquired insurance, annuity, and investment-type contracts in-force at the acquisition date. For certain acquired blocks of business, the estimated fair value of the in-force contract obligations exceeded the book value of assumed in-force insurance policy liabilities, resulting in negative VOBA, which is presented separately from VOBA as an additional insurance liability included in other policy-related balances. The estimated fair value of the acquired liabilities is based on actuarially determined projections, by each block of business, of future policy and contract charges, premiums, mortality and morbidity, separate account performance, surrenders, operating expenses, investment returns, nonperformance risk adjustment and other factors. Actual experience on the purchased business may vary from these projections. The recovery of DAC and VOBA is dependent upon the future profitability of the related business. The Company will adopt new guidance regarding the accounting for DAC beginning in the first quarter of 2012 and will apply it retrospectively to all prior periods presented in its consolidated financial statements for all insurance contracts. See Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Separate account rates of return on variable universal life contracts and variable deferred annuity contracts affect in-force account balances on such contracts each reporting period which can result in significant fluctuations in amortization of DAC and VOBA. The Company's practice to determine the impact of gross profits resulting from returns on separate accounts assumes that long-term appreciation in equity markets is not changed by short-term market fluctuations, but is only changed when sustained interim deviations are expected. The Company monitors these events and only changes the assumption when its long-term expectation changes. The effect of an increase/(decrease) by 100 basis points in the assumed future rate of return is reasonably likely to result in a decrease/(increase) in the DAC and VOBA amortization of approximately \$161 million with an offset to the Company's unearned revenue liability of approximately \$26 million for this factor.

The Company also periodically reviews other long-term assumptions underlying the projections of estimated gross margins and profits. These include investment returns, policyholder dividend scales, interest crediting rates, mortality, persistency, and expenses to administer business. Assumptions used in the calculation of estimated gross margins and profits which may have significantly changed are updated annually. If the update of assumptions causes expected future gross margins and profits to increase, DAC and VOBA amortization will decrease, resulting in a current period increase to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the assumption update causes expected future gross margins and profits to decrease.

The Company's most significant assumption updates resulting in a change to expected future gross margins and profits and the amortization of DAC and VOBA are due to revisions to expected future investment returns, expenses, in-force or persistency assumptions and policyholder dividends on participating traditional life contracts, variable and universal life contracts and annuity contracts. The Company expects these assumptions to be the ones most reasonably likely to cause significant changes in the future. Changes in these assumptions can be offsetting and the Company is unable to predict their movement or offsetting impact over time.

Table of Contents

At December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, DAC and VOBA for the Company was \$28.0 billion, \$27.1 billion and \$19.1 billion, respectively. Amortization of DAC and VOBA associated with the variable and universal life and the annuity contracts was significantly impacted by movements in equity markets. The following chart illustrates the effect on DAC and VOBA of changing each of the respective assumptions, as well as updating estimated gross margins or profits with actual gross margins or profits during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009. Increases (decreases) in DAC and VOBA balances, as presented below, resulted in a corresponding decrease (increase) in amortization.

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Investment return	\$ (64)	\$ (84)	\$ 22
Separate account balances	(145)	23	(85)
Net investment gain (loss)	(576)	(124)	712
Guaranteed Minimum Income Benefits Expense	(15)	84	187
In-force/Persistency	(7)	96	61
Policyholder dividends and other	(2)	9	(118)
	60	(203)	154
Total	\$ (749)	\$ (199)	\$ 933

The following represents significant items contributing to the changes to DAC and VOBA amortization in 2011:

The decrease in equity markets during the year lowered separate account balances which led to a reduction in actual and expected future gross profits on variable universal life contracts and variable deferred annuity contracts resulting in an increase of \$145 million in DAC and VOBA amortization.

Changes in net investment gains (losses) resulted in the following changes in DAC and VOBA amortization:

Actual gross profits decreased as a result of an increase in liabilities associated with guarantee obligations on variable annuities, resulting in a decrease of DAC and VOBA amortization of \$531 million, excluding the impact from the Company's nonperformance risk and risk margins, which are described below. This decrease in actual gross profits was more than offset by freestanding derivative gains associated with the hedging of such guarantee obligations, which resulted in an increase in DAC and VOBA amortization of \$847 million.

The widening of the Company's nonperformance risk adjustment decreased the valuation of guarantee liabilities, increased actual gross profits and increased DAC and VOBA amortization by \$260 million. This was partially offset by higher risk margins which increased the guarantee liability valuations, decreased actual gross profits and decreased DAC and VOBA amortization by \$72 million.

The remainder of the impact of net investment gains (losses), which increased DAC amortization by \$72 million, was primarily attributable to current period investment activities.

The following represents significant items contributing to the changes to DAC and VOBA amortization in 2010:

Changes in net investment gains (losses) resulted in the following changes in DAC and VOBA amortization:

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Actual gross profits increased as a result of a decrease in liabilities associated with guarantee obligations on variable annuities, resulting in an increase of DAC and VOBA amortization of \$197 million, excluding the impact from the Company's nonperformance risk and risk margins, which

Table of Contents

are described below. This increase in actual gross profits was partially offset by freestanding derivative losses associated with the hedging of such guarantee obligations, which resulted in a decrease in DAC and VOBA amortization of \$88 million.

The narrowing of the Company's nonperformance risk adjustment increased the valuation of guarantee liabilities, decreased actual gross profits and decreased DAC and VOBA amortization by \$96 million. In addition, higher risk margins which increased the guarantee liability valuations, decreased actual gross profits and decreased DAC and VOBA amortization by \$18 million.

The remainder of the impact of net investment gains (losses), which increased DAC amortization by \$129 million, was primarily attributable to current period investment activities.

Included in policyholder dividends and other was an increase in DAC and VOBA amortization of \$42 million as a result of changes to long-term assumptions. In addition, amortization increased by \$39 million as a result of favorable gross margin variances. The remainder of the increase was due to various immaterial items.

The following represents significant items contributing to the changes to DAC and VOBA amortization in 2009:

Changes in net investment gains (losses) resulted in the following changes in DAC and VOBA amortization:

Actual gross profits increased as a result of a decrease in liabilities associated with guarantee obligations on variable annuities, resulting in an increase of DAC and VOBA amortization of \$995 million, excluding the impact from the Company's nonperformance risk and risk margins, which are described below. This increase in actual gross profits was partially offset by freestanding derivative losses associated with the hedging of such guarantee obligations, which resulted in a decrease in DAC and VOBA amortization of \$636 million.

The narrowing of the Company's nonperformance risk adjustment increased the valuation of guarantee liabilities, decreased actual gross profits and decreased DAC and VOBA amortization by \$607 million. This was partially offset by lower risk margins which decreased the guarantee liability valuations, increased actual gross profits and increased DAC and VOBA amortization by \$20 million.

The remainder of the impact of net investment gains (losses), which decreased DAC amortization by \$484 million, was primarily attributable to current period investment activities.

Included in policyholder dividends and other was a decrease in DAC and VOBA amortization of \$90 million as a result of changes to long-term assumptions. The remainder of the decrease was due to various immaterial items.

The Company's DAC and VOBA balance is also impacted by unrealized investment gains (losses) and the amount of amortization which would have been recognized if such gains and losses had been realized. The increase in unrealized investment gains decreased the DAC and VOBA balance by \$879 million and \$1.4 billion in 2011 and 2010, respectively. The decrease in unrealized investment losses decreased the DAC and VOBA balance by \$2.8 billion in 2009. Notes 3 and 6 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements include the DAC and VOBA offset to unrealized investment losses.

Goodwill

Goodwill is tested for impairment at least annually or more frequently if events or circumstances, such as adverse changes in the business climate, indicate that there may be justification for conducting an interim test.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

For purposes of goodwill impairment testing, if the carrying value of a reporting unit exceeds its estimated fair value, the implied fair value of the reporting unit goodwill is compared to the carrying value of that goodwill to measure the amount of impairment loss, if any. In such instances, the implied fair value of the goodwill is

Table of Contents

determined in the same manner as the amount of goodwill that would be determined in a business acquisition. The key inputs, judgments and assumptions necessary in determining estimated fair value of the reporting units include projected operating earnings, current book value (with and without accumulated other comprehensive income), the level of economic capital required to support the mix of business, long-term growth rates, comparative market multiples, the account value of in-force business, projections of new and renewal business, as well as margins on such business, the level of interest rates, credit spreads, equity market levels, and the discount rate that we believe is appropriate for the respective reporting unit. The estimated fair values of the retirement products and individual life reporting units are particularly sensitive to the equity market levels.

We apply significant judgment when determining the estimated fair value of our reporting units and when assessing the relationship of market capitalization to the aggregate estimated fair value of our reporting units. The valuation methodologies utilized are subject to key judgments and assumptions that are sensitive to change. Estimates of fair value are inherently uncertain and represent only management's reasonable expectation regarding future developments. These estimates and the judgments and assumptions upon which the estimates are based will, in all likelihood, differ in some respects from actual future results. Declines in the estimated fair value of our reporting units could result in goodwill impairments in future periods which could materially adversely affect our results of operations or financial position.

During the third quarter of 2011, the Company announced its decision to explore the sale of MetLife Bank's depository business. As a result, in September 2011, the Company performed a goodwill impairment test on MetLife Bank, which is a separate reporting unit within Corporate & Other. As a result of the testing, the Company recorded a \$65 million goodwill impairment charge that is reflected as a net investment loss for the year ended December 31, 2011. See Note 7 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

In addition, the Company performed its annual goodwill impairment tests of its other reporting units and concluded that the fair values of all reporting units were in excess of their carrying values and, therefore, goodwill was not impaired. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate potential triggering events that may affect the estimated fair value of our reporting units to assess whether any goodwill impairment exists.

In the fourth quarter of 2011, the Company performed interim goodwill impairment testing on the Retirement Products reporting unit. This testing was due to adverse market conditions, which caused both the equity markets and interest rates to decline. The fair value of the Retirement Products reporting unit, which was calculated based on application of an actuarial valuation approach, exceeded the carrying value by approximately 10%. The valuation methodology is subject to judgments and assumptions that are sensitive to change. If we had assumed that the discount rate was 100 basis points higher than the discount rate, the fair value of the Retirement Products reporting unit would have exceeded the carrying value by approximately 2%. As of December 31, 2011, the amount of goodwill allocated to the Retirement Products reporting unit was approximately \$1.7 billion. The estimate of fair value is inherently uncertain and the judgments and assumptions upon which the estimate is based, will, in all likelihood, differ in some respects from actual future results. A change in market conditions, including equity market returns, interest rate levels and market volatility could result in a goodwill impairment.

In the fourth quarter of 2011, the Company announced that it will be reorganizing its business into three broad geographic regions, The Americas, EMEA and Asia, and creating a global employee benefits business, to better reflect its global reach. As a result, the Company's reporting structure may change the composition of certain of its reporting units.

See Note 7 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on the Company's goodwill.

Liability for Future Policy Benefits

Generally, future policy benefits are payable over an extended period of time and related liabilities are calculated as the present value of future expected benefits to be paid reduced by the present value of future expected premiums. Such liabilities are established based on methods and underlying assumptions in accordance with GAAP and applicable actuarial standards. Principal assumptions used in the establishment of liabilities for

Table of Contents

future policy benefits are mortality, morbidity, policy lapse, renewal, retirement, disability incidence, disability terminations, investment returns, inflation, expenses and other contingent events as appropriate to the respective product type and geographical area. These assumptions are established at the time the policy is issued and are intended to estimate the experience for the period the policy benefits are payable. Utilizing these assumptions, liabilities are established on a block of business basis. If experience is less favorable than assumed, additional liabilities may be established, resulting in a charge to policyholder benefits and claims.

Future policy benefit liabilities for disabled lives are estimated using the present value of benefits method and experience assumptions as to claim terminations, expenses and interest.

Liabilities for unpaid claims are estimated based upon the Company's historical experience and other actuarial assumptions that consider the effects of current developments, anticipated trends and risk management programs, reduced for anticipated salvage and subrogation.

Future policy benefit liabilities for minimum death and income benefit guarantees relating to certain annuity contracts are based on estimates of the expected value of benefits in excess of the projected account balance, recognizing the excess ratably over the accumulation period based on total expected assessments. Liabilities for universal and variable life secondary guarantees and paid-up guarantees are determined by estimating the expected value of death benefits payable when the account balance is projected to be zero and recognizing those benefits ratably over the accumulation period based on total expected assessments. The assumptions used in estimating these liabilities are consistent with those used for amortizing DAC, and are thus subject to the same variability and risk. The assumptions of investment performance and volatility for variable products are consistent with historical experience of the appropriate underlying equity index, such as the S&P 500 Index.

The Company periodically reviews its estimates of actuarial liabilities for future policy benefits and compares them with its actual experience. Differences between actual experience and the assumptions used in pricing these policies and guarantees, as well as in the establishment of the related liabilities result in variances in profit and could result in losses.

See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on the Company's liability for future policy benefits.

Reinsurance

Accounting for reinsurance requires extensive use of assumptions and estimates, particularly related to the future performance of the underlying business and the potential impact of counterparty credit risks. The Company periodically reviews actual and anticipated experience compared to the aforementioned assumptions used to establish assets and liabilities relating to ceded and assumed reinsurance and evaluates the financial strength of counterparties to its reinsurance agreements using criteria similar to that evaluated in the security impairment process discussed previously. Additionally, for each of its reinsurance agreements, the Company determines whether the agreement provides indemnification against loss or liability relating to insurance risk, in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The Company reviews all contractual features, particularly those that may limit the amount of insurance risk to which the reinsurer is subject or features that delay the timely reimbursement of claims. If the Company determines that a reinsurance agreement does not expose the reinsurer to a reasonable possibility of a significant loss from insurance risk, the Company records the agreement using the deposit method of accounting.

See Note 9 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on the Company's reinsurance programs.

Income Taxes

The Company provides for federal, state and foreign income taxes currently payable, as well as those deferred due to temporary differences between the financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities. The Company's accounting for income taxes represents management's best estimate of various events and

Table of Contents

transactions. These tax laws are complex and are subject to differing interpretations by the taxpayer and the relevant governmental taxing authorities. In establishing a provision for income tax expense, we must make judgments and interpretations about the application of these inherently complex tax laws. We must also make estimates about when in the future certain items will affect taxable income in the various tax jurisdictions, both domestic and foreign.

The realization of deferred tax assets depends upon the existence of sufficient taxable income within the carryback or carryforward periods under the tax law in the applicable tax jurisdiction. Valuation allowances are established when management determines, based on available information, that it is more likely than not that deferred income tax assets will not be realized. Factors in management's determination include the performance of the business and its ability to generate capital gains. Significant judgment is required in determining whether valuation allowances should be established, as well as the amount of such allowances. When making such determination, consideration is given to, among other things, the following:

- (i) future taxable income exclusive of reversing temporary differences and carryforwards;
- (ii) future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences;
- (iii) taxable income in prior carryback years; and
- (iv) tax planning strategies.

Disputes over interpretations of the tax laws may be subject to review and adjudication by the court systems of the various tax jurisdictions or may be settled with the taxing authority upon audit. The Company determines whether it is more likely than not that a tax position will be sustained upon examination by the appropriate taxing authorities before any part of the benefit is recorded in the financial statements. The Company may be required to change its provision for income taxes when estimates used in determining valuation allowances on deferred tax assets significantly change, or when receipt of new information indicates the need for adjustment in valuation allowances. Additionally, future events, such as changes in tax laws, tax regulations, or interpretations of such laws or regulations, could have an impact on the provision for income tax and the effective tax rate. Any such changes could significantly affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements in the year these changes occur.

See Note 15 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on the Company's income taxes.

Employee Benefit Plans

Certain subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. sponsor and/or administer pension and other postretirement benefit plans covering employees who meet specified eligibility requirements. The obligations and expenses associated with these plans require an extensive use of assumptions such as the discount rate, expected rate of return on plan assets, rate of future compensation increases, healthcare cost trend rates, as well as assumptions regarding participant demographics such as rate and age of retirements, withdrawal rates and mortality. In consultation with our external consulting actuarial firms, we determine these assumptions based upon a variety of factors such as historical performance of the plan and its assets, currently available market and industry data, and expected benefit payout streams. We determine our expected rate of return on plan assets based upon an approach that considers inflation, real return, term premium, credit spreads, equity risk premium and capital appreciation, as well as expenses, expected asset manager performance and the effect of rebalancing for the equity, debt and real estate asset mix applied on a weighted average basis to our pension asset portfolio. Given the amount of plan assets as of December 31, 2010, if we had assumed an expected rate of return for both our pension and other postretirement benefit plans that was 100 basis points higher or 100 basis points lower than the rates we assumed, the change in our net periodic costs would have been a decrease of \$75 million and an increase of \$75 million, respectively. This considers only changes in our assumed long-term rate of return given the level and mix of

Table of Contents

invested assets at the beginning of the year, without consideration of possible changes in any of the other assumptions described above that could ultimately accompany any changes in our assumed long-term rate of return.

We determine our discount rates used to value the pension and postretirement obligations, based upon rates commensurate with current yields on high quality corporate bonds. Given the amount of pension and postretirement obligations as of December 31, 2010, the beginning of the measurement year, if we had assumed a discount rate for both our pension and postretirement benefit plans that was 100 basis points higher or 100 basis points lower than the rates we assumed, the change in our net periodic costs would have been a decrease of \$122 million and an increase of \$142 million, respectively. This considers only changes in our assumed discount rates without consideration of possible changes in any of the other assumptions described above that could ultimately accompany any changes in our assumed discount rate. The assumptions used may differ materially from actual results due to, among other factors, changing market and economic conditions and changes in participant demographics. These differences may have a significant effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements and liquidity.

See Note 17 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional assumptions used in measuring liabilities relating to the Company's employee benefit plans.

Litigation Contingencies

The Company is a party to a number of legal actions and is involved in a number of regulatory investigations. Given the inherent unpredictability of these matters, it is difficult to estimate the impact on the Company's financial position. Liabilities are established when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities related to certain lawsuits, including the Company's asbestos-related liability, are especially difficult to estimate due to the limitation of available data and uncertainty regarding numerous variables that can affect liability estimates. The data and variables that impact the assumptions used to estimate the Company's asbestos-related liability include the number of future claims, the cost to resolve claims, the disease mix and severity of disease in pending and future claims, the impact of the number of new claims filed in a particular jurisdiction and variations in the law in the jurisdictions in which claims are filed, the possible impact of tort reform efforts, the willingness of courts to allow plaintiffs to pursue claims against the Company when exposure to asbestos took place after the dangers of asbestos exposure were well known, and the impact of any possible future adverse verdicts and their amounts. On a quarterly and annual basis, the Company reviews relevant information with respect to liabilities for litigation, regulatory investigations and litigation-related contingencies to be reflected in the Company's consolidated financial statements. It is possible that an adverse outcome in certain of the Company's litigation and regulatory investigations, including asbestos-related cases, or the use of different assumptions in the determination of amounts recorded could have a material effect upon the Company's consolidated net income or cash flows in particular quarterly or annual periods.

See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding the Company's assessment of litigation contingencies.

Economic Capital

Economic capital is an internally developed risk capital model, the purpose of which is to measure the risk in the business and to provide a basis upon which capital is deployed. The economic capital model accounts for the unique and specific nature of the risks inherent in the Company's business.

Effective January 1, 2011, the Company updated its economic capital model to align segment allocated equity with emerging standards and consistent risk principles. Such changes to the Company's economic capital model are applied prospectively. Segment net investment income is also credited or charged based on the level of allocated equity; however, changes in allocated equity do not impact the Company's consolidated net investment income, operating earnings or income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax.

Table of Contents

Acquisitions and Dispositions

See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

During 2011, a local operating subsidiary of American Life closed on the purchase of a 99.86% stake in a Turkish life insurance and pension company and at the same time entered into an exclusive 15-year distribution arrangement with the seller to distribute the company's products in Turkey. Also in 2011, American Life agreed to sell certain closed blocks of business in the U.K. Finally, in 2011, Punjab National Bank (PNB) agreed to acquire a 30% stake in MetLife India Insurance Company Limited (MetLife India) and to enter into a separate exclusive 10-year distribution arrangement to sell MetLife India's products through PNB's branch network. PNB's acquisition of the 30% stake in MetLife India is subject to, among other things, regulatory approval and final agreements among PNB and the existing shareholders of MetLife India. If such agreements are not obtained, or the transaction does not receive regulatory approval, PNB may request to amend or cancel the distribution agreement.

In addition, in 2012, local operating subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. agreed to acquire, from members of the Aviva Plc group (Aviva), Aviva's life insurance business in the Czech Republic and Hungary and Aviva's life insurance and pensions business in Romania. The closing of each of these transactions is subject to regulatory and other approvals.

Table of Contents**Results of Operations***Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2010***Consolidated Results**

We have experienced growth and an increase in market share in several of our businesses. Sales of our domestic annuity products were up 51% driven by strong growth in variable annuities across all distribution channels. Even with the impact of the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami, our sales results in Japan are stronger than anticipated and continue to show steady growth and improvement across essentially all distribution channels. Market penetration continues in our pension closeout business in the U.K.; however, our domestic pension closeout business has been adversely impacted by a combination of poor equity market returns and lower interest rates. In the U.S., sustained high levels of unemployment and a challenging pricing environment continue to depress growth across our group insurance businesses. While we experienced growth in our traditional life and universal life businesses, sales of group life and non-medical health products declined. Policy sales of auto and homeowners products decreased as the housing and automobile markets remained sluggish. We experienced steady growth and improvement in sales of the majority of our products abroad.

	Years Ended December 31,			
	2011	2010	Change	% Change
	(In millions)			
Revenues				
Premiums	\$ 36,361	\$ 27,071	\$ 9,290	34.3%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	7,806	6,028	1,778	29.5%
Net investment income	19,606	17,511	2,095	12.0%
Other revenues	2,532	2,328	204	8.8%
Net investment gains (losses)	(867)	(408)	(459)	
Net derivative gains (losses)	4,824	(265)	5,089	
Total revenues	70,262	52,265	17,997	34.4%
Expenses				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	36,903	30,670	6,233	20.3%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	5,603	4,919	684	13.9%
Capitalization of DAC	(6,858)	(3,299)	(3,559)	
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	5,391	2,843	2,548	89.6%
Amortization of negative VOBA	(697)	(64)	(633)	
Interest expense on debt	1,629	1,550	79	5.1%
Other expenses	18,265	11,734	6,531	55.7%
Total expenses	60,236	48,353	11,883	24.6%
Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax	10,026	3,912	6,114	
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	3,075	1,165	1,910	
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	6,951	2,747	4,204	
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	20	39	(19)	(48.7)%
Net income (loss)	6,971	2,786	4,185	
Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	(10)	(4)	(6)	
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	6,981	2,790	4,191	
Less: Preferred stock dividends	122	122		%
Preferred stock redemption premium	146		146	

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc. s common shareholders	\$ 6,713	\$ 2,668	\$ 4,045
--------------------------------------------------------------------	----------	----------	----------

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, increased \$4.2 billion to \$7.0 billion primarily driven by a favorable change in net derivative gains (losses), partially offset by increased net investment losses, net of related adjustments, principally associated with DAC and VOBA amortization. Also included in income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, are the results of the Divested Businesses. In addition, operating earnings increased, reflecting the impact of the Acquisition.

We manage our investment portfolio using disciplined Asset/Liability Management (ALM) principles, focusing on cash flow and duration to support our current and future liabilities. Our intent is to match the timing and amount of liability cash outflows with invested assets that have cash inflows of comparable timing and amount, while optimizing, net of income tax, risk-adjusted net investment income and risk-adjusted total return. Our investment portfolio is heavily weighted toward fixed income investments, with over 80% of our portfolio invested in fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans. These securities and loans have varying maturities and other characteristics which cause them to be generally well suited for matching the cash flow and duration of insurance liabilities. Other invested asset classes including, but not limited to, equity securities, other limited partnership interests and real estate and real estate joint ventures, provide additional diversification and opportunity for long-term yield enhancement in addition to supporting the cash flow and duration objectives of our investment portfolio. We also use derivatives as an integral part of our management of the investment portfolio to hedge certain risks, including changes in interest rates, foreign currencies, credit spreads and equity market levels. Additional considerations for our investment portfolio include current and expected market conditions and expectations for changes within our specific mix of products and business segments. In addition, the general account investment portfolio includes, within trading and other securities, contractholder-directed investments supporting unit-linked variable annuity type liabilities, which do not qualify as separate account assets. The returns on these contractholder-directed investments, which can vary significantly period to period, include changes in estimated fair value subsequent to purchase, inure to contractholders and are offset in earnings by a corresponding change in policyholder account balances through interest credited to policyholder account balances.

The composition of the investment portfolio of each business segment is tailored to the specific characteristics of its insurance liabilities, causing certain portfolios to be shorter in duration and others to be longer in duration. Accordingly, certain portfolios are more heavily weighted in longer duration, higher yielding fixed maturity securities, or certain sub-sectors of fixed maturity securities, than other portfolios.

Investments are purchased to support our insurance liabilities and not to generate net investment gains and losses. However, net investment gains and losses are incurred and can change significantly from period to period due to changes in external influences, including changes in market factors such as interest rates, foreign currencies, credit spreads and equity markets; counterparty specific factors such as financial performance, credit rating and collateral valuation; and internal factors such as portfolio rebalancing. Changes in these factors from period to period can significantly impact the levels of both impairments and realized gains and losses on investments sold.

We use freestanding interest rate, equity, credit and currency derivatives to provide economic hedges of certain invested assets and insurance liabilities, including embedded derivatives within certain of our variable annuity minimum benefit guarantees. For those hedges not designated as accounting hedges, changes in market factors can lead to the recognition of fair value changes in net derivative gains (losses) without an offsetting gain or loss recognized in earnings for the item being hedged even though these are effective economic hedges. Additionally, we issue liabilities and purchase assets that contain embedded derivatives whose changes in estimated fair value are sensitive to changes in market factors and are also recognized in net derivative gains (losses).

The favorable change in net derivative gains (losses) of \$3.3 billion, from losses of \$172 million in 2010 to gains of \$3.1 billion in 2011, was driven by a favorable change in freestanding derivatives of \$3.9 billion, which

Table of Contents

was partially offset by an unfavorable change in embedded derivatives of \$583 million primarily associated with variable annuity minimum benefit guarantees. The \$3.9 billion favorable change in freestanding derivatives was primarily attributable to the impact of falling long-term and mid-term interest rates and equity market movements and volatility. Long-term and mid-term interest rates fell more in 2011 than in 2010 which had a positive impact of \$2.1 billion on our interest rate derivatives, \$670 million of which was attributable to hedges of variable annuity minimum benefit guarantee liabilities that are accounted for as embedded derivatives. The impact of equity market movements and volatility in 2011 compared to 2010 had a positive impact of \$1.5 billion on our equity derivatives, which was primarily attributable to hedges of variable annuity minimum benefit guarantee liabilities that are accounted for as embedded derivatives.

Certain variable annuity products with minimum benefit guarantees contain embedded derivatives that are measured at estimated fair value separately from the host variable annuity contract with changes in estimated fair value recorded in net derivative gains (losses). The fair value of these embedded derivatives also includes an adjustment for nonperformance risk, which is unhedged. The \$583 million unfavorable change in embedded derivatives was primarily attributable to hedged risks relating to changes in market factors of \$1.6 billion and an unfavorable change in other unhedged non-market risks of \$308 million, partially offset by a favorable change in unhedged risks for changes in the adjustment for nonperformance risk of \$1.3 billion. The aforementioned \$1.6 billion unfavorable change in embedded derivatives was more than offset by favorable changes on freestanding derivatives that hedge these risks, which are described in the preceding paragraphs.

The increase in net investment losses primarily reflects impairments on Greece sovereign debt securities, intent-to-sell impairments on other sovereign debt securities due to the repositioning of the ALICO portfolio into longer duration and higher yielding investments, intent-to-sell impairments related to the Divested Businesses, and lower net gains on sales of fixed maturity and equity securities. These losses were partially offset by net gains on the sales of certain real estate investments and reductions in the mortgage valuation allowance reflecting improving real estate market fundamentals.

Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, related to the Divested Businesses, excluding net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses), decreased \$152 million to a loss of \$41 million in 2011 compared to a gain of \$111 million in 2010. Included in this loss was a reduction in total revenues of \$73 million and an increase in total expenses of \$79 million. As previously mentioned, the Divested Businesses include certain operations of MetLife Bank and the Caribbean Business.

Income tax expense for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$3.1 billion, or 31% of income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax, compared with \$1.2 billion, or 30% of income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax, for 2010. The Company's 2011 and 2010 effective tax rates differ from the U.S. statutory rate of 35% primarily due to the impact of certain permanent tax differences, including non-taxable investment income and tax credits for investments in low income housing, in relation to income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax, as well as certain foreign permanent tax differences.

As more fully described in the discussion of performance measures above, we use operating earnings, which does not equate to income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, as determined in accordance with GAAP, to analyze our performance, evaluate segment performance, and allocate resources. We believe that the presentation of operating earnings and operating earnings available to common shareholders, as we measure it for management purposes, enhances the understanding of our performance by highlighting the results of operations and the underlying profitability drivers of the business. Operating earnings and operating earnings available to common shareholders should not be viewed as substitutes for GAAP income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, and GAAP net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders, respectively. Operating earnings available to common shareholders increased \$1.5 billion to \$5.3 billion in 2011 from \$3.8 billion in 2010.

Table of Contents**Reconciliation of income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, to operating earnings available to common shareholders****Year Ended December 31, 2011**

	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000
	Insurance Products	Retirement Products	Corporate Benefit Funding	Auto & Home	Japan	Other International Regions	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	\$ 2,629	\$ 1,419	\$ 1,405	\$ 90	\$ 1,190	\$ 782	\$ (564)	\$ 6,951
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	53	84	23	(9)	(221)	(616)	(181)	(867)
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	1,849	1,747	366	(12)	200	785	(111)	4,824
Less: Other adjustments to continuing operations (1)	(125)	(777)	91		38	(441)	(427)	(1,641)
Less: Provision for income tax (expense) benefit	(623)	(368)	(166)	7	(3)	18	290	(845)
Operating earnings	\$ 1,475	\$ 733	\$ 1,091	\$ 104	\$ 1,176	\$ 1,036	(135)	5,480
Less: Preferred stock dividends							122	122
Operating earnings available to common shareholders							\$ (257)	\$ 5,358

Year Ended December 31, 2010

	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000
	Insurance Products	Retirement Products	Corporate Benefit Funding	Auto & Home	Japan	Other International Regions	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	\$ 1,367	\$ 792	\$ 1,020	\$ 295	\$ 2	\$ (155)	\$ (574)	\$ 2,747
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	103	139	176	(7)	(9)	(280)	(530)	(408)
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	215	235	(162)	(1)	(144)	(347)	(61)	(265)
Less: Other adjustments to continuing operations (1)	(244)	(381)	140		12	(439)	(2)	(914)
Less: Provision for income tax (expense) benefit	(28)	(4)	(54)	3	49	225	188	379
Operating earnings	\$ 1,321	\$ 803	\$ 920	\$ 300	\$ 94	\$ 686	(169)	3,955

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Less: Preferred stock dividends		122		122
Operating earnings available to common shareholders		\$	(291)	\$ 3,833

(1) See definitions of operating revenues and operating expenses for the components of such adjustments.

Table of Contents**Reconciliation of GAAP revenues to operating revenues and GAAP expenses to operating expenses****Year Ended December 31, 2011**

	Insurance Products	Retirement Products	Corporate Benefit Funding	Auto & Home	Japan	Other International Regions	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Total revenues	\$ 27,841	\$ 9,015	\$ 8,613	\$ 3,217	\$ 8,822	\$ 10,538	\$ 2,216	\$ 70,262
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	53	84	23	(9)	(221)	(616)	(181)	(867)
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	1,849	1,747	366	(12)	200	785	(111)	4,824
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	14							14
Less: Other adjustments to revenues (1)	(224)	78	145		(407)	50	1,265	907
Total operating revenues	\$ 26,149	\$ 7,106	\$ 8,079	\$ 3,238	\$ 9,250	\$ 10,319	\$ 1,243	\$ 65,384
Total expenses	\$ 23,795	\$ 6,833	\$ 6,454	\$ 3,162	\$ 6,994	\$ 9,376	\$ 3,622	\$ 60,236
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	(85)	638			19			572
Less: Other adjustments to expenses (1)		217	54		(464)	491	1,692	1,990
Total operating expenses	\$ 23,880	\$ 5,978	\$ 6,400	\$ 3,162	\$ 7,439	\$ 8,885	\$ 1,930	\$ 57,674

Year Ended December 31, 2010

	Insurance Products	Retirement Products	Corporate Benefit Funding	Auto & Home	Japan	Other International Regions	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Total revenues	\$ 26,444	\$ 6,849	\$ 7,568	\$ 3,146	\$ 669	\$ 5,685	\$ 1,904	\$ 52,265
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	103	139	176	(7)	(9)	(280)	(530)	(408)
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	215	235	(162)	(1)	(144)	(347)	(61)	(265)
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	1							1
Less: Other adjustments to revenues (1)	(151)	(39)	190		116	(72)	1,450	1,494
Total operating revenues	\$ 26,276	\$ 6,514	\$ 7,364	\$ 3,154	\$ 706	\$ 6,384	\$ 1,045	\$ 51,443
Total expenses	\$ 24,338	\$ 5,622	\$ 5,999	\$ 2,781	\$ 664	\$ 5,917	\$ 3,032	\$ 48,353
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	90	35						125
Less: Other adjustments to expenses (1)	4	307	50		104	367	1,452	2,284
Total operating expenses	\$ 24,244	\$ 5,280	\$ 5,949	\$ 2,781	\$ 560	\$ 5,550	\$ 1,580	\$ 45,944

(1) See definitions of operating revenues and operating expenses for the components of such adjustments.

Table of Contents**Consolidated Results Operating**

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2011	2010		
	(In millions)			
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 36,269	\$ 27,071	\$ 9,198	34.0%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	7,528	5,817	1,711	29.4%
Net investment income	19,676	16,880	2,796	16.6%
Other revenues	1,911	1,675	236	14.1%
Total operating revenues	65,384	51,443	13,941	27.1%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	36,227	29,972	6,255	20.9%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	6,057	4,697	1,360	29.0%
Capitalization of DAC	(6,849)	(3,299)	(3,550)	
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	4,799	2,802	1,997	71.3%
Amortization of negative VOBA	(619)	(57)	(562)	
Interest expense on debt	1,305	1,139	166	14.6%
Other expenses	16,754	10,690	6,064	56.7%
Total operating expenses	57,674	45,944	11,730	25.5%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	2,230	1,544	686	44.4%
Operating earnings	5,480	3,955	1,525	38.6%
Less: Preferred stock dividends	122	122		%
Operating earnings available to common shareholders	\$ 5,358	\$ 3,833	\$ 1,525	39.8%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

The increase in operating earnings reflects the impact of the Acquisition with the corresponding effects on each of our financial statement lines in both Japan and Other International Regions. Further trends and matters impacting our business and the comparison to 2010 results are discussed below.

Positive results from strong sales in 2011 were offset by losses from severe weather and the impact of the low interest rate environment. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates had a slightly positive impact on results compared to 2010.

In 2011, we benefited from strong sales as well as growth and higher persistency in our business, across many of our products. As a result, we experienced growth in our investment portfolio, as well as our average separate account assets, generating both higher net investment income of \$479 million and higher policy fee income of \$265 million. Since many of our products are interest spread-based, the growth in our individual life, long-term care (LTC) and structured settlement businesses also resulted in a \$131 million increase in interest credited expenses. These increased sales also generated an increase in commission and other volume-related expenses of \$622 million, which was largely offset by an increase of \$538 million in related DAC capitalization. In addition, other non-variable expenses increased \$73 million due to growth in our existing businesses.

On an annual basis, we perform experience studies, as well as update our assumptions regarding both expected policyholder behaviors and the related investment environment. These updates, commonly known as unlocking events, result in changes to certain insurance-related liabilities, DAC and revenue amortization. The impact of updates to our assumptions in both 2011 and 2010, resulted in a net increase to operating earnings of \$23 million, in the current year.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

In the fourth quarter of 2011, we announced a reduction in our dividend scale related to our closed block. The impact of this action increased operating earnings by \$54 million.

Table of Contents

Severe weather during 2011 was the primary driver of our unfavorable claims experience in Auto & Home, which decreased operating earnings by \$239 million. In addition, in the third quarter of 2011, we incurred a \$117 million charge to increase reserves in connection with our use of the Death Master File, impacting primarily Insurance Products. These events overshadowed favorable claims experience in our dental and disability businesses and strong mortality gains in our group life business, which, combined, improved operating earnings by \$100 million.

Market factors, specifically the current low interest rate environment, continued to be a challenge during 2011. Also in 2011, equity markets remained relatively flat compared to much stronger 2010 equity market performance. Investment yields were negatively impacted by the current low interest rate environment and lower returns in the equity markets, partially offset by improving real estate markets, resulting in a \$157 million decrease in net investment income. DAC, VOBA and DSI amortization and certain insurance-related liabilities are sensitive to market fluctuations, which was the primary driver of higher expenses of \$102 million in these categories. In particular, the less favorable 2011 investment markets caused acceleration of DAC amortization. Partially offsetting these decreases was a \$119 million improvement in operating earnings, primarily driven by lower average crediting rates on our annuity and funding agreement businesses. The lower average crediting rates continue to reflect the lower investment returns available in the marketplace. Also contributing to the decrease in interest credited is the impact from derivatives that are used to hedge certain liabilities in our funding agreement business. In addition, growth in our separate accounts due to favorable equity market performance in 2010 and stable equity markets in 2011 resulted in increased fees and other revenues of \$79 million.

Interest expense on debt increased \$109 million primarily as a result of debt issued in the third and fourth quarters of 2010 in connection with the Acquisition and Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) borrowings.

The Company incurred \$40 million of expenses related to a liquidation plan filed by the Department of Financial Services for ELNY in the third quarter of 2011. Results from our mortgage loan servicing business were lower driven by an increase in expenses of \$31 million in response to both a larger portfolio and increased regulatory oversight.

The Company also benefited from a higher tax benefit in 2011 of \$88 million over 2010 primarily due to \$75 million of charges in 2010 related to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (together, the Health Care Act). The Health Care Act reduced the tax deductibility of retiree health care costs to the extent of any Medicare Part D subsidy received beginning in 2013. Because the deductibility of future retiree health care costs was reflected in our financial statements, the entire future impact of this change in law was required to be recorded as a charge in the first quarter of 2010, when the legislation was enacted. The higher tax benefit was also a result of higher utilization of tax preferenced investments which provide tax credits and deductions.

Table of Contents**Insurance Products**

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2011	2010 (In millions)		
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 16,949	\$ 17,200	\$ (251)	(1.5)%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	2,264	2,247	17	0.8%
Net investment income	6,107	6,068	39	0.6%
Other revenues	829	761	68	8.9%
Total operating revenues	26,149	26,276	(127)	(0.5)%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	18,707	19,075	(368)	(1.9)%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	997	963	34	3.5%
Capitalization of DAC	(864)	(841)	(23)	(2.7)%
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	897	966	(69)	(7.1)%
Interest expense on debt		1	(1)	(100.0)%
Other expenses	4,143	4,080	63	1.5%
Total operating expenses	23,880	24,244	(364)	(1.5)%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	794	711	83	11.7%
Operating earnings	\$ 1,475	\$ 1,321	\$ 154	11.7%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

Strong underwriting results generated about half of our increase in operating earnings. The remaining increase resulted from the impact of annual assumption updates, lower policyholder dividends and higher fees from our variable and universal life business. These increases were dampened by the negative impacts of the sustained low interest rate environment.

Growth in our open block traditional life and in our variable and universal life businesses was more than offset by declines in our group life and non-medical health businesses, as well as the expected run-off from our closed block business. Sustained high levels of unemployment and a challenging pricing environment continue to depress growth in many of our group insurance businesses. Our dental business benefited from higher enrollment and certain pricing actions, but this was more than offset by a decline in revenues from our disability business. This reduction was mainly due to net customer cancellations and lower covered lives. Our LTC revenues were flat period over period, consistent with the discontinuance of the sale of this coverage at the end of 2010. Although revenues have declined from the prior year, current year premiums and deposits, along with an expansion of our securities lending program, resulted in an increase in our average invested assets, which contributed \$189 million to operating earnings. Mirroring the growth in average invested assets in our individual life and LTC businesses, interest credited on long-duration contracts and on our policyholder account balances increased by \$76 million. The aforementioned increased sales of our individual variable and universal life products, which was mainly driven by our launch of a new product in the current year, coupled with ongoing organic growth in the business, increased operating earnings by \$41 million. These increased sales also generated an increase in commission expenses, which was mostly offset by the capitalization of these expenses. Broker dealer related revenues also increased during the year and were significantly offset by a corresponding increase in other expenses.

In 2011, pricing actions and improved claims experience, mainly as a result of stabilizing benefits utilization, drove a \$57 million increase in our dental results. Higher closures and lower incidences in 2011 contributed to the \$43 million increase in our disability results. Our life businesses were essentially flat; however, lower claims incidence resulted in very strong group life mortality gains, which were offset by increased severity of claims in the variable and universal life businesses. On an annual basis, we perform experience studies, as well as update

Table of Contents

our assumptions surrounding both expected policyholder behaviors and the related investment environment. These updates, commonly known as unlocking events, result in changes to certain insurance related liabilities, DAC and revenue amortization. The impact of updates to our assumptions, in both 2011 and 2010 primarily related to policyholder behaviors, such as projected premium assumptions and various factors impacting persistency, coupled with insurance related refinements, resulted in a net increase to operating earnings of \$41 million. Partially offsetting these favorable impacts was a \$109 million charge, recorded in the third quarter of the current year, related to our use of the Death Master File, in both our group and individual life businesses.

Refinements in our DAC model in both years as well as the impact of higher amortization in 2010 contributed to a \$37 million net decrease in amortization. The higher level of amortization in 2010 was primarily due to the emergence of actual premium and lapse information which differed from management's expectations.

In the fourth quarter of 2011, we announced a reduction to our dividend scale related to our closed block. The impact of this action increased operating earnings by \$54 million.

Market factors, specifically the current low interest rate environment, continued to be a challenge during 2011. Investment yields were negatively impacted by lower returns on allocated equity and lower returns in the equity markets, partially offset by improving real estate markets. Unlike in Retirement Products and Corporate Benefit Funding, a reduction in investment yield does not necessarily drive a corresponding change in the rates credited on policyholder account balances or amounts held for future policyholder benefits. The reduction in investment yield resulted in a \$164 million decrease in operating earnings. Partially offsetting this decline was the impact of updating projected market factors as part of our aforementioned annual update to assumptions. This update resulted in an unlocking event, resulting in a \$32 million increase to operating earnings.

Retirement Products

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2011	2010		
	(In millions)			
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 1,141	\$ 875	\$ 266	30.4%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	2,463	2,024	439	21.7%
Net investment income	3,195	3,395	(200)	(5.9)%
Other revenues	307	220	87	39.5%
Total operating revenues	7,106	6,514	592	9.1%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	1,846	1,487	359	24.1%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	1,595	1,612	(17)	(1.1)%
Capitalization of DAC	(1,612)	(1,067)	(545)	(51.1)%
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	1,004	808	196	24.3%
Interest expense on debt	2	3	(1)	(33.3)%
Other expenses	3,143	2,437	706	29.0%
Total operating expenses	5,978	5,280	698	13.2%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	395	431	(36)	(8.4)%
Operating earnings	\$ 733	\$ 803	\$ (70)	(8.7)%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

Total annuity sales increased 51% to \$30.4 billion due to strong growth in variable annuities across all distribution channels. Variable annuity product sales increased primarily due to the introduction of a new higher benefit, lower-risk variable annuity rider and changes in competitors offerings which, we believe, made our products more attractive. We have launched several changes to the products and riders we offer that we

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

expect will reduce sales volumes in 2012, as we manage these sales volumes to strike the right balance among growth, profitability and risk. Total annuity net flows were \$16.2 billion, higher than in 2010. Changes in interest rates

Table of Contents

and equity markets can significantly impact our earnings. In 2011, interest rates declined while equity markets remained relatively flat compared to much stronger 2010 equity market performance. Operating earnings were down 9% mainly due to these market factors.

Strong sales and higher persistency in 2011, along with the impact of an increase in allocated equity, increased operating earnings by \$147 million. The strong sales of variable annuities increased our average separate account assets and, as a result, we generated higher asset-based fee revenue on the separate account assets and higher net investment income, partially offset by increases in DAC amortization. Partially offsetting these favorable impacts was an increase in variable expenses, primarily related to new business commissions and asset-based commissions of \$38 million, net of related DAC capitalization. Other non-variable expenses also increased \$16 million due to growth in the business.

Investment market performance reduced our operating earnings by \$56 million. DAC, VOBA and DSI amortization, as well as certain insurance-related liabilities, are sensitive to market fluctuations, which was the primary driver of higher expenses in these categories. In particular, the less favorable 2011 equity markets when compared to 2010 caused an acceleration of DAC amortization. Lower investment returns on certain limited partnerships and lower returns on allocated equity also contributed to the decline in operating earnings. Partially offsetting these decreases was an improvement in operating earnings, primarily driven by lower average crediting rates on annuity fixed rate funds. Lower average crediting rates continue to reflect the lower investment returns available in the marketplace. Growth in our separate accounts, due to favorable equity market performance in 2010 and 2011, resulted in increased fees and other revenues.

To better align with hedged risks, certain elements of our variable annuity hedging program that were previously recorded in net investment income were recorded in net derivative gains (losses) beginning in 2011 which resulted in a decrease in operating earnings of \$77 million. Lower income annuity mortality gains of \$18 million also reduced operating earnings in 2011. We review and update our long-term assumptions used in our calculations of certain insurance-related liabilities and DAC annually, which may result in changes and are recorded in the fourth quarter each year. This annual update of assumptions, other insurance liability refinements and DAC model revisions made during the year, contributed to a net operating earnings reduction of \$12 million.

Corporate Benefit Funding

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2011	2010 (In millions)		
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 2,418	\$ 1,938	\$ 480	24.8%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	231	226	5	2.2%
Net investment income	5,181	4,954	227	4.6%
Other revenues	249	246	3	1.2%
Total operating revenues	8,079	7,364	715	9.7%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	4,594	4,041	553	13.7%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	1,321	1,445	(124)	(8.6)%
Capitalization of DAC	(27)	(19)	(8)	(42.1)%
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	17	16	1	6.3%
Interest expense on debt	8	6	2	33.3%
Other expenses	487	460	27	5.9%
Total operating expenses	6,400	5,949	451	7.6%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	588	495	93	18.8%
Operating earnings	\$ 1,091	\$ 920	\$ 171	18.6%

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

Corporate Benefit Funding had strong pension closeout sales in the U.K., and strong sales of structured settlements. Although the combination of poor equity returns and the low interest rate environment has resulted in underfunded pension plans, which reduces our customers' flexibility to engage in transactions such as pension closeouts, sales in the U.K. remained strong as we continue to penetrate that market. Sales in our structured settlement business were strong as we remain very competitive in the marketplace. Premiums for these businesses were almost entirely offset by the related change in policyholder benefits. However, current year premiums, deposits, funding agreement issuances, increased allocated equity, and the expansion of our securities lending program, all contributed to the growth of our average invested assets, which led to an increase in net investment income of \$167 million.

Deposits into separate accounts, including guaranteed interest contracts, and corporate owned life insurance, increased significantly resulting in a \$9 million increase in advisory fees and an \$8 million increase in premium tax. However, these expenses are offset by a corresponding increase in revenues.

Market factors, including the current low interest rate environment, have negatively impacted our investment returns by \$19 million. These lower investment returns include the impact of returns on invested economic capital. The low interest rate environment was also the primary driver of the decrease in interest credited to policyholders of \$81 million. Many of our funding agreement and guaranteed interest contract liabilities are tied to market indices. Interest rates on new business were set lower, as were the rates on existing business with terms that can fluctuate. Also contributing to the decrease in interest credited is the impact from derivatives that are used to hedge certain liabilities in our funding agreement business. Commensurate with our strong sales of structured settlements, the interest credited expense associated with these insurance liabilities increased \$26 million.

The Company's use of the Death Master File in connection with our post-retirement benefit business resulted in a charge in the third quarter of the current year of \$8 million. Other insurance liability refinements and mortality results negatively impacted our year-over-year operating earnings by \$20 million.

Auto & Home

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2011	2010 (In millions)		
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,923	\$ 77	2.6%
Net investment income	205	209	(4)	(1.9)%
Other revenues	33	22	11	50.0%
Total operating revenues	3,238	3,154	84	2.7%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	2,375	2,021	354	17.5%
Capitalization of DAC	(453)	(448)	(5)	(1.1)%
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	448	439	9	2.1%
Other expenses	792	769	23	3.0%
Total operating expenses	3,162	2,781	381	13.7%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	(28)	73	(101)	
Operating earnings	\$ 104	\$ 300	\$ (196)	(65.3)%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

In 2011, operating results were negatively impacted by severe weather including record numbers of tornadoes in the second quarter and Hurricane Irene in the third quarter. Policy sales decreased as the housing and new

Table of Contents

automobile sales markets remained sluggish, resulting in a decrease in exposures. However, average premium per policy increased for both our homeowners and auto policies, more than offsetting the negative impact from the decrease in exposures.

Adverse claims experience was the primary driver of the decrease in operating earnings. Catastrophe-related losses increased \$187 million compared to 2010 mainly due to severe storm activity in the U.S. during the second and third quarters of 2011, which resulted in \$261 million of losses. The second quarter included catastrophe-related losses mainly due to a record number of tornadoes for a one-month period that resulted in damage in many states. The third quarter included catastrophe-related losses resulting from the impact from Hurricane Irene. In addition, current year non-catastrophe claim costs increased \$75 million as a result of higher claim frequencies in both our auto and homeowners businesses due primarily to more severe winter weather in the first quarter of 2011 and to non-catastrophe wind and hail through the remainder of the year. The negative impact of these items was partially offset by additional favorable development of prior year losses of \$23 million.

The increase in average premium per policy in both our homeowners and auto businesses improved operating earnings by \$60 million and the decrease in exposures resulted in a \$4 million decrease in operating earnings as the negative impact from lower premiums exceeded the positive impact from lower claims. Exposures are primarily each automobile for the auto line of business and each residence for the homeowners line of business.

The impact of the items discussed above can be seen in the unfavorable change in the combined ratio, including catastrophes, to 104.9% in 2011 from 94.6% in 2010. The combined ratio, excluding catastrophes, was 89.1% in 2011 compared to 88.1% in 2010.

Higher commissions, resulting from the increase in average premium per policy, coupled with an increase in other volume-related expenses contributed to the decrease in operating earnings. This increase is included in the \$18 million increase in other expenses, including the net change in DAC.

Japan

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	Change
	(In millions)		
OPERATING REVENUES			
Premiums	\$ 6,325	\$ 499	\$ 5,826
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	824	55	769
Net investment income	2,079	145	1,934
Other revenues	22	7	15
Total operating revenues	9,250	706	8,544
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	3,973	309	3,664
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	1,561	123	1,438
Capitalization of DAC	(2,250)	(149)	(2,101)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	1,312	82	1,230
Amortization of negative VOBA	(555)	(49)	(506)
Other expenses	3,398	244	3,154
Total operating expenses	7,439	560	6,879
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	635	52	583
Operating earnings	\$ 1,176	\$ 94	\$ 1,082

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Our Japan operation is comprised of the Japanese business acquired in the Acquisition and remains among the largest foreign life insurers in Japan. The stability of this business is evidenced by a solvency margin ratio

Table of Contents

significantly in excess of the legally mandated solvency margin in Japan and above average with respect to the industry. Through our Japan operation, we provide accident and health insurance, life insurance, annuities and endowment products to both individuals and groups. Japan's operating earnings for 2010 include one month of results from the ALICO operations.

The Japanese economy, to which we face substantial exposure given our operations there, was significantly negatively impacted by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Although we expect modest growth in the Japanese economy during 2012, disruptions to the Japanese economy are having, and will continue to have, negative impacts on the overall global economy, not all of which can be foreseen. Despite the impact of the earthquake and tsunami, our sales results continued to show steady growth and improvement across our captive agent, independent agent, broker, bancassurance, and direct marketing distribution channels.

Japan reported premiums, fees and other revenues of \$7.2 billion for 2011, including \$4.3 billion from accident and health insurance and \$2.7 billion from life insurance products distributed through our multi-distribution platform. In addition, during 2011, the Company incurred \$39 million of incremental insurance claims and operating expenses related to the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

Other International Regions

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2011	2010 (In millions)		
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 6,426	\$ 3,625	\$ 2,801	77.3%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	1,746	1,265	481	38.0%
Net investment income	1,995	1,466	529	36.1%
Other revenues	152	28	124	
Total operating revenues	10,319	6,384	3,935	61.6%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	4,724	3,053	1,671	54.7%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	583	554	29	5.2%
Capitalization of DAC	(1,643)	(775)	(868)	
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	1,120	490	630	
Amortization of negative VOBA	(64)	(8)	(56)	
Interest expense on debt	1	3	(2)	(66.7)%
Other expenses	4,164	2,233	1,931	86.5%
Total operating expenses	8,885	5,550	3,335	60.1%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	398	148	250	
Operating earnings	\$ 1,036	\$ 686	\$ 350	51.0%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

Sales results continued to show steady growth and improvement, with increases over 2010 in essentially all of our businesses. In the Asia Pacific region, sales continued to grow, driven by strong variable universal life sales, the launch of a whole life cancer product in Korea and higher group sales in the Australia business. In Latin America, accident and health sales increased throughout the region. In addition, there was strong retirement sales growth in Mexico, as well as strong growth in Chile's immediate annuity products. Our business in Europe experienced higher credit life sales and continued growth in our variable annuity business.

Reported operating earnings increased over 2010 as a result of the inclusion of a full year of results of the ALICO operations other than Japan for 2011 compared to one month of results for 2010. The positive impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates improved reported earnings by \$19 million for 2011 compared to 2010.

Table of Contents

In addition to the increase in operating earnings due to the ALICO operations other than Japan, the current year benefited from business growth, most notably in Mexico, Korea and Ireland. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in the Japan reinsurance business mainly due to market performance. The impact of the sale of the Company's interest in Mitsui Sumitomo MetLife Insurance Co., LTD (MSI MetLife) on April 1, 2011 also decreased operating results for 2011, as no earnings were recognized in the current year.

Net investment income increased reflecting an increase from growth in average invested assets and a decrease from lower yields. The increase in average invested assets reflects the Acquisition and growth in our businesses. Beginning in the fourth quarter of 2010, investment earnings and interest credited related to contractholder-directed unit-linked investments were excluded from operating revenues and operating expenses, as the contractholder, and not the Company, directs the investment of the funds. This change in presentation had no impact on operating earnings in the current period; however, it unfavorably impacted the change in net investment income in 2011, when compared to 2010 as positive returns were incurred in 2010 from recovering equity markets. The corresponding favorable impact is reflected in interest credited expense. Decreased yields reflect the decreased operating joint venture returns from the sale of MSI MetLife in second quarter of 2011, the Acquisition, as ALICO's acquired investment portfolio has a larger allocation to lower yielding government securities, partially offset by the impact of higher inflation. The change in net investment income from inflation was offset by a similar change in the related insurance liabilities.

In addition to an increase associated with the Acquisition, operating expenses increased primarily due to higher commissions and compensation expenses in Korea, Mexico, Brazil and Ireland due to business growth, a portion which is offset by DAC capitalization.

Corporate & Other

	Years Ended December 31,			
	2011	2010	Change	% Change
	(In millions)			
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 10	\$ 11	\$ (1)	(9.1)%
Net investment income	914	643	271	42.1%
Other revenues	319	391	(72)	(18.4)%
Total operating revenues	1,243	1,045	198	18.9%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	8	(14)	22	
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	1	1		%
Interest expense on debt	1,294	1,126	168	14.9%
Other expenses	627	467	160	34.3%
Total operating expenses	1,930	1,580	350	22.2%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	(552)	(366)	(186)	(50.8)%
Operating earnings	(135)	(169)	34	20.1%
Less: Preferred stock dividends	122	122		%
Operating earnings available to common shareholders	\$ (257)	\$ (291)	\$ 34	11.7%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

MetLife, Inc. completed four debt financings in August 2010 in connection with the Acquisition, issuing \$1.0 billion of 2.375% senior notes, \$1.0 billion of 4.75% senior notes, \$750 million of 5.875% senior notes, and \$250 million of floating rate senior notes. MetLife, Inc. also issued debt securities in November 2010, which are part of the \$3.0 billion stated value of common equity units. The proceeds from these debt issuances were used to finance the Acquisition.

Table of Contents

Operating earnings available to common shareholders and operating earnings each increased \$34 million, primarily due to higher net investment income and a higher tax benefit. These increases were partially offset by an increase in interest expense of \$109 million, primarily resulting from the 2010 debt issuances, a decrease in earnings related to resolutions of certain legal matters in 2010 and an increase in other expenses.

Net investment income increased \$176 million due to an increase of \$130 million from higher yields and an increase of \$46 million from growth in average invested assets. Yields were primarily impacted by the decline in interest rates, as lower crediting rates were paid to the segments on the economic capital invested on their behalf period over period, lower returns in equity markets and lower returns on alternative investments. An increase in the average invested assets was primarily due to proceeds from the debt issuances referenced above. Our investments primarily include structured securities, investment grade corporate fixed maturities, mortgage loans and U.S. Treasury and agency securities. In addition, our investment portfolio includes the excess capital not allocated to the segments. Accordingly, it includes a higher allocation to certain other invested asset classes to provide additional diversification and opportunity for long-term yield enhancement, including leveraged leases, other limited partnership interests, real estate, real estate joint ventures, trading and other securities and equity securities.

Corporate & Other also benefited in 2011 from a higher tax benefit of \$133 million over 2010 primarily due to \$75 million of charges in 2010 related to the Health Care Act. The higher tax benefit was also a result of higher utilization of tax preferenced investments which provide tax credits and deductions.

Results from our mortgage loan servicing business were lower, driven by an increase in expenses of \$31 million in response to both a larger portfolio and increased regulatory oversight. In addition hedging results were lower by \$21 million.

The Company incurred \$40 million of expenses related to a liquidation plan filed by the Department of Financial Services for ELNY in the third quarter of 2011. In addition, the Company increased advertising costs by \$15 million and incurred higher internal resources costs for associates committed to the Acquisition of \$13 million. Minor fluctuations in various other expense categories, such as interest on uncertain tax positions, and discretionary spending, such as consulting and postemployment related costs, offset each other and resulted in a small increase to earnings. Additionally, the resolutions of certain legal matters in the prior period resulted in \$39 million of lower operating earnings for 2011.

Table of Contents**Results of Operations***Year Ended December 31, 2010 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2009***Consolidated Results**

We have experienced growth and an increase in market share in several of our businesses, which, together with improved overall market conditions compared to conditions a year ago, positively impacted our results most significantly through increased net cash flows, improved yields on our investment portfolio and increased policy fee income. Sales of our domestic annuity products were up 14%, driven by an increase in variable annuity sales compared with the prior year. We benefited in 2010 from strong sales of structured settlement products. Market penetration continues in our pension closeout business in the U.K.; however, although improving, our domestic pension closeout business has been adversely impacted by a combination of poor equity returns and lower interest rates. High levels of unemployment continue to depress growth across our group insurance businesses due to lower covered payrolls. While we experienced growth in our group life business, sales of non-medical health and individual life products declined. Sales of new homeowner and auto policies increased 11% and 4%, respectively, as the housing and automobile markets have improved. We experienced a 30% increase in sales of retirement and savings products abroad.

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2010	2009 (In millions)		
Revenues				
Premiums	\$ 27,071	\$ 26,157	\$ 914	3.5%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	6,028	5,197	831	16.0%
Net investment income	17,511	14,741	2,770	18.8%
Other revenues	2,328	2,329	(1)	%
Net investment gains (losses)	(408)	(2,901)	2,493	85.9%
Net derivative gains (losses)	(265)	(4,866)	4,601	94.6%
Total revenues	52,265	40,657	11,608	28.6%
Expenses				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	30,670	29,652	1,018	3.4%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	4,919	4,845	74	1.5%
Capitalization of DAC	(3,299)	(2,976)	(323)	(10.9)%
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	2,843	1,289	1,554	
Amortization of negative VOBA	(64)		(64)	
Interest expense on debt	1,550	1,044	506	48.5%
Other expenses	11,734	11,164	570	5.1%
Total expenses	48,353	45,018	3,335	7.4%
Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax	3,912	(4,361)	8,273	
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	1,165	(2,025)	3,190	
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	2,747	(2,336)	5,083	
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	39	58	(19)	(32.8)%
Net income (loss)	2,786	(2,278)	5,064	
Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	(4)	(32)	28	87.5%
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	2,790	(2,246)	5,036	
Less: Preferred stock dividends	122	122		%
Preferred stock redemption premium				%

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc. s common shareholders	\$ 2,668	\$ (2,368)	\$ 5,036
--------------------------------------------------------------------	----------	------------	----------

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

During the year ended December 31, 2010, income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax increased \$5.1 billion to a gain of \$2.8 billion from a loss of \$2.3 billion in 2009, of which \$2 million in losses was from the inclusion of one month of ALICO results in 2010. The change was predominantly due to a \$3.0 billion favorable change in net derivative gains (losses) and a \$1.6 billion favorable change in net investment gains (losses). Offsetting these favorable variances totaling \$4.6 billion were unfavorable changes in adjustments related to net derivative and net investment gains (losses) of \$518 million, net of income tax, principally associated with DAC and VOBA amortization, resulting in a total favorable variance related to net derivative and net investment gains (losses), net of related adjustments and income tax, of \$4.1 billion.

The favorable variance in net derivative gains (losses) of \$3.0 billion, from losses of \$3.2 billion in 2009 to losses of \$172 million in 2010 was primarily driven by a favorable change in freestanding derivatives of \$4.4 billion, comprised of a \$4.5 billion favorable change from losses in the prior year of \$4.3 billion to gains in the current year of \$203 million and \$123 million in ALICO freestanding derivative losses. This favorable variance was partially offset by an unfavorable change in embedded derivatives primarily associated with variable annuity minimum benefit guarantees of \$1.4 billion from gains in the prior year of \$1.1 billion to losses in the current year of \$257 million, net of \$5 million in ALICO embedded derivative gains.

We use freestanding interest rate, currency, credit and equity derivatives to provide economic hedges of certain invested assets and insurance liabilities, including embedded derivatives within certain of our variable annuity minimum benefit guarantees. The \$4.5 billion favorable variance in freestanding derivatives was primarily attributable to market factors, including falling long-term and mid-term interest rates, a stronger recovery in equity markets in the prior year than the current year, a greater decrease in equity volatility in the prior year as compared to the current year, a strengthening U.S. dollar and widening corporate credit spreads in the financial services sector. Falling long-term and mid-term interest rates in the current year compared to rising long-term and mid-term interest rates in the prior year had a positive impact of \$2.6 billion on our interest rate derivatives, \$931 million of which is attributable to hedges of variable annuity minimum benefit guarantee liabilities, which are accounted for as embedded derivatives. In addition, stronger equity market recovery and lower equity market volatility in the prior year as compared to the current year had a positive impact of \$1.1 billion on our equity derivatives, which we use to hedge variable annuity minimum benefit guarantees. U.S. dollar strengthening had a positive impact of \$554 million on certain of our foreign currency derivatives, which are used to hedge foreign-denominated asset and liability exposures. Finally, widening corporate credit spreads in the financial services sector had a positive impact of \$221 million on our purchased protection credit derivatives.

Certain variable annuity products with minimum benefit guarantees contain embedded derivatives that are measured at estimated fair value separately from the host variable annuity contract, with changes in estimated fair value reported in net derivative gains (losses). These embedded derivatives also include an adjustment for nonperformance risk of the related liabilities carried at estimated fair value. The \$1.4 billion unfavorable change in embedded derivatives was primarily attributable to the impact of market factors, including falling long-term and mid-term interest rates, changes in foreign currency exchange rates, equity volatility and equity market movements. Falling long-term and mid-term interest rates in the current year compared to rising long-term and mid-term interest rates in the prior year had a negative impact of \$1.4 billion. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates had a negative impact of \$468 million. Equity volatility decreased more in the prior year than in the current year causing a negative impact of \$284 million, and a stronger recovery in the equity markets in the prior year than in the current year had a negative impact of \$228 million. The unfavorable impact from these hedged risks was partially offset by a favorable change related to the adjustment for nonperformance risk of \$1.2 billion, from losses of \$1.3 billion in 2009 to losses of \$62 million in 2010. This \$62 million loss was net of a \$621 million loss related to a refinement in estimating the spreads used in the adjustment for nonperformance risk made in the second quarter of 2010. Gains on the freestanding derivatives that hedged these embedded derivative risks largely offset the change in liabilities attributable to market factors, excluding the adjustment for nonperformance risk, which does not have an economic impact on the Company.

Table of Contents

Improved or stabilizing market conditions across several invested asset classes and sectors as compared to the prior year resulted in decreases in impairments and in net realized losses from sales and disposals of investments in most components of our investment portfolio. These decreases, coupled with a decrease in the provision for credit losses on mortgage loans due to improved market conditions, resulted in a \$1.6 billion improvement in net investment gains (losses).

Income from continuing operations, net of income tax for 2010 includes \$138 million of expenses related to the acquisition and integration of ALICO. These expenses, which primarily consisted of investment banking and legal fees, are recorded in Corporate & Other and are not a component of operating earnings.

Income tax expense for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$1.2 billion, or 30% of income from continuing operations before provision for income tax, compared with income tax benefit of \$2.0 billion, or 46% of the loss from continuing operations before benefit for income tax, for the comparable 2009 period. The Company's 2010 and 2009 effective tax rates differ from the U.S. statutory rate of 35% primarily due to the impact of certain permanent tax differences, including non-taxable investment income and tax credits for investments in low income housing, in relation to income (loss) from continuing operations before income tax, as well as certain foreign permanent tax differences.

As more fully described in the discussion of performance measures above, we use operating earnings, which does not equate to income (loss) from continuing operations as determined in accordance with GAAP, to analyze our performance, evaluate segment performance, and allocate resources. Operating earnings is also a measure by which senior management's and many other employees' performance is evaluated for the purpose of determining their compensation under applicable compensation plans. We believe that the presentation of operating earnings, as we measure it for management purposes, enhances the understanding of our performance by highlighting the results of operations and the underlying profitability drivers of the business. Operating earnings should not be viewed as a substitute for GAAP income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax. Operating earnings available to common shareholders increased by \$1.6 billion to \$3.8 billion in 2010 from \$2.2 billion in 2009.

Table of Contents**Reconciliation of income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, to operating earnings available to common shareholders****Year Ended December 31, 2010**

	000000000	000000000	000000000	000000000	000000000	000000000	000000000	000000000	000000000
	Insurance Products	Retirement Products	Corporate Benefit Funding	Auto & Home	Japan	Other International Regions	Corporate & Other		Total
	(In millions)								
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	\$ 1,367	\$ 792	\$ 1,020	\$ 295	\$ 2	\$ (155)	\$ (574)		\$ 2,747
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	103	139	176	(7)	(9)	(280)	(530)		(408)
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	215	235	(162)	(1)	(144)	(347)	(61)		(265)
Less: Other adjustments to continuing operations (1)	(244)	(381)	140		12	(439)	(2)		(914)
Less: Provision for income tax (expense) benefit	(28)	(4)	(54)	3	49	225	188		379
Operating earnings	\$ 1,321	\$ 803	\$ 920	\$ 300	\$ 94	\$ 686	(169)		3,955
Less: Preferred stock dividends							122		122
Operating earnings available to common shareholders							\$ (291)		\$ 3,833

Year Ended December 31, 2009

	000000000	000000000	000000000	000000000	000000000	000000000	000000000	000000000
	Insurance Products	Retirement Products	Corporate Benefit Funding	Auto & Home	Japan	Other International Regions	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	\$ (422)	\$ (466)	\$ (746)	\$ 321	\$	\$ (289)	\$ (734)	\$ (2,336)
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	(472)	(533)	(1,486)	(41)		(100)	(269)	(2,901)
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	(1,786)	(1,175)	(672)	39		(798)	(474)	(4,866)
Less: Other adjustments to continuing operations (1)	(146)	379	121			(206)	332	480
Less: Provision for income tax (expense) benefit	840	465	711	1		364	216	2,597
Operating earnings	\$ 1,142	\$ 398	\$ 580	\$ 322	\$	\$ 451	(539)	2,354
Less: Preferred stock dividends							122	122
Operating earnings available to common shareholders							\$ (661)	\$ 2,232

(1) See definitions of operating revenues and operating expenses for the components of such adjustments.

Table of Contents**Reconciliation of GAAP revenues to operating revenues and GAAP expenses to operating expenses****Year Ended December 31, 2010**

	Insurance Products	Retirement Products	Corporate Benefit Funding	Auto & Home	Japan	Other International Regions	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Total revenues	\$ 26,444	\$ 6,849	\$ 7,568	\$ 3,146	\$ 669	\$ 5,685	\$ 1,904	\$ 52,265
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	103	139	176	(7)	(9)	(280)	(530)	(408)
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	215	235	(162)	(1)	(144)	(347)	(61)	(265)
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	1							1
Less: Other adjustments to revenues (1)	(151)	(39)	190		116	(72)	1,450	1,494
Total operating revenues	\$ 26,276	\$ 6,514	\$ 7,364	\$ 3,154	\$ 706	\$ 6,384	\$ 1,045	\$ 51,443
Total expenses	\$ 24,338	\$ 5,622	\$ 5,999	\$ 2,781	\$ 664	\$ 5,917	\$ 3,032	\$ 48,353
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	90	35						125
Less: Other adjustments to expenses (1)	4	307	50		104	367	1,452	2,284
Total operating expenses	\$ 24,244	\$ 5,280	\$ 5,949	\$ 2,781	\$ 560	\$ 5,550	\$ 1,580	\$ 45,944

Year Ended December 31, 2009

	Insurance Products	Retirement Products	Corporate Benefit Funding	Auto & Home	Japan	Other International Regions	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Total revenues	\$ 23,476	\$ 3,975	\$ 5,231	\$ 3,113	\$	\$ 3,997	\$ 865	\$ 40,657
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	(472)	(533)	(1,486)	(41)		(100)	(269)	(2,901)
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	(1,786)	(1,175)	(672)	39		(798)	(474)	(4,866)
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	(27)							(27)
Less: Other adjustments to revenues (1)	(81)	(51)	184			(169)	1,283	1,166
Total operating revenues	\$ 25,842	\$ 5,734	\$ 7,205	\$ 3,115	\$	\$ 5,064	\$ 325	\$ 47,285
Total expenses	\$ 24,165	\$ 4,690	\$ 6,400	\$ 2,697	\$	\$ 4,495	\$ 2,571	\$ 45,018
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	39	(739)						(700)
Less: Other adjustments to expenses (1)	(1)	309	63			37	951	1,359
Total operating expenses	\$ 24,127	\$ 5,120	\$ 6,337	\$ 2,697	\$	\$ 4,458	\$ 1,620	\$ 44,359

(1) See definitions of operating revenues and operating expenses for the components of such adjustments.

Table of Contents**Consolidated Results - Operating**

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2010	2009		
	(In millions)			
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 27,071	\$ 26,157	\$ 914	3.5%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	5,817	5,055	762	15.1%
Net investment income	16,880	14,600	2,280	15.6%
Other revenues	1,675	1,473	202	13.7%
Total operating revenues	51,443	47,285	4,158	8.8%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	29,972	29,104	868	3.0%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	4,697	4,849	(152)	(3.1)%
Capitalization of DAC	(3,299)	(2,976)	(323)	(10.9)%
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	2,802	2,186	616	28.2%
Amortization of negative VOBA	(57)		(57)	
Interest expense on debt	1,139	1,044	95	9.1%
Other expenses	10,690	10,152	538	5.3%
Total operating expenses	45,944	44,359	1,585	3.6%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	1,544	572	972	
Operating earnings	3,955	2,354	1,601	68.0%
Less: Preferred stock dividends	122	122		%
Operating earnings available to common shareholders	\$ 3,833	\$ 2,232	\$ 1,601	71.7%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

The improvement in the financial markets was the primary driver of the increase in operating earnings as evidenced by higher net investment income and an increase in average separate account balances, which resulted in an increase in policy fee income. Partially offsetting this improvement was an increase in amortization of DAC, VOBA and DSI. The increase in operating earnings also includes the positive impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates in 2010. This improved reported operating earnings by \$37 million for 2010 compared to 2009. Furthermore, the 2010 period also includes one month of ALICO results, contributing \$114 million to the increase in operating earnings. The current period also benefited from the dividend scale reduction in the fourth quarter of 2009. The improvement in 2010 results compared to 2009 was partially offset by the prior period impact of pesification in Argentina and unfavorable claims experience.

Net investment income increased from higher yields and growth in average invested assets. Yields were positively impacted by the effects of stabilizing real estate markets and recovering private equity markets year over year on real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests, and by the effects of continued repositioning of the accumulated liquidity in our portfolio to longer duration and higher yielding investments, including investment grade corporate fixed maturity securities. Growth in our investment portfolio was primarily due to the Acquisition and positive net cash flows from growth in our domestic individual and group life businesses, as well as certain international businesses, higher cash collateral balances received from our derivative counterparties, as well as the temporary investment of proceeds from the debt and common stock issuances in anticipation of the Acquisition. With the exception of the cash flows from such securities issuances, which were temporarily invested in lower yielding liquid investments, we continued to reposition the accumulated liquidity in our portfolio to longer duration and higher yielding investments.

Since many of our products are interest spread-based, higher net investment income is typically offset by higher interest credited expense. However, interest credited expense, including amounts reflected in policyholder

Table of Contents

benefits and claims, decreased primarily in our domestic funding agreement business, which experienced lower average crediting rates combined with lower average account balances. Our fixed annuities business also experienced lower crediting rates. Certain crediting rates can move consistently with the underlying market indices, primarily the London Inter-Bank Offer Rate (LIBOR), which were lower than the prior year. The impact from the growth in our structured settlement, LTC and disability businesses partially offset those decreases in interest credited expense.

A significant increase in average separate account balances is largely attributable to favorable market performance resulting from improved market conditions since the second quarter of 2009 and positive net cash flows from the annuity business. This resulted in higher policy fees and other revenues of \$444 million, most notably in our Retirement Products segment. In addition, changes in foreign currency exchange rates increased policy fees by \$52 million. The improvement in fees is partially offset by greater DAC, VOBA and DSI amortization of \$325 million. Policy fees are typically calculated as a percentage of the average assets in the separate accounts. DAC, VOBA and DSI amortization is based on the earnings of the business, which in the retirement business are derived, in part, from fees earned on separate account balances. A portion of the increase in amortization was due to the impact of higher current year gross margins, a primary component in the determination of the amount of amortization for our Insurance Products segment, mostly in the closed block resulting from increased investment yields and the impact of dividend scale reductions.

The reduction in the dividend scale in the fourth quarter of 2009 resulted in a \$109 million decrease in policyholder dividends in the traditional life business in the current period.

Claims experience varied amongst our businesses with a net unfavorable impact of \$153 million to operating earnings compared to the prior year. We had unfavorable claims experience in our Auto & Home segment, primarily due to increased catastrophes. Our Insurance Products segment experienced mixed claims experience with a net unfavorable impact. We experienced less favorable mortality experience in our Corporate Benefit Funding segment despite favorable experience in our structured settlements business.

Interest expense increased \$62 million primarily as a result of the full year impact of debt issuances in 2009 and of senior notes and debt securities issued in anticipation of the Acquisition, partially offset by the impact of lower interest rates on variable rate collateral financing arrangements.

In addition to a \$269 million increase associated with the Acquisition, operating expenses increased due to the impact of a \$95 million benefit recorded in the prior period related to the pesification in Argentina, as well as a \$60 million increase related to the investment and growth in our international businesses. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates also increased other expenses by \$54 million. In addition, the current period includes a \$14 million increase in charitable contributions and \$13 million of costs associated with the integration of ALICO. Offsetting these increases was a \$76 million reduction in discretionary spending, such as consulting, rent and postemployment related costs. In addition, we experienced a \$47 million decline in market driven expenses, primarily pension and post retirement benefit costs. Also contributing to the decrease was a \$35 million reduction in real estate-related charges and \$15 million of lower legal costs.

The 2010 period includes \$75 million of charges related to the Health Care Act. The Federal government currently provides a Medicare Part D subsidy. The Health Care Act reduced the tax deductibility of retiree health care costs to the extent of any Medicare Part D subsidy received beginning in 2013. Because the deductibility of future retiree health care costs is reflected in our financial statements, the entire future impact of this change in law was required to be recorded as a charge in the period in which the legislation was enacted. Changes to the provision for income taxes in both periods contributed to an increase in operating earnings of \$86 million for our Other International Regions segment, resulting from a \$34 million unfavorable impact in 2009 due to a change in assumption regarding the repatriation of earnings and a benefit of \$52 million in the current year from additional permanent reinvestment of earnings, the reversal of tax provisions and favorable changes in liabilities for tax uncertainties. In addition, in 2009 we had a larger benefit of \$82 million as compared to 2010 related to the utilization of tax preferred investments which provide tax credits and deductions.

Table of Contents**Insurance Products**

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2010	2009		
	(In millions)			
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 17,200	\$ 17,168	\$ 32	0.2%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	2,247	2,281	(34)	(1.5)%
Net investment income	6,068	5,614	454	8.1%
Other revenues	761	779	(18)	(2.3)%
Total operating revenues	26,276	25,842	434	1.7%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	19,075	19,111	(36)	(0.2)%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	963	952	11	1.2%
Capitalization of DAC	(841)	(873)	32	3.7%
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	966	725	241	33.2%
Interest expense on debt	1	6	(5)	(83.3)%
Other expenses	4,080	4,206	(126)	(3.0)%
Total operating expenses	24,244	24,127	117	0.5%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	711	573	138	24.1%
Operating earnings	\$ 1,321	\$ 1,142	\$ 179	15.7%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

The improvement in the global financial markets had a positive impact on net investment income, which contributed to the increase in Insurance Products operating earnings. In addition, we experienced overall modest revenue growth in several of our businesses despite this challenging environment. High levels of unemployment continue to depress growth across most of our group insurance businesses due to lower covered payrolls. Growth in our group life business was dampened by a decline in our non-medical health and individual life businesses. However, our dental business benefited from higher enrollment and pricing actions, partially offset by lower persistency and the loss of existing subscribers, driven by high unemployment. This business also experienced more stable utilization and benefits costs in the current year. The revenue growth from our dental business was more than offset by a decline in revenues from our disability business, mainly due to net customer cancellations, changes in benefit levels and lower covered lives. Our long-term care revenues were flat year over year, concurrent with the discontinuance of the sale of this coverage at the end of 2010. In our individual life business, the change in revenues was suppressed by the impact of a benefit recorded in the prior year related to the positive resolution of certain legal matters. Excluding this impact, the traditional life business experienced 8% growth in our open block of business. The expected run-off of our closed block more than offset this growth.

The significant components of the \$179 million increase in operating earnings were an improvement in net investment income and the impact of a reduction in dividends to certain policyholders, coupled with lower expenses. These improvements were partially offset by an increase in DAC amortization, as well as net unfavorable claims experience across several of our businesses.

Higher net investment income of \$295 million was due to a \$202 million increase from growth in average invested assets and a \$93 million increase from higher yields. Growth in the investment portfolio was attributed to an increase in net cash flows from the majority of our businesses. The increase in yields was largely due to the positive effects of recovering private equity markets and stabilizing real estate markets on other limited partnership interests and real estate joint ventures. To manage the needs of our intermediate to longer-term liabilities, our portfolio consists primarily of investment grade corporate fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans, structured finance securities (comprised of mortgage and asset-backed securities) and U.S. Treasury and agency securities and, to a lesser extent, certain other invested asset classes, including other limited partnership interests, real estate joint ventures and other invested assets which provide additional diversification and opportunity for long-term yield enhancement.

Table of Contents

The increase in net investment income was partially offset by a \$36 million increase in interest credited on long duration contracts, which is reflected in the change in policyholder benefits and dividends, primarily due to growth in future policyholder benefits in our LTC and disability businesses.

Other expenses decreased by \$82 million, largely due to a decrease of \$40 million from the impact of market conditions on certain expenses, such as pension and post-retirement benefit costs. In addition, a decrease in information technology expenses of \$29 million contributed to the improvement in operating earnings. A decrease in variable expenses, such as commissions and premium taxes, further reduced expenses by \$11 million, a portion of which is offset by DAC capitalization.

The reduction in the dividend scale in the fourth quarter of 2009 resulted in a \$109 million decrease in policyholder dividends in the traditional life business in 2010.

Claims experience varied amongst Insurance Products businesses with a net unfavorable impact of \$42 million to operating earnings. We experienced excellent mortality results in our group life business due to a decrease in severity, as well as favorable reserve refinements in 2010. In addition, an improvement in our LTC results was driven by favorable claim experience mainly due to higher terminations and less claimants in 2010, coupled with the impact of unfavorable reserve refinements in 2009. Our improved dental results were driven by higher enrollment and pricing actions, as well as improved claim experience in the current year. The impact of this positive experience was surpassed by solid, but less favorable mortality, in our individual life business combined with higher incidence and severity of group disability claims in the current year, and the impact of a gain from the recapture of a reinsurance agreement in 2009.

Higher DAC amortization of \$157 million was primarily driven by the impact of higher gross margins, a primary component in the determination of the amount of amortization, mostly in the closed block resulting from increased investment yields and the impact of dividend scale reductions. In addition, the net impact of various model refinements in both 2010 and 2009 increased DAC amortization.

Certain events reduced operating earnings, including the impact of a benefit being recorded in 2009 of \$17 million related to the positive resolution of certain legal matters and an increase in current income tax expense of \$27 million, resulting from an increase in our effective tax rate.

Retirement Products

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2010	2009		
	(In millions)			
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 875	\$ 920	\$ (45)	(4.9)%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	2,024	1,543	481	31.2%
Net investment income	3,395	3,098	297	9.6%
Other revenues	220	173	47	27.2%
Total operating revenues	6,514	5,734	780	13.6%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	1,487	1,486	1	0.1%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	1,612	1,688	(76)	(4.5)%
Capitalization of DAC	(1,067)	(1,067)		%
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	808	610	198	32.5%
Interest expense on debt	3		3	
Other expenses	2,437	2,403	34	1.4%
Total operating expenses	5,280	5,120	160	3.1%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	431	216	215	99.5%

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Operating earnings	\$ 803	\$ 398	\$ 405
--------------------	--------	--------	--------

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

During 2010, overall annuity sales decreased 5% compared to 2009 as declines in fixed annuity sales were partially offset by increased sales of our variable annuity products. The financial market turmoil in early 2009 resulted in extraordinarily high sales of fixed annuity products in 2009. The high sales level was not expected to continue after the financial markets returned to more stable levels. Variable annuity product sales increased primarily due to the expansion of alternative distribution channels and fewer competitors in the market place. Surrender rates for both our variable and fixed annuities remained low during the current period as we believe our customers continue to value our products compared to other alternatives in the marketplace.

Interest rate and equity market changes were the primary driver of the \$405 million increase in operating earnings, with the largest impact resulting from a \$343 million increase in policy fees and other revenues and, a \$193 million increase in net investment income, offset by a \$132 million increase in DAC, VOBA and DSI amortization and a \$39 million increase in commission expense resulting from growth in annuity contract balances.

A significant increase in average separate account balances was largely attributable to favorable market performance resulting from improved market conditions since the second quarter of 2009 and positive net cash flows from the annuity business. This resulted in higher policy fees and other revenues of \$343 million, partially offset by greater DAC, VOBA and DSI amortization. Policy fees are typically calculated as a percentage of the average assets in the separate account. DAC, VOBA and DSI amortization is based on the earnings of the business, which in the retirement business are derived, in part, from fees earned on separate account balances.

Financial market improvements also resulted in the increase in net investment income of \$193 million as a \$291 million increase from higher yields was partially offset by a \$98 million decrease from a decline in average invested assets. Yields were positively impacted by the effects of the continued repositioning of the accumulated liquidity in our investment portfolio to longer duration and higher yielding assets, including investment grade corporate fixed maturity securities. Yields were also positively impacted by the effects of recovering private equity markets and stabilizing real estate markets on other limited partnership interests and real estate joint ventures. Despite positive net cash flows, a reduction in the general account investment portfolio was due to the impact of more customers gaining confidence in the equity markets and, as a result, electing to transfer funds into our separate account investment options as market conditions improved. To manage the needs of our intermediate to longer-term liabilities, our investment portfolio consists primarily of investment grade corporate fixed maturity securities, structured finance securities, mortgage loans and U.S. Treasury and agency securities and, to a lesser extent, certain other invested asset classes, including other limited partnership interests, real estate joint ventures and other invested assets, in order to provide additional diversification and opportunity for long-term yield enhancement.

Annuity guaranteed benefit liabilities, net of a decrease in paid claims, increased benefits by \$13 million primarily from our annual unlocking of assumptions related to these liabilities.

Interest credited expense decreased \$49 million driven by lower average crediting rates on fixed annuities and higher amortization of excess interest reserve due to one large case surrender in 2010, partially offset by growth in our fixed annuity PABs.

Table of Contents**Corporate Benefit Funding**

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2010	2009 (In millions)		
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 1,938	\$ 2,264	\$ (326)	(14.4)%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	226	176	50	28.4%
Net investment income	4,954	4,527	427	9.4%
Other revenues	246	238	8	3.4%
Total operating revenues	7,364	7,205	159	2.2%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	4,041	4,245	(204)	(4.8)%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	1,445	1,632	(187)	(11.5)%
Capitalization of DAC	(19)	(14)	(5)	(35.7)%
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	16	15	1	6.7%
Interest expense on debt	6	3	3	100.0%
Other expenses	460	456	4	0.9%
Total operating expenses	5,949	6,337	(388)	(6.1)%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	495	288	207	71.9%
Operating earnings	\$ 920	\$ 580	\$ 340	58.6%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

Corporate Benefit Funding benefited in 2010 from strong sales of structured settlement products and continued market penetration of our pension closeout business in the U.K. However, structured settlement premiums have declined \$174 million, before income tax, from 2009 reflecting extraordinary sales in the fourth quarter of 2009. While market penetration continued in our pension closeout business in the U.K. as the number of sold cases increased, the average premium has declined, resulting in a decrease in premiums of \$216 million, before income tax. Although improving, a combination of poor equity returns and lower interest rates have contributed to pension plans remaining underfunded, both in the U.S. and in the U.K., which reduces our customers' flexibility to engage in transactions such as pension closeouts. For each of these businesses, the movement in premiums is almost entirely offset by the related change in policyholder benefits. The insurance liability that is established at the time we assume the risk under these contracts is typically equivalent to the premium recognized.

The \$340 million increase in operating earnings was primarily driven by an improvement in net investment income and the impact of lower crediting rates, partially offset by the impact of prior period favorable liability refinements and less favorable mortality.

The primary driver of the \$340 million increase in operating earnings was higher net investment income of \$278 million, reflecting a \$187 million increase from higher yields and a \$91 million increase in average invested assets. Yields were positively impacted by the effects of stabilizing real estate markets and recovering private equity markets on real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests. These improvements in yields were partially offset by decreased yields on fixed maturity securities due to the reinvestment of proceeds from maturities and sales during this lower interest rate environment. Growth in the investment portfolio is due to an increase in average PABs and growth in the securities lending program. To manage the needs of our longer-term liabilities, our portfolio consists primarily of investment grade corporate fixed maturity securities, structured finance securities, mortgage loans and U.S. Treasury and agency securities, and, to a lesser extent, certain other invested asset classes including other limited partnership interests, real estate joint ventures and other invested assets in order to provide additional diversification and opportunity for long-term yield enhancement. For our short-term obligations, we invest primarily in structured finance securities, mortgage loans and investment grade

Table of Contents

corporate fixed maturity securities. The yields on these short-term investments have moved consistently with the underlying market indices, primarily LIBOR and U.S. Treasury, on which they are based.

As many of our products are interest spread-based, changes in net investment income are typically offset by a corresponding change in interest credited expense. However, interest credited expense decreased \$122 million, primarily related to our funding agreement business as a result of lower average crediting rates combined with lower average account balances. Certain crediting rates can move consistently with the underlying market indices, primarily LIBOR, which were lower than the prior year. Interest credited expense related to the structured settlement businesses increased \$40 million as a result of the increase in the average policyholder liabilities.

Mortality experience was mixed and reduced operating earnings in 2010 by \$26 million. Less favorable mortality in our pension closeouts and corporate owned life insurance businesses compared to 2009 was only slightly offset by favorable mortality experience in our structured settlements business.

Liability refinements in both 2010 and 2009 resulted in a \$28 million decrease to operating earnings. These were largely offset by the impact of a charge in the 2009 period related to a refinement of a reinsurance recoverable in the small business recordkeeping business which increased operating earnings by \$20 million.

Auto & Home

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2010	2009 (In millions)		
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 2,923	\$ 2,902	\$ 21	0.7%
Net investment income	209	180	29	16.1%
Other revenues	22	33	(11)	(33.3)%
Total operating revenues	3,154	3,115	39	1.3%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	2,021	1,932	89	4.6%
Capitalization of DAC	(448)	(435)	(13)	(3.0)%
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	439	436	3	0.7%
Other expenses	769	764	5	0.7%
Total operating expenses	2,781	2,697	84	3.1%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	73	96	(23)	(24.0)%
Operating earnings	\$ 300	\$ 322	\$ (22)	(6.8)%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

The improving housing and automobile markets have provided opportunities that led to increased new business sales for both homeowners and auto policies in 2010. Sales of new policies increased 11% for our homeowners business and 4% for our auto business in 2010 compared to 2009. Average premium per policy also improved in 2010 over 2009 in our homeowners businesses but remained flat in our auto business.

The primary driver of the \$22 million decrease in operating earnings was unfavorable claims experience, partially offset by higher net investment income and increased premiums.

Catastrophe-related losses increased by \$58 million compared to 2009 due to increases in both the number and severity of storms. The 2010 claim costs decreased \$19 million as a result of lower frequencies in both our auto and homeowners businesses; however, this was partially offset by a \$13 million increase in claims due to higher severity in our homeowners business. Also contributing to the decline in operating

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

earnings was an increase of \$7 million in loss adjusting expenses, primarily related to a decrease in our unallocated loss adjusting expense liabilities at the end of 2009.

Table of Contents

The impact of the items discussed above can be seen in the unfavorable change in the combined ratio, including catastrophes, increasing to 94.6% in 2010 from 92.3% in 2009 and the favorable change in the combined ratio, excluding catastrophes, decreasing to 88.1% in 2010 from 88.9% in 2009.

A \$19 million increase in net investment income partially offset the declines in operating earnings discussed above. Net investment income was higher primarily as a result of an increase in average invested assets, including changes in allocated equity, partially offset by a decrease in yields. This portfolio is comprised primarily of high quality municipal bonds.

The increase in average premium per policy in our homeowners businesses improved operating earnings by \$10 million as did an increase in exposures which improved operating earnings by \$1 million. Exposures are primarily each automobile for the auto line of business and each residence for the property line of business. Also improving operating earnings, through an increase in premiums, was a \$5 million reduction in reinsurance costs.

The slight increase in other expenses was more than offset by an \$8 million increase in DAC capitalization, resulting primarily from increased premiums written.

In addition, a first quarter 2010 write-off of an equity interest in a mandatory state underwriting pool required by a change in legislation and a decrease in income from a retroactive reinsurance agreement in run-off, both of which were recorded in other revenues, drove a \$7 million decrease in operating earnings. Auto & Home also benefited from a lower effective tax rate which improved operating earnings by \$8 million primarily as a result of tax free interest income representing a larger portion of pre-tax income.

Japan

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	Change
	(In millions)		
OPERATING REVENUES			
Premiums	\$ 499	\$	\$ 499
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	55		55
Net investment income	145		145
Other revenues	7		7
Total operating revenues	706		706
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	309		309
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	123		123
Capitalization of DAC	(149)		(149)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	82		82
Amortization of negative VOBA	(49)		(49)
Other expenses	244		244
Total operating expenses	560		560
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	52		52
Operating earnings	\$ 94	\$	\$ 94

Our Japan operation is comprised of the Japan business acquired in the Acquisition and is among the largest foreign life insurers in Japan. Through our Japan operation we provide life insurance, accident and health insurance, annuities and endowment products to both individuals and groups. Reported operating earnings reflect the operating results of ALICO from the Acquisition Date through November 30, 2010, ALICO's fiscal year-end. Therefore, Japan's operating earnings for 2010 include one month of results from ALICO operations.

Table of Contents**Other International Regions**

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2010	2009 (In millions)		
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 3,625	\$ 2,884	\$ 741	25.7%
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	1,265	1,055	210	19.9%
Net investment income	1,466	1,111	355	32.0%
Other revenues	28	14	14	100.0%
Total operating revenues	6,384	5,064	1,320	26.1%
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	3,053	2,326	727	31.3%
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	554	577	(23)	(4.0)%
Capitalization of DAC	(775)	(587)	(188)	(32.0)%
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	490	397	93	23.4%
Amortization of negative VOBA	(8)		(8)	
Interest expense on debt	3	8	(5)	(62.5)%
Other expenses	2,233	1,737	496	28.6%
Total operating expenses	5,550	4,458	1,092	24.5%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	148	155	(7)	(4.5)%
Operating earnings	\$ 686	\$ 451	\$ 235	52.1%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

The improvement in the global financial markets has resulted in continued growth, with an increase in sales in the current period compared to the prior period excluding the results of our Japan joint venture. Retirement and savings sales increased driven by strong annuity, universal life and pension sales in Europe, Mexico, Chile, Korea and China. In our Europe and the Middle East operations, sales of annuities and universal life products remained strong, more than doubling from the prior year, partially offset by lower pension and variable universal life sales in India due to the loss of a major distributor, as well as lower credit life sales. Our Latin America operation experienced an overall increase in sales resulting from solid growth in pension and universal life sales in Mexico and an increase in fixed annuity sales in Chile due to market recovery, slightly offset by lower bank sales in Brazil resulting from incentives offered in the prior year. Sales in our Asia Pacific operation, excluding the results of our Japan joint venture, increased primarily due to higher variable universal life sales in Korea, slightly offset by the decline in annuity sales and strong bank channel sales in China.

Reported operating earnings increased by \$235 million over the prior year. The positive impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates improved reported earnings by \$37 million for 2010 compared to 2009. Reported operating earnings reflect the operating results of ALICO operations other than Japan from the Acquisition Date through November 30, 2010, which contributed \$20 million to our 2010 operating earnings. As previously noted, ALICO's fiscal year-end is November 30; therefore, our results for the year include one month of results from ALICO operations other than Japan.

Changes in assumptions for measuring the impact of inflation on certain inflation-indexed fixed maturity securities increased operating earnings. Changes to the provision for income taxes in both periods contributed to an increase in operating earnings, resulting from an unfavorable impact in 2009 from a change in assumption regarding the repatriation of earnings and a benefit in the current year from additional permanent reinvestment of earnings, the reversal of tax provisions and favorable changes in liabilities for tax uncertainties. Business growth in our Latin America operation contributed to an increase in operating earnings. Operating earnings in Mexico increased due to growth in our institutional and individual businesses, partially offset by the impact of

Table of Contents

unfavorable claims experience. Higher investment yields resulting from portfolio restructuring was the primary driver in Argentina contributing to an improvement in operating earnings. India's results benefited primarily due to lower expenses resulting from the loss of a major distributor and slower growth resulting from market conditions.

Partially offsetting these increases is the impact of pesification in Argentina, which favorably impacted 2009 reported earnings by \$95 million. This prior period benefit was due to a liability release resulting from a reassessment of our approach in managing existing and potential future claims related to certain social security pension annuity contractholders in Argentina. In addition, operating earnings in Australia were lower, which was primarily due to a write-off of DAC attributable to a change in a product feature in the current period.

Net investment income increased from growth in average invested assets and improved yields. Growth in average invested assets reflects growth in our businesses. Improved yields reflects the impact of increased inflation, primarily in Chile, as well as the impact of changes in assumptions for measuring the effects of inflation on certain inflation-indexed fixed maturity securities. The increase in net investment income from higher inflation was offset by an increase in the related insurance liabilities due to higher inflation. Although diversification into higher yielding investments had a positive impact on yields, this was partially offset by decreased trading and other securities results driven by a stronger recovery in equity markets in 2009 compared to 2010, primarily in Hong Kong, and by a decrease in the results of our operating joint ventures. The reduction in net investment income from our trading portfolio is entirely offset by a corresponding decrease in the interest credited on the related contractholder account balances and therefore had no impact on operating earnings.

In addition to an increase associated with the Acquisition, operating expenses increased due to the impact of the pesification in Argentina noted above, as well as current period business growth in Korea, Brazil and Mexico, which resulted in increased commissions and compensation. These increases were partially offset by lower commissions and business expenses in India.

Corporate & Other

	Years Ended December 31,		Change	% Change
	2010	2009 (In millions)		
OPERATING REVENUES				
Premiums	\$ 11	\$ 19	\$ (8)	(42.1)%
Net investment income	643	70	573	
Other revenues	391	236	155	65.7%
Total operating revenues	1,045	325	720	
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	(14)	4	(18)	
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	1	3	(2)	(66.7)%
Interest expense on debt	1,126	1,027	99	9.6%
Other expenses	467	586	(119)	(20.3)%
Total operating expenses	1,580	1,620	(40)	(2.5)%
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	(366)	(756)	390	51.6%
Operating earnings	(169)	(539)	370	68.6%
Less: Preferred stock dividends	122	122		%
Operating earnings (losses) available to common shareholders	\$ (291)	\$ (661)	\$ 370	56.0%

Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.

MetLife, Inc. completed four debt financings in August 2010 in anticipation of the Acquisition, issuing \$1.0 billion of 2.375% senior notes, \$1.0 billion of 4.75% senior notes, \$750 million of 5.875% senior notes, and

Table of Contents

\$250 million of floating rate senior notes. MetLife, Inc. also issued debt securities, which are part of the \$3.0 billion stated value of common equity units. The proceeds from these debt issuances were used to finance the Acquisition. MetLife, Inc. completed three debt issuances in 2009 in response to the economic crisis, issuing \$397 million of floating rate senior notes in March 2009, \$1.3 billion of senior notes in May 2009, and \$500 million of junior subordinated debt securities in July 2009. The proceeds from these debt issuances were used for general corporate purposes.

Operating earnings available to common shareholders and operating earnings, which excludes preferred stock dividends, each increased \$370 million, primarily due to an increase in net investment income and a reduction in operating expenses, partially offset by a decrease in tax benefit and an increase in interest expense resulting from the debt issuances noted above.

Net investment income increased \$372 million reflecting an increase of \$242 million due to higher yields and an increase of \$130 million from growth in average invested assets. Yields were positively impacted by the effects of recovering private equity markets and stabilizing real estate markets on other limited partnership interests and real estate joint ventures. This was partially offset by lower fixed maturities and mortgage loan yields which were adversely impacted by the reinvestment of proceeds from maturities and sales during this lower interest rate environment and from decreased trading and other securities results due to a stronger recovery in equity markets in 2009 as compared to 2010. In addition, due to the lower interest rate environment in the current year, less net investment income was credited to the segments in 2010 compared to 2009. Growth in average invested assets was primarily due to higher cash collateral balances received from our derivative counterparties and the temporary investment of the proceeds from the debt and common stock issuances in anticipation of the Acquisition. Our investments primarily include structured finance securities, investment grade corporate fixed maturities, mortgage loans and U.S. Treasury and agency securities. In addition, our investment portfolio includes the excess capital not allocated to the segments. Accordingly, it includes a higher allocation of certain other invested asset classes to provide additional diversification and opportunity for long-term yield enhancement, including leveraged leases, other limited partnership interests, real estate, real estate joint ventures, trading securities and equity securities.

Corporate & Other benefited in 2010 from a \$76 million reduction in discretionary spending, such as consulting and postemployment related costs, a \$35 million decrease in real estate-related charges and \$15 million of lower legal costs. These savings were partially offset by a \$14 million increase in charitable contributions. The current year also included \$44 million of internal resource costs for associates committed to the Acquisition. Additionally, the resolutions of certain legal matters increased operating earnings by \$35 million.

Positive results from our mortgage loan servicing business were driven by a \$32 million improvement in hedging results. A larger portfolio resulted in higher servicing fees of \$18 million. This was partially offset by \$10 million of additional expenses incurred in response to both the larger portfolio and increased regulatory oversight.

Interest expense increased \$64 million primarily as a result of the debt issuances in 2009 and the senior notes and debt securities issued in anticipation of the Acquisition, partially offset by the impact of lower interest rates on variable rate collateral financing arrangements.

The 2010 period includes \$75 million of charges related to the Health Care Act. The Federal government currently provides a Medicare Part D subsidy. The Health Care Act reduced the tax deductibility of retiree health care costs to the extent of any Medicare Part D subsidy received beginning in 2013. Because the deductibility of future retiree health care costs is reflected in our financial statements, the entire future impact of this change in law was required to be recorded as a charge in the period in which the legislation was enacted. As a result, we incurred a \$75 million charge in the first quarter of 2010. The Health Care Act also amended Internal Revenue Code Section 162(m) as a result of which MetLife was initially considered a healthcare provider, as defined, and would be subject to limits on tax deductibility of certain types of compensation. In December 2010, the Internal

Table of Contents

Revenue Service issued Notice 2011-2 which clarified that the executive compensation deduction limitation included in the Health Care Act did not apply to insurers like MetLife selling de minimis amounts of health care coverage. As a result, in the fourth quarter of 2010, we reversed \$18 million of previously recorded taxes for 2010. In 2009, Corporate & Other received a larger benefit of \$49 million as compared to 2010 related to the utilization of tax preferred investments which provide tax credits and deductions.

Effects of Inflation

Management believes that inflation has not had a material effect on its consolidated results of operations, except insofar as inflation may affect interest rates.

An increase in inflation could affect our business in several ways. During inflationary periods, the value of fixed income investments falls which could increase realized and unrealized losses. Inflation also increases expenses for labor and other materials, potentially putting pressure on profitability if such costs cannot be passed through in our product prices. Inflation could also lead to increased costs for losses and loss adjustment expenses in certain of our businesses, which could require us to adjust our pricing to reflect our expectations for future inflation. Prolonged and elevated inflation could adversely affect the financial markets and the economy generally, and dispelling it may require governments to pursue a restrictive fiscal and monetary policy, which could constrain overall economic activity, inhibit revenue growth and reduce the number of attractive investment opportunities.

Investments

Investment Risks

The Company's primary investment objective is to optimize, net of income tax, risk-adjusted investment income and risk-adjusted total return while ensuring that assets and liabilities are managed on a cash flow and duration basis. The Company is exposed to four primary sources of investment risk:

credit risk, relating to the uncertainty associated with the continued ability of a given obligor to make timely payments of principal and interest;

interest rate risk, relating to the market price and cash flow variability associated with changes in market interest rates;

liquidity risk, relating to the diminished ability to sell certain investments in times of strained market conditions; and

market valuation risk, relating to the variability in the estimated fair value of investments associated with changes in market factors such as credit spreads.

The Company manages risk through in-house fundamental analysis of the underlying obligors, issuers, transaction structures and real estate properties. The Company also manages credit risk, market valuation risk and liquidity risk through industry and issuer diversification and asset allocation. For real estate and agricultural assets, the Company manages credit risk and market valuation risk through geographic, property type and product type diversification and asset allocation. The Company manages interest rate risk as part of its asset and liability management strategies; through product design, such as the use of market value adjustment features and surrender charges; and through proactive monitoring and management of certain non-guaranteed elements of its products, such as the resetting of credited interest and dividend rates for policies that permit such adjustments. The Company also uses certain derivative instruments in the management of credit, interest rate, currency and equity market risks.

Purchased credit default swaps are utilized by the Company to mitigate credit risk in its investment portfolio. Generally, the Company purchases credit protection by entering into credit default swaps referencing the issuers of specific assets owned by the Company. In certain cases, basis risk exists between these credit default swaps

Table of Contents

and the specific assets owned by the Company. For example, the Company may purchase credit protection on a macro basis to reduce exposure to specific industries or other portfolio concentrations. In such instances, the referenced entities and obligations under the credit default swaps may not be identical to the individual obligors or securities in the Company's investment portfolio. In addition, the Company's purchased credit default swaps may have shorter tenors than the underlying investments they are hedging. However, the Company dynamically hedges this risk through the rebalancing and rollover of its credit default swaps at their most liquid tenors. The Company believes that its purchased credit default swaps serve as effective legal and economic hedges of its credit exposure.

The Company generally enters into market standard purchased and written credit default swap contracts. Payout under such contracts is triggered by certain credit events experienced by the referenced entities. For credit default swaps covering North American corporate issuers, credit events typically include bankruptcy and failure to pay on borrowed money. For European corporate issuers, credit events typically also include involuntary restructuring. With respect to credit default contracts on Western European sovereign debt, credit events typically include failure to pay debt obligations, repudiation, moratorium, or involuntary restructuring. In each case, payout on a credit default swap is triggered only after the Credit Derivatives Determinations Committee of the International Swaps and Derivatives Association deems that a credit event has occurred.

Current Environment

The global economy and markets are still affected by a period of significant stress that began in the second half of 2007. This disruption adversely affected the financial services sector in particular and global capital markets. The Federal Reserve Board has taken a number of actions in recent years to spur economic activity by keeping interest rates low and may take further actions to influence interest rates in the future, which may have an impact on the pricing levels of risk-bearing investments. See Risk Factors Governmental and Regulatory Actions for the Purpose of Stabilizing and Revitalizing the Financial Markets and Protecting Investors and Consumers May Not Achieve the Intended Effect or Could Adversely Affect Our Competitive Position.

Beginning in 2010 and continuing throughout 2011, concerns increased about capital markets and the solvency of certain European Union member states, including Portugal, Ireland, Italy, Greece and Spain, and of financial institutions that have significant direct or indirect exposure to their sovereign debt. This, in turn, increased market volatility that will continue to affect the performance of various asset classes in 2012, and perhaps longer, until there is an ultimate resolution of these European Union sovereign debt-related concerns.

As a result of concerns about the ability of Portugal, Ireland, Italy, Greece and Spain, commonly referred to as Europe's perimeter region, to service their sovereign debt, these countries have experienced credit ratings downgrades, including the downgrade of Greece's sovereign debt in July 2011 by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. (Moody's) and S&P to Ca and CC ratings, respectively rating designations of likely in, or very near, default, following the announcement of the debt exchange proposal summarized below. In February 2012, S&P further downgraded Greece, as described below. Despite support programs for Europe's perimeter region, concerns about the ability to service sovereign debt subsequently expanded to other European Union member states. As a result, in late 2011 and early 2012, several other European Union member states have experienced credit ratings downgrades or have had their credit ratings outlook changed to negative. As summarized below, at December 31, 2011, the Company did not have significant exposure to the sovereign debt of Europe's perimeter region. Accordingly, we do not expect such investments to have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition. Outside of Europe's perimeter region, the Company's sovereign debt, corporate debt and perpetual hybrid securities in Europe were concentrated in the United Kingdom, Germany, France, the Netherlands and Poland, which are higher-rated countries within the European Union, as well in Switzerland and Norway, which are two higher-rated non-European Union countries.

Greece Support Program. In July 2011, a public sector support program for Greece of \$109 billion was announced, as well as a separate, voluntary debt exchange proposal for private sector holders of Greece sovereign debt (known as Private Sector Involvement, or PSI). Private investors that voluntarily participate in the initially proposed July PSI proposal, which was expected to apply to Greece's sovereign debt maturing

Table of Contents

through 2019, were expected to incur losses on a net present value basis of approximately 20% on such securities. In October 2011, a revision of the July PSI proposal was announced which included a voluntary 50% nominal discount on all maturities of Greece sovereign debt held by the private sector. In addition to this, the public sector Greece financing package was revised to 100 billion plus a contribution of 30 billion from Greece's public sector creditors to provide collateral enhancements on the exchanged Greece sovereign bonds under the October PSI proposal. On February 21, 2012, the Euro Group, which is comprised of the finance ministers of the member states of the European Union, representatives of the European Commission and the European Central Bank, announced a 130 billion support program that contains a PSI proposal for a voluntary 53.5% nominal discount on all maturities of Greece sovereign debt held by the private sector. On February 23, 2012, Greece's Parliament retroactively inserted collective action clauses in the documentation of certain series of its sovereign debt, which has the effect of binding all private sector investors to accept the terms of a debt exchange, if a quorum of private sector investors accepts the debt exchange proposal. Greece launched a sovereign debt exchange offer on February 24, 2012. On February 27, 2012, as a result of the retroactive insertion of such collective action clauses, S&P downgraded Greece's credit rating to SD, a rating of selective default. If the Greece sovereign debt exchange offer is consummated, S&P has stated it will likely consider the selective default to have been cured and would likely raise the sovereign credit rating on Greece.

Europe's Perimeter Region Sovereign Debt Securities. Our holdings of Greece sovereign debt were acquired in the Acquisition and our amortized cost basis reflects recording such securities at estimated fair value on November 1, 2010, which was substantially below par, partially mitigating our impairment exposure. During the year ended December 31, 2011, we recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$405 million on our holdings of Greece's sovereign debt. In addition, during the year ended December 31, 2011, we sold a significant portion of our Europe's perimeter region sovereign debt, thereby substantially reducing our exposure. The par value, amortized cost and estimated fair value of holdings in sovereign debt of Europe's perimeter region were \$874 million, \$254 million and \$264 million at December 31, 2011, respectively, and \$1.9 billion, \$1.6 billion and \$1.6 billion at December 31, 2010, respectively.

Select European Countries Investment Exposures. Due to the current level of economic, fiscal and political strain in Europe's perimeter region and Cyprus, the Company continually monitors and adjusts its level of investment exposure in these countries. We manage direct and indirect investment exposure in these countries through fundamental credit analysis. The following table presents a summary of investments by invested asset class and related purchased credit default protection across Europe's perimeter region, by country, and Cyprus.

Summary of Select European Country Investment Exposure at December 31, 2011 (1)(2)
Fixed maturity securities (3)

	Sovereign	Financial Services	Non-Financial Services	Total	All Other General Account Investment Exposure (4)(5)	Total Exposure (6)	%	Purchased Credit Default Protection (7)	Net Exposure	%
	(In millions)									
Europe's perimeter region:										
Portugal	\$ 16	\$ 4	\$ 164	\$ 184	\$ 9	\$ 193	5 %	\$ (31)	\$ 162	4 %
Italy	30	242	995	1,267	80	1,347	33	(11)	1,336	33
Ireland	16	6	537	559	532	1,091	26		1,091	27
Greece	189			189	203	392	9		392	9
Spain	13	163	764	940	60	1,000	24		1,000	24
Total Europe's perimeter region	264	415	2,460	3,139	884	4,023	97	(42)	3,981	97
Cyprus	80			80	34	114	3		114	3
Total	\$ 344	\$ 415	\$ 2,460	\$ 3,219	\$ 918	\$ 4,137	100 %	\$ (42)	\$ 4,095	100 %
As percent of total cash and invested assets	0.1%	0.1%	0.4%	0.6%	0.2%	0.8%		0.0%	0.8 %	
Investment grade percent	41%	99%	93%	88%						
Non investment grade percent	59%	1%	7%	12%						

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

- (1) Information is presented on a country of risk basis (e.g. the country where the issuer primarily conducts business).
- (2) The Company has not written any credit default swaps with an underlying risk related to any of these six countries.

Table of Contents

- (3) Presented at estimated fair value. The par value and amortized cost of the fixed maturity securities were \$3.9 billion and \$3.4 billion, respectively, at December 31, 2011.
- (4) Comprised of equity securities, FVO general account securities, real estate and real estate joint ventures, other limited partnership interests, cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments, and other invested assets at carrying value. See Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for an explanation of the carrying value for these invested asset classes.
- (5) Excludes FVO contractholder-directed unit-linked investments of \$667 million, which support unit-linked variable annuity type liabilities and do not qualify for separate account summary total assets and liabilities. The contractholder, and not the Company, directs the investment of these funds. The related variable annuity type liability is satisfied from the contractholder's account balance and not from the general account investments of the Company.
- (6) There were no unfunded commitments related to these investments as of December 31, 2011.
- (7) Purchased credit default protection is stated at the estimated fair value of the swap. For Portugal, the purchased credit default protection relates to sovereign securities and this swap had a notional amount of \$100 million and an estimated fair value of \$31 million as of December 31, 2011. For Italy, the purchased credit default protection relates to financial services corporate securities and these swaps had a notional amount of \$80 million and an estimated fair value of \$11 million at December 31, 2011. The counterparties to these swaps are financial institutions with S&P credit ratings ranging from A+ to A- as of December 31, 2011.

European Region Investments. The Company has investments across certain European Union member states and other countries in the region that are not members of the European Union (collectively, the European Region). In the European Region, we have proactively mitigated risk in both direct and indirect exposures by investing in a diversified portfolio of high quality investments with a focus on the higher-rated countries, reducing our holdings through sales of financial services securities during 2010 and 2011 and sales of Europe's perimeter region sovereign debt in 2011, and by purchasing certain single name credit default protection in 2010 and 2011. Our sales of financial services securities were focused on institutions with exposure to Europe's perimeter region, lower preference capital structure instruments, and larger positions. Sovereign debt issued by countries outside of Europe's perimeter region comprised \$8.4 billion, or 97% of European Region sovereign fixed maturity securities, at estimated fair value at December 31, 2011. The European Region corporate securities (fixed maturity and perpetual hybrid securities classified as non-redeemable preferred stock) are invested in a diversified portfolio of primarily non-financial services securities, which comprised \$25.8 billion, or 77% of European Region total corporate securities, at estimated fair value at December 31, 2011. Of these European Region sovereign fixed maturity and corporate securities, 92% were investment grade and, for the 8% that were below investment grade, the majority were non-financial services corporate securities at December 31, 2011. European Region financial services corporate securities at estimated fair value were \$7.6 billion, including \$5.9 billion within the banking sector, with 94% invested in investment grade rated corporate securities, at December 31, 2011.

Rating Actions - U.S. Treasury Securities. In August 2011, S&P downgraded the AAA rating on U.S. Treasury securities to AA+ with a negative outlook, while Moody's affirmed the Aaa rating on U.S. Treasury securities, but with a negative outlook. Fitch affirmed its AAA rating on U.S. Treasury securities and kept its outlook stable. In October 2011, Moody's affirmed its August 2011 ratings but revised its negative outlook to stable. In November 2011, Fitch affirmed its AAA rating on U.S. Treasury securities but changed its U.S. credit rating outlook to negative from stable, citing the failure of a special Congressional committee to agree on certain deficit-reduction measures. We continue to closely evaluate the implications on our investment portfolio of further rating agency downgrades of U.S. Treasury securities and believe our investment portfolio is well positioned. In light of the related market uncertainty, we increased our liquidity position in July 2011. With the raising of the statutory debt ceiling in August 2011, we have subsequently redeployed and reduced some of

Table of Contents

this increased liquidity position into higher yielding investments according to our ALM discipline. Despite the downgrade by S&P, yields on U.S. Treasury securities have decreased since these actions, causing an increase in the unrealized gain position on our holdings of U.S. Treasury and agency securities. The S&P downgrade initially had an adverse effect on financial markets but the extent of the longer-term impact cannot be predicted. See *Risk Factors* *Concerns Over U.S. Fiscal Policy and the Trajectory of the National Debt of the U.S.*, as well as *Rating Agency Downgrades of U.S. Treasury Securities Could Have an Adverse Effect on Our Business, Financial Condition and Results of Operations*.

Japan Investments. The Japanese economy, to which we face substantial exposure given our operations there, was significantly negatively impacted by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Although we expect modest growth in the Japanese economy during 2012, disruptions to the Japanese economy are having, and will continue to have, negative impacts on the overall global economy, not all of which can be foreseen. The Company's investment in fixed maturity and equity securities in Japan were \$28.4 billion, of which \$21.0 billion, or 74%, were Japan government and agency fixed maturity securities at December 31, 2011.

Summary. All of these factors have had and could continue to have an adverse effect on the financial results of companies in the financial services industry, including MetLife. Such global economic conditions, as well as the global financial markets, continue to impact our net investment income, our net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses), level of unrealized gains and (losses) within the various asset classes within our investment portfolio and our allocation to lower yielding cash equivalents and short-term investments. See *Industry Trends* and *Risk Factors* *Difficult Conditions in the Global Capital Markets and the Economy Generally May Materially Adversely Affect Our Business and Results of Operations and These Conditions May Not Improve in the Near Future*.

Table of Contents**Composition of Investment Portfolio and Investment Portfolio Results**

The following yield table presents the investment income, investment portfolio gains (losses), annualized yields on average ending assets and ending carrying value for each of the asset classes within the investment portfolio, as well as investment income and investment portfolio gains (losses) for the investment portfolio as a whole. The yield table also presents gains (losses) on derivative instruments which are used to manage risk for certain invested assets and certain insurance liabilities:

	At and for the Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Fixed Maturity Securities:			
Yield (1)	4.94%	5.54%	5.75%
Investment income (2),(3),(4)	\$ 15,016	\$ 12,567	\$ 11,827
Investment gains (losses) (3)	\$ (932)	\$ (255)	\$ (1,658)
Ending carrying value (2),(3)	\$ 351,011	\$ 325,391	\$ 228,070
Mortgage Loans:			
Yield (1)	5.53%	5.51%	5.38%
Investment income (3),(4)	\$ 3,162	\$ 2,821	\$ 2,734
Investment gains (losses) (3)	\$ 175	\$ 22	\$ (442)
Ending carrying value (3)	\$ 61,303	\$ 55,457	\$ 50,824
Real Estate and Real Estate Joint Ventures:			
Yield (1)	3.76%	1.10%	(7.47)%
Investment income (3)	\$ 307	\$ 77	\$ (541)
Investment gains (losses) (3)	\$ 230	\$ (40)	\$ (156)
Ending carrying value	\$ 8,563	\$ 8,030	\$ 6,896
Policy Loans:			
Yield (1)	5.43%	6.38%	6.49%
Investment income	\$ 641	\$ 649	\$ 641
Ending carrying value	\$ 11,892	\$ 11,761	\$ 9,932
Equity Securities:			
Yield (1)	4.44%	4.40%	5.12%
Investment income	\$ 141	\$ 128	\$ 176
Investment gains (losses)	\$ (23)	\$ 104	\$ (399)
Ending carrying value	\$ 3,023	\$ 3,602	\$ 3,081
Other Limited Partnership Interests:			
Yield (1)	10.58%	14.99%	3.22%
Investment income	\$ 681	\$ 879	\$ 174
Investment gains (losses)	\$ 4	\$ (18)	\$ (356)
Ending carrying value	\$ 6,378	\$ 6,416	\$ 5,508
Cash and Short-Term Investments:			
Yield (1), (5)	1.04%	0.61%	0.53%
Investment income	\$ 155	\$ 81	\$ 93
Investment gains (losses)	\$ 2	\$ 2	\$ 6
Ending carrying value (3)	\$ 27,750	\$ 22,302	\$ 18,385
Other Invested Assets: (1)			
Investment income	\$ 454	\$ 492	\$ 335
Investment gains (losses) (3)	\$ (9)	\$ (8)	\$ (32)
Ending carrying value	\$ 23,628	\$ 15,430	\$ 12,697
Total Investments:			
Investment income yield (1)	5.01%	5.51%	5.08%
Investment fees and expenses yield	(0.13)	(0.14)	(0.14)
Net Investment Income Yield (1), (3),(5)	4.88%	5.37%	4.94%
Investment income	\$ 20,557	\$ 17,694	\$ 15,439
Investment fees and expenses	(546)	(465)	(432)
Net investment income including divested businesses	\$ 20,011	\$ 17,229	\$ 15,007
Less: net investment income from divested businesses (5)	(335)	(349)	(407)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Net Investment Income (3)	\$ 19,676	\$ 16,880	\$ 14,600
Ending Carrying Value (3)	\$ 493,548	\$ 448,389	\$ 335,393
Investment portfolio gains (losses) including divested businesses	\$ (553)	\$ (193)	\$ (3,037)
Less: investment portfolio gains (losses) from divested businesses (5)	140	33	129
Investment portfolio gains (losses) (3),(5),(6)	\$ (413)	\$ (160)	\$ (2,908)
Gross investment gains	\$ 1,354	\$ 1,180	\$ 1,226
Gross investment losses	(1,058)	(840)	(1,393)
Writedowns	(709)	(500)	(2,741)
Investment Portfolio Gains (Losses) (3),(5),(6)	\$ (413)	\$ (160)	\$ (2,908)
Investment portfolio gains (losses) income tax (expense) benefit	148	46	1,068
Investment Portfolio Gains (Losses), Net of Income Tax	\$ (265)	\$ (114)	\$ (1,840)
Derivative gains (losses) including divested businesses	\$ 4,545	\$ (614)	\$ (5,106)
Less: derivative gains (losses) from divested businesses (5)	163	41	(2)
Derivative gains (losses) (3),(5),(6)	\$ 4,708	\$ (573)	\$ (5,108)
Derivative gains (losses) income tax (expense) benefit	(1,643)	144	1,804
Derivative Gains (Losses), Net of Income Tax	\$ 3,065	\$ (429)	\$ (3,304)

Table of Contents

As described in the footnotes below, the yield table reflects certain differences from the presentation of invested assets, net investment income, net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses) as presented in the consolidated balance sheets and consolidated statements of operations. This yield table presentation is consistent with how we measure our investment performance for management purposes, and we believe it enhances understanding of our investment portfolio results.

- (1) Yields are calculated as investment income as a percent of average quarterly asset carrying values. Investment income excludes recognized gains and losses and reflects the operating revenue adjustments related to net investment income. Asset carrying values exclude unrealized investment gains (losses), collateral received from counterparties associated with our securities lending program, freestanding derivative assets, collateral received from derivative counterparties, the effects of consolidating under GAAP certain VIEs that are treated as consolidated securitization entities (CSEs), contractholder-directed unit-linked investments and securitized reverse residential mortgage loans. A yield is not presented for other invested assets, as it is not considered a meaningful measure of performance for this asset class.
- (2) Fixed maturity securities include \$740 million, \$594 million and \$2.4 billion at estimated fair value of trading and other securities at December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Fixed maturity securities include \$31 million, \$234 million and \$400 million of investment income (loss) related to trading and other securities for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.
- (3) As described in footnote (1) above, ending carrying values exclude contractholder-directed unit-linked investments reported within trading and other securities, securities held by CSEs reported within trading and other securities, and securitized reverse residential mortgage loans reported within mortgage loans. The related adjustments to ending carrying value, investment income and investment gains (losses) by invested asset class are presented below. The adjustments to investment income, net investment income and investment gains (losses) in the aggregate are as shown in footnote (6) to this yield table. The adjustment to investment gains (losses) presented below and in footnote (6) to this yield table includes the effects of remeasuring both the invested assets and long-term debt in accordance with the FVO.

	At or For the Year Ended December 31, 2011			At or For the Year Ended December 31, 2010		
	As Reported in the Yield Table	Excluded Amounts (In millions)	Total	As Reported in the Yield Table	Excluded Amounts (In millions)	Total
Trading and Other Securities: (included within Fixed Maturity Securities):						
Ending carrying value	\$ 740	\$ 17,528	\$ 18,268	\$ 594	\$ 17,995	\$ 18,589
Investment income	\$ 31	\$ (444)	\$ (413)	\$ 234	\$ 226	\$ 460
Investment gains (losses)	\$ (2)	\$ (8)	\$ (10)	\$	\$ (30)	\$ (30)
Mortgage Loans:						
Ending carrying value	\$ 61,303	\$ 10,790	\$ 72,093	\$ 55,457	\$ 6,840	\$ 62,297
Investment income	\$ 3,162	\$ 332	\$ 3,494	\$ 2,821	\$ 396	\$ 3,217
Investment gains (losses)	\$ 175	\$ 13	\$ 188	\$ 22	\$ 36	\$ 58
Cash and Short-Term Investments:						
Ending carrying value	\$ 27,750	\$ 21	\$ 27,771	\$ 22,302	\$ 39	\$ 22,341
Total Investments:						
Ending carrying value	\$ 493,548	\$ 28,339	\$ 521,887	\$ 448,389	\$ 24,874	\$ 473,263

- (4) Investment income from fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans includes prepayment fees.

(5)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

For further information on Divested Businesses, see Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Prior period yields have been recast to conform to the current period presentation to exclude

Table of Contents

from asset carrying values freestanding derivatives and collateral received from derivative counterparties. Net investment income, investment portfolio gains (losses), and derivative gains (losses) are presented including and excluding the impact of Divested Businesses. Yields are calculated including the net investment income and ending carrying values of the Divested Businesses.

- (6) Net investment income, investment portfolio gains (losses) and derivative gains (losses) presented in this yield table vary from the most directly comparable measures presented in the GAAP consolidated statements of operations due to certain reclassifications affecting net investment income, net investment gains (losses), net derivative gains (losses), interest credited to policyholder account balances, and other revenues, and excludes the effects of consolidating under GAAP certain VIEs that are treated as CSEs. Such reclassifications are presented in the tables below.

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Net investment income in the above yield table	\$ 20,011	\$ 17,229	\$ 15,007
Real estate discontinued operations deduct from net investment income	(4)	(2)	(22)
Scheduled periodic settlement payments on derivatives not qualifying for hedge accounting deduct from net investment income, add to net derivative gains (losses)	(249)	(208)	(88)
Equity method operating joint ventures add to net investment income, deduct from net derivative gains (losses)	(23)	(130)	(156)
Net investment income on contractholder-directed unit-linked investments reported within trading and other securities add to net investment income	(453)	211	
Incremental net investment income from CSEs add to net investment income	324	411	
Net investment income GAAP consolidated statements of operations	\$ 19,606	\$ 17,511	\$ 14,741
Investment portfolio gains (losses) in the above yield table	\$ (553)	\$ (193)	\$ (3,037)
Real estate discontinued operations deduct from net investment gains (losses)	(96)	(14)	(8)
Investment gains (losses) related to CSEs add to net investment gains (losses)	5	6	
Other gains (losses) add to net investment gains (losses)	(223)	(207)	144
Net investment gains (losses) GAAP consolidated statements of operations	\$ (867)	\$ (408)	\$ (2,901)
Derivative gains (losses) in the above yield table	\$ 4,545	\$ (614)	\$ (5,106)
Scheduled periodic settlement payments on derivatives not qualifying for hedge accounting add to net derivative gains (losses), deduct from net investment income	249	208	88
Scheduled periodic settlement payments on derivatives not qualifying for hedge accounting add to net derivative gains (losses), deduct from interest credited to PABs	19	11	(4)
Settlement of foreign currency earnings hedges add to net derivative gains (losses), deduct from other revenues	(12)		
Equity method operating joint ventures add to net investment income, deduct from net derivative gains (losses)	23	130	156
Net derivative gains (losses) GAAP consolidated statements of operations	\$ 4,824	\$ (265)	\$ (4,866)

See Results of Operations Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2010 and Year Ended December 31, 2010 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2009, for analyses of the year over year changes in net investment income, net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses).

Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities Available-for-Sale

Fixed maturity securities, which consisted principally of publicly-traded and privately placed fixed maturity securities, were \$350.3 billion and \$324.8 billion at estimated fair value, or 67% and 69% of total cash and invested assets, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Publicly-traded fixed maturity securities represented \$303.6 billion and \$284.0 billion of total fixed maturity securities at estimated fair value, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, or 87% of total fixed maturity securities at estimated fair value, at both December 31, 2011 and

Table of Contents

2010. Privately placed fixed maturity securities represented \$46.7 billion and \$40.8 billion at estimated fair value, at December 31, 2011 and 2010 respectively, or 13% of total fixed maturity securities at estimated fair value, at both December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Equity securities, which consisted principally of publicly-traded and privately-held common and preferred stocks, including certain perpetual hybrid securities and mutual fund interests, were \$3.0 billion and \$3.6 billion at estimated fair value, or 0.6% and 0.8% of total cash and invested assets, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Publicly-traded equity securities represented \$1.7 billion and \$2.3 billion at estimated fair value, or 57% and 64% of total equity securities, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Privately-held equity securities represented \$1.3 billion of total equity securities at estimated fair value, at both December 31, 2011 and 2010, or 43% and 36% of total equity securities at estimated fair value, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Upon acquisition, the Company classifies perpetual securities that have attributes of both debt and equity as fixed maturity securities if the securities have an interest rate step-up feature which, when combined with other qualitative factors, indicates that the securities have more debt-like characteristics; while those with more equity-like characteristics are classified as equity securities within non-redeemable preferred stock. Many of such securities, commonly referred to as perpetual hybrid securities, have been issued by non-U.S. financial institutions that are accorded the highest two capital treatment categories by their respective regulatory bodies (i.e. core capital, or Tier 1 capital and perpetual deferrable securities, or Upper Tier 2 capital). The following table presents the amount and classification of perpetual hybrid securities held by the Company at:

Consolidated Balance Sheets	Classification	Sector Table	Primary Issuers	December 31,	
				2011	2010
				Estimated Fair Value	Estimated Fair Value
				(In millions)	
Fixed maturity securities	Foreign corporate securities		Non-U.S. financial institutions	\$ 523	\$ 2,008
Fixed maturity securities	U.S. corporate securities		U.S. financial institutions	\$ 226	\$ 83
Equity securities	Non-redeemable preferred stock		Non-U.S. financial institutions	\$ 440	\$ 1,043
Equity securities	Non-redeemable preferred stock		U.S. financial institutions	\$ 350	\$ 236

The Company's holdings in redeemable preferred stock with stated maturity dates, commonly referred to as capital securities, were primarily issued by U.S. financial institutions and have cumulative interest deferral features. The Company held \$1.9 billion and \$2.7 billion at estimated fair value of such securities at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, which are included in the U.S. and foreign corporate securities sectors within fixed maturity securities.

Valuation of Securities. We are responsible for the determination of estimated fair value. The estimated fair value of publicly-traded securities is determined by management after considering one of three primary sources of information: quoted market prices in active markets, independent pricing services, or independent broker quotations; whereas for privately placed securities, estimated fair value is determined after considering one of three primary sources of information: market standard internal matrix pricing, market standard internal discounted cash flow techniques, or independent pricing services after we determine their use of available observable market data. Discounted cash flow techniques rely upon the estimated future cash flows of the security, credit spreads of comparable public securities and secondary transactions, as well as other factors, including the credit quality of the issuer and the reduced liquidity associated with privately placed debt securities. For publicly-traded securities, the number of quotations obtained varies by instrument and depends on the liquidity of the particular instrument. Generally, we obtain prices from multiple pricing services to cover all asset classes and obtain multiple prices for certain securities, but ultimately utilize the price with the highest placement in the fair value hierarchy. Independent pricing services that value these instruments use market standard valuation methodologies based on data about market transactions and inputs from multiple pricing sources that are market observable or can be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. See Note 5

Table of Contents

of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a discussion of the types of market standard valuation methodologies utilized and key assumptions and observable inputs used in applying these standard valuation methodologies. When a price is not available in the active market or through an independent pricing service, management will value the security primarily using market standard internal matrix pricing or discounted cash flow techniques, and non-binding quotations from independent brokers who are knowledgeable about these securities. Independent non-binding broker quotations utilize inputs that may be difficult to corroborate with observable market data. As shown in the following section, less than 1% of our fixed maturity securities were valued using non-binding quotations from independent brokers at December 31, 2011.

Senior management, independent of the trading and investing functions, is responsible for the oversight of control systems and valuation policies, including reviewing and approving new transaction types and markets, for ensuring that observable market prices and market-based parameters are used for valuation, wherever possible, and for determining that judgmental valuation adjustments, when applied, are based upon established policies and are applied consistently over time. We review our valuation methodologies on an ongoing basis and revise when necessary based on changing market conditions. We gain assurance on the overall reasonableness and consistent application of input assumptions, valuation methodologies and compliance with accounting standards for fair value determination through our controls designed to ensure that the financial assets and financial liabilities are appropriately valued and represent an exit price. We utilize several controls, including certain monthly controls, which include, but are not limited to, analysis of portfolio returns to corresponding benchmark returns, comparing a sample of executed prices of securities sold to the fair value estimates, comparing fair value estimates to management's knowledge of the current market, reviewing the bid/ask spreads to assess activity, comparing prices from multiple pricing sources, when available, reviewing independent auditor reports regarding the controls over valuation of securities employed by independent pricing services, and ongoing due diligence to confirm that independent pricing services use market-based parameters for valuation. We determine the observability of inputs used in estimated fair values received from independent pricing services or brokers by assessing whether these inputs can be corroborated by observable market data.

The Company also applies a formal process to challenge any prices received from independent pricing services that are not considered representative of estimated fair value. If we conclude that prices received from independent pricing services are not reflective of market activity or representative of estimated fair value, we will seek independent non-binding broker quotes or use an internally developed valuation to override these prices. As described below, such overrides have not been material. Our internally developed valuations of current estimated fair value, which reflect our estimates of liquidity and non-performance risks, compared with pricing received from the independent pricing services, did not produce material differences for the vast majority of our fixed maturity securities portfolio. This is, in part, because our internal estimates of liquidity and non-performance risks are generally based on available market evidence and estimates used by other market participants. In the absence of such market-based evidence, management's best estimate is used. As a result, we generally use the price provided by the independent pricing service under our normal pricing protocol.

The Company has reviewed the significance and observability of inputs used in the valuation methodologies to determine the appropriate fair value hierarchy level for each of its securities. Based on the results of this review and investment class analyses, each instrument is categorized as Level 1, 2 or 3 based on the lowest level significant input to its valuation. Certain securities have been classified into Level 1 because of unadjusted quoted prices and high volumes of trading activity and narrow bid/ask spreads. Most securities valued by independent pricing services have been classified into Level 2 because the significant inputs used in pricing these securities are market observable or can be corroborated using market observable information. Most investment grade privately placed fixed maturity securities and certain below investment grade privately placed fixed maturity securities priced by independent pricing services that use observable inputs have been classified within Level 2. Distressed privately placed fixed maturity securities have been classified within Level 3. Below investment grade privately placed fixed maturity securities and less liquid securities with very limited trading activity where estimated fair values are determined by independent pricing services or by non-binding quotations from independent brokers that use inputs that may be difficult to corroborate with observable market data, are

Table of Contents

classified as Level 3. Use of independent non-binding broker quotations generally indicates there is a lack of liquidity or the general lack of transparency in the process to develop these price estimates causing them to be considered Level 3. See Note 5 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information regarding the valuation techniques and inputs by level within the three level fair value hierarchy by major classes of invested assets.

Quarterly, we evaluate and monitor the markets in which our fixed maturity and equity securities trade and, in our judgment, despite reduced levels of liquidity discussed above, believe none of these fixed maturity and equity securities trading markets should be characterized as distressed and disorderly.

Fair Value Hierarchy and Level 3 Rollforward - Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities. Fixed maturity securities and equity securities available-for-sale measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis and their corresponding fair value pricing sources and fair value hierarchy are as follows:

	December 31, 2011			
	Fixed Maturity Securities		Equity Securities	
	(In millions)			
Level 1:				
Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets	\$ 19,987	5.7%	\$ 819	27.1%
Level 2:				
Independent pricing source	275,575	78.7	497	16.4
Internal matrix pricing or discounted cash flow techniques	36,944	10.5	988	32.7
Significant other observable inputs	312,519	89.2	1,485	49.1
Level 3:				
Independent pricing source	8,178	2.4	513	17.0
Internal matrix pricing or discounted cash flow techniques	8,138	2.3	158	5.2
Independent broker quotations	1,449	0.4	48	1.6
Significant unobservable inputs	17,765	5.1	719	23.8
Total estimated fair value	\$ 350,271	100.0%	\$ 3,023	100.0%

Table of Contents

	December 31, 2011 Fair Value Measurements Using			
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Estimated Fair Value
	(In millions)			
Fixed Maturity Securities:				
U.S. corporate securities	\$	\$ 99,001	\$ 6,784	\$ 105,785
Foreign corporate securities		59,648	4,370	64,018
Foreign government securities	76	50,138	2,322	52,536
Residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS)		41,035	1,602	42,637
U.S. Treasury and agency securities	19,911	20,070	31	40,012
Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS)		18,316	753	19,069
State and political subdivision securities		13,182	53	13,235
Asset-backed securities (ABS)		11,129	1,850	12,979
Other fixed maturity securities				
Total fixed maturity securities	\$ 19,987	\$ 312,519	\$ 17,765	\$ 350,271
Equity Securities:				
Common stock	\$ 819	\$ 1,105	\$ 281	\$ 2,205
Non-redeemable preferred stock		380	438	818
Total equity securities	\$ 819	\$ 1,485	\$ 719	\$ 3,023

The composition of fair value pricing sources for and significant changes in Level 3 securities at December 31, 2011 are as follows:

The majority of the Level 3 fixed maturity and equity securities (83%, as presented above) were concentrated in four sectors: U.S. and foreign corporate securities, foreign government securities and ABS.

Level 3 fixed maturity securities are priced principally through market standard valuation methodologies, independent pricing services and independent non-binding broker quotations using inputs that are not market observable or cannot be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. Level 3 fixed maturity securities consist of less liquid fixed maturity securities with very limited trading activity or where less price transparency exists around the inputs to the valuation methodologies including alternative residential mortgage loan (Alt-A) and sub-prime RMBS and less liquid prime RMBS, certain below investment grade private placements and less liquid investment grade corporate securities (included in U.S. and foreign corporate securities), less liquid foreign government securities and less liquid ABS.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, Level 3 fixed maturity securities decreased by \$5.0 billion, or 22%. The decrease was driven by net transfers out of Level 3, partially offset by net purchases in excess of sales and increase in estimated fair value recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss). See analysis of transfers into and/or out of Level 3 below. The increase in net purchases in excess of sales of fixed maturity securities were concentrated in ABS and foreign government securities, and the increase in estimated fair value recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) for fixed maturity securities was concentrated in U.S. corporate securities due in part to a decrease in interest rates.

Table of Contents

A rollforward of the fair value measurements for fixed maturity securities and equity securities available-for-sale measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable (Level 3) inputs is as follows:

	Year Ended December 31, 2011	
	Fixed Maturity Securities	Equity Securities
	(In millions)	
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 22,716	\$ 1,173
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:		
Earnings (1)	48	(57)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	403	10
Purchases	4,907	109
Sales	(4,219)	(462)
Transfers into Level 3	599	12
Transfers out of Level 3	(6,689)	(66)
Balance, end of period	\$ 17,765	\$ 719

- (1) Total gains and losses in earnings and other comprehensive income (loss) are calculated assuming transfers into or out of Level 3 occurred at the beginning of the period. Items transferred into and out for the same period are excluded from the rollforward. Total gains (losses) for fixed maturity securities included in earnings of (\$7) million and other comprehensive income (loss) of \$9 million, were incurred on these securities subsequent to their transfer into Level 3, for the year ended December 31, 2011, respectively.

An analysis of transfers into and/or out of Level 3 for the year ended December 31, 2011 is as follows:

Overall, transfers into and/or out of Level 3 are attributable to a change in the observability of inputs. Assets and liabilities are transferred into Level 3 when a significant input cannot be corroborated with market observable data. This occurs when market activity decreases significantly and underlying inputs cannot be observed, current prices are not available, and when there are significant variances in quoted prices, thereby affecting transparency. Assets and liabilities are transferred out of Level 3 when circumstances change such that a significant input can be corroborated with market observable data. This may be due to a significant increase in market activity, a specific event, or one or more significant input(s) becoming observable. Transfers into and/or out of any level are assumed to occur at the beginning of the period. Significant transfers into and/or out of Level 3 assets and liabilities for the year ended December 31, 2011 are summarized below:

During the year ended December 31, 2011, fixed maturity securities transfers into Level 3 of \$599 million resulted primarily from current market conditions characterized by a lack of trading activity, decreased liquidity and credit ratings downgrades (e.g., from investment grade to below investment grade). These current market conditions have resulted in decreased transparency of valuations and an increased use of broker quotations and unobservable inputs to determine estimated fair value principally for certain U.S. and foreign corporate securities and foreign government securities.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, fixed maturity securities transfers out of Level 3 of (\$6.7) billion resulted primarily from increased transparency of both new issuances that, subsequent to issuance and establishment of trading activity, became priced by independent pricing services and existing issuances that, over time, the Company was able to obtain pricing from, or corroborate pricing received from independent pricing services with observable inputs, or there were increases in market activity and upgraded credit ratings primarily for ABS, foreign government securities, U.S. and foreign corporate securities and RMBS.

See Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates Estimated Fair Value of Investments for further information on the estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported above.

Table of Contents

See Note 5 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information about the valuation techniques and inputs by level by major classes of invested assets that affect the amounts reported above.

Fixed Maturity Securities. See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information about:

Fixed maturity and equity securities on a sector basis and the related cost or amortized cost, gross unrealized gains and losses, including the noncredit loss component of OTTI loss, and estimated fair value of such securities at December 31, 2011 and 2010;

Government and agency securities holdings in excess of 10% of the Company's equity at December 31, 2011 and 2010; and

Maturities of fixed maturity securities at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Fixed Maturity Securities Credit Quality Ratings. The Securities Valuation Office of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) evaluates the fixed maturity security investments of insurers for regulatory reporting and capital assessment purposes and assigns securities to one of six credit quality categories called NAIC designations. If no rating is available from the NAIC, then as permitted by the NAIC, an internally developed rating is used. The NAIC ratings are generally similar to the credit quality designations of the Nationally Recognized Statistical Ratings Organizations (NRSROs) for marketable fixed maturity securities, called rating agency designations, except for certain structured securities as described below. NAIC ratings 1 and 2 include fixed maturity securities generally considered investment grade (i.e., rated Baa3 or better by Moody's or rated BBB or better by S&P and Fitch) by such rating organizations. NAIC ratings 3 through 6 include fixed maturity securities generally considered below investment grade (i.e., rated Ba1 or lower by Moody's or rated BB+ or lower by S&P and Fitch) by such rating organizations. Rating agency designations are based on availability of applicable ratings from rating agencies on the NAIC acceptable rating organizations list, including Moody's, S&P, Fitch and Realpoint, LLC. If no rating is available from a rating agency, then an internally developed rating is used.

The NAIC adopted revised rating methodologies for certain structured securities comprised of non-agency RMBS, CMBS and ABS. The NAIC's objective with the revised rating methodologies for these structured securities was to increase the accuracy in assessing expected losses, and to use the improved assessment to determine a more appropriate capital requirement for such structured securities. The revised methodologies reduce regulatory reliance on rating agencies and allow for greater regulatory input into the assumptions used to estimate expected losses from structured securities. The Company applies the revised NAIC rating methodologies to structured securities held by MetLife, Inc.'s insurance subsidiaries that file NAIC statutory financial statements. The NAIC's present methodology is to evaluate structured securities held by insurers using the revised NAIC rating methodologies on an annual basis. If such insurance subsidiaries of the Company acquire structured securities that have not been previously evaluated by the NAIC, but are expected to be evaluated by the NAIC in the upcoming annual review, an internally developed rating is used until a final rating becomes available.

The four tables below present fixed maturity securities based on rating agency designations and equivalent designations of the NAIC, with the exception of certain structured securities described above. These structured securities are presented based on ratings from the revised NAIC rating methodologies described above (which may not correspond to rating agency designations). All NAIC designation (e.g., NAIC 1-6) amounts and percentages presented herein are based on the revised NAIC methodologies described above. All rating agency designation (e.g., Aaa/AAA) amounts and percentages presented herein are based on rating agency designations without adjustment for the revised NAIC methodologies described above.

Table of Contents

The following table presents total fixed maturity securities by NRSRO designation and the equivalent designations of the NAIC, except for certain structured securities, which are presented as described above, as well as the percentage, based on estimated fair value, that each designation is comprised of at:

NAIC Rating	Rating Agency Designation	December 31,					
		2011 Estimated			2010 Estimated		
		Amortized Cost	Fair Value	% of Total	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	% of Total
(In millions)							
1	Aaa/Aa/A	\$ 230,195	\$ 246,786	70.5 %	\$ 226,639	\$ 231,198	71.2 %
2	Baa	73,352	78,531	22.4	65,412	68,729	21.2
3	Ba	14,604	14,375	4.1	15,331	15,290	4.7
4	B	9,437	8,849	2.5	8,742	8,308	2.6
5	Caa and lower	2,142	1,668	0.5	1,340	1,142	0.3
6	In or near default	81	62		153	130	
Total fixed maturity securities		\$ 329,811	\$ 350,271	100.0 %	\$ 317,617	\$ 324,797	100.0 %

The following tables present total fixed maturity securities, based on estimated fair value, by sector classification and by NRSRO designation and the equivalent designations of the NAIC, except for certain structured securities, which are presented as described above, that each designation is comprised of at December 31, 2011 and 2010:

NAIC Rating:	Fixed Maturity Securities by Sector & Credit Quality Rating at December 31, 2011							Total Estimated Fair Value
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Rating Agency Designation:	Aaa/Aa/A	Baa	Ba	B	Caa and Lower	In or Near Default		
(In millions)								
U.S. corporate securities	\$ 51,045	\$ 41,533	\$ 8,677	\$ 4,257	\$ 271	\$ 2	\$ 105,785	
Foreign corporate securities	33,403	26,383	2,915	1,173	140	4	64,018	
Foreign government securities	42,360	7,553	1,146	1,281	196		52,536	
RMBS (1)	36,699	1,477	1,450	2,026	933	52	42,637	
U.S. Treasury and agency securities	40,012						40,012	
CMBS (1)	18,403	388	125	57	96		19,069	
State and political subdivision securities	12,357	842	23	5	8		13,235	
ABS (1)	12,507	355	39	50	24	4	12,979	
Other fixed maturity securities								
Total fixed maturity securities	\$ 246,786	\$ 78,531	\$ 14,375	\$ 8,849	\$ 1,668	\$ 62	\$ 350,271	
Percentage of total	70.5 %	22.4 %	4.1 %	2.5 %	0.5 %	%	100.0 %	

Table of Contents

NAIC Rating:	Fixed Maturity Securities by Sector & Credit Quality Rating at December 31, 2010						Total Estimated Fair Value
	1	2	3	4	5 Caa and Lower	6 In or Near Default	
Rating Agency Designation:	Aaa/Aa/A	Baa	Ba	B			
(In millions)							
U.S. corporate securities	\$ 46,035	\$ 34,259	\$ 7,633	\$ 3,452	\$ 353	\$ 40	\$ 91,772
Foreign corporate securities	39,430	24,352	2,474	1,454	169	9	67,888
Foreign government securities	31,559	7,184	2,179	1,080			42,002
RMBS (1) (2)	39,640	1,196	2,411	2,054	497	54	45,852
U.S. Treasury and agency securities	33,304						33,304
CMBS (1)	19,385	665	363	205	56	1	20,675
State and political subdivision securities	9,368	722	32		7		10,129
ABS (1) (2)	12,477	348	198	59	60	26	13,168
Other fixed maturity securities		3		4			7
Total fixed maturity securities	\$ 231,198	\$ 68,729	\$ 15,290	\$ 8,308	\$ 1,142	\$ 130	\$ 324,797
Percentage of total	71.2 %	21.2 %	4.7 %	2.6 %	0.3 %	%	100.0 %

(1) Presented using the revised NAIC rating methodologies described above.

(2) Within fixed maturity securities, a reclassification from the ABS sector to the RMBS sector has been made to the prior year amounts to conform to the current year presentation for securities backed by sub-prime residential mortgage loans to be consistent with market convention relating to the risks inherent in such securities and the Company's management of its investments within these asset sectors. The following table presents selected information about certain fixed maturity securities held at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
(In millions)		
Below investment grade or non-rated fixed maturity securities:		
Estimated fair value	\$ 24,954	\$ 24,870
Net unrealized gains (losses)	\$ (1,310)	\$ (696)
Non-income producing fixed maturity securities:		
Estimated fair value	\$ 62	\$ 130
Net unrealized gains (losses)	\$ (19)	\$ (23)

Table of Contents

U.S. and Foreign Corporate Fixed Maturity Securities. The Company maintains a diversified portfolio of corporate fixed maturity securities across industries and issuers. This portfolio does not have an exposure to any single issuer in excess of 1% of total investments. The tables below present information for U.S. and foreign corporate securities at:

	December 31,			
	2011		2010	
	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total
Corporate fixed maturity securities by sector:				
Foreign corporate fixed maturity securities (1)	\$ 64,018	37.7 %	\$ 67,888	42.5 %
U.S. corporate fixed maturity securities by industry:				
Industrial	26,962	15.9	22,070	13.8
Consumer	26,739	15.7	21,482	13.5
Finance	20,854	12.3	20,785	13.0
Utility	19,508	11.5	16,902	10.6
Communications	8,178	4.8	7,335	4.6
Other	3,544	2.1	3,198	2.0
Total	\$ 169,803	100.0 %	\$ 159,660	100.0 %

(1) Includes U.S. dollar denominated and foreign denominated debt obligations of foreign obligors and other foreign fixed maturity securities.

	December 31,			
	2011		2010	
	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total Investments	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total Investments
Concentrations within corporate fixed maturity securities:				
Largest exposure to a single issuer	\$ 1,642	0.3 %	\$ 2,291	0.5 %
Holdings in ten issuers with the largest exposures	\$ 10,716	2.1 %	\$ 14,247	3.1 %

Structured Securities. The following table presents information about structured securities at:

	December 31,			
	2011		2010	
	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total
RMBS	\$ 42,637	57.1 %	\$ 45,852	57.5 %
CMBS	19,069	25.5	20,675	26.0
ABS	12,979	17.4	13,168	16.5
Total structured securities	\$ 74,685	100.0 %	\$ 79,695	100.0 %

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Ratings profile:				
RMBS rated Aaa/AAA	\$ 31,690	74.3 %	\$ 36,244	79.0 %
RMBS rated NAIC 1	\$ 36,699	86.1 %	\$ 39,640	86.5 %
CMBS rated Aaa/AAA	\$ 15,785	82.8 %	\$ 16,901	81.7 %
CMBS rated NAIC 1	\$ 18,403	96.5 %	\$ 19,385	93.7 %
ABS rated Aaa/AAA	\$ 8,223	63.4 %	\$ 10,252	77.9 %
ABS rated NAIC 1	\$ 12,507	96.4 %	\$ 12,477	94.8 %

Table of Contents

RMBS. The table below presents information on RMBS holdings at:

	2011		December 31, 2010	
	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total
By security type:				
Collateralized mortgage obligations	\$ 23,392	54.9 %	\$ 23,422	51.1 %
Pass-through securities	19,245	45.1	22,430	48.9
Total RMBS	\$ 42,637	100.0 %	\$ 45,852	100.0 %
By risk profile:				
Agency	\$ 31,055	72.8 %	\$ 34,254	74.7 %
Prime	5,959	14.0	6,258	13.7
Alt-A	4,648	10.9	4,221	9.2
Sub-prime	975	2.3	1,119	2.4
Total RMBS	\$ 42,637	100.0 %	\$ 45,852	100.0 %

Collateralized mortgage obligations are a type of mortgage-backed security structured by dividing the cash flows of mortgages into separate pools or tranches of risk that create multiple classes of bonds with varying maturities and priority of payments. Pass-through mortgage-backed securities are a type of asset-backed security that is secured by a mortgage or collection of mortgages. The monthly mortgage payments from homeowners pass from the originating bank through an intermediary, such as a government agency or investment bank, which collects the payments and, for a fee, remits or passes these payments through to the holders of the pass-through securities.

The majority of RMBS held by the Company was rated Aaa/AAA by Moody's, S&P or Fitch; and the majority was rated NAIC 1 by the NAIC at December 31, 2011 and 2010, as presented above. Agency RMBS were guaranteed or otherwise supported by FNMA, FHLMC or GNMA. Non-agency RMBS include prime, Alt-A and sub-prime RMBS. Prime residential mortgage lending includes the origination of residential mortgage loans to the most creditworthy borrowers with high quality credit profiles. Alt-A is a classification of mortgage loans where the risk profile of the borrower falls between prime and sub-prime. Sub-prime mortgage lending is the origination of residential mortgage loans to borrowers with weak credit profiles. Included within prime and Alt-A RMBS are resecuritization of real estate mortgage investment conduit (Re-REMIC) securities. Re-REMIC RMBS involve the pooling of previous issues of prime and Alt-A RMBS and restructuring the combined pools to create new senior and subordinated securities. The credit enhancement on the senior tranches is improved through the resecuritization.

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company's Alt-A securities portfolio has no exposure to option adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs) and a minimal exposure to hybrid ARMs. The Company's Alt-A securities portfolio is comprised primarily of fixed rate mortgages (93% and 91% at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively) which have performed better than both option ARMs and hybrid ARMs in the overall Alt-A market. The Company's Alt-A RMBS holdings had unrealized losses of \$871 million and \$670 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Approximately 7% and 16% of this portfolio was rated Aa or better at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

The sub-prime RMBS had unrealized losses of \$347 million and \$317 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. At December 31, 2011, approximately 21% of this portfolio was rated Aa or better, of which 79% was in vintage year 2005 and prior. At December 31, 2010, approximately 54% of this portfolio was rated Aa or better, of which 88% was in vintage year 2005 and prior. These older vintages from 2005 and prior benefit from better underwriting, improved credit enhancement levels and higher residential property price appreciation. Approximately 69% and 66% of this portfolio was rated NAIC 2 or better at December 31, 2011 and 2010,

Table of Contents

respectively. The slowing U.S. housing market, greater use of affordable mortgage products and relaxed underwriting standards for some originators of sub-prime residential mortgage loans have led to higher delinquency and loss rates, especially within the 2006 and 2007 vintage years. These factors have caused a pull-back in market liquidity and repricing of risk, which has led to higher levels of unrealized losses on securities backed by sub-prime residential mortgage loans as compared to historical levels.

CMBS. The following tables present holdings of CMBS by rating agency designation and by vintage year at:

	December 31, 2011											
	Aaa		Aa		A		Baa		Below Investment Grade		Total	
	Estimated		Estimated		Estimated		Estimated		Estimated		Estimated	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
	(In millions)											
2003 & Prior	\$ 5,574	\$ 5,677	\$ 176	\$ 176	\$ 91	\$ 88	\$ 54	\$ 52	\$ 29	\$ 27	\$ 5,924	\$ 6,020
2004	3,586	3,730	430	440	135	129	83	80	32	25	4,266	4,404
2005	3,081	3,318	427	432	277	269	184	175	31	28	4,000	4,222
2006	1,712	1,835	245	237	89	83	118	110	123	106	2,287	2,371
2007	643	665	395	332	163	138	67	71	94	88	1,362	1,294
2008									25	27	25	27
2009												
2010	3	3					60	66			63	69
2011	536	557	1	1	92	96			9	8	638	662
Total	\$ 15,135	\$ 15,785	\$ 1,674	\$ 1,618	\$ 847	\$ 803	\$ 566	\$ 554	\$ 343	\$ 309	\$ 18,565	\$ 19,069
Ratings Distribution		82.8 %		8.5 %		4.2 %		2.9 %		1.6 %		100.0 %

	December 31, 2010											
	Aaa		Aa		A		Baa		Below Investment Grade		Total	
	Estimated		Estimated		Estimated		Estimated		Estimated		Estimated	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
	(In millions)											
2003 & Prior	\$ 7,411	\$ 7,640	\$ 282	\$ 282	\$ 228	\$ 227	\$ 74	\$ 71	\$ 28	\$ 24	\$ 8,023	\$ 8,244
2004	3,489	3,620	277	273	216	209	181	175	91	68	4,254	4,345
2005	3,113	3,292	322	324	286	280	263	255	73	66	4,057	4,217
2006	1,463	1,545	159	160	168	168	385	398	166	156	2,341	2,427
2007	840	791	344	298	96	95	119	108	122	133	1,521	1,425
2008	2	2									2	2
2009	3	3									3	3
2010	8	8			4	4					12	12
Total	\$ 16,329	\$ 16,901	\$ 1,384	\$ 1,337	\$ 998	\$ 983	\$ 1,022	\$ 1,007	\$ 480	\$ 447	\$ 20,213	\$ 20,675
Ratings Distribution		81.7 %		6.4 %		4.8 %		4.9 %		2.2 %		100.0 %

The tables above reflect rating agency designations assigned by nationally recognized rating agencies including Moody's, S&P, Fitch and Realpoint, LLC.

The weighted average credit enhancement of the Company's CMBS holdings was 27% and 26% at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. This credit enhancement percentage represents the current weighted average estimated percentage of outstanding capital structure subordinated to the Company's investment holding that is available to absorb losses before the security incurs the first dollar of loss of principal. The credit

protection does not include any equity interest or property value in excess of outstanding debt.

Table of Contents

ABS. The Company's ABS are diversified both by collateral type and by issuer. The following table presents information about ABS held at:

	2011		December 31, 2010	
	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total
By collateral type:				
Credit card loans	\$ 4,038	31.1 %	\$ 6,027	45.8 %
Collateralized debt obligations	2,575	19.8	1,798	13.7
Student loans	2,434	18.8	2,416	18.3
Automobile loans	977	7.5	605	4.6
Other loans	2,955	22.8	2,322	17.6
Total	\$ 12,979	100.0 %	\$ 13,168	100.0 %

Evaluation of Fixed Maturity Securities and Equity Securities Available-for-Sale for Other-Than-Temporary Impairment

See the following sections within Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information about the evaluation of fixed maturity securities and equity securities available-for-sale for OTTI:

Evaluating available-for-sale securities for other-than-temporary impairment;

Net unrealized investment gains (losses);

Continuous gross unrealized losses and OTTI losses for fixed maturity and equity securities available-for-sale by sector;

Aging of gross unrealized losses and OTTI losses for fixed maturity and equity securities available-for-sale;

Concentration of gross unrealized losses and OTTI losses for fixed maturity and equity securities available-for-sale; and

Evaluating temporarily impaired available-for-sale securities.

Trading and Other Securities

The Company has a trading securities portfolio, principally invested in fixed maturity securities, to support investment strategies that involve the active and frequent purchase and sale of securities (Actively Traded Securities) and the execution of short sale agreements. Trading and other securities also include securities for which the FVO has been elected (FVO Securities). FVO Securities include certain fixed maturity and equity securities held for investment by the general account to support asset and liability matching strategies for certain insurance products. FVO Securities also include contractholder-directed investments supporting unit-linked variable annuity type liabilities which do not qualify for presentation as separate account summary total assets and liabilities. These investments are primarily mutual funds and, to a lesser extent, fixed maturity and equity securities, short-term investments and cash and cash equivalents. The investment returns on these investments inure to contractholders and are offset by a corresponding change in PABs through interest credited to policyholder account balances. FVO Securities also include securities held by CSEs (former qualifying special purpose entities). Trading and other securities were \$18.3 billion and \$18.6 billion at estimated fair value, or 3.5% and 3.9% of total cash and invested assets, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. See

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for tables which present information about the Actively Traded Securities and FVO Securities, related short sale agreement liabilities and investments pledged to secure short sale agreement liabilities at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Table of Contents

Trading and other securities and trading (short sale agreement) liabilities, measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis and their corresponding fair value hierarchy, are presented as follows:

	December 31, 2011			
	Trading and Other Securities		Trading Liabilities	
	(In millions)			
Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities (Level 1)	\$ 7,572	41 %	\$ 124	98 %
Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	9,287	51	3	2
Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)	1,409	8		
Total estimated fair value	\$ 18,268	100 %	\$ 127	100 %

A rollforward of the fair value measurements for trading and other securities measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable (Level 3) inputs for the year ended December 31, 2011, is as follows:

	Year Ended December 31, 2011	
	(In millions)	
Balance, beginning of period	\$	822
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in earnings		(2)
Purchases		1,246
Sales		(519)
Transfers into Level 3		121
Transfers out of Level 3		(259)
Balance, end of period	\$	1,409

See Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates for further information on the estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported above.

See Note 5 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information about the valuation techniques and inputs by level of major classes of invested assets that affect the amounts reported above.

Net Investment Gains (Losses) Including OTTI Losses Recognized in Earnings

See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for tables that present:

The components of net investment gains (losses) for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009;

Proceeds from sales or disposals of fixed maturity and equity securities and the components of fixed maturity and equity securities net investment gains (losses) for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009;

Fixed maturity security OTTI losses recognized in earnings by sector and industry within the U.S. and foreign corporate securities sector for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009; and

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Equity security OTTI losses recognized in earnings by sector and industry for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009.

Overview of Fixed Maturity and Equity Security OTTI Losses Recognized in Earnings. Impairments of fixed maturity and equity securities were \$1.0 billion, \$484 million and \$1.9 billion for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Impairments of fixed maturity securities were \$955 million, \$470 million and \$1.5 billion for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Impairments of equity securities were \$60 million, \$14 million and \$400 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Table of Contents

The Company's credit-related impairments of fixed maturity securities were \$645 million, \$423 million and \$1.1 billion for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

The Company's three largest impairments totaled \$499 million, \$105 million and \$508 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

The Company records OTTI losses charged to earnings within net investment gains (losses) and adjusts the cost basis of the fixed maturity and equity securities accordingly. The Company does not change the revised cost basis for subsequent recoveries in value.

Explanations of changes in fixed maturity and equity securities impairments are as follows:

Year Ended December 31, 2011 compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2010 Overall OTTI losses recognized in earnings on fixed maturity and equity securities were \$1.0 billion for the current year as compared to \$484 million in the prior year. The increase in OTTI losses on fixed maturity and equity securities primarily reflects impairments on Greece sovereign debt securities of \$405 million as a result of the reduction in the expected recoverable amount (see Investments Current Environment) and intent-to-sell fixed maturity security impairments on other sovereign debt securities due to the repositioning of the acquired ALICO portfolio into longer duration and higher yielding investments, resulting in total sovereign debt security impairments of \$486 million recognized in 2011. In addition, intent-to-sell impairments related to the Divested Businesses of \$154 million were recognized in 2011 primarily concentrated in the RMBS sector. These increased impairments were partially offset by decreased impairments in the CMBS, ABS and corporate sectors, reflecting improving economic fundamentals.

Year Ended December 31, 2010 compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2009 Overall OTTI losses recognized in earnings on fixed maturity and equity securities were \$484 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to \$1.9 billion in the prior year. Improving or stabilizing market conditions across all sectors and industries, particularly the financial services industry, as compared to the prior year when there was significant stress in the global financial markets, resulted in a lower level of impairments in fixed maturity and equity securities in 2010. The most significant decrease in the current year, as compared to the prior year, was in the Company's financial services industry holdings which comprised \$799 million in fixed maturity and equity security impairments in the year ended December 31, 2009, as compared to \$129 million in impairments in the year ended December 31, 2010. Of the \$799 million in financial services industry impairments in the prior year, \$340 million were in equity securities, of which \$310 million were in financial services industry perpetual hybrid securities which were impaired as a result of deterioration in the credit rating of the issuer to below investment grade and due to a severe and extended unrealized loss position on these securities. Impairments in the current year were concentrated in the RMBS, ABS and CMBS sectors reflecting then current economic conditions including higher unemployment levels and continued weakness within the real estate markets. Of the fixed maturity and equity securities impairments of \$484 million and \$1.9 billion in the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, \$287 million and \$449 million, or 59% and 24%, respectively, were in the Company's RMBS, ABS and CMBS holdings.

Future Impairments. Future OTTIs will depend primarily on economic fundamentals, issuer performance (including changes in the present value of future cash flows expected to be collected), changes in credit ratings, changes in collateral valuation, changes in interest rates and changes in credit spreads. If economic fundamentals or any of the above factors deteriorate, additional OTTIs may be incurred in upcoming quarters.

Credit Loss Rollforward Rollforward of the Cumulative Credit Loss Component of OTTI Loss Recognized in Earnings on Fixed Maturity Securities Still Held for Which a Portion of the OTTI Loss Was Recognized in Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the table that presents a rollforward of the cumulative credit loss component of OTTI loss recognized in earnings on fixed maturity securities still held at December 31, 2011 and 2010 for which a portion of the OTTI loss was recognized in other comprehensive income (loss) for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Table of Contents***Securities Lending***

The Company participates in a securities lending program whereby blocks of securities, which are included in fixed maturity securities and short-term investments, are loaned to third parties, primarily brokerage firms and commercial banks. The Company obtains collateral, usually cash, in an amount generally equal to 102% of the estimated fair value of the securities loaned, which is obtained at the inception of a loan and maintained at a level greater than or equal to 100% for the duration of the loan. Securities loaned under such transactions may be sold or repledged by the transferee. The Company is liable to return to its counterparties the cash collateral under its control. These transactions are treated as financing arrangements and the associated liability is recorded at the amount of the cash received.

See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the following information regarding the Company's securities lending program: securities on loan, cash collateral on deposit from counterparties, security collateral on deposit from counterparties and the estimated fair value of the reinvestment portfolio at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Invested Assets on Deposit, Held in Trust and Pledged as Collateral

See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a table of the invested assets on deposit, held in trust and pledged as collateral at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Mortgage Loans

The Company's mortgage loans are principally collateralized by commercial real estate, agricultural real estate and residential properties. The carrying value of mortgage loans was \$72.1 billion and \$62.3 billion, or 13.8% and 13.1% of total cash and invested assets at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a table that presents the Company's mortgage loans held-for-investment of \$56.9 billion and \$59.0 billion by portfolio segment at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, as well as the components of the mortgage loans held-for-sale of \$15.2 billion and \$3.3 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The information presented below excludes the effects of consolidating certain VIEs that are treated as CSEs and securitized reverse residential mortgage loans. Such amounts are presented in the aforementioned table.

The Company diversifies its mortgage loan portfolio by both geographic region and property type to reduce the risk of concentration. Of the Company's commercial and agricultural mortgage loans, 90% are collateralized by properties located in the U.S., with the remaining 10% collateralized by properties located outside the U.S., calculated as a percent of the total mortgage loans held - for- investment (excluding commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs) at December 31, 2011. The carrying value of the Company's commercial and agricultural mortgage loans located in California, New York and Texas were 19%, 10% and 8%, respectively, of total mortgage loans held for investment (excluding commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs) at December 31, 2011. Additionally, the Company manages risk when originating commercial and agricultural mortgage loans by generally lending only up to 75% of the estimated fair value of the underlying real estate collateral.

Table of Contents

Commercial Mortgage Loans by Geographic Region and Property Type. Commercial mortgage loans are the largest component of the mortgage loan invested asset class as it represents over 70% of total mortgage loans held-for-investment (excluding the effects of consolidating certain VIEs that are treated as CSEs) at both December 31, 2011 and 2010. The tables below present the diversification across geographic regions and property types of commercial mortgage loans held-for-investment at:

	2011		December 31,		2010	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
(In millions)						
Region (1):						
South Atlantic	\$ 9,022	22.3 %	\$ 7,910	20.9 %		
Pacific	8,209	20.3	8,616	22.8		
Middle Atlantic	6,370	15.8	5,486	14.5		
International	4,713	11.7	4,095	10.8		
West South Central	3,220	8.0	2,922	7.7		
East North Central	2,984	7.3	2,900	7.7		
New England	1,563	3.9	1,310	3.5		
Mountain	746	1.8	811	2.2		
East South Central	487	1.2	461	1.2		
West North Central	365	0.9	643	1.7		
Multi-Region and Other	2,761	6.8	2,664	7.0		
Total recorded investment	40,440	100.0 %	37,818	100.0 %		
Less: valuation allowances	398		562			
Carrying value, net of valuation allowances	\$ 40,042		\$ 37,256			
Property Type:						
Office	\$ 18,582	45.9 %	\$ 16,857	44.6 %		
Retail	9,524	23.6	9,215	24.3		
Apartments	4,011	9.9	3,630	9.6		
Hotels	3,114	7.7	3,089	8.2		
Industrial	3,102	7.7	2,910	7.7		
Other	2,107	5.2	2,117	5.6		
Total recorded investment	40,440	100.0 %	37,818	100.0 %		
Less: valuation allowances	398		562			
Carrying value, net of valuation allowances	\$ 40,042		\$ 37,256			

(1) Reclassifications have been made to the prior year amounts from various regions to the Multi-Region and Other region to conform to the current year presentation.

Mortgage Loan Credit Quality Restructured, Potentially Delinquent, Delinquent or Under Foreclosure. The Company monitors its mortgage loan investments on an ongoing basis, including reviewing loans that are restructured, potentially delinquent, and delinquent or under foreclosure. These loan classifications are consistent with those used in industry practice.

The Company defines restructured mortgage loans as loans in which the Company, for economic or legal reasons related to the debtor's financial difficulties, grants a concession to the debtor that it would not otherwise consider. The Company defines potentially delinquent loans as loans

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

that, in management's opinion, have a high probability of becoming delinquent in the near term. The Company defines delinquent mortgage loans consistent

Table of Contents

with industry practice, when interest and principal payments are past due as follows: commercial mortgage loans 60 days or more; agricultural mortgage loans 90 days or more; and residential mortgage loans 60 days or more. The Company defines mortgage loans under foreclosure as loans in which foreclosure proceedings have formally commenced.

The following table presents the recorded investment and valuation allowance for all mortgage loans held-for-investment distributed by the above stated loan classifications at:

	December 31,				December 31,			
	2011		% of		2010		% of	
	Recorded Investment	% of Total	Valuation Allowance	Recorded Investment	Recorded Investment	% of Total	Valuation Allowance	Recorded Investment
	(In millions)							
Commercial:								
Performing	\$ 40,106	99.1 %	\$ 339	0.8 %	\$ 37,487	99.1 %	\$ 528	1.4 %
Restructured (1)	248	0.6	44	17.7 %	93	0.2	6	6.5 %
Potentially delinquent	23	0.1	15	65.2 %	180	0.5	28	15.6 %
Delinquent or under foreclosure	63	0.2		%	58	0.2		%
Total	\$ 40,440	100.0 %	\$ 398	1.0 %	\$ 37,818	100.0 %	\$ 562	1.5 %
Agricultural (2):								
Performing	\$ 12,899	98.3 %	\$ 41	0.3 %	\$ 12,486	97.9 %	\$ 35	0.3 %
Restructured (3)	58	0.4	7	12.1 %	33	0.3	8	24.2 %
Potentially delinquent	25	0.2	4	16.0 %	62	0.5	11	17.7 %
Delinquent or under foreclosure (3)	147	1.1	29	19.7 %	170	1.3	34	20.0 %
Total	\$ 13,129	100.0 %	\$ 81	0.6 %	\$ 12,751	100.0 %	\$ 88	0.7 %
Residential (4):								
Performing	\$ 664	96.4 %	\$ 1	0.2 %	\$ 2,145	96.1 %	\$ 12	0.6 %
Restructured (5)				%	4	0.2		%
Potentially delinquent				%	4	0.2		%
Delinquent or under foreclosure (5)	25	3.6	1	4.0 %	78	3.5	2	2.6 %
Total (6)	\$ 689	100.0 %	\$ 2	0.3 %	\$ 2,231	100.0 %	\$ 14	0.6 %

- (1) As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, restructured commercial mortgage loans were comprised of 10 and five restructured loans, respectively, all of which were performing.
- (2) Of the \$13.1 billion of agricultural mortgage loans outstanding at December 31, 2011, 50% were subject to rate resets prior to maturity. A substantial portion of these mortgage loans have been successfully reset, refinanced or extended at market terms.
- (3) As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, restructured agricultural mortgage loans were comprised of 11 and five restructured loans, respectively, all of which were performing. Additionally, as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, delinquent or under foreclosure agricultural mortgage loans included four and two restructured loans with a recorded investment of \$13 million and \$29 million, respectively, which were not performing.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

- (4) Residential mortgage loans held-for-investment consist primarily of first lien residential mortgage loans and, to a much lesser extent, second lien residential mortgage loans and home equity lines of credit.
- (5) There were no restructured residential mortgage loans at December 31, 2011. As of December 31, 2010, restructured residential mortgage loans were comprised of 12 restructured loans, all of which were performing.
- (6) The valuation allowance on and the related carrying value of certain residential mortgage loans held-for-investment was transferred to held-for-sale in connection with the pending disposition of certain operations of MetLife Bank. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for tables that present, by portfolio segment, mortgage loans by credit quality indicator, impaired mortgage loans, past due and nonaccrual mortgage loans, as well as loans modified through troubled debt restructurings.

Mortgage Loan Credit Quality Monitoring Process Commercial and Agricultural Mortgage Loans. The Company reviews all commercial mortgage loans on an ongoing basis. These reviews may include an analysis of the property financial statements and rent roll, lease rollover analysis, property inspections, market analysis, estimated valuations of the underlying collateral, loan-to-value ratios, debt service coverage ratios, and tenant creditworthiness. The monitoring process focuses on higher risk loans, which include those that are classified as restructured, potentially delinquent, delinquent or in foreclosure, as well as loans with higher loan-to-value ratios and lower debt service coverage ratios. The monitoring process for agricultural mortgage loans is generally similar, with a focus on higher risk loans, such as loans with higher loan-to-value ratios, including reviews on a geographic and property type basis.

Loan-to-value ratios and debt service coverage ratios are common measures in the assessment of the quality of commercial mortgage loans. Loan-to-value ratios are a common measure in the assessment of the quality of agricultural mortgage loans. Loan-to-value ratios compare the amount of the loan to the estimated fair value of the underlying collateral. A loan-to-value ratio greater than 100% indicates that the loan amount is greater than the collateral value. A loan-to-value ratio of less than 100% indicates an excess of collateral value over the loan amount. The debt service coverage ratio compares a property's net operating income to amounts needed to service the principal and interest due under the loan. For commercial mortgage loans, the average loan-to-value ratio was 61% and 66% at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, and the average debt service coverage ratio was 2.1x at December 31, 2011, as compared to 2.4x at December 31, 2010. The commercial mortgage loan debt service coverage ratio and loan-to-value ratio, as well as the values utilized in calculating these ratios, are updated annually, on a rolling basis, with a portion of the commercial mortgage loan portfolio updated each quarter. For agricultural mortgage loans, the average loan-to-value ratio was 48% and 49% at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The values utilized in calculating the agricultural mortgage loan loan-to-value ratio are developed in connection with the ongoing review of the agricultural loan portfolio and are routinely updated.

Mortgage Loan Credit Quality Monitoring Process Residential Mortgage Loans. The Company has a conservative residential mortgage loan portfolio and does not hold any option ARMs, sub-prime or low teaser rate loans. Higher risk loans include those that are classified as restructured, potentially delinquent, delinquent or in foreclosure, as well as loans with higher loan-to-value ratios and interest-only loans. The Company's investment in residential junior lien loans and residential mortgage loans with a loan-to-value ratio of 80% or more was \$74 million and \$95 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, and certain of the higher loan-to-value residential mortgage loans have mortgage insurance coverage which reduces the loan-to-value ratio to less than 80%. Additionally, the Company's investment in traditional residential interest-only mortgage loans was \$6 million and \$389 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Mortgage Loan Valuation Allowances. The Company's valuation allowances are established both on a loan specific basis for those loans considered impaired where a property specific or market specific risk has been identified that could likely result in a future loss, as well as for pools of loans with similar risk characteristics where a property specific or market specific risk has not been identified, but for which the Company expects to incur a loss. Accordingly, a valuation allowance is provided to absorb these estimated probable credit losses. The Company records additions to and decreases in its valuation allowances and gains and losses from the sale of loans in net investment gains (losses).

The Company records valuation allowances for loans considered to be impaired when it is probable that, based upon current information and events, the Company will be unable to collect all amounts due under the contractual terms of the loan agreement. Based on the facts and circumstances of the individual loans being impaired, loan specific valuation allowances are established for the excess carrying value of the loan over either: (i) the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's original effective interest rate; (ii) the estimated fair value of the loan's underlying collateral if the loan is in the process of foreclosure or otherwise collateral dependent; or (iii) the loan's observable market price.

Table of Contents

The Company also establishes valuation allowances for loan losses for pools of loans with similar risk characteristics, such as property types, loan-to-value ratios and debt service coverage ratios when, based on past experience, it is probable that a credit event has occurred and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. These valuation allowances are based on loan risk characteristics, historical default rates and loss severities, real estate market fundamentals and outlook, as well as other relevant factors.

The determination of the amount of, and additions or decreases to, valuation allowances is based upon the Company's periodic evaluation and assessment of known and inherent risks associated with its loan portfolios. Such evaluations and assessments are based upon several factors, including the Company's experience for loan losses, defaults and loss severity, and loss expectations for loans with similar risk characteristics. These evaluations and assessments are revised as conditions change and new information becomes available. We update our evaluations regularly, which can cause the valuation allowances to increase or decrease over time as such evaluations are revised. Negative credit migration including an actual or expected increase in the level of problem loans will result in an increase in the valuation allowance. Positive credit migration including an actual or expected decrease in the level of problem loans will result in a decrease in the valuation allowance. Such changes in the valuation allowance are recorded in net investment gains (losses).

See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a table that presents the activity in the Company's valuation allowances, by portfolio segment, for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009; and for tables that present the Company's valuation allowances, by type of credit loss, by portfolio segment, at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Impairments to estimated fair value included within net investment gains (losses) for impaired mortgage loans were \$18 million and \$17 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The estimated fair value of the impaired mortgage loans after these impairments was \$209 million and \$197 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, which are carried at estimated fair value based on the value of the underlying collateral or independent broker quotations, if lower, of which \$151 million and \$164 million related to impaired mortgage loans held-for-investment and \$58 million and \$33 million to certain mortgage loans held-for-sale, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. These impaired mortgage loans were recorded at estimated fair value and represent a nonrecurring fair value measurement. The estimated fair value is categorized as Level 3 due to the lack of transparency and unobservability in collateral valuation and independent broker quotations.

Real Estate and Real Estate Joint Ventures

The Company diversifies its real estate investments by both geographic region and property type to reduce risk of concentration. Of the Company's real estate investments, 83% are primarily located in the United States, with the remaining 17% located outside the United States, at December 31, 2011. The three locations with the largest real estate investments were California, Japan and Florida at 19%, 14%, and 12%, respectively, at December 31, 2011. See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding real estate and real estate joint venture investments.

Table of Contents

Real estate and real estate joint venture investments by property type are categorized as follows:

	2011		December 31, 2010	
	Carrying Value (In millions)	% of Total	Carrying Value (In millions)	% of Total
Office	\$ 5,089	59.4 %	\$ 4,369	54.4 %
Apartments	1,610	18.8	1,774	22.1
Real estate investment funds	562	6.6	552	6.9
Industrial	427	5.0	433	5.4
Retail	332	3.9	389	4.8
Hotel	218	2.5	233	2.9
Land	126	1.5	133	1.7
Agriculture	14	0.2	17	0.2
Other	185	2.1	130	1.6
Total real estate and real estate joint ventures	\$ 8,563	100.0 %	\$ 8,030	100.0 %

There were no impairments recognized on real estate and real estate joint ventures held-for-investment for the year ended December 31, 2011. Impairments recognized on real estate and real estate joint ventures held-for-investment were \$48 million and \$160 million for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, which included impairments on cost basis real estate joint ventures of \$25 million and \$82 million, respectively. There were no impaired cost basis real estate joint ventures held as of December 31, 2011. The estimated fair value of the impaired cost basis real estate joint ventures, after impairments, held as of December 31, 2010, was \$8 million. These impairments to estimated fair value represent non-recurring fair value measurements that have been classified as Level 3 due to the limited activity and limited price transparency inherent in the market for such investments. Impairments recognized on real estate held-for-sale were \$2 million and \$1 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. There were no impairments recognized on real estate held-for-sale for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Other Limited Partnership Interests

The carrying value of other limited partnership interests (which primarily represent ownership interests in pooled investment funds that principally make private equity investments in companies in the United States and overseas) was \$6.4 billion at both December 31, 2011 and 2010, which included \$1.1 billion and \$1.0 billion of hedge funds, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Impairments to estimated fair value for such other limited partnership interests of \$5 million, \$12 million and \$354 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, were recognized within net investment gains (losses). The estimated fair value of the impaired other limited partnership interests after these impairments was \$13 million, \$23 million and \$561 million at December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. These impairments to estimated fair value represent non-recurring fair value measurements that have been classified as Level 3 due to the limited activity and limited price transparency inherent in the market for such investments.

Other Invested Assets

See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a table that presents the Company's other invested assets by type at December 31, 2011 and 2010 and related information.

Short-term Investments and Cash Equivalents

The carrying value of short-term investments, which includes securities and other investments with remaining maturities of one year or less, but greater than three months, at the time of purchase was \$17.3 billion and \$9.4 billion, or 3.3% and 2.0% of total cash and invested assets, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The

Table of Contents

carrying value of cash equivalents, which includes securities and other investments with an original or remaining maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase, was \$5.0 billion and \$9.6 billion, or 1.0% and 2.0% of total cash and invested assets, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Derivative Financial Instruments

Derivatives. The Company is exposed to various risks relating to its ongoing business operations, including interest rate risk, foreign currency risk, credit risk, and equity market risk. The Company uses a variety of strategies to manage these risks, including the use of derivative instruments. See Note 4 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for:

A comprehensive description of the nature of the Company's derivative instruments, including the strategies for which derivatives are used in managing various risks.

Information about the notional amount, estimated fair value, and primary underlying risk exposure of the Company's derivative financial instruments, excluding embedded derivatives held at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Hedging. See Note 4 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for information about:

The notional amount and estimated fair value of derivatives and non-derivative instruments designated as hedging instruments by type of hedge designation at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

The notional amount and estimated fair value of derivatives that are not designated or do not qualify as hedging instruments by derivative type at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

The statement of operations effects of derivatives in cash flow, fair value, or non-qualifying hedge relationships for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009.

See [Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk](#) Management of Market Risk Exposures Hedging Activities for more information about the Company's use of derivatives by major hedge program.

Fair Value Hierarchy. Derivatives measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis and their corresponding fair value hierarchy, are presented as follows:

	December 31, 2011			
	Derivative Assets		Derivative Liabilities	
	(In millions)			
Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities (Level 1)	\$ 62	1 %	\$ 103	3 %
Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	14,746	90	3,750	93
Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)	1,392	9	158	4
Total estimated fair value	\$ 16,200	100 %	\$ 4,011	100 %

The valuation of Level 3 derivatives involves the use of significant unobservable inputs and generally requires a higher degree of management judgment or estimation than the valuations of Level 1 and Level 2 derivatives. Although Level 3 inputs are unobservable, management believes they are consistent with what other market participants would use when pricing such instruments and are considered appropriate given the circumstances. The use of different inputs or methodologies could have a material effect on the estimated fair value of Level 3 derivatives and

could materially affect net income.

Table of Contents

Derivatives categorized as Level 3 at December 31, 2011 include: interest rate swaps and interest rate forwards with maturities which extend beyond the observable portion of the yield curve; interest rate lock commitments with certain unobservable inputs, including pull-through rates; equity variance swaps with unobservable volatility inputs; foreign currency swaps which are cancelable and priced through independent broker quotations; credit default swaps based upon baskets of credits having unobservable credit spreads, or that are priced through independent broker quotations; equity options with unobservable volatility inputs or that are priced via independent broker quotations; and credit forwards having unobservable repurchase rates.

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, 5% and 2%, respectively, of the net derivative estimated fair value was priced via independent broker quotations.

A rollforward of the fair value measurements for net derivatives measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable (Level 3) inputs for the year ended December 31, 2011 is as follows:

	Year Ended December 31, 2011	
	(In millions)	
Balance, beginning of period	\$	173
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:		
Earnings		637
Other comprehensive income (loss)		344
Purchases, sales, issuances and settlements		156
Transfer into and/or out of Level 3		(76)
Balance, end of period	\$	1,234

See [Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates](#) [Derivative Financial Instruments](#) for further information on the estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported above.

Credit Risk. See Note 4 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for information about how the Company manages credit risk related to its freestanding derivatives, including the use of master netting agreements and collateral arrangements.

The Company's policy is not to offset the fair value amounts recognized for derivatives executed with the same counterparty under the same master netting agreement. This policy applies to the recognition of derivatives in the consolidated balance sheets, and does not affect the Company's legal right of offset. The estimated fair value of the Company's net derivative assets and net derivative liabilities after the application of master netting agreements and collateral were as follows at December 31, 2011:

	December 31, 2011	
	Net Derivative	Net Derivative
	Assets	Liabilities
	(In millions)	
Estimated Fair Value of OTC Derivatives After Application of Master Netting Agreements (1)	\$ 12,905	\$ 619
Cash collateral on OTC Derivatives	(9,493)	(8)
Estimated Fair Value of OTC Derivatives After Application of Master Netting Agreements and Cash Collateral (1)	3,412	611
Securities Collateral on OTC Derivatives (2)	(2,520)	(416)
Estimated Fair Value of OTC Derivatives After Application of Master Netting Agreements and Cash and Securities Collateral (1)	892	195
Estimated Fair Value of Exchange-Traded Derivatives	54	30
Total Estimated Fair Value of Derivatives After Application of Master Netting Agreements and Cash and Securities Collateral (1)	\$ 946	\$ 225

Table of Contents

(1) Includes income accruals on derivatives.

(2) The collateral is held in separate custodial accounts and is not recorded on the Company's consolidated balance sheets.
Credit Derivatives. See Note 4 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for information about the estimated fair value and maximum amount at risk related to the Company's written credit default swaps.

Embedded Derivatives. The embedded derivatives measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis and their corresponding fair value hierarchy, are presented as follows:

	December 31, 2011			
	Asset Host Contracts		Liability Host Contracts	
	(In millions)			
Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities (Level 1)	\$	%	\$	%
Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	1	1	19	1
Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)	362	99	4,565	99
Total estimated fair value	\$ 363	100 %	\$ 4,584	100 %

A rollforward of the fair value measurements for net embedded derivatives measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable (Level 3) inputs is as follows:

	Year Ended December 31, 2011	
	(In millions)	
Balance, beginning of period	\$	(2,438)
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:		
Earnings		(1,191)
Other comprehensive income (loss)		(119)
Purchases, sales, issuances and settlements		(455)
Transfer into and/or out of Level 3		
Balance, end of period	\$	(4,203)

The valuation of guaranteed minimum benefits includes an adjustment for nonperformance risk. Included in net derivative gains (losses) for the year ended December 31, 2011, were gains (losses) of \$1.8 billion in connection with this adjustment.

See Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates Derivative Financial Instruments for further information on the estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported above.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements*Credit Facilities and Committed Facilities*

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

The Company maintains unsecured credit and committed facilities with various financial institutions. See [Liquidity and Capital Resources](#) The Company [Liquidity and Capital Sources](#) [Credit and Committed Facilities](#) for further descriptions of such arrangements.

Collateral for Securities Lending and Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company has non-cash collateral for securities lending from counterparties on deposit from customers, which cannot be sold or repledged, and which has not been recorded on its consolidated balance sheets. The

Table of Contents

Company participates in a securities lending program in the normal course of business for the purpose of enhancing the Company's total return on its investment portfolio. The amount of this collateral was \$371 million at estimated fair value at December 31, 2011. There was no non-cash collateral for securities lending on deposit from customers at December 31, 2010. See [Investments](#), [Securities Lending](#) and [Securities Lending](#) in Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for discussion of the Company's securities lending program and the classification of revenues and expenses and the nature of the secured financing arrangement and associated liability.

The Company has non-cash collateral from counterparties for derivative financial instruments, which can be sold or repledged subject to certain constraints, and has not been recorded on its consolidated balance sheets. The Company enters into derivative financial instruments to manage various risks relating to its ongoing business operations. The amount of this collateral was \$2.5 billion and \$984 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, which were held in separate custodial accounts and not recorded on the Company's consolidated balance sheets. See [Liquidity and Capital Resources](#), [The Company](#), [Liquidity and Capital Sources](#), [Collateral Financing Arrangements](#) and [Derivatives](#) in Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information on the earned income on and the gross notional amount, estimated fair value of assets and liabilities and primary underlying risk exposure of the Company's derivative financial instruments.

Lease Commitments

The Company, as lessee, has entered into various lease and sublease agreements for office space, information technology and other equipment. The Company's commitments under such lease agreements are included within the contractual obligations table. See [Liquidity and Capital Resources](#), [The Company](#), [Liquidity and Capital Uses](#), [Contractual Obligations](#) and Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Guarantees

See [Guarantees](#) in Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Other

Additionally, the Company has the following commitments in the normal course of business for the purpose of enhancing the Company's total return on its investment portfolio:

Commitments to Fund Partnership Investments;

Mortgage Loan Commitments; and

Commitments to Fund Bank Credit Facilities, Bridge Loans and Private Corporate Bond Investments.

See [Net Investment Income](#) and [Net Investment Gains \(Losses\)](#) in Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information on the investment income, investment expense, gains and losses from such investments. See also [Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities Available-for-Sale](#), [Mortgage Loans](#), [Real Estate and Real Estate Joint Ventures](#), and [Other Limited Partnerships](#) in Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information on our investments in fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans and partnership investments.

Other than the commitments disclosed in Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, there are no other material obligations or liabilities arising from the commitments to fund partnership investments, mortgage loans, bank credit facilities, bridge loans, and private corporate bond investments.

See also [Liquidity and Capital Resources](#), [The Company](#), [Liquidity and Capital Uses](#), [Contractual Obligations](#) for further information on commitments to fund partnership investments, mortgage loans, bank credit facilities, bridge loans and private corporate bond investments. In addition, see [Primary Risks Managed by Derivative Financial Instruments and Non-Derivative Financial Instruments](#) in Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information on interest rate lock commitments.

Table of Contents

Policyholder Liabilities

We establish, and carry as liabilities, actuarially determined amounts that are calculated to meet policy obligations when a policy matures or is surrendered, an insured dies or becomes disabled or upon the occurrence of other covered events, or to provide for future annuity payments. Amounts for actuarial liabilities are computed and reported in the consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP. For more details on Policyholder Liabilities, see Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates.

Due to the nature of the underlying risks and the high degree of uncertainty associated with the determination of actuarial liabilities, the Company cannot precisely determine the amounts that will ultimately be paid with respect to these actuarial liabilities, and the ultimate amounts may vary from the estimated amounts, particularly when payments may not occur until well into the future.

Our actuarial liabilities for future benefits are adequate to cover the ultimate benefits required to be paid to policyholders. We periodically review our estimates of actuarial liabilities for future benefits and compare them with our actual experience. We revise estimates, to the extent permitted or required under GAAP, if we determine that future expected experience differs from assumptions used in the development of actuarial liabilities.

Insurance regulators in many of the non-U.S. countries in which MetLife operates require certain MetLife entities to prepare a sufficiency analysis of the reserves posted in the locally required regulatory financial statements, and to submit that analysis to the regulatory authorities. See Business International Regulation.

We have experienced, and will likely in the future experience, catastrophe losses and possibly acts of terrorism, and turbulent financial markets that may have an adverse impact on our business, results of operations, and financial condition. Catastrophes can be caused by various events, including pandemics, hurricanes, windstorms, earthquakes, hail, tornadoes, explosions, severe winter weather (including snow, freezing water, ice storms and blizzards), fires and man-made events such as terrorist attacks. Due to their nature, we cannot predict the incidence, timing, severity or amount of losses from catastrophes and acts of terrorism, but we make broad use of catastrophic and non-catastrophic reinsurance to manage risk from these perils.

Future Policy Benefits

We establish liabilities for amounts payable under insurance policies. See Notes 1 and 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

Insurance Products. Future policy benefits are comprised mainly of liabilities for disabled lives under disability waiver of premium policy provisions, liabilities for survivor income benefit insurance, LTC policies, active life policies and premium stabilization and other contingency liabilities held under participating life insurance contracts. In order to manage risk, the Company has often reinsured a portion of the mortality risk on new individual life insurance policies. The reinsurance programs are routinely evaluated and this may result in increases or decreases to existing coverage. The Company entered into various derivative positions, primarily interest rate swaps and swaptions, to mitigate the risk that investment of premiums received and reinvestment of maturing assets over the life of the policy will be at rates below those assumed in the original pricing of these contracts.

Retirement Products. Future policy benefits are comprised mainly of liabilities for life-contingent income annuities, supplemental contracts with and without life contingencies, liabilities for Guaranteed Minimum Death Benefits (GMDBs) included in certain annuity contracts, and a certain portion of guaranteed living benefits. See Variable Annuity Guarantees.

Corporate Benefit Funding. Liabilities are primarily related to payout annuities, including pension closeouts and structured settlement annuities. There is no interest rate crediting flexibility on these liabilities. A sustained low interest rate environment could negatively impact earnings as a result, however, the Company has employed various asset/liability management strategies, including the use of various derivative positions, primarily interest rate floors and interest rate swaps, to mitigate the risks associated with such a scenario.

Table of Contents

Auto & Home. Future policy benefits include liabilities for unpaid claims and claim expenses for property and casualty insurance and represent the amount estimated for claims that have been reported but not settled and claims incurred but not reported. Liabilities for unpaid claims are estimated based upon assumptions such as rates of claim frequencies, levels of severities, inflation, judicial trends, legislative changes or regulatory decisions. Assumptions are based upon the Company's historical experience and analyses of historical development patterns of the relationship of loss adjustment expenses to losses for each line of business, and consider the effects of current developments, anticipated trends and risk management programs, reduced for anticipated salvage and subrogation.

Japan and Other International Regions. Future policy benefits are held primarily for traditional life and accident and health contracts in Japan, Asia Pacific and immediate annuities in Latin America. They are also held for total return pass-thru provisions included in certain universal life and savings products mainly in Japan and Latin America, and traditional life, endowment and annuity contracts sold in various countries in Asia Pacific. They also include certain liabilities for variable annuity guarantees of minimum death benefits, and longevity guarantees sold in Japan and Asia Pacific. Finally, in Europe and the Middle East, they also include unearned premium liabilities established for credit insurance contracts covering death, disability and involuntary loss of employment, as well as traditional life, accident and health and endowment contracts. Factors impacting these liabilities include sustained periods of lower yields than rates established at issue, lower than expected asset reinvestment rates, actual lapses resulting in lower than expected income, asset impairments, and actual mortality resulting in higher than expected benefit payments. The Company mitigates its risks by implementing an asset/liability matching policy and through the development of periodic experience studies. See Variable Annuity Guarantees.

Estimates for the liabilities for unpaid claims and claim expenses are reset as actuarial indications change and these changes in the liability are reflected in the current results of operation as either favorable or unfavorable development of prior year losses.

Corporate & Other. Future policy benefits primarily include liabilities for quota-share reinsurance agreements for certain LTC and workers compensation business written by MetLife Insurance Company of Connecticut (MICC), prior to its acquisition by MetLife, Inc. These are run-off businesses that have been included within Corporate & Other since the acquisition of MICC.

Policyholder Account Balances

PABs are generally equal to the account value, which includes accrued interest credited, but exclude the impact of any applicable surrender charge that may be incurred upon surrender. See Notes 1 and 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

Insurance Products. PABs are held for death benefit disbursement retained asset accounts, universal life policies, the fixed account of variable life insurance policies, specialized life insurance products for benefit programs and general account universal life policies. PABs are credited interest at a rate set by the Company, which are influenced by current market rates. The majority of the PABs have a guaranteed minimum credited rate between 0.5% and 6.0%. A sustained low interest rate environment could negatively impact earnings as a result of the minimum credited rate guarantees. The Company has various derivative positions, primarily interest rate floors, to partially mitigate the risks associated with such a scenario.

Retirement Products. PABs are held for fixed deferred annuities and the fixed account portion of variable annuities, for certain income annuities, and for certain portions of guaranteed benefits. PABs are credited interest at a rate set by the Company. Credited rates for deferred annuities are influenced by current market rates, and most of these contracts have a minimum guaranteed rate between 1.0% and 4.0%. See Variable Annuity Guarantees.

Corporate Benefit Funding. PABs are comprised of funding agreements. Interest crediting rates vary by type of contract, and can be fixed or variable. Variable interest crediting rates are generally tied to an external index,

Table of Contents

most commonly (1-month or 3-month) LIBOR. MetLife is exposed to interest rate risks, and foreign exchange risk when guaranteeing payment of interest and return of principal at the contractual maturity date. The Company may invest in floating rate assets, or enter into floating rate swaps, also tied to external indices, as well as caps to mitigate the impact of changes in market interest rates. The Company also mitigates its risks by implementing an asset/liability matching policy and seeks to hedge all foreign currency risk through the use of foreign currency hedges, including cross currency swaps.

Japan and Other International Regions. PABs are held largely for fixed income retirement and savings plans in Japan and Latin America and to a lesser degree, amounts for unit-linked-type funds in certain countries across all regions that do not meet the GAAP definition of separate accounts. Also included are certain liabilities for retirement and savings products sold in certain countries in Japan and Asia Pacific that generally are sold with minimum credited rate guarantees. Liabilities for guarantees on certain variable annuities in Japan and Asia Pacific are established in accordance with derivatives and hedging guidance and are also included within PABs. These liabilities are generally impacted by sustained periods of low interest rates, where there are interest rate guarantees. The Company mitigates its risks by implementing an asset/liability matching policy and by hedging its variable annuity guarantees. Liabilities for unit-linked-type funds are impacted by changes in the fair value of the associated underlying investments, as the return on assets is generally passed directly to the policyholder. See Variable Annuity Guarantees.

Variable Annuity Guarantees

The Company issues, directly and through assumed reinsurance, certain variable annuity products with guaranteed minimum benefits that provide the policyholder a minimum return based on their initial deposit (i.e., the benefit base) less withdrawals. See Notes 1 and 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

The net amount at risk (NAR) for guarantees can change significantly during periods of sizable and sustained shifts in equity market performance, increased equity volatility, or changes in interest rates. The NAR disclosed in Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements represents management's estimate of the current value of the benefits under these guarantees if they were all exercised simultaneously at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. However, there are features, such as deferral periods and benefits requiring annuitization or death, that limit the amount of benefits that will be payable in the near future.

Guarantees, including portions thereof, accounted for as embedded derivatives, are recorded at estimated fair value and included in PABs. Guarantees accounted for as embedded derivatives include guaranteed minimum accumulation benefits, the non life-contingent portion of guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits (GMWB) and the portion of certain GMIB that do not require annuitization. For more detail on the determination of estimated fair value, see Note 5 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

The table below contains the carrying value for guarantees included in PABs at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
U.S. Business:		
Guaranteed minimum accumulation benefit	\$ 52	\$ 44
Guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefit	710	173
Guaranteed minimum income benefit	988	(51)
International:		
Guaranteed minimum accumulation benefit	694	454
Guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefit	2,000	1,936
Total	\$ 4,444	\$ 2,556

Included in net derivative gains (losses) for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were gains (losses) of (\$1.3) billion and (\$269) million, respectively, in embedded derivatives related to the change in estimated fair

Table of Contents

value of the guarantees. The carrying amount of guarantees accounted for at estimated fair value includes an adjustment for nonperformance risk. In connection with this adjustment, gains (losses) of \$1.8 billion and (\$96) million are included in the gains (losses) of (\$1.3) billion and (\$269) million in net derivative gains (losses) for the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

The estimated fair value of guarantees accounted for as embedded derivatives can change significantly during periods of sizable and sustained shifts in equity market performance, equity volatility, interest rates or foreign exchange rates. Additionally, because the estimated fair value for guarantees accounted for at estimated fair value includes an adjustment for nonperformance risk, a decrease in the Company's credit spreads could cause the value of these liabilities to increase. Conversely, a widening of the Company's credit spreads could cause the value of these liabilities to decrease. The Company uses derivative instruments and reinsurance to mitigate the liability exposure, risk of loss and the volatility of net income associated with these liabilities. The derivative instruments used are primarily equity and treasury futures, equity options and variance swaps, and interest rate swaps. The change in valuation arising from the nonperformance risk is not hedged.

The table below presents the estimated fair value of the derivatives hedging guarantees accounted for as embedded derivatives:

Primary Underlying	Instrument Type	Notional Amount	December 31,		Notional Amount	2010		
			2011	Estimated Fair Value		Assets	Liabilities	Assets
Risk Exposure			Assets	Liabilities		Assets	Liabilities	
			(In millions)					
Interest rate	Interest rate swaps	\$ 22,719	\$ 1,869	\$ 598	\$ 13,762	\$ 401	\$ 193	
	Interest rate futures	11,126	17	16	5,822	32	10	
	Interest rate options	11,372	567	6	614	15		
Foreign currency	Foreign currency forwards	2,311	41	4	2,320	46	1	
	Foreign currency futures	177						
Equity market	Equity futures	4,916	15	10	6,959	17	9	
	Equity options	16,367	3,239	177	32,942	1,720	1,196	
	Variance swaps	18,402	390	75	17,635	190	118	
	Total rate of return swaps	1,274	8	31	1,547			
	Total	\$ 88,664	\$ 6,146	\$ 917	\$ 81,601	\$ 2,421	\$ 1,527	

Included in net derivative gains (losses) for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were gains (losses) of \$3.2 billion and \$113 million related to the change in estimated fair value of the above derivatives. Additionally, included in net derivative gains (losses) for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were gains (losses) of \$26 million and (\$35) million, respectively, related to ceded reinsurance.

Guarantees, including portions thereof, have liabilities established that are included in future policy benefits. Guarantees accounted for in this manner include GMDBs, the life-contingent portion of certain GMWB, and the portion of GMIB that require annuitization. These liabilities are accrued over the life of the contract in proportion to actual and future expected policy assessments based on the level of guaranteed minimum benefits generated using multiple scenarios of separate account returns. The scenarios use best estimate assumptions consistent with those used to amortize deferred acquisition costs. When current estimates of future benefits exceed those previously projected or when current estimates of future assessments are lower than those previously projected, liabilities will increase, resulting in a current period charge to net income. The opposite result occurs when the current estimates of future benefits are lower than that previously projected or when current estimates of future assessments exceed those previously projected. At each reporting period, the Company updates the actual amount of business remaining in-force, which impacts expected future assessments and the projection of estimated future benefits resulting in a current period charge or increase to earnings.

Table of Contents

The table below contains the carrying value for guarantees included in future policy benefits at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
U.S. Business:		
Guaranteed minimum death benefit	\$ 260	\$ 167
Guaranteed minimum income benefit	723	507
International:		
Guaranteed minimum death benefit	118	66
Guaranteed minimum income benefit	149	116
Total	\$ 1,250	\$ 856

Included in policyholder benefits and claims for the year ended December 31, 2011 is a charge of \$394 million and for the year ended December 31, 2010 is a charge of \$302 million, related to the respective change in liabilities for the above guarantees.

The carrying amount of guarantees accounted for as insurance liabilities can change significantly during periods of sizable and sustained shifts in equity market performance, increased equity volatility, or changes in interest rates. The Company uses reinsurance in combination with derivative instruments to mitigate the liability exposure, risk of loss and the volatility of net income associated with these liabilities. Derivative instruments used are primarily equity futures, treasury futures and interest rate swaps.

Included in policyholder benefits and claims associated with the hedging of the guarantees in future policy benefits for the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were gains (losses) of \$86 million and \$8 million, respectively, related to reinsurance agreements containing embedded derivatives carried at estimated fair value and gains (losses) of (\$87) million and (\$275) million, respectively, related to freestanding derivatives.

While the Company believes that the hedging strategies employed for guarantees included in both PABs and in future policy benefits, as well as other management actions, have mitigated the risks related to these benefits, the Company remains liable for the guaranteed benefits in the event that reinsurers or derivative counterparties are unable or unwilling to pay. Certain of the Company's reinsurance agreements and most derivative positions are collateralized and derivatives positions are subject to master netting agreements, both of which, significantly reduces the exposure to counterparty risk. In addition, the Company is subject to the risk that hedging and other management procedures prove ineffective or that unanticipated policyholder behavior or mortality, combined with adverse market events, produces economic losses beyond the scope of the risk management techniques employed. Lastly, because the valuation of the guarantees accounted for as embedded derivatives includes an adjustment for nonperformance risk that is not hedged, changes in the nonperformance risk may result in significant volatility in net income.

Other Policy-related Balances

Other policy-related balances include policy and contract claims, unearned revenue liabilities, premiums received in advance, policyholder dividends due and unpaid, and policyholder dividends left on deposit. See Notes 1 and 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

Policyholder Dividends Payable

Policyholder dividends payable consists of liabilities related to dividends payable in the following calendar year on participating policies.

Liquidity and Capital Resources**Overview**

Our business and results of operations are materially affected by conditions in the global capital markets and the global economy. Stressed conditions, volatility and disruptions in global capital markets, particular markets, or financial asset classes can have an adverse effect on us, in part because we have a large investment portfolio

Table of Contents

and our insurance liabilities are sensitive to changing market factors. The global economy and markets are still affected by a period of significant stress that began in the second half of 2007. This disruption adversely affected the financial services sector, in particular, and global capital markets. Consequently, financial institutions paid higher spreads over benchmark U.S. Treasury securities than before the market disruption began.

Beginning in 2010 and continuing throughout 2011, concerns increased about capital markets and the solvency of certain European Union member states and of financial institutions that have significant direct or indirect exposure to debt issued by these countries. The Japanese economy, to which we face substantial exposure given our operations there, was significantly negatively impacted by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Disruptions to the Japanese economy are having, and will continue to have, negative impacts on the overall global economy, not all of which can be foreseen. Although the August 2011 downgrade by S&P of U.S. Treasury securities initially had an adverse effect on financial markets, the extent of the longer-term impact cannot be predicted. In November 2011, Fitch warned that it may in the future downgrade the U.S. credit rating unless action is taken to reduce the national debt of the U.S. It is possible that the August 2011 S&P downgrade and any future downgrades, as well as continued concerns about U.S. fiscal policy and the trajectory of the national debt of the U.S., could have severe repercussions to the U.S. and global credit and financial markets, could further exacerbate concerns over sovereign debt of other countries and could disrupt economic activity in the U.S. and elsewhere. All of these factors could affect the Company's ability to meet liquidity needs and obtain capital. See [Industry Trends](#), [Investments](#) [Current Environment](#) and [Risk Factors](#) [Concerns Over U.S. Fiscal Policy and the Trajectory of the National Debt of the U.S.](#), as well as [Rating Agency Downgrades of U.S. Treasury Securities, Could Have an Adverse Effect on Our Business, Financial Condition and Results of Operations](#).

Liquidity Management

Based upon the strength of its franchise, diversification of its businesses and strong financial fundamentals, we continue to believe the Company has ample liquidity to meet business requirements under current market conditions and unlikely but reasonably possible stress scenarios. The Company's short-term liquidity position includes cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments, excluding: (i) cash collateral received under the Company's securities lending program that has been reinvested in cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and publicly-traded securities, and (ii) cash collateral received from counterparties in connection with derivative instruments. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company's short-term liquidity position was \$16.2 billion and \$17.6 billion, respectively. We continuously monitor and adjust our liquidity and capital plans for MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries in light of changing needs and opportunities. See [Investments](#) [Current Environment](#).

Capital Management

The Company has established several senior management committees as part of its capital management process. These committees, including the Capital Management Committee and the Enterprise Risk Committee (comprised of members of senior management, including MetLife, Inc.'s Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Chief Risk Officer and, in the case of the Enterprise Risk Committee, MetLife, Inc.'s Chief Investment Officer), regularly review actual and projected capital levels (under a variety of scenarios including stress scenarios) and MetLife's capital plan in accordance with its capital policy.

MetLife's Board and senior management are directly involved in the development and maintenance of MetLife's capital policy. The capital policy sets forth, among other things, minimum and target capital levels and the governance of the capital management process. All capital actions, including proposed changes to the capital plan, capital targets or capital policy, are reviewed by the Finance and Risk Committee of the Board prior to obtaining full Board approval. The Board approves the capital policy and the annual capital plan and authorizes capital actions, as required.

MetLife's 2012 capital plan, as submitted to the Federal Reserve for approval in January 2012 as part of the Federal Reserve Board's 2012 Comprehensive Capital Analysis and Review, was created in accordance with MetLife's capital policy. See [Business](#) [U.S. Regulation](#) [Financial Holding Company Regulation](#).

Table of Contents

The Company

Liquidity

Liquidity refers to a company's ability to generate adequate amounts of cash to meet its needs. Liquidity needs are determined from a rolling six-month forecast by portfolio of investment assets and are monitored daily. Asset mix and maturities are adjusted based on the forecast. Cash flow testing and stress testing provide additional perspectives on liquidity, which include various scenarios of the potential risk of early contractholder and policyholder withdrawal. The Company includes provisions limiting withdrawal rights on many of its products, including general account institutional pension products (generally group annuities, including funding agreements, and certain deposit fund liabilities) sold to employee benefit plan sponsors. Certain of these provisions prevent the customer from making withdrawals prior to the maturity date of the product.

In the event of significant cash requirements beyond anticipated liquidity needs, the Company has various alternatives available depending on market conditions and the amount and timing of the liquidity need. These options include cash flows from operations, the sale of liquid assets, global funding sources and various credit facilities.

Under certain stressful market and economic conditions, the Company's access to, or cost of, liquidity may deteriorate. If the Company requires significant amounts of cash on short notice in excess of anticipated cash requirements or is required to post or return cash collateral in connection with its investment portfolio, derivatives transactions or securities lending program, the Company may have difficulty selling investment assets in a timely manner, be forced to sell them for less than the Company otherwise would have been able to realize, or both. In addition, in the event of such forced sale, accounting guidance require the recognition of a loss for certain securities in an unrealized loss position and may require the impairment of other securities based upon the Company's ability to hold such securities, which may negatively impact the Company's financial condition. See *Risk Factors* *Some of Our Investments Are Relatively Illiquid and Are in Asset Classes That Have Been Experiencing Significant Market Valuation Fluctuations*.

In extreme circumstances, all general account assets within a particular legal entity other than those which may have been pledged to a specific purpose are available to fund obligations of the general account of that legal entity.

Capital

The Company's capital position is managed to maintain its financial strength and credit ratings and is supported by its ability to generate strong cash flows at the operating companies, borrow funds at competitive rates and raise additional capital to meet its operating and growth needs.

The Company was able to issue new debt and remarket outstanding debt during the difficult market conditions prevailing in the second half of 2008 and early 2009, as well as during the rebound and recovery periods beginning in the second quarter of 2009 and continuing into 2010. The increase in credit spreads experienced during the crisis resulted in an increase in the cost of capital, as well as increases in facility fees. Most recently, as a result of reductions in interest rates and credit spreads, the Company's interest expense and dividends on floating rate securities have been lower.

Despite the still unsettled financial markets, the Company also raised new capital from successful offerings of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock in August 2010 and March 2011. The August 2010 offering provided financing for the Acquisition and the March 2011 offering provided financing for the repurchase from AM Holdings of MetLife, Inc.'s Convertible Preferred Stock that was issued in connection with the Acquisition. See *The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources* *Convertible Preferred Stock* and *Common Stock*.

Table of Contents

Rating Agencies. Rating agencies assign insurer financial strength ratings to MetLife, Inc.'s domestic life insurance subsidiaries and credit ratings to MetLife, Inc. and certain of its subsidiaries. The level and composition of regulatory capital at the subsidiary level and equity capital of the Company are among the many factors considered in determining the Company's insurer financial strength and credit ratings. Each agency has its own capital adequacy evaluation methodology, and assessments are generally based on a combination of factors. In addition to heightening the level of scrutiny that they apply to insurance companies, rating agencies have increased and may continue to increase the frequency and scope of their credit reviews, may request additional information from the companies that they rate and may adjust upward the capital and other requirements employed in the rating agency models for maintenance of certain ratings levels.

A downgrade in the credit or insurer financial strength ratings of MetLife, Inc. or its subsidiaries would likely impact the cost and availability of financing for MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries and result in additional collateral requirements or other required payments under certain agreements, which are eligible to be satisfied in cash or by posting securities held by the subsidiaries subject to the agreements.

Statutory Capital and Dividends. Our insurance subsidiaries have statutory surplus well above levels to meet current regulatory requirements.

Except for American Life, RBC requirements are used as minimum capital requirements by the NAIC and the state insurance departments to identify companies that merit regulatory action. RBC is based on a formula calculated by applying factors to various asset, premium and statutory reserve items. The formula takes into account the risk characteristics of the insurer, including asset risk, insurance risk, interest rate risk and business risk and is calculated on an annual basis. The formula is used as an early warning regulatory tool to identify possible inadequately capitalized insurers for purposes of initiating regulatory action, and not as a means to rank insurers generally. These rules apply to each of MetLife, Inc.'s domestic insurance subsidiaries. State insurance laws provide insurance regulators the authority to require various actions by, or take various actions against, insurers whose total adjusted capital does not meet or exceed certain RBC levels. At the date of the most recent annual statutory financial statements filed with insurance regulators, the total adjusted capital of each of these subsidiaries was in excess of each of those RBC levels.

American Life does not conduct insurance business in Delaware or any other domestic state and, as such, is exempt from RBC requirements by Delaware law. In addition to Delaware, American Life operations are regulated by applicable authorities of the countries in which the company operates and are subject to capital and solvency requirements in those countries.

The amount of dividends that our insurance subsidiaries can pay to MetLife, Inc. or other parent entities is constrained by the amount of surplus we hold to maintain our ratings and provides an additional margin for risk protection and investment in our businesses. We proactively take actions to maintain capital consistent with these ratings objectives, which may include adjusting dividend amounts and deploying financial resources from internal or external sources of capital. Certain of these activities may require regulatory approval. Furthermore, the payment of dividends and other distributions to MetLife, Inc. and other parent entities by their respective insurance subsidiaries is regulated by insurance laws and regulations. See Business U.S. Regulation Insurance Regulation, Business International Regulation, MetLife, Inc. Liquidity Capital Sources Dividends from Subsidiaries and Note 18 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

Summary of Primary Sources and Uses of Liquidity and Capital. The Company's primary sources and uses of liquidity and capital are summarized as follows:

	2011	Years Ended December 31, 2010 (In millions)	2009
Sources:			
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 10,290	\$ 7,996	\$ 3,803
Net cash provided by changes in policyholder account balances	4,321	4,557	
Net cash provided by changes in payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions	6,444	3,076	
Net cash provided by changes in bank deposits	96		3,164
Net cash provided by short-term debt issuances	380		
Long-term debt issued	1,346	5,090	2,961
Collateral financing arrangements issued			105
Cash received in connection with collateral financing arrangements	100		775
Junior subordinated debt securities issued			500
Common stock issued, net of issuance costs	2,950	3,529	
Stock options exercised	88	52	8
Common stock issued to settle stock forward contracts			1,035
Cash provided by other, net	125		
Cash provided by the effect of change in foreign currency exchange rates			108
Total sources	26,140	24,300	12,459
Uses:			
Net cash used in investing activities	22,235	18,314	13,935
Net cash used for changes in policyholder account balances			2,282
Net cash used for changes in payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions			6,863
Net cash used for changes in bank deposits		32	
Net cash used for short-term debt repayments		606	1,747
Long-term debt repaid	2,042	1,061	555
Collateral financing arrangements repaid	502		
Cash paid in connection with collateral financing arrangements	63		400
Debt issuance costs	1	14	30
Redemption of convertible preferred stock	2,805		
Preferred stock redemption premium	146		
Dividends on preferred stock	122	122	122
Dividends on common stock	787	784	610
Cash used in other, net		304	42
Cash used in the effect of change in foreign currency exchange rates	22	129	
Total uses	28,725	21,366	26,586
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	\$ (2,585)	\$ 2,934	\$ (14,127)

Table of Contents

Liquidity and Capital Sources

Cash Flows from Operations. The Company's principal cash inflows from its insurance activities come from insurance premiums, annuity considerations and deposit funds. A primary liquidity concern with respect to these cash inflows is the risk of early contractholder and policyholder withdrawal. See The Company Liquidity and Capital Uses Contractual Obligations.

Cash Flows from Investments. The Company's principal cash inflows from its investment activities come from repayments of principal, proceeds from maturities, sales of invested assets, settlements of freestanding derivatives and net investment income. The primary liquidity concerns with respect to these cash inflows are the risk of default by debtors and market disruption. The Company closely monitors and manages these risks through its credit risk management process.

Liquid Assets. An integral part of the Company's liquidity management is the amount of liquid assets it holds. Liquid assets include cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and publicly-traded securities, excluding: (i) cash collateral received under the Company's securities lending program that has been reinvested in cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and publicly-traded securities; (ii) cash collateral received from counterparties in connection with derivative instruments; (iii) cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and securities on deposit with regulatory agencies; and (iv) securities held in trust in support of collateral financing arrangements and pledged in support of debt and funding agreements. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company had \$258.9 billion and \$245.7 billion, respectively, in liquid assets. For further discussion of invested assets on deposit with regulatory agencies, held in trust in support of collateral financing arrangements and pledged in support of debt and funding agreements, see Investments Invested Assets on Deposit, Held in Trust and Pledged as Collateral.

Dispositions. Net cash proceeds from dispositions during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 were \$449 million, \$0 and \$130 million, respectively. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding certain of these dispositions.

Global Funding Sources. Liquidity is provided by a variety of short-term instruments, including funding agreements, credit facilities and commercial paper. Capital is provided by a variety of instruments, including short-term and long-term debt, preferred securities, junior subordinated debt securities and equity and equity-linked securities. The diversity of the Company's funding sources enhances funding flexibility, limits dependence on any one market or source of funds and generally lowers the cost of funds. The Company's global funding sources include:

MetLife, Inc. and MetLife Funding, Inc. (MetLife Funding) each have commercial paper programs supported by \$4.0 billion in general corporate credit facilities (see The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Credit and Committed Facilities). MetLife Funding, a subsidiary of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MLIC), serves as a centralized finance unit for the Company. MetLife Funding raises cash from its commercial paper program and uses the proceeds to extend loans, through MetLife Credit Corp., another subsidiary of MLIC, to MetLife, Inc., MLIC and other affiliates in order to enhance the financial flexibility and liquidity of these companies. Outstanding balances for the commercial paper program fluctuate in line with changes to affiliates' financing arrangements. Pursuant to a support agreement, MLIC has agreed to cause MetLife Funding to have a tangible net worth of at least one dollar. At both December 31, 2011 and 2010, MetLife Funding had a tangible net worth of \$12 million. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, MetLife Funding had total outstanding liabilities for its commercial paper program, including accrued interest payable, of \$101 million and \$102 million, respectively.

MetLife Bank is a depository institution that is approved to use the FRB of NY Discount Window borrowing privileges. To utilize these privileges, MetLife Bank has pledged qualifying loans and investment securities to the FRB of NY as collateral. At both December 31, 2011 and 2010, MetLife Bank had no liability for advances from the FRB of NY under this facility. For further discussion of MetLife, Inc.'s status as a bank holding company, see MetLife, Inc. Capital.

Table of Contents

MetLife Bank has a cash need to fund residential mortgage loans that it originates and holds generally for a relatively short period before selling to one of the government-sponsored enterprises such as FNMA or FHLMC. The outstanding volume of residential mortgage originations varies from month to month and is cyclical within a month. To meet the variable funding requirements from this mortgage activity, as well as to increase overall liquidity from time to time, MetLife Bank takes advantage of short-term collateralized borrowing opportunities with the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York (FHLB of NY). MetLife Bank has entered into advances agreements with the FHLB of NY whereby MetLife Bank has received cash advances and under which the FHLB of NY has been granted a blanket lien on certain of MetLife Bank's residential mortgage loans, mortgage loans held-for-sale, commercial mortgage loans and mortgage-backed securities to collateralize MetLife Bank's repayment obligations. Upon any event of default by MetLife Bank, the FHLB of NY's recovery is limited to the amount of MetLife Bank's liability under the advances agreements. MetLife Bank has received advances from the FHLB of NY on both short-term and long-term bases, with a total liability of \$4.8 billion and \$3.8 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. As a result of the recently announced exit from MetLife Bank's forward mortgage origination business, MetLife Bank's cash need to fund residential mortgage loans will be reduced. MetLife Bank also intends to discontinue entering into advances agreements with the FHLB of NY and intends to effect a transfer of any outstanding advances to MLIC in 2012. Additionally, in connection with the MetLife Bank Events and the transfer of the FHLB of NY advances, there may be timing differences in MetLife Bank's cash flows giving rise to short-term liquidity needs. Should these needs arise, the Company will provide MetLife Bank with temporary liquidity support through a possible combination of internally and externally sourced funds. See MetLife, Inc. Capital.

The Company issues fixed and floating rate funding agreements, which are denominated in either U.S. dollars or foreign currencies, to certain special purpose entities (SPEs) that have issued either debt securities or commercial paper for which payment of interest and principal is secured by such funding agreements. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, the Company issued \$39.9 billion, \$34.1 billion and \$28.6 billion, respectively, and repaid \$41.6 billion, \$30.9 billion and \$32.0 billion, respectively, of such funding agreements. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, funding agreements outstanding, which are included in PABs, were \$25.5 billion and \$27.2 billion, respectively. See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company also had obligations under funding agreements with the FHLB of NY of \$11.7 billion and \$12.6 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, for MLIC, which are included in PABs. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, the Company issued \$7.4 billion, \$10.8 billion and \$16.7 billion, respectively, and repaid \$8.3 billion, \$11.8 billion and \$18.1 billion, respectively, of such funding agreements. See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The liability for outstanding advances agreements entered into by MetLife Bank is expected to be transferred to MLIC in 2012 under newly executed funding agreements. MetLife Bank will transfer an agreed upon amount of cash as part of such transfer and the liability will be included in PABs for MLIC.

The Company had obligations under funding agreements with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston (FHLB of Boston) of \$450 million and \$100 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, for MICC, which are included in PABs. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, the Company issued \$425 million, \$0 and \$0, respectively, and repaid \$75 million, \$225 million and \$200 million, respectively, of such funding agreements. See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company had obligations under funding agreements with the FHLB of Des Moines of \$220 million for MetLife Investors Insurance Company (MLIIC) and \$475 million for General American Life Insurance Company (GALIC) at December 31, 2011, which are included in PABs. There were no funding agreements with the FHLB of Des Moines at December 31, 2010. During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company issued \$295 million and repaid \$75 million of such funding agreements for MLIIC. During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company issued \$700 million and repaid \$225 million of such funding agreements for GALIC. See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

MLIC and MICC have each issued funding agreements to the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation (Farmer Mac) and to certain SPEs that have issued debt securities for which payment of interest and principal is secured by such funding agreements; such debt securities are also guaranteed as to payment of interest and principal by Farmer Mac. The obligations under all such funding agreements are secured by a pledge of certain eligible agricultural real estate mortgage loans and may, under certain circumstances, be secured by other qualified collateral. The amount of the Company's liability for funding agreements issued was \$2.8 billion at both December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, which is included in PABs. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, the Company issued \$1.5 billion, \$250 million and \$0, respectively, and repaid \$1.5 billion, \$0 and \$0, respectively, of such funding agreements. See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Outstanding Debt. The following table summarizes the outstanding debt of the Company at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Short-term debt	\$ 686	\$ 306
Long-term debt (1)	\$ 20,624	\$ 20,766
Collateral financing arrangements	\$ 4,647	\$ 5,297
Junior subordinated debt securities	\$ 3,192	\$ 3,191

(1) Excludes \$3.1 billion and \$6.8 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, of long-term debt relating to CSEs. See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Debt Issuances and Other Borrowings. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, MetLife Bank received advances related to long-term borrowings totaling \$1.3 billion, \$2.1 billion and \$1.3 billion, respectively, from the FHLB of NY. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, MetLife Bank received advances related to short-term borrowings totaling \$10.1 billion, \$12.5 billion and \$26.3 billion, respectively, from the FHLB of NY.

In connection with the financing of the Acquisition (see Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements), in November 2010, MetLife, Inc. issued to AM Holdings \$3.0 billion in three series of debt securities (the Series C Debt Securities, the Series D Debt Securities and the Series E Debt Securities, and, together, the Debt Securities), which constitute a part of the MetLife, Inc. common equity units (the Equity Units) more fully described in Note 14 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The Debt Securities are subject to remarketing, initially bear interest at 1.56%, 1.92% and 2.46%, respectively (an average rate of 1.98%), and carry initial maturity dates of June 15, 2023, June 15, 2024 and June 15, 2045, respectively. The interest rates will be reset in connection with the successful remarketings of the Debt Securities. Prior to the first scheduled attempted remarketing of the Series C Debt Securities, such Debt Securities will be divided into two tranches equal in principal amount with maturity dates of June 15, 2018 and June 15, 2023. Prior to the first scheduled attempted remarketing of the Series E Debt Securities, such Debt Securities will be divided into two tranches equal in principal amount with maturity dates of June 15, 2018 and June 15, 2045.

In August 2010, in anticipation of the Acquisition, MetLife, Inc. issued senior notes as follows:

\$1.0 billion senior notes due February 6, 2014, which bear interest at a fixed rate of 2.375%, payable semi-annually;

\$1.0 billion senior notes due February 8, 2021, which bear interest at a fixed rate of 4.75%, payable semi-annually;

\$750 million senior notes due February 6, 2041, which bear interest at a fixed rate of 5.875%, payable semi-annually; and

\$250 million floating rate senior notes due August 6, 2013, which bear interest at a rate equal to three-month LIBOR, reset quarterly, plus 1.25%, payable quarterly.

Table of Contents

In connection with these offerings, MetLife, Inc. incurred \$15 million of issuance costs which have been capitalized and included in other assets. These costs are being amortized over the terms of the senior notes.

In July 2009, MetLife, Inc. issued \$500 million of junior subordinated debt securities with a final maturity of August 2069. Interest is payable semi-annually at a fixed rate of 10.75% up to, but not including, August 1, 2039, the scheduled redemption date. In the event the debt securities are not redeemed on or before the scheduled redemption date, interest will accrue at an annual rate of three-month LIBOR plus a margin equal to 7.548%, payable quarterly in arrears. In connection with the offering, MetLife, Inc. incurred \$5 million of issuance costs which have been capitalized and included in other assets. These costs are being amortized over the term of the securities. See Note 13 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of the terms of the junior subordinated debt securities.

In May 2009, MetLife, Inc. issued \$1.3 billion of senior notes due June 1, 2016. The senior notes bear interest at a fixed rate of 6.75%, payable semi-annually. In connection with the offering, MetLife, Inc. incurred \$6 million of issuance costs which have been capitalized and included in other assets. These costs are being amortized over the term of the senior notes.

In March 2009, MetLife, Inc. issued \$397 million of floating rate senior notes due June 2012 under the FDIC's Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program. The senior notes bear interest at a rate equal to three-month LIBOR, reset quarterly, plus 0.32%. The senior notes are not redeemable prior to their maturity. In connection with the offering, MetLife, Inc. incurred \$15 million of issuance costs which have been capitalized and included in other assets. These costs are being amortized over the term of the senior notes.

In February 2009, MetLife, Inc. remarketed its existing \$1.0 billion 4.91% Series B junior subordinated debt securities as 7.717% senior debt securities, Series B, due 2019. Interest on these senior debt securities is payable semi-annually. See The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Remarketing of Junior Subordinated Debt Securities and Settlement of Stock Purchase Contracts.

Collateral Financing Arrangements. As described more fully in Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements:

MetLife, Inc., in connection with the collateral financing arrangement associated with MetLife Reinsurance Company of Charleston's (MRC) reinsurance of the closed block liabilities, entered into an agreement in 2007 with an unaffiliated financial institution that referenced the \$2.5 billion aggregate principal amount of 35-year surplus notes by MRC. Under the agreement, MetLife, Inc. is entitled to the interest paid by MRC on the surplus notes of three-month LIBOR plus 0.55% in exchange for the payment of three-month LIBOR plus 1.12%, payable quarterly on such amount as adjusted, as described below.

Under this agreement, MetLife, Inc. may also be required to pledge collateral or make payments to the unaffiliated financial institution related to any decline in the estimated fair value of the surplus notes. Any such payments would be accounted for as a receivable and included in other assets on the Company's consolidated balance sheets and would not reduce the principal amount outstanding of the surplus notes. Such payments would, however, reduce the amount of interest payments due from MetLife, Inc. under the agreement. Any payment received from the unaffiliated financial institution would reduce the receivable by an amount equal to such payment and would also increase the amount of interest payments due from MetLife, Inc. under the agreement. In addition, the unaffiliated financial institution may be required to pledge collateral to MetLife, Inc. related to any increase in the estimated fair value of the surplus notes. MetLife, Inc. may also be required to make a payment to the unaffiliated financial institution in connection with any early termination of this agreement.

In December 2011, following regulatory approval, MRC repurchased and canceled \$650 million in aggregate principal amount of the surplus notes (the Partial Repurchase). Payments made by the Company in December 2011 associated with the Partial Repurchase, which also included payments made

Table of Contents

to the unaffiliated financial institution, totaled \$650 million, exclusive of accrued interest on the surplus notes. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the amount of the surplus notes outstanding was \$1.9 billion and \$2.5 billion, respectively.

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the amount of the receivable from the unaffiliated financial institution was \$241 million and \$425 million, respectively. In June 2011, MetLife, Inc. received \$100 million from the unaffiliated financial institution related to an increase in the estimated fair value of the surplus notes. No payments were made or received by MetLife, Inc. during 2010. During 2009, on a net basis, MetLife, Inc. received \$375 million from the unaffiliated financial institution related to changes in the estimated fair value of the surplus notes.

In addition, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, MetLife, Inc. had pledged collateral with an estimated fair value of \$125 million and \$49 million, respectively, to the unaffiliated financial institution.

MetLife, Inc., in connection with the collateral financing arrangement associated with MetLife Reinsurance Company of South Carolina's (MRSC) reinsurance of universal life secondary guarantees, entered into an agreement in 2007 with an unaffiliated financial institution under which MetLife, Inc. is entitled to the return on the investment portfolio held by trusts established in connection with this collateral financing arrangement in exchange for the payment of a stated rate of return to the unaffiliated financial institution of three-month LIBOR plus 0.70%, payable quarterly. The collateral financing agreement may be extended by agreement of MetLife, Inc. and the unaffiliated financial institution on each anniversary of the closing. MetLife, Inc. may also be required to make payments to the unaffiliated financial institution, for deposit into the trusts, related to any decline in the estimated fair value of the assets held by the trusts, as well as amounts outstanding upon maturity or early termination of the collateral financing arrangement. During 2011 and 2010, no payments were made or received by MetLife, Inc. During 2009, MetLife, Inc. contributed \$360 million, as a result of declines in the estimated fair value of the assets in the trusts. Cumulatively, since May 2007, MetLife, Inc. has contributed a total of \$680 million as a result of declines in the estimated fair value of the assets in the trusts, all of which was deposited into the trusts.

In addition, MetLife, Inc. may be required to pledge collateral to the unaffiliated financial institution under this agreement. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, MetLife, Inc. had pledged \$92 million and \$63 million under the agreement, respectively.

Remarketing of Junior Subordinated Debt Securities and Settlement of Stock Purchase Contracts. In February 2009, MetLife, Inc. closed the remarketing of the Series B portion of its junior subordinated debt securities originally issued in 2005. The Series B junior subordinated debt securities were modified as permitted by their terms to be 7.717% senior debt securities, Series B, due February 15, 2019. MetLife, Inc. did not receive any proceeds from the remarketing. The subsequent settlement of the stock purchase contracts occurred on February 17, 2009, providing proceeds to MetLife, Inc. of \$1.0 billion in exchange for shares of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock. MetLife, Inc. delivered 24,343,154 shares of its newly issued common stock to settle the stock purchase contracts.

Credit and Committed Facilities. The Company maintains unsecured credit facilities and committed facilities, which aggregated \$4.0 billion and \$12.4 billion, respectively, at December 31, 2011. When drawn upon, these facilities bear interest at varying rates in accordance with the respective agreements.

The unsecured credit facilities are used for general corporate purposes, to support the borrowers' commercial paper programs and for the issuance of letters of credit. At December 31, 2011, the Company had outstanding \$3.1 billion in letters of credit and no drawdowns against these facilities. Remaining unused commitments were \$916 million at December 31, 2011.

The committed facilities are used for collateral for certain of the Company's affiliated reinsurance liabilities. At December 31, 2011, the Company had outstanding \$5.4 billion in letters of credit and \$2.8 billion in aggregate drawdowns against these facilities. Remaining unused commitments were \$4.2 billion at December 31, 2011.

Table of Contents

See Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion of these facilities.

We have no reason to believe that our lending counterparties will be unable to fulfill their respective contractual obligations under these facilities. As commitments associated with letters of credit and financing arrangements may expire unused, these amounts do not necessarily reflect the Company's actual future cash funding requirements.

Covenants. Certain of the Company's debt instruments, credit facilities and committed facilities contain various administrative, reporting, legal and financial covenants. The Company believes it was in compliance with all such covenants at December 31, 2011.

Preferred Stock. See The Company Liquidity and Capital Uses Dividends for information on MetLife, Inc.'s Floating Rate Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series A, and 6.50% Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series B (collectively, the Preferred Stock).

Convertible Preferred Stock. In November 2010, MetLife, Inc. issued to AM Holdings in connection with the financing of the Acquisition 6,857,000 shares of Series B contingent convertible junior participating non-cumulative perpetual preferred stock (the Convertible Preferred Stock) convertible into approximately 68,570,000 shares (valued at \$40.90 per share at the time of the Acquisition) of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock (subject to anti-dilution adjustments) upon a favorable vote of MetLife, Inc.'s common stockholders. On March 8, 2011, MetLife, Inc. repurchased and canceled all of the Convertible Preferred Stock. See Common Stock below.

Common Stock. In November 2010, MetLife, Inc. issued to AM Holdings in connection with the financing of the Acquisition 78,239,712 new shares of its common stock at \$40.90 per share. On March 8, 2011, AM Holdings sold the 78,239,712 shares of common stock in a public offering concurrent with a public offering by MetLife, Inc. of 68,570,000 new shares of its common stock at a price of \$43.25 per share for gross proceeds of \$3.0 billion. In connection with the offering of common stock, MetLife, Inc. incurred \$16 million of issuance costs which have been recorded as a reduction of additional paid-in capital. The proceeds were used to repurchase the Convertible Preferred Stock.

In August 2010, in connection with the financing of the Acquisition, MetLife, Inc. issued 86,250,000 new shares of its common stock at a price of \$42.00 per share for gross proceeds of \$3.6 billion. In connection with the offering of common stock, MetLife, Inc. incurred \$94 million of issuance costs which have been recorded as a reduction of additional paid-in-capital.

In connection with the remarketing of the junior subordinated debt securities, in February 2009, MetLife, Inc. delivered 24,343,154 shares of its newly issued common stock to settle the stock purchase contracts. See The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Remarketing of Junior Subordinated Debt Securities and Settlement of Stock Purchase Contracts.

During the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, 3,549,211 and 2,182,174 new shares of common stock were issued for \$115 million and \$74 million, respectively, to satisfy various stock option exercises and other stock-based awards. There were no new shares of common stock issued to satisfy the various stock option exercises and other stock-based awards during the year ended December 31, 2009. There were no shares of common stock issued from treasury stock during the year ended December 31, 2011. During the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, 332,121 shares and 861,586 shares of common stock were issued from treasury stock for \$18 million and \$46 million, respectively, to satisfy various stock option exercises and other stock-based awards.

Equity Units. On the Acquisition Date, MetLife, Inc. issued to AM Holdings in connection with the financing of the Acquisition \$3.0 billion aggregate stated amount of Equity Units. On March 8, 2011, concurrently with the public offering of common stock by MetLife, Inc., AM Holdings sold all the Equity Units in a public offering. The terms and conditions of the Equity Units were unaffected by the resulting transfers of ownership. The Equity

Table of Contents

Units, which are mandatorily convertible securities, will initially consist of (i) purchase contracts obligating the holder to purchase a variable number of shares of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock on each of three specified future settlement dates (expected to be approximately two, three and four years after closing of the Acquisition) for a fixed amount per purchase contract (an aggregate of \$1.0 billion on each settlement date) and (ii) an interest in each of three series of Debt Securities of MetLife, Inc. The value of the purchase contracts at issuance of \$247 million was calculated as the present value of the future contract payments and was recorded in other liabilities. At future dates, the Series C, D and E Debt Securities will be subject to remarketing and sold to investors. Holders of the Equity Units who elect to include their Debt Securities in a remarketing can use the proceeds thereof to meet their obligations under the purchase contracts.

See Note 14 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion of the Equity Units.

Liquidity and Capital Uses

Acquisitions. Cash outflows for acquisitions during the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were \$233 million and \$7.2 billion, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2009, there were no cash outflows for acquisitions. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding certain of these acquisitions.

Debt Repayments. In December 2011, MetLife, Inc. repaid its \$750 million senior note with an interest rate of 6.13%. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, MetLife Bank made repayments of \$750 million, \$349 million and \$497 million, respectively, to the FHLB of NY related to long-term borrowings. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, MetLife Bank made repayments to the FHLB of NY related to short-term borrowings of \$9.7 billion, \$12.9 billion and \$26.4 billion, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2009, MetLife Bank made repayments of \$21.2 billion to the FRB of NY and MICC made repayments of \$300 million to the FHLB of Boston, each related to short-term borrowings.

Debt Repurchases. We may from time to time seek to retire or purchase our outstanding debt through cash purchases and/or exchanges for other securities, in open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions or otherwise. Any such repurchases or exchanges will be dependent upon several factors, including our liquidity requirements, contractual restrictions, general market conditions, and applicable regulatory, legal and accounting factors. Whether or not to repurchase any debt and the size and timing of any such repurchases will be determined in the Company's discretion. In December 2011, following regulatory approval, the Company repurchased \$650 million in aggregate principal amount of the surplus notes included in collateral financing arrangements.

Insurance Liabilities. The Company's principal cash outflows primarily relate to the liabilities associated with its various life insurance, property and casualty, annuity and group pension products, operating expenses and income tax, as well as principal and interest on its outstanding debt obligations. Liabilities arising from its insurance activities primarily relate to benefit payments under the aforementioned products, as well as payments for policy surrenders, withdrawals and loans. For annuity or deposit type products, surrender or lapse product behavior differs somewhat by segment. In the Retirement Products segment, which includes individual annuities, lapses and surrenders tend to occur in the normal course of business. During the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, general account surrenders and withdrawals from annuity products were \$4.1 billion and \$3.8 billion, respectively. In Corporate Benefit Funding, which includes pension closeouts, bank-owned life insurance and other fixed annuity contracts, as well as funding agreements (including funding agreements with the FHLB of NY, the FHLB of Des Moines and the FHLB of Boston) and other capital market products, most of the products offered have fixed maturities or fairly predictable surrenders or withdrawals. With regard to Corporate Benefit Funding liabilities that provide customers with limited liquidity rights, at December 31, 2011 there were \$2.4 billion of funding agreements and other capital market products that could be put back to the Company after a period of notice. Of these liabilities, \$535 million were subject to a notice period of 90 days. The remainder was subject to a notice period of five months or greater. An additional \$188 million of Corporate Benefit Funding liabilities were subject to credit ratings downgrade triggers that permit early termination subject to a notice period of 90 days. See [The Company Liquidity and Capital Uses Contractual Obligations](#).

Table of Contents

Dividends. The table below presents declaration, record and payment dates, as well as per share and aggregate dividend amounts, for the common stock:

Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend	
			Per Share (In millions, except per share data)	Aggregate
October 25, 2011	November 9, 2011	December 14, 2011	\$ 0.74	\$ 787
October 26, 2010	November 9, 2010	December 14, 2010	0.74	784(1)
October 29, 2009	November 9, 2009	December 14, 2009	0.74	610

(1) Includes dividends on convertible preferred stock issued in November 2010. See The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Convertible Preferred Stock.

Common stock dividend decisions are determined by MetLife, Inc.'s Board of Directors after taking into consideration factors such as the Company's current earnings, expected medium-term and long-term earnings, financial condition, regulatory capital position, and applicable governmental regulations and policies. The payment of dividends and other distributions by MetLife, Inc. to its security holders is subject to regulation by the Federal Reserve. See Business U.S. Regulation Financial Holding Company Regulation and Note 18 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Information on the declaration, record and payment dates, as well as per share and aggregate dividend amounts, for Preferred Stock is as follows for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009:

Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend			
			Series A Per Share	Series A Aggregate	Series B Per Share	Series B Aggregate
			(In millions, except per share data)			
November 15, 2011	November 30, 2011	December 15, 2011	\$ 0.2527777	\$ 7	\$ 0.4062500	\$ 24
August 15, 2011	August 31, 2011	September 15, 2011	\$ 0.2555555	\$ 6	\$ 0.4062500	\$ 24
May 16, 2011	May 31, 2011	June 15, 2011	\$ 0.2555555	7	\$ 0.4062500	24
March 7, 2011	February 28, 2011	March 15, 2011	\$ 0.2500000	6	\$ 0.4062500	24
				\$ 26		\$ 96
November 15, 2010	November 30, 2010	December 15, 2010	\$ 0.2527777	\$ 7	\$ 0.4062500	\$ 24
August 16, 2010	August 31, 2010	September 15, 2010	\$ 0.2555555	6	\$ 0.4062500	24
May 17, 2010	May 31, 2010	June 15, 2010	\$ 0.2555555	7	\$ 0.4062500	24
March 5, 2010	February 28, 2010	March 15, 2010	\$ 0.2500000	6	\$ 0.4062500	24
				\$ 26		\$ 96
November 16, 2009	November 30, 2009	December 15, 2009	\$ 0.2527777	\$ 7	\$ 0.4062500	\$ 24
August 17, 2009	August 31, 2009	September 15, 2009	\$ 0.2555555	6	\$ 0.4062500	24
May 15, 2009	May 31, 2009	June 15, 2009	\$ 0.2555555	7	\$ 0.4062500	24
March 5, 2009	February 28, 2009	March 16, 2009	\$ 0.2500000	6	\$ 0.4062500	24
				\$ 26		\$ 96

Share Repurchases. At December 31, 2011, MetLife, Inc. had \$1.3 billion remaining under its common stock repurchase program authorizations. See Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities for further information relating to such authorizations. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, the Company did not repurchase any shares.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Under these authorizations, MetLife, Inc. may purchase its common stock from the MetLife Policyholder Trust, in the open market (including pursuant to the terms of a pre-set trading plan meeting the requirements of Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) and in privately negotiated transactions. Any future common stock repurchases will be dependent upon several factors, including the Company's capital position, its liquidity, its financial strength and credit ratings, general market conditions and the market price of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock compared to management's assessment of the stock's underlying value and applicable regulatory approvals, as well as other legal and accounting factors. See Business U.S. Regulation Financial Holding Company Regulation.

Table of Contents

Residential Mortgage Loans Held-for-Sale. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company held \$15.2 billion and \$3.3 billion, respectively, in residential mortgage loans held-for-sale. From time to time, MetLife Bank has an increased cash need to fund mortgage loans that it holds generally for a relatively short period before selling to one of the government-sponsored enterprises such as FNMA or FHLMC. To meet these increased funding requirements, as well as to increase overall liquidity, MetLife Bank takes advantage of collateralized borrowing opportunities with the FRB of NY and the FHLB of NY. For further detail on MetLife Bank's use of these funding sources, see The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Global Funding Sources. Securitized reverse residential mortgage loans were funded through issuance of GNMA securities, for which the corresponding liability at December 31, 2011 of \$7.7 billion is included in other liabilities.

Investment and Other. Additional cash outflows include those related to obligations of securities lending activities, investments in real estate, limited partnerships and joint ventures, as well as litigation-related liabilities. Also, the Company pledges collateral to, and has collateral pledged to it by, counterparties under the Company's current derivative transactions. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company was obligated to return cash collateral under its control of \$9.5 billion and \$2.6 billion, respectively. See Investments Derivative Financial Instruments Credit Risk. With respect to derivative transactions with credit ratings downgrade triggers, a two-notch downgrade would have increased the Company's derivative collateral requirements by \$83 million at December 31, 2011. In addition, the Company has pledged collateral and has had collateral pledged to it, and may be required from time to time to pledge additional collateral or be entitled to have additional collateral pledged to it, in connection with collateral financing arrangements related to the reinsurance of closed block liabilities and universal life secondary guarantee liabilities. See The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Collateral Financing Arrangements.

Securities Lending. The Company participates in a securities lending program whereby blocks of securities, which are included in fixed maturity securities and short-term investments, are loaned to third parties, primarily brokerage firms and commercial banks. The Company obtains collateral, usually cash, from the borrower, which must be returned to the borrower when the loaned securities are returned to the Company. Under the Company's securities lending program, the Company was liable for cash collateral under its control of \$24.2 billion and \$24.6 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Of these amounts, \$2.7 billion and \$2.8 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, were on open, meaning that the related loaned security could be returned to the Company on the next business day upon return of cash collateral. The estimated fair value of the securities on loan related to the cash collateral on open at December 31, 2011 was \$2.7 billion, of which \$2.6 billion were U.S. Treasury and agency securities which, if put to the Company, can be immediately sold to satisfy the cash requirements.

Contractual Obligations. The following table summarizes the Company's major contractual obligations at December 31, 2011:

	Total (1)	One Year or Less (1)	More than One Year to Three Years (1) (In millions)	More than Three Years to Five Years (1)	More than Five Years (1)
Future policy benefits	\$ 317,340	\$ 6,348	\$ 10,561	\$ 13,444	\$ 286,987
Policyholder account balances	295,341	33,909	48,569	32,605	180,258
Other policyholder liabilities	12,188	7,997	390	150	3,651
Payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions	33,716	33,716			
Bank deposits	10,575	9,309	1,218	48	
Short-term debt	686	686			
Long-term debt	30,054	2,390	4,804	6,126	16,734
Collateral financing arrangements	6,106	67	135	133	5,771
Junior subordinated debt securities	9,933	258	517	516	8,642
Commitments to lend funds	15,065	13,736	101	93	1,135
Operating leases	2,052	337	481	317	917
Other	25,324	24,850	31		443
Total	\$ 758,380	\$ 133,603	\$ 66,807	\$ 53,432	\$ 504,538

Table of Contents

- (1) The contractual obligations have not been adjusted for businesses expected to be divested in 2012, which are categorized according to the future timing of such obligations irrespective of the corresponding divestitures. See MetLife, Inc. Capital and Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Future policy benefits Future policy benefits include liabilities related to traditional whole life policies, term life policies, pension closeout and other group annuity contracts, structured settlements, master terminal funding agreements, single premium immediate annuities, long-term disability policies, individual disability income policies, LTC policies and property and casualty contracts. Included within future policy benefits are contracts where the Company is currently making payments and will continue to do so until the occurrence of a specific event, such as death, as well as those where the timing of a portion of the payments has been determined by the contract. Also included are contracts where the Company is not currently making payments and will not make payments until the occurrence of an insurable event, such as death or illness, or where the occurrence of the payment triggering event, such as a surrender of a policy or contract, is outside the control of the Company. The Company has estimated the timing of the cash flows related to these contracts based on historical experience, as well as its expectation of future payment patterns.

Liabilities related to accounting conventions, or which are not contractually due, such as shadow liabilities, excess interest reserves and property and casualty loss adjustment expenses, of \$4.6 billion have been excluded from amounts presented in the table above.

Amounts presented in the table above, excluding those related to property and casualty contracts, represent the estimated cash payments for benefits under such contracts including assumptions related to the receipt of future premiums and assumptions related to mortality, morbidity, policy lapse, renewal, retirement, inflation, disability incidence, disability terminations, policy loans and other contingent events as appropriate to the respective product type. Payments for case reserve liabilities and incurred but not reported liabilities associated with property and casualty contracts of \$1.5 billion have been included using an estimate of the ultimate amount to be settled under the policies based upon historical payment patterns. The ultimate amount to be paid under property and casualty contracts is not determined until the Company reaches a settlement with the claimant, which may vary significantly from the liability or contractual obligation presented above, especially as it relates to incurred but not reported liabilities. All estimated cash payments presented in the table above are undiscounted as to interest, net of estimated future premiums on policies currently in-force and gross of any reinsurance recoverable. The more than five years category includes estimated payments due for periods extending for more than 100 years from the present date.

The sum of the estimated cash flows shown for all years in the table of \$317.3 billion exceeds the liability amount of \$184.3 billion included on the consolidated balance sheet principally due to the time value of money, which accounts for at least 80% of the difference, as well as differences in assumptions, most significantly mortality, between the date the liabilities were initially established and the current date.

For the majority of the Company's insurance operations, estimated contractual obligations for future policy benefits and policyholder account balance liabilities as presented in the table above are derived from the annual asset adequacy analysis used to develop actuarial opinions of statutory reserve adequacy for state regulatory purposes. These cash flows are materially representative of the cash flows under GAAP. (See Policyholder account balances below.)

Actual cash payments to policyholders may differ significantly from the liabilities as presented in the consolidated balance sheet and the estimated cash payments as presented in the table above due to differences between actual experience and the assumptions used in the establishment of these liabilities and the estimation of these cash payments.

Table of Contents

Policyholder account balances PABs include liabilities related to conventional guaranteed interest contracts, guaranteed interest contracts associated with formal offering programs, funding agreements, individual and group annuities, total control accounts, individual and group universal life, variable universal life and company-owned life insurance.

Included within PABs are contracts where the amount and timing of the payment is essentially fixed and determinable. These amounts relate to policies where the Company is currently making payments and will continue to do so, as well as those where the timing of the payments has been determined by the contract. Other contracts involve payment obligations where the timing of future payments is uncertain and where the Company is not currently making payments and will not make payments until the occurrence of an insurable event, such as death, or where the occurrence of the payment triggering event, such as a surrender of or partial withdrawal on a policy or deposit contract, is outside the control of the Company. The Company has estimated the timing of the cash flows related to these contracts based on historical experience, as well as its expectation of future payment patterns.

Excess interest reserves representing purchase accounting adjustments of \$381 million, as well as \$4.3 billion relating to embedded derivatives, have been excluded from amounts presented in the table above as they represent accounting conventions and not contractual obligations.

Amounts presented in the table above represent the estimated cash payments to be made to policyholders undiscounted as to interest and including assumptions related to the receipt of future premiums and deposits; withdrawals, including unscheduled or partial withdrawals; policy lapses; surrender charges; annuitization; mortality; future interest credited; policy loans and other contingent events as appropriate to the respective product type. Such estimated cash payments are also presented net of estimated future premiums on policies currently in-force and gross of any reinsurance recoverable. For obligations denominated in foreign currencies, cash payments have been estimated using current spot rates.

The sum of the estimated cash flows shown for all years in the table of \$295.3 billion exceeds the liability amount of \$217.7 billion included on the consolidated balance sheet principally due to the time value of money, which accounts for at least 80% of the difference, as well as differences in assumptions between the date the liabilities were initially established and the current date. See the comments under *Future policy benefits* above regarding the source and uncertainties associated with the estimation of the contractual obligations related to future policyholder benefits and PABs.

Other policyholder liabilities Other policyholder liabilities are comprised of other policy-related balances, policyholder dividends payable and the policyholder dividend obligation. Amounts included in the table above related to these balances are as follows:

- a. Other policy-related balances includes liabilities for incurred but not reported claims and claims payable on group term life, long-term disability, LTC and dental; policyholder dividends left on deposit and policyholder dividends due and unpaid related primarily to traditional life and group life and health; and premiums received in advance. Liabilities related to unearned revenue and negative VOBA of \$2.3 billion and \$3.6 billion, respectively, have been excluded from the cash payments presented in the table above because they reflect accounting conventions and not contractual obligations. With the exception of policyholder dividends left on deposit, and those items excluded as noted in the preceding sentence, the contractual obligation presented in the table above related to other policy-related balances is equal to the liability reflected in the consolidated balance sheet. Such amounts are reported in the one year or less category due to the short-term nature of the liabilities. Contractual obligations on policyholder dividends left on deposit are projected based on assumptions of policyholder withdrawal activity.

Table of Contents

- b. Policyholder dividends payable consists of liabilities related to dividends payable in the following calendar year on participating policies. As such, the contractual obligation related to policyholder dividends payable is presented in the table above in the one year or less category at the amount of the liability presented in the consolidated balance sheet.
- c. The nature of the policyholder dividend obligation is described in Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Because the exact timing and amount of the ultimate policyholder dividend obligation is subject to significant uncertainty and the amount of the policyholder dividend obligation is based upon a long-term projection of the performance of the closed block, we have reflected the obligation at the amount of the liability, if any, presented in the consolidated balance sheet in the more than five years category. This was presented to reflect the long-duration of the liability and the uncertainty of the ultimate cash payment.

Payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions The Company has accepted cash collateral in connection with securities lending and derivative transactions. As the securities lending transactions expire within the next year or the timing of the return of the collateral is uncertain, the return of the collateral has been included in the one year or less category in the table above. The Company also holds non-cash collateral, which is not reflected as a liability in the consolidated balance sheet, of \$2.9 billion at December 31, 2011.

Bank deposits Bank deposits of \$10.6 billion exceed the amount on the balance sheet of \$10.5 billion due to the inclusion of estimated interest payments. Liquid deposits, including demand deposit accounts, money market accounts and savings accounts, are assumed to mature at carrying value within one year. Certificates of deposit are assumed to pay all interest and principal at maturity.

Short-term debt, long-term debt, collateral financing arrangements and junior subordinated debt securities Amounts presented in the table above for short-term debt, long-term debt, collateral financing arrangements and junior subordinated debt securities differ from the balances presented on the consolidated balance sheet, as the amounts presented in the table above do not include premiums or discounts upon issuance or purchase accounting fair value adjustments. The amounts presented above also include future interest on such obligations as described below.

Short-term debt consists of borrowings with original maturities of one year or less carrying fixed interest rates. The contractual obligation for short-term debt presented in the table above represents the principal amounts due upon maturity plus the related future interest for the period from January 1, 2012 through maturity.

Long-term debt bears interest at fixed and variable interest rates through their respective maturity dates. Future interest on fixed rate debt was computed using the stated rate on the obligations for the period from January 1, 2012 through maturity. Future interest on variable rate debt was computed using prevailing rates at December 31, 2011 and, as such, does not consider the impact of future rate movements. Long-term debt also includes payments under capital lease obligations of \$1 million, \$6 million, \$2 million and \$28 million, in the one year or less, more than one year to three years, more than three years to five years and more than five years categories, respectively. Long-term debt presented in the table above excludes \$3.1 billion at December 31, 2011 of long-term debt relating to CSEs.

Collateral financing arrangements bear interest at fixed and variable interest rates through their respective maturity dates. Future interest on fixed rate debt was computed using the stated rate on the obligations for the period from January 1, 2012 through maturity. Future interest on variable rate debt was computed using prevailing rates at December 31, 2011 and, as such, does not consider the impact of future rate movements. Pursuant to these collateral financing arrangements, MetLife, Inc. may be required to deliver cash or pledge collateral to the respective unaffiliated financial institutions. See The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Collateral Financing Arrangements.

Table of Contents

Junior subordinated debt securities bear interest at fixed interest rates through their respective redemption dates. Future interest was computed using the stated rates on the obligations for the period from January 1, 2012 through the scheduled redemption dates, as it is the Company's expectation that the debt will be redeemed at that time. Inclusion of interest payments on junior subordinated debt through the final maturity dates would increase the contractual obligation by \$7.7 billion.

Commitments to lend funds The Company commits to lend funds under mortgage loans, partnerships, bank credit facilities, bridge loans and private corporate bond investments. In the table above, the timing of the funding of mortgage loans and private corporate bond investments is based on the expiration dates of the corresponding commitments. As it relates to commitments to lend funds to partnerships and under bank credit facilities, the Company anticipates that these amounts could be invested any time over the next five years; however, as the timing of the fulfillment of the obligation cannot be predicted, such obligations are presented in the one year or less category in the table above. Commitments to fund bridge loans are short-term obligations and, as a result, are presented in the one year or less category in the table above. See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements and Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements.

Operating leases As a lessee, the Company has various operating leases, primarily for office space. Contractual provisions exist that could increase or accelerate those lease obligations presented, including various leases with early buyouts and/or escalation clauses. However, the impact of any such transactions would not be material to the Company's financial position or results of operations. See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Other Other liabilities presented in the table above are principally comprised of amounts due under reinsurance agreements, payables related to securities purchased but not yet settled, securities sold short, accrued interest on debt obligations, estimated fair value of derivative obligations, deferred compensation arrangements, guaranty liabilities, the estimated fair value of forward stock purchase contracts, the liability related to securitized reverse residential mortgage loans, and general accruals and accounts payable due under contractual obligations. If the timing of any of the other liabilities is sufficiently uncertain, the amounts are included within the one year or less category.

The other liabilities presented in the table above differ from the amount presented in the consolidated balance sheet by \$5.6 billion due primarily to the exclusion of items such as legal liabilities, pension and postretirement benefit obligations, taxes due other than income tax, unrecognized tax benefits and related accrued interest, accrued severance and employee incentive compensation and other liabilities such as deferred gains and losses. Such items have been excluded from the table above as they represent accounting conventions or are not liabilities due under contractual obligations.

The net funded status of the Company's pension and other postretirement liabilities included within other liabilities has been excluded from the amounts presented in the table above. Rather, the amounts presented represent the discretionary contributions of \$205 million expected to be made by the Company to the pension plan in 2012 and the contributions of \$109 million expected to be made by the Company to the postretirement benefit plans during 2012. Virtually all contributions to the pension and postretirement benefit plans are made by the insurance subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. with little impact on MetLife, Inc.'s cash flows.

Excluded from the table above are unrecognized tax benefits and related accrued interest of \$679 million and \$235 million, respectively, for which the Company cannot reliably determine the timing of payment. Current income tax payable is also excluded from the table.

Separate account liabilities are excluded from the table above. Generally, the separate account owner, rather than the Company, bears the investment risk of these funds. The separate account assets are legally segregated and are not subject to the claims that arise out of any other business of the Company. Net deposits, net investment income and realized and unrealized capital gains and losses on the separate accounts are fully offset

Table of Contents

by corresponding amounts credited to contractholders whose liability is reflected with the separate account liabilities. Separate account liabilities are fully funded by cash flows from the separate account assets and are set equal to the estimated fair value of separate account assets.

The Company also enters into agreements to purchase goods and services in the normal course of business; however, these purchase obligations were not material to its consolidated results of operations or financial position at December 31, 2011.

Additionally, the Company has agreements in place for services it conducts, generally at cost, between subsidiaries relating to insurance, reinsurance, loans and capitalization. Intercompany transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Intercompany transactions among insurance subsidiaries and affiliates have been approved by the appropriate insurance regulators as required.

Support Agreements. MetLife, Inc. and several of its subsidiaries (each, an Obligor) are parties to various capital support commitments, guarantees and contingent reinsurance agreements with certain subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. Under these arrangements, each Obligor, with respect to the applicable entity, has agreed to cause such entity to meet specified capital and surplus levels, has guaranteed certain contractual obligations or has agreed to provide, upon the occurrence of certain contingencies, reinsurance for such entity's insurance liabilities. We anticipate that in the event that these arrangements place demands upon the Company, there will be sufficient liquidity and capital to enable the Company to meet anticipated demands. See MetLife, Inc. Liquidity and Capital Uses Support Agreements.

Litigation. Putative or certified class action litigation and other litigation, and claims and assessments against the Company, in addition to those discussed elsewhere herein and those otherwise provided for in the Company's consolidated financial statements, have arisen in the course of the Company's business, including, but not limited to, in connection with its activities as an insurer, mortgage lending bank, employer, investor, investment advisor and taxpayer. Further, state insurance regulatory authorities and other federal and state authorities regularly make inquiries and conduct investigations concerning the Company's compliance with applicable insurance and other laws and regulations.

The Company establishes liabilities for litigation and regulatory loss contingencies when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. For material matters where a loss is believed to be reasonably possible but not probable, no accrual is made but the Company discloses the nature of the contingency and an aggregate estimate of the reasonably possible range of loss in excess of amounts accrued, when such an estimate can be made. It is not possible to predict or determine the ultimate outcome of all pending investigations and legal proceedings. In some of the matters referred to herein, very large and/or indeterminate amounts, including punitive and treble damages, are sought. Although in light of these considerations, it is possible that an adverse outcome in certain cases could have a material adverse effect upon the Company's financial position, based on information currently known by the Company's management, in its opinion, the outcome of such pending investigations and legal proceedings are not likely to have such an effect. However, given the large and/or indeterminate amounts sought in certain of these matters and the inherent unpredictability of litigation, it is possible that an adverse outcome in certain matters could, from time to time, have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated net income or cash flows in particular quarterly or annual periods.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Capital**

Restrictions and Limitations on Bank Holding Companies and Financial Holding Companies. MetLife, Inc. and its insured depository institution subsidiary, MetLife Bank, are subject to risk-based and leverage capital guidelines issued by the federal banking regulatory agencies for banks and bank and financial holding companies. The federal banking regulatory agencies are required by law to take specific prompt corrective actions with respect to institutions that do not meet minimum capital standards. As of their most recently filed reports with the federal banking regulatory agencies, all of MetLife, Inc.'s and MetLife Bank's risk-based and leverage capital ratios met the federal banking regulatory agencies' well capitalized standards. In addition to requirements which may be imposed in connection with the implementation of Dodd-Frank, such as the enhanced prudential standards under proposed Regulation YY, if adopted in the U.S., Basel III will also lead to increased capital and liquidity requirements for bank holding companies, such as MetLife, Inc. See *Business U.S. Regulation, Industry Trends and Risk Factors* O Insurance, Brokerage and Banking Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth.

Once MetLife Bank has completely exited its depository business, MetLife, Inc. plans to terminate MetLife Bank's FDIC insurance, putting MetLife, Inc. in a position to be able to deregister as a bank holding company. Upon completion of the foregoing, MetLife, Inc. will no longer be regulated as a bank holding company. However, if, in the future, MetLife, Inc. is designated by the FSOC as a non-bank systemically important financial institution, it would once again be regulated by the Federal Reserve (including its capital requirements) and may be subject to enhanced supervision and prudential standards. In October 2011, the FSOC issued a notice of proposed rulemaking outlining the process it will follow and the criteria it will use to assess whether a non-bank financial company should be so subject. If MetLife, Inc. meets the quantitative thresholds set forth in the proposal, the FSOC will continue with a further analysis using qualitative and quantitative factors. For further information, see *Industry Trends*.

The following table contains the RBC ratios and the regulatory requirements for MetLife, Inc., as a bank holding company, and MetLife Bank:

MetLife, Inc.**RBC Ratios Bank Holding Company**

	December 31,		Regulatory	Regulatory
	2011	2010	Requirements	Requirements
			Minimum	Well Capitalized
Total RBC Ratio	10.25 %	8.52 %	8.00 %	10.00 %
Tier 1 RBC Ratio	9.98 %	8.21 %	4.00 %	6.00 %
Tier 1 Leverage Ratio	5.32 %	5.11 %	4.00 %	N/A
Tier 1 Common Ratio	9.39 %	6.97 %	N/A	N/A

MetLife Bank**RBC Ratios Bank**

	December 31,		Regulatory	Regulatory
	2011	2010	Requirements	Requirements
			Minimum	Well Capitalized
Total RBC Ratio	12.55 %	15.00 %	8.00 %	10.00 %
Tier 1 RBC Ratio	12.54 %	14.16 %	4.00 %	6.00 %
Tier 1 Leverage Ratio	5.27 %	7.14 %	4.00 %	5.00 %
Tier 1 Common Ratio	9.72 %	13.56 %	N/A	N/A

Table of Contents

Summary of Primary Sources and Uses of Liquidity and Capital. For information regarding the primary sources and uses of MetLife, Inc.'s liquidity and capital, see The Company Capital Summary of Primary Sources and Uses of Liquidity and Capital.

Liquidity and Capital

Liquidity and capital are managed to preserve stable, reliable and cost-effective sources of cash to meet all current and future financial obligations and are provided by a variety of sources, including a portfolio of liquid assets, a diversified mix of short- and long-term funding sources from the wholesale financial markets and the ability to borrow through credit and committed facilities. MetLife, Inc. is an active participant in the global financial markets through which it obtains a significant amount of funding. These markets, which serve as cost-effective sources of funds, are critical components of MetLife, Inc.'s liquidity and capital management. Decisions to access these markets are based upon relative costs, prospective views of balance sheet growth and a targeted liquidity profile and capital structure. A disruption in the financial markets could limit MetLife, Inc.'s access to liquidity.

MetLife, Inc.'s ability to maintain regular access to competitively priced wholesale funds is fostered by its current credit ratings from the major credit rating agencies. We view our capital ratios, credit quality, stable and diverse earnings streams, diversity of liquidity sources and our liquidity monitoring procedures as critical to retaining such credit ratings. See The Company Capital Rating Agencies.

Liquidity is monitored through the use of internal liquidity risk metrics, including the composition and level of the liquid asset portfolio, timing differences in short-term cash flow obligations, access to the financial markets for capital and debt transactions and exposure to contingent draws on MetLife, Inc.'s liquidity.

Liquidity and Capital Sources

Dividends from Subsidiaries. MetLife, Inc. relies in part on dividends from its subsidiaries to meet its cash requirements. MetLife, Inc.'s insurance subsidiaries are subject to regulatory restrictions on the payment of dividends imposed by the regulators of their respective domiciles. The dividend limitation for U.S. insurance subsidiaries is generally based on the surplus to policyholders at the end of the immediately preceding calendar year and statutory net gain from operations for the immediately preceding calendar year. Statutory accounting practices, as prescribed by insurance regulators of various states in which the Company conducts business, differ in certain respects from accounting principles used in financial statements prepared in conformity with GAAP. The significant differences relate to the treatment of DAC, certain deferred income tax, required investment liabilities, statutory reserve calculation assumptions, goodwill and surplus notes.

The table below sets forth the dividends permitted to be paid by the respective insurance subsidiary without insurance regulatory approval and the respective dividends paid:

Company	2012		2011		2010		2009	
	Permitted w/o Approval (1)	Paid (2)	Permitted w/o Approval (3)	Paid (2)	Permitted w/o Approval (3)	Paid (2)	Permitted w/o Approval (3)	
	(In millions)							
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,321 (4)	\$ 1,321	\$ 631 (4)	\$ 1,262	\$	\$ 552	
American Life Insurance Company	\$ 168 (5)	\$ 661	\$ 661 (5)	\$ (6)	\$ 511 (5)	\$ N/A	\$ N/A	
MetLife Insurance Company of Connecticut	\$ 504	\$ 517	\$ 517	\$ 330	\$ 659	\$	\$ 714	
Metropolitan Property and Casualty Insurance Company	\$	\$ 30	\$	\$ 260	\$	\$ 300	\$ 9	
Metropolitan Tower Life Insurance Company	\$ 82	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ 569 (7)	\$ 93	\$	\$ 88	
MetLife Investors Insurance Company	\$ 18	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Delaware American Life Insurance Company	\$ 12	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ N/A	\$ N/A	

Table of Contents

- (1) Reflects dividend amounts that may be paid during 2012 without prior regulatory approval. However, because dividend tests may be based on dividends previously paid over rolling 12-month periods, if paid before a specified date during 2012, some or all of such dividends may require regulatory approval.
- (2) All amounts paid, including those requiring regulatory approval.
- (3) Reflects dividend amounts that could have been paid during the relevant year without prior regulatory approval.
- (4) Includes securities transferred to MetLife, Inc. of \$170 million and \$399 million during the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.
- (5) Reflects approximate dividend amounts permitted to be paid without prior regulatory approval.
- (6) Reflects the respective dividends paid since the Acquisition Date. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

(7) Includes shares of an affiliate distributed to MetLife, Inc. as an in-kind dividend of \$475 million.

In addition to the amounts presented in the table above, for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, cash dividends in the aggregate amount of \$139 million, \$0 and \$215 million, respectively, were paid to MetLife, Inc. by certain of its other subsidiaries. Additionally, for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, MetLife, Inc. received cash of \$771 million, \$54 million and \$0, respectively, representing returns of capital.

The dividend capacity of our non-U.S. operations is subject to similar restrictions established by the local regulators. The non-U.S. regulatory regimes also commonly limit the dividend payments to the parent to a portion of the prior year's statutory income, as determined by the local accounting principles. The regulators of our non-U.S. operations, including Japan's Financial Services Agency, may also limit or not permit profit repatriations or other transfers of funds to the U.S. if such transfers are deemed to be detrimental to the solvency or financial strength of the non-U.S. operations, or for other reasons. Most of the non-U.S. subsidiaries are second tier subsidiaries which are owned by various non-U.S. holding companies. The capital and rating considerations applicable to the first tier subsidiaries may also impact the dividend flow into MetLife, Inc.

The Company's management actively manages its target and excess capital levels and dividend flows on a proactive basis and forecasts local capital positions as part of the financial planning cycle. The dividend capacity of certain U.S. and non-U.S. subsidiaries is also subject to business targets in excess of the minimum capital necessary to maintain the desired rating or level of financial strength in the relevant market. Management of MetLife, Inc. cannot provide assurances that MetLife, Inc.'s subsidiaries will have statutory earnings to support payment of dividends to MetLife, Inc. in an amount sufficient to fund its cash requirements and pay cash dividends and that the applicable regulators will not disapprove any dividends that such subsidiaries must submit for approval. See Note 18 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Liquid Assets. An integral part of MetLife, Inc.'s liquidity management is the amount of liquid assets it holds. Liquid assets include cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and publicly-traded securities, excluding: (i) cash collateral received under the Company's securities lending program that has been reinvested in cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and publicly-traded securities; and (ii) cash collateral received from counterparties in connection with derivative instruments. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, MetLife, Inc. had \$4.2 billion and \$2.8 billion, respectively, in liquid assets. In addition, MetLife, Inc. has pledged collateral and has had collateral pledged to it, and may be required from time to time to pledge additional collateral or be entitled to have additional collateral pledged to it. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, MetLife, Inc. had pledged \$449 million and \$362 million, respectively, of liquid assets under collateral support agreements.

Table of Contents

Dispositions. Cash proceeds from dispositions during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 were \$180 million, \$0 and \$130 million, respectively. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding certain of these dispositions.

Global Funding Sources. Liquidity is also provided by a variety of short-term instruments, including commercial paper. Capital is provided by a variety of instruments, including medium- and long-term debt, junior subordinated debt securities, collateral financing arrangements, capital securities and stockholders' equity. The diversity of MetLife, Inc.'s funding sources enhances funding flexibility, limits dependence on any one source of funds and generally lowers the cost of funds. Other sources of MetLife, Inc.'s liquidity include programs for short-term and long-term borrowing, as needed.

We continuously monitor and adjust our liquidity and capital plans in light of changing requirements and market conditions.

Long-term Debt. The following table summarizes the outstanding long-term debt of MetLife, Inc. at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Long-term debt - unaffiliated	\$ 15,666	\$ 16,258
Long-term debt - affiliated (1)	\$ 500	\$ 665
Collateral financing arrangements	\$ 2,797	\$ 2,797
Junior subordinated debt securities	\$ 1,748	\$ 1,748

(1) Includes \$165 million of affiliated senior notes associated with bonds held by ALICO at December 31, 2010. Such bonds were sold to a third party in the second quarter of 2011.

Short-term Debt. MetLife, Inc. maintains a commercial paper program, proceeds of which can be used to finance the general liquidity needs of MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries. MetLife, Inc. had no short-term debt outstanding at both December 31, 2011 and 2010. There was no short-term debt activity in both 2011 and 2010. During the year ended December 31, 2009, the weighted average interest rate on short-term debt, comprised only of commercial paper, was 1.25%. During the year ended December 31, 2009, the average daily balance on short-term debt was \$5 million, and the average days outstanding was six days.

Debt Issuances and Other Borrowings. For information on MetLife, Inc.'s debt issuances and other borrowings, see The Company's Liquidity and Capital Sources - Debt Issuances and Other Borrowings.

Table of Contents

Senior Notes. The following table summarizes MetLife, Inc.'s outstanding senior notes series by maturity date, excluding any premium or discount, at December 31, 2011:

Maturity Date	Principal (In millions)	Interest Rate
2012	\$ 400	5.38%
2012	\$ 397	three-month LIBOR + .032%
2013	\$ 500	5.00%
2013	\$ 250	three-month LIBOR + 1.25%
2014	\$ 350	5.50%
2014	\$ 1,000	2.38%
2015	\$ 1,000	5.00%
2016	\$ 1,250	6.75%
2018	\$ 1,035	6.82%
2018 (1)	\$ 500	1.56%
2018 (2)	\$ 500	2.46%
2019	\$ 1,035	7.72%
2020	\$ 729	5.25%
2021	\$ 1,000	4.75%
2023 (1)	\$ 500	1.56%
2024	\$ 1,000	1.92%
2024	\$ 673	5.38%
2032	\$ 600	6.50%
2033	\$ 200	5.88%
2034	\$ 750	6.38%
2035	\$ 1,000	5.70%
2041	\$ 750	5.88%
2045 (2)	\$ 500	2.46%

(1) Represents one of two tranches comprising the Series C Debt Securities.

(2) Represents one of two tranches comprising the Series E Debt Securities.

Collateral Financing Arrangements. For information on MetLife, Inc.'s collateral financing arrangements, see The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Collateral Financing Arrangements and Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Credit and Committed Facilities. At December 31, 2011, MetLife, Inc., along with MetLife Funding, maintained \$4.0 billion in unsecured credit facilities, the proceeds of which are available to be used for general corporate purposes, to support the borrowers' commercial paper programs and for the issuance of letters of credit. At December 31, 2011, MetLife, Inc. had outstanding \$3.1 billion in letters of credit and no drawdowns against these facilities. Remaining unused commitments were \$916 million at December 31, 2011.

MetLife, Inc. maintains committed facilities with a capacity of \$300 million. At December 31, 2011, MetLife, Inc. had outstanding \$300 million in letters of credit and no drawdowns against these facilities. There were no remaining unused commitments at December 31, 2011. In addition, MetLife, Inc. is a party to committed facilities of certain of its subsidiaries, which aggregated \$12.1 billion at December 31, 2011. The committed facilities are used as collateral for certain of the Company's affiliated reinsurance liabilities.

See Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further detail on these facilities.

Covenants. Certain of MetLife, Inc.'s debt instruments, credit facilities and committed facilities contain various administrative, reporting, legal and financial covenants. MetLife, Inc. believes it was in compliance with all such covenants at December 31, 2011.

Table of Contents

Preferred Stock, Convertible Preferred Stock, Common Stock and Equity Units. For information on preferred stock, convertible preferred stock, common stock and equity units issued by MetLife, Inc., see The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Preferred Stock, Convertible Preferred Stock, Common Stock, and Equity Units, respectively.

Liquidity and Capital Uses

The primary uses of liquidity of MetLife, Inc. include debt service, cash dividends on common and preferred stock, capital contributions to subsidiaries, payment of general operating expenses and acquisitions. Based on our analysis and comparison of our current and future cash inflows from the dividends we receive from subsidiaries that are permitted to be paid without prior insurance regulatory approval, our asset portfolio and other cash flows and anticipated access to the capital markets, we believe there will be sufficient liquidity and capital to enable MetLife, Inc. to make payments on debt, make cash dividend payments on its common and preferred stock, contribute capital to its subsidiaries, pay all general operating expenses and meet its cash needs.

Acquisitions. During the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2009, there were no cash outflows for acquisitions. Cash outflows for acquisitions during the year ended December 31, 2010 were \$7.2 billion. See Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding certain of these acquisitions.

Affiliated Capital Transactions. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, MetLife, Inc. invested an aggregate of \$1.9 billion, \$699 million (excludes the Acquisition) and \$986 million, respectively, in various subsidiaries.

MetLife, Inc. lends funds, as necessary, to its subsidiaries, some of which are regulated, to meet their capital requirements. Such loans are included in loans to subsidiaries and consisted of the following at:

Subsidiaries	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	December 31,	
			2011	2010
(In millions)				
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (1)	Six-month LIBOR + 1.80%	December 31, 2011	\$ 775	\$ 775
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (2)	7.13%	December 15, 2032		400
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (2)	7.13%	January 15, 2033		100
Total			\$ 1,275	\$ 1,275

(1) In April 2011, MLIC repaid in cash the \$775 million surplus note issued to MetLife, Inc. in December 2009. The early redemption was approved by the New York Superintendent of Insurance.

(2) On December 15, 2011, MLIC repaid in cash the \$400 million and \$100 million capital notes issued to MetLife, Inc. in December 2002. In September and November 2011, American Life issued notes to MetLife, Inc. for \$100 million and \$270 million, respectively. American Life repaid both notes during the fourth quarter of 2011.

Debt Repayments. In December 2011, MetLife, Inc. repaid the \$750 million senior note with an interest rate of 6.13%. MetLife, Inc. intends to repay all or refinance in whole or in part the debt that is due in 2012. See MetLife, Inc. Liquidity and Capital Sources Senior Notes.

Support Agreements. MetLife, Inc. is party to various capital support commitments and guarantees with certain of its subsidiaries. Under these arrangements, MetLife, Inc. has agreed to cause each such entity to meet specified capital and surplus levels or has guaranteed certain contractual obligations.

Table of Contents

In June 2011, MetLife, Inc. guaranteed the obligations of its subsidiary, DelAm, under a stop loss reinsurance agreement with RGA Reinsurance (Barbados) Inc. (RGARe), pursuant to which RGARe retrocedes to DelAm a portion of the whole life medical insurance business that RGARe assumed from American Life on behalf of its Japan branch.

Prior to the sale in April 2011 of its 50% interest in MSI MetLife to a third party, MetLife, Inc. guaranteed the obligations of its subsidiary, Exeter Reassurance Company, Ltd. (Exeter), under a reinsurance agreement with MSI MetLife, under which Exeter reinsures variable annuity business written by MSI MetLife. This guarantee will remain in place until such time as the reinsurance agreement between Exeter and MSI MetLife is terminated, notwithstanding the April 2011 disposition of MetLife, Inc.'s interest in MSI MetLife as described in Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

In March 2011, MetLife, Inc. guaranteed the obligations of its subsidiary, Missouri Reinsurance (Barbados) Inc. (MoRe), under a retrocession agreement with RGARe, pursuant to which MoRe retrocedes a portion of the closed block liabilities associated with industrial life and ordinary life insurance policies that it assumed from MLIC.

In November 2010, MetLife, Inc. guaranteed the obligations of Exeter in an aggregate amount up to \$1.0 billion, under a reinsurance agreement with MetLife Europe Limited (MEL), under which Exeter reinsures the guaranteed living benefits and guaranteed death benefits associated with certain unit-linked annuity contracts issued by MEL.

In January 2010, MetLife, Inc. guaranteed the obligations of MoRe, under a retrocession agreement with RGARe, pursuant to which MoRe retrocedes certain group term life insurance liabilities that it assumed from MLIC.

In December 2009, MetLife, Inc., in connection with MetLife Reinsurance Company of Vermont's (MRV) reinsurance of certain universal life and term life insurance risks, committed to the Vermont Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration to take necessary action to cause the third protected cell of MRV to maintain total adjusted capital equal to or greater than 200% of such protected cell's authorized control level RBC, as defined in state insurance statutes. See The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Credit and Committed Facilities and Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

MetLife, Inc., in connection with MRV's reinsurance of certain universal life and term life insurance risks, committed to the Vermont Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration to take necessary action to cause each of the two initial protected cells of MRV to maintain total adjusted capital equal to or greater than 200% of such protected cell's authorized control level RBC, as defined in state insurance statutes. See The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Credit and Committed Facilities and Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

MetLife, Inc., in connection with the collateral financing arrangement associated with MRC's reinsurance of a portion of the liabilities associated with the closed block, committed to the South Carolina Department of Insurance to make capital contributions, if necessary, to MRC so that MRC may at all times maintain its total adjusted capital at a level of not less than 200% of the company action level RBC, as defined in state insurance statutes as in effect on the date of determination or December 31, 2007, whichever calculation produces the greater capital requirement, or as otherwise required by the South Carolina Department of Insurance. See The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Debt Issuances and Other Borrowings and Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

MetLife, Inc., in connection with the collateral financing arrangement associated with MRSC's reinsurance of universal life secondary guarantees, committed to the South Carolina Department of Insurance to take necessary action to cause MRSC to maintain total adjusted capital equal to the greater of \$250,000 or 100% of MRSC's

Table of Contents

authorized control level RBC, as defined in state insurance statutes. See The Company Liquidity and Capital Sources Debt Issuances and Other Borrowings and Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

MetLife, Inc. has net worth maintenance agreements with two of its insurance subsidiaries, MLIC and First MetLife Investors Insurance Company. Under these agreements, as subsequently amended, MetLife, Inc. agreed, without limitation as to the amount, to cause each of these subsidiaries to have a minimum capital and surplus of \$10 million, total adjusted capital at a level not less than 150% of the company action level RBC, as defined by state insurance statutes, and liquidity necessary to enable it to meet its current obligations on a timely basis.

MetLife, Inc. also guarantees the obligations of a number of its subsidiaries under credit facilities with third-party banks. See Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Future Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Subsequent Events

See Note 24 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Risk Management

The Company must effectively manage, measure and monitor the market risk associated with its assets and liabilities. It has developed an integrated process for managing risk, which it conducts through its Enterprise Risk Management Department, Asset/Liability Management Unit, Treasury Department and Investment Department along with the management of the business segments. The Company has established and implemented comprehensive policies and procedures at both the corporate and business segment level to minimize the effects of potential market volatility.

The Company regularly analyzes its exposure to interest rate, equity market price and foreign currency exchange rate risks. As a result of that analysis, the Company has determined that the estimated fair values of certain assets and liabilities are materially exposed to changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates and changes in the equity markets.

Enterprise Risk Management. MetLife has established several financial and non-financial senior management committees as part of its risk management process. These committees manage capital and risk positions, approve ALM strategies and establish appropriate corporate business standards. Further enhancing its committee structure, during the second quarter of 2010, MetLife created an Enterprise Risk Committee including the following voting members: the Chief Financial Officer, the Chief Investment Officer and the Chief Risk Officer. This committee is responsible for reviewing all material risks to the enterprise and deciding on actions if necessary, in the event risks exceed desirable targets, taking into consideration best practices to resolve or mitigate those risks.

MetLife also has a separate Enterprise Risk Management Department, which is responsible for risk management throughout MetLife and reports to MetLife's Chief Risk Officer. The Enterprise Risk Management Department's primary responsibilities consist of:

implementing a corporate risk framework, which outlines the Company's approach for managing risk on an enterprise-wide basis;

Table of Contents

developing policies and procedures for managing, measuring, monitoring and controlling those risks identified in the corporate risk framework;

establishing appropriate corporate risk tolerance levels;

deploying capital on an economic capital basis; and

reporting on a periodic basis to the Finance and Risk Committee of the Company's Board of Directors; with respect to credit risk, reporting to the Investment Committee of the Company's Board of Directors; and reporting on various aspects of risk to financial and non-financial senior management committees.

Asset/Liability Management. The Company actively manages its assets using an approach that balances quality, diversification, asset/liability matching, liquidity, concentration and investment return. The goals of the investment process are to optimize, net of income tax, risk-adjusted investment income and risk-adjusted total return while ensuring that the assets and liabilities are reasonably managed on a cash flow and duration basis. The ALM process is the shared responsibility of the Financial Risk Management and Asset/Liability Management Unit, Enterprise Risk Management, the Portfolio Management Unit, and the senior members of the business segments and is governed by the ALM Committees. The ALM Committees' duties include reviewing and approving target portfolios, establishing investment guidelines and limits and providing oversight of the ALM process on a periodic basis. The directives of the ALM Committees are carried out and monitored through ALM Working Groups which are set up to manage by product type. In addition, an ALM Steering Committee oversees the activities of the underlying ALM Committees.

MetLife establishes target asset portfolios for each major insurance product, which represent the investment strategies used to profitably fund its liabilities within acceptable levels of risk. These strategies are monitored through regular review of portfolio metrics, such as effective duration, yield curve sensitivity, convexity, liquidity, asset sector concentration and credit quality by the ALM Working Groups.

Market Risk Exposures

The Company has exposure to market risk through its insurance operations and investment activities. For purposes of this disclosure, market risk is defined as the risk of loss resulting from changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates and equity market.

Interest Rates. The Company's exposure to interest rate changes results most significantly from its holdings of fixed maturity securities, as well as its interest rate sensitive liabilities. The fixed maturity securities include U.S. and foreign government bonds, securities issued by government agencies, corporate bonds and mortgage-backed securities, all of which are mainly exposed to changes in medium- and long-term interest rates. The interest rate sensitive liabilities for purposes of this disclosure include debt, PABs related to certain investment type contracts, and net embedded derivatives on variable annuities with guaranteed minimum benefits which have the same type of interest rate exposure (medium- and long-term interest rates) as fixed maturity securities. The Company employs product design, pricing and ALM strategies to reduce the adverse effects of interest rate movements. Product design and pricing strategies include the use of surrender charges or restrictions on withdrawals in some products and the ability to reset credited rates for certain products. ALM strategies include the use of derivatives and duration mismatch limits. See Risk Factors Changes in Market Interest Rates May Significantly Affect Our Profitability.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rates. The Company's exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates against the U.S. dollar results from its holdings in non-U.S. dollar denominated fixed maturity and equity securities, mortgage loans, and certain liabilities, as well as through its investments in foreign subsidiaries. The principal currencies that create foreign currency exchange rate risk in the Company's investment portfolios and liabilities are the Euro, the Japanese yen, the British pound, the Mexican peso and the Canadian dollar. Selectively, the Company uses U.S. dollar assets to support certain long duration foreign currency liabilities.

Table of Contents

Through its investments in foreign subsidiaries and joint ventures, the Company is primarily exposed to the Japanese yen, the Polish zloty, the Mexican peso, the British pound, the Australian dollar, the Euro, the Korean won and the Canadian dollar. In addition to hedging with foreign currency swaps, forwards and options, local surplus in some countries is held entirely or in part in U.S. dollar assets which further minimizes exposure to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuation risk. The Company has matched much of its foreign currency liabilities in its foreign subsidiaries with their respective foreign currency assets, thereby reducing its risk to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuation. See Risk Factors Fluctuations in Foreign Currency Exchange Rates Could Negatively Affect Our Profitability.

Equity Market. The Company has exposure to equity market risk through certain liabilities that involve long-term guarantees on equity performance such as net embedded derivatives on variable annuities with guaranteed minimum benefits, certain PABs along with investments in equity securities. We manage this risk on an integrated basis with other risks through our ALM strategies including the dynamic hedging of certain variable annuity guarantee benefits. The Company also manages equity market risk exposure in its investment portfolio through the use of derivatives. Equity exposures associated with other limited partnership interests are excluded from this section as they are not considered financial instruments under GAAP.

Management of Market Risk Exposures

The Company uses a variety of strategies to manage interest rate, foreign currency exchange rate and equity market risk, including the use of derivative instruments.

Interest Rate Risk Management. To manage interest rate risk, the Company analyzes interest rate risk using various models, including multi-scenario cash flow projection models that forecast cash flows of the liabilities and their supporting investments, including derivative instruments. These projections involve evaluating the potential gain or loss on most of the Company's in-force business under various increasing and decreasing interest rate environments. The Department of Financial Services regulations require that MetLife perform some of these analyses annually as part of MetLife's review of the sufficiency of its regulatory reserves. For several of its legal entities, the Company maintains segmented operating and surplus asset portfolios for the purpose of ALM and the allocation of investment income to product lines. For each segment, invested assets greater than or equal to the GAAP liabilities less the DAC asset and any non-invested assets allocated to the segment are maintained, with any excess swept to the surplus segment. The business segments may reflect differences in legal entity, statutory line of business and any product market characteristic which may drive a distinct investment strategy with respect to duration, liquidity or credit quality of the invested assets. Certain smaller entities make use of unsegmented general accounts for which the investment strategy reflects the aggregate characteristics of liabilities in those entities. The Company measures relative sensitivities of the value of its assets and liabilities to changes in key assumptions utilizing Company models. These models reflect specific product characteristics and include assumptions based on current and anticipated experience regarding lapse, mortality and interest crediting rates. In addition, these models include asset cash flow projections reflecting interest payments, sinking fund payments, principal payments, bond calls, mortgage prepayments and defaults.

Common industry metrics, such as duration and convexity, are also used to measure the relative sensitivity of assets and liability values to changes in interest rates. In computing the duration of liabilities, consideration is given to all policyholder guarantees and to how the Company intends to set indeterminate policy elements such as interest credits or dividends. Each asset portfolio has a duration target based on the liability duration and the investment objectives of that portfolio. Where a liability cash flow may exceed the maturity of available assets, as is the case with certain retirement and non-medical health products, the Company may support such liabilities with equity investments, derivatives or curve mismatch strategies.

Table of Contents

Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk Management. Foreign currency exchange rate risk is assumed primarily in three ways: investments in foreign subsidiaries, purchases of foreign currency denominated investments in the investment portfolio and the sale of certain insurance products.

The Company's Treasury Department is responsible for managing the exposure to investments in foreign subsidiaries. Limits to exposures are established and monitored by the Treasury Department and managed by the Investment Department.

The Investment Department is responsible for managing the exposure to foreign currency investments. Exposure limits to unhedged foreign currency investments are incorporated into the standing authorizations granted to management by the Board of Directors and are reported to the Board of Directors on a periodic basis.

The lines of business are responsible for establishing limits and managing any foreign exchange rate exposure caused by the sale or issuance of insurance products.

MetLife uses foreign currency swaps and forwards to mitigate the liability exposure, risk of loss and the volatility of net income associated with its investments in foreign subsidiaries, foreign currency denominated fixed income investments and the sale of certain insurance products.

Equity Market Risk Management. Equity market risk exposure through the issuance of variable annuities is managed by the Company's Asset/Liability Management Unit in partnership with the Investment Department. Equity market risk is realized through its investment in equity securities and is managed by its Investment Department. MetLife uses derivatives to mitigate its equity exposure both in certain liability guarantees such as variable annuities with guaranteed minimum benefit and equity securities. These derivatives include exchange-traded equity futures, equity index options contracts and equity variance swaps. The Company also employs reinsurance to manage these exposures.

Hedging Activities. MetLife uses derivative contracts primarily to hedge a wide range of risks including interest rate risk, foreign currency risk, and equity risk. Derivative hedges are designed to reduce risk on an economic basis while considering their impact on accounting results and GAAP and Statutory capital. The construction of the Company's derivative hedge programs vary depending on the type of risk being hedged. Some hedge programs are asset or liability specific while others are portfolio hedges that reduce risk related to a group of liabilities or assets. The Company's use of derivatives by major hedge programs is as follows:

Risks Related to Living Guarantee Benefits The Company uses a wide range of derivative contracts to hedge the risk associated with variable annuity living guarantee benefits. These hedges include equity and interest rate futures, interest rate swaps, currency futures/forwards, equity indexed options and interest rate option contracts and equity variance swaps.

Minimum Interest Rate Guarantees For certain Company liability contracts, the Company provides the contractholder a guaranteed minimum interest rate. These contracts include certain fixed annuities and other insurance liabilities. The Company purchases interest rate floors to reduce risk associated with these liability guarantees.

Reinvestment Risk in Long Duration Liability Contracts Derivatives are used to hedge interest rate risk related to certain long duration liability contracts, such as deferred annuities. Hedges include zero coupon interest rate swaps and swaptions.

Foreign Currency Risk The Company uses currency swaps and forwards to hedge foreign currency risk. These hedges primarily swap foreign currency denominated bonds, investments in foreign subsidiaries or equity exposures to U.S. dollars.

Table of Contents

General ALM Hedging Strategies In the ordinary course of managing the Company's asset/liability risks, the Company uses interest rate futures, interest rate swaps, interest rate caps, interest rate floors and inflation swaps. These hedges are designed to reduce interest rate risk or inflation risk related to the existing assets or liabilities or related to expected future cash flows.

Risk Measurement: Sensitivity Analysis

The Company measures market risk related to its market sensitive assets and liabilities based on changes in interest rates, equity prices and foreign currency exchange rates utilizing a sensitivity analysis. This analysis estimates the potential changes in estimated fair value based on a hypothetical 10% change (increase or decrease) in interest rates, equity market prices and foreign currency exchange rates. The Company believes that a 10% change (increase or decrease) in these market rates and prices is reasonably possible in the near-term. In performing the analysis summarized below, the Company used market rates at December 31, 2011. The sensitivity analysis separately calculates each of the Company's market risk exposures (interest rate, equity market and foreign currency exchange rate) relating to its trading and non trading assets and liabilities. The Company modeled the impact of changes in market rates and prices on the estimated fair values of its market sensitive assets and liabilities as follows:

the net present values of its interest rate sensitive exposures resulting from a 10% change (increase or decrease) in interest rates;

the U.S. dollar equivalent estimated fair values of the Company's foreign currency exposures due to a 10% change (increase or decrease) in foreign currency exchange rates; and

the estimated fair value of its equity positions due to a 10% change (increase or decrease) in equity market prices.

The sensitivity analysis is an estimate and should not be viewed as predictive of the Company's future financial performance. The Company cannot ensure that its actual losses in any particular period will not exceed the amounts indicated in the table below. Limitations related to this sensitivity analysis include:

the market risk information is limited by the assumptions and parameters established in creating the related sensitivity analysis, including the impact of prepayment rates on mortgages;

for the derivatives that qualify as hedges, the impact on reported earnings may be materially different from the change in market values;

the analysis excludes other significant real estate holdings and liabilities pursuant to insurance contracts; and

the model assumes that the composition of assets and liabilities remains unchanged throughout the period.

Accordingly, the Company uses such models as tools and not as substitutes for the experience and judgment of its management. Based on its analysis of the impact of a 10% change (increase or decrease) in market rates and prices, MetLife has determined that such a change could have a material adverse effect on the estimated fair value of certain assets and liabilities from interest rate, foreign currency exchange rate and equity exposures.

Table of Contents

The table below illustrates the potential loss in estimated fair value for each market risk exposure of the Company's market sensitive assets and liabilities at December 31, 2011:

	December 31, 2011 (In millions)
Non-trading:	
Interest rate risk	\$ 4,319
Foreign currency exchange rate risk	\$ 4,547
Equity market risk	\$ 37
Trading:	
Interest rate risk	\$ 5
Foreign currency exchange rate risk	\$ 486

Table of Contents

Sensitivity Analysis: Interest Rates. The table below provides additional detail regarding the potential loss in fair value of the Company's trading and non-trading interest sensitive financial instruments at December 31, 2011 by type of asset or liability:

		December 31, 2011	
	Notional Amount	Estimated Fair Value (3) (In millions)	Assuming a 10% Increase in the Yield Curve
Assets:			
Fixed maturity securities		\$ 350,271	\$ (4,941)
Equity securities		3,023	
Trading and other securities		18,268	(5)
Mortgage loans:			
Held-for-investment		59,560	(220)
Held-for-sale		7,526	(35)
Mortgage loans, net		67,086	(255)
Policy loans		14,213	(125)
Real estate joint ventures (1)		183	
Other limited partnership interests (1)		1,656	
Short-term investments		17,310	(1)
Other invested assets:			
Mortgage servicing rights		666	54
Other		1,434	
Cash and cash equivalents		10,461	(1)
Accrued investment income		4,344	
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables		5,232	(227)
Other assets		308	(10)
Net embedded derivatives within asset host contracts (2)		363	(17)
Mortgage loan commitments	\$ 4,129	3	(2)
Commitments to fund bank credit facilities, bridge loans and private corporate bond investments	\$ 1,432	51	
Total Assets			\$ (5,530)
Liabilities:			
Policyholder account balances		\$ 153,304	\$ 740
Payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions		33,716	
Bank deposits		10,507	
Short-term debt		686	
Long-term debt		22,514	186
Collateral financing arrangements		4,136	
Junior subordinated debt securities		3,491	105
Other liabilities:			
Trading liabilities		127	2
Other		4,087	25
Net embedded derivatives within liability host contracts (2)		4,584	1,677
Total Liabilities			\$ 2,735
Derivative Instruments:			
Interest rate swaps	\$ 79,733	\$ 6,042	\$ (1,049)
Interest rate floors	\$ 23,866	1,081	(89)
Interest rate caps	\$ 49,665	102	25
Interest rate futures	\$ 14,965	6	(103)
Interest rate options	\$ 16,988	890	(200)
Interest rate forwards	\$ 14,033	195	(31)
Synthetic GICs	\$ 4,454		
Foreign currency swaps	\$ 16,461	112	14

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Foreign currency forwards	\$ 10,149	140	1
Currency futures	\$ 633		
Currency options	\$ 1,321	6	
Credit default swaps	\$ 13,136	213	
Credit forwards	\$ 20	4	
Equity futures	\$ 7,053	16	
Equity options	\$ 17,099	3,084	(90)
Variance swaps	\$ 18,801	322	(7)
Total rate of return swaps	\$ 1,644	(24)	
Total Derivative Instruments			\$ (1,529)
Net Change			\$ (4,324)

Table of Contents

- (1) Represents only those investments accounted for using the cost method.
- (2) Embedded derivatives are recognized in the consolidated balance sheet in the same caption as the host contract.
- (3) Separate account assets and liabilities which are interest rate sensitive are not included herein as any interest rate risk is borne by the holder of the separate account.

Interest rate risk has decreased by \$1.1 billion, or 20%, to \$4.3 billion at December 31, 2011 from \$5.4 billion at December 31, 2010. The decrease in risk is primarily due to a large decline in interest rates across the long end of the swaps and U.S. Treasury curves which decreased risk by \$1.8 billion. This decrease in risk was partially offset by a change in the net asset and liability bases of \$590 million and the yield impact to long term debt of \$230 million. The remainder of the fluctuation is attributable to numerous immaterial items.

Table of Contents

Sensitivity Analysis: Foreign Currency Exchange Rates. The table below provides additional detail regarding the potential loss in estimated fair value of the Company's portfolio due to a 10% change in foreign currency exchange rates at December 31, 2011 by type of asset or liability:

	December 31, 2011		
	Notional Amount	Estimated Fair Value (1) (In millions)	Assuming a 10% Increase in the Foreign Exchange Rate
Assets:			
Fixed maturity securities		\$ 350,271	\$ (7,945)
Equity securities		3,023	(106)
Trading and other securities		18,268	(486)
Mortgage loans:			
Held-for-investment		59,560	(450)
Held-for-sale		7,526	
Mortgage loans, net		67,086	(450)
Policy loans		14,213	(187)
Other limited partnership interests		1,656	(10)
Short-term investments		17,310	(204)
Other invested assets:			
Mortgage servicing rights		666	
Other		1,434	(62)
Cash and cash equivalents		10,461	(135)
Accrued investment income		4,344	(7)
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables		5,232	(162)
Other assets		308	(7)
Total Assets			\$ (9,761)
Liabilities:			
Policyholder account balances		\$ 153,304	\$ 3,375
Bank deposits		10,507	
Long-term debt		22,514	126
Payable for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions		33,716	3
Other liabilities		4,087	163
Net embedded derivatives within liability host contracts (2)		4,584	476
Total Liabilities			\$ 4,143
Derivative Instruments:			
Interest rate swaps	\$ 79,733	\$ 6,042	\$ (41)
Interest rate floors	\$ 23,866	1,081	
Interest rate caps	\$ 49,665	102	
Interest rate futures	\$ 14,965	6	(3)
Interest rate options	\$ 16,988	890	(17)
Interest rate forwards	\$ 14,033	195	
Synthetic GICs	\$ 4,454		
Foreign currency swaps	\$ 16,461	112	736
Foreign currency forwards	\$ 10,149	140	46
Currency futures	\$ 633		(53)
Currency options	\$ 1,321	6	29
Credit default swaps	\$ 13,136	213	
Credit forwards	\$ 20	4	

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Equity futures	\$ 7,053	16	(3)
Equity options	\$ 17,099	3,084	(109)
Variance swaps	\$ 18,801	322	
Total rate of return swaps	\$ 1,644	(24)	
Total Derivative Instruments			\$ 585
Net Change			\$ (5,033)

Table of Contents

(1) Estimated fair value presented in the table above represents the estimated fair value of all financial instruments within this financial statement caption not necessarily those solely subject to foreign exchange risk.

(2) Embedded derivatives are recognized in the consolidated balance sheet in the same caption as the host contract. Foreign currency exchange rate risk increased by \$1.0 billion, to \$5.0 billion at December 31, 2011 from \$4.0 billion at December 31, 2010. This change was due to an increase in exchange rate risk relating to fixed maturity securities (including trading and other securities) of \$1.6 billion due to higher net exposures primarily to the British pound, the Australian dollar and the Japanese yen. This was partially offset by an increase in the foreign exposure related to PABs and other liabilities and the use of derivatives employed by the Company of \$274 million and \$280 million, respectively. The remainder of the fluctuation is attributable to numerous immaterial items.

Table of Contents

Sensitivity Analysis: Equity Market Prices. The table below provides additional detail regarding the potential loss in estimated fair value of the Company's portfolio due to a 10% change in equity at December 31, 2011 by type of asset or liability:

		December 31, 2011	
	Notional Amount	Estimated Fair Value (1) (In millions)	Assuming a 10% Increase in Equity Prices
Assets:			
Equity securities		\$ 3,023	\$ 346
Other invested assets:			
Net embedded derivatives within asset host contracts (2)		363	(17)
Total Assets			\$ 329
Liabilities:			
Policyholder account balances		\$ 153,304	\$
Bank deposits		10,507	
Other liabilities:			
Net embedded derivatives within liability host contracts (2)		4,584	739
Total Liabilities			\$ 739
Derivative Instruments:			
Interest rate swaps	\$ 79,733	\$ 6,042	\$
Interest rate floors	\$ 23,866	1,081	
Interest rate caps	\$ 49,665	102	
Interest rate futures	\$ 14,965	6	
Interest rate options	\$ 16,988	890	
Interest rate forwards	\$ 14,033	195	
Synthetic GICs	\$ 4,454		
Foreign currency swaps	\$ 16,461	112	
Foreign currency forwards	\$ 10,149	140	
Currency futures	\$ 633		
Currency options	\$ 1,321	6	
Credit default swaps	\$ 13,136	213	
Credit forwards	\$ 20	4	
Equity futures	\$ 7,053	16	(680)
Equity options	\$ 17,099	3,084	(286)
Variance swaps	\$ 18,801	322	13
Total rate of return swaps	\$ 1,644	(24)	(152)
Total Derivative Instruments			\$ (1,105)
Net Change			\$ (37)

(1) Estimated fair value presented in the table above represents the estimated fair value of all financial instruments within this financial statement caption not necessarily those solely subject to equity price risk.

(2) Embedded derivatives are recognized in the consolidated balance sheet in the same caption as the host contract.

- (3) During the fourth quarter of 2011, the analysis of the impact of a 10% change (increase or decrease) in equity prices determined that due to a change in the portfolio composition of derivatives employed by the Company, an increase of 10% had the most adverse effect on our equity risk while the prior year end's analysis of equity prices shows a decrease of 10% had the most adverse effect. Equity price risk increased by \$23 million to \$37 million at December 31, 2011 from \$14 million at December 31, 2010. This increase is primarily due to a change in the portfolio composition of derivatives employed by the Company.

Table of Contents

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Schedules

	Page
<u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	204
Financial Statements at December 31, 2011 and 2010 and for the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009:	
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets</u>	205
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations</u>	206
<u>Consolidated Statements of Equity</u>	207
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows</u>	210
<u>Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	212
Financial Statement Schedules at December 31, 2011 and 2010 and for the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009:	
<u>Schedule I Consolidated Summary of Investments Other Than Investments in Related Parties</u>	427
<u>Schedule II Condensed Financial Information of Registrant</u>	428
<u>Schedule III Consolidated Supplementary Insurance Information</u>	436
<u>Schedule IV Consolidated Reinsurance</u>	438

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of

MetLife, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of MetLife, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related consolidated statements of operations, equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2011. Our audits also included the financial statement schedules listed in the Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Schedules. These consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedules are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedules 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 consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated 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, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of MetLife, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2011, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, in our opinion, such financial statement schedules, when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, present fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

As discussed in Note 1, the Company changed its method of accounting for the recognition and presentation of other-than-temporary impairment losses for certain investments as required by accounting guidance adopted on April 1, 2009.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, and our report, dated February 28, 2012 expressed an unqualified opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

New York, New York

February 28, 2012

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Consolidated Balance Sheets****December 31, 2011 and 2010****(In millions, except share and per share data)**

	2011	2010
Assets		
Investments:		
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale, at estimated fair value (amortized cost: \$329,811 and \$317,617, respectively; includes \$3,225 and \$3,330, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	\$ 350,271	\$ 324,797
Equity securities available-for-sale, at estimated fair value (cost: \$3,208 and \$3,621, respectively)	3,023	3,602
Trading and other securities, at estimated fair value (includes \$473 and \$463, respectively, of actively traded securities; and \$280 and \$387, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	18,268	18,589
Mortgage loans:		
Held-for-investment, principally at amortized cost (net of valuation allowances of \$481 and \$664, respectively; includes \$3,187 and \$6,840, respectively, at estimated fair value, relating to variable interest entities)	56,915	58,976
Held-for-sale, principally at estimated fair value (includes \$10,716 and \$2,510, respectively, under the fair value option)	15,178	3,321
Mortgage loans, net	72,093	62,297
Policy loans	11,892	11,761
Real estate and real estate joint ventures (includes \$15 and \$10, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	8,563	8,030
Other limited partnership interests (includes \$259 and \$298, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	6,378	6,416
Short-term investments, principally at estimated fair value	17,310	9,384
Other invested assets, principally at estimated fair value (includes \$98 and \$104, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	23,628	15,430
Total investments	511,426	460,306
Cash and cash equivalents, principally at estimated fair value (includes \$176 and \$69, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	10,461	12,957
Accrued investment income (includes \$16 and \$34, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	4,344	4,328
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables (includes \$12 and \$2, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	22,481	19,799
Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	27,971	27,092
Goodwill	11,935	11,781
Other assets (includes \$5 and \$6, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	7,984	8,174
Assets of subsidiaries held-for-sale		3,331
Separate account assets	203,023	183,138
Total assets	\$ 799,625	\$ 730,906
Liabilities and Equity		
Liabilities		
Future policy benefits	\$ 184,252	\$ 170,912
Policyholder account balances	217,700	210,757
Other policy-related balances	15,599	15,750
Policyholder dividends payable	774	830
Policyholder dividend obligation	2,919	876
Payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions	33,716	27,272
Bank deposits	10,507	10,316
Short-term debt	686	306
Long-term debt (includes \$3,068 and \$6,902, respectively, at estimated fair value, relating to variable interest entities)	23,692	27,586
Collateral financing arrangements	4,647	5,297
Junior subordinated debt securities	3,192	3,191
Current income tax payable	193	297
Deferred income tax liability	7,535	1,856
Other liabilities (includes \$60 and \$93, respectively, relating to variable interest entities; and \$7,626 and \$0, respectively, under the fair value option)	30,914	20,366
Liabilities of subsidiaries held-for-sale		3,043
Separate account liabilities	203,023	183,138

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Total liabilities	739,349	681,793
Contingencies, Commitments and Guarantees (Note 16)		
Redeemable noncontrolling interests in partially owned consolidated subsidiaries	105	117
Equity		
MetLife, Inc. s stockholders equity:		
Preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share; 200,000,000 shares authorized:		
Preferred stock, 84,000,000 shares issued and outstanding; \$2,100 aggregate liquidation preference	1	1
Convertible preferred stock, 0 and 6,857,000 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively		
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share; 3,000,000,000 shares authorized; 1,061,150,915 and 989,031,704 shares issued at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively; 1,057,957,028 and 985,837,817 shares outstanding at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively	11	10
Additional paid-in capital	26,782	26,423
Retained earnings	27,289	21,363
Treasury stock, at cost; 3,193,887 shares at December 31, 2011 and 2010	(172)	(172)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	5,886	1,000
Total MetLife, Inc. s stockholders equity	59,797	48,625
Noncontrolling interests	374	371
Total equity	60,171	48,996
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 799,625	\$ 730,906

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Consolidated Statements of Operations****For the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009****(In millions, except per share data)**

	2011	2010	2009
Revenues			
Premiums	\$ 36,361	\$ 27,071	\$ 26,157
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	7,806	6,028	5,197
Net investment income	19,606	17,511	14,741
Other revenues	2,532	2,328	2,329
Net investment gains (losses):			
Other-than-temporary impairments on fixed maturity securities	(924)	(682)	(2,432)
Other-than-temporary impairments on fixed maturity securities transferred to other comprehensive income (loss)	(31)	212	939
Other net investment gains (losses)	88	62	(1,408)
Total net investment gains (losses)	(867)	(408)	(2,901)
Net derivative gains (losses)	4,824	(265)	(4,866)
Total revenues	70,262	52,265	40,657
Expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims	35,457	29,185	28,003
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	5,603	4,919	4,845
Policyholder dividends	1,446	1,485	1,649
Other expenses	17,730	12,764	10,521
Total expenses	60,236	48,353	45,018
Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax	10,026	3,912	(4,361)
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	3,075	1,165	(2,025)
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	6,951	2,747	(2,336)
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	20	39	58
Net income (loss)	6,971	2,786	(2,278)
Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	(10)	(4)	(32)
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	6,981	2,790	(2,246)
Less: Preferred stock dividends	122	122	122
Preferred stock redemption premium	146		
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 6,713	\$ 2,668	\$ (2,368)
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders per common share:			
Basic	\$ 6.32	\$ 2.98	\$ (2.96)
Diluted	\$ 6.27	\$ 2.96	\$ (2.96)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders per common share:			
Basic	\$ 6.34	\$ 3.02	\$ (2.89)
Diluted	\$ 6.29	\$ 3.00	\$ (2.89)
Cash dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.74

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Consolidated Statements of Equity****For the Year Ended December 31, 2011****(In millions)**

	Convertible		Common	Additional	Retained	Treasury	Net	Other	Foreign	Defined	Total	Noncontrolling	Total
	Preferred	Preferred											
	Stock	Stock	Stock	Capital		at	Investment	Temporary	Translation	Plans	Stockholders	(1)	Equity
						Cost	Gains (Losses)	Impairment	Adjustments	Adjustment	Equity		Equity
Balance at December 31, 2010	\$ 1	\$ -	\$ 10	\$ 26,423	\$ 21,363	\$ (172)	\$ 3,356	\$ (366)	\$ (541)	\$ (1,449)	\$ 48,625	\$ 371	\$ 48,996
Redemption of convertible preferred stock		-		(2,805)							(2,805)		(2,805)
Preferred stock redemption premium					(146)						(146)		(146)
Common stock issuance newly issued shares			1	2,949							2,950		2,950
Stock-based compensation				215							215		215
Dividends on preferred stock					(122)						(122)		(122)
Dividends on common stock					(787)						(787)		(787)
Change in equity of noncontrolling interests												38	38
Comprehensive income (loss):													
Net income (loss)					6,981						6,981	3	6,984
Other comprehensive income (loss):													
Unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments, net of income tax							1,022				1,022		1,022
Unrealized investment gains (losses), net of related offsets and income tax							4,542	(75)			4,467	(5)	4,462
Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of income tax									(109)		(109)	(33)	(142)
Defined benefit plans adjustment, net of income tax										(494)	(494)		(494)
Other comprehensive income (loss)											4,886	(38)	4,848
Comprehensive income (loss)											11,867	(35)	11,832
	\$ 1	\$ -	\$ 11	\$ 26,782	\$ 27,289	\$ (172)	\$ 8,920	\$ (441)	\$ (650)	\$ (1,943)	\$ 59,797	\$ 374	\$ 60,171

Balance at
December 31, 2011

- (1) Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests excludes gains (losses) of redeemable noncontrolling interests in partially owned consolidated subsidiaries of (\$13) million.

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Consolidated Statements of Equity (Continued)****For the Year Ended December 31, 2010****(In millions)**

	Convertible Preferred Stock		Additional Common Stock	Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock at Cost	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)				Total MetLife, Inc. Stockholders Equity	Noncontrolling Interests (1)	Total Equity
	Stock	Stock					Net Unrealized Gains (Losses)	Other-Than-Temporary Impairments	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment	Defined Benefit Plans Adjustment			
Balance at December 31, 2009	\$ 1	\$ 8	\$ 16,859	\$ 19,501	\$ (190)	\$ (817)	\$ (513)	\$ (183)	\$ (1,545)	\$ 33,121	\$ 377	\$ 33,498	
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of income tax (Note 1)				(12)	31	11				30		30	
Balance at January 1, 2010	1	8	16,859	19,489	(190)	(786)	(502)	(183)	(1,545)	33,151	377	33,528	
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of income tax (Note 1)				(10)	10								
Convertible preferred stock issuance			2,805							2,805		2,805	
Common stock issuance newly issued shares related to business acquisition		2	6,727							6,729		6,729	
Issuance of stock purchase contracts related to common equity units			(69)							(69)		(69)	
Stock-based compensation			101	18						119		119	
Dividends on preferred stock				(122)						(122)		(122)	
Dividends on common stock				(784)						(784)		(784)	
Change in equity of noncontrolling interests											(9)	(9)	
Comprehensive income (loss):				2,790						2,790	(2)	2,788	
Other comprehensive income (loss):													
Unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments, net of income tax					11					11		11	
Unrealized investment gains (losses), net of related offsets and income tax					4,121	136				4,257	(3)	4,254	
								(358)		(358)	8	(350)	

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of income tax																								
Defined benefit plans adjustment, net of income tax											96	96		96										
Other comprehensive income (loss)												4,006	5	4,011										
Comprehensive income (loss)												6,796	3	6,799										
Balance at																								
December 31, 2010	\$	1	\$	10	\$	26,423	\$	21,363	\$	(172)	\$	3,356	\$	(366)	\$	(541)	\$	(1,449)	\$	48,625	\$	371	\$	48,996

- (1) Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests excludes gains (losses) of redeemable noncontrolling interests in partially owned consolidated subsidiaries of (\$2) million.

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Consolidated Statements of Equity (Continued)****For the Year Ended December 31, 2009****(In millions)**

	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)												
	Preferred Stock	Common Stock	Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock at Cost	Net Investment Gains (Losses)	Other Than Temporary Impairments	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Defined Benefit Plans Adjustment	Total MetLife, Inc. s Stockholders Equity	Noncontrolling Interests	Total Equity	
Balance at December 31, 2008	\$ 1	\$ 8	\$ 15,811	\$ 22,403	\$ (236)	\$ (12,564)	\$	\$ (246)	\$ (1,443)	\$ 23,734	\$ 251	\$ 23,985	
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of income tax (Note 1)				76			(76)						
Common stock issuance newly issued shares			1,035							1,035		1,035	
Treasury stock transactions, net			(7)		14					7		7	
Stock-based compensation			20		32					52		52	
Dividends on preferred stock				(122)						(122)		(122)	
Dividends on common stock				(610)						(610)		(610)	
Change in equity of noncontrolling interests											169	169	
Comprehensive income (loss):													
Net income (loss)				(2,246)						(2,246)	(32)	(2,278)	
Other comprehensive income (loss):													
Unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments, net of income tax						(116)				(116)		(116)	
Unrealized investment gains (losses), net of related offsets and income tax						11,863	(437)			11,426	(11)	11,415	
Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of income tax								63		63		63	
Defined benefit plans adjustment, net of income tax									(102)	(102)		(102)	
Other comprehensive income (loss)										11,271	(11)	11,260	
Comprehensive income (loss)										9,025	(43)	8,982	
	\$ 1	\$ 8	\$ 16,859	\$ 19,501	\$ (190)	\$ (817)	\$ (513)	\$ (183)	\$ (1,545)	\$ 33,121	\$ 377	\$ 33,498	

Balance at
December 31, 2009

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows****For the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009****(In millions)**

	2011	2010	2009
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net income (loss)	\$ 6,971	\$ 2,786	\$ (2,278)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization expenses	679	585	520
Amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts associated with investments, net	(477)	(1,078)	(967)
(Gains) losses on investments and derivatives and from sales of businesses, net	(3,181)	854	7,715
(Income) loss from equity method investments, net of dividends or distributions	315	48	1,279
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	5,603	4,925	4,852
Interest credited to bank deposits	95	137	163
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	(7,806)	(6,037)	(5,218)
Change in trading and other securities	648	(1,369)	(1,152)
Change in residential mortgage loans held-for-sale, net	(4,530)	(487)	(800)
Change in mortgage servicing rights	(60)	(165)	(687)
Change in accrued investment income	525	(206)	(110)
Change in premiums, reinsurance and other receivables	58	(1,023)	(1,653)
Change in deferred policy acquisition costs, net	(1,397)	(541)	(1,837)
Change in income tax recoverable (payable)	2,022	1,292	(2,614)
Change in other assets	2,360	1,948	(660)
Change in insurance-related liabilities and policy-related balances	7,068	6,489	6,401
Change in other liabilities	1,136	(315)	865
Other, net	261	153	(16)
Net cash provided by operating activities	10,290	7,996	3,803
Cash flows from investing activities			
Sales, maturities and repayments of:			
Fixed maturity securities	104,302	86,529	64,428
Equity securities	2,006	1,371	2,545
Mortgage loans	13,486	6,361	5,769
Real estate and real estate joint ventures	1,296	322	43
Other limited partnership interests	1,121	522	947
Purchases of:			
Fixed maturity securities	(116,939)	(100,713)	(83,940)
Equity securities	(1,481)	(949)	(1,986)
Mortgage loans	(14,694)	(8,967)	(4,692)
Real estate and real estate joint ventures	(1,534)	(786)	(579)
Other limited partnership interests	(1,147)	(1,008)	(803)
Cash received in connection with freestanding derivatives	2,815	1,814	3,292
Cash paid in connection with freestanding derivatives	(3,478)	(2,548)	(5,393)
Sales of businesses, net of cash and cash equivalents disposed of \$54, \$0 and \$180, respectively	126		(50)
Sale of interest in joint venture	265		
Disposal of subsidiary	4		(19)
Purchases of businesses, net of cash and cash equivalents acquired of \$70, \$4,175 and \$0, respectively	(163)	(3,021)	
Net change in policy loans	(66)	(225)	(259)
Net change in short-term investments	(7,949)	3,033	5,534
Net change in other invested assets	(36)	137	1,388
Other, net	(169)	(186)	(160)
Net cash used in investing activities	\$ (22,235)	\$ (18,314)	\$ (13,935)

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Continued)****For the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009****(In millions)**

	2011	2010	2009
Cash flows from financing activities			
Policyholder account balances:			
Deposits	\$ 91,946	\$ 74,296	\$ 77,517
Withdrawals	(87,625)	(69,739)	(79,799)
Net change in payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions	6,444	3,076	(6,863)
Net change in bank deposits	96	(32)	3,164
Net change in short-term debt	380	(606)	(1,747)
Long-term debt issued	1,346	5,090	2,961
Long-term debt repaid	(2,042)	(1,061)	(555)
Collateral financing arrangements issued			105
Collateral financing arrangements repaid	(502)		
Cash received in connection with collateral financing arrangements	100		775
Cash paid in connection with collateral financing arrangements	(63)		(400)
Junior subordinated debt securities issued			500
Debt issuance costs	(1)	(14)	(30)
Common stock issued, net of issuance costs	2,950	3,529	
Stock options exercised	88	52	8
Redemption of convertible preferred stock	(2,805)		
Preferred stock redemption premium	(146)		
Common stock issued to settle stock forward contracts			1,035
Dividends on preferred stock	(122)	(122)	(122)
Dividends on common stock	(787)	(784)	(610)
Other, net	125	(304)	(42)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	9,382	13,381	(4,103)
Effect of change in foreign currency exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents balances	(22)	(129)	108
Change in cash and cash equivalents	(2,585)	2,934	(14,127)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	13,046	10,112	24,239
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 10,461	\$ 13,046	\$ 10,112
Cash and cash equivalents, subsidiaries held-for-sale, beginning of year	\$ 89	\$ 88	\$ 108
Cash and cash equivalents, subsidiaries held-for-sale, end of year	\$ 89	\$ 89	\$ 88
Cash and cash equivalents, from continuing operations, beginning of year	\$ 12,957	\$ 10,024	\$ 24,131
Cash and cash equivalents, from continuing operations, end of year	\$ 10,461	\$ 12,957	\$ 10,024
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:			
Net cash paid (received) during the year for:			
Interest	\$ 1,565	\$ 1,489	\$ 989
Income tax	\$ 676	\$ (23)	\$ 397
Non-cash transactions during the year:			

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Business acquisitions:			
Assets acquired (1)	\$ 327	\$ 125,728	\$
Liabilities assumed (1)	(94)	(109,306)	
Redeemable and non-redeemable noncontrolling interests assumed		(130)	
Net assets acquired	233	16,292	
Cash paid, excluding transaction costs of \$0, \$88 and \$0, respectively	(233)	(7,196)	
Other purchase price adjustments		98	
Securities issued	\$	\$ 9,194	\$
Remarketing of debt securities:			
Fixed maturity securities redeemed	\$	\$	\$ 32
Long-term debt issued	\$	\$	\$ 1,035
Junior subordinated debt securities redeemed	\$	\$	\$ 1,067
Purchase money mortgage loans on sales of real estate joint ventures	\$	\$ 2	\$ 93
Real estate and real estate joint ventures acquired in satisfaction of debt	\$ 292	\$ 93	\$ 211
Collateral financing arrangements repaid	\$ 148	\$	

(1) The 2010 amounts include measurement period adjustments described in Note 2.

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Business, Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Business

MetLife or the Company refers to MetLife, Inc., a Delaware corporation incorporated in 1999, its subsidiaries and affiliates. MetLife is a leading global provider of insurance, annuities and employee benefit programs throughout the United States, Japan, Latin America, Asia Pacific, Europe and the Middle East. Through its subsidiaries and affiliates, MetLife offers life insurance, annuities, auto and homeowners insurance, mortgage and deposit products and other financial services to individuals, as well as group insurance and retirement & savings products and services to corporations and other institutions.

MetLife is organized into six segments: Insurance Products, Retirement Products, Corporate Benefit Funding and Auto & Home (collectively, U.S. Business), and Japan and Other International Regions (collectively, International). See Note 22.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries, as well as partnerships and joint ventures in which the Company has control, and variable interest entities (VIEs) for which the Company is the primary beneficiary. See Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements. Closed block assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses are combined on a line-by-line basis with the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses outside the closed block based on the nature of the particular item. See Note 10. Intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

On November 1, 2010 (the Acquisition Date), MetLife, Inc. completed the acquisition of American Life Insurance Company (American Life) from AM Holdings LLC (formerly known as ALICO Holdings LLC) (AM Holdings), a subsidiary of American International Group, Inc. (AIG), and Delaware American Life Insurance Company (DelAm) from AIG (American Life, together with DelAm, collectively, ALICO) (the Acquisition). The Acquisition was accounted for using the acquisition method of accounting. ALICO 's fiscal year-end is November 30. Accordingly, the Company 's consolidated financial statements reflect the assets and liabilities of ALICO as of November 30, 2011 and 2010, and the operating results of ALICO for the year ended November 30, 2011 and the one month ended November 30, 2010. The accounting policies of ALICO were conformed to those of MetLife upon the Acquisition. See Note 2.

Certain amounts in the prior years ' consolidated financial statements and related footnotes thereto have been reclassified to conform with the 2011 presentation as discussed throughout the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) requires management to adopt accounting policies and make estimates and assumptions that affect amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements.

A description of critical estimates is incorporated within the discussion of the related accounting policies which follows. In applying these policies, management makes subjective and complex judgments that frequently require estimates about matters that are inherently uncertain. Many of these policies, estimates and related judgments are common in the insurance and financial services industries; others are specific to the Company 's business and operations. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Investments*

The accounting policies for the Company's principal investments are as follows:

Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities. The Company's fixed maturity and equity securities are classified as available-for-sale and are reported at their estimated fair value.

Unrealized investment gains and losses on these securities are recorded as a separate component of other comprehensive income (loss), net of policyholder-related amounts and deferred income taxes. All security transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Investment gains and losses on sales of securities are determined on a specific identification basis.

Interest income on fixed maturity securities is recorded when earned using an effective yield method giving effect to amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts. Dividends on equity securities are recorded when declared. Interest, dividends and prepayment fees are recorded in net investment income.

Included within fixed maturity securities are structured securities including mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities (ABS). Amortization of the premium or discount considers the estimated timing and amount of prepayments of the underlying loans. Actual prepayment experience is periodically reviewed and effective yields are recalculated when differences arise between the originally anticipated and the actual prepayments received and currently anticipated. Prepayment assumptions for single class and multi-class mortgage-backed and ABS are estimated by management using inputs obtained from third-party specialists, including broker-dealers, and based on management's knowledge of the current market. For credit-sensitive mortgage-backed and ABS and certain prepayment-sensitive securities, the effective yield is recalculated on a prospective basis. For all other mortgage-backed and ABS, the effective yield is recalculated on a retrospective basis.

The Company periodically evaluates fixed maturity and equity securities for impairment. The assessment of whether impairments have occurred is based on management's case-by-case evaluation of the underlying reasons for the decline in estimated fair value. The Company's review of its fixed maturity and equity securities for impairments includes an analysis of the total gross unrealized losses by three categories of severity and/or age of the gross unrealized loss, as summarized in Note 3 – Aging of Gross Unrealized Loss and OTTI Loss for Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities Available-for-Sale.

Management considers a wide range of factors about the security issuer and uses its best judgment in evaluating the cause of the decline in the estimated fair value of the security and in assessing the prospects for near-term recovery. Inherent in management's evaluation of the security are assumptions and estimates about the operations of the issuer and its future earnings potential. Considerations used by the Company in the impairment evaluation process include, but are not limited to: (i) the length of time and the extent to which the estimated fair value has been below cost or amortized cost; (ii) the potential for impairments of securities when the issuer is experiencing significant financial difficulties; (iii) the potential for impairments in an entire industry sector or sub-sector; (iv) the potential for impairments in certain economically depressed geographic locations; (v) the potential for impairments of securities where the issuer, series of issuers or industry has suffered a catastrophic type of loss or has exhausted natural resources; (vi) with respect to fixed maturity securities, whether the Company has the intent to sell or will more likely than not be required to sell a particular security before the decline in estimated fair value below amortized cost recovers; (vii) with respect to structured securities, changes in forecasted cash flows after considering the quality of underlying collateral; expected prepayment speeds; current and forecasted loss severity; consideration of the payment terms of the underlying assets backing a particular security; and the payment priority within the tranche structure of the security; and (viii) other subjective factors, including concentrations and information obtained from regulators and rating agencies.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

For fixed maturity securities in an unrealized loss position, an other-than-temporary impairment (OTTI) is recognized in earnings when it is anticipated that the amortized cost will not be recovered. In such situations, the OTTI recognized in earnings is the entire difference between the fixed maturity security's amortized cost and its estimated fair value only when either: (i) the Company has the intent to sell the fixed maturity security; or (ii) it is more likely than not that the Company will be required to sell the fixed maturity security before recovery of the decline in estimated fair value below amortized cost. If neither of these two conditions exist, the difference between the amortized cost of the fixed maturity security and the present value of projected future cash flows expected to be collected is recognized as an OTTI in earnings (credit loss). If the estimated fair value is less than the present value of projected future cash flows expected to be collected, this portion of OTTI related to other-than credit factors (noncredit loss) is recorded in other comprehensive income (loss). Adjustments are not made for subsequent recoveries in value.

With respect to equity securities, the Company considers in its OTTI analysis its intent and ability to hold a particular equity security for a period of time sufficient to allow for the recovery of its estimated fair value to an amount equal to or greater than cost. If a sale decision is made for an equity security and it is not expected to recover to an amount at least equal to cost prior to the expected time of the sale, the security will be deemed other-than-temporarily impaired in the period that the sale decision was made and an OTTI loss will be recorded in earnings. When an OTTI loss has occurred, the OTTI loss is the entire difference between the equity security's cost and its estimated fair value with a corresponding charge to earnings.

Upon acquisition, the Company classifies perpetual securities that have attributes of both debt and equity as fixed maturity securities if the securities have an interest rate step-up feature which, when combined with other qualitative factors, indicates that the securities have more debt-like characteristics; while those with more equity-like characteristics are classified as equity securities within non-redeemable preferred stock. Many of such securities, commonly referred to as perpetual hybrid securities, have been issued by non-U.S. financial institutions that are accorded the highest two capital treatment categories by their respective regulatory bodies (i.e. core capital, or Tier 1 capital and perpetual deferrable securities, or Upper Tier 2 capital). With respect to perpetual hybrid securities, the Company considers in its OTTI analysis whether there has been any deterioration in credit of the issuer and the likelihood of recovery in value of the securities that are in a severe and extended unrealized loss position. The Company also considers whether any perpetual hybrid securities, with an unrealized loss, regardless of credit rating, have deferred any dividend payments. When an OTTI loss has occurred, the OTTI loss is the entire difference between the perpetual hybrid security's cost and its estimated fair value with a corresponding charge to earnings.

The Company's methodology and significant inputs used to determine the amount of the credit loss on fixed maturity securities are as follows:

- (i) The Company calculates the recovery value by performing a discounted cash flow analysis based on the present value of future cash flows expected to be received. The discount rate is generally the effective interest rate of the fixed maturity security prior to impairment.
- (ii) When determining the collectability and the period over which value is expected to recover, the Company applies the same considerations utilized in its overall impairment evaluation process which incorporates information regarding the specific security, fundamentals of the industry and geographic area in which the security issuer operates, and overall macroeconomic conditions. Projected future cash flows are estimated using assumptions derived from management's best estimates of likely scenario-based outcomes after giving consideration to a variety of variables that include, but are not limited to: general payment terms of the security; the likelihood that the issuer can service the scheduled interest and principal payments; the quality and amount of any credit enhancements; the security's position within the capital structure of the

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

issuer; possible corporate restructurings or asset sales by the issuer; and changes to the rating of the security or the issuer by rating agencies.

(iii) Additional considerations are made when assessing the unique features that apply to certain structured securities such as residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS), commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) and ABS. These additional factors for structured securities include, but are not limited to: the quality of underlying collateral; expected prepayment speeds; current and forecasted loss severity; consideration of the payment terms of the underlying assets backing a particular security; and the payment priority within the tranche structure of the security.

(iv) When determining the amount of the credit loss for U.S. and foreign corporate securities, foreign government securities and state and political subdivision securities, management considers the estimated fair value as the recovery value when available information does not indicate that another value is more appropriate. When information is identified that indicates a recovery value other than estimated fair value, management considers in the determination of recovery value the same considerations utilized in its overall impairment evaluation process as described in (ii) above, as well as private and public sector programs to restructure foreign government securities.

The cost or amortized cost of fixed maturity and equity securities is adjusted for OTTI in the period in which the determination is made. The Company does not change the revised cost basis for subsequent recoveries in value.

In periods subsequent to the recognition of OTTI on a fixed maturity security, the Company accounts for the impaired security as if it had been purchased on the measurement date of the impairment. Accordingly, the discount (or reduced premium) based on the new cost basis is accreted into net investment income over the remaining term of the fixed maturity security in a prospective manner based on the amount and timing of estimated future cash flows.

Trading and Other Securities. Trading and other securities are stated at estimated fair value. Trading and other securities include investments that are actively purchased and sold (*Actively Traded Securities*). These *Actively Traded Securities* are principally fixed maturity securities. Short sale agreement liabilities related to *Actively Traded Securities*, included in other liabilities, are also stated at estimated fair value. Trading and other securities also includes securities for which the fair value option (*FVO*) has been elected (*FVO Securities*). *FVO Securities* include certain fixed maturity and equity securities held-for-investment by the general account to support asset and liability matching strategies for certain insurance products. *FVO Securities* also include contractholder-directed investments supporting unit-linked variable annuity type liabilities which do not qualify for presentation and reporting as separate account summary total assets and liabilities. These investments are primarily mutual funds and, to a lesser extent, fixed maturity and equity securities, short-term investments and cash and cash equivalents. The investment returns on these investments inure to contractholders and are offset by a corresponding change in policyholder account balances (*PABs*) through interest credited to policyholder account balances. Changes in estimated fair value of these securities subsequent to purchase are included in net investment income, except for certain fixed maturity securities included in *FVO Securities* where changes are included in net investment gains (losses). *FVO Securities* also include securities held by consolidated securitization entities (*CSEs*) with changes in estimated fair value subsequent to consolidation included in net investment gains (losses). Interest and dividends related to all trading and other securities are included in net investment income.

Securities Lending. Securities lending transactions, whereby blocks of securities, which are included in fixed maturity securities and short-term investments, are loaned to third parties, are treated as financing

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

arrangements and the associated liability is recorded at the amount of cash received. At the inception of a loan, the Company obtains collateral, usually cash, in an amount generally equal to 102% of the estimated fair value of the securities loaned and maintains it at a level greater than or equal to 100% for the duration of the loan. The Company monitors the estimated fair value of the securities loaned on a daily basis with additional collateral obtained as necessary. Income and expenses associated with securities lending transactions are reported as investment income and investment expense, respectively, within net investment income.

Mortgage Loans Mortgage Loans Held-For-Investment. For the purposes of determining valuation allowances the Company disaggregates its mortgage loan investments into three portfolio segments: commercial, agricultural, and residential. The accounting and valuation allowance policies that are applicable to all portfolio segments are presented below, followed by the policies applicable to both commercial and agricultural loans, which are very similar, as well as policies applicable to residential loans. Also included in mortgage loans held-for-investment are commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs that were consolidated by the Company on January 1, 2010 upon the adoption of new guidance. The FVO was elected for these commercial mortgage loans, and thus they are stated at estimated fair value with changes in estimated fair value subsequent to consolidation recognized in net investment gains (losses).

Commercial, Agricultural and Residential Mortgage Loans Mortgage loans held-for-investment are stated at unpaid principal balance, adjusted for any unamortized premium or discount, deferred fees or expenses, and net of valuation allowances. Interest income is accrued on the principal amount of the loan based on the loan's contractual interest rate. Amortization of premiums and discounts is recorded using the effective yield method. Interest income, amortization of premiums and discounts and prepayment fees are reported in net investment income. Interest ceases to accrue when collection of interest is not considered probable and/or when interest or principal payments are past due as follows: commercial 60 days; and agricultural and residential 90 days, unless, in the case of a residential loan, it is both well-secured and in the process of collection. When a loan is placed on non-accrual status, uncollected past due interest is charged-off against net investment income. Generally, the accrual of interest income resumes after all delinquent amounts are paid and management believes all future principal and interest payments will be collected. Cash receipts on non-accruing loans are recorded in accordance with the loan agreement as a reduction of principal and/or interest income. Charge-offs occur upon the realization of a credit loss, typically through foreclosure or after a decision is made to sell a loan, or for residential loans when, after considering the individual consumer's financial status, management believes that uncollectability is other-than-temporary. Gain or loss upon charge-off is recorded, net of previously established valuation allowances, in net investment gains (losses). Cash recoveries on principal amounts previously charged-off are generally recorded as an increase to the valuation allowance, unless the valuation allowance adequately provides for expected credit losses; then the recovery is recorded in net investment gains (losses). Gains and losses from sales of loans and increases or decreases to valuation allowances are recorded in net investment gains (losses).

Mortgage loans are considered to be impaired when it is probable that, based upon current information and events, the Company will be unable to collect all amounts due under the contractual terms of the loan agreement. Specific valuation allowances are established using the same methodology for all three portfolio segments as the excess carrying value of a loan over either (i) the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's original effective interest rate, (ii) the estimated fair value of the loan's underlying collateral if the loan is in the process of foreclosure or otherwise collateral dependent, or (iii) the loan's observable market price. A common evaluation framework is used for establishing non-specific valuation allowances for all loan portfolio segments; however, a separate non-specific valuation allowance is calculated and maintained for each loan portfolio segment that is based on inputs unique to each loan portfolio segment. Non-specific valuation allowances are established for pools of loans with similar risk

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

characteristics where a property-specific or market-specific risk has not been identified, but for which the Company expects to incur a credit loss. These evaluations are based upon several loan portfolio segment-specific factors, including the Company's experience for loan losses, defaults and loss severity, and loss expectations for loans with similar risk characteristics. These evaluations are revised as conditions change and new information becomes available.

For commercial and agricultural mortgage loans, the Company typically uses 10 years or more of historical experience in establishing non-specific valuation allowances. For commercial mortgage loans, 20 years of historical experience is used which captures multiple economic cycles. For evaluations of commercial mortgage loans, in addition to historical experience, management considers factors that include the impact of a rapid change to the economy, which may not be reflected in the loan portfolio, and recent loss and recovery trend experience as compared to historical loss and recovery experience. For agricultural mortgage loans, ten years of historical experience is used which captures a full economic cycle. For evaluations of agricultural loans, in addition to historical experience, management considers factors that include increased stress in certain sectors, which may be evidenced by higher delinquency rates, or a change in the number of higher risk loans. For commercial and agricultural mortgage loans, on a quarterly basis, management incorporates the impact of these current market events and conditions on historical experience in determining the non-specific valuation allowance established for each portfolio segment level. For evaluations of residential mortgage loans, the key inputs of expected frequency and expected loss reflect current market conditions, with expected frequency adjusted, when appropriate, for differences from market conditions and the Company's experience.

Commercial and Agricultural Mortgage Loans All commercial loans are reviewed on an ongoing basis which may include an analysis of the property financial statements and rent roll, lease rollover analysis, property inspections, market analysis, estimated valuations of the underlying collateral, loan-to-value ratios, debt service coverage ratios, and tenant creditworthiness. All agricultural loans are monitored on an ongoing basis. The monitoring process focuses on higher risk loans, which include those that are classified as restructured, potentially delinquent, delinquent or in foreclosure, as well as loans with higher loan-to-value ratios and lower debt service coverage ratios. The monitoring process for agricultural loans is generally similar, with a focus on higher risk loans, including reviews on a geographic and property-type basis. Higher risk commercial and agricultural loans are reviewed individually on an ongoing basis for potential credit loss and specific valuation allowances are established using the methodology described above for all loan portfolio segments. Quarterly, the remaining loans are reviewed on a pool basis by aggregating groups of loans that have similar risk characteristics for potential credit loss, and non-specific valuation allowances are established as described above using inputs that are unique to each segment of the loan portfolio.

For commercial loans, the Company's primary credit quality indicator is the debt service coverage ratio, which compares a property's net operating income to amounts needed to service the principal and interest due under the loan. Generally, the lower the debt service coverage ratio, the higher the risk of experiencing a credit loss. The Company also reviews the loan-to-value ratio of its commercial loan portfolio. Loan-to-value ratios compare the unpaid principal balance of the loan to the estimated fair value of the underlying collateral. A loan-to-value ratio greater than 100% indicates that the loan's unpaid principal balance is greater than the collateral value. A loan-to-value ratio of less than 100% indicates an excess of collateral value over the loan's unpaid principal balance. Generally, the higher the loan-to-value ratio, the higher the risk of experiencing a credit loss. The debt service coverage ratio and loan-to-value ratio, as well as the values utilized in calculating these ratios, are updated annually, on a rolling basis, with a portion of the loan portfolio updated each quarter.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

For agricultural loans, the Company's primary credit quality indicator is the loan-to-value ratio. The values utilized in calculating this ratio are developed in connection with the ongoing review of the agricultural loan portfolio and are routinely updated.

Residential Mortgage Loans The Company's residential loan portfolio is comprised primarily of closed end, amortizing residential loans and home equity lines of credit and it does not hold any optional adjustable rate mortgages, sub-prime, or low teaser rate loans.

In contrast to the commercial and agricultural loan portfolios, residential loans are smaller-balance homogeneous loans that are collectively evaluated for impairment. Non-specific valuation allowances are established using the evaluation framework described above for pools of loans with similar risk characteristics from inputs that are unique to the residential segment of the loan portfolio. Loan specific valuation allowances are only established on residential loans when they have been restructured and are established using the methodology described above for all loan portfolio segments.

For residential loans, the Company's primary credit quality indicator is whether the loan is performing or non-performing. The Company generally defines non-performing residential loans as those that are 90 or more days past due and/or in non-accrual status. The determination of performing or non-performing status is assessed monthly. Generally, non-performing residential loans have a higher risk of experiencing a credit loss.

Mortgage Loans Modified in a Troubled Debt Restructuring. For a small portion of the portfolio, classified as troubled debt restructurings, concessions are granted related to the borrowers' financial difficulties. Generally, the types of concessions include: reduction of the contractual interest rate, extension of the maturity date at an interest rate lower than current market interest rates and/or a reduction of accrued interest. The amount, timing and extent of the concession granted is considered in determining any impairment or changes in the specific valuation allowance recorded in connection with the troubled debt restructuring. Through the continuous portfolio monitoring process, a specific valuation allowance may have been recorded prior to the quarter when the mortgage loan is modified in a troubled debt restructuring. Accordingly, the carrying value (after specific valuation allowance) before and after modification through a troubled debt restructuring may not change significantly, or may increase if the expected recovery is higher than the pre-modification recovery assessment.

Mortgage Loans - Mortgage Loans Held-For-Sale. This caption includes three categories of mortgage loans:

Residential mortgage loans - held-for-sale. Forward and reverse residential mortgage loans originated with the intent to sell, for which the FVO was elected, are stated at estimated fair value. Subsequent changes in estimated fair value are recognized in other revenues.

Mortgage loans - held-for-sale - lower of amortized cost or estimated fair value. Mortgage loans that were previously designated as held-for-investment, but now are designated as held-for-sale, are stated at the lower of amortized cost or estimated fair value. At the time of transfer to held-for-sale status, such mortgage loans are recorded at the lower of amortized cost or estimated fair value, or for collateral dependent loans, estimated fair value less expected disposition costs, with any loss recognized in net investment gains (losses).

Securitized reverse residential mortgage loans. Reverse residential mortgage loans originated with the intent to sell which have been sold into Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA) securitizations, for which the FVO was elected, are stated at estimated fair value. Prior to December 31, 2011, consistent with historical industry practice, these standard form loans were de-recognized from the

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

balance sheet upon the GNMA securitization. However, after an industry led review of the GNMA securitization program, the Company has determined that these securitized reverse residential mortgage loans do not qualify for de-recognition. Therefore, as of December 31, 2011 the Company recorded \$7.7 billion of reverse mortgage loans, included within mortgage loans held-for-sale. The FVO was also elected for the \$7.6 billion corresponding liability, included within other liabilities. Subsequent changes in estimated fair value of both the asset and liability are recognized in other revenues. The Company's economic exposure is generally limited to its servicing rights. Prior year amounts have not been included in the financial statements as these amounts were not material to such financial statements.

Policy Loans. Policy loans are stated at unpaid principal balances. Interest income on such loans is recorded as earned in net investment income using the contractually agreed upon interest rate. Generally, interest is capitalized on the policy's anniversary date. Valuation allowances are not established for policy loans, as these loans are fully collateralized by the cash surrender value of the underlying insurance policies. Any unpaid principal or interest on the loan is deducted from the cash surrender value or the death benefit prior to settlement of the policy.

Real Estate. Real estate held-for-investment, including related improvements, is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset (typically 20 to 55 years). Rental income is recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the respective leases. The Company classifies a property as held-for-sale if it commits to a plan to sell a property within one year and actively markets the property in its current condition for a price that is reasonable in comparison to its estimated fair value. The Company classifies the results of operations and the gain or loss on sale of a property that either has been disposed of or classified as held-for-sale as discontinued operations, if the ongoing operations of the property will be eliminated from the ongoing operations of the Company and if the Company will not have any significant continuing involvement in the operations of the property after the sale. Real estate held-for-sale is stated at the lower of depreciated cost or estimated fair value less expected disposition costs. Real estate is not depreciated while it is classified as held-for-sale. The Company periodically reviews its properties held-for-investment for impairment and tests properties for recoverability whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount of the asset may not be recoverable and the carrying value of the property exceeds its estimated fair value. Properties whose carrying values are greater than their undiscounted cash flows are written down to their estimated fair value, with the impairment loss included in net investment gains (losses). Impairment losses are based upon the estimated fair value of real estate, which is generally computed using the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at a rate commensurate with the underlying risks. Real estate acquired upon foreclosure is recorded at the lower of estimated fair value or the carrying value of the mortgage loan at the date of foreclosure.

Real Estate Joint Ventures and Other Limited Partnership Interests. The Company uses the equity method of accounting for investments in real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests consisting of leveraged buy-out funds, hedge funds and other private equity funds in which it has more than a minor ownership interest or more than a minor influence over the joint venture's or partnership's operations, but does not have a controlling interest and is not the primary beneficiary. The equity method is also used for such investments in which the Company has more than a minor influence or more than a 20% interest. Generally, the Company records its share of earnings using a three-month lag methodology for instances where the timely financial information is not available and the contractual agreements provide for the delivery of the investees' financial information after the end of the Company's reporting period. The Company uses the cost method of accounting for investments in real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests in which it has a minor equity investment and virtually no influence over the joint venture's or the partnership's operations. Based on the nature and structure of these investments, they do not meet the characteristics of an equity security. The Company reports the distributions from real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

interests accounted for under the cost method and equity in earnings from real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests accounted for under the equity method in net investment income. In addition to the investees performing regular evaluations for the impairment of underlying investments, the Company routinely evaluates its investments in real estate joint ventures and other limited partnerships for impairments. The Company considers its cost method investments for OTTI when the carrying value of real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests exceeds the net asset value (NAV). The Company takes into consideration the severity and duration of this excess when deciding if the cost method investment is other-than-temporarily impaired. For equity method investees, the Company considers financial and other information provided by the investee, other known information and inherent risks in the underlying investments, as well as future capital commitments, in determining whether an impairment has occurred. When an OTTI is deemed to have occurred, the Company records a realized capital loss within net investment gains (losses) to record the investment at its estimated fair value.

Short-term Investments. Short-term investments include securities and other investments with remaining maturities of one year or less, but greater than three months, at the time of purchase and are stated at estimated fair value or amortized cost, which approximates estimated fair value.

Other Invested Assets. Other invested assets consist principally of freestanding derivatives with positive estimated fair values, leveraged leases, investments in insurance enterprise joint ventures, tax credit partnerships, funding agreements, mortgage servicing rights (MSR) and funds withheld.

Freestanding derivatives with positive estimated fair values are described in Derivative Financial Instruments below.

Leveraged leases are recorded net of non-recourse debt. The Company recognizes income on the leveraged leases by applying the leveraged lease's estimated rate of return to the net investment in the lease. The Company regularly reviews residual values and impairs them to expected values.

Joint venture investments represent the Company's investments in entities that engage in insurance underwriting activities and are accounted for under the equity method.

Tax credit partnerships are established for the purpose of investing in low-income housing and other social causes, where the primary return on investment is in the form of income tax credits and are accounted for under the equity method or under the effective yield method. The Company reports the equity in earnings of joint venture investments and tax credit partnerships in net investment income.

Funding agreements represent arrangements where the Company has long-term interest bearing amounts on deposit with third parties and are generally stated at amortized cost.

MSRs are measured at estimated fair value and are either acquired or are generated from the sale of originated residential mortgage loans where the servicing rights are retained by the Company. Changes in estimated fair value of MSRs are reported in other revenues in the period in which the change occurs.

Funds withheld represent a receivable for amounts contractually withheld by ceding companies in accordance with reinsurance agreements. The Company recognizes interest on funds withheld at rates defined by the terms of the agreement which may be contractually specified or directly related to the underlying investments and records it in net investment income.

Investments Risks and Uncertainties. The Company's investments are exposed to four primary sources of risk: credit, interest rate, liquidity risk, and market valuation. The financial statement risks, stemming from such investment risks, are those associated with the determination of estimated fair values, the diminished ability to sell certain investments in times of strained market conditions, the recognition of impairments, the

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

recognition of income on certain investments and the potential consolidation of VIEs. The use of different methodologies, assumptions and inputs relating to these financial statement risks may have a material effect on the amounts presented within the consolidated financial statements.

When available, the estimated fair value of the Company's fixed maturity and equity securities are based on quoted prices in active markets that are readily and regularly obtainable. Generally, these are the most liquid of the Company's securities holdings and valuation of these securities does not involve management judgment.

When quoted prices in active markets are not available, the determination of estimated fair value is based on market standard valuation methodologies as described in Fair Value below and in Note 5. Such estimated fair values are based on available market information and management's judgments about financial instruments. The observable and unobservable inputs used in the standard market valuation methodologies are described in Note 5.

The estimated fair value of residential mortgage loans held-for-sale and securitized reverse residential mortgage loans are primarily based on observable pricing for securities backed by similar types of loans, adjusted to convert the securities prices to loan prices, or from independent broker quotations, which is intended to approximate the amounts that would be received from third parties. Certain other mortgage loans designated as held-for-sale are recorded at the lower of amortized cost or estimated fair value, or for collateral dependent loans, estimated fair value of the collateral less expected disposition costs. For these loans, estimated fair value is determined using independent broker quotations or values provided by independent valuation specialists or, when the loan is in foreclosure or otherwise collateral dependent, the estimated fair value of the underlying collateral is estimated using internal models.

The estimated fair value of MSRs is principally determined through the use of internal discounted cash flow models which utilize various valuation inputs and assumptions which are described in Note 5. The use of different valuation assumptions and inputs, as well as assumptions relating to the collection of expected cash flows, may have a material effect on the estimated fair values of MSRs.

Financial markets are susceptible to severe events evidenced by rapid depreciation in asset values accompanied by a reduction in asset liquidity. The Company's ability to sell securities, or the price ultimately realized for these securities, depends upon the demand and liquidity in the market and increases the use of judgment in determining the estimated fair value of certain securities.

The determination of the amount of valuation allowances and impairments, as applicable, is described previously by investment type. The determination of such valuation allowances and impairments is highly subjective and is based upon the Company's periodic evaluation and assessment of known and inherent risks associated with the respective asset class. Such evaluations and assessments are revised as conditions change and new information becomes available.

The recognition of income on certain investments (e.g. structured securities, including mortgage-backed and ABS, certain structured investment transactions, trading and other securities) is dependent upon prepayments and defaults, which could result in changes in amounts to be earned.

The Company has invested in certain structured transactions that are VIEs. These structured transactions include asset-backed securitizations, hybrid securities, real estate joint ventures, other limited partnership interests, and limited liability companies. The Company consolidates those VIEs for which it is deemed to be the primary beneficiary.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The accounting guidance for the determination of when an entity is a VIE and when to consolidate a VIE is complex and requires significant management judgment. The determination of the VIE's primary beneficiary requires an evaluation of the contractual and implied rights and obligations associated with each party's relationship with or involvement in the entity, an estimate of the entity's expected losses and expected residual returns and the allocation of such estimates to each party involved in the entity. The Company generally uses a qualitative approach to determine whether it is the primary beneficiary.

For most VIEs, the entity that has both the ability to direct the most significant activities of the VIE and the obligation to absorb losses or receive benefits that could be significant to the VIE is considered the primary beneficiary. However, for VIEs that are investment companies or apply measurement principles consistent with those utilized by investment companies, the primary beneficiary is based on a risks and rewards model and is defined as the entity that will absorb a majority of a VIE's expected losses, receive a majority of a VIE's expected residual returns if no single entity absorbs a majority of expected losses, or both. The Company reassesses its involvement with VIEs on a quarterly basis. The use of different methodologies, assumptions and inputs in the determination of the primary beneficiary could have a material effect on the amounts presented within the consolidated financial statements.

Derivative Financial Instruments

Derivatives are financial instruments whose values are derived from interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, credit spreads and/or other financial indices. Derivatives may be exchange-traded or contracted in the over-the-counter (OTC) market. The Company uses a variety of derivatives, including swaps, forwards, futures and option contracts, to manage various risks relating to its ongoing business operations. To a lesser extent, the Company uses credit derivatives, such as credit default swaps, to synthetically replicate investment risks and returns which are not readily available in the cash market. The Company also purchases certain securities, issues certain insurance policies and investment contracts and engages in certain reinsurance agreements that have embedded derivatives.

Freestanding derivatives are carried in the Company's consolidated balance sheets either as assets within other invested assets or as liabilities within other liabilities at estimated fair value as determined through the use of quoted market prices for exchange-traded derivatives and interest rate forwards to sell certain to be announced securities or through the use of pricing models for OTC derivatives. The determination of estimated fair value of freestanding derivatives, when quoted market values are not available, is based on market standard valuation methodologies and inputs that management believes are consistent with what other market participants would use when pricing the instruments. Derivative valuations can be affected by changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, financial indices, credit spreads, default risk, nonperformance risk, volatility, liquidity and changes in estimates and assumptions used in the pricing models.

Accruals on derivatives are generally recorded in accrued investment income or within other liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets. However, accruals that are not expected to settle within one year are included with the derivative carrying value in other invested assets or other liabilities.

The Company does not offset the fair value amounts recognized for derivatives executed with the same counterparty under the same master netting agreement.

If a derivative is not designated as an accounting hedge or its use in managing risk does not qualify for hedge accounting, changes in the estimated fair value of the derivative are generally reported in net derivative gains (losses) except for those (i) in policyholder benefits and claims for economic hedges of variable annuity guarantees included in future policy benefits; (ii) in net investment income for (a) economic hedges of equity method investments in joint ventures, (b) all derivatives held in relation to the trading portfolios, and (c) derivatives held within contractholder-directed unit-linked investments; (iii) in other revenues for derivatives held in connection with the Company's mortgage banking activities; and (iv) in other expenses for economic

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

hedges of foreign currency exposure related to the Company's international subsidiaries. The fluctuations in estimated fair value of derivatives which have not been designated for hedge accounting can result in significant volatility in net income.

To qualify for hedge accounting, at the inception of the hedging relationship, the Company formally documents its risk management objective and strategy for undertaking the hedging transaction, as well as its designation of the hedge as either (i) a hedge of the estimated fair value of a recognized asset or liability (fair value hedge); (ii) a hedge of a forecasted transaction or of the variability of cash flows to be received or paid related to a recognized asset or liability (cash flow hedge); or (iii) a hedge of a net investment in a foreign operation. In this documentation, the Company sets forth how the hedging instrument is expected to hedge the designated risks related to the hedged item and sets forth the method that will be used to retrospectively and prospectively assess the hedging instrument's effectiveness and the method which will be used to measure ineffectiveness. A derivative designated as a hedging instrument must be assessed as being highly effective in offsetting the designated risk of the hedged item. Hedge effectiveness is formally assessed at inception and periodically throughout the life of the designated hedging relationship. Assessments of hedge effectiveness and measurements of ineffectiveness are also subject to interpretation and estimation and different interpretations or estimates may have a material effect on the amount reported in net income.

The accounting for derivatives is complex and interpretations of the primary accounting guidance continue to evolve in practice. Judgment is applied in determining the availability and application of hedge accounting designations and the appropriate accounting treatment under such accounting guidance. If it was determined that hedge accounting designations were not appropriately applied, reported net income could be materially affected.

Under a fair value hedge, changes in the estimated fair value of the hedging derivative, including amounts measured as ineffectiveness, and changes in the estimated fair value of the hedged item related to the designated risk being hedged, are reported within net derivative gains (losses). The estimated fair values of the hedging derivatives are exclusive of any accruals that are separately reported in the consolidated statement of operations within interest income or interest expense to match the location of the hedged item.

Under a cash flow hedge, changes in the estimated fair value of the hedging derivative measured as effective are reported within other comprehensive income (loss), a separate component of stockholders' equity and the deferred gains or losses on the derivative are reclassified into the consolidated statement of operations when the Company's earnings are affected by the variability in cash flows of the hedged item. Changes in the estimated fair value of the hedging instrument measured as ineffectiveness are reported within net derivative gains (losses). The estimated fair values of the hedging derivatives are exclusive of any accruals that are separately reported in the consolidated statement of operations within interest income or interest expense to match the location of the hedged item.

In a hedge of a net investment in a foreign operation, changes in the estimated fair value of the hedging derivative that are measured as effective are reported within other comprehensive income (loss) consistent with the translation adjustment for the hedged net investment in the foreign operation. Changes in the estimated fair value of the hedging instrument measured as ineffectiveness are reported within net derivative gains (losses).

The Company discontinues hedge accounting prospectively when: (i) it is determined that the derivative is no longer highly effective in offsetting changes in the estimated fair value or cash flows of a hedged item; (ii) the derivative expires, is sold, terminated, or exercised; (iii) it is no longer probable that the hedged forecasted transaction will occur; or (iv) the derivative is de-designated as a hedging instrument.

When hedge accounting is discontinued because it is determined that the derivative is not highly effective in offsetting changes in the estimated fair value or cash flows of a hedged item, the derivative continues to be carried in the consolidated balance sheets at its estimated fair value, with changes in estimated fair value

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

recognized currently in net derivative gains (losses). The carrying value of the hedged recognized asset or liability under a fair value hedge is no longer adjusted for changes in its estimated fair value due to the hedged risk, and the cumulative adjustment to its carrying value is amortized into income over the remaining life of the hedged item. Provided the hedged forecasted transaction is still probable of occurrence, the changes in estimated fair value of derivatives recorded in other comprehensive income (loss) related to discontinued cash flow hedges are released into the consolidated statements of operations when the Company's earnings are affected by the variability in cash flows of the hedged item.

When hedge accounting is discontinued because it is no longer probable that the forecasted transactions will occur on the anticipated date or within two months of that date, the derivative continues to be carried in the consolidated balance sheets at its estimated fair value, with changes in estimated fair value recognized currently in net derivative gains (losses). Deferred gains and losses of a derivative recorded in other comprehensive income (loss) pursuant to the discontinued cash flow hedge of a forecasted transaction that is no longer probable are recognized immediately in net derivative gains (losses).

In all other situations in which hedge accounting is discontinued, the derivative is carried at its estimated fair value in the consolidated balance sheets, with changes in its estimated fair value recognized in the current period as net derivative gains (losses).

The Company issues certain products and purchases certain investments that contain embedded derivatives. The Company assesses each identified embedded derivative to determine whether it is required to be bifurcated. If the instrument would not be accounted for in its entirety at estimated fair value and it is determined that the terms of the embedded derivative are not clearly and closely related to the economic characteristics of the host contract, and that a separate instrument with the same terms would qualify as a derivative instrument, the embedded derivative is bifurcated from the host contract and accounted for as a freestanding derivative. Such embedded derivatives are carried in the consolidated balance sheets at estimated fair value with the host contract and changes in their estimated fair value are generally reported in net derivative gains (losses) except for those in policyholder benefits and claims related to ceded reinsurance of guaranteed minimum income benefits (GMIB). If the Company is unable to properly identify and measure an embedded derivative for separation from its host contract, the entire contract is carried on the balance sheet at estimated fair value, with changes in estimated fair value recognized in the current period in net investment gains (losses) or net investment income. Additionally, the Company may elect to carry an entire contract on the balance sheet at estimated fair value, with changes in estimated fair value recognized in the current period in net investment gains (losses) or net investment income if that contract contains an embedded derivative that requires bifurcation.

Fair Value

As described below, certain assets and liabilities are measured at estimated fair value in the Company's consolidated balance sheets. In addition, the notes to these consolidated financial statements include further disclosures of estimated fair values. The Company defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. In most cases, the exit price and the transaction (or entry) price will be the same at initial recognition.

Subsequent to initial recognition, fair values are based on unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that are readily and regularly obtainable. When such quoted prices are not available, fair values are based on quoted prices in markets that are not active, quoted prices for similar but not identical assets or liabilities, or other observable inputs. If these inputs are not available, or observable inputs are not determinative, unobservable inputs and/or adjustments to observable inputs requiring management judgment are used to determine the fair value of assets and liabilities.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The Company considers three broad valuation techniques: (i) the market approach, (ii) the income approach, and (iii) the cost approach. The Company determines the most appropriate valuation technique to use, given what is being measured and the availability of sufficient inputs, giving priority to observable inputs. The Company categorizes its assets and liabilities measured at estimated fair value into a three-level hierarchy, based on the significant input with the lowest level in its valuation. The input levels are as follows:

- | | |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Level 1 | Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. The Company defines active markets based on average trading volume for equity securities. The size of the bid/ask spread is used as an indicator of market activity for fixed maturity securities. |
| Level 2 | Quoted prices in markets that are not active or inputs that are observable either directly or indirectly. These inputs can include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities other than quoted prices in Level 1, quoted prices in markets that are not active, or other significant inputs that are observable or can be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities. |
| Level 3 | Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and are significant to the estimated fair value of the assets or liabilities. Unobservable inputs reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. |

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid securities and other investments purchased with an original or remaining maturity of three months or less at the date of purchase to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are stated at amortized cost, which approximates estimated fair value.

Property, Equipment, Leasehold Improvements and Computer Software

Property, equipment and leasehold improvements, which are included in other assets, are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Depreciation is determined using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, as appropriate. The estimated life for company occupied real estate property is generally 40 years. Estimated lives generally range from five to 10 years for leasehold improvements and three to seven years for all other property and equipment. The cost basis of the property, equipment and leasehold improvements was \$2.5 billion and \$2.4 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Accumulated depreciation and amortization of property, equipment and leasehold improvements was \$1.2 billion at both December 31, 2011 and 2010. Related depreciation and amortization expense was \$199 million, \$151 million and \$151 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Computer software, which is included in other assets, is stated at cost, less accumulated amortization. Purchased software costs, as well as certain internal and external costs incurred to develop internal-use computer software during the application development stage, are capitalized. Such costs are amortized generally over a four-year period using the straight-line method. The cost basis of computer software was \$2.2 billion and \$2.0 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Accumulated amortization of capitalized software was \$1.5 billion and \$1.4 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Related amortization expense was \$217 million, \$189 million and \$171 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs and Value of Business Acquired*

The Company incurs significant costs in connection with acquiring new and renewal insurance business. Costs that vary with and relate to the production of new business are deferred as deferred policy acquisition costs (DAC). Such costs consist principally of commissions, certain agency expenses, policy issuance expenses and certain advertising costs. Value of business acquired (VOBA) is an intangible asset resulting from a business combination that represents the excess of book value over the estimated fair value of acquired insurance, annuity, and investment-type contracts in-force at the acquisition date. The estimated fair value of the acquired liabilities is based on actuarially determined projections, by each block of business, of future policy and contract charges, premiums, mortality and morbidity, separate account performance, surrenders, operating expenses, investment returns, nonperformance risk adjustment and other factors. Actual experience on the purchased business may vary from these projections. The recovery of DAC and VOBA is dependent upon the future profitability of the related business. DAC and VOBA are aggregated in the consolidated financial statements for reporting purposes.

The Company amortizes DAC for credit life insurance, property and casualty insurance and other short-duration contracts, which is primarily composed of commissions and certain underwriting expenses, in proportion to historic and future earned premium over the applicable contract term.

The Company amortizes DAC and VOBA on life insurance, accident and health and investment-type contracts in proportion to gross premiums, gross margins or gross profits, depending on the type of contract as described below.

The Company amortizes DAC and VOBA related to non-participating and non-dividend-paying traditional contracts (term insurance, non-participating whole life insurance, traditional group life insurance, non-medical health insurance, and accident and health insurance) over the appropriate premium paying period in proportion to the present value of actual historic and expected future gross premiums. The present value of expected premiums is based upon the premium requirement of each policy and assumptions for mortality, morbidity, persistency and investment returns at policy issuance, or policy acquisition (as it relates to VOBA), that include provisions for adverse deviation that are consistent with the assumptions used to calculate future policyholder benefit liabilities. These assumptions are not revised after policy issuance or acquisition unless the DAC or VOBA balance is deemed to be unrecoverable from future expected profits. Absent a premium deficiency, variability in amortization after policy issuance or acquisition is caused only by variability in premium volumes.

The Company amortizes DAC and VOBA related to participating, dividend-paying traditional contracts over the estimated lives of the contracts in proportion to actual and expected future gross margins. The amortization includes interest based on rates in effect at inception or acquisition of the contracts. The future gross margins are dependent principally on investment returns, policyholder dividend scales, mortality, persistency, expenses to administer the business, creditworthiness of reinsurance counterparties and certain economic variables, such as inflation. For participating contracts within the closed block (dividend paying traditional contracts) future gross margins are also dependent upon changes in the policyholder dividend obligation. Of these factors, the Company anticipates that investment returns, expenses, persistency and other factor changes, as well as policyholder dividend scales are reasonably likely to impact significantly the rate of DAC and VOBA amortization. Each reporting period, the Company updates the estimated gross margins with the actual gross margins for that period. When the actual gross margins change from previously estimated gross margins, the cumulative DAC and VOBA amortization is re-estimated and adjusted by a cumulative charge or credit to current operations. When actual gross margins exceed those previously estimated, the DAC and VOBA amortization will increase, resulting in a current period charge to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the actual gross margins are below the previously estimated gross margins. Each reporting period, the Company also updates the actual amount of business in-force, which impacts expected future gross margins. When expected future gross margins are below those previously estimated, the DAC and VOBA amortization will increase, resulting in a current period charge to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the expected future gross margins are above the

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

previously estimated expected future gross margins. Each period, the Company also reviews the estimated gross margins for each block of business to determine the recoverability of DAC and VOBA balances.

The Company amortizes DAC and VOBA related to fixed and variable universal life contracts and fixed and variable deferred annuity contracts over the estimated lives of the contracts in proportion to actual and expected future gross profits. The amortization includes interest based on rates in effect at inception or acquisition of the contracts. The amount of future gross profits is dependent principally upon returns in excess of the amounts credited to policyholders, mortality, persistency, interest crediting rates, expenses to administer the business, creditworthiness of reinsurance counterparties, the effect of any hedges used and certain economic variables, such as inflation. Of these factors, the Company anticipates that investment returns, expenses and persistency are reasonably likely to impact significantly the rate of DAC and VOBA amortization. Each reporting period, the Company updates the estimated gross profits with the actual gross profits for that period. When the actual gross profits change from previously estimated gross profits, the cumulative DAC and VOBA amortization is re-estimated and adjusted by a cumulative charge or credit to current operations. When actual gross profits exceed those previously estimated, the DAC and VOBA amortization will increase, resulting in a current period charge to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the actual gross profits are below the previously estimated gross profits. Each reporting period, the Company also updates the actual amount of business remaining in-force, which impacts expected future gross profits. When expected future gross profits are below those previously estimated, the DAC and VOBA amortization will increase, resulting in a current period charge to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the expected future gross profits are above the previously estimated expected future gross profits. Each period, the Company also reviews the estimated gross profits for each block of business to determine the recoverability of DAC and VOBA balances.

Separate account rates of return on variable universal life contracts and variable deferred annuity contracts affect in-force account balances on such contracts each reporting period which can result in significant fluctuations in amortization of DAC and VOBA. Returns that are higher than the Company's long-term expectation produce higher account balances, which increases the Company's future fee expectations and decreases future benefit payment expectations on minimum death and living benefit guarantees, resulting in higher expected future gross profits. The opposite result occurs when returns are lower than the Company's long-term expectation. The Company's practice to determine the impact of gross profits resulting from returns on separate accounts assumes that long-term appreciation in equity markets is not changed by short-term market fluctuations, but is only changed when sustained interim deviations are expected. The Company monitors these events and only changes the assumption when its long-term expectation changes.

The Company also periodically reviews other long-term assumptions underlying the projections of estimated gross margins and profits. These include investment returns, policyholder dividend scales, interest crediting rates, mortality, persistency and expenses to administer business. Management annually updates assumptions used in the calculation of estimated gross margins and profits which may have significantly changed. If the update of assumptions causes expected future gross margins and profits to increase, DAC and VOBA amortization will decrease, resulting in a current period increase to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the assumption update causes expected future gross margins and profits to decrease.

Periodically, the Company modifies product benefits, features, rights or coverages that occur by the exchange of a contract for a new contract, or by amendment, endorsement, or rider to a contract, or by election or coverage within a contract. If such modification, referred to as an internal replacement, substantially changes the contract, the associated DAC or VOBA is written off immediately through income and any new deferrable costs associated with the replacement contract are deferred. If the modification does not substantially change the contract, the DAC or VOBA amortization on the original contract will continue and any acquisition costs associated with the related modification are expensed.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Sales Inducements

The Company generally has two different types of sales inducements which are included in other assets: (i) the policyholder receives a bonus whereby the policyholder's initial account balance is increased by an amount equal to a specified percentage of the customer's deposit; and (ii) the policyholder receives a higher interest rate using a dollar cost averaging method than would have been received based on the normal general account interest rate credited. The Company defers sales inducements and amortizes them over the life of the policy using the same methodology and assumptions used to amortize DAC. The amortization of sales inducements is included in policyholder benefits and claims. Each year, or more frequently if circumstances indicate a potentially significant recoverability issue exists, the Company reviews the deferred sales inducements to determine the recoverability of these balances.

Value of Distribution Agreements and Customer Relationships Acquired

Value of distribution agreements acquired (VODA) is reported in other assets and represents the present value of expected future profits associated with the expected future business derived from the distribution agreements acquired as part of a business combination. Value of customer relationships acquired (VOCRA) is also reported in other assets and represents the present value of the expected future profits associated with the expected future business acquired through existing customers of the acquired company or business. The VODA and VOCRA associated with past acquisitions are amortized over useful lives ranging from 10 to 40 years and such amortization is included in other expenses. Each year, or more frequently if circumstances indicate a potentially significant recoverability issue exists, the Company reviews VODA and VOCRA to determine the recoverability of these balances.

Goodwill

Goodwill is the excess of cost over the estimated fair value of net assets acquired which represents the future economic benefits arising from such net assets acquired that could not be individually identified. Goodwill is not amortized but is tested for impairment at least annually or more frequently if events or circumstances, such as adverse changes in the business climate, indicate that there may be justification for conducting an interim test. The Company performs its annual goodwill impairment testing during the third quarter of each year based upon data as of the close of the second quarter. Goodwill associated with a business acquisition is not tested for impairment during the year the business is acquired unless there is a significant identified impairment event.

Impairment testing is performed using the fair value approach, which requires the use of estimates and judgment, at the reporting unit level. A reporting unit is the operating segment or a business one level below the operating segment, if discrete financial information is prepared and regularly reviewed by management at that level. For purposes of goodwill impairment testing, a significant portion of goodwill within Corporate & Other is allocated to reporting units within the Company's segments.

For purposes of goodwill impairment testing, if the carrying value of a reporting unit exceeds its estimated fair value, there might be an indication of impairment. In such instances, the implied fair value of the goodwill is determined in the same manner as the amount of goodwill that would be determined in a business acquisition. The excess of the carrying value of goodwill over the implied fair value of goodwill would be recognized as an impairment and recorded as a charge against net income.

In performing the Company's goodwill impairment tests, the estimated fair values of the reporting units are first determined using a market multiple approach. When further corroboration is required, the Company uses a discounted cash flow approach. For reporting units which are particularly sensitive to market assumptions, such as the retirement products and individual life reporting units, the Company may use additional valuation methodologies to estimate the reporting units' fair values.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

The key inputs, judgments and assumptions necessary in determining estimated fair value of the reporting units include projected operating earnings, current book value (with and without accumulated other comprehensive income), the level of economic capital required to support the mix of business, long-term growth rates, comparative market multiples, the account value of in-force business, projections of new and renewal business, as well as margins on such business, the level of interest rates, credit spreads, equity market levels and the discount rate that the Company believes is appropriate for the respective reporting unit. The estimated fair values of the retirement products and individual life reporting units are particularly sensitive to the equity market levels.

When testing goodwill for impairment, the Company also considers its market capitalization in relation to the aggregate estimated fair value of its reporting units.

The Company applies significant judgment when determining the estimated fair value of the Company's reporting units and when assessing the relationship of market capitalization to the aggregate estimated fair value of its reporting units. The valuation methodologies utilized are subject to key judgments and assumptions that are sensitive to change. Estimates of fair value are inherently uncertain and represent only management's reasonable expectation regarding future developments. These estimates and the judgments and assumptions upon which the estimates are based will, in all likelihood, differ in some respects from actual future results. Declines in the estimated fair value of the Company's reporting units could result in goodwill impairments in future periods which could materially adversely affect the Company's results of operations or financial position.

On an ongoing basis, the Company evaluates potential triggering events that may affect the estimated fair value of the Company's reporting units to assess whether any goodwill impairment exists. Deteriorating or adverse market conditions for certain reporting units may have a significant impact on the estimated fair value of these reporting units and could result in future impairments of goodwill.

See Note 7 for discussion of goodwill impairment testing during 2011.

Liability for Future Policy Benefits and PABs

The Company establishes liabilities for amounts payable under insurance policies, including traditional life insurance, traditional annuities, certain accident and health, and non-medical health insurance. Generally, amounts are payable over an extended period of time and related liabilities are calculated as the present value of future expected benefits to be paid reduced by the present value of future expected premiums. Such liabilities are established based on methods and underlying assumptions in accordance with GAAP and applicable actuarial standards. Principal assumptions used in the establishment of liabilities for future policy benefits are mortality, morbidity, policy lapse, renewal, retirement, disability incidence, disability terminations, investment returns, inflation, expenses and other contingent events as appropriate to the respective product type and geographical area. These assumptions are established at the time the policy is issued and are intended to estimate the experience for the period the policy benefits are payable. Utilizing these assumptions, liabilities are established on a block of business basis. For long duration insurance contracts, assumptions such as mortality, morbidity and interest rates are locked in upon the issuance of new business. However, significant adverse changes in experience on such contracts may require us to establish premium deficiency reserves. Such reserves are determined based on assumptions at the time the premium deficiency reserve is established and do not include a provision for adverse deviation.

Premium deficiency reserves may also be established for short duration contracts to provide for expected future losses. These reserves on short duration contracts are based on actuarial estimates of the amount of loss inherent in that period, including losses incurred for which claims have not been reported. The provisions for

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

unreported claims are calculated using studies that measure the historical length of time between the incurred date of a claim and its eventual reporting to the company. Anticipated investment income is considered in the calculation of premium deficiency losses for short duration contracts.

Future policy benefit liabilities for participating traditional life insurance policies are equal to the aggregate of (i) net level premium reserves for death and endowment policy benefits (calculated based upon the non-forfeiture interest rate, ranging from 3% to 7% for domestic business and 1% to 18% for international business, and mortality rates guaranteed in calculating the cash surrender values described in such contracts); and (ii) the liability for terminal dividends for domestic business.

Participating business represented approximately 6% of the Company's life insurance in-force at both December 31, 2011 and 2010. Participating policies represented approximately 21%, 26% and 28% of gross life insurance premiums for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Future policy benefit liabilities for non-participating traditional life insurance policies are equal to the aggregate of the present value of expected future benefit payments and related expenses less the present value of expected future net premiums. Assumptions as to mortality and persistency are based upon the Company's experience when the basis of the liability is established. Interest rate assumptions for the aggregate future policy benefit liabilities range from 2% to 10% for domestic business and 1% to 14% for international business.

Future policy benefit liabilities for individual and group traditional fixed annuities after annuitization are equal to the present value of expected future payments. Interest rate assumptions used in establishing such liabilities range from 2% to 11% for domestic business and 2% to 12% for international business.

Future policy benefit liabilities for non-medical health insurance, primarily related to domestic business, are calculated using the net level premium method and assumptions as to future morbidity, withdrawals and interest, which provide a margin for adverse deviation. Interest rate assumptions used in establishing such liabilities range from 4% to 7%.

Future policy benefit liabilities for disabled lives are estimated using the present value of benefits method and experience assumptions as to claim terminations, expenses and interest. Interest rate assumptions used in establishing such liabilities range from 2% to 9% for domestic business and 2% to 9% for international business.

Liabilities for unpaid claims and claim expenses for property and casualty insurance are included in future policyholder benefits and represent the amount estimated for claims that have been reported but not settled and claims incurred but not reported. Other policy-related balances include claims that have been reported but not settled and claims incurred but not reported on life and non-medical health insurance. Liabilities for unpaid claims are estimated based upon the Company's historical experience and other actuarial assumptions that consider the effects of current developments, anticipated trends and risk management programs, reduced for anticipated salvage and subrogation. The effects of changes in such estimated liabilities are included in the results of operations in the period in which the changes occur.

Liabilities for universal and variable life secondary guarantees and paid-up guarantees are determined by estimating the expected value of death benefits payable when the account balance is projected to be zero and recognizing those benefits ratably over the accumulation period based on total expected assessments. The assumptions used in estimating the secondary and paid-up guarantee liabilities are consistent with those used for amortizing DAC, and are thus subject to the same variability and risk. The assumptions of investment performance and volatility for variable products are consistent with historical Standard & Poor's (S&P) experience of the appropriate underlying equity index, such as the S&P 500 Index. The benefits used in calculating the liabilities are based on the average benefits payable over a range of scenarios.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Future policy benefit liabilities are established for certain variable annuity products with guaranteed minimum benefits as described below under Variable Annuity Guaranteed Minimum Benefits.

The Company regularly reviews its estimates of actuarial liabilities for future policy benefits and compares them with its actual experience. Differences between actual experience and the assumptions used in pricing these policies and guarantees, and in the establishment of the related liabilities, result in changes in the additional liability balances with related charges or credits to benefit expenses in the period in which the changes occur.

PABs relate to investment-type contracts, universal life-type policies and certain guaranteed minimum benefits. Investment-type contracts principally include traditional individual fixed annuities in the accumulation phase and non-variable group annuity contracts. PABs for these contracts are equal to: (i) policy account values, which consist of an accumulation of gross premium payments and investment performance; (ii) credited interest, ranging from 1% to 13% for domestic business and 1% to 14% for international business, less expenses, mortality charges and withdrawals; and (iii) fair value adjustments relating to business combinations.

Variable Annuity Guaranteed Minimum Benefits

The Company issues, directly and through assumed reinsurance, certain variable annuity products with guaranteed minimum benefits that provide the policyholder a minimum return based on their initial deposit (i.e., the benefit base) less withdrawals. In some cases the benefit base may be increased by additional deposits, bonus amounts, accruals or optional market value resets. These guarantees are accounted for as insurance liabilities or as embedded derivatives depending on how and when the benefit is paid. Specifically, a guarantee is accounted for as an embedded derivative if a guarantee is paid without requiring (i) the occurrence of specific insurable event, or (ii) the policyholder to annuitize. Alternatively, a guarantee is accounted for as an insurance liability if the guarantee is paid only upon either (i) the occurrence of a specific insurable event, or (ii) annuitization. In certain cases, a guarantee may have elements of both an insurance liability and an embedded derivative and in such cases the guarantee is accounted for under a split of the two models.

These guarantees include:

Guaranteed minimum death benefit (GMDB) that guarantees the contractholder a return of their purchase payment upon death even if the account value is reduced to zero. An enhanced death benefit may be available for an additional fee.

GMIB that provides the contractholder, after a specified period of time determined at the time of issuance of the variable annuity contract, with a minimum accumulation of their purchase payments, even if the account value is reduced to zero, that can be annuitized to receive a monthly income stream that is not less than a specified amount. Certain of these contracts also provide for a guaranteed lump sum return of purchase premium in lieu of the annuitization benefit.

Guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits (GMWB) that guarantee the contractholder a return of their purchase payment via partial withdrawals, even if the account value is reduced to zero, provided that the contractholder's cumulative withdrawals in a contract year do not exceed a certain limit. Certain of these contracts include guaranteed withdrawals that are life contingent.

Guaranteed minimum accumulation benefits (GMAB) that provide the contractholder, after a specified period of time determined at the time of issuance of the variable annuity contract, with a minimum accumulation of their purchase payments even if the account value is reduced to zero.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Guarantees accounted for as insurance liabilities in future policy benefits include GMDB, the portion of GMIB that require annuitization, and the life-contingent portion of certain GMWB. These liabilities are established as follows:

GMDB liabilities are determined by estimating the expected value of death benefits in excess of the projected account balance and recognizing the excess ratably over the accumulation period based on total expected assessments. The assumptions used in estimating the GMDB liabilities are consistent with those used for amortizing DAC, and are thus subject to the same variability and risk. The assumptions of investment performance and volatility are consistent with the historical experience of the appropriate underlying equity index, such as the S&P 500 Index. The benefit assumptions used in calculating the liabilities are based on the average benefits payable over a range of scenarios.

GMIB liabilities are determined by estimating the expected value of the income benefits in excess of the projected account balance at any future date of annuitization and recognizing the excess ratably over the accumulation period based on total expected assessments. The assumptions used for estimating the GMIB liabilities are consistent with those used for estimating the GMDB liabilities. In addition, the calculation of guaranteed annuitization benefit liabilities incorporates an assumption for the percentage of the potential annuitizations that may be elected by the contractholder. Certain GMIB have settlement features that result in a portion of that guarantee being accounted for as an embedded derivative and are recorded in PABs as described below.

The liability for the life contingent portion of GMWB is determined based on the expected value of the life contingent payments and expected assessments using assumptions consistent with those used for estimating the GMDB liabilities.

Guarantees accounted for as embedded derivatives in PABs include the non life-contingent portion of GMWB, GMAB and the portion of certain GMIB that do not require annuitization. These guarantees are recorded at estimated fair value separately from the host variable annuity with changes in estimated fair value reported in net derivative gains (losses). At inception, the Company attributes to the embedded derivative a portion of the projected future guarantee fees to be collected from the policyholder equal to the present value of projected future guaranteed benefits. Any additional fees represent excess fees and are reported in universal life and investment-type product policy fees.

The estimated fair values of these embedded derivatives are then determined based on the present value of projected future benefits minus the present value of projected future fees. The projections of future benefits and future fees require capital market and actuarial assumptions including expectations concerning policyholder behavior. A risk neutral valuation methodology is used under which the cash flows from the guarantees are projected under multiple capital market scenarios using observable risk free rates. The valuation of these embedded derivatives also includes an adjustment for the Company's nonperformance risk and risk margins related to non-capital market inputs. The nonperformance adjustment, which is captured as a spread over the risk free rate in determining the discount rate to discount the cash flows of the liability, is determined by taking into consideration publicly available information relating to spreads in the secondary market for MetLife, Inc.'s debt, including related credit default swaps. These observable spreads are then adjusted, as necessary, to reflect the priority of these liabilities and the claims paying ability of the issuing insurance subsidiaries compared to MetLife, Inc. Risk margins are established to capture the non-capital market risks of the instrument which represent the additional compensation a market participant would require to assume the risks related to the uncertainties in certain actuarial assumptions. The establishment of risk margins requires the use of significant management judgment, including assumptions of the amount and cost of capital needed to cover the guarantees.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

These guarantees may be more costly than expected in volatile or declining equity markets. Market conditions including, but not limited to, changes in interest rates, equity indices, market volatility and foreign currency exchange rates, changes in nonperformance risk, variations in actuarial assumptions regarding policyholder behavior, mortality and risk margins related to non-capital market inputs may result in significant fluctuations in the estimated fair value of the guarantees that could materially affect net income.

The Company ceded the risk associated with certain of the GMIB and GMWB described in the preceding paragraphs. With respect to GMIB, a portion of the directly written GMIB guarantees that are accounted for as insurance (i.e., not as embedded derivatives) but where the reinsurance agreements contain embedded derivatives. These embedded derivatives are included in premiums, reinsurance, and other receivables in the consolidated balance sheet with changes in estimated fair value reported in net derivative gains (losses) or policyholder benefits and claims in the consolidated statements of operations, depending on the classification of the direct risk. The value of the embedded derivatives on the ceded risk is determined using a methodology consistent with that described previously for the guarantees directly written by the Company with the exception of the input for nonperformance risk that reflects the credit of the reinsurer.

Other Policy-Related Balances

Other policy-related balances include policy and contract claims, unearned revenue liabilities, premiums received in advance, negative VOBA, policyholder dividends due and unpaid and policyholder dividends left on deposit.

The liability for policy and contract claims generally relates to incurred but not reported death, disability, long-term care (LTC) and dental claims, as well as claims which have been reported but not yet settled. The liability for these claims is based on the Company's estimated ultimate cost of settling all claims. The Company derives estimates for the development of incurred but not reported claims principally from actuarial analyses of historical patterns of claims and claims development for each line of business. The methods used to determine these estimates are continually reviewed. Adjustments resulting from this continuous review process and differences between estimates and payments for claims are recognized in policyholder benefits and claims expense in the period in which the estimates are changed or payments are made.

The unearned revenue liability relates to universal life-type and investment-type products and represents policy charges for services to be provided in future periods. The charges are deferred as unearned revenue and amortized using the product's estimated gross profits and margins, similar to DAC. Such amortization is recorded in universal life and investment-type product policy fees.

The Company accounts for the prepayment of premiums on its individual life, group life and health contracts as premium received in advance and applies the cash received to premiums when due.

For certain acquired blocks of business, the estimated fair value of the in-force contract obligations exceeded the book value of assumed in-force insurance policy liabilities, resulting in negative VOBA, which is presented separately from VOBA as an additional insurance liability. The fair value of the in-force contract obligations is based on actuarial determined projections by each block of business. Negative VOBA is amortized over the policy period in proportion to the approximate consumption of losses included in the liability usually expressed in terms of insurance in-force or account value. Such amortization is recorded as a contra-expense in other expenses in the consolidated statements of operations.

Also included in other policy-related balances are policyholder dividends due and unpaid on participating policies and policyholder dividends left on deposit. Such liabilities are presented at amounts contractually due to policyholders.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Recognition of Insurance Revenue and Related Benefits

Premiums related to traditional life and annuity policies with life contingencies and long-duration accident and health and credit insurance policies are recognized as revenues when due from policyholders. Policyholder benefits and expenses are provided against such revenues to recognize profits over the estimated lives of the policies. When premiums are due over a significantly shorter period than the period over which benefits are provided, any excess profit is deferred and recognized into operations in a constant relationship to insurance in-force or, for annuities, the amount of expected future policy benefit payments.

Premiums related to short-duration non-medical health and disability, accident and health, and certain credit life insurance contracts are recognized on a pro rata basis over the applicable contract term.

Deposits related to universal life-type and investment-type products are credited to PABs. Revenues from such contracts consist of amounts assessed against PABs for mortality, policy administration and surrender charges and are recorded in universal life and investment-type product policy fees in the period in which services are provided. Amounts that are charged to operations include interest credited and benefit claims incurred in excess of related PABs.

Premiums related to property and casualty contracts are recognized as revenue on a pro rata basis over the applicable contract term. Unearned premiums, representing the portion of premium written relating to the unexpired coverage, are also included in future policy benefits.

Premiums, policy fees, policyholder benefits and expenses are presented net of reinsurance.

The portion of fees allocated to embedded derivatives described previously is recognized within net derivative gains (losses) as part of the estimated fair value of embedded derivatives.

Other Revenues

Other revenues include, in addition to items described elsewhere herein, advisory fees, broker-dealer commissions and fees and administrative service fees. Such fees and commissions are recognized in the period in which services are performed. Other revenues also include changes in account value relating to corporate-owned life insurance (COLI). Under certain COLI contracts, if the Company reports certain unlikely adverse results in its consolidated financial statements, withdrawals would not be immediately available and would be subject to market value adjustment, which could result in a reduction of the account value.

Policyholder Dividends

Policyholder dividends are approved annually by the insurance subsidiaries' boards of directors. The aggregate amount of policyholder dividends is related to actual interest, mortality, morbidity and expense experience for the year, as well as management's judgment as to the appropriate level of statutory surplus to be retained by the insurance subsidiaries.

Income Taxes

MetLife, Inc. and its includable life insurance and non-life insurance subsidiaries file a consolidated U.S. federal income tax return in accordance with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code). Non-includable subsidiaries file either separate individual corporate tax returns or separate consolidated tax returns.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

The Company's accounting for income taxes represents management's best estimate of various events and transactions.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities resulting from temporary differences between the financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities are measured at the balance sheet date using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years the temporary differences are expected to reverse.

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, the Company made an election under Section 338 of the Code (the Section 338 Election) relating to the Acquisition. Pursuant to such election, the historical tax basis in the acquired assets and liabilities was adjusted to the fair market value as of the Acquisition Date resulting in a change to the related deferred income taxes. See Note 15.

The realization of deferred tax assets depends upon the existence of sufficient taxable income within the carryback or carryforward periods under the tax law in the applicable tax jurisdiction. Valuation allowances are established when management determines, based on available information, that it is more likely than not that deferred income tax assets will not be realized. Factors in management's determination include the performance of the business and its ability to generate capital gains. Significant judgment is required in determining whether valuation allowances should be established, as well as the amount of such allowances. When making such determination, consideration is given to, among other things, the following:

- (i) future taxable income exclusive of reversing temporary differences and carryforwards;
- (ii) future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences;
- (iii) taxable income in prior carryback years; and
- (iv) tax planning strategies.

The Company may be required to change its provision for income taxes in certain circumstances. Examples of such circumstances include when estimates used in determining valuation allowances on deferred tax assets significantly change or when receipt of new information indicates the need for adjustment in valuation allowances. Additionally, future events, such as changes in tax laws, tax regulations, or interpretations of such laws or regulations, could have an impact on the provision for income tax and the effective tax rate. Any such changes could significantly affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements in the year these changes occur.

The Company determines whether it is more likely than not that a tax position will be sustained upon examination by the appropriate taxing authorities before any part of the benefit can be recorded in the financial statements. A tax position is measured at the largest amount of benefit that is greater than 50% likely of being realized upon settlement. Unrecognized tax benefits due to tax uncertainties that do not meet the threshold are included within other liabilities and are charged to earnings in the period that such determination is made.

The Company classifies interest recognized as interest expense and penalties recognized as a component of income tax.

Reinsurance

The Company enters into reinsurance agreements primarily as a purchaser of reinsurance for its various insurance products and also as a provider of reinsurance for some insurance products issued by third parties.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

For each of its reinsurance agreements, the Company determines whether the agreement provides indemnification against loss or liability relating to insurance risk in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The Company reviews all contractual features, particularly those that may limit the amount of insurance risk to which the reinsurer is subject or features that delay the timely reimbursement of claims.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

For reinsurance of existing in-force blocks of long-duration contracts that transfer significant insurance risk, the difference, if any, between the amounts paid (received), and the liabilities ceded (assumed) related to the underlying contracts is considered the net cost of reinsurance at the inception of the reinsurance agreement. The net cost of reinsurance is recorded as an adjustment to DAC and recognized as a component of other expenses on a basis consistent with the way the acquisition costs on the underlying reinsured contracts would be recognized. Subsequent amounts paid (received) on the reinsurance of in-force blocks, as well as amounts paid (received) related to new business, are recorded as ceded (assumed) premiums and ceded (assumed) future policy benefit liabilities are established.

For prospective reinsurance of short-duration contracts that meet the criteria for reinsurance accounting, amounts paid (received) are recorded as ceded (assumed) premiums and ceded (assumed) unearned premiums and are reflected as a component of premiums, reinsurance and other receivables (future policy benefits). Such amounts are amortized through earned premiums over the remaining contract period in proportion to the amount of protection provided. For retroactive reinsurance of short-duration contracts that meet the criteria of reinsurance accounting, amounts paid (received) in excess of (which do not exceed) the related insurance liabilities ceded (assumed) are recognized immediately as a loss. Any gains on such retroactive agreements are deferred and recorded in other liabilities. The gains are amortized primarily using the recovery method.

The assumptions used to account for both long and short-duration reinsurance agreements are consistent with those used for the underlying contracts. Ceded policyholder and contract related liabilities, other than those currently due, are reported gross on the balance sheet.

Amounts currently recoverable under reinsurance agreements are included in premiums, reinsurance and other receivables and amounts currently payable are included in other liabilities. Such assets and liabilities relating to reinsurance agreements with the same reinsurer may be recorded net on the balance sheet, if a right of offset exists within the reinsurance agreement. In the event that reinsurers do not meet their obligations to the Company under the terms of the reinsurance agreements, reinsurance balances recoverable could become uncollectible. In such instances, reinsurance recoverable balances are stated net of allowances for uncollectible reinsurance.

Premiums, fees and policyholder benefits and claims include amounts assumed under reinsurance agreements and are net of reinsurance ceded. Amounts received from reinsurers for policy administration are reported in other revenues.

If the Company determines that a reinsurance agreement does not expose the reinsurer to a reasonable possibility of a significant loss from insurance risk, the Company records the agreement using the deposit method of accounting. Deposits received are included in other liabilities and deposits made are included within premiums, reinsurance and other receivables. As amounts are paid or received, consistent with the underlying contracts, the deposit assets or liabilities are adjusted. Interest on such deposits is recorded as other revenues or other expenses, as appropriate. Periodically, the Company evaluates the adequacy of the expected payments or recoveries and adjusts the deposit asset or liability through other revenues or other expenses, as appropriate.

Accounting for reinsurance requires extensive use of assumptions and estimates, particularly related to the future performance of the underlying business and the potential impact of counterparty credit risks. The Company periodically reviews actual and anticipated experience compared to the aforementioned assumptions used to establish assets and liabilities relating to ceded and assumed reinsurance and evaluates the financial strength of counterparties to its reinsurance agreements using criteria similar to that evaluated in the security impairment process discussed previously.

Cessions under reinsurance agreements do not discharge the Company's obligations as the primary insurer.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Employee Benefit Plans

Certain subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. (the *Subsidiaries*) sponsor and/or administer various plans that provide defined benefit pension and other postretirement benefits covering eligible employees and sales representatives. Measurement dates used for all of the *Subsidiaries* defined benefit pension and other postretirement benefit plans correspond with the fiscal year ends of sponsoring *Subsidiaries*, which are December 31 for U.S. *Subsidiaries* and November 30 for most foreign *Subsidiaries*.

The U.S. pension benefits are provided utilizing either a traditional formula or cash balance formula. The traditional formula provides benefits based upon years of credited service and either final average or career average earnings. The cash balance formula utilizes hypothetical or notional accounts which credit participants with benefits equal to a percentage of eligible pay, as well as earnings credits, determined annually based upon the average annual rate of interest on 30-year U.S. Treasury securities, for each account balance. The non-U.S. pension plans generally provide benefits based either upon years of credited service and earnings preceding retirement or on points earned on job grades and other factors related to years of service.

The *Subsidiaries* also provide certain postemployment benefits and certain postretirement medical and life insurance benefits for retired employees. Employees of the *Subsidiaries* who were hired prior to 2003 (or, in certain cases, rehired during or after 2003) and meet age and service criteria while working for one of the *Subsidiaries*, may become eligible for these other postretirement benefits, at various levels, in accordance with the applicable plans. Virtually all retirees, or their beneficiaries, contribute a portion of the total cost of postretirement medical benefits. Employees hired after 2003 are not eligible for any employer subsidy for postretirement medical benefits.

The projected pension benefit obligation (*PBO*) is defined as the actuarially calculated present value of vested and non-vested pension benefits accrued based on future salary levels. The accumulated pension benefit obligation (*ABO*) is the actuarial present value of vested and non-vested pension benefits accrued based on current salary levels. Obligations, both *PBO* and *ABO*, of the defined benefit pension plans are determined using a variety of actuarial assumptions, from which actual results may vary, as described below.

The expected postretirement plan benefit obligations (*EPBO*) represent the actuarial present value of all other postretirement benefits expected to be paid after retirement to employees and their dependents and is used in measuring the periodic postretirement benefit expense. The accumulated postretirement plan benefit obligations (*APBO*) represent the actuarial present value of future other postretirement benefits attributed to employee services rendered through a particular date and is the valuation basis upon which liabilities are established. The *APBO* is determined using a variety of actuarial assumptions, from which actual results may vary, as described below.

The Company recognizes the funded status of the *PBO* for pension plans and the *APBO* for other postretirement plans for each of its plans in the consolidated balance sheets. The actuarial gains or losses, prior service costs and credits and the remaining net transition asset or obligation that had not yet been included in net periodic benefit costs are charged, net of income tax, to accumulated other comprehensive income (loss).

Net periodic benefit cost is determined using management estimates and actuarial assumptions to derive service cost, interest cost, and expected return on plan assets for a particular year. Net periodic benefit cost also includes the applicable amortization of any prior service cost (credit) arising from the increase (decrease) in prior years benefit costs due to plan amendments or initiation of new plans. These costs are amortized into net periodic benefit cost over the expected service years of employees whose benefits are affected by such plan amendments. Actual experience related to plan assets and/or the benefit obligations may differ from that

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

originally assumed when determining net periodic benefit cost for a particular period, resulting in gains or losses. To the extent such aggregate gains or losses exceed 10 percent of the greater of the benefit obligations or the market-related asset value of the plans, they are amortized into net periodic benefit cost over the expected service years of employees expected to receive benefits under the plans.

The obligations and expenses associated with these plans require an extensive use of assumptions such as the discount rate, expected rate of return on plan assets, rate of future compensation increases, healthcare cost trend rates, as well as assumptions regarding participant demographics such as rate and age of retirements, withdrawal rates and mortality. Management, in consultation with its external consulting actuarial firms, determines these assumptions based upon a variety of factors such as historical performance of the plan and its assets, currently available market and industry data and expected benefit payout streams. The assumptions used may differ materially from actual results due to, among other factors, changing market and economic conditions and changes in participant demographics. These differences may have a significant effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements and liquidity.

The Subsidiaries also sponsor defined contribution savings and investment plans (SIP) for substantially all employees under which a portion of employee contributions is matched. Applicable matching contributions are made each payroll period. Accordingly, the Company recognizes compensation cost for current matching contributions. As all contributions are transferred currently as earned to the SIP trust, no liability for matching contributions is recognized in the consolidated balance sheets.

Stock-Based Compensation

As more fully described in Note 18, the Company grants certain employees and directors stock-based compensation awards under various plans that are subject to specific vesting conditions. The cost of all stock-based transactions is measured at fair value at grant date and recognized over the period during which a grantee is required to provide goods or services in exchange for the award. Although the terms of the Company's stock-based plans do not accelerate vesting upon retirement, or the attainment of retirement eligibility, the requisite service period subsequent to attaining such eligibility is considered nonsubstantive. Accordingly, the Company recognizes compensation expense related to stock-based awards over the shorter of the requisite service period or the period to attainment of retirement eligibility. An estimation of future forfeitures of stock-based awards is incorporated into the determination of compensation expense when recognizing expense over the requisite service period.

Foreign Currency

Assets, liabilities and operations of foreign affiliates and subsidiaries are recorded based on the functional currency of each entity. The determination of the functional currency is made based on the appropriate economic and management indicators. With the exception of certain foreign operations, primarily Japan, where multiple functional currencies exist, the local currencies of foreign operations are the functional currencies. Assets and liabilities of foreign affiliates and subsidiaries are translated from the functional currency to U.S. dollars at the exchange rates in effect at each year-end and income and expense accounts are translated at the average rates of exchange prevailing during the year. The resulting translation adjustments are charged or credited directly to other comprehensive income or loss, net of applicable taxes. Gains and losses from foreign currency transactions, including the effect of re-measurement of monetary assets and liabilities to the appropriate functional currency, are reported as part of net investment gains (losses) in the period in which they occur.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Discontinued Operations*

The results of operations of a component of the Company that either has been disposed of or is classified as held-for-sale are reported in discontinued operations if the operations and cash flows of the component have been or will be eliminated from the ongoing operations of the Company as a result of the disposal transaction and the Company will not have any significant continuing involvement in the operations of the component after the disposal transaction.

Earnings Per Common Share

Basic earnings per common share are computed based on the weighted average number of common shares, or their equivalent, outstanding during the period. The difference between the number of shares assumed issued and number of shares assumed purchased represents the dilutive shares. Diluted earnings per common share include the dilutive effect of the assumed: (i) exercise or issuance of stock-based awards using the treasury stock method; (ii) settlement of stock purchase contracts underlying common equity units using the treasury stock method; and (iii) settlement of accelerated common stock repurchase contracts. Under the treasury stock method, exercise or issuance of stock-based awards and settlement of the stock purchase contracts underlying common equity units is assumed to occur with the proceeds used to purchase common stock at the average market price for the period. See Notes 14, 18 and 20.

Litigation Contingencies

The Company is a party to a number of legal actions and is involved in a number of regulatory investigations. Given the inherent unpredictability of these matters, it is difficult to estimate the impact on the Company's financial position. Liabilities are established when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Except as otherwise disclosed in Note 16, legal costs are recognized in other expenses as incurred. On a quarterly and annual basis, the Company reviews relevant information with respect to liabilities for litigation, regulatory investigations and litigation-related contingencies to be reflected in the Company's consolidated financial statements. It is possible that an adverse outcome in certain of the Company's litigation and regulatory investigations, or the use of different assumptions in the determination of amounts recorded, could have a material effect upon the Company's consolidated net income or cash flows in particular quarterly or annual periods.

Separate Accounts

Separate accounts are established in conformity with insurance laws and are generally not chargeable with liabilities that arise from any other business of the Company. Separate account assets are subject to general account claims only to the extent the value of such assets exceeds the separate account liabilities. Assets within the Company's separate accounts primarily include: mutual funds, fixed maturity and equity securities, mortgage loans, derivatives, hedge funds, other limited partnership interests, short-term investments and cash and cash equivalents. The Company reports separately, as assets and liabilities, investments held in separate accounts and liabilities of the separate accounts if (i) such separate accounts are legally recognized; (ii) assets supporting the contract liabilities are legally insulated from the Company's general account liabilities; (iii) investments are directed by the contractholder; and (iv) all investment performance, net of contract fees and assessments, is passed through to the contractholder. The Company reports separate account assets meeting such criteria at their fair value which is based on the estimated fair values of the underlying assets comprising the portfolios of an individual separate account. Investment performance (including investment income, net investment gains (losses) and changes in unrealized gains (losses)) and the corresponding amounts credited to contractholders of such separate accounts are offset within the same line in the consolidated statements of operations. Separate accounts

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

credited with a contractual investment return are combined on a line-by-line basis with the Company's general account assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the accounting for these investments is consistent with the methodologies described herein for similar financial instruments held within the general account. Unit-linked separate account investments which are directed by contractholders but do not meet one or more of the other above criteria are included in trading and other securities.

The Company's revenues reflect fees charged to the separate accounts, including mortality charges, risk charges, policy administration fees, investment management fees and surrender charges. Such fees are included in universal life and investment-type product policy fees in the consolidated statements of operations.

Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements

Financial Instruments

Effective July 1, 2011, the Company adopted new guidance regarding accounting for troubled debt restructurings. This guidance clarifies whether a creditor has granted a concession and whether a debtor is experiencing financial difficulties for the purpose of determining when a restructuring constitutes a troubled debt restructuring. Additionally, the guidance prohibits creditors from using the borrower's effective rate test to evaluate whether a concession has been granted to the borrower. The adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements. See also expanded disclosures in Note 3.

Effective January 1, 2011, the Company adopted new guidance regarding accounting for investment funds determined to be VIEs. Under this guidance, an insurance entity would not be required to consolidate a voting-interest investment fund when it holds the majority of the voting interests of the fund through its separate accounts. In addition, an insurance entity would not consider the interests held through separate accounts for the benefit of policyholders in the insurer's evaluation of its economic interest in a VIE, unless the separate account contractholder is a related party. The adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Effective December 31, 2010, the Company adopted guidance regarding disclosures about the credit quality of financing receivables and valuation allowances for credit losses, including credit quality indicators. Such disclosures must be disaggregated by portfolio segment or class based on how a company develops its valuation allowances for credit losses and how it manages its credit exposure. The Company has provided all material required disclosures in its consolidated financial statements.

Effective July 1, 2010, the Company adopted guidance regarding accounting for embedded credit derivatives within structured securities. This guidance clarifies the type of embedded credit derivative that is exempt from embedded derivative bifurcation requirements. Specifically, embedded credit derivatives resulting only from subordination of one financial instrument to another continue to qualify for the scope exception. Embedded credit derivative features other than subordination must be analyzed to determine whether they require bifurcation and separate accounting. As a result of the adoption of this guidance, the Company elected FVO for certain structured securities that were previously accounted for as fixed maturity securities. Upon adoption, the Company reclassified \$50 million of securities from fixed maturity securities to trading and other securities. These securities had cumulative unrealized losses of \$10 million, net of income tax, which was recognized as a cumulative effect adjustment to decrease retained earnings with a corresponding increase to accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) as of July 1, 2010.

Effective January 1, 2010, the Company adopted guidance related to financial instrument transfers and consolidation of VIEs. The financial instrument transfer guidance eliminates the concept of a qualified special purpose entity (QSPE), eliminates the guaranteed mortgage securitization exception, changes the criteria for

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

achieving sale accounting when transferring a financial asset and changes the initial recognition of retained beneficial interests. The new consolidation guidance changes the definition of the primary beneficiary, as well as the method of determining whether an entity is a primary beneficiary of a VIE from a quantitative model to a qualitative model. Under the new qualitative model, the entity that has both the ability to direct the most significant activities of the VIE and the obligation to absorb losses or receive benefits that could be significant to the VIE is considered to be the primary beneficiary of the VIE. The guidance requires a quarterly reassessment, as well as enhanced disclosures, including the effects of a company's involvement with VIEs on its financial statements.

As a result of the adoption of this guidance, the Company consolidated certain former QSPEs that were previously accounted for as fixed maturity CMBS and equity security collateralized debt obligations. The Company also elected FVO for all of the consolidated assets and liabilities of these entities. Upon consolidation, the Company recorded \$278 million of securities classified as trading and other securities, \$6.8 billion of commercial mortgage loans and \$6.8 billion of long-term debt based on estimated fair values at January 1, 2010 and de-recognized \$179 million in fixed maturity securities and less than \$1 million in equity securities. The consolidation also resulted in a decrease in retained earnings of \$12 million, net of income tax, and an increase in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) of \$42 million, net of income tax, at January 1, 2010. For the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company recorded \$426 million of net investment income on the consolidated assets, \$411 million of interest expense in other expenses on the related long-term debt, and \$6 million in net investment gains (losses) to remeasure the assets and liabilities at their estimated fair values.

In addition, the Company also deconsolidated certain partnerships for which the Company does not have the power to direct activities and for which the Company has concluded it is no longer the primary beneficiary. These deconsolidations did not result in a cumulative effect adjustment to retained earnings and did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Also effective January 1, 2010, the Company adopted guidance that indefinitely defers the above changes relating to the Company's interests in entities that have all the attributes of an investment company or for which it is industry practice to apply measurement principles for financial reporting that are consistent with those applied by an investment company. As a result of the deferral, the above guidance did not apply to certain real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests held by the Company.

Effective April 1, 2009, the Company adopted OTTI guidance. This guidance amends the previously used methodology for determining whether an OTTI exists for fixed maturity securities, changes the presentation of OTTI for fixed maturity securities and requires additional disclosures for OTTI on fixed maturity and equity securities in interim and annual financial statements. The Company's net cumulative effect adjustment of adopting the OTTI guidance was an increase of \$76 million to retained earnings with a corresponding increase to accumulated other comprehensive loss to reclassify the noncredit loss portion of previously recognized OTTI losses on fixed maturity securities held at April 1, 2009. This cumulative effect adjustment was comprised of an increase in the amortized cost basis of fixed maturity securities of \$126 million, net of policyholder related amounts of \$10 million and net of deferred income taxes of \$40 million, resulting in the net cumulative effect adjustment of \$76 million. The increase in the amortized cost basis of fixed maturity securities of \$126 million by sector was as follows: \$53 million ABS, \$43 million RMBS, \$17 million U.S. corporate securities and \$13 million CMBS. As a result of the adoption of the OTTI guidance, the Company's pre-tax earnings for the year ended December 31, 2009 increased by \$857 million, offset by an increase in other comprehensive loss representing OTTI relating to noncredit losses recognized during the year ended December 31, 2009.

Effective January 1, 2009, the Company adopted guidance on disclosures about derivative instruments and hedging. This guidance requires enhanced qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair value amounts of and gains and losses on derivative instruments and disclosures about credit risk-related contingent features in derivative agreements. The Company has provided all of the material disclosures in its consolidated financial statements.

Effective January 1, 2009, the Company adopted prospectively an update on accounting for transfers of financial assets and repurchase financing transactions. This update provides guidance for evaluating whether to account for a transfer of a financial asset and repurchase financing as a single transaction or as two separate transactions. The adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Business Combinations and Noncontrolling Interests

Effective January 1, 2011, the Company adopted new guidance that addresses when a business combination should be assumed to have occurred for the purpose of providing pro forma disclosure. Under the new guidance, if an entity presents comparative financial statements, the entity should disclose revenue and earnings of the combined entity as though the business combination that occurred during the current year had occurred as of the beginning of the comparable prior annual reporting period. The guidance also expands the supplemental pro forma disclosures to include additional narratives. The adoption did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Effective January 1, 2009, the Company adopted revised guidance on business combinations and accounting for noncontrolling interests in the consolidated financial statements. Under this guidance:

All business combinations (whether full, partial or step acquisitions) result in all assets and liabilities of an acquired business being recorded at fair value, with limited exceptions.

Acquisition costs are generally expensed as incurred; restructuring costs associated with a business combination are generally expensed as incurred subsequent to the acquisition date.

The fair value of the purchase price, including the issuance of equity securities, is determined on the acquisition date.

Assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a business combination that arise from contingencies are recognized at fair value if the acquisition-date fair value can be reasonably determined. If the fair value is not estimable, an asset or liability is recorded if existence or incurrence at the acquisition date is probable and its amount is reasonably estimable.

Changes in deferred income tax asset valuation allowances and income tax uncertainties after the acquisition date generally affect income tax expense.

Noncontrolling interests (formerly known as minority interests) are valued at fair value at the acquisition date and are presented as equity rather than liabilities.

Net income (loss) includes amounts attributable to noncontrolling interests.

When control is attained on previously noncontrolling interests, the previously held equity interests are remeasured at fair value and a gain or loss is recognized.

Purchases or sales of equity interests that do not result in a change in control are accounted for as equity transactions.

When control is lost in a partial disposition, realized gains or losses are recorded on equity ownership sold and the remaining ownership interest is remeasured and holding gains or losses are recognized.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

The adoption of this guidance on a prospective basis did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Effective January 1, 2009, the Company adopted prospectively guidance on determination of the useful life of intangible assets. This guidance amends the factors that should be considered in developing renewal or extension assumptions used to determine the useful life of a recognized intangible asset. This change is intended to improve the consistency between the useful life of a recognized intangible asset and the period of expected future cash flows used to measure the fair value of the asset. The Company determines useful lives and provides all of the material disclosures prospectively on intangible assets acquired on or after January 1, 2009 in accordance with this guidance.

Fair Value

Effective January 1, 2010, the Company adopted guidance that requires disclosures about significant transfers into and/or out of Levels 1 and 2 of the fair value hierarchy and activity in Level 3. In addition, this guidance provides clarification of existing disclosure requirements about level of disaggregation and inputs and valuation techniques. The adoption of this guidance did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

The following pronouncements relating to fair value had no material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements:

Effective January 1, 2009, the Company implemented fair value measurements guidance for certain nonfinancial assets and liabilities that are recorded at fair value on a non-recurring basis. This guidance applies to such items as: (i) nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities initially measured at estimated fair value in a business combination; (ii) reporting units measured at estimated fair value in the first step of a goodwill impairment test; and (iii) indefinite-lived intangible assets measured at estimated fair value for impairment assessment.

Effective January 1, 2009, the Company adopted prospectively guidance on issuer's accounting for liabilities measured at fair value with a third-party credit enhancement. This guidance states that an issuer of a liability with a third-party credit enhancement should not include the effect of the credit enhancement in the fair value measurement of the liability. In addition, it requires disclosures about the existence of any third-party credit enhancement related to liabilities that are measured at fair value.

Effective April 1, 2009, the Company adopted guidance on: (i) estimating the fair value of an asset or liability if there was a significant decrease in the volume and level of trading activity for these assets or liabilities; and (ii) identifying transactions that are not orderly. The Company has provided all of the material disclosures in its consolidated financial statements.

Effective December 31, 2009, the Company adopted guidance on: (i) measuring the fair value of investments in certain entities that calculate NAV per share; (ii) how investments within its scope would be classified in the fair value hierarchy; and (iii) enhanced disclosure requirements, for both interim and annual periods, about the nature and risks of investments measured at fair value on a recurring or non-recurring basis.

Effective December 31, 2009, the Company adopted guidance on measuring liabilities at fair value. This guidance provides clarification for measuring fair value in circumstances in which a quoted price in an active market for the identical liability is not available. In such circumstances a company is required to measure fair value using either a valuation technique that uses: (i) the quoted price of the identical liability when traded as an asset; or (ii) quoted prices for similar liabilities or similar liabilities when

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

traded as assets; or (iii) another valuation technique that is consistent with the principles of fair value measurement such as an income approach (e.g., present value technique) or a market approach (e.g., entry value technique).

Defined Benefit and Other Postretirement Plans

Effective December 31, 2011, the Company adopted guidance regarding enhanced disclosures for employers' participation in multiemployer pension plans. The revised disclosures require additional qualitative and quantitative information about the employer's involvement in significant multiemployer pension and other postretirement plans. The adoption of this guidance did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Effective December 31, 2009, the Company adopted guidance to enhance the transparency surrounding the types of assets and associated risks in an employer's defined benefit pension or other postretirement benefit plans. This guidance requires an employer to disclose information about the valuation of plan assets similar to that required under other fair value disclosure guidance. The Company provided all of the material disclosures in its consolidated financial statements.

Other Pronouncements

Effective January 1, 2011, the Company adopted new guidance regarding goodwill impairment testing. This guidance modifies Step 1 of the goodwill impairment test for reporting units with zero or negative carrying amounts. For those reporting units, an entity would be required to perform Step 2 of the test if qualitative factors indicate that it is more likely than not that goodwill impairment exists. The adoption did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Effective April 1, 2009, the Company adopted prospectively guidance which establishes general standards for accounting and disclosures of events that occur subsequent to the balance sheet date but before financial statements are issued or available to be issued. The Company has provided all of the material disclosures in its consolidated financial statements.

Effective January 1, 2009, the Company adopted guidance on determining whether an instrument (or embedded feature) is indexed to an entity's own stock. This guidance provides a framework for evaluating the terms of a particular instrument and whether such terms qualify the instrument as being indexed to an entity's own stock. The adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Future Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements

In December 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued new guidance regarding comprehensive income (Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2011-12, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05*). The amendments in ASU 2011-12 are effective for fiscal years and interim periods within those years beginning after December 15, 2011. Consistent with the effective date of the amendments in ASU 2011-05 discussed below, ASU 2011-12 defers the effective date pertaining to reclassification adjustments out of accumulated other comprehensive income in ASU 2011-05. The amendments are being made to allow the FASB time to re-deliberate whether to present on the face of the financial statements the effects of reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive income on the components of net income and other comprehensive income for all periods presented. All other requirements in ASU 2011-05 are not affected by ASU 2011-12, including the requirement to report comprehensive income either in a single continuous financial statement or in two separate but

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

consecutive financial statements. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements.

In December 2011, the FASB issued new guidance regarding balance sheet offsetting disclosures (ASU 2011-11, *Balance Sheet (Topic 210): Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities*), effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013, and interim periods within those annual periods. The guidance should be applied retrospectively for all comparative periods presented. The amendments in ASU 2011-11 require an entity to disclose information about offsetting and related arrangements to enable users of its financial statements to understand the effects of those arrangements on its financial position. Entities are required to disclose both gross information and net information about both instruments and transactions eligible for offset in the statement of financial position and instruments and transactions subject to an agreement similar to a master netting arrangement. The objective of ASU 2011-11 is to facilitate comparison between those entities that prepare their financial statements on the basis of GAAP and those entities that prepare their financial statements on the basis of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In December 2011, the FASB issued new guidance regarding derecognition of in substance real estate (ASU 2011-10 *Property, Plant and Equipment (Topic 360): Derecognition of in Substance Real Estate - a Scope Clarification (a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force)*), effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning on or after June 15, 2012. The amendments should be applied prospectively to deconsolidation events occurring after the effective date. Under the amendments in ASU 2011-10, when a parent ceases to have a controlling financial interest in a subsidiary that is in substance real estate as a result of a default on the subsidiary's nonrecourse debt, the reporting entity should apply the guidance in Subtopic 360-20 to determine whether it should derecognize the in substance real estate. Generally, a reporting entity would not satisfy the requirements to derecognize in substance real estate before the legal transfer of the real estate to the lender and the extinguishment of the related nonrecourse indebtedness. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements.

In September 2011, the FASB issued new guidance on goodwill impairment testing (ASU 2011-08, *Intangibles - Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Goodwill for Impairment*), effective for calendar years beginning after December 15, 2011. Early adoption is permitted. The objective of this standard is to simplify how an entity tests goodwill for impairment. The amendments in this standard will allow an entity to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying value as a basis for determining whether it needs to perform the quantitative two-step goodwill impairment test. Only if an entity determines, based on qualitative assessment, that it is more likely than not that a reporting unit's fair value is less than its carrying value will it be required to calculate the fair value of the reporting unit. The Company does not expect the adoption of this new guidance to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

In July 2011, the FASB issued new guidance on other expenses (ASU 2011-06, *Other Expenses (Topic 720): Fees Paid to the Federal Government by Health Insurers*), effective for calendar years beginning after December 31, 2013. The objective of this standard is to address how health insurers should recognize and classify in their income statements fees mandated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act. The amendments in this standard specify that the liability for the fee should be estimated and recorded in full once the entity provides qualifying health insurance in the applicable calendar year in which the fee is payable with a corresponding deferred cost that is amortized to expense using the straight-line method of allocation unless another method better allocates the fee over the calendar year that it is payable. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

In June 2011, the FASB issued new guidance regarding comprehensive income (ASU 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income*), effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011. The guidance should be applied retrospectively and early adoption is permitted. The new guidance provides companies with the option to present the total of comprehensive income, components of net income, and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. The objective of the standard is to increase the prominence of items reported in other comprehensive income and to facilitate convergence of GAAP and IFRS. The standard eliminates the option to present components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in stockholders' equity. The amendments in ASU 2011-05 do not change the items that must be reported in other comprehensive income or when an item of other comprehensive income must be reclassified in net income. The Company intends to adopt the two-statement approach in the first quarter of 2012.

In May 2011, the FASB issued new guidance regarding fair value measurements (ASU 2011-04, *Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs*), effective for the first interim or annual period beginning after December 15, 2011. The guidance should be applied prospectively. The amendments in this ASU are intended to establish common requirements for measuring fair value and for disclosing information about fair value measurements in accordance with GAAP and IFRS. Some of the amendments clarify the FASB's intent on the application of existing fair value measurement requirements. Other amendments change a particular principle or requirement for measuring fair value or for disclosing information about fair value measurements. The Company does not expect the adoption of this new guidance to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

In April 2011, the FASB issued new guidance regarding effective control in repurchase agreements (ASU 2011-03, *Transfers and Servicing (Topic 860): Reconsideration of Effective Control for Repurchase Agreements*), effective for the first interim or annual period beginning on or after December 15, 2011. The guidance should be applied prospectively to transactions or modifications of existing transactions that occur on or after the effective date. The amendments in this ASU remove from the assessment of effective control the criterion requiring the transferor to have the ability to repurchase or redeem the financial assets. The Company does not expect the adoption of this new guidance to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

In October 2010, the FASB issued new guidance regarding accounting for deferred acquisition costs (ASU 2010-26, *Financial Services Insurance (Topic 944): Accounting for Costs Associated with Acquiring or Renewing Insurance Contracts*) (ASU 2010-26), effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2011. ASU 2010-26 specifies that only costs related directly to successful acquisition of new or renewal contracts can be capitalized as DAC; all other acquisition-related costs must be expensed as incurred. Under the new guidance, advertising costs may only be included in DAC if the capitalization criteria in the direct-response advertising guidance in Subtopic 340-20, *Other Assets and Deferred Costs Capitalized Advertising Costs*, are met. As a result, certain direct marketing, sales manager compensation and administrative costs currently capitalized by the Company will no longer be deferred. The Company will adopt ASU 2010-26 in the first quarter of 2012 and will apply it retrospectively to all prior periods presented in its consolidated financial statements for all insurance contracts. The Company estimates that DAC will be reduced by approximately \$3.1 billion to \$3.6 billion and total equity will be reduced by approximately \$2.1 billion to \$2.4 billion, net of income tax, as of the date of adoption.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****2. Acquisitions and Dispositions***Pending Dispositions*

In December 2011, MetLife Bank National Association (MetLife Bank) and MetLife, Inc. entered into a definitive agreement to sell most of the depository business of MetLife Bank. The transaction is expected to close in the second quarter of 2012, subject to certain regulatory approvals and other customary closing conditions. Additionally, in January 2012, MetLife, Inc. announced it is exiting the business of originating forward residential mortgages. In conjunction with these events, for the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company recorded charges totaling \$212 million, net of income tax, which included intent-to-sell OTTI investment charges, charges related to the de-designation of certain cash flow hedges, a goodwill impairment charge and other employee-related charges. In addition, the Company expects to incur additional charges of \$90 million to \$110 million, net of income tax, during 2012, related to exiting the forward residential mortgage origination business. The total assets and liabilities recorded in the consolidated balance sheet related to these two businesses as of December 31, 2011 were approximately \$11.0 billion and \$10.0 billion, respectively. These transactions did not qualify for discontinued operations accounting treatment under GAAP. See Notes 3 and 7.

In November 2011, the Company entered into an agreement to sell its insurance operations in the Caribbean region, Panama and Costa Rica (the Caribbean Business). The total assets and liabilities recorded in the consolidated balance sheet related to these insurance operations as of December 31, 2011 were \$859 million and \$707 million, respectively. Related to the pending sale, the Company recorded a loss of \$21 million, net of income tax, which included intent-to-sell OTTI investment charges, during the year ended December 31, 2011. The sale is expected to close in the second quarter of 2012 subject to regulatory approval and other customary closing conditions. The results of the Caribbean Business are included in continuing operations.

2011 Dispositions

On April 1, 2011, the Company sold its 50% interest in Mitsui Sumitomo MetLife Insurance Co., Ltd. (MSI MetLife), a Japan domiciled life insurance company, to its joint venture partner, MS&AD Insurance Group Holdings, Inc. (MS&AD), for \$269 million (¥22.5 billion) in cash consideration, less \$4 million (¥310 million) to reimburse MS&AD for specific expenses incurred related to the transaction. The accumulated other comprehensive losses in the foreign currency translation adjustment component of equity resulting from the hedges of the Company's investment in the joint venture of \$46 million, net of income tax, were released upon sale but did not impact net income for year ended December 31, 2011 as such losses were considered in the overall impairment evaluation of the investment prior to the sale. During the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company recorded a loss of \$57 million and \$136 million, net of income tax, respectively, in net investment gains (losses) within the consolidated statements of operations related to the sale. The Company's operating earnings relating to its investment in MSI MetLife were included in the Other International Regions segment.

On November 1, 2011, the Company sold its wholly-owned subsidiary, MetLife Taiwan Insurance Company Limited (MetLife Taiwan) for \$180 million in cash consideration. The net assets sold were \$282 million, resulting in a loss on disposal of \$64 million, net of income tax, recorded in discontinued operations, for the year ended December 31, 2011. Income (loss) from the operations of MetLife Taiwan of \$20 million, \$22 million and \$9 million, net of income tax, for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, was also recorded in discontinued operations. See Note 23.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)*****2010 Acquisition of ALICO****Description of Transaction*

On the Acquisition Date, MetLife, Inc. acquired all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of American Life from AM Holdings, a subsidiary of AIG, and DelAm from AIG for a total purchase price of \$16.4 billion, which consisted of (i) cash of \$7.2 billion (includes settlement of intercompany balances and certain other adjustments), and (ii) securities of MetLife, Inc. valued at \$9.2 billion.

The \$7.2 billion cash portion of the purchase price was funded through the issuance of common stock as described in Note 18, fixed and floating rate senior debt as described in Note 11 as well as cash on hand. The securities issued to AM Holdings included (a) 78,239,712 shares of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock; (b) 6,857,000 shares of Series B Contingent Convertible Junior Participating Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock (the convertible preferred stock) of MetLife, Inc.; and (c) 40 million common equity units of MetLife, Inc. (the Equity Units) with an aggregate stated amount at issuance of \$3.0 billion, initially consisting of (i) three purchase contracts (the Series C Purchase Contracts, the Series D Purchase Contracts and the Series E Purchase Contracts and, together, the Purchase Contracts), obligating the holder to purchase, on specified future settlement dates, a variable number of shares of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock for a fixed price; and (ii) an interest in each of three series of debt securities (the Series C Debt Securities, the Series D Debt Securities and the Series E Debt Securities, and, together, the Debt Securities) issued by MetLife, Inc. Distributions on the Equity Units will be made quarterly, through contract payments on the Purchase Contracts and interest payments on the Debt Securities, initially at an aggregate annual rate of 5.00% (an average annual rate of 3.02% on the Purchase Contracts and an average annual rate of 1.98% on the Debt Securities) as described in Note 14.

On March 8, 2011, AM Holdings sold, in public offering transactions, all the shares of common stock and Equity Units it received as consideration from MetLife in connection with the Acquisition. The Company did not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of either the shares of common stock or the Equity Units owned by AM Holdings. On March 8, 2011, MetLife, Inc. issued 68,570,000 shares of common stock for gross proceeds of \$3.0 billion, which were used to repurchase and cancel 6,857,000 shares of convertible preferred stock received as consideration by AM Holdings from MetLife in connection with the Acquisition. See Note 18.

ALICO is an international life insurance company, providing consumers and businesses with products and services for life insurance, accident and health insurance, retirement and wealth management solutions. The Acquisition significantly broadened the Company's diversification by product, distribution and geography, meaningfully accelerated MetLife's global growth strategy, and provides the opportunity to build an international franchise leveraging the key strengths of ALICO.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Fair Value and Allocation of Purchase Price*

The computation of total purchase consideration and the amounts recognized for each major class of assets acquired and liabilities assumed, based upon their respective fair values at the Acquisition Date, and the resulting goodwill, are presented below:

	November 1, 2010 (In millions)
Cash	\$ 6,800
MetLife, Inc. s common stock (78,239,712 shares) (1)	3,200
MetLife, Inc. s convertible preferred stock (1), (2)	2,805
MetLife, Inc. s Equity Units (\$3.0 billion aggregate stated amount) (3)	3,189
Total cash paid and securities issued to AM Holdings	\$ 15,994
Contractual purchase price adjustments (4)	396
Total purchase price	\$ 16,390
Effective settlement of pre-existing relationships (5)	(186)
Contingent consideration (6)	88
Total purchase consideration for ALICO	\$ 16,292

- (1) Fair value is based on the opening price of MetLife, Inc. s common stock of \$40.90 on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on November 1, 2010.
- (2) On March 8, 2011, MetLife, Inc. repurchased and canceled all of the convertible preferred stock.
- (3) The Equity Units include the Debt Securities and the Purchase Contracts that will settle in MetLife, Inc. s common stock on specified future dates. See Note 14.
- (4) Relates to the cash settlement of intercompany balances prior to the Acquisition for amounts in excess of certain agreed-upon thresholds and certain other adjustments.
- (5) Effective settlement of debt securities issued by MetLife, Inc. that were owned by ALICO on the Acquisition Date and which reduced the total purchase consideration. Such debt securities were sold to a third party in the second quarter of 2011.
- (6)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Estimated fair value of potential payments related to the adequacy of reserves for guarantees on the fair value of a fund of assets backing certain United Kingdom (U.K.) unit-linked contracts.

At the Acquisition Date, management expected the aggregate amount of MetLife, Inc. s common stock to be issued to AM Holdings to be between 214.6 million to 231.5 million shares, consisting of 78.2 million shares issued at closing, 68.6 million shares to be issued upon conversion of the convertible preferred stock and between 67.8 million and 84.7 million shares of common stock, in total, issuable upon settlement of the Purchase Contracts forming part of the Equity Units. On March 8, 2011, MetLife, Inc. issued 68.6 million shares of common stock and used the gross proceeds to repurchase and cancel the convertible preferred stock. On the same date, AM Holdings sold, in a public offering, all the Equity Units it received as consideration from MetLife in connection with the Acquisition. See Notes 14 and 18.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Recording of Assets Acquired and Liabilities Assumed*

The following table summarizes the amounts recognized at fair value for each major class of assets acquired and liabilities assumed and the resulting goodwill as of the Acquisition Date, inclusive of adjustments made in the first year after the Acquisition Date to the amounts initially recorded (measurement period adjustments).

	November 1, 2010
	(In millions)
Assets acquired:	
Total investments	\$ 101,036
Cash and cash equivalents	4,175
Accrued investment income	948
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables	1,971
VOBA	9,210
Other assets	1,146
Separate account assets	244
Total assets	\$ 118,730
Liabilities assumed:	
Future policy benefits	\$ 31,811
Policyholder account balances	66,652
Other policy-related balances	7,306
Current and deferred income tax liability	375
Other liabilities	2,918
Separate account liabilities	244
Total liabilities	\$ 109,306
Redeemable noncontrolling interests in partially owned consolidated subsidiaries assumed	\$ 109
Noncontrolling interests	(21)
Goodwill	6,998
Net assets acquired	\$ 16,292

The measurement period adjustments, which related to the finalization of American Life's current and deferred income tax liability, did not have an impact on the Company's earnings or cash flows and, therefore, the financial statements were not retrospectively adjusted. See Note 15.

Goodwill

Goodwill is calculated as the excess of the consideration transferred over the net assets recognized and represents the future economic benefits arising from other assets acquired and liabilities assumed that could not be individually identified. The goodwill recorded as part of the Acquisition includes the expected synergies and other benefits that management believes will result from combining the operations of ALICO with the operations of MetLife, including further diversification in geographic mix and product offerings and an increase in distribution strength.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

As of the Acquisition Date, of the \$7.0 billion of goodwill, approximately \$4.0 billion was estimated to be deductible for tax purposes. Of the \$4.0 billion, approximately \$573 million was estimated to be deductible for U.S. tax purposes prior to the completion of the anticipated restructuring of American Life's foreign branches. See Branch Restructuring.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Identified Intangibles*

VOBA reflects the estimated fair value of in-force contracts acquired and represents the portion of the purchase price that is allocated to the value of future profits embedded in acquired insurance annuity and investment-type contracts in-force at the Acquisition Date.

The value of VODA and VOCRA, included in other assets, reflects the estimated fair value of ALICO's distribution agreements and customer relationships acquired at November 1, 2010 and will be amortized over the useful lives. Each year the Company reviews VODA and VOCRA to determine the recoverability of these balances.

The use of discount rates was necessary to establish the fair value of VOBA and the identifiable intangibles. In selecting the appropriate discount rates, management considered its weighted average cost of capital, as well as the weighted average cost of capital required by market participants. The fair value of acquired liabilities was determined using risk free rates adjusted for a nonperformance risk premium. The nonperformance adjustment was determined by taking into consideration publicly available information relating to spreads in the secondary market for MetLife Inc.'s debt, including related credit default swaps. These observable spreads were then adjusted to reflect the priority of these liabilities, the claims paying ability of the insurance subsidiaries compared to MetLife, Inc. and, as necessary, the relative credit spreads of the liabilities' currencies of denomination as compared to USD spreads.

The fair values of business acquired, distribution agreements and customer relationships and the weighted average amortization periods were as follows as of November 1, 2010:

	November 1, 2010 (In millions)	Weighted Average Amortization Period (In years)
VOBA	\$ 9,210	8.2
VODA and VOCRA	341	10.3
Total value of amortizable intangible assets acquired	\$ 9,551	8.6

Negative VOBA

For certain acquired blocks of business, the estimated fair value of acquired liabilities exceeded the initial policy reserves assumed at the Acquisition Date, resulting in negative VOBA of \$4.4 billion recorded at the Acquisition Date. Negative VOBA is recorded in other policy-related balances. See Note 8. The following summarizes the major blocks of business, all included within the Japan segment, for which negative VOBA was recorded and describes why the fair value of the liabilities associated with these blocks of business exceeded the initial policy reserves assumed:

Fixed Annuities This block of business provides a fixed rate of return to the policyholders. A decrease in market interest rates since the time of issuance was the primary driver that resulted in the fair value of the liabilities associated with this block being significantly greater than the initial policy reserves assumed at the Acquisition Date.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Interest Sensitive Whole Life and Retirement Savings Products These contracts contain guaranteed minimum benefit features. The recorded reserves for these guarantees increase ratably over the life of the policies in relation to future gross revenues. In contrast, the fair value of the guaranteed minimum benefit component of the initial policy reserves assumed represents the amount that would be required to

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

be transferred to a market participant to assume the full liability at the acquisition date, implicitly incorporating market participant views as to all expected future cash flows. This results in a fair value significantly in excess of the initial guaranteed minimum benefit liability assumed at the Acquisition Date.

Trademark Assets

In connection with the Acquisition, the Company recognized \$47 million in trademark assets recorded in other assets. The fair value of the trademark assets will be recognized ratably over their expected useful lives which is generally between five to 10 years.

Indemnification Assets and Contingent Consideration

The stock purchase agreement dated as of March 7, 2010, as amended by and among MetLife, Inc., AIG and AM Holdings (formerly known as ALICO Holdings LLC) (the Stock Purchase Agreement) and related agreements include indemnification provisions that allocate the risk of losses arising out of contingencies or other uncertainties that existed as of the Acquisition Date in accordance with the terms, and subject to the limitations and procedures, provided by such provisions. As applicable, the Company recognizes an indemnification asset at the same time that it recognizes the indemnified item, measured on the same basis as the indemnified item. The Company recognized the following indemnification assets and contingencies as of the Acquisition Date in accordance with the indemnification provisions of the Stock Purchase Agreement and related agreements:

Investments The Company established indemnification assets for the fair value of amounts expected to be recovered from defaults of certain fixed maturity securities, CMBS and mortgage loans. These indemnification assets were included in other invested assets at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Litigation The Company established indemnification assets associated with certain settlements expected to be made in connection with the suspension of withdrawals from certain unit-linked funds offered to certain policyholders. These indemnification assets were included in other assets at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Section 338 Election See Note 1.

The Company recognized an aggregate amount of \$574 million for indemnification assets as of the Acquisition Date in accordance with the indemnification provisions of the Stock Purchase Agreement and related agreements.

Contingent Consideration The Company has guaranteed that the fair value of a fund of assets backing certain U.K. unit-linked contracts will have a value of at least £1 per unit on July 1, 2012. If the shortfall between the aggregate guaranteed amount and the fair value of the fund exceeds £106 million (as adjusted for withdrawals), AIG will pay the difference to the Company and, conversely, if the shortfall at July 1, 2012 is less than £106 million, the Company will pay the difference to AIG. The Company believes that the fair value of the fund will equal or exceed the aggregate guaranteed amount by July 1, 2012. The contingent consideration liability was \$109 million at December 31, 2011 and \$88 million at the Acquisition Date. The increase in the contingent consideration liability amount from the Acquisition Date to December 31, 2011 was recorded in net derivative gains (losses) in the consolidated statement of operations.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Branch Restructuring*

On March 4, 2010, American Life entered into a closing agreement (the Closing Agreement) with the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) with respect to a U.S. withholding tax issue arising as a result of payments made by its foreign branches. The Closing Agreement provides that American Life's foreign branches will not be required to withhold U.S. income tax on the income portion of payments made pursuant to American Life's life insurance and annuity contracts (Covered Payments) for any tax periods beginning on January 1, 2005 and ending on December 31, 2013 (the Deferral Period). The Closing Agreement required that American Life submit a plan to the IRS within 90 days after the close of the Acquisition, indicating the steps American Life would take (on a country by country basis) to ensure that no substantial amount of U.S. withholding tax will arise from Covered Payments made by American Life's foreign branches to foreign customers after the Deferral Period. Such plan, which was submitted to the IRS on January 29, 2011, involves the transfer of businesses from certain of the foreign branches of American Life to one or more existing or newly-formed subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. or American Life.

A liability of \$277 million was recognized in purchase accounting as of the Acquisition Date for the anticipated and estimated costs associated with restructuring American Life's foreign branches into subsidiaries in connection with the Closing Agreement.

See Notes 7, 15 and 19 for additional information related to the Acquisition.

Revenues and Earnings of ALICO

The following table presents information for ALICO that is included in the Company's consolidated statement of operations from the Acquisition Date through November 30, 2010:

	ALICO's Operations Included in MetLife's Results for the Year Ended December 31, 2010 (In millions)	
Total revenues	\$	950
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	\$	(2)
<i>Supplemental Pro Forma Information (unaudited)</i>		

The following table presents unaudited supplemental pro forma information as if the Acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2010 for the year ended December 31, 2010 and on January 1, 2009 for the year ended December 31, 2009.

	Years Ended December 31, 2010 2009 (In millions, except per share data)	
Total revenues	\$ 64,680	\$ 54,282
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, attributable to common shareholders	\$ 3,888	\$ (1,353)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, attributable to common shareholders			
per common share:			
Basic	\$	3.60	\$ (1.29)
Diluted	\$	3.57	\$ (1.29)

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

The pro forma information was derived from the historical financial information of MetLife and ALICO, reflecting the results of operations of MetLife and ALICO for 2010 and 2009. The historical financial information has been adjusted to give effect to the pro forma events that are directly attributable to the Acquisition and factually supportable and expected to have a continuing impact on the combined results. Discontinued operations and the related earnings per share have been excluded from the presentation as they are non-recurring in nature. The pro forma information is not intended to reflect the results of operations of the combined company that would have resulted had the Acquisition been effective during the periods presented or the results that may be obtained by the combined company in the future. The pro forma information does not reflect future events that may occur after the Acquisition, including, but not limited to, expense efficiencies or revenue enhancements arising from the Acquisition and also does not give effect to certain one-time charges that MetLife expects to incur, such as restructuring and integration costs.

The pro forma information primarily reflects the following pro forma adjustments:

reduction in net investment income to reflect the amortization or accretion associated with the new cost basis of the acquired fixed maturities available-for-sale portfolio;

elimination of amortization associated with the elimination of ALICO's historical DAC;

amortization of VOBA, VODA and VOCRA associated with the establishment of VOBA, VODA and VOCRA arising from the Acquisition;

reduction in other expenses associated with the amortization of negative VOBA;

reduction in revenues associated with the elimination of ALICO's historical unearned revenue liability;

interest expense associated with the issuance of the Debt Securities to AM Holdings and the public issuance of senior notes in connection with the financing of the Acquisition;

certain adjustments to conform to MetLife's accounting policies; and

reversal of investment and derivative gains (losses) associated with certain transactions that were completed prior to the Acquisition Date (conditions of closing).

2009 Disposition

In March 2009, the Company sold Cova Corporation (Cova), the parent company of Texas Life Insurance Company (Texas Life) to a third-party for \$130 million in cash consideration, excluding \$1 million of transaction costs. The net assets sold were \$101 million, resulting in a gain on disposal of \$28 million, net of income tax. The Company also reclassified \$4 million, net of income tax, of the 2009 operations of Texas Life into discontinued operations in the consolidated financial statements. As a result, the Company recognized income from discontinued operations of \$32 million, net of income tax, during the year ended December 31, 2009. See Note 23.

2009 Disposition through Assumption Reinsurance

On October 30, 2009, the Company completed the disposal, through assumption reinsurance, of substantially all of the insurance business of MetLife Canada, a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary, to a third-party. Pursuant to the assumption reinsurance agreement, the consideration paid by the Company was \$259 million, comprised of cash of \$14 million and fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans and other assets totaling \$245 million. At the

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

date of the assumption reinsurance agreement, the carrying value of insurance liabilities transferred was \$267 million, resulting in a gain of \$5 million, net of income tax. The gain was recognized in net investment gains (losses).

3. Investments***Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities Available-for-Sale***

The following tables present the cost or amortized cost, gross unrealized gains and losses, estimated fair value of fixed maturity and equity securities and the percentage that each sector represents by the respective total holdings for the periods shown. The unrealized loss amounts presented below include the noncredit loss component of OTTI losses:

	Cost or Amortized Cost	December 31, 2011 Gross Unrealized			Estimated Fair Value	% of Total
		Gains	Temporary Losses (In millions)	OTTI Losses		
Fixed Maturity Securities:						
U.S. corporate securities	\$ 98,621	\$ 8,544	\$ 1,380	\$	\$ 105,785	30.2 %
Foreign corporate securities	61,568	3,789	1,338	1	64,018	18.3
Foreign government securities	49,840	3,053	357		52,536	15.0
RMBS	42,092	2,281	1,033	703	42,637	12.2
U.S. Treasury and agency securities	34,132	5,882	2		40,012	11.4
CMBS	18,565	730	218	8	19,069	5.4
State and political subdivision securities	11,975	1,416	156		13,235	3.8
ABS	13,018	278	305	12	12,979	3.7
Other fixed maturity securities						
Total fixed maturity securities	\$ 329,811	\$ 25,973	\$ 4,789	\$ 724	\$ 350,271	100.0 %
Equity Securities:						
Common stock	\$ 2,219	\$ 83	\$ 97	\$	\$ 2,205	72.9 %
Non-redeemable preferred stock	989	31	202		818	27.1
Total equity securities	\$ 3,208	\$ 114	\$ 299	\$	\$ 3,023	100.0 %

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	Cost or Amortized Cost	Gains	December 31, 2010 Gross Unrealized		Estimated Fair Value	% of Total
			Temporary Losses	OTTI Losses		
(In millions)						
Fixed Maturity Securities:						
U.S. corporate securities	\$ 88,905	\$ 4,469	\$ 1,602	\$	\$ 91,772	28.3%
Foreign corporate securities	65,487	3,326	925		67,888	20.9
Foreign government securities	40,871	1,733	602		42,002	12.9
RMBS	45,904	1,661	1,180	533	45,852	14.1
U.S. Treasury and agency securities	32,469	1,394	559		33,304	10.2
CMBS	20,213	740	266	12	20,675	6.4
State and political subdivision securities	10,476	171	518		10,129	3.1
ABS	13,286	265	327	56	13,168	4.1
Other fixed maturity securities	6	1			7	
Total fixed maturity securities	\$ 317,617	\$ 13,760	\$ 5,979	\$ 601	\$ 324,797	100.0%
Equity Securities:						
Common stock	\$ 2,059	\$ 146	\$ 12	\$	\$ 2,193	60.9%
Non-redeemable preferred stock	1,562	76	229		1,409	39.1
Total equity securities	\$ 3,621	\$ 222	\$ 241	\$	\$ 3,602	100.0%

Within fixed maturity securities, a reclassification from the ABS sector to the RMBS sector has been made to the prior year amounts to conform to the current year presentation for securities backed by sub-prime residential mortgage loans to be consistent with market convention relating to the risks inherent in such securities and the Company's management of its investments within these asset sectors.

The Company held non-income producing fixed maturity securities with an estimated fair value of \$62 million and \$130 million with unrealized gains (losses) of (\$19) million and (\$23) million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

The Company held foreign currency derivatives with notional amounts of \$15.3 billion and \$12.2 billion to hedge the exchange rate risk associated with foreign denominated fixed maturity securities at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Concentrations of Credit Risk (Fixed Maturity Securities) Summary. The following section contains a summary of the concentrations of credit risk related to fixed maturity securities holdings.

The Company was not exposed to any concentrations of credit risk of any single issuer greater than 10% of the Company's equity, other than the government securities summarized in the table below. The par value, amortized cost and estimated fair value of holdings in sovereign fixed maturity securities of Portugal, Ireland, Italy, Greece and Spain, commonly referred to as Europe's perimeter region, was \$874 million, \$254 million and \$264 million at December 31, 2011, respectively, and \$1.9 billion, \$1.6 billion and \$1.6 billion at December 31, 2010, respectively. The estimated fair value of these Europe perimeter region sovereign fixed maturity securities represented 0.4% and 3.2% of the Company's equity at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, and 0.1% and 0.3% of total cash and invested assets at December 31, 2011 and 2010,

respectively.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Concentrations of Credit Risk (Government and Agency Securities). The following section contains a summary of the concentrations of credit risk related to government and agency fixed maturity and fixed-income securities holdings, which were greater than 10% of the Company's equity at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	Carrying Value (1)	
	(In millions)	
Government and agency fixed maturity securities:		
United States	\$ 40,012	\$ 33,304
Japan	\$ 21,003	\$ 15,591
Mexico (2)	\$	\$ 5,050
U.S. Treasury and agency fixed-income securities included in:		
Short-term investments	\$ 15,775	\$ 4,048
Cash equivalents	\$ 1,748	\$ 5,762

(1) Represents estimated fair value for fixed maturity securities, and for short-term investments and cash equivalents, estimated fair value or amortized cost, which approximates estimated fair value.

(2) The Company's investment in Mexico government and agency fixed maturity securities at December 31, 2011 of \$5.0 billion is less than 10% of the Company's equity.

Concentrations of Credit Risk (Equity Securities). The Company was not exposed to any concentrations of credit risk in its equity securities holdings of any single issuer greater than 10% of the Company's equity or 1% of total investments at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Maturities of Fixed Maturity Securities. The amortized cost and estimated fair value of fixed maturity securities, by contractual maturity date (excluding scheduled sinking funds), were as follows at:

	December 31,			
	2011		2010	
	Amortized	Estimated	Amortized	Estimated
	Cost	Fair	Cost	Fair
	Value			
	(In millions)			
Due in one year or less	\$ 16,747	\$ 16,862	\$ 8,580	\$ 8,702
Due after one year through five years	62,819	64,414	65,143	66,796
Due after five years through ten years	82,694	88,036	76,508	79,571
Due after ten years	93,876	106,274	87,983	90,033

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Subtotal	256,136	275,586	238,214	245,102
RMBS, CMBS and ABS	73,675	74,685	79,403	79,695
Total fixed maturity securities	\$ 329,811	\$ 350,271	\$ 317,617	\$ 324,797

Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities due to the exercise of call or prepayment options. Fixed maturity securities not due at a single maturity date have been included in the above table in the year of final contractual maturity. RMBS, CMBS and ABS are shown separately in the table, as they are not due at a single maturity.

As discussed further in Note 2, an indemnification asset has been established in connection with certain investments acquired from American Life.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)*****Evaluating Available-for-Sale Securities for Other-Than-Temporary Impairment***

As described more fully in Note 1, the Company performs a regular evaluation, on a security-by-security basis, of its available-for-sale securities holdings, including fixed maturity securities, equity securities and perpetual hybrid securities, in accordance with its impairment policy in order to evaluate whether such investments are other-than-temporarily impaired.

Net Unrealized Investment Gains (Losses)

The components of net unrealized investment gains (losses), included in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Fixed maturity securities	\$ 21,096	\$ 7,817	\$ (1,208)
Fixed maturity securities with noncredit OTTI losses in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(724)	(601)	(859)
Total fixed maturity securities	20,372	7,216	(2,067)
Equity securities	(167)	(3)	(103)
Derivatives	1,514	(59)	(144)
Other	72	42	71
Subtotal	21,791	7,196	(2,243)
Amounts allocated from:			
Insurance liability loss recognition	(3,996)	(672)	(118)
DAC and VOBA related to noncredit OTTI losses recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	47	38	71
DAC and VOBA	(2,093)	(1,205)	145
Policyholder dividend obligation	(2,919)	(876)	
Subtotal	(8,961)	(2,715)	98
Deferred income tax benefit (expense) related to noncredit OTTI losses recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	236	197	275
Deferred income tax benefit (expense)	(4,596)	(1,692)	539
Net unrealized investment gains (losses)	8,470	2,986	(1,331)
Net unrealized investment gains (losses) attributable to noncontrolling interests	9	4	1
Net unrealized investment gains (losses) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ 8,479	\$ 2,990	\$ (1,330)

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The changes in fixed maturity securities with noncredit OTTI losses included in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) were as follows:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Balance, beginning of period	\$ (601)	\$ (859)
Noncredit OTTI losses recognized (1)	31	(212)
Transferred to retained earnings (2)		16
Securities sold with previous noncredit OTTI loss	125	137
Subsequent changes in estimated fair value	(279)	317
Balance, end of period	\$ (724)	\$ (601)

- (1) Noncredit OTTI losses recognized, net of DAC, were \$33 million and (\$202) million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.
- (2) Amounts transferred to retained earnings were in connection with the adoption of guidance related to the consolidation of VIEs as described in Note 1.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The changes in net unrealized investment gains (losses) were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010 (In millions)	2009
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 2,990	\$ (1,330)	\$ (12,564)
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principles, net of income tax		52	(76)
Fixed maturity securities on which noncredit OTTI losses have been recognized	(123)	242	(733)
Unrealized investment gains (losses) during the year	14,823	9,117	20,745
Unrealized investment gains (losses) of subsidiary at the date of disposal	(105)		
Unrealized investment gains (losses) relating to:			
Insurance liability gain (loss) recognition	(3,406)	(554)	(160)
Insurance liability gain (loss) recognition of subsidiary at the date of disposal	82		
DAC and VOBA related to noncredit OTTI losses recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	9	(33)	61
DAC and VOBA	(899)	(1,350)	(2,880)
DAC and VOBA of subsidiary at date of disposal	11		
Policyholder dividend obligation	(2,043)	(876)	
Deferred income tax benefit (expense) related to noncredit OTTI losses recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	39	(73)	235
Deferred income tax benefit (expense)	(2,908)	(2,208)	(5,969)
Deferred income tax benefit (expense) of subsidiary at date of disposal	4		
Net unrealized investment gains (losses)	8,474	2,987	(1,341)
Net unrealized investment gains (losses) attributable to noncontrolling interests	5	3	11
Balance, end of period	\$ 8,479	\$ 2,990	\$ (1,330)
Change in net unrealized investment gains (losses)	\$ 5,484	\$ 4,317	\$ 11,223
Change in net unrealized investment gains (losses) attributable to noncontrolling interests	5	3	11
Change in net unrealized investment gains (losses) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ 5,489	\$ 4,320	\$ 11,234

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)*****Continuous Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI Losses for Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities Available-for-Sale by Sector***

The following tables present the estimated fair value and gross unrealized losses of fixed maturity and equity securities in an unrealized loss position, aggregated by sector and by length of time that the securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position. The unrealized loss amounts presented below include the noncredit component of OTTI loss. Fixed maturity securities on which a noncredit OTTI loss has been recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) are categorized by length of time as being less than 12 months or equal to or greater than 12 months in a continuous unrealized loss position based on the point in time that the estimated fair value initially declined to below the amortized cost basis and not the period of time since the unrealized loss was deemed a noncredit OTTI loss.

	Less than 12 Months		December 31, 2011 Equal to or Greater than 12 Months		Total	
	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses
	(In millions, except number of securities)					
Fixed Maturity Securities:						
U.S. corporate securities	\$ 15,642	\$ 590	\$ 5,135	\$ 790	\$ 20,777	\$ 1,380
Foreign corporate securities	12,618	639	5,957	700	18,575	1,339
Foreign government securities	11,227	230	1,799	127	13,026	357
RMBS	4,040	547	4,724	1,189	8,764	1,736
U.S. Treasury and agency securities	2,611	1	50	1	2,661	2
CMBS	2,825	135	678	91	3,503	226
State and political subdivision securities	177	2	1,007	154	1,184	156
ABS	4,972	103	1,316	214	6,288	317
Other fixed maturity securities						
Total fixed maturity securities	\$ 54,112	\$ 2,247	\$ 20,666	\$ 3,266	\$ 74,778	\$ 5,513
Equity Securities:						
Common stock	\$ 581	\$ 96	\$ 5	\$ 1	\$ 586	\$ 97
Non-redeemable preferred stock	204	30	370	172	574	202
Total equity securities	\$ 785	\$ 126	\$ 375	\$ 173	\$ 1,160	\$ 299
Total number of securities in an unrealized loss position	3,978		1,963			

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	December 31, 2010					
	Less than 12 Months		Equal to or Greater than 12 Months		Total	
	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses
	(In millions, except number of securities)					
Fixed Maturity Securities:						
U.S. corporate securities	\$ 22,954	\$ 447	\$ 8,319	\$ 1,155	\$ 31,273	\$ 1,602
Foreign corporate securities	22,415	410	3,976	515	26,391	925
Foreign government securities	26,659	585	189	17	26,848	602
RMBS	7,630	221	7,624	1,492	15,254	1,713
U.S. Treasury and agency securities	13,401	530	118	29	13,519	559
CMBS	3,787	29	1,363	249	5,150	278
State and political subdivision securities	5,061	246	988	272	6,049	518
ABS	2,671	33	2,102	350	4,773	383
Other fixed maturity securities	1				1	
Total fixed maturity securities	\$ 104,579	\$ 2,501	\$ 24,679	\$ 4,079	\$ 129,258	\$ 6,580
Equity Securities:						
Common stock	\$ 89	\$ 12	\$ 1	\$	\$ 90	\$ 12
Non-redeemable preferred stock	191	9	824	220	1,015	229
Total equity securities	\$ 280	\$ 21	\$ 825	\$ 220	\$ 1,105	\$ 241
Total number of securities in an unrealized loss position	5,609		1,704			

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)*****Aging of Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI Losses for Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities Available-for-Sale***

The following tables present the cost or amortized cost, gross unrealized losses, including the portion of OTTI loss on fixed maturity securities recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), gross unrealized losses as a percentage of cost or amortized cost and number of securities for fixed maturity and equity securities where the estimated fair value had declined and remained below cost or amortized cost by less than 20%, or 20% or more at:

	Cost or Amortized Cost		December 31, 2011 Gross Unrealized Losses		Number of Securities	
	Less than 20%	20% or more	Less than 20%	20% or more	Less than 20%	20% or more
(In millions, except number of securities)						
Fixed Maturity Securities:						
Less than six months	\$ 49,249	\$ 4,736	\$ 1,346	\$ 1,332	3,260	320
Six months or greater but less than nine months	4,104	1,049	279	349	375	63
Nine months or greater but less than twelve months	1,160	288	55	93	143	14
Twelve months or greater	17,590	2,115	1,216	843	1,523	167
Total	\$ 72,103	\$ 8,188	\$ 2,896	\$ 2,617		
Percentage of amortized cost			4 %	32 %		
Equity Securities:						
Less than six months	\$ 714	\$ 376	\$ 64	\$ 123	154	42
Six months or greater but less than nine months	22	8	2	4	19	3
Nine months or greater but less than twelve months	18		2		8	
Twelve months or greater	98	223	8	96	24	20
Total	\$ 852	\$ 607	\$ 76	\$ 223		
Percentage of cost			9 %	37 %		

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	December 31, 2010				Number of Securities	
	Cost or Amortized Cost		Gross Unrealized Losses		Less than	20% or more
	Less than 20%	20% or more	Less than 20%	20% or more	20%	
(In millions, except number of securities)						
Fixed Maturity Securities:						
Less than six months	\$ 105,301	\$ 1,403	\$ 2,348	\$ 368	5,320	121
Six months or greater but less than nine months	1,125	376	29	102	104	29
Nine months or greater but less than twelve months	371	89	28	27	50	9
Twelve months or greater	21,627	5,546	1,863	1,815	1,245	311
Total	\$ 128,424	\$ 7,414	\$ 4,268	\$ 2,312		
Percentage of amortized cost			3 %	31 %		
Equity Securities:						
Less than six months	\$ 247	\$ 94	\$ 10	\$ 22	106	33
Six months or greater but less than nine months	29	65	5	16	3	2
Nine months or greater but less than twelve months	6	47		16	3	2
Twelve months or greater	518	340	56	116	35	14
Total	\$ 800	\$ 546	\$ 71	\$ 170		
Percentage of cost			9 %	31 %		

Equity securities with gross unrealized losses of 20% or more for twelve months or greater decreased from \$116 million at December 31, 2010 to \$96 million at December 31, 2011. As shown in the section [Evaluating Temporarily Impaired Available-for-Sale Securities](#) below, all of the equity securities with gross unrealized losses of 20% or more for twelve months or greater at December 31, 2011 were financial services industry investment grade non-redeemable preferred stock, of which 71% were rated A or better.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)*****Concentration of Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI Losses for Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities Available-for-Sale***

The gross unrealized losses related to fixed maturity and equity securities, including the portion of OTTI losses on fixed maturity securities recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) were \$5.8 billion and \$6.8 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The concentration, calculated as a percentage of gross unrealized losses (including OTTI losses), by sector and industry was as follows at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
Sector:		
RMBS	30 %	25 %
U.S. corporate securities	24	23
Foreign corporate securities	23	14
Foreign government securities	6	9
ABS	5	5
CMBS	4	4
State and political subdivision securities	3	8
U.S. Treasury and agency securities		8
Other	5	4
Total	100 %	100 %
Industry:		
Mortgage-backed	34 %	29 %
Finance	27	21
Utility	8	5
Foreign government securities	6	9
Consumer	6	4
Asset-backed	5	5
Communications	3	2
State and political subdivision securities	3	8
Industrial	2	2
U.S. Treasury and agency securities		8
Other	6	7
Total	100 %	100 %

Evaluating Temporarily Impaired Available-for-Sale Securities

The following table presents fixed maturity and equity securities, each with gross unrealized losses of greater than \$10 million, the number of securities, total gross unrealized losses and percentage of total gross unrealized losses at:

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

	December 31,			
	2011		2010	
	Fixed Maturity Securities	Equity Securities	Fixed Maturity Securities	Equity Securities
	(In millions, except number of securities)			
Number of securities	96	8	107	6
Total gross unrealized losses	\$ 1,703	\$ 117	\$ 2,014	\$ 103
Percentage of total gross unrealized losses	31 %	39 %	31 %	43 %

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Fixed maturity and equity securities, each with gross unrealized losses greater than \$10 million, decreased \$297 million during the year ended December 31, 2011. The decline in, or improvement in, gross unrealized losses for the year ended December 31, 2011, was primarily attributable to a decrease in interest rates, partially offset by widening credit spreads. These securities were included in the Company's OTTI review process.

As of December 31, 2011, \$1.3 billion of unrealized losses were from fixed maturity securities with an unrealized loss position of 20% or more of amortized cost for six months or greater. Of the \$1.3 billion, \$526 million, or 41%, are related to unrealized losses on investment grade securities. Unrealized losses on investment grade securities are principally related to widening credit spreads or rising interest rates since purchase. Of the \$1.3 billion, \$759 million, or 59%, are related to unrealized losses on below investment grade securities. Unrealized losses on below investment grade securities are principally related to RMBS (primarily alternative residential mortgage loans and sub-prime residential mortgage loans), U.S and foreign corporate securities (primarily utility, industrial and financial services industry securities) and ABS (primarily collateralized debt obligations) and were the result of significantly wider credit spreads resulting from higher risk premiums since purchase, largely due to economic and market uncertainties including concerns over the financial services industry sector, unemployment levels and valuations of residential real estate supporting non-agency RMBS. As explained further in Note 1, management evaluates these U.S. and foreign corporate securities based on factors such as expected cash flows and the financial condition and near-term and long-term prospects of the issuer; and evaluates non-agency RMBS and ABS based on actual and projected cash flows after considering the quality of underlying collateral, expected prepayment speeds, current and forecasted loss severity, consideration of the payment terms of the underlying assets backing a particular security, and the payment priority within the tranche structure of the security. See *Aging of Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI Losses for Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities Available-for-Sale* for a discussion of equity securities with an unrealized loss position of 20% or more of cost for 12 months or greater.

In the Company's impairment review process, the duration and severity of an unrealized loss position for equity securities are given greater weight and consideration than for fixed maturity securities. An extended and severe unrealized loss position on a fixed maturity security may not have any impact on the ability of the issuer to service all scheduled interest and principal payments and the Company's evaluation of recoverability of all contractual cash flows or the ability to recover an amount at least equal to its amortized cost based on the present value of the expected future cash flows to be collected. In contrast, for an equity security, greater weight and consideration are given by the Company to a decline in market value and the likelihood such market value decline will recover.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents certain information about the Company's equity securities available-for-sale with gross unrealized losses of 20% or more at December 31, 2011:

	All Types of		Non-Redeemable Preferred Stock		Investment Grade		% of All Industries	% A Rated or Better
	All Equity Securities	Non-Redeemable Preferred Stock	All Industries		Financial Services Industry			
			Gross Unrealized Losses (In millions)	% of All Equity Securities	Gross Unrealized Losses (In millions)	% of All Non-Redeemable Preferred Stock		
Less than six months	\$ 123	\$ 87	71 %	\$ 46	53 %	\$ 46	100 %	22 %
Six months or greater but less than twelve months	4		%		%		%	%
Twelve months or greater	96	96	100 %	96	100 %	96	100 %	71 %
All equity securities with gross unrealized losses of 20% or more	\$ 223	\$ 183	82 %	\$ 142	78 %	\$ 142	100 %	55 %

In connection with the equity securities impairment review process, the Company evaluated its holdings in non-redeemable preferred stock, particularly those in the financial services industry. The Company considered several factors including whether there has been any deterioration in credit of the issuer and the likelihood of recovery in value of non-redeemable preferred stock with a severe or an extended unrealized loss. The Company also considered whether any issuers of non-redeemable preferred stock with an unrealized loss held by the Company, regardless of credit rating, have deferred any dividend payments. No such dividend payments had been deferred.

With respect to common stock holdings, the Company considered the duration and severity of the unrealized losses for securities in an unrealized loss position of 20% or more; and the duration of unrealized losses for securities in an unrealized loss position of less than 20% in an extended unrealized loss position (i.e., 12 months or greater).

Based on the Company's current evaluation of available-for-sale securities in an unrealized loss position in accordance with its impairment policy, and the Company's current intentions and assessments (as applicable to the type of security) about holding, selling and any requirements to sell these securities, the Company has concluded that these securities are not other-than-temporarily impaired.

Future OTTI's will depend primarily on economic fundamentals, issuer performance (including changes in the present value of future cash flows expected to be collected), changes in credit ratings, changes in collateral valuation, changes in interest rates and changes in credit spreads. If economic fundamentals or any of the above factors deteriorate, additional OTTI's may be incurred in upcoming quarters.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Trading and Other Securities**

The table below presents certain information about the Company's trading and other securities.

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Actively Traded Securities	\$ 473	\$ 463
FVO general account securities	267	131
FVO contractholder-directed unit-linked investments	17,411	17,794
FVO securities held by CSEs	117	201
Total trading and other securities at estimated fair value	\$ 18,268	\$ 18,589
Actively Traded Securities at estimated fair value	\$ 473	\$ 463
Short sale agreement liabilities at estimated fair value	(127)	(46)
Net long/short position at estimated fair value	\$ 346	\$ 417
Investments pledged to secure short sale agreement liabilities	\$ 558	\$ 465

See Note 1 for discussion of FVO contractholder-directed unit-linked investments and Variable Interest Entities for discussion of CSEs included in the table above. See Net Investment Income and Net Investment Gains (Losses) for the net investment income recognized on trading and other securities and the related changes in estimated fair value subsequent to purchase included in net investment income and net investment gains (losses) for securities still held as of the end of the respective years, as applicable.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Net Investment Gains (Losses)**

The components of net investment gains (losses) were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Total gains (losses) on fixed maturity securities:			
Total OTTI losses recognized	\$ (924)	\$ (682)	\$ (2,432)
Less: Noncredit portion of OTTI losses transferred to and recognized in other comprehensive income (loss)	(31)	212	939
Net OTTI losses on fixed maturity securities recognized in earnings (1)	(955)	(470)	(1,493)
Fixed maturity securities net gains (losses) on sales and disposals	25	215	(165)
Total gains (losses) on fixed maturity securities	(930)	(255)	(1,658)
Other net investment gains (losses):			
Equity securities	(23)	104	(399)
Trading and other securities FVO general account securities changes in estimated fair value	(2)		
Mortgage loans	175	22	(442)
Real estate and real estate joint ventures	134	(54)	(164)
Other limited partnership interests	4	(18)	(356)
Other investment portfolio gains (losses)	(7)	(6)	(26)
Subtotal investment portfolio gains (losses)	(649)	(207)	(3,045)
FVO CSEs changes in estimated fair value:			
Commercial mortgage loans	(84)	758	
Securities		(78)	
Long-term debt related to commercial mortgage loans	97	(722)	
Long-term debt related to securities	(8)	48	
Other gains (losses) (2)	(223)	(207)	144
Subtotal FVO CSEs and other gains (losses)	(218)	(201)	144
Total net investment gains (losses)	\$ (867)	\$ (408)	\$ (2,901)

(1)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Investment portfolio gains (losses) for the year ended December 31, 2011 includes intent-to-sell impairments of (\$154) million as a result of the pending disposition of certain operations of MetLife Bank and the Caribbean Business. See Note 2.

- (2) Other gains (losses) includes a loss of \$87 million and \$209 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, related to the sale of the Company's investment in MSI MetLife. See Note 2. Other gains (losses) for the year ended December 31, 2011 includes a goodwill impairment loss of \$65 million and a loss of \$19 million related to the Company's pending sale of the Caribbean Business. See Notes 2 and 7.

See Variable Interest Entities for discussion of CSEs included in the table above.

Gains (losses) from foreign currency transactions included within net investment gains (losses) were \$37 million, \$230 million and \$226 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Proceeds from sales or disposals of fixed maturity and equity securities and the components of fixed maturity and equity securities net investment gains (losses) were as shown in the table below. Investment gains and losses on sales of securities are determined on a specific identification basis.

	Years Ended December 31,			Years Ended December 31,			Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009	2011	2010	2009	2011	2010	2009
	Fixed Maturity Securities			Equity Securities			Total		
	(In millions)								
Proceeds	\$ 67,449	\$ 54,514	\$ 38,972	\$ 1,241	\$ 616	\$ 940	\$ 68,690	\$ 55,130	\$ 39,912
Gross investment gains	\$ 892	\$ 831	\$ 939	\$ 108	\$ 129	\$ 134	\$ 1,000	\$ 960	\$ 1,073
Gross investment losses	(867)	(616)	(1,104)	(71)	(11)	(133)	(938)	(627)	(1,237)
Total OTTI losses recognized in earnings:									
Credit-related	(645)	(423)	(1,130)				(645)	(423)	(1,130)
Other (1)	(310)	(47)	(363)	(60)	(14)	(400)	(370)	(61)	(763)
Total OTTI losses recognized in earnings	(955)	(470)	(1,493)	(60)	(14)	(400)	(1,015)	(484)	(1,893)
Net investment gains (losses)	\$ (930)	\$ (255)	\$ (1,658)	\$ (23)	\$ 104	\$ (399)	\$ (953)	\$ (151)	\$ (2,057)

(1) Other OTTI losses recognized in earnings include impairments on equity securities, impairments on perpetual hybrid securities classified within fixed maturity securities where the primary reason for the impairment was the severity and/or the duration of an unrealized loss position and fixed maturity securities where there is an intent to sell or it is more likely than not that the Company will be required to sell the security before recovery of the decline in estimated fair value.

Fixed maturity security OTTI losses recognized in earnings related to the following sectors and industries within the U.S. and foreign corporate securities sector:

Sector:	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
U.S. and foreign corporate securities by industry:			

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Finance	\$ 56	\$ 126	\$ 452
Consumer	50	36	211
Communications	41	16	235
Industrial	11	2	30
Utility	10	3	89
Other industries	1		26
Total U.S. and foreign corporate securities	169	183	1,043
Foreign government securities	486		1
RMBS	214	117	258
ABS	54	84	103
CMBS	32	86	88
Total	\$ 955	\$ 470	\$ 1,493

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Equity security OTTI losses recognized in earnings related to the following sectors and industries:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Sector:			
Non-redeemable preferred stock	\$ 38	\$ 7	\$ 333
Common stock	22	7	67
Total	\$ 60	\$ 14	\$ 400
Industry:			
Financial services industry:			
Perpetual hybrid securities	\$ 38	\$ 3	\$ 310
Common and remaining non-redeemable preferred stock			30
Total financial services industry	38	3	340
Other industries	22	11	60
Total	\$ 60	\$ 14	\$ 400

Credit Loss Rollforward Rollforward of the Cumulative Credit Loss Component of OTTI Loss Recognized in Earnings on Fixed Maturity Securities Still Held for Which a Portion of the OTTI Loss Was Recognized in Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

The table below presents a rollforward of the cumulative credit loss component of OTTI loss recognized in earnings on fixed maturity securities still held for which a portion of the OTTI loss was recognized in other comprehensive income (loss):

	Years Ended December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Balance, at January 1,	\$ 443	\$ 581
Additions:		
Initial impairments credit loss OTTI recognized on securities not previously impaired	45	109
Additional impairments credit loss OTTI recognized on securities previously impaired	143	125
Reductions:		
Sales (maturities, pay downs or prepayments) during the period of securities previously impaired as credit loss OTTI	(90)	(260)
Securities de-recognized in connection with the adoption of new guidance related to the consolidation of VIEs		(100)
Securities impaired to net present value of expected future cash flows	(57)	(2)
Increases in cash flows accretion of previous credit loss OTTI	(13)	(10)

Balance, at December 31,

\$ 471

\$ 443

271

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Net Investment Income**

The components of net investment income were as follows:

	2011	Years Ended December 31, 2010 (In millions)	2009
Investment income:			
Fixed maturity securities	\$ 15,037	\$ 12,407	\$ 11,545
Equity securities	141	128	178
Trading and other securities Actively Traded Securities and FVO general account securities (1)	31	73	116
Mortgage loans	3,164	2,824	2,741
Policy loans	641	649	641
Real estate and real estate joint ventures	704	391	(245)
Other limited partnership interests	681	879	174
Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments	167	101	128
International joint ventures (2)	3	(81)	(115)
Other	178	236	205
Subtotal	20,747	17,607	15,368
Less: Investment expenses	1,029	894	911
Subtotal, net	19,718	16,713	14,457
Trading and other securities FVO contractholder-directed unit-linked investments (1)	(453)	372	284
FVO CSEs:			
Commercial mortgage loans	332	411	
Securities	9	15	
Subtotal	(112)	798	284
Net investment income	\$ 19,606	\$ 17,511	\$ 14,741

(1) Changes in estimated fair value subsequent to purchase for securities still held as of the end of the respective years included in net investment income were:

Trading and other securities Actively Traded Securities and FVO general account securities	\$ (3)	\$ 30	\$ 34
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------	-------	-------

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Trading and other securities	FVO contractholder-directed unit-linked investments	\$	(647)	\$	322	\$	275
------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------	----	-------	----	-----	----	-----

(2) Amounts are presented net of changes in estimated fair value of derivatives related to economic hedges of the Company's investment in these equity method international joint venture investments that do not qualify for hedge accounting of (\$23) million, \$36 million, and (\$143) million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively.

See Variable Interest Entities for discussion of CSEs included in the table above.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)*****Securities Lending***

As described more fully in Note 1, the Company participates in a securities lending program whereby blocks of securities are loaned to third parties. These transactions are treated as financing arrangements and the associated cash collateral received is recorded as a liability. The Company is obligated to return the cash collateral received to its counterparties.

Elements of the securities lending program are presented below at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Securities on loan: (1)		
Amortized cost	\$ 20,613	\$ 23,715
Estimated fair value	\$ 24,072	\$ 24,230
Cash collateral on deposit from counterparties (2)	\$ 24,223	\$ 24,647
Security collateral on deposit from counterparties	\$ 371	\$
Reinvestment portfolio estimated fair value	\$ 23,940	\$ 24,177

(1) Included within fixed maturity securities and short-term investments.

(2) Included within payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions.

Security collateral on deposit from counterparties in connection with the securities lending transactions may not be sold or repledged, unless the counterparty is in default, and is not reflected in the consolidated financial statements.

Invested Assets on Deposit, Held in Trust and Pledged as Collateral

Invested assets on deposit, held in trust and pledged as collateral are presented in the table below at estimated fair value for cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, fixed maturity securities, equity securities, and trading and other securities and at carrying value for mortgage loans.

December 31,
2011 **2010**
(In millions)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Invested assets on deposit (1)	\$ 1,660	\$ 2,110
Invested assets held in trust (2)	11,135	8,430
Invested assets pledged as collateral (3)	29,899	29,470
 Total invested assets on deposit, held in trust and pledged as collateral	 \$ 42,694	 \$ 40,010

- (1) The Company has invested assets on deposit with regulatory agencies consisting primarily of cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, fixed maturity securities and equity securities.

- (2) The Company held in trust cash and securities, primarily fixed maturity and equity securities, to satisfy requirements under certain collateral financing agreements and certain reinsurance agreements.

- (3) The Company has pledged fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans and cash and cash equivalents in connection with various agreements and transactions, including funding and advances agreements (see Notes 8 and 11), collateralized borrowings (see Note 11), collateral financing arrangements (see Note 12), derivative transactions (see Note 4), and short sale agreements (see Trading and Other Securities).

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Mortgage Loans**

Mortgage loans are summarized as follows at:

	2011		December 31, 2010	
	Carrying Value	% of Total	Carrying Value	% of Total
(In millions)				
Mortgage loans held-for-investment:				
Commercial	\$ 40,440	56.1 %	\$ 37,818	60.7 %
Agricultural	13,129	18.2	12,751	20.4
Residential (1)	689	1.0	2,231	3.7
Subtotal	54,258	75.3	52,800	84.8
Valuation allowances (1)	(481)	(0.7)	(664)	(1.1)
Subtotal mortgage loans held-for-investment, net	53,777	74.6	52,136	83.7
Commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs	3,138	4.4	6,840	11.0
Total mortgage loans held-for-investment, net	56,915	79.0	58,976	94.7
Mortgage loans held-for-sale:				
Residential	3,064	4.2	2,510	4.0
Mortgage loans lower of amortized cost or estimated fair value (1)	4,462	6.2	811	1.3
Securitized reverse residential mortgage loans (2)	7,652	10.6		
Total mortgage loans held-for-sale	15,178	21.0	3,321	5.3
Total mortgage loans, net	\$ 72,093	100.0 %	\$ 62,297	100.0 %

(1) The valuation allowance on and the related carrying value of certain residential mortgage loans held-for-investment was transferred to mortgage loans held-for-sale in connection with the pending disposition of certain operations of MetLife Bank. See Note 2.

(2) See Note 1 for a discussion of the securitized reverse residential mortgage loans.
See Variable Interest Entities for discussion of CSEs included in the table above and the decrease in commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs.

Certain of the Company's real estate joint ventures have mortgage loans with the Company. The carrying values of such mortgage loans were \$286 million and \$283 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following tables present the recorded investment in mortgage loans held for investment, by portfolio segment, by method of evaluation of credit loss, and the related valuation allowances, by type of credit loss, at:

	Commercial	Agricultural	Residential	Total
	(In millions)			
December 31, 2011:				
Mortgage loans:				
Evaluated individually for credit losses	\$ 96	\$ 159	\$ 13	\$ 268
Evaluated collectively for credit losses	40,344	12,970	676	53,990
Total mortgage loans	40,440	13,129	689	54,258
Valuation allowances:				
Specific credit losses	59	45	1	105
Non-specifically identified credit losses	339	36	1	376
Total valuation allowances	398	81	2	481
Mortgage loans, net of valuation allowance	\$ 40,042	\$ 13,048	\$ 687	\$ 53,777
December 31, 2010:				
Mortgage loans:				
Evaluated individually for credit losses	\$ 120	\$ 146	\$ 13	\$ 279
Evaluated collectively for credit losses	37,698	12,605	2,218	52,521
Total mortgage loans	37,818	12,751	2,231	52,800
Valuation allowances:				
Specific credit losses	36	52		88
Non-specifically identified credit losses	526	36	14	576
Total valuation allowances	562	88	14	664
Mortgage loans, net of valuation allowance	\$ 37,256	\$ 12,663	\$ 2,217	\$ 52,136

The following tables present the changes in the valuation allowance, by portfolio segment:

Mortgage Loan Valuation Allowances			
Commercial	Agricultural	Residential	Total
(In millions)			

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 232	\$ 61	\$ 11	\$ 304
Provision (release)	384	79	12	475
Charge-offs, net of recoveries	(27)	(25)	(6)	(58)
Balance at December 31, 2009	589	115	17	721
Provision (release)	(5)	12	2	9
Charge-offs, net of recoveries	(22)	(39)	(5)	(66)
Balance at December 31, 2010	562	88	14	664
Provision (release)	(152)	(3)	10	(145)
Charge-offs, net of recoveries	(12)	(4)	(3)	(19)
Transfer to held-for-sale (1)			(19)	(19)
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 398	\$ 81	\$ 2	\$ 481

- (1) The valuation allowance on and the related carrying value of certain residential mortgage loans held-for-investment was transferred to mortgage loans held-for-sale in connection with the pending disposition of certain operations of MetLife Bank. See Note 2.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Commercial Mortgage Loans by Credit Quality Indicators with Estimated Fair Value. See Note 1 for a discussion of all credit quality indicators presented herein. Presented below for the commercial mortgage loans held-for-investment is the recorded investment, prior to valuation allowances, by the indicated loan-to-value ratio categories and debt service coverage ratio categories and estimated fair value of such mortgage loans by the indicated loan-to-value ratio categories at:

	Commercial Recorded Investment			Total	% of Total	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total
	Debt Service Coverage Ratios						
	>1.20x	1.00x - 1.20x	< 1.00x				
December 31, 2011:							
Loan-to-value ratios:							
Less than 65%	\$ 24,983	\$ 448	\$ 564	\$ 25,995	64.3 %	\$ 27,581	65.5 %
65% to 75%	8,275	336	386	8,997	22.3	9,387	22.3
76% to 80%	1,150	98	226	1,474	3.6	1,473	3.5
Greater than 80%	2,714	880	380	3,974	9.8	3,664	8.7
Total	\$ 37,122	\$ 1,762	\$ 1,556	\$ 40,440	100.0 %	\$ 42,105	100.0 %
December 31, 2010:							
Loan-to-value ratios:							
Less than 65%	\$ 16,663	\$ 125	\$ 483	\$ 17,271	45.7 %	\$ 18,183	46.9 %
65% to 75%	9,022	765	513	10,300	27.2	10,685	27.6
76% to 80%	3,033	304	135	3,472	9.2	3,535	9.1
Greater than 80%	4,155	1,813	807	6,775	17.9	6,374	16.4
Total	\$ 32,873	\$ 3,007	\$ 1,938	\$ 37,818	100.0 %	\$ 38,777	100.0 %

Agricultural Mortgage Loans by Credit Quality Indicator. The recorded investment in agricultural mortgage loans held-for-investment, prior to valuation allowances, by credit quality indicator, is as shown below. The estimated fair value of agricultural mortgage loans held-for-investment was \$13.6 billion and \$12.9 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

	2011		Agricultural December 31, 2010	
	Recorded Investment (In millions)	% of Total	Recorded Investment (In millions)	% of Total
Loan-to-value ratios:				
Less than 65%	\$ 11,802	89.9 %	\$ 11,483	90.1 %
65% to 75%	874	6.7	885	6.9

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

76% to 80%	76	0.6	48	0.4
Greater than 80%	377	2.8	335	2.6
Total	\$ 13,129	100.0 %	\$ 12,751	100.0 %

276

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Residential Mortgage Loans by Credit Quality Indicator. The recorded investment in residential mortgage loans held-for-investment, prior to valuation allowances, by credit quality indicator, is as shown below. The estimated fair value of residential mortgage loans held-for-investment was \$737 million and \$2.3 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

	2011		Residential December 31, 2010	
	Recorded Investment (In millions)	% of Total	Recorded Investment (In millions)	% of Total
Performance indicators:				
Performing	\$ 671	97.4 %	\$ 2,149	96.3 %
Nonperforming	18	2.6	82	3.7
Total	\$ 689	100.0 %	\$ 2,231	100.0 %

Past Due and Interest Accrual Status of Mortgage Loans. The Company has a high quality, well performing, mortgage loan portfolio, with approximately 99% of all mortgage loans classified as performing at both December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010. The Company defines delinquent mortgage loans consistent with industry practice, when interest and principal payments are past due as follows: commercial mortgage loans 60 days or more; agricultural mortgage loans 90 days or more; and residential mortgage loans 60 days or more. The recorded investment in mortgage loans held-for-investment, prior to valuation allowances, past due according to these aging categories, greater than 90 days past due and still accruing interest and in nonaccrual status, by portfolio segment, were as follows at:

	Past Due		Greater than 90 Days Past Due Still Accruing Interest		Nonaccrual Status	
	December 31, 2011	December 31, 2010	December 31, 2011	December 31, 2010	December 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
	(In millions)					
Commercial	\$ 63	\$ 58	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 63	\$ 7
Agricultural	146	159	29	13	157	177
Residential	8	79		11	17	25
Total	\$ 217	\$ 296	\$ 29	\$ 25	\$ 237	\$ 209

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Impaired Mortgage Loans. The unpaid principal balance, recorded investment, valuation allowances and carrying value, net of valuation allowances, for impaired mortgage loans held-for-investment, including those modified in a troubled debt restructuring, by portfolio segment, were as follows at:

	Impaired Mortgage Loans							
	Unpaid Principal Balance	Loans with a Valuation Allowance			Loans without a Valuation Allowance		All Impaired Loans	
		Recorded Investment	Valuation Allowances	Carrying Value	Unpaid Principal Balance	Recorded Investment	Unpaid Principal Balance	Carrying Value
(In millions)								
December 31, 2011:								
Commercial	\$ 96	\$ 96	\$ 59	\$ 37	\$ 252	\$ 237	\$ 348	\$ 274
Agricultural	160	159	45	114	71	69	231	183
Residential	13	13	1	12	1	1	14	13
Total	\$ 269	\$ 268	\$ 105	\$ 163	\$ 324	\$ 307	\$ 593	\$ 470
December 31, 2010:								
Commercial	\$ 120	\$ 120	\$ 36	\$ 84	\$ 99	\$ 87	\$ 219	\$ 171
Agricultural	146	146	52	94	123	119	269	213
Residential	3	3		3	16	16	19	19
Total	\$ 269	\$ 269	\$ 88	\$ 181	\$ 238	\$ 222	\$ 507	\$ 403

Unpaid principal balance is generally prior to any charge-offs.

The average investment in impaired mortgage loans held-for-investment, including those modified in a troubled debt restructuring, and the related interest income, by portfolio segment, for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, and for all mortgage loans for the year ended December 31, 2009, was:

	Average Investment	Impaired Mortgage Loans Interest Income Recognized	
		Cash Basis	Accrual Basis
(In millions)			
For the Year Ended December 31, 2011:			
Commercial	\$ 313	\$ 5	\$ 1
Agricultural	252	4	1
Residential	23		
Total	\$ 588	\$ 9	\$ 2

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

For the Year Ended December 31, 2010:

Commercial	\$ 192	\$ 5	\$ 1
Agricultural	284	6	2
Residential	16		

Total	\$ 492	\$ 11	\$ 3
-------	--------	-------	------

For the Year Ended December 31, 2009	\$ 338	\$ 8	\$ 1
---------------------------------------------	---------------	-------------	-------------

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Mortgage Loans Modified in a Troubled Debt Restructuring. See Note 1 for a discussion of loan modifications that are classified as trouble debt restructuring and the types of concession typically granted. At December 31, 2011, the number of mortgage loans and carrying value after specific valuation allowance of mortgage loans modified during the period in a troubled debt restructuring were as follows:

	Mortgage Loans Modified in a Troubled Debt Restructuring December 31, 2011		
	Number of Mortgage Loans	Carrying Value after Specific Valuation Allowance	
		Pre- Modification	Post- Modification
	(In millions)		
Commercial	5	\$ 147	\$ 111
Agricultural	10	42	42
Residential			
Total	15	\$ 189	\$ 153

During the previous 12 months, the Company had four agricultural mortgage loans, with a carrying value after specific valuation allowance of \$13 million, modified in a troubled debt restructuring with a subsequent payment default at December 31, 2011. There were no commercial or residential mortgage loans during the previous 12 months modified in a troubled debt restructuring with a subsequent payment default at December 31, 2011. Payment default is determined in the same manner as delinquency status when interest and principal payments are past due as follows: commercial mortgage loans 60 days or more; agricultural mortgage loans 90 days or more; and residential mortgage loans 60 days or more.

Real Estate and Real Estate Joint Ventures

Real estate investments by type consisted of the following:

	December 31,			
	2011		2010	
	Carrying Value	% of Total	Carrying Value	% of Total
	(In millions)		(In millions)	
Traditional	\$ 5,958	69.6 %	\$ 4,987	62.1 %
Real estate joint ventures and funds	2,340	27.3	2,707	33.7
Real estate and real estate joint ventures	8,298	96.9	7,694	95.8
Foreclosed (commercial, agricultural and residential)	264	3.1	152	1.9

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Real estate held-for-investment	8,562	100.0	7,846	97.7
Real estate held-for-sale	1		184	2.3
Total real estate and real estate joint ventures	\$ 8,563	100.0 %	\$ 8,030	100.0 %

The Company classifies within traditional real estate its investment in income-producing real estate, which is comprised primarily of wholly-owned real estate and, to a much lesser extent, joint ventures with interests in single property income-producing real estate. The estimated fair value of the traditional real estate investment portfolio was \$7.7 billion and \$6.3 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The Company classifies within real estate joint ventures and funds, its investments in joint ventures with interests in multi-property

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

projects with varying strategies ranging from the development of properties to the operation of income-producing properties; as well as its investments in real estate private equity funds. From time to time, the Company transfers investments from these joint ventures to traditional real estate, if the Company retains an interest in the joint venture after a completed property commences operations and the Company intends to retain an interest in the property.

Properties acquired through foreclosure were \$295 million, \$165 million and \$127 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and include commercial, agricultural and residential properties. After the Company acquires properties through foreclosure, it evaluates whether the properties are appropriate for retention in its traditional real estate portfolio. Foreclosed real estate held at December 31, 2011 and 2010 includes those properties the Company has not selected for retention in its traditional real estate portfolio and which do not meet the criteria to be classified as held-for-sale.

The wholly-owned real estate within traditional real estate is net of accumulated depreciation of \$1.3 billion and \$1.5 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Related depreciation expense on traditional wholly-owned real estate was \$164 million, \$151 million and \$135 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. These amounts include depreciation expense related to discontinued operations of \$7 million, \$16 million and \$17 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

There were no impairments recognized on real estate held-for-investment for the year ended December 31, 2011. Impairments recognized on real estate held-for-investment were \$48 million and \$160 million for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Impairments recognized on real estate held-for-sale were \$2 million and \$1 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. There were no impairments recognized on real estate held-for-sale for the year ended December 31, 2009. The Company's carrying value of real estate held-for-sale has been reduced by impairments recorded prior to 2009 of \$1 million at both December 31, 2011 and 2010. The carrying value of non-income producing real estate was \$182 million and \$137 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Other Limited Partnership Interests

The carrying value of other limited partnership interests (which primarily represent ownership interests in pooled investment funds that principally make private equity investments in companies in the United States and overseas) was \$6.4 billion at both December 31, 2011 and 2010. Included within other limited partnership interests were \$1.1 billion and \$1.0 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, of investments in hedge funds. Impairments of other limited partnership interests, principally other limited partnership interests accounted for under the cost method, were \$5 million, \$12 million and \$354 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Collectively Significant Equity Method Investments

The Company holds investments in real estate joint ventures, real estate funds and other limited partnership interests consisting of leveraged buy-out funds, hedge funds, private equity funds, joint ventures and other funds. The portion of these investments accounted for under the equity method had a carrying value of \$9.5 billion as of December 31, 2011. The Company's maximum exposure to loss related to these equity method investments is limited to the carrying value of these investments plus unfunded commitments of \$3.5 billion as of December 31, 2011. Except for certain real estate joint ventures, the Company's investments in real estate funds and other limited partnership interests are generally of a passive nature in that the Company does not participate in the management of the entities.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

As further described in Note 1, the Company generally records its share of earnings in its equity method investments using a three-month lag methodology and within net investment income. Aggregate net investment income from these equity method real estate joint ventures, real estate funds and other limited partnership interests exceeded 10% of the Company's consolidated pre-tax income (loss) from continuing operations for two of the three most recent annual periods: 2010 and 2009. The Company is providing the following aggregated summarized financial data for such equity method investments, for the most recent annual periods, in order to provide comparative information. This aggregated summarized financial data does not represent the Company's proportionate share of the assets, liabilities, or earnings of such entities.

As of, and for the year ended December 31, 2011, the aggregated summarized financial data presented below reflects the latest available financial information. Aggregate total assets of these entities totaled \$266.4 billion and \$262.9 billion as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Aggregate total liabilities of these entities totaled \$31.2 billion and \$77.6 billion as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Aggregate net income (loss) of these entities totaled \$9.7 billion, \$18.7 billion and \$22.8 billion for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Aggregate net income (loss) from real estate joint ventures, real estate funds and other limited partnership interests is primarily comprised of investment income, including recurring investment income and realized and unrealized investment gains (losses).

Other Invested Assets

The following table presents the carrying value of the Company's other invested assets by type at:

	December 31,		2010	
	2011		2010	
	Carrying Value (In millions)	% of Total	Carrying Value (In millions)	% of Total
Freestanding derivatives with positive fair values	\$ 16,200	68.6 %	\$ 7,777	50.4 %
Leveraged leases, net of non-recourse debt	2,248	9.5	2,191	14.2
Tax credit partnerships	1,531	6.5	976	6.3
MSRs	666	2.8	950	6.2
Funds withheld	608	2.6	551	3.6
Joint venture investments	218	0.9	694	4.5
Other	2,157	9.1	2,291	14.8
Total	\$ 23,628	100.0 %	\$ 15,430	100.0 %

See Note 4 for information regarding the freestanding derivatives with positive estimated fair values. See *Leveraged Leases* for the composition of leveraged leases. Tax credit partnerships are established for the purpose of investing in low-income housing and other social causes, where the primary return on investment is in the form of income tax credits, and are accounted for under the equity method or under the effective yield method. See Note 5 for activity rollforwards for MSRs. Funds withheld represent amounts contractually withheld by ceding companies in accordance with reinsurance agreements. Joint venture investments are accounted for under the equity method and represent the Company's investment in insurance underwriting joint ventures in China, Japan (see Note 2) and Chile.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Leveraged Leases*

Investment in leveraged leases, included in other invested assets, consisted of the following:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Rental receivables, net	\$ 1,859	\$ 1,882
Estimated residual values	1,657	1,682
Subtotal	3,516	3,564
Unearned income	(1,268)	(1,373)
Investment in leveraged leases	\$ 2,248	\$ 2,191

Rental receivables are generally due in periodic installments. The payment periods range from one to 15 years, but in certain circumstances are as long as 34 years. For rental receivables, the primary credit quality indicator is whether the rental receivable is performing or non-performing, which is assessed monthly. The Company generally defines non-performing rental receivables as those that are 90 days or more past due. As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, all rental receivables were performing.

The deferred income tax liability related to leveraged leases was \$1.5 billion and \$1.4 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

The components of income from investment in leveraged leases, excluding realized gains (losses) were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Net income from investment in leveraged leases	\$ 125	\$ 123	\$ 114
Less: Income tax expense on leveraged leases	(44)	(43)	(40)
Net investment income after income tax from investment in leveraged leases	\$ 81	\$ 80	\$ 74

Cash Equivalents

The carrying value of cash equivalents, which includes securities and other investments with an original or remaining maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase, was \$5.0 billion and \$9.6 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Purchased Credit Impaired Investments

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Investments acquired with evidence of credit quality deterioration since origination and for which it is probable at the acquisition date that the Company will be unable to collect all contractually required payments are classified as purchased credit impaired investments. For each investment, the excess of the cash flows expected to be collected as of the acquisition date over its acquisition-date fair value is referred to as the accretable yield and is recognized as net investment income on an effective yield basis. If subsequently, based on current information and events, it is probable that there is a significant increase in cash flows previously expected to be collected or if actual cash flows are significantly greater than cash flows previously expected to be collected, the accretable yield is adjusted prospectively. The excess of the contractually required payments (including interest) as of the acquisition date over the cash flows expected to be collected as of the acquisition

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

date is referred to as the nonaccretable difference, and this amount is not expected to be realized as net investment income. Decreases in cash flows expected to be collected can result in OTTI or the recognition of mortgage loan valuation allowances (see Note 1).

The table below presents the purchased credit impaired investments, by invested asset class, held at:

	Fixed Maturity Securities		Mortgage Loans	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	December 31, (In millions)			
Outstanding principal and interest balance (1)	\$ 4,547	\$ 1,548	\$ 471	\$ 504
Carrying value (2)	\$ 3,130	\$ 1,050	\$ 173	\$ 195

(1) Represents the contractually required payments which is the sum of contractual principal, whether or not currently due, and accrued interest.

(2) Estimated fair value plus accrued interest for fixed maturity securities and amortized cost, plus accrued interest, less any valuation allowances, for mortgage loans.

The following table presents information about purchased credit impaired investments acquired during the periods, as of their respective acquisition dates:

	Fixed Maturity Securities		Mortgage Loans	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	Years Ended December 31, (In millions)			
Contractually required payments (including interest)	\$ 5,141	\$ 2,126	\$	\$ 553
Cash flows expected to be collected (1), (2)	\$ 4,365	\$ 1,782	\$	\$ 374
Fair value of investments acquired	\$ 2,590	\$ 1,076	\$	\$ 201

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

- (1) Represents undiscounted principal and interest cash flow expectations, at the date of acquisition.
- (2) A portion of the difference between the contractually required payments (including interest) and the cash flows expected to be collected on certain of the investments acquired in the Acquisition has been established as an indemnification asset as discussed further in Note 2. The following table presents activity for the accretable yield on purchased credit impaired investments for:

	Fixed Maturity Securities		Mortgage Loans	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	Years Ended December 31, (In millions)			
Accretable yield, January 1,	\$ 541	\$	\$ 170	\$
Investments purchased	1,775	606		
Acquisition (1)		100		173
Accretion recognized in earnings	(114)	(62)	(56)	(3)
Disposals	(65)			
Reclassification (to) from nonaccretable difference	174	(103)	140	
Accretable yield, December 31,	\$ 2,311	\$ 541	\$ 254	\$ 170

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

- (1) As described further in Note 2, all investments acquired in the Acquisition were recorded at estimated fair value as of the Acquisition Date. This activity relates to acquired fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans with a credit impairment inherent in the estimated fair value.

Variable Interest Entities

The Company holds investments in certain entities that are VIEs. In certain instances, the Company holds both the power to direct the most significant activities of the entity, as well as an economic interest in the entity and, as such, is deemed to be the primary beneficiary or consolidator of the entity. The following table presents the total assets and total liabilities relating to VIEs for which the Company has concluded that it is the primary beneficiary and which are consolidated at December 31, 2011 and 2010. Creditors or beneficial interest holders of VIEs where the Company is the primary beneficiary have no recourse to the general credit of the Company, as the Company's obligation to the VIEs is limited to the amount of its committed investment.

	December 31,			
	2011	2011	2010	2010
	Total Assets	Total Liabilities	Total Assets	Total Liabilities
	(In millions)			
Consolidated securitization entities (1)	\$ 3,299	\$ 3,103	\$ 7,114	\$ 6,892
MRSC collateral financing arrangement (2)	3,333		3,333	
Other limited partnership interests	360	6	319	85
Trading and other securities	163		186	
Other invested assets	102	1	108	1
Real estate joint ventures	16	18	20	17
Total	\$ 7,273	\$ 3,128	\$ 11,080	\$ 6,995

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

- (1) The Company consolidates former QSPEs that are structured as CMBS and former QSPEs that are structured as collateralized debt obligations. The assets of these entities can only be used to settle their respective liabilities, and under no circumstances is the Company liable for any principal or interest shortfalls should any arise. The Company's exposure was limited to that of its remaining investment in the former QSPEs of \$172 million and \$201 million at estimated fair value at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The long-term debt presented below bears interest primarily at fixed rates ranging from 2.25% to 5.57%, payable primarily on a monthly basis and is expected to be repaid over the next six years. Interest expense related to these obligations, included in other expenses, was \$324 million and \$411 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The Company sold certain of these CMBS investments in the third quarter of 2011, resulting in the deconsolidation of such entities and their related mortgage loans held-for-investment and long-term debt. The assets and liabilities of these CSEs, at estimated fair value, were as follows at:

	December 31, 2011 2010 (In millions)	
Assets:		
Mortgage loans held-for-investment (commercial mortgage loans)	\$ 3,138	\$ 6,840
Trading and other securities	117	201
Accrued investment income	16	34
Cash and cash equivalents	21	39
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables	7	
Total assets	\$ 3,299	\$ 7,114
Liabilities:		
Long-term debt	\$ 3,068	\$ 6,820
Other liabilities	35	72
Total liabilities	\$ 3,103	\$ 6,892

- (2) See Note 12 for a description of the MetLife Reinsurance Company of South Carolina (MRSC) collateral financing arrangement. These assets consist of the following, at estimated fair value, at:

	December 31, 2011 2010 (In millions)	
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale:		
ABS	\$ 1,356	\$ 1,333
U.S. corporate securities	833	893
RMBS	502	547
CMBS	369	383
Foreign corporate securities	126	139
State and political subdivision securities	39	30

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Foreign government securities		5
Mortgage loans	49	
Cash and cash equivalents	59	3
Total	\$ 3,333	\$ 3,333

285

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents the carrying amount and maximum exposure to loss relating to VIEs for which the Company holds significant variable interests but is not the primary beneficiary and which have not been consolidated at:

	2011		December 31, 2010	
	Carrying Amount	Maximum Exposure to Loss (1)	Carrying Amount	Maximum Exposure to Loss (1)
(In millions)				
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale:				
RMBS (2)	\$ 42,637	\$ 42,637	\$ 45,852	\$ 45,852
CMBS (2)	19,069	19,069	20,675	20,675
ABS (2)	12,979	12,979	13,168	13,168
U.S. corporate securities	2,911	2,911	2,435	2,435
Foreign corporate securities	2,087	2,087	2,950	2,950
Other limited partnership interests	4,340	6,084	4,383	6,479
Other invested assets	799	1,194	576	773
Trading and other securities	671	671	789	789
Mortgage loans	456	456	350	350
Real estate joint ventures	61	79	40	108
Total	\$ 86,010	\$ 88,167	\$ 91,218	\$ 93,579

(1) The maximum exposure to loss relating to the fixed maturity and trading and other securities is equal to the carrying amounts or carrying amounts of retained interests. The maximum exposure to loss relating to the other limited partnership interests and real estate joint ventures is equal to the carrying amounts plus any unfunded commitments of the Company. Such a maximum loss would be expected to occur only upon bankruptcy of the issuer or investee. The maximum exposure to loss relating to mortgage loans is equal to the carrying amounts plus any unfunded commitments of the Company. For certain of its investments in other invested assets, the Company's return is in the form of income tax credits which are guaranteed by a creditworthy third party. For such investments, the maximum exposure to loss is equal to the carrying amounts plus any unfunded commitments, reduced by income tax credits guaranteed by third parties of \$267 million and \$231 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

(2) For these variable interests, the Company's involvement is limited to that of a passive investor. As described in Note 16, the Company makes commitments to fund partnership investments in the normal course of business. Excluding these commitments, the Company did not provide financial or other support to investees designated as VIEs during the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009.

4. Derivative Financial Instruments*Accounting for Derivative Financial Instruments*

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

See Note 1 for a description of the Company's accounting policies for derivative financial instruments.

See Note 5 for information about the fair value hierarchy for derivatives.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Primary Risks Managed by Derivative Financial Instruments and Non-Derivative Financial Instruments**

The Company is exposed to various risks relating to its ongoing business operations, including interest rate risk, foreign currency risk, credit risk and equity market risk. The Company uses a variety of strategies to manage these risks, including the use of derivative instruments. The following table presents the gross notional amount, estimated fair value and primary underlying risk exposure of the Company's derivative financial instruments, excluding embedded derivatives, held at:

Primary Underlying Risk Exposure	Instrument Type	Notional Amount	December 31, 2011 Estimated Fair Value (1)		2010 Estimated Fair Value (1)		
			Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities	
			(In millions)				
Interest rate	Interest rate swaps	\$ 79,733	\$ 8,241	\$ 2,199	\$ 54,803	\$ 2,654	\$ 1,516
	Interest rate floors	23,866	1,246	165	23,866	630	66
	Interest rate caps	49,665	102		35,412	176	1
	Interest rate futures	14,965	25	19	9,385	43	17
	Interest rate options	16,988	896	6	8,761	144	23
	Interest rate forwards	14,033	286	91	10,374	106	135
	Synthetic GICs	4,454			4,397		
Foreign currency	Foreign currency swaps	16,461	1,172	1,060	17,626	1,616	1,282
	Foreign currency forwards	10,149	200	60	10,443	119	91
	Currency futures	633			493	2	
	Currency options	1,321	6		5,426	50	
	Non-derivative hedging instruments (2)				169		185
Credit	Credit default swaps	13,136	326	113	10,957	173	104
	Credit forwards	20	4		90	2	3
Equity market	Equity futures	7,053	26	10	8,794	21	9
	Equity options	17,099	3,263	179	33,688	1,843	1,197
	Variance swaps	18,801	397	75	18,022	198	118
	Total rate of return swaps	1,644	10	34	1,547		
	Total	\$ 290,021	\$ 16,200	\$ 4,011	\$ 254,253	\$ 7,777	\$ 4,747

(1) The estimated fair value of all derivatives in an asset position is reported within other invested assets in the consolidated balance sheets and the estimated fair value of all derivatives in a liability position is reported within other liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets.

(2) The estimated fair value of non-derivative hedging instruments represents the amortized cost of the instruments, as adjusted for foreign currency transaction gains or losses. Non-derivative hedging instruments are reported within PABs in the consolidated balance sheets.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents the gross notional amount of derivative financial instruments by maturity at December 31, 2011:

	One Year or Less	After One Year Through Five Years	Remaining Life After Five Years Through Ten Years (In millions)	After Ten Years	Total
Interest rate swaps	\$ 5,709	\$ 26,479	\$ 18,989	\$ 28,556	\$ 79,733
Interest rate floors		16,866	4,000	3,000	23,866
Interest rate caps	5,000	40,151	4,514		49,665
Interest rate futures	14,965				14,965
Interest rate options	707	11,976	4,305		16,988
Interest rate forwards	13,358	675			14,033
Synthetic GICs	4,454				4,454
Foreign currency swaps	1,255	6,593	5,793	2,820	16,461
Foreign currency forwards	9,834	237	19	59	10,149
Currency futures	633				633
Currency options	1,321				1,321
Credit default swaps	174	12,315	647		13,136
Credit forwards	20				20
Equity futures	7,053				7,053
Equity options	538	5,254	11,307		17,099
Variance swaps	1,015	2,067	15,396	323	18,801
Total rate of return swaps	1,597	47			1,644
Total	\$ 67,633	\$ 122,660	\$ 64,970	\$ 34,758	\$ 290,021

Interest rate swaps are used by the Company primarily to reduce market risks from changes in interest rates and to alter interest rate exposure arising from mismatches between assets and liabilities (duration mismatches). In an interest rate swap, the Company agrees with another party to exchange, at specified intervals, the difference between fixed rate and floating rate interest amounts as calculated by reference to an agreed notional principal amount. These transactions are entered into pursuant to master agreements that provide for a single net payment to be made by the counterparty at each due date. The Company utilizes interest rate swaps in fair value, cash flow and non-qualifying hedging relationships.

The Company also enters into basis swaps to better match the cash flows from assets and related liabilities. In a basis swap, both legs of the swap are floating with each based on a different index. Generally, no cash is exchanged at the outset of the contract and no principal payments are made by either party. A single net payment is usually made by one counterparty at each due date. Basis swaps are included in interest rate swaps in the preceding table. The Company utilizes basis swaps in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

Inflation swaps are used as an economic hedge to reduce inflation risk generated from inflation-indexed liabilities. Inflation swaps are included in interest rate swaps in the preceding table. The Company utilizes inflation swaps in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

Implied volatility swaps are used by the Company primarily as economic hedges of interest rate risk associated with the Company's investments in mortgage-backed securities. In an implied volatility swap, the Company exchanges fixed payments for floating payments that are linked to

certain market volatility measures. If implied volatility rises, the floating payments that the Company receives will increase, and if implied volatility

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

falls, the floating payments that the Company receives will decrease. Implied volatility swaps are included in interest rate swaps in the preceding table. The Company utilizes implied volatility swaps in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

The Company uses structured interest rate swaps to synthetically create investments that are either more expensive to acquire or otherwise unavailable in the cash markets. These transactions are a combination of a derivative and a cash instrument such as a U.S. Treasury, agency, or other fixed maturity security. Structured interest rate swaps are included in interest rate swaps in the preceding table. Structured interest rate swaps are not designated as hedging instruments.

The Company purchases interest rate caps and floors primarily to protect its floating rate liabilities against rises in interest rates above a specified level, and against interest rate exposure arising from mismatches between assets and liabilities (duration mismatches), as well as to protect its minimum rate guarantee liabilities against declines in interest rates below a specified level, respectively. In certain instances, the Company locks in the economic impact of existing purchased caps and floors by entering into offsetting written caps and floors. The Company utilizes interest rate caps and floors in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

In exchange-traded interest rate (Treasury and swap) futures transactions, the Company agrees to purchase or sell a specified number of contracts, the value of which is determined by the different classes of interest rate securities, and to post variation margin on a daily basis in an amount equal to the difference in the daily market values of those contracts. The Company enters into exchange-traded futures with regulated futures commission merchants that are members of the exchange. Exchange-traded interest rate (Treasury and swap) futures are used primarily to hedge mismatches between the duration of assets in a portfolio and the duration of liabilities supported by those assets, to hedge against changes in value of securities the Company owns or anticipates acquiring and to hedge against changes in interest rates on anticipated liability issuances by replicating Treasury or swap curve performance. The Company utilizes exchange-traded interest rate futures in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

Swaptions are used by the Company to hedge interest rate risk associated with the Company's long-term liabilities and invested assets. A swaption is an option to enter into a swap with a forward starting effective date. In certain instances, the Company locks in the economic impact of existing purchased swaptions by entering into offsetting written swaptions. The Company pays a premium for purchased swaptions and receives a premium for written swaptions. Swaptions are included in interest rate options in the preceding table. The Company utilizes swaptions in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

The Company writes covered call options on its portfolio of U.S. Treasury securities as an income generation strategy. In a covered call transaction, the Company receives a premium at the inception of the contract in exchange for giving the derivative counterparty the right to purchase the referenced security from the Company at a predetermined price. The call option is covered because the Company owns the referenced security over the term of the option. Covered call options are included in interest rate options in the preceding table. The Company utilizes covered call options in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

The Company enters into interest rate forwards to buy and sell securities. The price is agreed upon at the time of the contract and payment for such a contract is made at a specified future date. The Company also uses interest rate forwards to sell to be announced securities as economic hedges against the risk of changes in the fair value of mortgage loans held-for-sale and interest rate lock commitments. The Company utilizes interest rate forwards in cash flow and non-qualifying hedging relationships.

Interest rate lock commitments are short-term commitments to fund mortgage loan applications in process (the pipeline) for a fixed term for a fixed rate or spread. During the term of an interest rate lock commitment, the Company is exposed to the risk that interest rates will change from the rate quoted to the potential borrower.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Interest rate lock commitments to fund mortgage loans that will be held-for-sale are considered derivative instruments. Interest rate lock commitments are included in interest rate forwards in the preceding table. Interest rate lock commitments are not designated as hedging instruments.

A synthetic GIC is a contract that simulates the performance of a traditional guaranteed interest contract through the use of financial instruments. Under a synthetic GIC, the policyholder owns the underlying assets. The Company guarantees a rate return on those assets for a premium. Synthetic GICs are not designated as hedging instruments.

Foreign currency derivatives, including foreign currency swaps, foreign currency forwards, currency options, and currency futures contracts, are used by the Company to reduce the risk from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates associated with its assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. The Company also uses foreign currency forwards and swaps to hedge the foreign currency risk associated with certain of its net investments in foreign operations.

In a foreign currency swap transaction, the Company agrees with another party to exchange, at specified intervals, the difference between one currency and another at a fixed exchange rate, generally set at inception, calculated by reference to an agreed upon principal amount. The principal amount of each currency is exchanged at the inception and termination of the currency swap by each party. The Company utilizes foreign currency swaps in fair value, cash flow, net investment in foreign operations and non-qualifying hedging relationships.

In a foreign currency forward transaction, the Company agrees with another party to deliver a specified amount of an identified currency at a specified future date. The price is agreed upon at the time of the contract and payment for such a contract is made in a different currency at the specified future date. The Company utilizes foreign currency forwards in fair value, net investment in foreign operations and non-qualifying hedging relationships.

In exchange-traded currency futures transactions, the Company agrees to purchase or sell a specified number of contracts, the value of which is determined by referenced currencies, and to post variation margin on a daily basis in an amount equal to the difference in the daily market values of those contracts. The Company enters into exchange-traded futures with regulated futures commission merchants that are members of the exchange. Exchange-traded currency futures are used primarily to hedge currency mismatches between assets and liabilities. The Company utilizes exchange-traded currency futures in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

The Company enters into currency option contracts that give it the right, but not the obligation, to sell the foreign currency amount in exchange for a functional currency amount within a limited time at a contracted price. The contracts may also be net settled in cash, based on differentials in the foreign exchange rate and the strike price. The Company uses currency options to hedge against the foreign currency exposure inherent in certain of its variable annuity products. The Company also uses currency options as an economic hedge of foreign currency exposure related to the Company's international subsidiaries. The Company utilizes currency options in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

The Company uses certain of its foreign currency denominated funding agreements to hedge portions of its net investments in foreign operations against adverse movements in exchange rates. Such contracts are included in non-derivative hedging instruments in the preceding table.

Swap spreadlocks are used by the Company to hedge invested assets on an economic basis against the risk of changes in credit spreads. Swap spreadlocks are forward transactions between two parties whose underlying reference index is a forward starting interest rate swap where the Company agrees to pay a coupon based on a

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

predetermined reference swap spread in exchange for receiving a coupon based on a floating rate. The Company has the option to cash settle with the counterparty in lieu of maintaining the swap after the effective date. The Company utilizes swap spreadlocks in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

Certain credit default swaps are used by the Company to hedge against credit-related changes in the value of its investments. In a credit default swap transaction, the Company agrees with another party, at specified intervals, to pay a premium to hedge credit risk. If a credit event, as defined by the contract, occurs, the contract may be cash settled or it may be settled gross by the delivery of par quantities of the referenced investment equal to the specified swap notional in exchange for the payment of cash amounts by the counterparty equal to the par value of the investment surrendered. The Company utilizes credit default swaps in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

Credit default swaps are also used to synthetically create investments that are either more expensive to acquire or otherwise unavailable in the cash markets. These transactions are a combination of a derivative and one or more cash instruments such as U.S. Treasury securities, agency securities or other fixed maturity securities. The Company also enters into certain credit default swaps held in relation to trading portfolios for the purpose of generating profits on short-term differences in price. These credit default swaps are not designated as hedging instruments.

The Company enters into forwards to lock in the price to be paid for forward purchases of certain securities. The price is agreed upon at the time of the contract and payment for the contract is made at a specified future date. When the primary purpose of entering into these transactions is to hedge against the risk of changes in purchase price due to changes in credit spreads, the Company designates these as credit forwards. The Company utilizes credit forwards in cash flow hedging relationships.

In exchange-traded equity futures transactions, the Company agrees to purchase or sell a specified number of contracts, the value of which is determined by the different classes of equity securities, and to post variation margin on a daily basis in an amount equal to the difference in the daily market values of those contracts. The Company enters into exchange-traded futures with regulated futures commission merchants that are members of the exchange. Exchange-traded equity futures are used primarily to hedge liabilities embedded in certain variable annuity products offered by the Company. The Company utilizes exchange-traded equity futures in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

Equity index options are used by the Company primarily to hedge minimum guarantees embedded in certain variable annuity products offered by the Company. To hedge against adverse changes in equity indices, the Company enters into contracts to sell the equity index within a limited time at a contracted price. The contracts will be net settled in cash based on differentials in the indices at the time of exercise and the strike price. Certain of these contracts may also contain settlement provisions linked to interest rates. In certain instances, the Company may enter into a combination of transactions to hedge adverse changes in equity indices within a pre-determined range through the purchase and sale of options. Equity index options are included in equity options in the preceding table. The Company utilizes equity index options in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

Equity variance swaps are used by the Company primarily to hedge minimum guarantees embedded in certain variable annuity products offered by the Company. In an equity variance swap, the Company agrees with another party to exchange amounts in the future, based on changes in equity volatility over a defined period. Equity variance swaps are included in variance swaps in the preceding table. The Company utilizes equity variance swaps in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Total rate of return swaps (TRRs) are swaps whereby the Company agrees with another party to exchange, at specified intervals, the difference between the economic risk and reward of an asset or a market index and the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR), calculated by reference to an agreed notional principal amount. No cash is exchanged at the outset of the contract. Cash is paid and received over the life of the contract based on the terms of the swap. These transactions are entered into pursuant to master agreements that provide for a single net payment to be made by the counterparty at each due date. The Company uses TRRs to hedge its equity market guarantees in certain of its insurance products. TRRs can be used as hedges or to synthetically create investments. The Company utilizes TRRs in non-qualifying hedging relationships.

Hedging

The following table presents the gross notional amount and estimated fair value of derivatives designated as hedging instruments by type of hedge designation at:

Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments	Notional Amount	December 31,		Notional Amount	2010	
		2011 Estimated Fair Value Assets	Liabilities		Estimated Fair Value Assets	Liabilities
(In millions)						
Fair value hedges:						
Foreign currency swaps	\$ 3,220	\$ 500	\$ 98	\$ 4,524	\$ 907	\$ 145
Foreign currency forwards	1,830	2	10			
Interest rate swaps	4,580	1,884	92	5,108	823	169
Subtotal	9,630	2,386	200	9,632	1,730	314
Cash flow hedges:						
Foreign currency swaps	6,370	352	306	5,556	213	347
Interest rate swaps	3,230	947		3,562	102	116
Interest rate forwards	965	210		1,140		107
Credit forwards	20	4		90	2	3
Subtotal	10,585	1,513	306	10,348	317	573
Foreign operations hedges:						
Foreign currency forwards	1,689	53	12	1,935	9	26
Non-derivative hedging instruments				169		185
Subtotal	1,689	53	12	2,104	9	211
Total qualifying hedges	\$ 21,904	\$ 3,952	\$ 518	\$ 22,084	\$ 2,056	\$ 1,098

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents the gross notional amount and estimated fair value of derivatives that were not designated or do not qualify as hedging instruments by derivative type at:

Derivatives Not Designated or Not Qualifying as Hedging Instruments	December 31,					
	Notional Amount	2011 Estimated Fair Value		Notional Amount (In millions)	2010 Estimated Fair Value	
		Assets	Liabilities		Assets	Liabilities
Interest rate swaps	\$ 71,923	\$ 5,410	\$ 2,107	\$ 46,133	\$ 1,729	\$ 1,231
Interest rate floors	23,866	1,246	165	23,866	630	66
Interest rate caps	49,665	102		35,412	176	1
Interest rate futures	14,965	25	19	9,385	43	17
Interest rate options	16,988	896	6	8,761	144	23
Interest rate forwards	13,068	76	91	9,234	106	28
Synthetic GICs	4,454			4,397		
Foreign currency swaps	6,871	320	656	7,546	496	790
Foreign currency forwards	6,630	145	38	8,508	110	65
Currency futures	633			493	2	
Currency options	1,321	6		5,426	50	
Credit default swaps	13,136	326	113	10,957	173	104
Equity futures	7,053	26	10	8,794	21	9
Equity options	17,099	3,263	179	33,688	1,843	1,197
Variance swaps	18,801	397	75	18,022	198	118
Total rate of return swaps	1,644	10	34	1,547		
Total non-designated or non-qualifying derivatives	\$ 268,117	\$ 12,248	\$ 3,493	\$ 232,169	\$ 5,721	\$ 3,649

Net Derivative Gains (Losses)

The components of net derivative gains (losses) were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010 (In millions)	2009
Derivatives and hedging gains (losses) (1)	\$ 6,108	\$ 122	\$ (6,624)
Embedded derivatives	(1,284)	(387)	1,758
Total net derivative gains (losses)	\$ 4,824	\$ (265)	\$ (4,866)

- (1) Includes foreign currency transaction gains (losses) on hedged items in cash flow and non-qualifying hedging relationships, which are not presented elsewhere in this note.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents earned income on derivatives for the:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010 (In millions)	2009
Qualifying hedges:			
Net investment income	\$ 98	\$ 83	\$ 49
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	214	233	220
Other expenses	(4)	(6)	(3)
Non-qualifying hedges:			
Net investment income	(8)	(3)	(2)
Other revenues	75	108	77
Net derivative gains (losses)	411	65	91
Policyholder benefits and claims	17		
Total	\$ 803	\$ 480	\$ 432

Fair Value Hedges

The Company designates and accounts for the following as fair value hedges when they have met the requirements of fair value hedging: (i) interest rate swaps to convert fixed rate investments to floating rate investments; (ii) interest rate swaps to convert fixed rate liabilities to floating rate liabilities; (iii) foreign currency swaps to hedge the foreign currency fair value exposure of foreign currency denominated investments and liabilities; and (iv) foreign currency forwards to hedge the foreign currency fair value exposure of foreign currency denominated fixed rate investments.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The Company recognizes gains and losses on derivatives and the related hedged items in fair value hedges within net derivative gains (losses). The following table represents the amount of such net derivative gains (losses):

Derivatives in Fair Value	Hedged Items in Fair Value	Net Derivative Gains (Losses) Recognized for Derivatives	Net Derivative Gains (Losses) Recognized for Hedged Items (In millions)	Ineffectiveness Recognized in Net Derivative Gains (Losses)
Hedging Relationships	Hedging Relationships			
For the Year Ended December 31, 2011:				
Interest rate swaps:	Fixed maturity securities	\$ (25)	\$ 22	\$ (3)
	PABs (1)	1,054	(1,030)	24
Foreign currency swaps:	Foreign-denominated fixed maturity securities	1	3	4
	Foreign-denominated PABs (2)	(24)	(25)	(49)
Foreign currency				
forwards:	Foreign-denominated fixed maturity securities	(25)	25	
Total		\$ 981	\$ (1,005)	\$ (24)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2010:				
Interest rate swaps:	Fixed maturity securities	\$ (14)	\$ 16	\$ 2
	PABs (1)	140	(142)	(2)
Foreign currency swaps:	Foreign-denominated fixed maturity securities	14	(14)	
	Foreign-denominated PABs (2)	9	(20)	(11)
Foreign currency				
forwards:	Foreign-denominated fixed maturity securities			
Total		\$ 149	\$ (160)	\$ (11)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009:				
Interest rate swaps:	Fixed maturity securities	\$ 49	\$ (42)	\$ 7
	PABs (1)	(963)	951	(12)
Foreign currency swaps:	Foreign-denominated fixed maturity securities	(13)	10	(3)
	Foreign-denominated PABs (2)	462	(449)	13
Foreign currency				
forwards:	Foreign-denominated fixed maturity securities			
Total		\$ (465)	\$ 470	\$ 5

(1) Fixed rate liabilities.

(2) Fixed rate or floating rate liabilities.

For the Company's foreign currency forwards, the change in the fair value of the derivative related to the changes in the difference between the spot price and the forward price is excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness. For all other derivatives, all components of each derivative's gain or loss were included in the assessment of hedge effectiveness. For the year ended December 31, 2011, (\$3) million of the change in fair value of derivatives was excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness. For the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, no component of the change in fair value of derivatives was excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Cash Flow Hedges**

The Company designates and accounts for the following as cash flow hedges when they have met the requirements of cash flow hedging: (i) interest rate swaps to convert floating rate investments to fixed rate investments; (ii) interest rate swaps to convert floating rate liabilities to fixed rate liabilities; (iii) foreign currency swaps to hedge the foreign currency cash flow exposure of foreign currency denominated investments and liabilities; (iv) interest rate forwards and credit forwards to lock in the price to be paid for forward purchases of investments; (v) interest rate swaps and interest rate forwards to hedge the forecasted purchases of fixed-rate investments; and (vi) interest rate swaps and interest rate forwards to hedge forecasted fixed-rate borrowings.

In certain instances, the Company discontinued cash flow hedge accounting because the forecasted transactions did not occur on the anticipated date, within two months of that date, or were no longer probable of occurring. The net amounts reclassified into net derivative gains (losses) for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 related to such discontinued cash flow hedges were gains (losses) of (\$13) million, \$9 million and (\$7) million, respectively.

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the maximum length of time over which the Company was hedging its exposure to variability in future cash flows for forecasted transactions did not exceed nine years and seven years, respectively.

The following table presents the components of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), before income tax, related to cash flow hedges:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010 (In millions)	2009
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), balance at January 1,	\$ (59)	\$ (76)	\$ 82
Gains (losses) deferred in other comprehensive income (loss) on the effective portion of cash flow hedges	1,552	(51)	(221)
Amounts reclassified to net derivative gains (losses)	9	65	54
Amounts reclassified to net investment income	3	4	8
Amounts reclassified to other expenses	9	(1)	3
Amortization of transition adjustment			(2)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), balance at December 31,	\$ 1,514	\$ (59)	\$ (76)

At December 31, 2011, \$13 million of deferred net gains (losses) on derivatives in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) was expected to be reclassified to earnings within the next 12 months.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents the effects of derivatives in cash flow hedging relationships on the consolidated statements of operations and the consolidated statements of equity:

Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships	Amount of Gains (Losses) Deferred in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) on Derivatives (Effective Portion)	Amount and Location of Gains (Losses) Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) into Income (Loss)			Amount and Location of Gains (Losses) Recognized in Income (Loss) on Derivatives (Ineffective Portion and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing)	
		Net Derivative Gains (Losses)	(Effective Portion)		Net Derivative Gains (Losses)	Net Investment Income
			Net Investment Income	Other Expenses		
(In millions)						
For the Year Ended December 31, 2011:						
Interest rate swaps	\$ 1,023	\$ (42)	\$ 1	\$ (10)	\$ 1	\$
Foreign currency swaps	175		(6)	2	2	
Interest rate forwards	336	31	1	(1)	2	
Credit forwards	18	2	1			
Total	\$ 1,552	\$ (9)	\$ (3)	\$ (9)	\$ 5	\$
For the Year Ended December 31, 2010:						
Interest rate swaps	\$ 13	\$	\$	\$ (1)	\$ 3	\$
Foreign currency swaps	34	(79)	(6)	2		
Interest rate forwards	(117)	14	2		(2)	
Credit forwards	19					
Total	\$ (51)	\$ (65)	\$ (4)	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009:						
Interest rate swaps	\$ (45)	\$	\$	\$ (4)	\$ (2)	\$
Foreign currency swaps	(319)	(133)	(6)	1	(1)	
Interest rate forwards	147	79				
Credit forwards	(4)					
Total	\$ (221)	\$ (54)	\$ (6)	\$ (3)	\$ (3)	\$

All components of each derivative's gain or loss were included in the assessment of hedge effectiveness.

Hedges of Net Investments in Foreign Operations

The Company uses foreign exchange contracts, which may include foreign currency swaps, forwards and options, to hedge portions of its net investments in foreign operations against adverse movements in exchange rates. The Company measures ineffectiveness on these contracts based upon the change in forward rates. In addition, the Company may also use non-derivative financial instruments to hedge portions of its net investments in foreign operations against adverse movements in exchange rates. The Company measures ineffectiveness on non-derivative financial instruments based upon the change in spot rates.

When net investments in foreign operations are sold or substantially liquidated, the amounts in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) are reclassified to the consolidated statements of operations, while a pro rata portion will be reclassified upon partial sale of the net investments in foreign operations.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents the effects of derivatives and non-derivative financial instruments in net investment hedging relationships in the consolidated statements of operations and the consolidated statements of equity:

Derivatives and Non-Derivative Hedging Instruments in Net Investment Hedging Relationships (1), (2)	Amount of Gains (Losses) Deferred in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) (Effective Portion) Years Ended December 31,			Amount and Location of Gains (Losses) Reclassified From Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) into Income (Loss) (Effective Portion) Net Investment Gains (Losses) Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)					
Foreign currency forwards	\$ 62	\$ (167)	\$ (244)	\$	\$	\$ (59)
Foreign currency swaps			(18)			(63)
Non-derivative hedging instruments	6	(16)	(37)			(11)
Total	\$ 68	\$ (183)	\$ (299)	\$	\$	\$ (133)

(1) During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company sold its interest in MSI MetLife, which was a hedged item in a net investment hedging relationship. As a result, the Company released losses of \$71 million from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) upon the sale. This release did not impact net income for the year ended December 31, 2011 as such losses were considered in the overall impairment evaluation of the investment prior to sale. During the year ended December 31, 2010, there were no sales or substantial liquidations of net investments in foreign operations that would have required the reclassification of gains or losses from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) into earnings. During the year ended December 31, 2009, the Company substantially liquidated, through assumption reinsurance, the portion of its Canadian operations that was being hedged in a net investment hedging relationship. As a result, the Company reclassified losses of \$133 million from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) into earnings. See Note 2.

(2) There was no ineffectiveness recognized for the Company's hedges of net investments in foreign operations. All components of each derivative and non-derivative hedging instrument's gain or loss were included in the assessment of hedge effectiveness.

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the cumulative foreign currency translation gain (loss) recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) related to hedges of net investments in foreign operations was (\$84) million and (\$223) million, respectively.

Non-Qualifying Derivatives and Derivatives for Purposes Other Than Hedging

The Company enters into the following derivatives that do not qualify for hedge accounting or for purposes other than hedging: (i) interest rate swaps, implied volatility swaps, caps and floors and interest rate futures to economically hedge its exposure to interest rates; (ii) foreign currency forwards, swaps, option contracts and future contracts to economically hedge its exposure to adverse movements in exchange rates; (iii) credit default swaps to economically hedge exposure to adverse movements in credit; (iv) equity futures, equity index options, interest rate futures, TRRs and equity variance swaps to economically hedge liabilities embedded in certain variable annuity products; (v) swap spreadlocks to economically hedge invested assets against the risk of changes in credit spreads; (vi) interest rate forwards to buy and sell securities to

economically hedge its exposure to interest rates; (vii) credit default swaps, TRRs and structured interest rate swaps to synthetically create

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

investments; (viii) basis swaps to better match the cash flows of assets and related liabilities; (ix) credit default swaps held in relation to trading portfolios; (x) swaptions to hedge interest rate risk; (xi) inflation swaps to reduce risk generated from inflation-indexed liabilities; (xii) covered call options for income generation; (xiii) interest rate lock commitments; (xiv) synthetic GICs; and (xv) equity options to economically hedge certain invested assets against adverse changes in equity indices.

The following tables present the amount and location of gains (losses) recognized in income for derivatives that were not designated or qualifying as hedging instruments:

	Net Derivative Gains (Losses)	Net Investment Income (1)	Policyholder Benefits and Claims (2) (In millions)	Other Revenues (3)	Other Expenses (4)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2011:					
Interest rate swaps	\$ 2,544	\$ (2)	\$	\$ 367	\$
Interest rate floors	517				
Interest rate caps	(228)				
Interest rate futures	100	1		(11)	
Equity futures	(3)	(6)	(99)		
Foreign currency swaps	70				
Foreign currency forwards	310	(9)			
Currency futures	32				
Currency options	(69)				
Equity options	941	(26)	5		
Interest rate options	1,021			24	
Interest rate forwards	(14)			(144)	
Variance swaps	244	(3)	7		
Credit default swaps	175	5			
Total rate of return swaps	(4)				
Total	\$ 5,636	\$ (40)	\$ (87)	\$ 236	\$
For the Year Ended December 31, 2010:					
Interest rate swaps	\$ 622	\$ 4	\$ 39	\$ 172	\$
Interest rate floors	144				
Interest rate caps	(185)				
Interest rate futures	77	(4)		(3)	
Equity futures	(58)	(25)	(314)		
Foreign currency swaps	52				
Foreign currency forwards	250	55			
Currency futures	(23)				
Currency options	(83)	(1)			(4)
Equity options	(683)	(16)			
Interest rate options	25			(6)	
Interest rate forwards	8			(74)	
Variance swaps	(55)				
Credit default swaps	34	(2)			
Total rate of return swaps	14				
Total	\$ 139	\$ 11	\$ (275)	\$ 89	\$ (4)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

For the Year Ended December 31, 2009:					
Interest rate swaps	\$ (1,700)	\$ (5)	\$ (13)	\$ (161)	\$
Interest rate floors	(907)				
Interest rate caps	33				
Interest rate futures	(366)	2			
Equity futures	(681)	(38)	(363)		
Foreign currency swaps	(405)				
Foreign currency forwards	(102)	(24)			
Currency options	(36)	(1)			(3)
Equity options	(1,713)	(68)			
Interest rate options	(379)				
Interest rate forwards	(7)			(4)	
Variance swaps	(276)	(13)			
Swap spreadlocks	(38)				
Credit default swaps	(243)	(11)			
Total rate of return swaps	63				
Total	\$ (6,757)	\$ (158)	\$ (376)	\$ (165)	\$ (3)

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

- (1) Changes in estimated fair value related to economic hedges of equity method investments in joint ventures; changes in estimated fair value related to derivatives held in relation to trading portfolios; and changes in estimated fair value related to derivatives held within contractholder-directed unit-linked investments.
- (2) Changes in estimated fair value related to economic hedges of variable annuity guarantees included in future policy benefits.
- (3) Changes in estimated fair value related to derivatives held in connection with the Company's mortgage banking activities.
- (4) Changes in estimated fair value related to economic hedges of foreign currency exposure associated with the Company's international subsidiaries.

Credit Derivatives

In connection with synthetically created investment transactions and credit default swaps held in relation to the trading portfolio, the Company writes credit default swaps for which it receives a premium to insure credit risk. Such credit derivatives are included within the non-qualifying derivatives and derivatives for purposes other than hedging table. If a credit event occurs, as defined by the contract, the contract may be cash settled or it may be settled gross by the Company paying the counterparty the specified swap notional amount in exchange for the delivery of par quantities of the referenced credit obligation. The Company's maximum amount at risk, assuming the value of all referenced credit obligations is zero, was \$7.7 billion and \$5.1 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The Company can terminate these contracts at any time through cash settlement with the counterparty at an amount equal to the then current fair value of the credit default swaps. At December 31, 2011, the Company would have paid \$41 million to terminate all of these contracts, and at December 31, 2010, the Company would have received \$62 million to terminate all of these contracts.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents the estimated fair value, maximum amount of future payments and weighted average years to maturity of written credit default swaps at:

Rating Agency Designation of Referenced Credit Obligations (1)	December 31,					
	Estimated Fair Value of Credit Default Swaps	2011 Maximum Amount of Future Payments under Credit Default Swaps (2) (In millions)	Weighted Average Years to Maturity (3)	Estimated Fair Value of Credit Default Swaps	2010 Maximum Amount of Future Payments under Credit Default Swaps (2) (In millions)	Weighted Average Years to Maturity (3)
Aaa/Aa/A						
Single name credit default swaps (corporate)	\$ 5	\$ 737	3.5	\$ 5	\$ 470	3.8
Credit default swaps referencing indices	(1)	2,813	3.0	45	2,928	3.7
Subtotal	4	3,550	3.1	50	3,398	3.7
Baa						
Single name credit default swaps (corporate)	(17)	1,234	4.0	5	735	4.3
Credit default swaps referencing indices	(26)	2,847	4.9	7	931	5.0
Subtotal	(43)	4,081	4.6	12	1,666	4.7
Ba						
Single name credit default swaps (corporate)		25	3.5		25	4.4
Credit default swaps referencing indices						
Subtotal		25	3.5		25	4.4
B						
Single name credit default swaps (corporate)						
Credit default swaps referencing indices	(2)	25	4.8			
Subtotal	(2)	25	4.8			
Total	\$ (41)	\$ 7,681	3.9	\$ 62	\$ 5,089	4.1

(1) The rating agency designations are based on availability and the midpoint of the applicable ratings among Moody's Investors Service, S&P and Fitch Ratings. If no rating is available from a rating agency, then an internally developed rating is used.

- (2) Assumes the value of the referenced credit obligations is zero.
- (3) The weighted average years to maturity of the credit default swaps is calculated based on weighted average notional amounts.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The Company has also entered into credit default swaps to purchase credit protection on certain of the referenced credit obligations in the table above. As a result, the maximum amounts of potential future recoveries available to offset the \$7.7 billion and \$5.1 billion from the table above were \$115 million and \$120 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Credit Risk on Freestanding Derivatives

The Company may be exposed to credit-related losses in the event of nonperformance by counterparties to derivative financial instruments. Generally, the current credit exposure of the Company's derivative contracts is limited to the net positive estimated fair value of derivative contracts at the reporting date after taking into consideration the existence of netting agreements and any collateral received pursuant to credit support annexes.

The Company manages its credit risk related to OTC derivatives by entering into transactions with creditworthy counterparties, maintaining collateral arrangements and through the use of master agreements that provide for a single net payment to be made by one counterparty to another at each due date and upon termination. Because exchange-traded futures and options are effected through regulated exchanges, and positions are marked to market on a daily basis, the Company has minimal exposure to credit-related losses in the event of nonperformance by counterparties to such derivative instruments. See Note 5 for a description of the impact of credit risk on the valuation of derivative instruments.

The Company enters into various collateral arrangements which require both the pledging and accepting of collateral in connection with its OTC derivative instruments. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company was obligated to return cash collateral under its control of \$9.5 billion and \$2.6 billion, respectively. This cash collateral is included in cash and cash equivalents or in short-term investments and the obligation to return it is included in payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions in the consolidated balance sheets. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company had received collateral consisting of various securities with a fair market value of \$2.5 billion and \$984 million, respectively, which were held in separate custodial accounts. Subject to certain constraints, the Company is permitted by contract to sell or repledge this collateral, but at December 31, 2011, none of the collateral had been sold or repledged.

The Company's collateral arrangements for its OTC derivatives generally require the counterparty in a net liability position, after considering the effect of netting agreements, to pledge collateral when the fair value of that counterparty's derivatives reaches a pre-determined threshold. Certain of these arrangements also include credit-contingent provisions that provide for a reduction of these thresholds (on a sliding scale that converges toward zero) in the event of downgrades in the credit ratings of the Company and/or the counterparty. In addition, certain of the Company's netting agreements for derivative instruments contain provisions that require the Company to maintain a specific investment grade credit rating from at least one of the major credit rating agencies. If the Company's credit ratings were to fall below that specific investment grade credit rating, it would be in violation of these provisions, and the counterparties to the derivative instruments could request immediate payment or demand immediate and ongoing full overnight collateralization on derivative instruments that are in a net liability position after considering the effect of netting agreements.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents the estimated fair value of the Company's OTC derivatives that are in a net liability position after considering the effect of netting agreements, together with the estimated fair value and balance sheet location of the collateral pledged. The table also presents the incremental collateral that the Company would be required to provide if there was a one notch downgrade in the Company's credit rating at the reporting date or if the Company's credit rating sustained a downgrade to a level that triggered full overnight collateralization or termination of the derivative position at the reporting date. Derivatives that are not subject to collateral agreements are not included in the scope of this table.

	Estimated Fair Value (1) of Derivatives in Net Liability Position	Estimated Fair Value of Collateral Provided:		Fair Value of Incremental Collateral Provided Upon: Downgrade in the Company's Credit Rating to a Level that Triggers Full Overnight Collateralization or Termination of the Derivative Position	
		Fixed Maturity Securities (2)	Cash (3) (In millions)	One Notch Downgrade in the Company's Credit Rating	
December 31, 2011:					
Derivatives subject to credit-contingent provisions	\$ 447	\$ 405	\$ 4	\$ 48	\$ 104
Derivatives not subject to credit-contingent provisions	28	11	4		
Total	\$ 475	\$ 416	\$ 8	\$ 48	\$ 104
December 31, 2010:					
Derivatives subject to credit-contingent provisions	\$ 1,167	\$ 1,024	\$	\$ 99	\$ 231
Derivatives not subject to credit-contingent provisions	22		43		
Total	\$ 1,189	\$ 1,024	\$ 43	\$ 99	\$ 231

(1) After taking into consideration the existence of netting agreements.

(2) Included in fixed maturity securities in the consolidated balance sheets. Subject to certain constraints, the counterparties are permitted by contract to sell or repledge this collateral.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

(3) Included in premiums, reinsurance and other receivables in the consolidated balance sheets.

Without considering the effect of netting agreements, the estimated fair value of the Company's OTC derivatives with credit-contingent provisions that were in a gross liability position at December 31, 2011 was \$777 million. At December 31, 2011, the Company provided collateral of \$409 million in connection with these derivatives. In the unlikely event that both: (i) the Company's credit rating was downgraded to a level that triggers full overnight collateralization or termination of all derivative positions; and (ii) the Company's netting agreements were deemed to be legally unenforceable, then the additional collateral that the Company would be required to provide to its counterparties in connection with its derivatives in a gross liability position at December 31, 2011 would be \$368 million. This amount does not consider gross derivative assets of \$330 million for which the Company has the contractual right of offset.

The Company also has exchange-traded futures and options, which require the pledging of collateral. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company pledged securities collateral for exchange-traded futures and options

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

of \$42 million and \$40 million, respectively, which is included in fixed maturity securities. Subject to certain constraints, the counterparties are permitted by contract to sell or repledge this collateral. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company provided cash collateral for exchange-traded futures and options of \$680 million and \$662 million, respectively, which is included in premiums, reinsurance and other receivables.

Embedded Derivatives

The Company issues certain products or purchases certain investments that contain embedded derivatives that are required to be separated from their host contracts and accounted for as freestanding derivatives. These host contracts principally include: variable annuities with guaranteed minimum benefits, including GMWBs, GMABs and certain GMIBs; ceded reinsurance of guaranteed minimum benefits related to GMABs and certain GMIBs; assumed reinsurance of guaranteed minimum benefits related to GMWBs and GMABs; funding agreements with equity or bond indexed crediting rates; funds withheld on assumed and ceded reinsurance; and options embedded in debt or equity securities.

The following table presents the estimated fair value of the Company's embedded derivatives at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Net embedded derivatives within asset host contracts:		
Ceded guaranteed minimum benefits	\$ 327	\$ 185
Funds withheld on assumed reinsurance	35	
Options embedded in debt or equity securities	(70)	(57)
Other	1	
Net embedded derivatives within asset host contracts	\$ 293	\$ 128
Net embedded derivatives within liability host contracts:		
Direct guaranteed minimum benefits	\$ 2,104	\$ 370
Funds withheld on ceded reinsurance	122	66
Assumed guaranteed minimum benefits (1)	2,340	2,186
Other	18	12
Net embedded derivatives within liability host contracts	\$ 4,584	\$ 2,634

(1) Assumed reinsurance of guaranteed minimum benefits related to GMWBs and GMABs of MSI MetLife, which was sold during the second quarter of 2011, have been separately presented in the current period. See Note 2. Comparative prior year balances, which were previously presented in direct guaranteed minimum benefits, have been conformed to the current period presentation.

The following table presents changes in estimated fair value related to embedded derivatives:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Net derivative gains (losses) (1)	\$ (1,284)	\$ (387)	\$ 1,758
Policyholder benefits and claims	\$ 86	\$ 8	\$ (114)

- (1) The valuation of guaranteed minimum benefits includes an adjustment for nonperformance risk. The amounts included in net derivative gains (losses), in connection with this adjustment, were \$1.8 billion, (\$96) million and (\$1.9) billion, for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****5. Fair Value**

Considerable judgment is often required in interpreting market data to develop estimates of fair value, and the use of different assumptions or valuation methodologies may have a material effect on the estimated fair value amounts.

Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value***Recurring Fair Value Measurements***

The assets and liabilities measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis, including those items for which the Company has elected the FVO, were determined as described below. These estimated fair values and their corresponding placement in the fair value hierarchy are summarized as follows:

	December 31, 2011			
	Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical	Significant Other Observable	Significant Unobservable	Total Estimated
	Assets and Liabilities (Level 1)	Inputs (Level 2)	Inputs (Level 3)	Fair Value
	(In millions)			
Assets				
Fixed maturity securities:				
U.S. corporate securities	\$	\$ 99,001	\$ 6,784	\$ 105,785
Foreign corporate securities		59,648	4,370	64,018
Foreign government securities	76	50,138	2,322	52,536
RMBS		41,035	1,602	42,637
U.S. Treasury and agency securities	19,911	20,070	31	40,012
CMBS		18,316	753	19,069
State and political subdivision securities		13,182	53	13,235
ABS		11,129	1,850	12,979
Other fixed maturity securities				
Total fixed maturity securities	19,987	312,519	17,765	350,271
Equity securities:				
Common stock	819	1,105	281	2,205
Non-redeemable preferred stock		380	438	818
Total equity securities	819	1,485	719	3,023
Trading and other securities:				
Actively Traded Securities		473		473
FVO general account securities		244	23	267

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

FVO contractholder-directed unit-linked investments	7,572	8,453	1,386	17,411
FVO securities held by CSEs		117		117
Total trading and other securities	7,572	9,287	1,409	18,268
Short-term investments (1)	8,150	8,120	590	16,860
Mortgage loans:				
Commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs		3,138		3,138
Mortgage loans held-for-sale: (2)				
Residential mortgage loans		2,836	228	3,064
Securitized reverse residential mortgage loans		6,466	1,186	7,652
Total mortgage loans held-for-sale		9,302	1,414	10,716
Total mortgage loans		12,440	1,414	13,854
Other invested assets:				
MSRs			666	666
Other investments	312	124		436
Derivative assets: (3)				
Interest rate contracts	32	10,426	338	10,796
Foreign currency contracts	1	1,316	61	1,378
Credit contracts		301	29	330
Equity market contracts	29	2,703	964	3,696
Total derivative assets	62	14,746	1,392	16,200
Total other invested assets	374	14,870	2,058	17,302
Net embedded derivatives within asset host contracts (4)		1	362	363
Separate account assets (5)	28,191	173,507	1,325	203,023
Total assets	\$ 65,093	\$ 532,229	\$ 25,642	\$ 622,964

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	December 31, 2011			
	Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			
	Quoted Prices in			
	Active Markets for			
	Identical			
	Assets and Liabilities (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Estimated Fair Value
	(In millions)			
Liabilities:				
Derivative liabilities: (3)				
Interest rate contracts	\$ 91	\$ 2,351	\$ 38	\$ 2,480
Foreign currency contracts		1,103	17	1,120
Credit contracts		85	28	113
Equity market contracts	12	211	75	298
Total derivative liabilities	103	3,750	158	4,011
Net embedded derivatives within liability host contracts (4)		19	4,565	4,584
Long-term debt of CSEs		2,952	116	3,068
Liability related to securitized reverse residential mortgage loans (6)		6,451	1,175	7,626
Trading liabilities (6)	124	3		127
Total liabilities	\$ 227	\$ 13,175	\$ 6,014	\$ 19,416

	December 31, 2010			
	Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			
	Quoted Prices in			
	Active Markets for			
	Identical			
	Assets and Liabilities (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Estimated Fair Value
	(In millions)			
Assets:				
Fixed maturity securities:				
U.S. corporate securities	\$	\$ 84,623	\$ 7,149	\$ 91,772
Foreign corporate securities		62,162	5,726	67,888
Foreign government securities	149	38,719	3,134	42,002
RMBS	274	43,037	2,541	45,852
U.S. Treasury and agency securities	14,602	18,623	79	33,304
CMBS		19,664	1,011	20,675
State and political subdivision securities		10,083	46	10,129
ABS		10,142	3,026	13,168
Other fixed maturity securities		3	4	7
Total fixed maturity securities	15,025	287,056	22,716	324,797
Equity securities:				
Common stock	831	1,094	268	2,193

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Non-redeemable preferred stock		504	905	1,409
Total equity securities	831	1,598	1,173	3,602
Trading and other securities:				
Actively Traded Securities		453	10	463
FVO general account securities		54	77	131
FVO contractholder-directed unit-linked investments	6,270	10,789	735	17,794
FVO securities held by CSEs		201		201
Total trading and other securities	6,270	11,497	822	18,589
Short-term investments (1)	3,026	4,681	858	8,565
Mortgage loans:				
Commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs		6,840		6,840
Residential mortgage loans held-for-sale (2)		2,486	24	2,510
Total mortgage loans		9,326	24	9,350
Other invested assets:				
MSRs			950	950
Other investments	373	121		494
Derivative assets: (3)				
Interest rate contracts	131	3,583	39	3,753
Foreign currency contracts	2	1,711	74	1,787
Credit contracts		125	50	175
Equity market contracts	23	1,757	282	2,062
Total derivative assets	156	7,176	445	7,777
Total other invested assets	529	7,297	1,395	9,221
Net embedded derivatives within asset host contracts (4)			185	185
Separate account assets (5)	25,566	155,589	1,983	183,138
Total assets	\$ 51,247	\$ 477,044	\$ 29,156	\$ 557,447

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	December 31, 2010			
	Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical			
	Assets and Liabilities (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Estimated Fair Value
	(In millions)			
Liabilities:				
Derivative liabilities: (3)				
Interest rate contracts	\$ 35	\$ 1,598	\$ 125	\$ 1,758
Foreign currency contracts		1,372	1	1,373
Credit contracts		101	6	107
Equity market contracts	10	1,174	140	1,324
Total derivative liabilities	45	4,245	272	4,562
Net embedded derivatives within liability host contracts (4)		11	2,623	2,634
Long-term debt of CSEs		6,636	184	6,820
Trading liabilities (6)	46			46
Total liabilities	\$ 91	\$ 10,892	\$ 3,079	\$ 14,062

- (1) Short-term investments as presented in the tables above differ from the amounts presented in the consolidated balance sheets because certain short-term investments are not measured at estimated fair value (e.g., time deposits, etc.), and therefore are excluded from the tables presented above.
- (2) Mortgage loans held-for-sale as presented in the tables above differ from the amount presented in the consolidated balance sheets as these tables do not include mortgage loans that were previously designated as held-for-investment, but now are designated as held-for-sale and stated at lower of amortized cost or estimated fair value.
- (3) Derivative liabilities are presented within other liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets. The amounts are presented gross in the tables above to reflect the presentation in the consolidated balance sheets, but are presented net for purposes of the rollforward in the Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) tables which follow. At December 31, 2010 there were \$185 million of non-derivative hedging instruments, carried at amortized cost, which are included within the liabilities total in Note 4 but excluded from derivative liabilities in the tables above as they are not derivative instruments. At December 31, 2011, there were no non-derivative hedging instruments.
- (4) Net embedded derivatives within asset host contracts are presented primarily within premiums, reinsurance and other receivables in the consolidated balance sheets. Net embedded derivatives within liability host contracts are presented primarily within PABs in the consolidated balance sheets. At December 31, 2011, fixed maturity securities and equity securities also included embedded derivatives of

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

\$2 million and (\$72) million, respectively. At December 31, 2010, fixed maturity securities and equity securities included embedded derivatives of \$5 million and (\$62) million, respectively.

- (5) Separate account assets are measured at estimated fair value. Investment performance related to separate account assets is fully offset by corresponding amounts credited to contractholders whose liability is reflected within separate account liabilities. Separate account liabilities are set equal to the estimated fair value of separate account assets.
- (6) The liability related to securitized reverse residential mortgage loans and trading liabilities are presented within other liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets.

See Note 3 for discussion of CSEs included in the tables above and for certain amounts in prior year footnote disclosures which have been reclassified to conform with the 2011 presentation.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

The methods and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of financial instruments are summarized as follows:

Fixed Maturity Securities, Equity Securities, Trading and Other Securities and Short-term Investments

When available, the estimated fair value of the Company's fixed maturity securities, equity securities, trading and other securities and short-term investments are based on quoted prices in active markets that are readily and regularly obtainable. Generally, these are the most liquid of the Company's securities holdings and valuation of these securities does not involve management's judgment.

When quoted prices in active markets are not available, the determination of estimated fair value is based on market standard valuation methodologies, giving priority to observable inputs. The market standard valuation methodologies utilized include: discounted cash flow methodologies, matrix pricing or other similar techniques. The inputs in applying these market standard valuation methodologies include, but are not limited to: interest rates, credit standing of the issuer or counterparty, industry sector of the issuer, coupon rate, call provisions, sinking fund requirements, maturity and management's assumptions regarding estimated duration, liquidity and estimated future cash flows. Accordingly, the estimated fair values are based on available market information and management's judgments about financial instruments.

The significant inputs to the market standard valuation methodologies for certain types of securities with reasonable levels of price transparency are inputs that are observable in the market or can be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. Such observable inputs include benchmarking prices for similar assets in active markets, quoted prices in markets that are not active and observable yields and spreads in the market.

When observable inputs are not available, the market standard valuation methodologies for determining the estimated fair value of certain types of securities that trade infrequently, and therefore have little or no price transparency, rely on inputs that are significant to the estimated fair value that are not observable in the market or cannot be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. These unobservable inputs can be based in large part on management's judgment or estimation and cannot be supported by reference to market activity. Even though these inputs are unobservable, management believes they are consistent with what other market participants would use when pricing such securities and are considered appropriate given the circumstances.

The estimated fair value of FVO securities held by CSEs is determined on a basis consistent with the methodologies described herein for fixed maturity securities and equity securities. The Company consolidates certain securitization entities that hold securities that have been accounted for under the FVO and classified within trading and other securities.

The use of different methodologies, assumptions and inputs may have a material effect on the estimated fair values of the Company's securities holdings.

Mortgage Loans

The Company has elected the FVO for commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs, residential mortgage loans held-for-sale and securitized reverse residential mortgage loans. See Note 1 for a discussion of these mortgage loans. See Valuation Techniques and Inputs by Level Within the Three-Level Fair Value Hierarchy by Major Classes of Assets and Liabilities below for a discussion of the methods and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of these financial instruments.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

MSRs

Although MSRs are not financial instruments, the Company has included them in the preceding table as a result of its election to carry MSRs at estimated fair value. See Valuation Techniques and Inputs by Level Within the Three-Level Fair Value Hierarchy by Major Classes of Assets and Liabilities below for a discussion of the methods and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of these financial instruments.

Other Investments

Other investments is primarily comprised of investment funds. The estimated fair value of these investment funds is determined on a basis consistent with the methodologies described herein for trading and other securities.

Derivatives

The estimated fair value of derivatives is determined through the use of quoted market prices for exchange-traded derivatives and interest rate forwards to sell certain to be announced securities, or through the use of pricing models for OTC derivatives. The determination of estimated fair value, when quoted market values are not available, is based on market standard valuation methodologies and inputs that management believes are consistent with what other market participants would use when pricing the instruments. Derivative valuations can be affected by changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, financial indices, credit spreads, default risk, nonperformance risk, volatility, liquidity and changes in estimates and assumptions used in the pricing models.

The significant inputs to the pricing models for most OTC derivatives are inputs that are observable in the market or can be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. Significant inputs that are observable generally include: interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, interest rate curves, credit curves and volatility. However, certain OTC derivatives may rely on inputs that are significant to the estimated fair value that are not observable in the market or cannot be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. Significant inputs that are unobservable generally include: independent broker quotes, references to emerging market currencies and inputs that are outside the observable portion of the interest rate curve, credit curve, volatility or other relevant market measure. These unobservable inputs may involve significant management judgment or estimation. Even though unobservable, these inputs are based on assumptions deemed appropriate given the circumstances and management believes they are consistent with what other market participants would use when pricing such instruments.

The credit risk of both the counterparty and the Company are considered in determining the estimated fair value for all OTC derivatives, and any potential credit adjustment is based on the net exposure by counterparty after taking into account the effects of netting agreements and collateral arrangements. The Company values its derivative positions using the standard swap curve which includes a spread to the risk free rate. This credit spread is appropriate for those parties that execute trades at pricing levels consistent with the standard swap curve. As the Company and its significant derivative counterparties consistently execute trades at such pricing levels, additional credit risk adjustments are not currently required in the valuation process. The Company's ability to consistently execute at such pricing levels is in part due to the netting agreements and collateral arrangements that are in place with all of its significant derivative counterparties. The evaluation of the requirement to make additional credit risk adjustments is performed by the Company each reporting period.

Most inputs for OTC derivatives are mid market inputs but, in certain cases, bid level inputs are used when they are deemed more representative of exit value. Market liquidity, as well as the use of different methodologies, assumptions and inputs, may have a material effect on the estimated fair values of the Company's derivatives and could materially affect net income.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Embedded Derivatives Within Asset and Liability Host Contracts

Embedded derivatives principally include certain direct, assumed and ceded variable annuity guarantees and equity or bond indexed crediting rates within certain funding agreements. Embedded derivatives are recorded at estimated fair value with changes in estimated fair value reported in net income.

The Company issues and assumes certain variable annuity products with guaranteed minimum benefits. GMWBs, GMABs and certain GMIBs are embedded derivatives, which are measured at estimated fair value separately from the host variable annuity contract, with changes in estimated fair value reported in net derivative gains (losses). These embedded derivatives are classified within PABs in the consolidated balance sheets.

The fair value of these guarantees is estimated using the present value of projected future benefits minus the present value of projected future fees using actuarial and capital market assumptions including expectations concerning policyholder behavior. A risk neutral valuation methodology is used under which the cash flows from the guarantees are projected under multiple capital market scenarios using observable risk free rates. The valuation of these guarantee liabilities includes adjustments for nonperformance risk and for a risk margin related to non-capital market inputs.

The nonperformance adjustment is determined by taking into consideration publicly available information relating to spreads in the secondary market for MetLife, Inc.'s debt, including related credit default swaps. These observable spreads are then adjusted, as necessary, to reflect the priority of these liabilities and the claims paying ability of the issuing insurance subsidiaries compared to MetLife, Inc.

Risk margins are established to capture the non-capital market risks of the instrument which represent the additional compensation a market participant would require to assume the risks related to the uncertainties of such actuarial assumptions as annuitization, premium persistency, partial withdrawal and surrenders. The establishment of risk margins requires the use of significant management judgment, including assumptions of the amount and cost of capital needed to cover the guarantees. These guarantees may be more costly than expected in volatile or declining equity markets. Market conditions including, but not limited to, changes in interest rates, equity indices, market volatility and foreign currency exchange rates; changes in nonperformance risk; and variations in actuarial assumptions regarding policyholder behavior, mortality and risk margins related to non-capital market inputs may result in significant fluctuations in the estimated fair value of the guarantees that could materially affect net income.

The Company ceded the risk associated with certain of the GMIBs and GMABs previously described. These reinsurance agreements contain embedded derivatives which are included within premiums, reinsurance and other receivables in the consolidated balance sheets with changes in estimated fair value reported in net derivative gains (losses) or policyholder benefits and claims depending on the statement of operations classification of the direct risk. The value of the embedded derivatives on the ceded risk is determined using a methodology consistent with that described previously for the guarantees directly written by the Company with the exception of the input for nonperformance risk that reflects the credit of the reinsurer.

The estimated fair value of the embedded derivatives within funds withheld related to certain ceded reinsurance is determined based on the change in estimated fair value of the underlying assets held by the Company in a reference portfolio backing the funds withheld liability. The estimated fair value of the underlying assets is determined as previously described in Fixed Maturity Securities, Equity Securities, Trading and Other Securities and Short-term Investments. The estimated fair value of these embedded derivatives is included, along with their funds withheld hosts, in other liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets with changes in estimated fair value recorded in net derivative gains (losses). Changes in the credit spreads on the underlying assets, interest rates and market volatility may result in significant fluctuations in the estimated fair value of these embedded derivatives that could materially affect net income.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The estimated fair value of the embedded equity and bond indexed derivatives contained in certain funding agreements is determined using market standard swap valuation models and observable market inputs, including an adjustment for nonperformance risk. The estimated fair value of these embedded derivatives are included, along with their funding agreements host, within PABs with changes in estimated fair value recorded in net derivative gains (losses). Changes in equity and bond indices, interest rates and the Company's credit standing may result in significant fluctuations in the estimated fair value of these embedded derivatives that could materially affect net income.

Separate Account Assets

Separate account assets are carried at estimated fair value and reported as a summarized total on the consolidated balance sheets. The estimated fair value of separate account assets is based on the estimated fair value of the underlying assets. Assets within the Company's separate accounts include: mutual funds, fixed maturity securities, equity securities, mortgage loans, derivatives, hedge funds, other limited partnership interests, short-term investments and cash and cash equivalents. See Valuation Techniques and Inputs by Level Within the Three-Level Fair Value Hierarchy by Major Classes of Assets and Liabilities below for a discussion of the methods and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of these financial instruments.

Long-term Debt of CSEs

The Company has elected the FVO for the long-term debt of CSEs. See Valuation Techniques and Inputs by Level Within the Three-Level Fair Value Hierarchy by Major Classes of Assets and Liabilities below for a discussion of the methods and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of these financial instruments.

Liability Related to Securitized Reverse Residential Mortgage Loans

The Company has elected the FVO for the liability related to securitized reverse residential mortgage loans. See Valuation Techniques and Inputs by Level Within the Three-Level Fair Value Hierarchy by Major Classes of Assets and Liabilities below for a discussion of the methods and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of this financial instrument.

Trading Liabilities

Trading liabilities are recorded at estimated fair value with subsequent changes in estimated fair value recognized in net investment income. The estimated fair value of trading liabilities is determined on a basis consistent with the methodologies described in Fixed Maturity Securities, Equity Securities, Trading and Other Securities and Short-term Investments.

Valuation Techniques and Inputs by Level Within the Three-Level Fair Value Hierarchy by Major Classes of Assets and Liabilities

A description of the significant valuation techniques and inputs to the determination of estimated fair value for the more significant asset and liability classes measured at fair value on a recurring basis is as follows:

The Company determines the estimated fair value of its investments using primarily the market approach and the income approach. The use of quoted prices for identical assets and matrix pricing or other similar techniques are examples of market approaches, while the use of discounted cash flow methodologies is an example of the income approach. The Company attempts to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs in selecting whether the market or income approach is used.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

While certain investments have been classified as Level 1 from the use of unadjusted quoted prices for identical investments supported by high volumes of trading activity and narrow bid/ask spreads, most investments have been classified as Level 2 because the significant inputs used to measure the fair value on a recurring basis of the same or similar investment are market observable or can be corroborated using market observable information for the full term of the investment. Level 3 investments include those where estimated fair values are based on significant unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and may reflect management's own assumptions about what factors market participants would use in pricing these investments.

Level 1 Measurements:*Fixed Maturity Securities, Equity Securities, Trading and Other Securities and Short-term Investments*

These securities are comprised of U.S. Treasury and agency securities, foreign government securities, RMBS principally to-be-announced securities, exchange traded common stock, exchange traded registered mutual fund interests included in trading and other securities and short-term money market securities, including U.S. Treasury bills. Valuation of these securities is based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are readily and regularly available. Contractholder-directed unit-linked investments reported within trading and other securities include certain registered mutual fund interests priced using daily NAV provided by the fund managers.

Derivative Assets and Derivative Liabilities

These assets and liabilities are comprised of exchange-traded derivatives, as well as interest rate forwards to sell certain to-be-announced securities. Valuation of these assets and liabilities is based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are readily and regularly available.

Separate Account Assets

These assets are comprised of (i) securities that are similar in nature to the fixed maturity securities, equity securities and short-term investments referred to above; and (ii) certain exchange-traded derivatives, including financial futures and owned options. Valuation of these assets is based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are readily and regularly available.

Level 2 Measurements:*Fixed Maturity Securities, Equity Securities, Trading and Other Securities and Short-term Investments*

This level includes fixed maturity securities and equity securities priced principally by independent pricing services using observable inputs. Trading and other securities and short-term investments within this level are of a similar nature and class to the Level 2 securities described below. Contractholder-directed unit-linked investments reported within trading and other securities include certain mutual fund interests without readily determinable fair values given prices are not published publicly. Valuation of these mutual funds is based upon quoted prices or reported NAV provided by the fund managers, which were based on observable inputs.

U.S. corporate and foreign corporate securities. These securities are principally valued using the market and income approaches. Valuation is based primarily on quoted prices in markets that are not active, or using matrix pricing or other similar techniques that use standard market observable inputs such as benchmark yields, spreads off benchmark yields, new issuances, issuer rating, duration, and trades of identical or comparable securities. Investment grade privately placed securities are valued using discounted cash flow methodologies using standard market observable inputs, and inputs derived from, or corroborated by, market observable data including market yield curve, duration, call provisions, observable prices and spreads for

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

similar publicly traded or privately traded issues that incorporate the credit quality and industry sector of the issuer. This level also includes certain below investment grade privately placed fixed maturity securities priced by independent pricing services that use observable inputs.

Structured securities comprised of RMBS, CMBS and ABS. These securities are principally valued using the market approach. Valuation is based primarily on matrix pricing or other similar techniques using standard market inputs including spreads for actively traded securities, spreads off benchmark yields, expected prepayment speeds and volumes, current and forecasted loss severity, rating, weighted average coupon, weighted average maturity, average delinquency rates, geographic region, debt-service coverage ratios and issuance-specific information including, but not limited to: collateral type, payment terms of the underlying assets, payment priority within the tranche, structure of the security, deal performance and vintage of loans.

U.S. Treasury and agency securities. These securities are principally valued using the market approach. Valuation is based primarily on quoted prices in markets that are not active, or using matrix pricing or other similar techniques using standard market observable inputs such as benchmark U.S. Treasury yield curve, the spread off the U.S. Treasury curve for the identical security and comparable securities that are actively traded.

Foreign government and state and political subdivision securities. These securities are principally valued using the market approach. Valuation is based primarily on matrix pricing or other similar techniques using standard market observable inputs including benchmark U.S. Treasury or other yields, issuer ratings, broker-dealer quotes, issuer spreads and reported trades of similar securities, including those within the same sub-sector or with a similar maturity or credit rating.

Common and non-redeemable preferred stock. These securities are principally valued using the market approach where market quotes are available but are not considered actively traded. Valuation is based principally on observable inputs including quoted prices in markets that are not considered active.

Commercial Mortgage Loans Held by CSEs

These commercial mortgage loans are principally valued using the market approach. The principal market for these commercial loan portfolios is the securitization market. The Company uses the quoted securitization market price of the obligations of the CSEs to determine the estimated fair value of these commercial loan portfolios. These market prices are determined principally by independent pricing services using observable inputs.

Residential Mortgage Loans Held-For-Sale

Residential mortgage loans held-for-sale are principally valued using the market approach. Valuation is based primarily on readily available observable pricing for securities backed by similar loans. The unobservable adjustments to such prices are insignificant.

Securitized Reverse Residential Mortgage Loans

Securitized reverse residential mortgage loans are principally valued using the market approach. Valuation is based primarily on readily available observable pricing for securities backed by similar fixed-rate loans. The unobservable adjustments to such prices are not significant.

Derivative Assets and Derivative Liabilities

This level includes all types of derivative instruments utilized by the Company with the exception of exchange-traded derivatives and interest rate forwards to sell certain to-be-announced securities included within Level 1 and those derivative instruments with unobservable inputs as described in Level 3. These derivatives are principally valued using an income approach.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Interest rate contracts.

Non-option-based Valuations are based on present value techniques, which utilize significant inputs that may include the swap yield curve, LIBOR basis curves and repurchase rates.

Option-based Valuations are based on option pricing models, which utilize significant inputs that may include the swap yield curve, LIBOR basis curves and interest rate volatility.

Foreign currency contracts.

Non-option-based Valuations are based on present value techniques, which utilize significant inputs that may include the swap yield curve, LIBOR basis curves, currency spot rates and cross currency basis curves.

Option-based Valuations are based on option pricing models, which utilize significant inputs that may include the swap yield curve, LIBOR basis curves, currency spot rates, cross currency basis curves and currency volatility.

Credit contracts.

Non-option-based Valuations are based on present value techniques, which utilize significant inputs that may include the swap yield curve, credit curves and recovery rates.

Equity market contracts.

Non-option-based Valuations are based on present value techniques, which utilize significant inputs that may include the swap yield curve, spot equity index levels and dividend yield curves.

Option-based Valuations are based on option pricing models, which utilize significant inputs that may include the swap yield curve, spot equity index levels, dividend yield curves and equity volatility.

Embedded Derivatives Contained in Certain Funding Agreements

These derivatives are principally valued using an income approach. Valuations are based on present value techniques, which utilize significant inputs that may include the swap yield curve and the spot equity and bond index level.

Separate Account Assets

These assets are comprised of investments that are similar in nature to the fixed maturity securities, equity securities, short-term investments and derivative assets referred to above. Also included are certain mutual funds and hedge funds without readily determinable fair values given prices are not published publicly. Valuation of the mutual funds and hedge funds is based upon quoted prices or reported NAV provided by the fund managers.

Long-term Debt of CSEs

The estimated fair value of the long-term debt of the Company's CSEs is based on quoted prices when traded as assets in active markets or, if not available, based on market standard valuation methodologies, consistent with the Company's methods and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of comparable fixed maturity securities.

Liability Related to Securitized Reverse Residential Mortgage Loans

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

The estimated fair value of the liability related to securitized reverse residential mortgage loans, is based on quoted prices when traded as assets in active markets or, if not available, based on market standard valuation methodologies, consistent with the Company's methods and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of comparable financial instruments.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Level 3 Measurements:**

In general, investments classified within Level 3 use many of the same valuation techniques and inputs as described in Level 2 Measurements. However, if key inputs are unobservable, or if the investments are less liquid and there is very limited trading activity, the investments are generally classified as Level 3. The use of independent non-binding broker quotations to value investments generally indicates there is a lack of liquidity or a lack of transparency in the process to develop the valuation estimates generally causing these investments to be classified in Level 3.

Fixed Maturity Securities, Equity Securities, Trading and Other Securities and Short-term Investments

This level includes fixed maturity securities and equity securities priced principally by independent broker quotations or market standard valuation methodologies using inputs that are not market observable or cannot be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. Trading and other securities and short-term investments within this level are of a similar nature and class to the Level 3 securities described below; accordingly, the valuation techniques and significant market standard observable inputs used in their valuation are also similar to those described below.

U.S. corporate and foreign corporate securities. These securities, including financial services industry hybrid securities classified within fixed maturity securities, are principally valued using the market and income approaches. Valuations are based primarily on matrix pricing or other similar techniques that utilize unobservable inputs or cannot be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data, including illiquidity premiums and spread adjustments to reflect industry trends or specific credit-related issues. Valuations may be based on independent non-binding broker quotations. Generally, below investment grade privately placed or distressed securities included in this level are valued using discounted cash flow methodologies which rely upon significant, unobservable inputs and inputs that cannot be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data.

Structured securities comprised of RMBS, CMBS and ABS. These securities are principally valued using the market approach. Valuation is based primarily on matrix pricing or other similar techniques that utilize inputs that are unobservable or cannot be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data, or are based on independent non-binding broker quotations. Below investment grade securities and RMBS supported by sub-prime mortgage loans included in this level are valued based on inputs including quoted prices for identical or similar securities that are less liquid and based on lower levels of trading activity than securities classified in Level 2, and certain of these securities are valued based on independent non-binding broker quotations.

Foreign government and state and political subdivision securities. These securities are principally valued using the market approach. Valuation is based primarily on matrix pricing or other similar techniques, however these securities are less liquid and certain of the inputs are based on very limited trading activity.

Common and non-redeemable preferred stock. These securities, including privately held securities and financial services industry hybrid securities classified within equity securities, are principally valued using the market and income approaches. Valuations are based primarily on matrix pricing or other similar techniques using inputs such as comparable credit rating and issuance structure. Equity securities valuations determined with discounted cash flow methodologies use inputs such as earnings multiples based on comparable public companies, and industry-specific non-earnings based multiples. Certain of these securities are valued based on independent non-binding broker quotations.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Residential Mortgage Loans Held-For-Sale*

Residential mortgage loans held-for-sale for which pricing for securities backed by similar loans is not observable, the estimated fair value is determined using unobservable independent broker quotations or valuation models using significant unobservable inputs.

Securitized Reverse Residential Mortgage Loans

Securitized reverse residential mortgage loans for which pricing for securities backed by similar adjustable-rate loans is not observable, the estimated fair value is determined using unobservable independent broker quotations or valuation models using significant unobservable inputs.

MSRs

MSRs, which are valued using an income approach, are carried at estimated fair value and have multiple significant unobservable inputs including assumptions regarding estimates of discount rates, loan prepayments and servicing costs. Sales of MSRs tend to occur in private transactions where the precise terms and conditions of the sales are typically not readily available and observable market valuations are limited. As such, the Company relies primarily on a discounted cash flow model to estimate the fair value of the MSRs. The model requires inputs such as type of loan (fixed vs. variable and agency vs. other), age of loan, loan interest rates and current market interest rates that are generally observable. The model also requires the use of unobservable inputs including assumptions regarding estimates of discount rates, loan prepayments and servicing costs.

Derivative Assets and Derivative Liabilities

These derivatives are principally valued using an income approach. Valuations of non-option-based derivatives utilize present value techniques, whereas valuations of option-based derivatives utilize option pricing models. These valuation methodologies generally use the same inputs as described in the corresponding sections above for Level 2 measurements of derivatives. However, these derivatives result in Level 3 classification because one or more of the significant inputs are not observable in the market or cannot be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data.

Interest rate contracts.

Non-option-based Significant unobservable inputs may include pull through rates on interest rate lock commitments and the extrapolation beyond observable limits of the swap yield curve and LIBOR basis curves.

Option-based Significant unobservable inputs may include the extrapolation beyond observable limits of the swap yield curve, LIBOR basis curves and interest rate volatility.

Foreign currency contracts.

Non-option-based Significant unobservable inputs may include the extrapolation beyond observable limits of the swap yield curve, LIBOR basis curves and cross currency basis curves. Certain of these derivatives are valued based on independent non-binding broker quotations.

Option-based Significant unobservable inputs may include currency correlation and the extrapolation beyond observable limits of the swap yield curve, LIBOR basis curves, cross currency basis curves and currency volatility.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Credit contracts.*

Non-option-based Significant unobservable inputs may include credit spreads, repurchase rates, and the extrapolation beyond observable limits of the swap yield curve and credit curves. Certain of these derivatives are valued based on independent non-binding broker quotations.

Equity market contracts.

Non-option-based Significant unobservable inputs may include the extrapolation beyond observable limits of dividend yield curves.

Option-based Significant unobservable inputs may include the extrapolation beyond observable limits of dividend yield curves, equity volatility and unobservable correlations between model inputs. Certain of these derivatives are valued based on independent non-binding broker quotations.

Direct and Assumed Guaranteed Minimum Benefits

These embedded derivatives are principally valued using an income approach. Valuations are based on option pricing techniques, which utilize significant inputs that may include swap yield curve, currency exchange rates and implied volatilities. These embedded derivatives result in Level 3 classification because one or more of the significant inputs are not observable in the market or cannot be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data. Significant unobservable inputs generally include: the extrapolation beyond observable limits of the swap yield curve and implied volatilities, actuarial assumptions for policyholder behavior and mortality and the potential variability in policyholder behavior and mortality, nonperformance risk and cost of capital for purposes of calculating the risk margin.

Reinsurance Ceded on Certain Guaranteed Minimum Benefits

These embedded derivatives are principally valued using an income approach. The valuation techniques and significant market standard unobservable inputs used in their valuation are similar to those previously described under Direct and Assumed Guaranteed Minimum Benefits and also include counterparty credit spreads.

Embedded Derivatives Within Funds Withheld Related to Certain Ceded Reinsurance

These embedded derivatives are principally valued using an income approach. Valuations are based on present value techniques, which utilize significant inputs that may include the swap yield curve and the fair value of assets within the reference portfolio. These embedded derivatives result in Level 3 classification because one or more of the significant inputs are not observable in the market or cannot be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data. Significant unobservable inputs generally include: the fair value of certain assets within the reference portfolio which are not observable in the market and cannot be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data.

Separate Account Assets

These assets are comprised of investments that are similar in nature to the fixed maturity securities, equity securities and derivative assets referred to above. Separate account assets within this level also include mortgage loans and other limited partnership interests. The estimated fair value of mortgage loans is determined by discounting expected future cash flows, using current interest rates for similar loans with similar credit risk. Other limited partnership interests are valued giving consideration to the value of the underlying holdings of the partnerships and by applying a premium or discount, if appropriate, for factors such as liquidity, bid/ask spreads, the performance record of the fund manager or other relevant variables which may impact the exit value of the particular partnership interest.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Long-term Debt of CSEs

The estimated fair value of the long-term debt of the Company's CSEs are priced principally through independent broker quotations or market standard valuation methodologies using inputs that are not market observable or cannot be derived from or corroborated by observable market data.

Liability Related to Securitized Reverse Residential Mortgage Loans

The estimated fair value of the liability related to securitized reverse residential mortgage loans is based on quoted prices when traded as assets in less active markets or, if not available, based on market standard valuation methodologies using unobservable inputs, consistent with the Company's methods and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of comparable financial instruments.

Transfers between Levels 1 and 2:

During the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, transfers between Levels 1 and 2 were not significant.

Transfers into or out of Level 3:

Overall, transfers into and/or out of Level 3 are attributable to a change in the observability of inputs. Assets and liabilities are transferred into Level 3 when a significant input cannot be corroborated with market observable data. This occurs when market activity decreases significantly and underlying inputs cannot be observed, current prices are not available, and/or when there are significant variances in quoted prices, thereby affecting transparency. Assets and liabilities are transferred out of Level 3 when circumstances change such that a significant input can be corroborated with market observable data. This may be due to a significant increase in market activity, a specific event, or one or more significant input(s) becoming observable. Transfers into and/or out of any level are assumed to occur at the beginning of the period. Significant transfers into and/or out of Level 3 assets and liabilities for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 are summarized below.

Transfers into Level 3 were due primarily to a lack of trading activity, decreased liquidity and credit ratings downgrades (e.g., from investment grade to below investment grade), which have resulted in decreased transparency of valuations and an increased use of broker quotations and unobservable inputs to determine estimated fair value.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, transfers into Level 3 for fixed maturity securities of \$599 million and for separate account assets of \$19 million, were principally comprised of certain U.S. and foreign corporate securities and foreign government securities. During the year ended December 31, 2010, transfers into Level 3 for fixed maturity securities of \$1.7 billion and for separate account assets of \$46 million were principally comprised of certain U.S. and foreign corporate securities and CMBS.

Transfers out of Level 3 resulted primarily from increased transparency of both new issuances that subsequent to issuance and establishment of trading activity, became priced by independent pricing services and existing issuances that, over time, the Company was able to obtain pricing from, or corroborate pricing received from, independent pricing services with observable inputs, or increases in market activity and upgraded credit ratings. With respect to derivatives, transfers out of Level 3 resulted primarily from increased transparency related to the observable portion of the equity volatility surface.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, transfers out of Level 3 for fixed maturity securities of \$6.7 billion and for separate account assets of \$257 million, were principally comprised of certain ABS, foreign government securities, U.S. and foreign corporate securities, RMBS and CMBS. During the year ended December 31, 2011,

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

transfers out of Level 3 for derivatives of \$75 million were principally comprised of equity options. During the year ended December 31, 2010, transfers out of Level 3 for fixed maturity securities of \$1.7 billion and for separate account assets of \$234 million were principally comprised of certain U.S. and foreign corporate securities, RMBS and ABS.

The following tables summarize the change of all assets and (liabilities) measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3), including realized and unrealized gains (losses) of all assets and (liabilities) and realized and unrealized gains (losses) of all assets and (liabilities) still held at the end of the respective time periods:

Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Fixed Maturity Securities:

	U.S. Corporate Securities	Foreign Corporate Securities	Foreign Government Securities	RMBS	U.S. Treasury and Agency Securities (In millions)	CMBS	State and Political Subdivision Securities	ABS	Other Fixed Maturity Securities
Year Ended December 31, 2011:									
Balance, January 1,	\$ 7,149	\$ 5,726	\$ 3,134	\$ 2,541	\$ 79	\$ 1,011	\$ 46	\$ 3,026	\$ 4
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:									
Earnings: (1), (2)									
Net investment income	11	27	18	10		25		24	
Net investment gains (losses)	17	(9)		(41)		(16)		(18)	
Net derivative gains (losses)									
Other revenues									
Policyholder benefits and claims									
Other expenses									
Other comprehensive income (loss)	327	(66)		(5)	3	71	(8)	81	
Purchases (3)	912	1,740	529	393	6	283	11	1,033	
Sales (3)	(887)	(2,094)	(179)	(213)	(1)	(178)	(4)	(659)	(4)
Issuances (3)									
Settlements (3)									
Transfers into Level 3 (4)	169	211	123	20		52	10	14	
Transfers out of Level 3 (4)	(914)	(1,165)	(1,303)	(1,103)	(56)	(495)	(2)	(1,651)	
Balance, December 31,	\$ 6,784	\$ 4,370	\$ 2,322	\$ 1,602	\$ 31	\$ 753	\$ 53	\$ 1,850	\$
Changes in unrealized gains (losses) relating to assets and liabilities still held at December 31, 2011 included in earnings:									
Net investment income	\$ 10	\$ 19	\$ 18	\$ 11	\$	\$ 24	\$	\$ 20	\$
Net investment gains (losses)	\$ (27)	\$ (31)	\$ (3)	\$ (41)	\$	\$ (14)	\$	\$ (10)	\$
Net derivative gains (losses)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other revenues	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Policyholder benefits and claims	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other expenses	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)							
	Equity Securities:		Trading and Other Securities:			FVO		Residential
	Common	Non-	Actively	FVO	Contractholder-	Short-term	Mortgage	Reverse
	Stock	redeemable	Traded	General	directed	Investments	Loans Held-	Residential
		Preferred	Securities	Account	Unit-linked		for-sale	Mortgage
		Stock		Securities	Investments			Loans
					(In millions)			
Year Ended December 31, 2011:								
Balance, January 1,	\$ 268	\$ 905	\$ 10	\$ 77	\$ 735	\$ 858	\$ 24	\$
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:								
Earnings: (1), (2)								
Net investment income				(7)	5	3		
Net investment gains (losses)	14	(71)				(2)		
Net derivative gains (losses)								
Other revenues							5	
Policyholder benefits and claims								
Other expenses								
Other comprehensive income (loss)	5	5				2		
Purchases (3)	106	3			1,246	600	3	
Sales (3)	(46)	(416)	(8)	(33)	(478)	(870)		
Issuances (3)							175	1,186
Settlements (3)							(87)	
Transfers into Level 3 (4)		12			121		109	
Transfers out of Level 3 (4)	(66)		(2)	(14)	(243)	(1)	(1)	
Balance, December 31,	\$ 281	\$ 438	\$	\$ 23	\$ 1,386	\$ 590	\$ 228	\$ 1,186
Changes in unrealized gains (losses) relating to assets and liabilities still held at December 31, 2011 included in earnings:								
Net investment income	\$	\$	\$	\$ (8)	\$ (4)	\$	\$	\$
Net investment gains (losses)	\$ (6)	\$ (19)	\$	\$	\$	\$ (1)	\$	\$
Net derivative gains (losses)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other revenues	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 5	\$
Policyholder benefits and claims	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other expenses	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

**Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Net Derivatives: (7)**

	MSRs (5),(6)	Interest Rate Contracts	Foreign Currency Contracts	Credit Contracts	Equity Market Contracts	Net Embedded Derivatives (8)	Separate Account Assets (9)	Long-term Debt of CSEs	Liability Related to Securitized Reverse Mortgage Loans
Year Ended December 31, 2011:									
Balance, January 1,	\$ 950	\$ (86)	\$ 73	\$ 44	\$ 142	\$ (2,438)	\$ 1,983	\$ (184)	\$
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:									
Earnings: (1), (2)									
Net investment income					(3)				
Net investment gains (losses)							39	(8)	
Net derivative gains (losses)		41	(28)	(43)	601	(1,277)			
Other revenues	(314)	62							
Policyholder benefits and claims					7	86			
Other expenses									
Other comprehensive income (loss)		329		14	1	(119)			
Purchases (3)		(1)		1	228		284		
Sales (3)							(743)		
Issuances (3)	173			(3)	(4)				(1,175)
Settlements (3)	(143)	(44)	(1)	(12)	(8)	(455)		76	
Transfers into Level 3 (4)		(1)					19		
Transfers out of Level 3 (4)					(75)		(257)		
Balance, December 31,	\$ 666	\$ 300	\$ 44	\$ 1	\$ 889	\$ (4,203)	\$ 1,325	\$ (116)	\$ (1,175)
Changes in unrealized gains (losses) relating to assets and liabilities still held at December 31, 2011 included in earnings:									
Net investment income	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net investment gains (losses)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ (8)	\$
Net derivative gains (losses)	\$	\$ 24	\$ (24)	\$ (42)	\$ 601	\$ (1,303)	\$	\$	\$
Other revenues	\$ (282)	\$ 68	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Policyholder benefits and claims	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 7	\$ 94	\$	\$	\$
Other expenses	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Fixed Maturity Securities:**

	U.S. Corporate Securities	Foreign Corporate Securities	Foreign Government Securities	RMBS	U.S. Treasury and Agency Securities	CMBS	State and Political Subdivision Securities	ABS	Other Fixed Maturity Securities
(In millions)									
Year Ended December 31, 2010:									
Balance, January 1,	\$ 6,694	\$ 5,244	\$ 378	\$ 2,884	\$ 37	\$ 139	\$ 69	\$ 1,659	\$ 6
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:									
Earnings: (1), (2)									
Net investment income	22	15	6	64		1		9	1
Net investment gains (losses)	(13)	(34)	(5)	(59)		(6)		(40)	
Net derivative gains (losses)									
Other revenues									
Policyholder benefits and claims									
Other expenses									
Other comprehensive income (loss)	277	318	(95)	305	2	89	(2)	168	2
Purchases, sales, issuances and settlements (3)	(415)	305	2,965	(445)	(6)	684	9	1,435	(5)
Transfers into Level 3 (4)	898	502	40	91	46	132		28	
Transfers out of Level 3 (4)	(314)	(624)	(155)	(299)		(28)	(30)	(233)	
Balance, December 31,	\$ 7,149	\$ 5,726	\$ 3,134	\$ 2,541	\$ 79	\$ 1,011	\$ 46	\$ 3,026	\$ 4

Changes in unrealized gains (losses) relating to assets and liabilities still held at December 31, 2010 included in earnings:

Net investment income	\$ 13	\$ 15	\$ 10	\$ 63	\$	\$ 1	\$	\$ 9	\$ 1
Net investment gains (losses)	\$ (44)	\$ (43)	\$	\$ (29)	\$	\$ (6)	\$	\$ (23)	\$
Net derivative gains (losses)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other revenues	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Policyholder benefits and claims	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other expenses	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)							
	Equity Securities:		Trading and Other Securities:					
	Non-redeemable		FVO		Contractholder-directed		Residential Mortgage	
	Common Stock	Preferred Stock	Actively Traded Securities	General Account Securities	Unit-linked Investments	Short-term Investments	Loans Held-for-sale	MSRs (5),(6)
	(In millions)							
Year Ended December 31, 2010:								
Balance, January 1,	\$ 136	\$ 1,102	\$ 32	\$ 51	\$	\$ 23	\$ 25	\$ 878
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:								
Earnings: (1), (2)								
Net investment income				8	(15)	2		
Net investment gains (losses)	5	46						
Net derivative gains (losses)								
Other revenues							(2)	(79)
Policyholder benefits and claims								
Other expenses						(9)		
Other comprehensive income (loss)	7	12						
Purchases, sales, issuances and settlements (3)	128	(250)	(22)	(1)	750	842		151
Transfers into Level 3 (4)	1			37			10	
Transfers out of Level 3 (4)	(9)	(5)		(18)			(9)	
Balance, December 31,	\$ 268	\$ 905	\$ 10	\$ 77	\$ 735	\$ 858	\$ 24	\$ 950
Changes in unrealized gains (losses) relating to assets and liabilities still held at December 31, 2010 included in earnings:								
Net investment income	\$	\$	\$	\$ 12	\$ (15)	\$ 2	\$	\$
Net investment gains (losses)	\$ (2)	\$ (3)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net derivative gains (losses)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other revenues	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ (2)	\$ (28)
Policyholder benefits and claims	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other expenses	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)						Long-term Debt of CSEs (10)
	Net Derivatives: (7)						
	Interest Rate Contracts	Foreign Currency Contracts	Credit Contracts	Equity Market Contracts	Net Embedded Derivatives (8)	Separate Account Assets (9)	
(In millions)							
Year Ended December 31, 2010:							
Balance, January 1,	\$ 7	\$ 108	\$ 42	\$ 199	\$ (1,455)	\$ 1,797	\$
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:							
Earnings: (1), (2)							
Net investment income							
Net investment gains (losses)						132	48
Net derivative gains (losses)	36	46	4	(88)	(343)		
Other revenues	1						
Policyholder benefits and claims					8		
Other expenses		(4)					
Other comprehensive income (loss)	(107)	2	13	11	(226)		
Purchases, sales, issuances and settlements (3)	(23)	(57)	(15)	20	(422)	242	(232)
Transfers into Level 3 (4)						46	
Transfers out of Level 3 (4)		(22)				(234)	
Balance, December 31,	\$ (86)	\$ 73	\$ 44	\$ 142	\$ (2,438)	\$ 1,983	\$ (184)
Changes in unrealized gains (losses) relating to assets and liabilities still held at December 31, 2010 included in earnings:							
Net investment income	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net investment gains (losses)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 48
Net derivative gains (losses)	\$ 36	\$ 45	\$ 6	\$ (82)	\$ (363)	\$	\$
Other revenues	\$ 5	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Policyholder benefits and claims	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 8	\$	\$
Other expenses	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Fixed Maturity Securities:**

	U.S. Corporate Securities	Foreign Corporate Securities	Foreign Government Securities	RMBS	U.S. Treasury and Agency Securities	CMBS	State and Political Subdivision Securities	ABS	Other Fixed Maturity Securities
(In millions)									
Year Ended December 31, 2009:									
Balance, January 1,	\$ 7,498	\$ 5,906	\$ 386	\$ 1,655	\$ 88	\$ 260	\$ 123	\$ 1,383	\$ 40
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:									
Earnings: (1), (2)									
Net investment income	15	(4)	12	36		1		2	1
Net investment gains (losses)	(444)	(326)	(52)	(27)		(37)		(101)	
Net derivative gains (losses)									
Other revenues									
Policyholder benefits and claims									
Other expenses									
Other comprehensive income (loss)	940	1,515	53	210	(1)	53	7	473	
Purchases, sales, issuances and settlements (3)	(1,359)	(519)	12	1,126	(29)	(44)	(19)	(139)	(35)
Transfers into and/or out of level 3 (4)	44	(1,328)	(33)	(116)	(21)	(94)	(42)	41	
Balance, December 31,	\$ 6,694	\$ 5,244	\$ 378	\$ 2,884	\$ 37	\$ 139	\$ 69	\$ 1,659	\$ 6
Changes in unrealized gains (losses) relating to assets and liabilities still held at December 31, 2009									
included in earnings:									
Net investment income	\$ 18	\$ (3)	\$ 11	\$ 36	\$	\$ 1	\$	\$ 2	\$ 1
Net investment gains (losses)	\$ (412)	\$ (176)	\$	\$ (82)	\$	\$ (61)	\$	\$ (48)	\$
Net derivative gains (losses)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other revenues	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Policyholder benefits and claims	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other expenses	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)					
	Equity Securities:			Residential Mortgage Loans Held-for-sale		
	Common Stock	Non-redeemable Preferred Stock	Trading and Other Securities	Short-term Investments	MSRs (5),(6)	
	(In millions)					
Year Ended December 31, 2009:						
Balance, January 1,	\$ 105	\$ 1,274	\$ 175	\$ 100	\$ 177	\$ 191
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:						
Earnings: (1), (2)						
Net investment income			16			
Net investment gains (losses)	(2)	(357)		(21)		
Net derivative gains (losses)						
Other revenues					(3)	172
Policyholder benefits claims						
Other expenses						
Other comprehensive income (loss)	6	486				
Purchases, sales, issuances and settlements (3)	23	(256)	(108)	(51)	2	515
Transfers into and/or out of level 3 (4)	4	(45)		(5)	(151)	
Balance, December 31,	\$ 136	\$ 1,102	\$ 83	\$ 23	\$ 25	\$ 878
Changes in unrealized gains (losses) relating to assets and liabilities still held at December 31, 2009 included in earnings:						
Net investment income	\$	\$	\$ 15	\$	\$	\$
Net investment gains (losses)	\$ (1)	\$ (168)	\$	\$ 1	\$	\$
Net derivative gains (losses)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other revenues	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ (3)	\$ 147
Policyholder benefits and claims	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other expenses	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs
(Level 3)**

	Net Derivatives (7)	Net Embedded Derivatives (8)	Separate Account Assets (9)	Long-term Debt CSEs
	(In millions)			
Year Ended December 31, 2009:				
Balance, January 1,	\$ 2,547	\$ (2,929)	\$ 1,677	\$
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:				
Earnings: (1), (2)				
Net investment income	(13)			
Net investment gains (losses)			(223)	
Net derivative gains (losses)	(225)	1,716		
Other revenues	(33)			
Policyholder benefits and claims		(114)		
Other expenses	(2)			
Other comprehensive income (loss)	(11)	15		
Purchases, sales, issuances and settlements (3)	97	(143)	478	
Transfers into and/or out of level 3 (4)	(2,004)		(135)	
Balance, December 31,	\$ 356	\$ (1,455)	\$ 1,797	\$
Changes in unrealized gains (losses) relating to assets and liabilities still held at December 31, 2009 included in earnings:				
Net investment income	\$ (13)	\$	\$	\$
Net investment gains (losses)	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net derivative gains (losses)	\$ (194)	\$ 1,697	\$	\$
Other revenues	\$ 5	\$	\$	\$
Policyholder benefits and claims	\$	\$ (114)	\$	\$
Other expenses	\$ (2)	\$	\$	\$

- (1) Amortization of premium/discount is included within net investment income. Impairments charged to earnings on securities and certain mortgage loans are included within net investment gains (losses) while changes in estimated fair value of certain mortgage loans and MSR's are recorded in other revenues. Lapses associated with net embedded derivatives are included within net derivative gains (losses).
- (2) Interest and dividend accruals, as well as cash interest coupons and dividends received, are excluded from the rollforward.
- (3) The amount reported within purchases, sales, issuances and settlements is the purchase or issuance price and the sales or settlement proceeds based upon the actual date purchased or issued and sold or settled, respectively. Items purchased/issued and sold/settled in the same period are excluded from the rollforward. For the year ended December 31, 2011, fees attributed to net embedded derivatives are included within settlements. For the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, fees attributed to net embedded derivatives are included within purchases, sales, issuances and settlements. Purchases, sales, issuances and settlements for the year ended December 31, 2010 include financial instruments acquired from ALICO as follows: \$5.4 billion of fixed maturity securities, \$68 million of equity securities, \$582 million of trading and other securities, \$216 million of short-term investments, (\$10) million of net derivatives, \$244 million of

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

separate account assets and (\$116) million of net embedded derivatives.

- (4) Total gains and losses (in earnings and other comprehensive income (loss)) are calculated assuming transfers into and/or out of Level 3 occurred at the beginning of the period. Items transferred into and/or out of Level 3 in the same period are excluded from the rollforward.

327

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

- (5) The additions for purchases, originations and issuances and the reductions for loan payments, sales and settlements, affecting MSR were \$173 million and (\$143) million, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2011. The additions for purchases, originations and issuances and the reductions for loan payments, sales and settlements, affecting MSR were \$330 million and (\$179) million, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2010. The additions for purchases, originations and issuances and the reductions for loan payments, sales and settlements, affecting MSR were \$628 million and (\$113) million, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2009.
- (6) The changes in estimated fair value due to changes in valuation model inputs or assumptions were (\$314) million, (\$79) million and \$172 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. For the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 there were no other changes in estimated fair value affecting MSR.
- (7) Freestanding derivative assets and liabilities are presented net for purposes of the rollforward.
- (8) Embedded derivative assets and liabilities are presented net for purposes of the rollforward.
- (9) Investment performance related to separate account assets is fully offset by corresponding amounts credited to contractholders within separate account liabilities. Therefore, such changes in estimated fair value are not recorded in net income. For the purpose of this disclosure, these changes are presented within net investment gains (losses).
- (10) The long-term debt of the CSEs at January 1, 2010 is reported within the purchases, sales, issuances and settlements caption of the rollforward.

Fair Value Option*Residential Mortgage Loans Held-For-Sale*

The following table presents residential mortgage loans held-for-sale carried under the FVO at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Unpaid principal balance	\$ 2,935	\$ 2,473
Excess of estimated fair value over unpaid principal balance	129	37
Carrying value at estimated fair value	\$ 3,064	\$ 2,510
Loans in non-accrual status	\$ 3	\$ 2
Loans more than 90 days past due	\$ 20	\$ 3
Loans in non-accrual status or more than 90 days past due, or both difference between aggregate estimated fair value and unpaid principal balance	\$ (2)	\$ (1)

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Residential mortgage loans held-for-sale accounted for under the FVO are initially measured at estimated fair value. Interest income on residential mortgage loans held-for-sale is recorded based on the stated rate of the loan and is recorded in net investment income. Gains and losses from initial measurement, subsequent changes in estimated fair value and gains or losses on sales are recognized in other revenues. Such changes in estimated fair value for these loans were due to the following:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Instrument-specific credit risk based on changes in credit spreads for non-agency loans and adjustments in individual loan quality	\$ (3)	\$ (1)	\$ (2)
Other changes in estimated fair value	511	487	600
Total gains (losses) recognized in other revenues	\$ 508	\$ 486	\$ 598

Securitized Reverse Residential Mortgage Loans

The following table presents securitized reverse residential mortgage loans carried under the FVO at:

	December 31, 2011 (In millions)
Unpaid principal balance	\$ 6,914
Excess of estimated fair value over unpaid principal balance	738
Carrying value at estimated fair value	\$ 7,652
Loans in non-accrual status	\$
Loans more than 90 days past due	\$ 59
Loans in non-accrual status or more than 90 days past due, or both difference between aggregate estimated fair value and unpaid principal balance	\$

Securitized reverse residential mortgage loans accounted for under the FVO are initially measured at estimated fair value. Gains and losses from initial measurement and subsequent changes in estimated fair value are recognized in other revenues.

The following table presents the liability related to securitized reverse residential mortgage loans carried under the FVO at:

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

	December 31, 2011 (In millions)
Contractual principal balance	\$ 6,914
Excess of estimated fair value over contractual principal balance	712
Carrying value at estimated fair value	\$ 7,626

The liability related to securitized reverse residential mortgage loans accounted for under the FVO is initially measured at estimated fair value. Gains and losses from initial measurement and subsequent changes in estimated fair value are recognized in other revenues.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Assets and Liabilities Held by CSEs*

The Company has elected the FVO for the following assets and liabilities held by CSEs: commercial mortgage loans, securities and long-term debt. Information on the estimated fair value of the securities classified as trading and other securities is presented in Note 3. The following table presents these commercial mortgage loans carried under the FVO at:

	December 31, 2011 2010 (In millions)	
Unpaid principal balance	\$ 3,019	\$ 6,636
Excess of estimated fair value over unpaid principal balance	119	204
Carrying value at estimated fair value	\$ 3,138	\$ 6,840

The following table presents the long-term debt carried under the FVO related to both the commercial mortgage loans and securities classified as trading and other securities at:

	December 31, 2011 2010 (In millions)	
Contractual principal balance	\$ 2,954	\$ 6,619
Excess of estimated fair value over contractual principal balance	114	201
Carrying value at estimated fair value	\$ 3,068	\$ 6,820

Interest income on both commercial mortgage loans and securities classified as trading and other securities held by CSEs is recorded in net investment income. Interest expense on long-term debt of CSEs is recorded in other expenses. Gains and losses from initial measurement, subsequent changes in estimated fair value and gains or losses on sales of both the commercial mortgage loans and long-term debt are recognized in net investment gains (losses). See Note 3.

Non-Recurring Fair Value Measurements

Certain assets are measured at estimated fair value on a non-recurring basis and are not included in the tables presented above. The amounts below relate to certain investments measured at estimated fair value during the period and still held at the reporting dates.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

	Years Ended December 31,								
	2011			2010			2009		
	Carrying Value Prior to Measurement	Estimated Fair Value After Measurement	Net Investment Gains (Losses)	Carrying Value Prior to Measurement	Estimated Fair Value After Measurement	Net Investment Gains (Losses)	Carrying Value Prior to Measurement	Estimated Fair Value After Measurement	Net Investment Gains (Losses)
Mortgage loans: (1)									
Held-for-investment	\$ 166	\$ 151	\$ (15)	\$ 179	\$ 164	\$ (15)	\$ 294	\$ 202	\$ (92)
Held-for-sale	61	58	(3)	35	33	(2)	9	8	(1)
Mortgage loans, net	\$ 227	\$ 209	\$ (18)	\$ 214	\$ 197	\$ (17)	\$ 303	\$ 210	\$ (93)
Other limited partnership interests (2)	\$ 18	\$ 13	\$ (5)	\$ 35	\$ 23	\$ (12)	\$ 915	\$ 561	\$ (354)
Real estate joint ventures (3)	\$	\$	\$	\$ 33	\$ 8	\$ (25)	\$ 175	\$ 93	\$ (82)
Goodwill (4)	\$ 65	\$	\$ (65)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

330

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

- (1) *Mortgage loans* The impaired mortgage loans presented above were written down to their estimated fair values at the date the impairments were recognized and are reported as losses above. Subsequent improvements in estimated fair value on previously impaired loans recorded through a reduction in the previously established valuation allowance are reported as gains above. Estimated fair values for impaired mortgage loans are based on observable market prices or, if the loans are in foreclosure or are otherwise determined to be collateral dependent, on the estimated fair value of the underlying collateral, or the present value of the expected future cash flows. Impairments to estimated fair value and decreases in previous impairments from subsequent improvements in estimated fair value represent non-recurring fair value measurements that have been categorized as Level 3 due to the lack of price transparency inherent in the limited markets for such mortgage loans.
- (2) *Other limited partnership interests* The impaired investments presented above were accounted for using the cost method. Impairments on these cost method investments were recognized at estimated fair value determined from information provided in the financial statements of the underlying entities in the period in which the impairment was incurred. These impairments to estimated fair value represent non-recurring fair value measurements that have been classified as Level 3 due to the limited activity and price transparency inherent in the market for such investments. This category includes several private equity and debt funds that typically invest primarily in a diversified pool of investments using certain investment strategies including domestic and international leveraged buyout funds; power, energy, timber and infrastructure development funds; venture capital funds; and below investment grade debt and mezzanine debt funds. The estimated fair values of these investments have been determined using the NAV of the Company's ownership interest in the partners' capital. Distributions from these investments will be generated from investment gains, from operating income from the underlying investments of the funds and from liquidation of the underlying assets of the funds. It is estimated that the underlying assets of the funds will be liquidated over the next two to 10 years. Unfunded commitments for these investments were \$4 million and \$34 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.
- (3) *Real estate joint ventures* The impaired investments presented above were accounted for using the cost method. Impairments on these cost method investments were recognized at estimated fair value determined from information provided in the financial statements of the underlying entities in the period in which the impairment was incurred. These impairments to estimated fair value represent non-recurring fair value measurements that have been classified as Level 3 due to the limited activity and price transparency inherent in the market for such investments. This category includes several real estate funds that typically invest primarily in commercial real estate. The estimated fair values of these investments have been determined using the NAV of the Company's ownership interest in the partners' capital. Distributions from these investments will be generated from investment gains, from operating income from the underlying investments of the funds and from liquidation of the underlying assets of the funds. It is estimated that the underlying assets of the funds will be liquidated over the next two to 10 years. There were no unfunded commitments for these investments at December 31, 2011. Unfunded commitments for these investments were \$6 million at December 31, 2010.
- (4) *Goodwill* As discussed in Notes 2 and 7, the Company recorded an impairment of goodwill associated with MetLife Bank. This impairment has been categorized as Level 3 due to the significant unobservable inputs used in the determination of the associated estimated fair value.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

Amounts related to the Company's financial instruments that were not measured at fair value on a recurring basis, were as follows:

	2011		December 31,		2010	
	Notional Amount	Carrying Value	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	Notional Amount	Carrying Value	Estimated Fair Value
Assets:						
Mortgage loans: (1)						
Held-for-investment		\$ 53,777	\$ 56,422		\$ 52,136	\$ 53,927
Held-for-sale		4,462	4,462		811	811
Mortgage loans, net		\$ 58,239	\$ 60,884		\$ 52,947	\$ 54,738
Policy loans		\$ 11,892	\$ 14,213		\$ 11,761	\$ 13,253
Real estate joint ventures (2)		\$ 130	\$ 183		\$ 451	\$ 482
Other limited partnership interests (2)		\$ 1,318	\$ 1,656		\$ 1,539	\$ 1,619
Short-term investments (3)		\$ 450	\$ 450		\$ 819	\$ 819
Other invested assets (2)		\$ 1,434	\$ 1,434		\$ 1,490	\$ 1,490
Cash and cash equivalents		\$ 10,461	\$ 10,461		\$ 12,957	\$ 12,957
Accrued investment income		\$ 4,344	\$ 4,344		\$ 4,328	\$ 4,328
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables (2)		\$ 4,639	\$ 5,232		\$ 3,752	\$ 4,048
Other assets (2)		\$ 310	\$ 308		\$ 466	\$ 453
Assets of subsidiaries held-for-sale (2)		\$	\$		\$ 3,068	\$ 3,068
Liabilities:						
PABs (2)		\$ 146,890	\$ 153,304		\$ 146,822	\$ 152,745
Payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions		\$ 33,716	\$ 33,716		\$ 27,272	\$ 27,272
Bank deposits		\$ 10,507	\$ 10,507		\$ 10,316	\$ 10,371
Short-term debt		\$ 686	\$ 686		\$ 306	\$ 306
Long-term debt (2), (4)		\$ 20,587	\$ 22,514		\$ 20,734	\$ 21,892
Collateral financing arrangements		\$ 4,647	\$ 4,136		\$ 5,297	\$ 4,757
Junior subordinated debt securities		\$ 3,192	\$ 3,491		\$ 3,191	\$ 3,461
Other liabilities (2), (5)		\$ 4,087	\$ 4,087		\$ 2,777	\$ 2,777
Separate account liabilities (2)		\$ 49,610	\$ 49,610		\$ 42,160	\$ 42,160
Liabilities of subsidiaries held-for-sale (2)		\$	\$		\$ 105	\$ 105
Commitments: (6)						
Mortgage loan commitments	\$ 4,129	\$	\$ 3	\$ 3,754	\$	\$ (17)
Commitments to fund bank credit facilities, bridge loans and private corporate bond investments	\$ 1,432	\$	\$ 51	\$ 2,437	\$	\$

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

- (1) Mortgage loans held-for-investment as presented in the table above differ from the amounts presented in the consolidated balance sheets because this table does not include commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs, which are accounted for under the FVO.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Mortgage loans held-for-sale as presented in the table above differ from the amounts presented in the consolidated balance sheets because this table only includes mortgage loans that were previously designated as held-for-investment but now are designated as held-for-sale and stated at lower of amortized cost or estimated fair value.

- (2) Carrying values presented herein differ from those presented in the consolidated balance sheets because certain items within the respective financial statement caption are not considered financial instruments. Financial statement captions excluded from the table above are not considered financial instruments.
- (3) Short-term investments as presented in the table above differ from the amounts presented in the consolidated balance sheets because this table does not include short-term investments that meet the definition of a security, which are measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis.
- (4) Long-term debt as presented in the table above does not include long-term debt of CSEs, which is accounted for under the FVO.
- (5) Other liabilities as presented in the table above differ from the amounts presented in the consolidated balance sheets because certain items within other liabilities are not considered financial instruments and this table does not include the liability related to securitized reverse residential mortgage loans, which are accounted for under the FVO.
- (6) Commitments are off-balance sheet obligations. Negative estimated fair values represent off-balance sheet liabilities. The methods and assumptions used to estimate the fair value of financial instruments are summarized as follows:

The assets and liabilities measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis include: fixed maturity securities, equity securities, trading and other securities, certain short-term investments, mortgage loans held by CSEs, mortgage loans held-for-sale accounted for under the FVO, MSRs, derivative assets and liabilities, net embedded derivatives within asset and liability host contracts, separate account assets, long-term debt of CSEs and trading liabilities. These assets and liabilities are described in the section *Recurring Fair Value Measurements* and, therefore, are excluded from the table above. The estimated fair value for these financial instruments approximates carrying value.

Mortgage Loans

These mortgage loans are principally comprised of commercial and agricultural mortgage loans, which are originated for investment purposes and are primarily carried at amortized cost. Residential mortgage loans are generally purchased from third parties for investment purposes and are principally carried at amortized cost. Mortgage loans originally held-for-investment, but subsequently held-for-sale are carried at the lower of cost or estimated fair value, or for collateral dependent loans, estimated fair value less expected disposition costs. The estimated fair values of these mortgage loans are determined as follows:

Mortgage loans held-for-investment. For commercial and agricultural mortgage loans held-for-investment and carried at amortized cost, estimated fair value was primarily determined by estimating expected future cash flows and discounting them using current interest rates for similar mortgage loans with similar credit risk. For residential mortgage loans held-for-investment and carried at amortized cost, estimated fair value is primarily determined from observable pricing for similar loans.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Mortgage loans held-for-sale. Certain mortgage loans previously classified as held-for-investment have been designated as held-for-sale. For these mortgage loans, estimated fair value is determined using independent broker quotations or values provided by independent valuation specialists, or, when the mortgage loan is in foreclosure or otherwise determined to be collateral dependent, the fair value of the underlying collateral is estimated using internal models.

Policy Loans

For policy loans with fixed interest rates, estimated fair values are determined using a discounted cash flow model applied to groups of similar policy loans determined by the nature of the underlying insurance liabilities. Cash flow estimates are developed by applying a weighted-average interest rate to the outstanding principal balance of the respective group of policy loans and an estimated average maturity determined through experience studies of the past performance of policyholder repayment behavior for similar loans. These cash flows are discounted using current risk-free interest rates with no adjustment for borrower credit risk as these loans are fully collateralized by the cash surrender value of the underlying insurance policy. The estimated fair value for policy loans with variable interest rates approximates carrying value due to the absence of borrower credit risk and the short time period between interest rate resets, which presents minimal risk of a material change in estimated fair value due to changes in market interest rates.

Real Estate Joint Ventures and Other Limited Partnership Interests

Real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests included in the preceding table consist of those investments accounted for using the cost method. The remaining carrying value recognized in the consolidated balance sheets represents investments in real estate carried at cost less accumulated depreciation, or real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests accounted for using the equity method, which do not meet the definition of financial instruments for which fair value is required to be disclosed.

The estimated fair values for real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests accounted for under the cost method are generally based on the Company's share of the NAV as provided in the financial statements of the investees. In certain circumstances, management may adjust the NAV by a premium or discount when it has sufficient evidence to support applying such adjustments.

Short-term Investments

Certain short-term investments do not qualify as securities and are recognized at amortized cost in the consolidated balance sheets. For these instruments, the Company believes that there is minimal risk of material changes in interest rates or credit of the issuer such that estimated fair value approximates carrying value. In light of recent market conditions, short-term investments have been monitored to ensure there is sufficient demand and maintenance of issuer credit quality and the Company has determined additional adjustment is not required.

Other Invested Assets

Other invested assets within the preceding table are principally comprised of funds withheld, various interest-bearing assets held in foreign subsidiaries and certain amounts due under contractual indemnifications.

For funds withheld and the various interest-bearing assets held in foreign subsidiaries, the Company evaluates the specific facts and circumstances of each instrument to determine the appropriate estimated fair values. These estimated fair values were not materially different from the recognized carrying values.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Cash and Cash Equivalents*

Due to the short-term maturities of cash and cash equivalents, the Company believes there is minimal risk of material changes in interest rates or credit of the issuer such that estimated fair value generally approximates carrying value. In light of recent market conditions, cash and cash equivalent instruments have been monitored to ensure there is sufficient demand and maintenance of issuer credit quality, or sufficient solvency in the case of depository institutions, and the Company has determined additional adjustment is not required.

Accrued Investment Income

Due to the short term until settlement of accrued investment income, the Company believes there is minimal risk of material changes in interest rates or credit of the issuer such that estimated fair value approximates carrying value. In light of recent market conditions, the Company has monitored the credit quality of the issuers and has determined additional adjustment is not required.

Premiums, Reinsurance and Other Receivables

Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables in the preceding table are principally comprised of certain amounts recoverable under reinsurance agreements, amounts on deposit with financial institutions to facilitate daily settlements related to certain derivative positions and amounts receivable for securities sold but not yet settled.

Premiums receivable and those amounts recoverable under reinsurance agreements determined to transfer significant risk are not financial instruments subject to disclosure and thus have been excluded from the amounts presented in the preceding table. Amounts recoverable under ceded reinsurance agreements, which the Company has determined do not transfer significant risk such that they are accounted for using the deposit method of accounting, have been included in the preceding table. The estimated fair value is determined as the present value of expected future cash flows, which were discounted using an interest rate determined to reflect the appropriate credit standing of the assuming counterparty.

The amounts on deposit for derivative settlements essentially represent the equivalent of demand deposit balances and amounts due for securities sold are generally received over short periods such that the estimated fair value approximates carrying value. In light of recent market conditions, the Company has monitored the solvency position of the financial institutions and has determined additional adjustments are not required.

Other Assets

Other assets in the preceding table are primarily composed of a receivable for cash paid to an unaffiliated financial institution under the MetLife Reinsurance Company of Charleston (MRC) collateral financing arrangement as described in Note 12. The estimated fair value of the receivable for the cash paid to the unaffiliated financial institution under the MRC collateral financing arrangement is determined by discounting the expected future cash flows using a discount rate that reflects the credit rating of the unaffiliated financial institution. The amounts excluded from the preceding table are not considered financial instruments subject to disclosure.

PABs

PABs in the table above include investment contracts. Embedded derivatives on investment contracts and certain variable annuity guarantees accounted for as embedded derivatives are included in this caption in the consolidated financial statements but excluded from this caption in the table above as they are separately presented in Recurring Fair Value Measurements. The remaining difference between the amounts reflected

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

as PABs in the preceding table and those recognized in the consolidated balance sheets represents those amounts due under contracts that satisfy the definition of insurance contracts and are not considered financial instruments.

The investment contracts primarily include certain funding agreements, fixed deferred annuities, modified guaranteed annuities, fixed term payout annuities and total control accounts. The fair values for these investment contracts are estimated by discounting best estimate future cash flows using current market risk-free interest rates and adding a spread to reflect the nonperformance risk in the liability.

Payables for Collateral Under Securities Loaned and Other Transactions

The estimated fair value for payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions approximates carrying value. The related agreements to loan securities are short-term in nature such that the Company believes there is limited risk of a material change in market interest rates. Additionally, because borrowers are cross-collateralized by the borrowed securities, the Company believes no additional consideration for changes in nonperformance risk are necessary.

Bank Deposits

Due to the frequency of interest rate resets on customer bank deposits held in money market accounts, the Company believes that there is minimal risk of a material change in interest rates such that the estimated fair value approximates carrying value. For time deposits, estimated fair values are estimated by discounting the expected cash flows to maturity using discount rates based on the LIBOR/swap curve at the date of the valuation. The Company has taken into consideration the sale price for the pending disposition of most of the depository business of MetLife Bank to determine the estimated fair value of bank deposits at December 31, 2011. See Note 2.

Short-term and Long-term Debt, Collateral Financing Arrangements and Junior Subordinated Debt Securities

The estimated fair value for short-term debt approximates carrying value due to the short-term nature of these obligations. The determination of estimated fair values of collateral financing arrangements takes into account valuations obtained from the counterparties to the arrangements, as part of the collateral management process. The estimated fair values of long-term debt and junior subordinated debt securities are generally determined by discounting expected future cash flows using market rates currently available for debt with similar remaining maturities and reflecting the credit risk of the Company, including inputs when available, from actively traded debt of the Company or other companies with similar types of borrowing arrangements. Risk-adjusted discount rates applied to the expected future cash flows can vary significantly based upon the specific terms of each individual arrangement, including, but not limited to: subordinated rights, contractual interest rates in relation to current market rates, the structuring of the arrangement, and the nature and observability of the applicable valuation inputs. Use of different risk-adjusted discount rates could result in different estimated fair values.

The carrying value of long-term debt presented in the table above differs from the amounts presented in the consolidated balance sheets as it does not include capital leases which are not required to be disclosed at estimated fair value.

Other Liabilities

Other liabilities included in the table above reflect those other liabilities that satisfy the definition of financial instruments subject to disclosure. These items consist primarily of interest and dividends payable, amounts due for securities purchased but not yet settled, funds withheld amounts payable which are contractually withheld by the Company in accordance with the terms of the reinsurance agreements and amounts payable under certain

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

assumed reinsurance agreements are recorded using the deposit method of accounting. The Company evaluates the specific terms, facts and circumstances of each instrument to determine the appropriate estimated fair values, which are not materially different from the carrying values, with the exception of certain deposit type reinsurance payables. For these reinsurance payables, the estimated fair value is determined as the present value of expected future cash flows, which are discounted using an interest rate determined to reflect the appropriate credit standing of the assuming counterparty.

Separate Account Liabilities

Separate account liabilities included in the preceding table represent those balances due to policyholders under contracts that are classified as investment contracts. The remaining amounts presented in the consolidated balance sheets represent those contracts classified as insurance contracts, which do not satisfy the definition of financial instruments.

Separate account liabilities classified as investment contracts primarily represent variable annuities with no significant mortality risk to the Company such that the death benefit is equal to the account balance, funding agreements related to group life contracts and certain contracts that provide for benefit funding.

Separate account liabilities are recognized in the consolidated balance sheets at an equivalent value of the related separate account assets. Separate account assets, which equal net deposits, net investment income and realized and unrealized investment gains and losses, are fully offset by corresponding amounts credited to the contractholders liability which is reflected in separate account liabilities. Since separate account liabilities are fully funded by cash flows from the separate account assets which are recognized at estimated fair value as described in the section Recurring Fair Value Measurements, the Company believes the value of those assets approximates the estimated fair value of the related separate account liabilities.

Mortgage Loan Commitments and Commitments to Fund Bank Credit Facilities, Bridge Loans and Private Corporate Bond Investments

The estimated fair values for mortgage loan commitments that will be held for investment and commitments to fund bank credit facilities, bridge loans and private corporate bonds that will be held for investment reflected in the above table represents the difference between the discounted expected future cash flows using interest rates that incorporate current credit risk for similar instruments on the reporting date and the principal amounts of the commitments.

Assets and Liabilities of Subsidiaries Held-For-Sale

The carrying values of the assets and liabilities of subsidiaries held-for-sale reflect those assets and liabilities which were previously determined to be financial instruments and which were reflected in other financial statement captions in the comparable table above in previous periods but have been reclassified to these captions to reflect the discontinued nature of the operations. The estimated fair value of the assets and liabilities of subsidiaries held-for-sale has been determined on a basis consistent with the assets and liabilities as described herein.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****6. Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs and Value of Business Acquired**

Information regarding DAC and VOBA was as follows:

	DAC	VOBA (In millions)	Total
Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 16,510	\$ 3,491	\$ 20,001
Capitalizations	2,976		2,976
Subtotal	19,486	3,491	22,977
Amortization related to:			
Net investment gains (losses)	625	87	712
Other expenses	(1,736)	(265)	(2,001)
Total amortization	(1,111)	(178)	(1,289)
Unrealized investment gains (losses)	(2,314)	(505)	(2,819)
Effect of foreign currency translation and other	158	56	214
Balance at December 31, 2009	16,219	2,864	19,083
Capitalizations	3,299		3,299
Acquisitions		9,210	9,210
Subtotal	19,518	12,074	31,592
Amortization related to:			
Net investment gains (losses)	(108)	(16)	(124)
Other expenses	(2,225)	(494)	(2,719)
Total amortization	(2,333)	(510)	(2,843)
Unrealized investment gains (losses)	(1,258)	(125)	(1,383)
Effect of foreign currency translation and other	77	(351)	(274)
Balance at December 31, 2010	16,004	11,088	27,092
Capitalizations	6,858		6,858
Acquisitions		11	11
Subtotal	22,862	11,099	33,961
Amortization related to:			
Net investment gains (losses)	(523)	(49)	(572)
Other expenses	(3,062)	(1,757)	(4,819)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Total amortization	(3,585)	(1,806)	(5,391)
Unrealized investment gains (losses)	(518)	(361)	(879)
Effect of foreign currency translation and other	(167)	447	280
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 18,592	\$ 9,379	\$ 27,971

See Note 2 for a description of acquisitions and dispositions.

The estimated future amortization expense allocated to other expenses for the next five years for VOBA is \$1.3 billion in 2012, \$1.1 billion in 2013, \$917 million in 2014, \$774 million in 2015 and \$661 million in 2016.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Amortization of DAC and VOBA is attributed to both investment gains and losses and to other expenses for the amount of gross margins or profits originating from transactions other than investment gains and losses. Unrealized investment gains and losses represent the amount of DAC and VOBA that would have been amortized if such gains and losses had been recognized.

Information regarding DAC and VOBA by segment was as follows:

	DAC		VOBA December 31,		Total	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(In millions)					
U.S. Business:						
Insurance Products	\$ 8,228	\$ 8,247	\$ 381	\$ 833	\$ 8,609	\$ 9,080
Retirement Products	4,659	4,706	830	1,094	5,489	5,800
Corporate Benefit Funding	101	74	3	1	104	75
Auto & Home	194	190			194	190
Total U.S. Business	13,182	13,217	1,214	1,928	14,396	15,145
International:						
Japan	1,989	135	6,509	6,853	8,498	6,988
Other International Regions	3,420	2,650	1,655	2,306	5,075	4,956
Total International	5,409	2,785	8,164	9,159	13,573	11,944
Corporate & Other	1	2	1	1	2	3
Total	\$ 18,592	\$ 16,004	\$ 9,379	\$ 11,088	\$ 27,971	\$ 27,092

7. Goodwill

Goodwill is the excess of cost over the estimated fair value of net assets acquired. Information regarding goodwill was as follows:

	2011	December 31, 2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Balance at January 1,	\$ 11,781	\$ 5,047	\$ 5,008
Acquisitions	39	6,959	
Impairments (1)	(65)		
Effect of foreign currency translation and other	180	(225)	39
Balance at December 31,	\$ 11,935	\$ 11,781	\$ 5,047

- (1) At December 31, 2011, the Company's accumulated goodwill impairment loss was \$65 million.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Information regarding allocated goodwill by segment and reporting unit was as follows:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
U.S. Business:		
Insurance Products:		
Group life	\$ 2	\$ 2
Individual life	1,263	1,263
Non-medical health	149	149
Total Insurance Products	1,414	1,414
Retirement Products	1,692	1,692
Corporate Benefit Funding	900	900
Auto & Home	157	157
Total U.S. Business	4,163	4,163
International:		
Japan	5,371	
Other International Regions:		
Latin America	501	229
Asia Pacific	72	72
Europe	938	38
Middle East	485	
Total International	7,367	339
Corporate & Other	405	470
Total	\$ 11,935	\$ 4,972

The table above does not include goodwill of \$6.8 billion at December 31, 2010, associated with ALICO. In the first quarter of 2011, the Company began reporting the results from its international operations in two separate segments to reflect a change in the manner in which the financial results are reviewed and evaluated by executive management. Consequently, \$5.2 billion and \$1.8 billion of goodwill were allocated in 2011 to the reporting unit in the Japan segment and to reporting units in the Other International Regions segment, respectively, each net of the associated foreign currency translations. See Note 2 for a description of acquisitions and dispositions.

As of November 1, 2011, American Life's current and deferred income taxes were affected by measurement period adjustments, which resulted in a \$39 million increase to the goodwill recorded as part of the Acquisition related to the Japan segment. See Note 15.

During the third quarter of 2011, the Company began exploring the sale of MetLife Bank's depository business. As a result, in September 2011, the Company performed a goodwill impairment test on MetLife Bank, which was a separate reporting unit within Corporate & Other. A comparison of the fair value of the reporting unit, using a market multiple approach, to its carrying value indicated a potential for goodwill impairment. A further comparison of the implied fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill with its carrying amount indicated that the entire amount of goodwill associated with MetLife Bank was impaired. Consequently, the Company recorded a \$65 million goodwill impairment charge that is reflected as a net investment loss for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

In addition, the Company performed its annual goodwill impairment tests of its other reporting units during the third quarter of 2011 based upon data at June 30, 2011 and concluded that the fair values of all reporting units were in excess of their carrying values and, therefore, goodwill was not impaired. Such tests are described in more detail in Note 1.

Based on the adverse economic conditions in 2011, which caused both equity markets and interest rates to decline, the Company assessed the need to update the annual impairment tests and identified only one reporting unit, Retirement Products, that warranted interim impairment testing. The results of the testing indicated that goodwill for the Retirement Products reporting unit was not impaired.

Management continues to evaluate current market conditions that may affect the estimated fair value of these reporting units to assess whether any goodwill impairment exists. Deteriorating or adverse market conditions for certain reporting units may have a significant impact on the estimated fair value of these reporting units and could result in future impairments of goodwill.

8. Insurance*Insurance Liabilities*

Insurance liabilities were as follows:

	Future Policy Benefits		Policyholder Account Balances		Other Policy-Related Balances	
	2011	2010	December 31,		2011	2010
	(In millions)					
U.S. Business:						
Insurance Products	\$ 74,390	\$ 72,936	\$ 30,196	\$ 29,407	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,831
Retirement Products	10,455	8,829	48,689	46,517	161	146
Corporate Benefit Funding	44,471	39,187	56,308	57,773	181	184
Auto & Home	3,101	3,036			44	171
Total U.S. Business	132,417	123,988	135,193	133,697	6,386	6,332
International:						
Japan	26,659	23,083	58,195	53,161	5,212	5,311
Other International Regions	19,002	18,043	24,278	23,857	3,590	3,684
Total International	45,661	41,126	82,473	77,018	8,802	8,995
Corporate & Other	6,174	5,798	34	42	411	423
Total	\$ 184,252	\$ 170,912	\$ 217,700	\$ 210,757	\$ 15,599	\$ 15,750

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)*****Value of Distribution Agreements and Customer Relationships Acquired***

Information regarding VODA and VOCRA, which are reported in other assets, was as follows:

	Amount (In millions)
Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 822
Acquisitions	
Amortization	(34)
Effect of foreign currency translation and other	4
Balance at December 31, 2009	792
Acquisitions	356
Amortization	(42)
Effect of foreign currency translation and other	(12)
Balance at December 31, 2010	1,094
Acquisitions	213
Amortization	(60)
Effect of foreign currency translation and other	17
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 1,264

The estimated future amortization expense allocated to other expenses for the next five years for VODA and VOCRA is \$82 million in 2012, \$89 million in 2013, \$94 million in 2014, \$92 million in 2015 and \$84 million in 2016. See Note 2 for a description of acquisitions and dispositions.

Negative Value of Business Acquired

Information regarding negative VOBA, which is recorded in other policy-related balances, was as follows:

	Amount (In millions)
Balance at January 1, 2010	\$
Acquisitions	4,422
Amortization	(64)
Effect of foreign currency translation	(71)
Balance at December 31, 2010	4,287
Acquisitions	7

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Amortization	(697)
Effect of foreign currency translation	60
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 3,657

The weighted average amortization period for negative VOBA was 6.0 years. The estimated future amortization of credit to expenses recorded in other expenses for the next five years for negative VOBA is \$627 million in 2012, \$563 million in 2013, \$477 million in 2014, \$388 million in 2015 and \$298 million in 2016.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)*****Sales Inducements***

Information regarding deferred sales inducements, which are reported in other assets, was as follows:

	Amount (In millions)
Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 711
Capitalization	193
Amortization	(63)
Balance at December 31, 2009	841
Capitalization	157
Amortization	(80)
Balance at December 31, 2010	918
Capitalization	140
Amortization	(132)
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 926

Separate Accounts

Separate account assets and liabilities include two categories of account types: pass-through separate accounts totaling \$158.8 billion and \$149.0 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, for which the policyholder assumes all investment risk, and separate accounts for which the Company contractually guarantees either a minimum return or account value to the policyholder which totaled \$44.2 billion and \$34.1 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The latter category consisted primarily of funding agreements and participating close-out contracts. The average interest rate credited on these contracts was 3.12% and 3.32% at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

For the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, there were no investment gains (losses) on transfers of assets from the general account to the separate accounts.

Obligations Under Funding Agreements

The Company issues fixed and floating rate funding agreements, which are denominated in either U.S. dollars or foreign currencies, to certain special purpose entities (SPEs) that have issued either debt securities or commercial paper for which payment of interest and principal is secured by such funding agreements. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, the Company issued \$39.9 billion, \$34.1 billion and \$28.6 billion, respectively, and repaid \$41.6 billion, \$30.9 billion and \$32.0 billion, respectively, of such funding agreements. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, funding agreements outstanding, which are included in PABs, were \$25.5 billion and \$27.2 billion, respectively.

Certain subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. are members of the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB). Holdings of FHLB common stock by branch, included in equity securities, were as follows at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
FHLB of New York (FHLB of NY)	\$ 658	\$ 890
FHLB of Boston	\$ 70	\$ 70
FHLB of Des Moines	\$ 51	\$ 20

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Certain subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. have also entered into funding agreements. The liability for funding agreements is included in PABs. Information related to the funding agreements was as follows:

	Liability		Collateral	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	December 31, (In millions)			
FHLB of NY (1)	\$ 11,655	\$ 12,555	\$ 13,002 (2)	\$ 14,204 (2)
Farmer Mac (3)	\$ 2,750	\$ 2,750	\$ 3,157 (4)	\$ 3,159 (4)
FHLB of Boston (1)	\$ 450	\$ 100	\$ 518 (2)	\$ 211 (2)
FHLB of Des Moines (1)	\$ 695	\$	\$ 953 (2)	\$ (2)

- (1) Represents funding agreements issued to the FHLB in exchange for cash and for which the FHLB has been granted either a blanket lien or a lien on certain assets, including RMBS, to collateralize obligations under the funding agreements. The Company maintains control over these pledged assets, and may use, commingle, encumber or dispose of any portion of the collateral as long as there is no event of default and the remaining qualified collateral is sufficient to satisfy the collateral maintenance level. Upon any event of default by the Company, the FHLB's recovery on the collateral is limited to the amount of the Company's liability to the FHLB.
- (2) Advances are collateralized by mortgage-backed securities. The amount of collateral presented is at estimated fair value.
- (3) Represents funding agreements issued to certain SPEs that have issued debt securities for which payment of interest and principal is secured by such funding agreements, and such debt securities are also guaranteed as to payment of interest and principal by the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, a federally chartered instrumentality of the United States (Farmer Mac).
- (4) Secured by a pledge of certain eligible agricultural real estate mortgage loans. The amount of collateral presented is at carrying value.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)*****Liabilities for Unpaid Claims and Claim Expenses***

Information regarding the liabilities for unpaid claims and claim expenses relating to property and casualty, group accident and non-medical health policies and contracts, which are reported in future policy benefits and other policy-related balances, was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Balance at January 1,	\$ 10,708	\$ 8,219	\$ 8,260
Less: Reinsurance recoverables	2,198	547	1,042
Net balance at January 1,	8,510	7,672	7,218
Acquisitions, net		583	
Incurred related to:			
Current year	9,028	6,482	6,569
Prior years	(199)	(75)	(152)
Total incurred	8,829	6,407	6,417
Paid related to:			
Current year	(6,238)	(4,050)	(3,972)
Prior years	(2,420)	(2,102)	(1,991)
Total paid	(8,658)	(6,152)	(5,963)
Net balance at December 31,	8,681	8,510	7,672
Add: Reinsurance recoverables	1,436	2,198	547
Balance at December 31,	\$ 10,117	\$ 10,708	\$ 8,219

During 2011, 2010 and 2009, as a result of changes in estimates of insured events in the respective prior year, claims and claim adjustment expenses associated with prior years decreased by \$199 million, \$75 million and \$152 million, respectively, due to a reduction in prior year automobile bodily injury and homeowners' severity and improved loss ratio for non-medical health claim liabilities.

Guarantees

The Company issues annuity contracts which may include contractual guarantees to the contractholder for: (i) return of no less than total deposits made to the contract less any partial withdrawals (return of net deposits); and (ii) the highest contract value on a specified anniversary date minus any withdrawals following the contract anniversary, or total deposits made to the contract less any partial withdrawals plus a minimum return (anniversary contract value or minimum return). The Company also issues annuity contracts that apply a lower rate of funds deposited if the contractholder elects to surrender the contract for cash and a higher rate if the contractholder elects to annuitize (two tier annuities). These guarantees include benefits that are payable in the event of death, maturity or at annuitization.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

The Company also issues universal and variable life contracts where the Company contractually guarantees to the contractholder a secondary guarantee or a guaranteed paid-up benefit.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Information regarding the types of guarantees relating to annuity contracts and universal and variable life contracts was as follows:

	2011		December 31, 2010	
	In the Event of Death	At Annuitization	In the Event of Death	At Annuitization
(In millions)				
Annuity Contracts (1)				
Return of Net Deposits				
Separate account value	\$ 60,935	\$ 486	\$ 55,753	\$ 390
Net amount at risk (2)	\$ 8,912 (3)	\$ 404 (4)	\$ 6,194 (3)	\$ 289 (4)
Average attained age of contractholders	62 years	66 years	62 years	67 years
Anniversary Contract Value or Minimum Return				
Separate account value	\$ 102,910	\$ 71,934	\$ 92,041	\$ 55,668
Net amount at risk (2)	\$ 7,729 (3)	\$ 11,735 (4)	\$ 5,297 (3)	\$ 6,373 (4)
Average attained age of contractholders	63 years	62 years	62 years	61 years
Two Tier Annuities				
General account value	N/A	\$ 386	N/A	\$ 280
Net amount at risk (2)	N/A	\$ 60 (5)	N/A	\$ 49 (5)
Average attained age of contractholders	N/A	60 years	N/A	62 years

	2011		December 31, 2010	
	Secondary Guarantees	Paid-Up Guarantees	Secondary Guarantees	Paid-Up Guarantees
(In millions)				
Universal and Variable Life Contracts (1)				
Account value (general and separate account)	\$ 12,946	\$ 3,963	\$ 11,015	\$ 4,102
Net amount at risk (2)	\$ 188,642 (3)	\$ 24,991 (3)	\$ 156,432 (3)	\$ 26,851 (3)
Average attained age of policyholders	53 years	59 years	52 years	58 years

(1) The Company's annuity and life contracts with guarantees may offer more than one type of guarantee in each contract. Therefore, the amounts listed above may not be mutually exclusive.

- (2) The net amount at risk is based on the direct and assumed amount at risk (excluding ceded reinsurance).
- (3) The net amount at risk for guarantees of amounts in the event of death is defined as the current GMDB in excess of the current account balance at the balance sheet date.
- (4) The net amount at risk for guarantees of amounts at annuitization is defined as the present value of the minimum guaranteed annuity payments available to the contractholder determined in accordance with the terms of the contract in excess of the current account balance.
- (5) The net amount at risk for two tier annuities is based on the excess of the upper tier, adjusted for a profit margin, less the lower tier.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Information regarding the liabilities for guarantees (excluding base policy liabilities) relating to annuity and universal and variable life contracts was as follows:

	Annuity Contracts		Universal and Variable Life Contracts		Total
	Guaranteed Death Benefits	Guaranteed Annuitization Benefits	Secondary Guarantees	Paid-Up Guarantees	
	(In millions)				
Direct and Assumed					
Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 251	\$ 403	\$ 271	\$ 140	\$ 1,065
Incurred guaranteed benefits	118	(1)	233	34	384
Paid guaranteed benefits	(201)				(201)
Balance at December 31, 2009	168	402	504	174	1,248
Acquisitions	46	110	2,952		3,108
Incurred guaranteed benefits	149	111	536	24	820
Paid guaranteed benefits	(91)		(1)		(92)
Balance at December 31, 2010	272	623	3,991	198	5,084
Incurred guaranteed benefits	273	269	496	23	1,061
Paid guaranteed benefits	(113)	(10)	(24)		(147)
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 432	\$ 882	\$ 4,463	\$ 221	\$ 5,998
Ceded					
Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 8	\$	\$ 80	\$ 90	\$ 178
Incurred guaranteed benefits	26		102	32	160
Paid guaranteed benefits	(28)				(28)
Balance at December 31, 2009	6		182	122	310
Acquisitions	30				30
Incurred guaranteed benefits	18	(1)	412	17	446
Paid guaranteed benefits	(15)				(15)
Balance at December 31, 2010	39	(1)	594	139	771
Incurred guaranteed benefits	35	9	20	16	80
Paid guaranteed benefits	(20)				(20)
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 54	\$ 8	\$ 614	\$ 155	\$ 831
Net					
Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 243	\$ 403	\$ 191	\$ 50	\$ 887

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Incurring guaranteed benefits	92	(1)	131	2	224
Paid guaranteed benefits	(173)				(173)
Balance at December 31, 2009	162	402	322	52	938
Acquisitions	16	110	2,952		3,078
Incurring guaranteed benefits	131	112	124	7	374
Paid guaranteed benefits	(76)		(1)		(77)
Balance at December 31, 2010	233	624	3,397	59	4,313
Incurring guaranteed benefits	238	260	476	7	981
Paid guaranteed benefits	(93)	(10)	(24)		(127)
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 378	\$ 874	\$ 3,849	\$ 66	\$ 5,167

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Account balances of contracts with insurance guarantees were invested in separate account asset classes as follows at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Fund Groupings:		
Equity	\$ 57,750	\$ 59,546
Balanced	52,823	40,199
Bond	9,838	9,539
Money Market	1,521	1,584
Specialty	2,034	2,192
Total	\$ 123,966	\$ 113,060

9. Reinsurance

The Company participates in reinsurance activities in order to limit losses, minimize exposure to significant risks and provide additional capacity for future growth.

For its individual life insurance products, the Company has historically reinsured the mortality risk primarily on an excess of retention basis or a quota share basis. The Company currently reinsures 90% of the mortality risk in excess of \$1 million for most products and reinsures up to 90% of the mortality risk for certain other products. In addition to reinsuring mortality risk as described above, the Company reinsures other risks, as well as specific coverages. Placement of reinsurance is done primarily on an automatic basis and also on a facultative basis for risks with specified characteristics. On a case by case basis, the Company may retain up to \$20 million per life and reinsure 100% of amounts in excess of the amount the Company retains. The Company evaluates its reinsurance programs routinely and may increase or decrease its retention at any time.

For other policies within the Insurance Products segment, the Company generally retains most of the risk and only cedes particular risks on certain client arrangements.

The Company's Retirement Products segment reinsures a portion of the living and death benefit guarantees issued in connection with its variable annuities. Under these reinsurance agreements, the Company pays a reinsurance premium generally based on fees associated with the guarantees collected from policyholders, and receives reimbursement for benefits paid or accrued in excess of account values, subject to certain limitations.

The Company's Corporate Benefit Funding segment periodically engages in reinsurance activities, as considered appropriate. The impact of these activities on the financial results of this segment has not been significant.

The Company's Auto & Home segment purchases reinsurance to manage its exposure to large losses (primarily catastrophe losses) and to protect statutory surplus. The Company cedes to reinsurers a portion of losses and premiums based upon the exposure of the policies subject to reinsurance. To manage exposure to large property and casualty losses, the Company utilizes property catastrophe, casualty and property per risk excess of loss agreements.

For life insurance products within International, the Company reinsures, depending on the product, risks above the corporate retention limit of up to \$5 million to external reinsurers on a yearly renewable term basis. The Company's international businesses may also reinsure certain risks with external reinsurers depending upon the nature of the risk and local regulatory requirements. For selected large corporate clients,

International reinsures

348

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

group employee benefits or credit insurance business with various client-affiliated reinsurance companies, covering policies issued to the employees or customers of the clients. Additionally, the Company cedes and assumes risk with other insurance companies when either company requires a business partner with the appropriate local licensing to issue certain types of policies in certain countries. In these cases, the assuming company typically underwrites the risks, develops the products and assumes most or all of the risk. International also has reinsurance agreements in force that reinsure a portion of the living and death benefit guarantees issued in connection with variable annuity products. Under these agreements, the Company pays or receives reinsurance fees associated with the guarantees collected from policyholders, and pays or receives reimbursement for benefits paid or accrued in excess of account values, subject to certain limitations.

The Company also reinsures, through 100% quota share reinsurance agreements, certain run-off LTC and workers' compensation business written by MetLife Insurance Company of Connecticut (MICC). These businesses have been included within Corporate & Other.

The Company has exposure to catastrophes, which could contribute to significant fluctuations in the Company's results of operations. The Company uses excess of retention and quota share reinsurance agreements to provide greater diversification of risk and minimize exposure to larger risks. For International, the Company currently purchases catastrophe coverage to insure risks within certain countries deemed by management to be exposed to the greatest catastrophic risks.

The Company reinsures its business through a diversified group of well-capitalized, highly rated reinsurers. The Company analyzes recent trends in arbitration and litigation outcomes in disputes, if any, with its reinsurers. The Company monitors ratings and evaluates the financial strength of its reinsurers by analyzing their financial statements. In addition, the reinsurance recoverable balance due from each reinsurer is evaluated as part of the overall monitoring process. Recoverability of reinsurance recoverable balances is evaluated based on these analyses. The Company generally secures large reinsurance recoverable balances with various forms of collateral, including secured trusts, funds withheld accounts and irrevocable letters of credit. These reinsurance recoverable balances are stated net of allowances for uncollectible reinsurance, which at December 31, 2011 and 2010, were immaterial.

The Company has secured certain reinsurance recoverable balances with various forms of collateral, including secured trusts, funds withheld accounts and irrevocable letters of credit. The Company had \$5.6 billion and \$5.5 billion of unsecured unaffiliated reinsurance recoverable balances at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

At December 31, 2011, the Company had \$13.5 billion of net unaffiliated ceded reinsurance recoverables. Of this total, \$10.3 billion, or 76%, were with the Company's five largest unaffiliated ceded reinsurers, including \$3.2 billion of which were unsecured. At December 31, 2010, the Company had \$13.1 billion of net unaffiliated ceded reinsurance recoverables. Of this total, \$10.0 billion, or 76%, were with the Company's five largest unaffiliated ceded reinsurers, including \$3.6 billion of which were unsecured.

The Company has reinsured with an unaffiliated third-party reinsurer, 49.25% of the closed block through a modified coinsurance agreement. The Company accounts for this agreement under the deposit method of accounting. The Company, having the right of offset, has offset the modified coinsurance deposit with the deposit recoverable.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The amounts in the consolidated statements of operations include the impact of reinsurance. Information regarding the effect of reinsurance was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
(In millions)			
Premiums:			
Direct premiums	\$ 37,185	\$ 27,596	\$ 27,165
Reinsurance assumed	1,484	1,377	1,313
Reinsurance ceded	(2,308)	(1,902)	(2,321)
Net premiums	\$ 36,361	\$ 27,071	\$ 26,157
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees:			
Direct universal life and investment-type product policy fees	\$ 8,455	\$ 6,621	\$ 5,784
Reinsurance assumed	154	138	106
Reinsurance ceded	(803)	(731)	(693)
Net universal life and investment-type product policy fees	\$ 7,806	\$ 6,028	\$ 5,197
Other revenues:			
Direct other revenues	\$ 2,468	\$ 2,256	\$ 2,264
Reinsurance assumed	2		1
Reinsurance ceded	62	72	64
Net other revenues	\$ 2,532	\$ 2,328	\$ 2,329
Policyholder benefits and claims:			
Direct policyholder benefits and claims	\$ 37,574	\$ 31,400	\$ 30,029
Reinsurance assumed	1,101	1,275	1,024
Reinsurance ceded	(3,218)	(3,490)	(3,050)
Net policyholder benefits and claims	\$ 35,457	\$ 29,185	\$ 28,003
Interest credited to policyholder account balances:			
Direct interest credited to policyholder account balances	\$ 5,600	\$ 4,917	\$ 4,842
Reinsurance assumed	3	2	3
Reinsurance ceded			
Net interest credited to policyholder account balances	\$ 5,603	\$ 4,919	\$ 4,845
Policyholder dividends:			
Direct policyholder dividends	\$ 1,446	\$ 1,485	\$ 1,649
Reinsurance assumed	17	17	13
Reinsurance ceded	(17)	(17)	(13)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Net policyholder dividends	\$ 1,446	\$ 1,485	\$ 1,649
Other expenses:			
Direct other expenses	\$ 17,865	\$ 12,870	\$ 10,565
Reinsurance assumed	168	116	100
Reinsurance ceded	(303)	(222)	(144)
Net other expenses	\$ 17,730	\$ 12,764	\$ 10,521

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The amounts in the consolidated balance sheets include the impact of reinsurance. Information regarding the effect of reinsurance was as follows at:

	December 31, 2011			Total Balance Sheet
	Direct	Assumed	Ceded	
Assets:				
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables	\$ 5,601	\$ 641	\$ 16,239	\$ 22,481
Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	27,979	138	(146)	27,971
Total assets	\$ 33,580	\$ 779	\$ 16,093	\$ 50,452
Liabilities:				
Future policy benefits	\$ 182,281	\$ 1,972	\$ (1)	\$ 184,252
Policyholder account balances	214,206	3,494		217,700
Other policy-related balances	14,880	339	380	15,599
Other liabilities	25,245	630	5,039	30,914
Total liabilities	\$ 436,612	\$ 6,435	\$ 5,418	\$ 448,465
	December 31, 2010			Total Balance Sheet
	Direct	Assumed	Ceded	
Assets:				
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables	\$ 5,517	\$ 722	\$ 13,560	\$ 19,799
Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	27,095	176	(179)	27,092
Total assets	\$ 32,612	\$ 898	\$ 13,381	\$ 46,891
Liabilities:				
Future policy benefits	\$ 168,903	\$ 2,074	\$ (65)	\$ 170,912
Policyholder account balances	208,520	2,237		210,757
Other policy-related balances	14,981	265	504	15,750
Other liabilities	17,057	608	2,701	20,366
Total liabilities	\$ 409,461	\$ 5,184	\$ 3,140	\$ 417,785

Reinsurance agreements that do not expose the Company to a reasonable possibility of a significant loss from insurance risk are recorded using the deposit method of accounting. The deposit assets on reinsurance were \$2.4 billion and \$2.5 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The deposit liabilities on reinsurance were \$66 million and \$47 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

10. Closed Block

On April 7, 2000 (the Demutualization Date), Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MLIC) converted from a mutual life insurance company to a stock life insurance company and became a wholly-owned subsidiary of MetLife, Inc. The conversion was pursuant to an order by the New York Superintendent of Insurance (the Superintendent) approving MLIC s plan of reorganization, as amended (the Plan). On the Demutualization Date, MLIC established a closed block for the benefit of holders of certain individual life insurance policies of MLIC. Assets have been allocated to the closed block in an amount that has been determined to produce cash

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

flows which, together with anticipated revenues from the policies included in the closed block, are reasonably expected to be sufficient to support obligations and liabilities relating to these policies, including, but not limited to, provisions for the payment of claims and certain expenses and taxes, and to provide for the continuation of policyholder dividend scales in effect for 1999, if the experience underlying such dividend scales continues, and for appropriate adjustments in such scales if the experience changes. At least annually, the Company compares actual and projected experience against the experience assumed in the then-current dividend scales. Dividend scales are adjusted periodically to give effect to changes in experience.

The closed block assets, the cash flows generated by the closed block assets and the anticipated revenues from the policies in the closed block will benefit only the holders of the policies in the closed block. To the extent that, over time, cash flows from the assets allocated to the closed block and claims and other experience related to the closed block are, in the aggregate, more or less favorable than what was assumed when the closed block was established, total dividends paid to closed block policyholders in the future may be greater than or less than the total dividends that would have been paid to these policyholders if the policyholder dividend scales in effect for 1999 had been continued. Any cash flows in excess of amounts assumed will be available for distribution over time to closed block policyholders and will not be available to stockholders. If the closed block has insufficient funds to make guaranteed policy benefit payments, such payments will be made from assets outside of the closed block. The closed block will continue in effect as long as any policy in the closed block remains in-force. The expected life of the closed block is over 100 years.

The Company uses the same accounting principles to account for the participating policies included in the closed block as it used prior to the Demutualization Date. However, the Company establishes a policyholder dividend obligation for earnings that will be paid to policyholders as additional dividends as described below. The excess of closed block liabilities over closed block assets at the Demutualization Date (adjusted to eliminate the impact of related amounts in accumulated other comprehensive income) represents the estimated maximum future earnings from the closed block expected to result from operations attributed to the closed block after income taxes. Earnings of the closed block are recognized in income over the period the policies and contracts in the closed block remain in-force. Management believes that over time the actual cumulative earnings of the closed block will approximately equal the expected cumulative earnings due to the effect of dividend changes. If, over the period the closed block remains in existence, the actual cumulative earnings of the closed block are greater than the expected cumulative earnings of the closed block, the Company will pay the excess of the actual cumulative earnings of the closed block over the expected cumulative earnings to closed block policyholders as additional policyholder dividends unless offset by future unfavorable experience of the closed block and, accordingly, will recognize only the expected cumulative earnings in income with the excess recorded as a policyholder dividend obligation. If over such period, the actual cumulative earnings of the closed block are less than the expected cumulative earnings of the closed block, the Company will recognize only the actual earnings in income. However, the Company may change policyholder dividend scales in the future, which would be intended to increase future actual earnings until the actual cumulative earnings equal the expected cumulative earnings.

Experience within the closed block, in particular mortality and investment yields, as well as realized and unrealized gains and losses, directly impact the policyholder dividend obligation. Amortization of the closed block DAC, which resides outside of the closed block, is based upon cumulative actual and expected earnings within the closed block. Accordingly, the Company's net income continues to be sensitive to the actual performance of the closed block.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Information regarding the closed block liabilities and assets designated to the closed block was as follows:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Closed Block Liabilities		
Future policy benefits	\$ 43,169	\$ 43,456
Other policy-related balances	358	316
Policyholder dividends payable	514	579
Policyholder dividend obligation	2,919	876
Current income tax payable		178
Other liabilities	613	627
Total closed block liabilities	47,573	46,032
Assets Designated to the Closed Block		
Investments:		
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale, at estimated fair value	30,407	28,768
Equity securities available-for-sale, at estimated fair value	35	102
Mortgage loans	6,206	6,253
Policy loans	4,657	4,629
Real estate and real estate joint ventures held-for-investment	364	328
Short-term investments		1
Other invested assets	857	729
Total investments	42,526	40,810
Cash and cash equivalents	249	236
Accrued investment income	509	518
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables	109	95
Current income tax recoverable	53	
Deferred income tax assets	362	474
Total assets designated to the closed block	43,808	42,133
Excess of closed block liabilities over assets designated to the closed block	3,765	3,899
Amounts included in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss):		
Unrealized investment gains (losses), net of income tax	2,394	1,101
Unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments, net of income tax	11	10
Allocated to policyholder dividend obligation, net of income tax	(1,897)	(569)
Total amounts included in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	508	542
Maximum future earnings to be recognized from closed block assets and liabilities	\$ 4,273	\$ 4,441

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Information regarding the closed block policyholder dividend obligation was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Balance at January 1,	\$ 876	\$	\$
Change in unrealized investment and derivative gains (losses)	2,043	876	
Balance at December 31,	\$ 2,919	\$ 876	\$

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Information regarding the closed block revenues and expenses was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Revenues			
Premiums	\$ 2,306	\$ 2,461	\$ 2,708
Net investment income	2,233	2,294	2,197
Net investment gains (losses):			
Other-than-temporary impairments on fixed maturity securities	(14)	(32)	(107)
Other-than-temporary impairments on fixed maturity securities transferred to other comprehensive income (loss)	3		40
Other net investment gains (losses)	43	71	327
Total net investment gains (losses)	32	39	260
Net derivative gains (losses)	8	(27)	(128)
Total revenues	4,579	4,767	5,037
Expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims	2,991	3,115	3,329
Policyholder dividends	1,137	1,235	1,394
Other expenses	193	199	203
Total expenses	4,321	4,549	4,926
Revenues, net of expenses before provision for income tax expense (benefit)	258	218	111
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	90	72	36
Revenues, net of expenses and provision for income tax expense (benefit)	\$ 168	\$ 146	\$ 75

The change in the maximum future earnings of the closed block was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Balance at December 31,	\$ 4,273	\$ 4,441	\$ 4,587
Less:			
Closed block adjustment (1)			144
Balance at January 1,	4,441	4,587	4,518

Change during year	\$ (168)	\$ (146)	\$ (75)
--------------------	----------	----------	---------

(1) The closed block adjustment represents an intra-company reallocation of assets which affected the closed block. The adjustment had no impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

MLIC charges the closed block with federal income taxes, state and local premium taxes and other additive state or local taxes, as well as investment management expenses relating to the closed block as provided in the Plan. MLIC also charges the closed block for expenses of maintaining the policies included in the closed block.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****11. Long-term and Short-term Debt**

Long-term and short-term debt outstanding was as follows:

	Interest Rates		Maturity	December 31,	
	Range	Weighted Average		2011	2010
				(In millions)	
Senior notes	0.57%-7.72%	4.84 %	2012-2045	\$ 15,666	\$ 16,258
Advances agreements	0.23%-4.86%	2.28 %	2012-2021	4,179	3,600
Surplus notes	7.63%-7.88%	7.85 %	2015-2025	700	699
Fixed rate notes (1)	7.50%-15.00%	10.02 %	2012		82
Other notes with varying interest rates	2.77%-8.00%	5.23 %	2016-2030	42	95
Capital lease obligations				37	32
Total long-term debt (2)				20,624	20,766
Total short-term debt				686	306
Total				\$ 21,310	\$ 21,072

(1) Certain of the fixed rate notes were repaid prior to maturity in 2011.

(2) Excludes \$3.1 billion and \$6.8 billion of long-term debt relating to CSEs at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. See Note 3. The aggregate maturities of long-term debt at December 31, 2011 for the next five years and thereafter are \$1.5 billion in 2012, \$1.5 billion in 2013, \$1.7 billion in 2014, \$2.3 billion in 2015, \$2.4 billion in 2016 and \$11.2 billion thereafter.

Advances agreements and capital lease obligations are collateralized and rank highest in priority, followed by unsecured senior debt which consists of senior notes, fixed rate notes and other notes with varying interest rates, followed by subordinated debt which consists of junior subordinated debt securities. Payments of interest and principal on the Company's surplus notes, which are subordinate to all other obligations at the operating company level and senior to obligations at MetLife, Inc., may be made only with the prior approval of the insurance department of the state of domicile. Collateral financing arrangements are supported by either surplus notes of subsidiaries or financing arrangements with MetLife, Inc. and, accordingly, have priority consistent with other such obligations.

Certain of the Company's debt instruments, credit facilities and committed facilities contain various administrative, reporting, legal and financial covenants. The Company believes it was in compliance with all such covenants at December 31, 2011.

Senior Notes Senior Debt Securities Underlying Equity Units

In connection with the financing of the Acquisition (see Note 2) in November 2010, MetLife, Inc. issued to AM Holdings \$3.0 billion (estimated fair value of \$3.0 billion) in three series of Debt Securities, which constitute a part of the Equity Units more fully described in Note 14. The Debt Securities (Series C, D and E) are subject to remarketing, initially bear interest at 1.56%, 1.92% and 2.46%, respectively (an average rate of 1.98%), and carry initial maturity dates of June 15, 2023, June 15, 2024 and June 15, 2045, respectively. The interest rates will be reset in

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

connection with the successful remarketings of the Debt Securities. Prior to the first scheduled attempted remarketing of the Series C Debt Securities, such Debt Securities will be divided into two tranches equal in

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

principal amount with maturity dates of June 15, 2018 and June 15, 2023. Prior to the first scheduled attempted remarketing of the Series E Debt Securities, such Debt Securities will be divided into two tranches equal in principal amount with maturity dates of June 15, 2018 and June 15, 2045.

Senior Notes Other

In August 2010, in anticipation of the Acquisition, MetLife, Inc. issued senior notes as follows:

\$1.0 billion senior notes due February 6, 2014, which bear interest at a fixed rate of 2.375%, payable semiannually;

\$1.0 billion senior notes due February 8, 2021, which bear interest at a fixed rate of 4.75%, payable semiannually;

\$750 million senior notes due February 6, 2041, which bear interest at a fixed rate of 5.875%, payable semiannually; and

\$250 million floating rate senior notes due August 6, 2013, which bear interest at a rate equal to three-month LIBOR, reset quarterly, plus 1.25%, payable quarterly.

In connection with these offerings, MetLife, Inc. incurred \$15 million of issuance costs which have been capitalized and included in other assets. These costs are being amortized over the terms of the senior notes.

In May 2009, MetLife, Inc. issued \$1.3 billion of senior notes due June 1, 2016. The senior notes bear interest at a fixed rate of 6.75%, payable semiannually. In connection with the offering, MetLife, Inc. incurred \$6 million of issuance costs which have been capitalized and included in other assets. These costs are being amortized over the term of the senior notes.

In March 2009, MetLife, Inc. issued \$397 million of floating rate senior notes due June 29, 2012 under the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program. The senior notes bear interest at a rate equal to three-month LIBOR, reset quarterly, plus 0.32%. The senior notes are not redeemable prior to their maturity. In connection with the offering, MetLife, Inc. incurred \$15 million of issuance costs which have been capitalized and included in other assets. These costs are being amortized over the term of the senior notes.

In February 2009, MetLife, Inc. remarketed its existing \$1.0 billion 4.91% Series B junior subordinated debt securities as 7.717% senior debt securities, Series B, due 2019. Interest on these senior debt securities is payable semiannually. The Series B junior subordinated debt securities were originally issued in 2005. See Note 13.

Advances from the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York

MetLife Bank is a member of the FHLB of NY and held \$234 million and \$187 million of common stock of the FHLB of NY at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, which is included in equity securities. MetLife Bank has also entered into advances agreements with the FHLB of NY whereby MetLife Bank has received cash advances and under which the FHLB of NY has been granted a blanket lien on certain of MetLife Bank's residential mortgage loans held-for-sale, commercial mortgage loans and mortgage-backed securities to collateralize MetLife Bank's repayment obligations. Upon any event of default by MetLife Bank, the FHLB of NY's recovery is limited to the amount of MetLife Bank's liability under the advances agreements. The amount of MetLife Bank's liability for advances from the FHLB of NY was \$4.8 billion and \$3.8 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, which is included in long-term debt and short-term debt depending upon the original tenor of the advance. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, MetLife Bank

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

received advances related to long-term borrowings totaling \$1.3 billion, \$2.1 billion and \$1.3 billion, respectively, from the FHLB of NY. MetLife Bank made repayments to the FHLB of NY of \$750 million, \$349 million and \$497 million related to long-term borrowings for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The advances related to both long-term and short-term debt were collateralized by residential mortgage loans held-for-sale, commercial mortgage loans and mortgage-backed securities with estimated fair values of \$8.7 billion and \$7.8 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Collateralized Borrowing from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York

MetLife Bank is a depository institution that is approved to use the Federal Reserve Bank of New York Discount Window borrowing privileges. In order to utilize these privileges, MetLife Bank has pledged qualifying loans and investment securities to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York as collateral. MetLife Bank had no liability for advances from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York at both December 31, 2011 and 2010. The estimated fair value of loan and investment security collateral pledged by MetLife Bank to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York at December 31, 2011 and 2010 was \$1.6 billion and \$1.8 billion, respectively. There were no such advances during the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010. During the year ended December 31, 2009, the weighted average interest rate on these advances was 0.26%. During the year ended December 31, 2009, the average daily balance of these advances was \$1.5 billion and these advances were outstanding for an average of 24 days.

Short-term Debt

Short-term debt with maturities of one year or less was as follows:

	December 31, 2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Commercial paper	\$ 101	\$ 102
MetLife Bank, N.A.-Advances agreements with the FHLB of NY	585	190
Other		14
Total short-term debt	\$ 686	\$ 306
Average daily balance	\$ 447	\$ 687
Average days outstanding	19 days	21 days

During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, the weighted average interest rate on short-term debt was 0.33%, 0.35% and 0.42%, respectively.

Interest Expense

Interest expense related to the Company's indebtedness included in other expenses was \$975 million, \$815 million and \$713 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and does not include interest expense on collateral financing arrangements, junior subordinated debt securities or common equity units. See Notes 12, 13 and 14.

Credit and Committed Facilities

The Company maintains unsecured credit facilities and committed facilities, which aggregated \$4.0 billion and \$12.4 billion, respectively, at December 31, 2011. When drawn upon, these facilities bear interest at varying rates in accordance with the respective agreements.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Credit Facilities. The unsecured credit facilities are used for general corporate purposes, to support the borrowers' commercial paper programs and for the issuance of letters of credit. Total fees expensed associated with these credit facilities were \$35 million, \$17 million and \$43 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Information on these credit facilities at December 31, 2011 was as follows:

Borrower(s)	Expiration	Capacity	Letter of Credit Issuances (In millions)	Drawdowns	Unused Commitments
MetLife, Inc. and MetLife Funding, Inc.	October 2013 (1), (2)	\$ 1,000	\$ 104	\$	\$ 896
MetLife, Inc. and MetLife Funding, Inc.	August 2016 (1)	3,000	2,980		20
Total		\$ 4,000	\$ 3,084	\$	\$ 916

- (1) In August 2011, the 364-day, \$1.0 billion senior unsecured credit agreement entered into in October 2010 by MetLife, Inc. and MetLife Funding, Inc., a subsidiary, was amended and restated to provide a five-year, \$3.0 billion senior unsecured credit facility. Concurrently, MetLife, Inc. and MetLife Funding, Inc. elected to reduce the outstanding commitments under the three-year, \$3.0 billion senior unsecured credit facility entered into in October 2010 to \$1.0 billion with no change to the original maturity of October 2013. The Company incurred costs of \$9 million related to the five-year credit facility, which have been capitalized and included in other assets. These costs will be amortized over the amended terms of the facilities. Due to the reduction in total capacity of the three-year facility, the Company subsequently expensed \$4 million of the remaining deferred financing costs associated with the October 2010 credit agreement, which are included in other expenses.
- (2) All borrowings under the credit agreement must be repaid by October 2013, except that letters of credit outstanding upon termination may remain outstanding until October 2014.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Committed Facilities. The committed facilities are used for collateral for certain of the Company's affiliated reinsurance liabilities. Total fees expensed associated with these committed facilities were \$93 million, \$92 million and \$55 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Information on these committed facilities at December 31, 2011 was as follows:

Account Party/Borrower(s)	Expiration	Capacity	Letter of Credit Issuances (In millions)	Drawdowns	Unused Commitments	Maturity (Years)
MetLife, Inc.	August 2012	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$	\$	
Exeter Reassurance Company Ltd., MetLife, Inc. & Missouri Reinsurance (Barbados), Inc.	June 2016	500	490		10	4
MetLife Reinsurance Company of Vermont & MetLife, Inc.	December 2020 (1)	350	350			9
Exeter Reassurance Company Ltd.	December 2027 (1)	650	205		445	16
MetLife Reinsurance Company of South Carolina & MetLife, Inc.	June 2037 (2)	3,500		2,797	703	25
MetLife Reinsurance Company of Vermont & MetLife, Inc.	December 2037 (1)	2,896	1,715		1,181	26
MetLife Reinsurance Company of Vermont & MetLife, Inc.	September 2038 (1)	4,250	2,402		1,848	26
Total		\$ 12,446	\$ 5,462	\$ 2,797	\$ 4,187	

(1) MetLife, Inc. is guarantor under this agreement.

(2) The drawdown on this facility is associated with the collateral financing arrangement described more fully in Note 12. As a result of the offerings of certain senior notes (see Senior Notes - Other) and common stock (see Note 18), the commitment letter for a \$5.0 billion senior credit facility, which MetLife, Inc. signed to partially finance the Acquisition, was terminated. During March 2010, MetLife, Inc. paid \$28 million in fees related to this senior credit facility, all of which were expensed during the year ended December 31, 2010.

12. Collateral Financing Arrangements*Associated with the Closed Block*

In December 2007, MLIC reinsured a portion of its closed block liabilities to MRC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of MetLife, Inc. In connection with this transaction, MRC issued, to investors placed by an unaffiliated financial institution, \$2.5 billion in aggregate principal amount of 35-year surplus notes to provide statutory reserve support for the assumed closed block liabilities. Interest on the surplus notes accrues at an annual rate of three-month LIBOR plus 0.55%, payable quarterly. The ability of MRC to make interest and principal payments on the surplus notes is contingent upon South Carolina regulatory approval.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Simultaneous with the issuance of the surplus notes, MetLife, Inc. entered into an agreement with the unaffiliated financial institution, under which MetLife, Inc. is entitled to the interest paid by MRC on the surplus notes of three-month LIBOR plus 0.55% in exchange for the payment of three-month LIBOR plus 1.12%,

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

payable quarterly on such amount as adjusted, as described below. MetLife, Inc. may also be required to pledge collateral or make payments to the unaffiliated financial institution related to any decline in the estimated fair value of the surplus notes. Any such payments would be accounted for as a receivable and included in other assets on the Company's consolidated balance sheets and would not reduce the principal amount outstanding of the surplus notes. Such payments would, however, reduce the amount of interest payments due from MetLife, Inc. under the agreement. Any payment received from the unaffiliated financial institution would reduce the receivable by an amount equal to such payment and would also increase the amount of interest payments due from MetLife, Inc. under the agreement. In addition, the unaffiliated financial institution may be required to pledge collateral to MetLife, Inc. related to any increase in the estimated fair value of the surplus notes. MetLife, Inc. may also be required to make a payment to the unaffiliated financial institution in connection with any early termination of this agreement.

In December 2011, following regulatory approval, MRC repurchased and canceled \$650 million in aggregate principal amount of the surplus notes (the Partial Repurchase). Payments made by the Company in December 2011 associated with the Partial Repurchase, which also included payments made to the unaffiliated financial institution, totaled \$650 million, exclusive of accrued interest on the surplus notes. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the amount of the surplus notes outstanding was \$1.9 billion and \$2.5 billion, respectively.

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, the amount of the receivable from the unaffiliated financial institution was \$241 million and \$425 million, respectively. In June 2011, MetLife, Inc. received \$100 million from the unaffiliated financial institution related to an increase in the estimated fair value of the surplus notes. No payments were made or received by MetLife, Inc. during 2010. During 2009, on a net basis, MetLife, Inc. received \$375 million from the unaffiliated financial institution related to changes in the estimated fair value of the surplus notes.

In addition, at December 31, 2011 and 2010, MetLife, Inc. had pledged collateral with an estimated fair value of \$125 million and \$49 million, respectively, to the unaffiliated financial institution.

A majority of the proceeds from the offering of the surplus notes was placed in a trust, which is consolidated by the Company, to support MRC's statutory obligations associated with the assumed closed block liabilities. At both December 31, 2011 and 2010, the estimated fair value of assets held in trust by the Company was \$2.0 billion. The assets are principally invested in fixed maturity securities and are presented as such within the Company's consolidated balance sheets, with the related income included within net investment income in the Company's consolidated statements of operations. Interest on the collateral financing arrangement is included as a component of other expenses.

Total interest expense related to the collateral financing arrangement was \$35 million, \$36 million and \$51 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Associated with Secondary Guarantees

In May 2007, MetLife, Inc. and MRSC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of MetLife, Inc., entered into a 30-year collateral financing arrangement with an unaffiliated financial institution that provides up to \$3.5 billion of statutory reserve support for MRSC associated with reinsurance obligations under intercompany reinsurance agreements. Such statutory reserves are associated with universal life secondary guarantees and are required under U.S. Valuation of Life Policies Model Regulation (commonly referred to as Regulation A-XXX). At both December 31, 2011 and 2010, \$2.8 billion had been drawn upon under the collateral financing arrangement. Proceeds from the collateral financing arrangement were placed in trusts to support MRSC's statutory obligations associated with the reinsurance of secondary guarantees. The trusts are VIEs which are consolidated by the

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Company. The unaffiliated financial institution is entitled to the return on the investment portfolio held by the trusts. At both December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company held assets in trust with an estimated fair value of \$3.3 billion associated with the collateral financing arrangement. The assets are principally invested in fixed maturity securities and are presented as such within the Company's consolidated balance sheets, with the related income included within net investment income in the Company's consolidated statements of operations. Interest on the collateral financing arrangement is included as a component of other expenses. The collateral financing arrangement may be extended by agreement of MetLife, Inc. and the unaffiliated financial institution on each anniversary of the closing.

In connection with the collateral financing arrangement, MetLife, Inc. entered into an agreement with the same unaffiliated financial institution under which MetLife, Inc. is entitled to the return on the investment portfolio held by the trusts established in connection with this collateral financing arrangement in exchange for the payment of a stated rate of return to the unaffiliated financial institution of three-month LIBOR plus 0.70%, payable quarterly. MetLife, Inc. may also be required to make payments to the unaffiliated financial institution, for deposit into the trusts, related to any decline in the estimated fair value of the assets held by the trusts, as well as amounts outstanding upon maturity or early termination of the collateral financing arrangement. During 2011 and 2010, no payments were made or received by MetLife, Inc. During 2009, MetLife, Inc. contributed \$360 million as a result of declines in the estimated fair value of the assets in the trusts. Cumulatively, since May 2007, MetLife, Inc. has contributed a total of \$680 million as a result of declines in the estimated fair value of the assets in the trusts, all of which was deposited into the trusts.

In addition, MetLife, Inc. may be required to pledge collateral to the unaffiliated financial institution under this agreement. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, MetLife, Inc. had pledged \$92 million and \$63 million under the agreement, respectively.

Total interest expense related to the collateral financing arrangement was \$29 million, \$30 million and \$44 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

13. Junior Subordinated Debt Securities***Outstanding Junior Subordinated Debt Securities***

Outstanding junior subordinated debt securities and trust securities which MetLife, Inc. will exchange for junior subordinated debt securities prior to redemption or repayment were as follows:

Issuer	Issue Date	Face Value (In millions)	Interest Rate (2)	Scheduled Redemption Date	Interest Rate Subsequent to Scheduled Redemption Date (3)	Final Maturity	Carrying Value at December 31,	
							2011	2010
MetLife, Inc.	July 2009	\$ 500	10.750 %	August 2039	LIBOR +7.548%	August 2069	\$ 500	\$ 500
MetLife Capital Trust X (1)	April 2008	\$ 750	9.250 %	April 2038	LIBOR +5.540%	April 2068	750	750
MetLife Capital Trust IV (1)	December 2007	\$ 700	7.875 %	December 2037	LIBOR +3.960%	December 2067	694	694
MetLife, Inc.	December 2006	\$ 1,250	6.400 %	December 2036	LIBOR +2.205%	December 2066	1,248	1,247
							\$ 3,192	\$ 3,191

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

- (1) MetLife Capital Trust X and MetLife Capital Trust IV are VIEs which are consolidated in the financial statements of the Company. The securities issued by these entities are exchangeable surplus trust securities, which will be exchanged for a like amount of MetLife, Inc. s junior subordinated debt securities on the scheduled redemption date; mandatorily under certain circumstances, and at any time upon MetLife, Inc. exercising its option to redeem the securities. The exchangeable surplus trust securities are classified as junior subordinated debt securities for purposes of financial statement presentation.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

- (2) Prior to the scheduled redemption date, interest is payable semiannually in arrears.
- (3) In the event the securities are not redeemed on or before the scheduled redemption date, interest will accrue after such date at an annual rate of three-month LIBOR plus a margin, payable quarterly in arrears.
- In connection with each of the securities described above, MetLife, Inc. may redeem or may cause the redemption of the securities (i) in whole or in part, at any time on or after the date five years prior to the scheduled redemption date at their principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the date of redemption, or (ii) in certain circumstances, in whole or in part, prior to the date five years prior to the scheduled redemption date at their principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the date of redemption or, if greater, a make-whole price. MetLife, Inc. also has the right to, and in certain circumstances the requirement to, defer interest payments on the securities for a period up to 10 years. Interest compounds during such periods of deferral. If interest is deferred for more than five consecutive years, MetLife, Inc. is required to use proceeds from the sale of its common stock or warrants on common stock to satisfy interest payment obligation. In connection with each of the securities described above, MetLife, Inc. entered into a separate replacement capital covenant (RCC). As part of each RCC, MetLife, Inc. agreed that it will not repay, redeem, or purchase the securities on or before a date 10 years prior to the final maturity date of each issuance, unless, subject to certain limitations, it has received cash proceeds during a specified period from the sale of specified replacement securities. Each RCC will terminate upon the occurrence of certain events, including an acceleration of the applicable securities due to the occurrence of an event of default. The RCCs are not intended for the benefit of holders of the securities and may not be enforced by them. Rather, each RCC is for the benefit of the holders of a designated series of MetLife, Inc.'s other indebtedness (the Covered Debt). Initially, the Covered Debt for each of the securities described above was MetLife, Inc.'s 5.70% senior notes due 2035 (the Senior Notes). As a result of the issuance of MetLife, Inc.'s 10.750% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Junior Subordinated Debentures due 2069 (the 10.750% JSDs), the 10.750% JSDs became the Covered Debt with respect to, and in accordance with, the terms of the RCC relating to MetLife, Inc.'s 6.40% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Junior Subordinated Debentures due 2066. The Senior Notes continue to be the Covered Debt with respect to, and in accordance with, the terms of the RCCs relating to each of MetLife Capital Trust IV's 7.875% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Exchangeable Surplus Trust Securities, MetLife Capital Trust X's 9.250% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Exchangeable Surplus Trust Securities and the 10.750% JSDs. MetLife, Inc. also entered into a replacement capital obligation which will commence during the six month period prior to the scheduled redemption date of each of the securities described above and under which MetLife, Inc. must use reasonable commercial efforts to raise replacement capital to permit repayment of the securities through the issuance of certain qualifying capital securities.

Issuance costs associated with the issuance of the securities of \$5 million were incurred during the year ended December 31, 2009. These issuance costs have been capitalized, are included in other assets, and are amortized over the period from the issuance date until the scheduled redemption date of the issuance. Interest expense on outstanding junior subordinated debt securities was \$258 million, \$258 million and \$231 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010, and 2009, respectively.

Other Junior Subordinated Debt Securities

In June 2005, MetLife, Inc. issued \$1.1 billion 4.91% Series B junior subordinated debt securities due no later than February 2040, in exchange for \$32 million in trust common securities of MetLife Capital Trust III (Series B Trust), a subsidiary trust of MetLife, Inc., and \$1.0 billion in aggregate cash proceeds from the sale by the subsidiary trust of trust preferred securities.

In February 2009, the Series B Trust was dissolved and \$32 million of the Series B junior subordinated debt securities were returned to MetLife, Inc. concurrently with the cancellation of the \$32 million of trust common

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

securities of the Series B Trust held by MetLife, Inc. Upon dissolution of the Series B Trust, the remaining \$1.0 billion of Series B junior subordinated debt securities were distributed to the holders of the trust preferred securities and such trust preferred securities were canceled. In connection with the remarketing transaction in February 2009, the remaining \$1.0 billion of MetLife, Inc. Series B junior subordinated debt securities were modified, as permitted by their terms, to be 7.717% senior debt securities, Series B, due February 2019. The Company did not receive any proceeds from the remarketing. See Note 11.

Interest expense on these junior subordinated debt securities was \$6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009.

14. Common Equity Units*Acquisition of ALICO*

In connection with the financing of the Acquisition (see Note 2) in November 2010, MetLife, Inc. issued to AM Holdings 40.0 million Equity Units with an aggregate stated amount at issuance of \$3.0 billion and an estimated fair value of \$3.2 billion. Each Equity Unit has an initial stated amount of \$75 per unit and initially consists of: (i) three Purchase Contracts, each of which obligates the holder to purchase, on a subsequent settlement date, a variable number of shares of MetLife, Inc. common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, for a purchase price of \$25 (\$75 in the aggregate); and (ii) a 1/40 undivided beneficial ownership interest in each of three series of Debt Securities issued by MetLife, Inc., each series of Debt Securities having an aggregate principal amount of \$1.0 billion. Distributions on the Equity Units will be made quarterly, and will consist of contract payments on the Purchase Contracts and interest payments on the Debt Securities, at an aggregate annual rate of 5.00% of the stated amount at any time. The excess of the estimated fair value of the Equity Units over the estimated fair value of the Debt Securities (see Note 11), after accounting for the present value of future contract payments recorded in other liabilities, resulted in a net decrease to additional paid-in capital of \$69 million, representing the fair value of the Purchase Contracts discussed below. On March 8, 2011, AM Holdings sold, in a public offering, all the Equity Units it received as consideration from MetLife in connection with the Acquisition. The Equity Units are listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Purchase Contracts

Settlement of the Purchase Contracts of each series will occur upon the successful remarketing of the related series of Debt Securities, or upon a final failed remarketing of the related series, as described below under Debt Securities. On each settlement date subsequent to a successful remarketing, the holder will pay \$25 per Equity Unit and MetLife, Inc. will issue to such holder a variable number of shares of its common stock in settlement of the applicable Purchase Contract. The number of shares to be issued will depend on the average of the daily volume-weighted average prices of MetLife, Inc. s common stock during the 20 trading day periods ending on, and including, the third day prior to the initial scheduled settlement date for each series of Purchase Contracts. The initially-scheduled settlement dates are October 10, 2012 for the Series C Purchase Contracts, September 11, 2013 for the Series D Purchase Contracts and October 8, 2014 for the Series E Purchase Contracts. If the average value of MetLife, Inc. s common stock as calculated pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreement during the applicable 20 trading day period is less than or equal to \$35.42, as such amount may be adjusted (the Reference Price), the number of shares to be issued in settlement of the Purchase Contract will equal \$25 divided by the Reference Price, as calculated pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreement (the Maximum Settlement Rate). If the market value of MetLife, Inc. s common stock is greater than or equal to \$44.275, as such amount may be adjusted (the Threshold Appreciation Price), the number of shares to be issued in settlement of the Purchase Contract will equal \$25 divided by the Threshold Appreciation Price, as so calculated (the Minimum Settlement Rate). If the market value of MetLife, Inc. s common stock is greater than

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

the Reference Price and less than the Threshold Appreciation Price, the number of shares to be issued will equal \$25 divided by the applicable market value, as so calculated. In the event of an unsuccessful remarketing of any series of Debt Securities and the postponement of settlement to a later date, the average market value used to calculate the settlement rate for a particular series will not be recalculated, although certain corporate events may require adjustments to the settlement rate. After settlement of all the Purchase Contracts, MetLife, Inc. will receive proceeds of \$3.0 billion and issue between 67.8 million and 84.7 million shares of its common stock, subject to certain adjustments. The holder of an Equity Unit may, at its option, settle the related Purchase Contracts before the applicable settlement date. However, upon early settlement, the holder will receive the Minimum Settlement Rate.

Distributions on the Purchase Contracts will be made quarterly at an average annual rate of 3.02%. The value of the Purchase Contracts at issuance of \$247 million was calculated as the present value of the future contract payments and was recorded in other liabilities with an offsetting decrease in additional paid-in capital. The other liabilities balance will be reduced as contract payments are made. For the year ended December 31, 2011, \$102 million of contract payments were made. For the year ended December 31, 2010, no contract payments were made.

Debt Securities

The Debt Securities are senior, unsecured notes of MetLife, Inc. which, in the aggregate, pay quarterly distributions at an initial average annual rate of 1.98% and are included in long-term debt (see Note 11 for further discussion of terms). The Debt Securities will be initially pledged as collateral to secure the obligations of each Equity Unit holder under the related Purchase Contracts. Each series of the Debt Securities will be subject to a remarketing and sold on behalf of participating holders to investors. The proceeds of a remarketing, net of any related fees, will be applied on behalf of participating holders who so elect to settle any obligation of the holder to pay cash under the related Purchase Contract on the applicable settlement dates. The initially-scheduled remarketing dates are October 10, 2012 for the Series C Debt Securities, September 11, 2013 for the Series D Debt Securities and October 8, 2014 for the Series E Debt Securities, subject to delay if there are one or more unsuccessful remarketings. If the initial attempted remarketing of a series is unsuccessful, up to two additional remarketing attempts will occur. At the remarketing date, the remarketing agent may reset the interest rate on the Debt Securities, subject to a reset cap for each of the first two attempted remarketings of each series. If a remarketing is successful, the reset rate will apply to all outstanding Debt Securities of the applicable tranche of the remarketed series, whether or not the holder participated in the remarketing and will become effective on the settlement date of such remarketing. If the first remarketing attempt with respect to a series is unsuccessful, the applicable Purchase Contract settlement date will be delayed for three calendar months, at which time a second remarketing attempt will occur in connection with settlement. If the second remarketing attempt is unsuccessful, one additional delay may occur on the same basis. If both additional remarketing attempts are unsuccessful, a final failed remarketing will have occurred, and the interest rate on such series of Debt Securities will not be reset and the holder may put such series of Debt Securities to MetLife, Inc. at a price equal to its principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, and apply the principal amount against the holder's obligations under the related Purchase Contract.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****15. Income Tax**

The provision for income tax from continuing operations was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Current:			
Federal	\$ (198)	\$ 123	\$ (237)
State and local	(1)	21	12
Foreign	614	203	227
Subtotal	415	347	2
Deferred:			
Federal	2,258	672	(2,130)
State and local	(3)	(7)	26
Foreign	405	153	77
Subtotal	2,660	818	(2,027)
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	\$ 3,075	\$ 1,165	\$ (2,025)

The reconciliation of the income tax provision at the U.S. statutory rate to the provision for income tax as reported for continuing operations was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Tax provision at U.S. statutory rate	\$ 3,509	\$ 1,369	\$ (1,526)
Tax effect of:			
Tax-exempt investment income	(246)	(242)	(288)
State and local income tax	(4)	9	17
Prior year tax	(4)	59	(26)
Tax credits	(138)	(82)	(87)
Foreign tax rate differential	(53)	29	(138)
Change in valuation allowance	16	7	20
Other, net	(5)	16	3
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	\$ 3,075	\$ 1,165	\$ (2,025)

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Deferred income tax represents the tax effect of the differences between the book and tax basis of assets and liabilities. Net deferred income tax assets and liabilities consisted of the following at:

	December 31, 2011	2010 (In millions)
Deferred income tax assets:		
Policyholder liabilities and receivables	\$ 5,939	\$ 8,450
Net operating loss carryforwards	1,595	1,971
Employee benefits	916	664
Capital loss carryforwards	449	408
Tax credit carryforwards	1,692	1,007
Litigation-related and government mandated	207	227
Other	483	336
	11,281	13,063
Less: Valuation allowance	1,083	932
	10,198	12,131
Deferred income tax liabilities:		
Investments, including derivatives	3,371	2,261
Intangibles	5,309	5,814
Net unrealized investment gains	4,355	1,490
DAC	4,506	4,297
Other	192	125
	17,733	13,987
Net deferred income tax asset (liability)	\$ (7,535)	\$ (1,856)

The following table sets forth the domestic, state, and foreign net operating and capital loss carryforwards for tax purposes at December 31, 2011:

	Net Operating Loss Carryforwards		Capital Loss Carryforwards	
	Amount (In millions)	Expiration	Amount (In millions)	Expiration
Domestic	\$ 1,958	Beginning in 2018	\$ 1,248	Beginning in 2013
State	\$ 251	Beginning in 2012	\$	N/A
Foreign	\$ 3,056	Beginning in 2015	\$ 37	Beginning in 2014

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Tax credit carryforwards of \$1.7 billion at December 31, 2011 will expire beginning in 2016.

As of the Acquisition Date, the Company had established a valuation allowance of \$671 million against the amount of U.S. deferred tax assets that was expected to reverse post-branch restructuring of American Life. As of November 1, 2011 the Company finalized American Life's current and deferred income tax liabilities based upon the determination of the amount of taxes resulting from the Section 338 Election and the corresponding filing of the income tax return. Accordingly, American Life's current income tax receivable was increased by \$12 million and deferred tax assets were reduced by \$2 million with a corresponding net decrease to goodwill. The Company also increased the valuation allowance recorded against U.S. deferred tax assets to \$720 million. The increase in the valuation allowance of \$49 million, with a corresponding increase to goodwill, was a result of changes in estimates and assumptions relating to the reversal of U.S. temporary differences prior to the completion of the anticipated restructuring of American Life's foreign branches and filing of the income tax return.

The Company also has recorded a valuation allowance increase related to tax benefits of \$20 million related to certain state and foreign net operating loss carryforwards, \$1 million related to certain foreign unrealized losses,

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

\$86 million related to certain foreign other assets, and a decrease of \$5 million related to certain foreign capital loss carryforwards. The valuation allowance reflects management's assessment, based on available information, that it is more likely than not that the deferred income tax asset for certain foreign net operating and capital loss carryforwards, certain state net operating loss carryforwards, certain foreign unrealized losses and certain foreign other assets will not be realized. The tax benefit will be recognized when management believes that it is more likely than not that these deferred income tax assets are realizable.

The Company has not provided U.S. deferred taxes on cumulative earnings of certain non-U.S. affiliates and associated companies that have been reinvested indefinitely. These earnings relate to ongoing operations and have been reinvested in active non-U.S. business operations. The Company does not intend to repatriate these earnings to fund U.S. operations. Deferred taxes are provided for earnings of non-U.S. affiliates and associated companies when the Company plans to remit those earnings. At December 31, 2011 the Company had not made a provision for U.S. taxes on approximately \$1.7 billion of the excess of the amount for financial reporting over the tax basis of investments in foreign subsidiaries that are essentially permanent in duration. It is not practicable to estimate the amount of deferred tax liability related to investments in these foreign subsidiaries.

The Company files income tax returns with the U.S. federal government and various state and local jurisdictions, as well as foreign jurisdictions. The Company is under continuous examination by the IRS and other tax authorities in jurisdictions in which the Company has significant business operations. The income tax years under examination vary by jurisdiction. With a few exceptions, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal, state and local, or foreign income tax examinations by tax authorities for years prior to 2000. In early 2009, the Company and the IRS completed and substantially settled the audit years of 2000 to 2002. A few issues not settled have been escalated to the next level, IRS Appeals. The IRS exam of the current audit cycle, years 2003 to 2006, began in April 2010.

The Company's liability for unrecognized tax benefits may decrease in the next 12 months pending the outcome of remaining issues, tax-exempt income and tax credits associated with the 2000 to 2002 IRS audit. A reasonable estimate of the decrease cannot be made at this time. However, the Company continues to believe that the ultimate resolution of the issues will not result in a material change to its consolidated financial statements, although the resolution of income tax matters could impact the Company's effective tax rate for a particular future period.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010 (In millions)	2009
Balance at January 1,	\$ 810	\$ 773	\$ 766
Additions for tax positions of prior years	30	186 (1)	43
Reductions for tax positions of prior years	(161)	(84)	(33)
Additions for tax positions of current year	13	13	52
Reductions for tax positions of current year	(8)	(8)	(9)
Settlements with tax authorities	(5)	(59)	(46)
Lapses of statutes of limitations		(11)	
Balance at December 31,	\$ 679	\$ 810	\$ 773
Unrecognized tax benefits that, if recognized would impact the effective rate	\$ 527	\$ 536	\$ 583

- (1) An increase of \$169 million resulted from the acquisition of American Life.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The Company classifies interest accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits in interest expense, included within other expenses, while penalties are included in income tax expense.

Interest and penalties were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Interest and penalties recognized in the consolidated statements of operations	\$ 31	\$ 6	\$ 21

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Interest and penalties included in other liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets	\$ 235	\$ 221 (1)

(1) An increase of \$20 million resulted from the acquisition of American Life.

The U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS have indicated that they intend to address through regulations the methodology to be followed in determining the dividends received deduction (DRD), related to variable life insurance and annuity contracts. The DRD reduces the amount of dividend income subject to tax and is a significant component of the difference between the actual tax expense and expected amount determined using the federal statutory tax rate of 35%. Any regulations that the IRS ultimately proposes for issuance in this area will be subject to public notice and comment, at which time insurance companies and other interested parties will have the opportunity to raise legal and practical questions about the content, scope and application of such regulations. As a result, the ultimate timing and substance of any such regulations are unknown at this time. For the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Company recognized an income tax benefit of \$159 million and \$87 million, respectively, related to the separate account DRD. The 2011 benefit included a benefit of \$8 million related to a true-up of the 2010 tax return. The 2010 benefit included an expense of \$57 million related to a true-up of the 2009 tax return.

16. Contingencies, Commitments and Guarantees**Contingencies*****Litigation***

The Company is a defendant in a large number of litigation matters. In some of the matters, very large and/or indeterminate amounts, including punitive and treble damages, are sought. Modern pleading practice in the U.S. permits considerable variation in the assertion of monetary damages or other relief. Jurisdictions may permit claimants not to specify the monetary damages sought or may permit claimants to state only that the amount sought is sufficient to invoke the jurisdiction of the trial court. In addition, jurisdictions may permit plaintiffs to allege monetary damages in amounts well exceeding reasonably possible verdicts in the jurisdiction for similar matters. This variability in pleadings, together with the actual experience of the Company in litigating or resolving through settlement numerous claims over an extended period of time, demonstrates to management that the monetary relief which may be specified in a lawsuit or claim bears little relevance to its merits or disposition value.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Due to the vagaries of litigation, the outcome of a litigation matter and the amount or range of potential loss at particular points in time may normally be difficult to ascertain. Uncertainties can include how fact finders will evaluate documentary evidence and the credibility and effectiveness of witness testimony, and how trial and

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

appellate courts will apply the law in the context of the pleadings or evidence presented, whether by motion practice, or at trial or on appeal. Disposition valuations are also subject to the uncertainty of how opposing parties and their counsel will themselves view the relevant evidence and applicable law.

The Company establishes liabilities for litigation and regulatory loss contingencies when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities have been established for a number of the matters noted below. It is possible that some of the matters could require the Company to pay damages or make other expenditures or establish accruals in amounts that could not be estimated at December 31, 2011. While the potential future charges could be material in the particular quarterly or annual periods in which they are recorded, based on information currently known to management, management does not believe any such charges are likely to have a material effect on the Company's financial position.

Matters as to Which an Estimate Can Be Made

For some of the matters disclosed below, the Company is able to estimate a reasonably possible range of loss. For such matters where a loss is believed to be reasonably possible, but not probable, no accrual has been made. As of December 31, 2011, the Company estimates the aggregate range of reasonably possible losses in excess of amounts accrued for these matters to be approximately \$0 to \$200 million.

Matters as to Which an Estimate Cannot Be Made

For other matters disclosed below, the Company is not currently able to estimate the reasonably possible loss or range of loss. The Company is often unable to estimate the possible loss or range of loss until developments in such matters have provided sufficient information to support an assessment of the range of possible loss, such as quantification of a damage demand from plaintiffs, discovery from other parties and investigation of factual allegations, rulings by the court on motions or appeals, analysis by experts, and the progress of settlement negotiations. On a quarterly and annual basis, the Company reviews relevant information with respect to litigation contingencies and updates its accruals, disclosures and estimates of reasonably possible losses or ranges of loss based on such reviews.

Asbestos-Related Claims

MLIC is and has been a defendant in a large number of asbestos-related suits filed primarily in state courts. These suits principally allege that the plaintiff or plaintiffs suffered personal injury resulting from exposure to asbestos and seek both actual and punitive damages. MLIC has never engaged in the business of manufacturing, producing, distributing or selling asbestos or asbestos-containing products nor has MLIC issued liability or workers' compensation insurance to companies in the business of manufacturing, producing, distributing or selling asbestos or asbestos-containing products. The lawsuits principally have focused on allegations with respect to certain research, publication and other activities of one or more of MLIC's employees during the period from the 1920's through approximately the 1950's and allege that MLIC learned or should have learned of certain health risks posed by asbestos and, among other things, improperly publicized or failed to disclose those health risks. MLIC believes that it should not have legal liability in these cases. The outcome of most asbestos litigation matters, however, is uncertain and can be impacted by numerous variables, including differences in legal rulings in various jurisdictions, the nature of the alleged injury and factors unrelated to the ultimate legal merit of the claims asserted against MLIC. MLIC employs a number of resolution strategies to manage its asbestos loss exposure, including seeking resolution of pending litigation by judicial rulings and settling individual or groups of claims or lawsuits under appropriate circumstances.

Claims asserted against MLIC have included negligence, intentional tort and conspiracy concerning the health risks associated with asbestos. MLIC's defenses (beyond denial of certain factual allegations) include that: (i) MLIC owed no duty to the plaintiffs; it had no special relationship with the plaintiffs and did not

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

manufacture, produce, distribute or sell the asbestos products that allegedly injured plaintiffs; (ii) plaintiffs did not rely on any actions of MLIC; (iii) MLIC's conduct was not the cause of the plaintiffs' injuries; (iv) plaintiffs' exposure occurred after the dangers of asbestos were known; and (v) the applicable time with respect to filing suit has expired. During the course of the litigation, certain trial courts have granted motions dismissing claims against MLIC, while other trial courts have denied MLIC's motions to dismiss. There can be no assurance that MLIC will receive favorable decisions on motions in the future. While most cases brought to date have settled, MLIC intends to continue to defend aggressively against claims based on asbestos exposure, including defending claims at trials.

The approximate total number of asbestos personal injury claims pending against MLIC as of the dates indicated, the approximate number of new claims during the years ended on those dates and the approximate total settlement payments made to resolve asbestos personal injury claims at or during those years are set forth in the following table:

	2011	December 31, 2010	2009
	(In millions, except number of claims)		
Asbestos personal injury claims at year end	66,747	68,513	68,804
Number of new claims during the year	4,972	5,670	3,910
Settlement payments during the year (1)	\$ 34.2	\$ 34.9	\$ 37.6

(1) Settlement payments represent payments made by MLIC during the year in connection with settlements made in that year and in prior years. Amounts do not include MLIC's attorneys' fees and expenses and do not reflect amounts received from insurance carriers. In 2008, MLIC received approximately 5,063 new claims, ending the year with a total of approximately 74,027 claims, and paid approximately \$99 million for settlements reached in 2008 and prior years. In 2007, MLIC received approximately 7,161 new claims, ending the year with a total of approximately 79,717 claims, and paid approximately \$28.2 million for settlements reached in 2007 and prior years. In 2006, MLIC received approximately 7,870 new claims, ending the year with a total of approximately 87,070 claims, and paid approximately \$35.5 million for settlements reached in 2006 and prior years. In 2005, MLIC received approximately 18,500 new claims, ending the year with a total of approximately 100,250 claims, and paid approximately \$74.3 million for settlements reached in 2005 and prior years. In 2004, MLIC received approximately 23,900 new claims, ending the year with a total of approximately 108,000 claims, and paid approximately \$85.5 million for settlements reached in 2004 and prior years. In 2003, MLIC received approximately 58,750 new claims, ending the year with a total of approximately 111,700 claims, and paid approximately \$84.2 million for settlements reached in 2003 and prior years. The number of asbestos cases that may be brought, the aggregate amount of any liability that MLIC may incur, and the total amount paid in settlements in any given year are uncertain and may vary significantly from year to year.

The ability of MLIC to estimate its ultimate asbestos exposure is subject to considerable uncertainty, and the conditions impacting its liability can be dynamic and subject to change. The availability of reliable data is limited and it is difficult to predict the numerous variables that can affect liability estimates, including the number of future claims, the cost to resolve claims, the disease mix and severity of disease in pending and future claims, the impact of the number of new claims filed in a particular jurisdiction and variations in the law in the jurisdictions in which claims are filed, the possible impact of tort reform efforts, the willingness of courts to allow plaintiffs to pursue claims against MLIC when exposure to asbestos took place after the dangers of asbestos exposure were well known, and the impact of any possible future adverse verdicts and their amounts.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The ability to make estimates regarding ultimate asbestos exposure declines significantly as the estimates relate to years further in the future. In the Company's judgment, there is a future point after which losses cease to be probable and reasonably estimable. It is reasonably possible that the Company's total exposure to asbestos claims may be materially greater than the asbestos liability currently accrued and that future charges to income may be necessary. To the extent the Company can estimate reasonably possible losses in excess of amounts accrued, it has been included in the aggregate estimate of reasonably possible loss provided above. While the potential future charges could be material in the particular quarterly or annual periods in which they are recorded, based on information currently known by management, management does not believe any such charges are likely to have a material effect on the Company's financial position.

The Company believes adequate provision has been made in its consolidated financial statements for all probable and reasonably estimable losses for asbestos-related claims. MLIC's recorded asbestos liability is based on its estimation of the following elements, as informed by the facts presently known to it, its understanding of current law and its past experiences: (i) the probable and reasonably estimable liability for asbestos claims already asserted against MLIC, including claims settled but not yet paid; (ii) the probable and reasonably estimable liability for asbestos claims not yet asserted against MLIC, but which MLIC believes are reasonably probable of assertion; and (iii) the legal defense costs associated with the foregoing claims. Significant assumptions underlying MLIC's analysis of the adequacy of its recorded liability with respect to asbestos litigation include: (i) the number of future claims; (ii) the cost to resolve claims; and (iii) the cost to defend claims.

MLIC reevaluates on a quarterly and annual basis its exposure from asbestos litigation, including studying its claims experience, reviewing external literature regarding asbestos claims experience in the United States, assessing relevant trends impacting asbestos liability and considering numerous variables that can affect its asbestos liability exposure on an overall or per claim basis. These variables include bankruptcies of other companies involved in asbestos litigation, legislative and judicial developments, the number of pending claims involving serious disease, the number of new claims filed against it and other defendants and the jurisdictions in which claims are pending. As previously disclosed, in 2002 MLIC increased its recorded liability for asbestos-related claims by \$402 million from approximately \$820 million to \$1.2 billion. Based upon its regular reevaluation of its exposure from asbestos litigation, MLIC has updated its liability analysis for asbestos-related claims through December 31, 2011.

Regulatory Matters

The Company receives and responds to subpoenas or other inquiries from state regulators, including state insurance commissioners; state attorneys general or other state governmental authorities; federal regulators, including the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC); federal governmental authorities, including congressional committees; and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) seeking a broad range of information. The issues involved in information requests and regulatory matters vary widely. The Company cooperates in these inquiries.

MetLife Bank Mortgage Servicing Regulatory and Law Enforcement Authorities Inquiries. Since 2008, MetLife, through its affiliate, MetLife Bank, has significantly increased its mortgage servicing activities by acquiring servicing portfolios. Currently, MetLife Bank services approximately 1% of the aggregate principal amount of the mortgage loans serviced in the U.S. State and federal regulatory and law enforcement authorities have initiated various inquiries, investigations or examinations of alleged irregularities in the foreclosure practices of the residential mortgage servicing industry. Mortgage servicing practices have also been the subject of Congressional attention. Authorities have publicly stated that the scope of the investigations extends beyond foreclosure documentation practices to include mortgage loan modification and loss mitigation practices.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

MetLife Bank's mortgage servicing has been the subject of recent inquiries and requests by state and federal regulatory and law enforcement authorities. MetLife Bank is cooperating with the authorities' review of this business. On April 13, 2011, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) entered into consent decrees with several banks, including MetLife Bank. The consent decrees require an independent review of foreclosure practices and set forth new residential mortgage servicing standards, including a requirement for a designated point of contact for a borrower during the loss mitigation process. In addition, the Federal Reserve Board entered into consent decrees with the affiliated bank holding companies of these banks, including MetLife, Inc., to enhance the supervision of the mortgage servicing activities of their banking subsidiaries. In a February 9, 2012 press release, the Federal Reserve Board announced that it had issued monetary sanctions against five banking organizations for deficiencies in the organizations' servicing of residential mortgage loans and processing of foreclosures. The Federal Reserve Board also stated that it plans to announce monetary penalties against six other institutions under its supervision against whom it had issued enforcement actions in 2011 for deficiencies in servicing of residential mortgage loans and processing foreclosures. The Federal Reserve Board did not identify these six institutions, but MetLife, Inc. is among the institutions that entered into consent decrees with the Federal Reserve Board in 2011. MetLife Bank has also had a meeting with the Department of Justice regarding mortgage servicing and foreclosure practices. It is possible that various state or federal regulatory and law enforcement authorities may seek monetary penalties from MetLife Bank relating to foreclosure practices. MetLife Bank is responding to a subpoena issued by the New York State Department of Financial Services regarding hazard insurance and flood insurance that MetLife Bank obtains to protect the lienholder's interest when the borrower's insurance has lapsed.

These consent decrees, as well as the inquiries or investigations referred to above, could adversely affect MetLife's reputation or result in material fines, penalties, equitable remedies or other enforcement actions, and result in significant legal costs in responding to governmental investigations or other litigation. In addition, the changes to the mortgage servicing business required by the consent decrees and the resolution of any other inquiries or investigations may affect the profitability of such business. The Company is unable to estimate the reasonably possible loss or range of loss arising from the MetLife Bank regulatory matters. Management believes that the Company's consolidated financial statements as a whole will not be materially affected by the MetLife Bank regulatory matters.

United States of America v. EME Homer City Generation, L.P., et al. (W.D. Pa., filed January 4, 2011). On January 4, 2011, the U.S. commenced a civil action in United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania against EME Homer City Generation L.P. (EME Homer City), Homer City OL6 LLC, and other defendants regarding the operations of the Homer City Generating Station, an electricity generating facility. Homer City OL6 LLC, an entity owned by MLIC, is a passive investor with a noncontrolling interest in the electricity generating facility, which is solely operated by the lessee, EME Homer City. The complaint sought injunctive relief and assessment of civil penalties for alleged violations of the federal Clean Air Act and Pennsylvania's State Implementation Plan. The alleged violations were the subject of Notices of Violations (NOVs) that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued to EME Homer City, Homer City OL6 LLC, and others in June 2008 and May 2010. On January 7, 2011, the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania granted the motion by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the State of New York to intervene in the lawsuit as additional plaintiffs. On February 16, 2011, the State of New Jersey filed an Intervenor's Complaint in the lawsuit. On January 7, 2011, two plaintiffs filed a putative class action titled *Scott Jackson and Maria Jackson v. EME Homer City Generation L.P., et al.* in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania on behalf of a putative class of persons who have allegedly incurred damage to their persons and/or property because of the violations alleged in the action brought by the U.S. Homer City OL6 LLC is a defendant in this action. On October 12, 2011, the court issued an order dismissing the U.S.'s lawsuit with prejudice. The Government entities have appealed from the order.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

granting defendants' motion to dismiss. On October 13, 2011, the court also issued an order dismissing the federal claims in the putative class actions with prejudice and dismissing the state law claims in the putative class actions without prejudice to re-file in state court. EME Homer City has acknowledged its obligation to indemnify Homer City OL6 LLC for any claims relating to the NOV's. Due to the acknowledged indemnification obligation, this matter is not included in the aggregate estimate of range of reasonably possible loss. In a February 13, 2012 letter to EME Homer City, Homer City OL6 LLC and others, the Sierra Club indicated its intent to sue for alleged violations of the Clean Air Act and to seek to enjoin the alleged violations, seek unspecified penalties and attorneys' fees, and other relief. Homer City OL6 LLC has served a claim for indemnification on EME Homer City.

In the Matter of Chemform, Inc. Site, Pompano Beach, Broward County, Florida. In July 2010, the EPA advised MLIC that it believed payments were due under two settlement agreements, known as Administrative Orders on Consent, that New England Mutual Life Insurance Company (New England Mutual) signed in 1989 and 1992 with respect to the cleanup of a Superfund site in Florida (the Chemform Site). The EPA originally contacted MLIC (as successor to New England Mutual) and a third party in 2001, and advised that they owed additional clean-up costs for the Chemform Site. The matter was not resolved at that time. The EPA is requesting payment of an amount under \$1 million from MLIC and such third party for past costs and an additional amount for future environmental testing costs at the Chemform Site. The Company estimates that the aggregate cost to resolve this matter will not exceed \$1 million.

Sales Practices Regulatory Matters. Regulatory authorities in a small number of states and FINRA, and occasionally the SEC, have had investigations or inquiries relating to sales of individual life insurance policies or annuities or other products by MLIC, MICC, New England Life Insurance Company and General American Life Insurance Company, and four Company broker-dealers, which are MetLife Securities, Inc., New England Securities Corporation, Walnut Street Securities, Inc. and Tower Square Securities, Inc. These investigations often focus on the conduct of particular financial services representatives and the sale of unregistered or unsuitable products or the misuse of client assets. Over the past several years, these and a number of investigations by other regulatory authorities were resolved for monetary payments and certain other relief, including restitution payments. The Company may continue to resolve investigations in a similar manner. The Company believes adequate provision has been made in its consolidated financial statements for all probable and reasonably estimable losses for these sales practices-related investigations or inquiries.

Unclaimed Property Inquiries and Related Litigation

More than 30 U.S. jurisdictions are auditing MetLife, Inc. and certain of its affiliates for compliance with unclaimed property laws. Additionally, MLIC and certain of its affiliates have received subpoenas and other regulatory inquiries from certain regulators and other officials relating to claims-payment practices and compliance with unclaimed property laws. An examination of these practices by the Illinois Department of Insurance has been converted into a multistate targeted market conduct exam. On July 5, 2011, the New York Insurance Department issued a letter requiring life insurers doing business in New York to use data available on the U.S. Social Security Administration's Death Master File or a similar database to identify instances where death benefits under life insurance policies, annuities, and retained asset accounts are payable, to locate and pay beneficiaries under such contracts, and to report the results of the use of the data. It is possible that other jurisdictions may pursue similar investigations or inquiries, may join the multistate market conduct exam, or issue directives similar to the New York Insurance Department's letter. In the third quarter of 2011, the Company incurred a \$117 million after tax charge to increase reserves in connection with the Company's use of the U.S. Social Security Administration's Death Master File and similar databases to identify potential life insurance claims that have not yet been presented to the Company. It is possible that the audits, market conduct exam, and related activity may result in additional payments to beneficiaries, additional escheatment of funds deemed

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

abandoned under state laws, administrative penalties, interest, and changes to the Company's procedures for the identification and escheatment of abandoned property. The Company believes that payments for life insurance claims not yet presented and interest thereon will not be materially different from the reserve charge noted above. To the extent the Company can estimate the reasonably possible amount of potential additional payments, it has been included in the aggregate estimate of reasonably possible loss provided above. It is possible that there will be additional payments or other expenses incurred with respect to changes in procedures, and the Company is not currently able to estimate these additional possible amounts but such costs may be substantial.

Total Asset Recovery Services, LLC on behalf of the State of Illinois v. MetLife, Inc., et. al. (Cir. Ct. Cook County, IL, filed January 24, 2011). Alleging that MetLife, Inc. and another company have violated the Illinois Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act by failing to escheat to Illinois benefits of 4,766 life insurance contracts, Total Asset Recovery Services, LLC (the Relator) has brought an action under the Illinois False Claims Whistleblower Reward and Protection Act seeking to recover damages on behalf of Illinois. The action was sealed by court order until January 18, 2012. The Relator alleges that the aggregate damages, including statutory damages and treble damages, is \$1,572,780,000. The Relator does not allocate this claimed damage amount between MetLife, Inc. and the other defendant. The Relator also bases its damage calculation in part on its assumption that the average face amount of the subject policies is \$110,000. MetLife, Inc. strongly disputes this assumption, the Relator's alleged damages amounts, and other allegations in the complaint, and intends to defend this action vigorously.

City of Westland Police and Fire Retirement System v. MetLife, Inc., et. al. (S.D.N.Y., filed January 12, 2012). Seeking to represent a class of persons who purchased MetLife, Inc. common shares between February 2, 2010, and October 6, 2011, the plaintiff filed an action alleging that MetLife, Inc. and several current and former executive officers of MetLife, Inc. violated the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder by issuing, or causing MetLife, Inc. to issue, materially false and misleading statements concerning MetLife, Inc.'s potential liability for millions of dollars in insurance benefits that should have been paid to beneficiaries or escheated to the states. Plaintiff seeks unspecified compensatory damages and other relief. The defendants intend to vigorously defend this action.

Fishbaum v. Kandarian, et al. (Sup. Ct., New York County, filed January 27, 2012). Seeking to sue derivatively on behalf of MetLife, Inc., a shareholder commenced an action against members of the MetLife, Inc. Board of Directors alleging that they breached their fiduciary and other duties to the Company. Plaintiff alleges that the defendants failed to ensure that the Company complied with state unclaimed property laws and to ensure that the Company accurately reported its earnings. Plaintiff alleges that because of the defendants' breaches of duty, MetLife, Inc. has incurred damage to its reputation and has suffered other unspecified damages. The defendants intend to vigorously defend this action.

Total Control Accounts Litigation

MLIC is a defendant in lawsuits related to its use of retained asset accounts, known as Total Control Accounts (TCA), as a settlement option for death benefits. The lawsuits include claims of breach of contract, breach of a common law fiduciary duty or a quasi-fiduciary duty such as a confidential or special relationship, or breach of a fiduciary duty under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Clark, et al. v. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (D. Nev., filed March 28, 2008). This putative class action lawsuit alleges breach of contract and breach of a common law fiduciary and/or quasi-fiduciary duty arising from use of the TCA to pay life insurance policy death benefits. As damages, plaintiffs seek disgorgement of the difference between the interest paid to the account holders and the investment earnings on the assets backing the accounts. In March 2009, the court granted in part and denied in part MLIC's motion to dismiss, dismissing the fiduciary duty and unjust enrichment claims but allowing a breach of contract claim and a special

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

or confidential relationship claim to go forward. On September 9, 2010, the court granted MLIC's motion for summary judgment. Plaintiffs appealed this order and on December 7, 2011, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed the district court's grant of summary judgment to MLIC, finding no breach of contract because plaintiffs suffered no damages and finding that no special or confidential relationship existed between the parties under Nevada law.

Faber, et al. v. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (S.D.N.Y., filed December 4, 2008). This putative class action lawsuit alleges that MLIC's use of the TCA as the settlement option under group life insurance policies violates MLIC's fiduciary duties under ERISA. As damages, plaintiffs seek disgorgement of the difference between the interest paid to the account holders and the investment earnings on the assets backing the accounts. On October 23, 2009, the court granted MLIC's motion to dismiss with prejudice. On August 5, 2011, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit affirmed the dismissal of the complaint. Plaintiffs' petition for a rehearing or rehearing en banc with the Second Circuit was denied by the Second Circuit on November 1, 2011.

Keife, et al. v. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (D. Nev., filed in state court on July 30, 2010 and removed to federal court on September 7, 2010). This putative class action lawsuit raises a breach of contract claim arising from MLIC's use of the TCA to pay life insurance benefits under the Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance program (FEGLI). As damages, plaintiffs seek disgorgement of the difference between the interest paid to the account holders and the investment earnings on the assets backing the accounts. In September 2010, plaintiffs filed a motion for class certification of the breach of contract claim, which the court has denied. On April 28, 2011, the court denied MLIC's motion to dismiss.

Simon v. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (D. Nev., filed November 3, 2011). Similar to *Keife v. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company* (pending in the same court), in this putative class action the plaintiff alleges that MLIC improperly paid interest to FEGLI beneficiaries. Specifically, plaintiff alleges that under the terms of the FEGLI policy, MLIC is required to make immediate payment of death benefits in one sum. MLIC, plaintiff alleges, breached this duty by instead retaining the death benefits in its general investment account and sending beneficiaries a book of drafts known as the TCA Money Market Option as the only means by which funds can be accessed. Plaintiff further alleges that MLIC manipulates interest rates paid to policy beneficiaries. This matter has been consolidated with *Keife*.

The Company is unable to estimate the reasonably possible loss or range of loss arising from the TCA matters.

Other U.S. Litigation

Roberts, et al. v. Tishman Speyer Properties, et al. (Sup. Ct., N.Y. County, filed January 22, 2007). This lawsuit was filed by a putative class of market rate tenants at Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village against parties including Metropolitan Tower Life Insurance Company (MTL) and Metropolitan Insurance and Annuity Company. Metropolitan Insurance and Annuity Company has merged into MTL and no longer exists as a separate entity. These tenants claim that MTL, as former owner, and the current owner improperly deregulated apartments while receiving J-51 tax abatements. The lawsuit seeks declaratory relief and damages for rent overcharges. In October 2009, the New York State Court of Appeals issued an opinion denying MTL's motion to dismiss the complaint. MTL has reached a settlement in principle with the plaintiff tenants, subject to finalizing the settlement terms and court approval. The Company believes adequate provision has been made in its consolidated financial statements for all probable and reasonably estimable losses for this lawsuit.

Merrill Haviland, et al. v. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (E.D. Mich., removed to federal court on July 22, 2011). This lawsuit was filed by 45 retired General Motors (GM) employees against MLIC and includes claims for conversion, unjust enrichment, breach of contract, fraud, intentional infliction of emotional distress, fraudulent insurance acts, and unfair trade practices, based upon GM's 2009 reduction of the employees

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

life insurance coverage under GM's ERISA-governed plan. The complaint includes a count seeking class action status. MLIC is the insurer of GM's group life insurance plan and administers claims under the plan. According to the complaint, MLIC had previously provided plaintiffs with a written guarantee that their life insurance benefits under the GM plan would not be reduced for the rest of their lives. MLIC has removed the case to federal court based upon complete ERISA preemption of the state law claims. Plaintiffs filed an amended complaint recasting the state law claims and asserting ERISA claims. MLIC has filed a motion to dismiss.

Sales Practices Claims. Over the past several years, the Company has faced numerous claims, including class action lawsuits, alleging improper marketing or sales of individual life insurance policies, annuities, mutual funds or other products. Some of the current cases seek substantial damages, including punitive and treble damages and attorneys' fees. The Company continues to vigorously defend against the claims in these matters. The Company believes adequate provision has been made in its consolidated financial statements for all probable and reasonably estimable losses for sales practices matters.

International Litigation

Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada v. Metropolitan Life Ins. Co. (Super. Ct., Ontario, October 2006). In 2006, Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada (Sun Life), as successor to the purchaser of MLIC's Canadian operations, filed this lawsuit in Toronto, seeking a declaration that MLIC remains liable for market conduct claims related to certain individual life insurance policies sold by MLIC and that have been transferred to Sun Life. Sun Life had asked that the court require MLIC to indemnify Sun Life for these claims pursuant to indemnity provisions in the sale agreement for the sale of MLIC's Canadian operations entered into in June of 1998. In January 2010, the court found that Sun Life had given timely notice of its claim for indemnification but, because it found that Sun Life had not yet incurred an indemnifiable loss, granted MLIC's motion for summary judgment. Both parties appealed. In September 2010, Sun Life notified MLIC that a purported class action lawsuit was filed against Sun Life in Toronto, Kang v. Sun Life Assurance Co. (Super. Ct., Ontario, September 2010), alleging sales practices claims regarding the same individual policies sold by MLIC and transferred to Sun Life. An amended class action complaint in that case was served on Sun Life, again without naming MLIC as a party. On August 30, 2011, Sun Life notified MLIC that a purported class action lawsuit was filed against Sun Life in Vancouver, Alamwala v. Sun Life Assurance Co. (Sup. Ct., British Columbia, August 2011), alleging sales practices claims regarding certain of the same policies sold by MLIC and transferred to Sun Life. Sun Life contends that MLIC is obligated to indemnify Sun Life for some or all of the claims in these lawsuits. The Company is unable to estimate the reasonably possible loss or range of loss arising from this litigation.

Italy Fund Redemption Suspension Complaints and Litigation. As a result of suspension of withdrawals and diminution in value in certain funds offered within certain unit-linked policies sold by the Italian branch of Alico Life International, Ltd. (ALIL), a number of policyholders invested in those funds have either commenced or threatened litigation against ALIL, alleging misrepresentation, inadequate disclosures and other related claims. These policyholders contacted ALIL beginning in July 2009 alleging that the funds operated at variance to the published prospectus and that prospectus risk disclosures were allegedly wrong, unclear, and misleading. The limited number of lawsuits that have been filed to date have either been resolved or are proceeding through litigation. In March 2011, ALIL began implementing a plan to resolve policyholder claims. Under the plan, ALIL will provide liquidity to the suspended funds so that policyholders may withdraw investments in these funds, and ALIL will offer policyholders amounts in addition to the liquidation value of the suspended funds based on the performance of other relevant financial products. The settlement program achieved a 96% acceptance rate. Those policyholders who did not accept the settlement may still pursue other remedies or commence individual litigation. The formal investigation opened by the Milan public prosecutor into the actions of ALIL employees, as well as of employees of ALIL's major distributor, has been dismissed by the court. Under the terms of the stock purchase agreement dated as of March 7, 2010, as amended, by and among MetLife, Inc., AIG and AM

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Holdings, AIG has agreed to indemnify MetLife, Inc. and its affiliates for third party claims and regulatory fines associated with ALIL's suspended funds. Due to the acknowledged indemnification obligation, this matter is not included in the aggregate estimate of range of reasonably possible loss.

Summary

Putative or certified class action litigation and other litigation and claims and assessments against the Company, in addition to those discussed previously and those otherwise provided for in the Company's consolidated financial statements, have arisen in the course of the Company's business, including, but not limited to, in connection with its activities as an insurer, mortgage lending bank, employer, investor, investment advisor and taxpayer. Further, state insurance regulatory authorities and other federal and state authorities regularly make inquiries and conduct investigations concerning the Company's compliance with applicable insurance and other laws and regulations.

It is not possible to predict the ultimate outcome of all pending investigations and legal proceedings. In some of the matters referred to previously, very large and/or indeterminate amounts, including punitive and treble damages, are sought. Although in light of these considerations it is possible that an adverse outcome in certain cases could have a material effect upon the Company's financial position, based on information currently known by the Company's management, in its opinion, the outcomes of such pending investigations and legal proceedings are not likely to have such an effect. However, given the large and/or indeterminate amounts sought in certain of these matters and the inherent unpredictability of litigation, it is possible that an adverse outcome in certain matters could, from time to time, have a material effect on the Company's consolidated net income or cash flows in particular quarterly or annual periods.

Insolvency Assessments

Most of the jurisdictions in which the Company is admitted to transact business require insurers doing business within the jurisdiction to participate in guaranty associations, which are organized to pay contractual benefits owed pursuant to insurance policies issued by impaired, insolvent or failed insurers. These associations levy assessments, up to prescribed limits, on all member insurers in a particular state on the basis of the proportionate share of the premiums written by member insurers in the lines of business in which the impaired, insolvent or failed insurer engaged. Some states permit member insurers to recover assessments paid through full or partial premium tax offsets. In addition, Japan has established the Life Insurance Policyholders Protection Corporation of Japan as a contingency to protect policyholders against the insolvency of life insurance companies in Japan through assessments to companies licensed to provide life insurance.

Assets and liabilities held for insolvency assessments were as follows:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Other Assets:		
Premium tax offset for future undiscounted assessments	\$ 97	\$ 55
Premium tax offsets currently available for paid assessments	14	8
Receivable for reimbursement of paid assessments (1)	6	6
	\$ 117	\$ 69
Other Liabilities:		
Insolvency assessments	\$ 193	\$ 94

- (1) The Company holds a receivable from the seller of a prior acquisition in accordance with the purchase agreement.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

On September 1, 2011, the New York State Department of Financial Services filed a liquidation plan for Executive Life Insurance Company of New York (ELNY), which had been under rehabilitation by the Liquidation Bureau since 1991. The plan will involve the satisfaction of insurers financial obligations under a number of state life and health insurance guaranty associations and also contemplates that additional industry support for certain ELNY policyholders will be provided. The Company recorded a net charge of \$40 million, after tax, related to ELNY.

Argentina

The Argentine economic, regulatory and legal environment, including interpretations of laws and regulations by regulators and courts, is uncertain. Potential legal or governmental actions related to pension reform, fiduciary responsibilities, performance guarantees, insurance regulations and tax rulings could adversely affect the results of the Company.

In 2007, pension reform legislation in Argentina was enacted which instituted substantial pension reforms, as well as reforms to death and disability insurance coverage. The reform reinstated the Argentine government s pension plan system and allowed for pension participants to transfer their future contributions to the Argentine government pension plan system. The death and disability insurance reforms relieved the Company of its obligation to provide death and disability policy coverages and resulted in the elimination of related insurance liabilities.

In December 2008, the Argentine government, through adoption of the nationalization law, which nationalized the Social Security System by moving all pension fund assets and new contributions to the government-run pay as you go system, effectively eliminated private pension companies in Argentina.

In March 2009, in light of market developments resulting from the Argentine Supreme Court ruling against the 2002 pesification law and the implementation by the Company of a program to allow the contractholders that had not filed a lawsuit to convert to U.S. dollars the social security annuity contracts denominated in pesos by the pesification law, the Company reduced its related outstanding contingent liabilities by \$108 million, net of income tax, which was partially offset by the establishment of contingent liabilities from the implementation of the program to convert these contracts to U.S. dollars of \$13 million, net of income tax, resulting in a decrease to net loss of \$95 million, net of income tax, for the year ended December 31, 2009.

In February 2011, the Argentine Superintendent of Insurance (SSN) enacted Resolution No. 35,615, which affects the reinsurance regulatory framework. From September 1, 2011, cross-border reinsurance operations were effectively prohibited, with some minor exceptions: Foreign reinsurers that have not set up an Argentine reinsurance subsidiary or branch are only able to underwrite risks from Argentine cedants when, due to the importance and type of risk to be ceded, there is no local capacity and subject to the approval of the SSN (which will be granted on a case by case basis) and to the registration of such foreign reinsurer with the SSN.

In October 2011, the SSN enacted Resolution No. 36,162 which affects the Company s ability to invest and diversify abroad. From November 4, 2011, insurers will have a term of: (i) 10 business days to file with the SSN an affidavit, reporting all investments located abroad; and (ii) 50 calendar days to evidence with the SSN the transfer to Argentina of all the investments and funds located abroad. All investments and funds must be located in Argentina no later than December 31, 2011. The Company was in compliance with this resolution at December 31, 2011.

Further governmental or legal actions are possible in Argentina. Such actions may impact the level of existing assets and liabilities or may create additional obligations or benefits to the Company s operations in Argentina.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Management has made its best estimate of its obligations based upon information currently available; however, further governmental or legal actions could result in changes in rights and obligations which could materially impact the amounts presented in the consolidated financial statements.

Commitments**Leases**

In accordance with industry practice, certain of the Company's income from lease agreements with retail tenants are contingent upon the level of the tenants' revenues. Additionally, the Company, as lessee, has entered into various lease and sublease agreements for office space, information technology and other equipment. Future minimum rental and sublease income, and minimum gross rental payments relating to these lease agreements are as follows:

	Rental Income	Sublease Income (In millions)	Gross Rental Payments
2012	\$ 425	\$ 17	\$ 337
2013	\$ 386	\$ 20	\$ 279
2014	\$ 332	\$ 12	\$ 202
2015	\$ 283	\$ 12	\$ 172
2016	\$ 223	\$ 12	\$ 145
Thereafter	\$ 921	\$ 74	\$ 917

The Company previously moved certain of its operations in New York from Long Island City, Queens to Manhattan. Market conditions, which precluded the Company's immediate and complete sublet of all unused space following this movement of operations, resulted in a lease impairment charge of \$52 million during 2009, which is included in other expenses within Corporate & Other. The impairment charge was determined based upon the present value of the gross rental payments less sublease income discounted at a risk-adjusted rate over the remaining lease terms which range from 15-20 years. The Company has made assumptions with respect to the timing and amount of future sublease income in the determination of this impairment charge. See Note 19 for discussion of \$28 million of such charges related to restructuring. Additional impairment charges could be incurred should market conditions change.

Commitments to Fund Partnership Investments

The Company makes commitments to fund partnership investments in the normal course of business. The amounts of these unfunded commitments were \$4.0 billion and \$3.8 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The Company anticipates that these amounts will be invested in partnerships over the next five years.

Mortgage Loan Commitments

The Company has issued interest rate lock commitments on certain residential mortgage loan applications totaling \$5.6 billion and \$2.5 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The Company intends to sell the majority of these originated residential mortgage loans. Interest rate lock commitments to fund mortgage loans that will be held-for-sale are considered derivatives and their estimated fair value and notional amounts are included within interest rate forwards. See Note 4.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

The Company also commits to lend funds under certain other mortgage loan commitments that will be held-for-investment. The amounts of these mortgage loan commitments were \$4.1 billion and \$3.8 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Commitments to Fund Bank Credit Facilities, Bridge Loans and Private Corporate Bond Investments

The Company commits to lend funds under bank credit facilities, bridge loans and private corporate bond investments. The amounts of these unfunded commitments were \$1.4 billion and \$2.4 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Guarantees

In the normal course of its business, the Company has provided certain indemnities, guarantees and commitments to third parties pursuant to which it may be required to make payments now or in the future. In the context of acquisition, disposition, investment and other transactions, the Company has provided indemnities and guarantees, including those related to tax, environmental and other specific liabilities and other indemnities and guarantees that are triggered by, among other things, breaches of representations, warranties or covenants provided by the Company. In addition, in the normal course of business, the Company provides indemnifications to counterparties in contracts with triggers similar to the foregoing, as well as for certain other liabilities, such as third-party lawsuits. These obligations are often subject to time limitations that vary in duration, including contractual limitations and those that arise by operation of law, such as applicable statutes of limitation. In some cases, the maximum potential obligation under the indemnities and guarantees is subject to a contractual limitation ranging from less than \$1 million to \$800 million, with a cumulative maximum of \$1.5 billion, while in other cases such limitations are not specified or applicable. Since certain of these obligations are not subject to limitations, the Company does not believe that it is possible to determine the maximum potential amount that could become due under these guarantees in the future. Management believes that it is unlikely the Company will have to make any material payments under these indemnities, guarantees, or commitments.

In addition, the Company indemnifies its directors and officers as provided in its charters and by-laws. Also, the Company indemnifies its agents for liabilities incurred as a result of their representation of the Company's interests. Since these indemnities are generally not subject to limitation with respect to duration or amount, the Company does not believe that it is possible to determine the maximum potential amount that could become due under these indemnities in the future.

The Company has also guaranteed minimum investment returns on certain international retirement funds in accordance with local laws. Since these guarantees are not subject to limitation with respect to duration or amount, the Company does not believe that it is possible to determine the maximum potential amount that could become due under these guarantees in the future.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company did not record any additional liabilities for indemnities, guarantees and commitments. The Company's recorded liabilities were \$5 million at both December 31, 2011 and 2010, for indemnities, guarantees and commitments.

17. Employee Benefit Plans

Pension and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans

The Subsidiaries sponsor and/or administer various U.S. qualified and non-qualified defined benefit pension plans and other postretirement employee benefit plans covering employees and sales representatives who meet specified eligibility requirements. U.S. pension benefits are provided utilizing either a traditional formula or cash balance formula. The traditional formula provides benefits that are primarily based upon years of credited service and either final average or career average earnings. The cash balance formula utilizes hypothetical or notional accounts which credit participants with benefits equal to a percentage of eligible pay, as well as earnings credits, determined annually based upon the average annual rate of interest on 30-year U.S. Treasury securities, for each

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

account balance. At December 31, 2011, the majority of active participants were accruing benefits under the cash balance formula; however, approximately 90% of the Subsidiaries' obligations result from benefits calculated with the traditional formula. The U.S. non-qualified pension plans provide supplemental benefits in excess of limits applicable to a qualified plan. The non-U.S. pension plans generally provide benefits based upon either years of credited service and earnings preceding-retirement or points earned on job grades and other factors in years of service.

The Subsidiaries also provide certain postemployment benefits and certain postretirement medical and life insurance benefits for retired employees. Employees of the Subsidiaries who were hired prior to 2003 (or, in certain cases, rehired during or after 2003) and meet age and service criteria while working for one of the Subsidiaries may become eligible for these other postretirement benefits, at various levels, in accordance with the applicable plans. Virtually all retirees, or their beneficiaries, contribute a portion of the total costs of postretirement medical benefits. Employees hired after 2003 are not eligible for any employer subsidy for postretirement medical benefits.

In connection with the Acquisition, domestic American Life employees who became employees of certain Subsidiaries (including those who remained employees of companies acquired in the Acquisition) were credited with service recognized by AIG for purposes of determining eligibility under the pension plans with respect to benefits earned under the pension plans subsequent to the closing date of the Acquisition.

Additionally, in connection with the Acquisition, the Company acquired certain defined benefit pension plans sponsored by American Life. As of December 31, 2010, these plans had liabilities of approximately \$595 million and assets of approximately \$97 million.

Measurement dates used for all of the Subsidiaries' defined benefit pension and other postretirement benefit plans correspond with the fiscal year ends of sponsoring Subsidiaries, which are December 31 for most Subsidiaries and November 30 for American Life.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Obligations, Funded Status and Net Periodic Benefit Costs**

	Pension Benefits				Other Postretirement Benefits			
	U.S. Plans (1)		Non-U.S. Plans		U.S. Plans		Non-U.S. Plans	
	2011	2010	2011	December 31, 2010 2011		2010	2011	2010
(In millions)								
Change in benefit obligations:								
Benefit obligations at January 1,	\$ 7,043	\$ 6,562	\$ 676	\$ 87	\$ 1,808	\$ 1,801	\$ 37	\$ 46
Service costs	187	172	64	8	16	16	1	1
Interest costs	404	393	16	6	106	111	2	2
Plan participants' contributions					28	34		
Net actuarial (gains) losses	1,072	301	24	(11)	267	66	2	7
Acquisition, divestitures and curtailments			(5)	639			1	
Change in benefits	17			1		(81)		1
Prescription drug subsidy						12		
Benefits paid	(396)	(385)	(30)	(35)	(132)	(151)	(4)	(3)
Transfers			(13)					(17)
Effect of foreign currency translation			41	(19)				
Benefit obligations at December 31,	8,327	7,043	773	676	2,093	1,808	39	37
Change in plan assets:								
Fair value of plan assets at January 1,	6,310	5,684	178	86	1,185	1,106	15	15
Actual return on plan assets	944	708	(4)	8	80	97	(1)	5
Acquisition and divestitures			(4)	97				
Plan participants' contributions					28	34		
Employer contributions	250	303	55	22	79	87	1	8
Benefits paid	(396)	(385)	(30)	(35)	(132)	(139)	(2)	(1)
Transfers			(13)					(12)
Effect of foreign currency translation			3					
Fair value of plan assets at December 31,	7,108	6,310	185	178	1,240	1,185	13	15
Over (under) funded status at December 31,	\$ (1,219)	\$ (733)	\$ (588)	\$ (498)	\$ (853)	\$ (623)	\$ (26)	\$ (22)
Amounts recognized in the consolidated balance sheets consist of:								
Other assets	\$	\$ 106	\$ 3	\$ 6	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other liabilities	(1,219)	(839)	(591)	(504)	(853)	(623)	(26)	(22)
Net amount recognized	\$ (1,219)	\$ (733)	\$ (588)	\$ (498)	\$ (853)	\$ (623)	\$ (26)	\$ (22)
Accumulated other comprehensive (income) loss:								
Net actuarial (gains) losses	\$ 2,498	\$ 2,117	\$ 10	\$ (25)	\$ 623	\$ 403	\$ 2	\$ (3)
Prior service costs (credit)	30	17	2	3	(179)	(286)	1	1
Accumulated other comprehensive (income) loss, before income tax	\$ 2,528	\$ 2,134	\$ 12	\$ (22)	\$ 444	\$ 117	\$ 3	\$ (2)

(1) Includes non-qualified unfunded plans, for which the aggregate projected benefit obligation was \$997 million and \$821 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

The accumulated benefit obligations for all U.S. defined benefit pension plans were \$7.8 billion and \$6.7 billion at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The accumulated benefit obligations for all non-U.S. defined benefit pension plans were \$658 million and \$610 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The aggregate pension accumulated benefit obligation and aggregate fair value of plan assets for pension benefit plans with accumulated benefit obligations in excess of plan assets was as follows:

	Pension Benefits			
	U.S. Plans		Non-U.S. Plans	
	2011	December 31, 2010	2011	2010
(In millions)				
Projected benefit obligations	\$ 1,164	\$ 844	\$ 708	\$ 592
Accumulated benefit obligations	\$ 1,045	\$ 770	\$ 644	\$ 537
Fair value of plan assets	\$ 131	\$ 13	\$ 121	\$ 93

Information for pension and other postretirement benefit plans with a projected benefit obligation in excess of plan assets were as follows:

	Pension Benefits				Other Postretirement Benefits			
	U.S. Plans		Non-U.S. Plans		U.S. Plans		Non-U.S. Plans	
	2011	2010	2011	December 31, 2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
(In millions)								
Projected benefit obligations	\$ 8,327	\$ 1,187	\$ 732	\$ 616	\$ 2,093	\$ 1,808	\$ 39	\$ 37
Fair value of plan assets	\$ 7,108	\$ 347	\$ 140	\$ 114	\$ 1,240	\$ 1,185	\$ 13	\$ 15

Net periodic pension costs and net periodic other postretirement benefit plan costs are comprised of the following:

- i) **Service Costs** Service costs are the increase in the projected (expected) pension benefit obligation resulting from benefits payable to employees of the Subsidiaries on service rendered during the current year.
- ii) **Interest Costs** Interest costs are the time value adjustment on the projected (expected) pension benefit obligation at the end of each year.
- iii) **Settlement and Curtailment Costs** The aggregate amount of net gains (losses) recognized in net periodic benefit costs due to settlements and curtailments. Settlements result from actions that relieve/eliminate the plan's responsibility for benefit obligations or risks associated with the obligations or assets used for the settlement. Curtailments result from an event that significantly reduces/eliminates plan participants' expected years of future services or benefit accruals.
- iv) **Expected Return on Plan Assets** Expected return on plan assets is the assumed return earned by the accumulated pension and other postretirement fund assets in a particular year.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

- v) Amortization of Net Actuarial Gains (Losses) Actuarial gains and losses result from differences between the actual experience and the expected experience on pension and other postretirement plan assets or projected (expected) pension benefit obligation during a particular period. These gains and losses are accumulated and, to the extent they exceed 10% of the greater of the PBO or the fair value of plan assets, the excess is amortized into pension and other postretirement benefit costs over the expected service years of the employees.

- vi) Amortization of Prior Service Costs (Credit) These costs relate to the recognition of increases or decreases in pension and other postretirement benefit obligation due to amendments in plans or

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

initiation of new plans. These increases or decreases in obligation are recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) at the time of the amendment. These costs are then amortized to pension and other postretirement benefit costs over the expected service years of the employees affected by the change.

The components of net periodic benefit costs and other changes in plan assets and benefit obligations recognized in other comprehensive income (loss) were as follows:

	Pension Benefits						Other Postretirement Benefits					
	U.S. Plans			Non-U.S. Plans			U.S. Plans			Non-U.S. Plans		
	2011	2010	2009	2011	2010	2009	2011	2010	2009	2011	2010	2009
	Years Ended December 31, (In millions)											
Net Periodic Benefit Costs:												
Service costs	\$ 187	\$ 172	\$ 170	\$ 64	\$ 8	\$	\$ 16	\$ 16	\$ 22	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$
Interest costs	404	393	395	16	6		106	111	125	2	2	
Settlement and curtailment costs			17		8					1	1	
Expected return on plan assets	(448)	(444)	(439)	(6)	(6)		(76)	(79)	(72)	(1)		
Amortization of net actuarial (gains) losses	194	196	227				43	38	42			
Amortization of prior service costs (credit)	4	7	10				(108)	(83)	(36)			
Total net periodic benefit costs (credit)	341	324	380	74	16		(19)	3	81	3	4	
Other Changes in Plan Assets and Benefit Obligations Recognized in Other Comprehensive Income (Loss):												
Net actuarial (gains) losses	575	37	310	34	(15)		262	49	283	5	1	
Prior service costs (credit)	17		(10)		1			(81)	(167)		1	
Amortization of net actuarial gains (losses)	(194)	(196)	(227)				(43)	(38)	(42)			
Amortization of prior service (costs) credit	(4)	(7)	(10)				108	83	36			
Total recognized in other comprehensive income (loss)	394	(166)	63	34	(14)		327	13	110	5	2	
Total recognized in net periodic benefit costs and other comprehensive income (loss)	\$ 735	\$ 158	\$ 443	\$ 108	\$ 2	\$	\$ 308	\$ 16	\$ 191	\$ 8	\$ 6	\$

For the year ended December 31, 2011, included within other comprehensive income (loss) were other changes in plan assets and benefit obligations associated with pension benefits of \$394 million for the U.S. plans and \$34 million for the non-U.S. plans and other postretirement benefits of \$327 million for the U.S. plans and \$5 million for the non-U.S. plans for an aggregate reduction in other comprehensive income (loss) of \$760 million before income tax and \$494 million, net of income tax.

The estimated net actuarial (gains) losses and prior service costs (credit) for the U.S. pension plans that will be amortized from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) into net periodic benefit costs over the next year are \$178 million and \$6 million, respectively.

The estimated net actuarial (gains) losses and prior service costs (credit) for the U.S. defined benefit other postretirement benefit plans that will be amortized from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) into net periodic benefit costs over the next year are \$54 million and (\$104) million, respectively.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 created various subsidies for all U.S. sponsors of retiree drug programs. Two common ways of providing subsidies were the Retiree Drug Subsidy (RDS) and Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plans (PDP). From 2006 through 2010, the Company applied for and received the RDS each year. The RDS program provides the subsidy through cash payments made by Medicare to the Company, resulting in smaller net claims paid by the Company. A summary of the reduction to the APBO and the related reduction to the components of net periodic other postretirement benefits plan costs resulting from receipt of the RDS is presented below. As of January 1, 2011, as a result of changes made under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, the Company, no longer applies for the RDS. Instead it has joined PDP and will indirectly receive Medicare subsidies in the form of smaller gross benefit payments for prescription drug coverage.

	2010	December 31, 2009
	(In millions)	
Cumulative reduction in other postretirement benefits obligations:		
Balance at January 1,	\$ 247	\$ 317
Service costs	3	2
Interest costs	16	16
Net actuarial (gains) losses	(255)	(76)
Expected prescription drug subsidy	(11)	(12)
Balance at December 31,	\$	\$ 247

	2010	Years Ended December 31, 2009
	(In millions)	
Reduction in net periodic other postretirement benefit costs:		
Service costs	\$ 3	\$ 2
Interest costs	16	16
Amortization of net actuarial (gains) losses	10	11
Total reduction in net periodic benefit costs	\$ 29	\$ 29

The Company received subsidies of \$3 million, \$8 million and \$12 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Assumptions

Assumptions used in determining benefit obligations were as follows:

	Pension Benefits		Other Postretirement Benefits	
	U.S. Plans	Non-U.S. Plans (1)	U.S. Plans	Non-U.S. Plans (1)
December 31, 2011:				
Weighted average discount rate	4.95%	2.33%	4.95%	5.60%

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Rate of compensation increase	3.5% - 7.5%	2.4% - 5.5%	N/A	N/A
December 31, 2010:				
Weighted average discount rate	5.80%	2.01%	5.80%	N/A
Rate of compensation increase	3.5% - 7.5%	2.0% - 4.0%	N/A	N/A

- (1) Reflects those assumptions that were most appropriate for the local economic environments of each of the Subsidiaries providing such benefits.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Assumptions used in determining net periodic benefit costs were as follows:

	Pension Benefits		Other Postretirement Benefits	
	U.S. Plans	Non-U.S. Plans (1)	U.S. Plans	Non-U.S. Plans (1)
Year Ended December 31, 2011:				
Weighted average discount rate	5.80%	2.40%	5.80%	6.34%
Weighted average expected rate of return on plan assets	7.25%	3.19%	7.25%	7.01%
Rate of compensation increase	3.5% - 7.5%	3.0% - 5.5%	N/A	N/A
Year Ended December 31, 2010:				
Weighted average discount rate	6.25%	1.76%	6.25%	N/A
Weighted average expected rate of return on plan assets	8.00%	1.32%	7.20%	N/A
Rate of compensation increase	3.5% - 7.5%	2.0% - 4.0%	N/A	N/A
Year Ended December 31, 2009:				
Weighted average discount rate	6.60%	N/A	6.60%	N/A
Weighted average expected rate of return on plan assets	8.25%	N/A	7.36%	N/A
Rate of compensation increase	3.5% - 7.5%	N/A	N/A	N/A

(1) Reflects those assumptions that were most appropriate for the local economic environments of each of the Subsidiaries providing such benefits.

The weighted average discount rate for the U.S. plans is determined annually based on the yield, measured on a yield to worst basis, of a hypothetical portfolio constructed of high quality debt instruments available on the valuation date, which would provide the necessary future cash flows to pay the aggregate projected benefit obligation when due.

The weighted average discount rate for non-U.S. pension plans is based on the duration of liabilities on a country by country basis. The rate was selected by reference to high quality corporate bonds in developed markets or local government bonds where markets were less robust or nonexistent.

The weighted average expected rate of return on plan assets for the U.S. plans is based on anticipated performance of the various asset sectors in which the plans invest, weighted by target allocation percentages. Anticipated future performance is based on long-term historical returns of the plan assets by sector, adjusted for the Subsidiaries' long-term expectations on the performance of the markets. While the precise expected rate of return derived using this approach will fluctuate from year to year, the policy of most of the Subsidiaries is to hold this long-term assumption constant as long as it remains within reasonable tolerance from the derived rate.

The weighted average expected long-term rate of return for the non-U.S. pension plans is an aggregation of each country's expected rate of return within each asset class. For each country, the rate of return with respect to each asset class was developed based on a building block approach that considers historical returns, current market conditions, asset volatility and the expectations for future market returns. While the assessment of the expected rate of return is long-term and not expected to change annually, significant changes in investment strategy or economic conditions may warrant such a change. The expected rate of return within each asset class, together with any contributions made, are expected to maintain the plans' ability to meet all required benefit obligations.

The weighted average expected rate of return on plan assets for use in that plan's valuation in 2012 is currently anticipated to be 7.00% for U.S. pension benefits and 6.22% for U.S. other postretirement benefits. The weighted average expected rate of return on plan assets for use in that plan's valuation in 2012 is currently anticipated to be 2.05% for non-U.S. pension benefits and 6.54% for non-U.S. other postretirement benefits.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The assumed healthcare costs trend rates used in measuring the APBO and net periodic benefit costs were as follows:

	2011	December 31, 2010
Pre-and Post-Medicare eligible claims	7.3% in 2012, gradually decreasing each year until 2083 reaching the ultimate rate of 4.3%.	7.8% in 2011, gradually decreasing each year until 2083 reaching the ultimate rate of 4.4%.

Assumed healthcare costs trend rates may have a significant effect on the amounts reported for healthcare plans. A 1% change in assumed healthcare costs trend rates would have the following effects:

	U.S. Plans		Non-U.S. Plans	
	One Percent Increase	One Percent Decrease	One Percent Increase	One Percent Decrease
	(In millions)			
Effect on total of service and interest costs components	\$ 7	\$ (9)	\$	\$
Effect of accumulated postretirement benefit obligations	\$ 195	\$ (160)	\$ 1	\$ (1)

Plan Assets

The pension and other postretirement benefit plan assets are categorized into the three-level fair value hierarchy, as defined in Note 1, based upon the priority of the inputs to the respective valuation technique. The following summarizes the types of assets included within the three-level fair value hierarchy presented below.

- Level 1 This category includes investments in fixed maturity securities, equity securities, derivative securities, and short-term investments which have unadjusted quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.
- Level 2 This category includes certain separate accounts that are primarily invested in liquid and readily marketable securities. The estimated fair value of such separate account is based upon reported NAV provided by fund managers and this value represents the amount at which transfers into and out of the respective separate account are effected. These separate accounts provide reasonable levels of price transparency and can be corroborated through observable market data.

Certain separate accounts are invested in investment partnerships designated as hedge funds. The values for these separate accounts is determined monthly based on the NAV of the underlying hedge fund investment. Additionally, such hedge funds generally contain lock out or other waiting period provisions for redemption requests to be filled. While the reporting and redemption restrictions may limit the frequency of trading activity in separate accounts invested in hedge funds, the reported NAV, and thus the referenced value of the separate account, provides a reasonable level of price transparency that can be corroborated through

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

observable market data.

Directly held investments are primarily invested in U.S. and foreign government and corporate securities.

Level 3 This category includes separate accounts that are invested in fixed maturity securities, equity securities, pass-through securities, derivative securities, and other invested assets that provide little or no price transparency due to the infrequency with which the underlying assets trade and generally require additional time to liquidate in an orderly manner. Accordingly, the values for separate accounts invested in these alternative asset classes are based on inputs that cannot be readily derived from or corroborated by observable market data.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***U.S. Plans*

Most U.S. Subsidiaries have issued group annuity and life insurance contracts supporting the pension and other postretirement benefit plans assets, which are invested primarily in separate accounts.

The underlying assets of the separate accounts are principally comprised of cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, fixed maturity and equity securities, mutual funds, real estate, private equity investments and hedge funds investments.

The pension and postretirement plan assets and liabilities measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis were determined as described below. These estimated fair values and their corresponding placement in the fair value hierarchy are summarized as follows:

	December 31, 2011				December 31, 2011			
	Pension Benefits			Total	Other Postretirement Benefits			Total
	Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using				Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			
	Quoted	Significant	Significant	Estimated	Quoted	Significant	Significant	Estimated
	Prices	Other	Unobservable		Fair	Prices	Other	
	in	Inputs	Inputs	Value	in	Inputs	Inputs	Value
	Active	(Level 2)	(Level 3)	(In millions)	Active	(Level 2)	(Level 3)	
	Markets				Markets			
	for				for			
	Identical				Identical			
	Assets and				Assets and			
	Liabilities				Liabilities			
	(Level				(Level			
	1)				1)			
Assets:								
Fixed maturity securities:								
Corporate	\$	\$ 1,932	\$ 32	\$ 1,964	\$	\$ 139	\$ 4	\$ 143
Federal agencies	1	286		287		29		29
Foreign bonds		213	5	218		13		13
Municipals		184		184		59	1	60
Preferred stocks		2		2				
U.S. government bonds	1,007	187		1,194	160	1		161
Total fixed maturity securities	1,008	2,804	37	3,849	160	241	5	406
Equity securities:								
Common stock - domestic	1,149	38	206	1,393	240	2		242
Common stock - foreign	287			287	55			55
Total equity securities	1,436	38	206	1,680	295	2		297

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Money market securities	2		2		1		1	
Pass-through securities		471	2	473		84	5	89
Derivative securities	30	10	4	44			1	1
Short-term investments	4	401		405	6	435		441
Other invested assets		69	531	600				
Other receivables		47		47		4		4
Securities receivable		8		8		1		1
Total assets	\$ 2,480	\$ 3,848	\$ 780	\$ 7,108	\$ 461	\$ 768	\$ 11	\$ 1,240

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	December 31, 2010				December 31, 2010			
	Pension Benefits Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			Total Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	Other Postretirement Benefits Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			Total Estimated Fair Value
Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets and Liabilities (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets and Liabilities (Level 1)		Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Estimated Fair Value	
Assets:								
Fixed maturity securities:								
Corporate	\$	\$ 1,528	\$ 49	\$ 1,577	\$	\$ 67	\$ 4	\$ 71
Federal agencies		175		175		15		15
Foreign bonds		143	4	147		4		4
Municipals		137		137		37	1	38
Preferred stocks		4		4				
U.S. government bonds	650	136		786	82			82
Total fixed maturity securities	650	2,123	53	2,826	82	123	5	210
Equity securities:								
Common stock - domestic	1,406	93	240	1,739	359	3		362
Common stock - foreign	461			461	77			77
Total equity securities	1,867	93	240	2,200	436	3		439
Money market securities	200	90		290	1	1		2
Pass-through securities		321	2	323		73	6	79
Derivative securities	3	(5)		(2)				
Short-term investments	(11)	101		90	8	443		451
Other invested assets		63	471	534				
Other receivables		39		39		3		3
Securities receivable		70		70		2		2
Total assets	\$ 2,709	\$ 2,895	\$ 766	\$ 6,370	\$ 527	\$ 648	\$ 11	\$ 1,186
Liabilities:								
Securities payable	\$	\$ 60	\$	\$ 60	\$	\$ 1	\$	\$ 1
Total liabilities	\$	\$ 60	\$	\$ 60	\$	\$ 1	\$	\$ 1
Total assets and liabilities	\$ 2,709	\$ 2,835	\$ 766	\$ 6,310	\$ 527	\$ 647	\$ 11	\$ 1,185

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

A rollforward of all pension and other postretirement benefit plan assets measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable (Level 3) inputs was as follows:

	Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)										
	Pension Benefits					Other Postretirement Benefits					
	Fixed Maturity Securities:		Equity Securities:		Pass-Through Securities	Derivative Securities	Other Invested Assets	Fixed Maturity Securities:		Pass-Through Securities	Derivative Securities
	Corporate	Foreign Bonds	Common Stock-Domestic	Common Stock-International				Corporate	Municipals		
Year Ended December 31, 2011:											
Balance, January 1,	\$ 49	\$ 4	\$ 240	\$ 2	\$	\$ 471	\$ 4	\$ 1	\$ 6	\$	
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:											
Earnings:											
Net investment income											
Net investment gains (losses)			(59)	(1)	2	85			(1)		
Net derivative gains (losses)											
Other revenues											
Policyholder benefits and claims											
Other expenses											
Other comprehensive income (loss)	(4)	(1)	118	1	4	45			1	1	
Purchases		2	7	1		97					
Sales	(13)		(100)	(2)	(2)	(167)			(1)		
Issuances											
Settlements											
Transfers into Level 3				1					1		
Transfers out of Level 3									(1)		
Balance, December 31,	\$ 32	\$ 5	\$ 206	\$ 2	\$ 4	\$ 531	\$ 4	\$ 1	\$ 5	\$ 1	

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)**

	Fixed Maturity Securities:		Pension Benefits Equity Securities:			Other Postretirement Benefits		
	Corporate	Foreign Bonds	Common Stock Domestic	Pass-Through Securities	Other Invested Assets	Corporate	Municipals	Pass-Through Securities
	(In millions)							
Year Ended December 31, 2010:								
Balance, January 1,	\$ 68	\$ 5	\$ 241	\$ 69	\$ 373	\$	\$	\$ 9
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:								
Earnings:								
Net investment income								
Net investment gains (losses)				(11)	78			(4)
Net derivative gains (losses)								
Other revenues								
Policyholder benefits and claims								
Other expenses								
Other comprehensive income (loss)	7	1	(2)	14	(4)	1		1
Purchases, sales, issuances and settlements	(17)	(2)	1	(71)	24			(1)
Transfers into Level 3	4			2		3	1	1
Transfers out of Level 3	(13)			(1)				
Balance, December 31,	\$ 49	\$ 4	\$ 240	\$ 2	\$ 471	\$ 4	\$ 1	\$ 6

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)						
	Pension Benefits				Other Postretirement Benefits		
	Fixed Maturity Securities:		Equity Securities:		Pass-Through Securities	Derivative Securities	Other Invested Assets
Corporate	Foreign Bonds	Common Stock Domestic	Pass-Through Securities				
Year Ended December 31, 2009:	(In millions)						
Balance, January 1,	\$ 57	\$ 4	\$ 460	\$ 80	\$ 40	\$ 392	\$ 13
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:							
Earnings:							
Net investment income							
Net investment gains (losses)	(5)	(1)		(2)	36	4	(17)
Net derivative gains (losses)							
Other revenues							
Policyholder benefits and claims							
Other expenses							
Other comprehensive income (loss)	21	5	(232)	8	(39)	(59)	17
Purchases, sales, issuances and settlements	(3)	(3)	13	(24)	(37)	36	(4)
Transfers into and/or out of Level 3	(2)			7			
Balance, December 31,	\$ 68	\$ 5	\$ 241	\$ 69	\$	\$ 373	\$ 9

See Note 5 for further information about the valuation techniques and inputs by level of major assets of invested assets that affect the amounts reported above.

The U.S. Subsidiaries provide employees with benefits under various ERISA benefit plans. These include qualified pension plans, postretirement medical plans and certain retiree life insurance coverage. The assets of the U.S. Subsidiaries' qualified pension plans are held in insurance group annuity contracts, and the vast majority of the assets of the postretirement medical plan and backing the retiree life coverage are held in insurance contracts. All of these contracts are issued by Company insurance affiliates, and the assets under the contracts are held in insurance separate accounts that have been established by the Company. The insurance contract provider engages investment management firms (Managers) to serve as sub-advisors for the separate accounts based on the specific investment needs and requests identified by the plan fiduciary. These Managers have portfolio management discretion over the purchasing and selling of securities and other investment assets pursuant to the respective investment management agreements and guidelines established for each insurance separate account. The assets of the qualified pension plans and postretirement medical plans (the Invested Plans) are well diversified across multiple asset categories and across a number of different Managers, with the intent of minimizing risk concentrations within any given asset category or with any given Manager.

The Invested Plans, other than those held in participant directed investment accounts, are managed in accordance with investment policies consistent with the longer-term nature of related benefit obligations and within prudent risk parameters. Specifically, investment policies are oriented toward (i) maximizing the Invested Plan's funded status; (ii) minimizing the volatility of the Invested Plan's funded status; (iii) generating asset returns that exceed liability increases; and (iv) targeting rates of return in excess of a custom benchmark and industry standards over appropriate reference time periods. These goals are expected to be met through identifying appropriate and diversified asset classes and allocations, ensuring adequate liquidity to pay benefits and expenses when due and controlling the costs of administering and managing the Invested Plan's investments. Independent investment consultants are periodically used to evaluate the investment risk of Invested Plan's assets relative to liabilities, analyze the economic and portfolio impact of various asset allocations and management strategies and to recommend asset allocations.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Derivative contracts may be used to reduce investment risk, to manage duration and to replicate the risk/return profile of an asset or asset class. Derivatives may not be used to leverage a portfolio in any manner, such as to magnify exposure to an asset, asset class, interest rates or any other financial variable. Derivatives are also prohibited for use in creating exposures to securities, currencies, indices or any other financial variable that are otherwise restricted.

The table below summarizes the actual weighted average allocation of the fair value of total plan assets by asset class at December 31 for the years indicated and the approved target range allocation by major asset class as of December 31, 2011 for the Invested Plans:

Asset Class:	Defined Benefit Plan			Postretirement Medical			Postretirement Life		
	Target Range	Actual Allocation 2011	Actual Allocation 2010	Target Range	Actual Allocation 2011	Actual Allocation 2010	Target Range	Actual Allocation 2011	Actual Allocation 2010
Fixed maturity securities:									
Corporate		27 %	24 %		17 %	9 %		%	%
Federal agency		4	3		4	2			
Foreign bonds		3	3		2	3			
Municipals		3	2		8	5			
U.S. government bonds		16	12		20	11			
Total fixed maturity securities	50% - 80%	53 %	44 %	50% - 100%	51 %	30 %	0%	%	%
Equity securities:									
Common stock - domestic		20 %	27 %		30 %	48 %		%	%
Common stock - foreign		4	8		7	10			
Total equity securities	0% - 40%	24 %	35 %	0% - 50%	37 %	58 %	0%	%	%
Alternative securities:									
Money market securities		%	5 %		1 %	%		%	%
Pass-through securities		6	5		11	10			
Derivatives		1							
Short-term investments		6	1			1		100	100
Other invested assets		9	8						
Other receivables		1	1			1			
Securities receivable			1						
Total alternative securities	10% - 20%	23 %	21 %	10% - 20%	12 %	12 %	100%	100 %	100 %
Total assets		100 %	100 %		100 %	100 %		100 %	100 %

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Non-U.S. Plans*

The pension and postretirement plan assets and liabilities measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis were determined as described below. These estimated fair values and their corresponding placement in the fair value hierarchy are summarized as follows:

	Pension Benefits Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			December 31, 2011 Other Postretirement Benefits Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using				
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets and Liabilities (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets and Liabilities (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Estimated Fair Value
Assets:								
Fixed maturity securities:								
Foreign bonds	\$	\$ 96	\$	\$ 96	\$	\$ 13	\$	\$ 13
Total fixed maturity securities		96		96		13		13
Equity securities:								
Common stock - foreign		43		43				
Total equity securities		43		43				
Derivative securities			13	13				
Short-term investments		6		6				
Other invested assets	19			19				
Real estate			8	8				
Total assets	\$ 19	\$ 145	\$ 21	\$ 185	\$	\$ 13	\$	\$ 13

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

	Pension Benefits			December 31, 2010				
	Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			Other Postretirement Benefits Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using				
	Quoted Prices In Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	Quoted Prices In Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Estimated Fair Value
Assets:								
Fixed maturity securities:								
Foreign bonds	\$ 1	\$ 79	\$	\$ 80	\$	\$ 15	\$	\$ 15
Total fixed maturity securities	1	79		80		15		15
Equity securities:								
Common stock - domestic	4			4				
Common stock - foreign	8	35		43				
Total equity securities	12	35		47				
Money market securities		10		10				
Derivative securities			11	11				
Short-term investments	2	4		6				
Other invested assets	16			16				
Real estate			8	8				
Total assets	\$ 31	\$ 128	\$ 19	\$ 178	\$	\$ 15	\$	\$ 15

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

A rollforward of all pension and other postretirement benefit plan assets measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable (Level 3) inputs was as follows:

	Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	
	Derivative Securities	Pension Benefits Real Estate
	(In millions)	
Year Ended December 31, 2011:		
Balance, January 1,	\$ 11	\$ 8
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:		
Earnings:		
Net investment income		
Net investment gains (losses)		
Net derivative gains (losses)		
Other revenues		
Policyholder benefits and claims		
Other expenses		
Other comprehensive income (loss)	2	
Purchases		
Sales		
Issuances		
Settlements		
Transfers into Level 3		
Transfers out of Level 3		
Balance, December 31,	\$ 13	\$ 8

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)**

	Derivative Securities (1)	Pension Benefits (In millions)	Real Estate (1)
Year Ended December 31, 2010:			
Balance, January 1,	\$		\$
Total realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:			
Earnings:			
Net investment income			
Net investment gains (losses)			
Net derivative gains (losses)	3		
Other revenues			
Policyholder benefits and claims			
Other expenses			
Other comprehensive income (loss)	(3)		
Purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements	(1)		
Transfers into Level 3	12		8
Transfers out of Level 3			
Balance, December 31,	\$ 11		\$ 8

(1) Derivative securities and real estate transfers into Level 3 are due to the Acquisition and are not related to the changes in Level 3 classification at the security level.

Certain non-U.S. Subsidiaries sponsor defined benefit plans that cover employees and sales representatives who meet specified eligibility requirements. Pension benefits are provided utilizing either a traditional formula or cash balance formula, similar to the U.S. plans discussed above. The investment objectives are also similar, subject to local regulations. Generally, these international pension plans invest directly in high quality equity and fixed maturity securities. The assets of the non-U.S. pension plans are comprised of cash and cash equivalents, equity and fixed maturity securities, real estate and hedge fund investments.

The assets of the non-U.S. pension plans, other than those held in participant directed investment accounts, are managed in accordance with investment policies consistent with the longer-term nature of related benefit obligations and within prudent risk parameters. Specifically, investment policies are oriented toward (i) maximizing the assets of the non-U.S. pension plans funded status; (ii) minimizing the volatility of the assets of the non-U.S. pension plans funded status; (iii) generating asset returns that exceed liability increases; and (iv) targeting rates of return in excess of a custom benchmark and industry standards over appropriate reference time periods. These goals are expected to be met through identifying appropriate and diversified asset classes and allocations, ensuring adequate liquidity to pay benefits and expenses when due and controlling the costs of administering and managing the non-U.S. pension plans investments. Independent investment consultants are periodically used to evaluate the investment risk of the non-U.S. pension plans assets relative to liabilities, analyze the economic and portfolio impact of various asset allocations and management strategies and recommend asset allocations.

Derivative contracts may be used to reduce investment risk, to manage duration and to replicate the risk/return profile of an asset or asset class. Derivatives may not be used to leverage a portfolio in any manner, such as to magnify exposure to an asset, asset class, interest rates or any other financial variable. Derivatives are also prohibited for use in creating exposures to securities, currencies, indices or any other financial variable

that are otherwise restricted.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The table below summarizes the actual weighted average allocation of the fair value of total plan assets by asset class at December 31 for the years indicated and the approved target allocation by major asset class as of December 31, 2011 for the plans:

Asset Class:	Defined Benefit Plan			Other Postretirement Plans		
	Target	Actual Allocation 2011	2010	Target	Actual Allocation 2011	2010
Fixed maturity securities:						
Foreign bonds		52 %	45 %		100 %	100 %
Total fixed maturity securities	61 %	52 %	45 %	100 %	100 %	100 %
Equity securities:						
Common stock - domestic		%	2 %		%	%
Common stock - foreign		23	24			
Total equity securities	27 %	23 %	26 %	%	%	%
Alternative securities:						
Money market securities		%	6 %		%	%
Short-term investments		3	3			
Other invested assets		22	20			
Total alternative securities	12 %	25 %	29 %	%	%	%
Total assets		100 %	100 %		100 %	100 %

Expected Future Contributions and Benefit Payments

It is the Subsidiaries' practice to make contributions to the U.S. qualified pension plan to comply with minimum funding requirements of ERISA. In accordance with such practice, no contributions were required for 2012. The Subsidiaries expect to make discretionary contributions to the qualified pension plan of \$205 million in 2012. For information on employer contributions, see Obligations, Funded Status and Net Periodic Benefit Costs.

Benefit payments due under the U.S. non-qualified pension plans are primarily funded from the Subsidiaries' general assets as they become due under the provision of the plans, therefore benefit payments equal employer contributions. The U.S. Subsidiaries expect to make contributions of \$88 million to fund the benefit payments in 2012.

U.S. and non-U.S. postretirement benefits are either: (i) not vested under law; (ii) a non-funded obligation of the Subsidiaries; or (iii) both. Current regulations do not require funding for these benefits. The Subsidiaries use their general assets, net of participant's contributions, to pay postretirement medical claims as they come due in lieu of utilizing any plan assets. The U.S. Subsidiaries expect to make contributions of \$75 million towards benefit obligations in 2012 to pay postretirement medical claims.

As noted previously, the Subsidiaries no longer expect to receive the RDS under the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 to partially offset payment of such benefits. Instead, the gross benefit payments that will be made under the PDP will already reflect subsidies.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Gross benefit payments for the next 10 years, which reflect expected future service where appropriate, are expected to be as follows:

	Pension Benefits		Other Postretirement Benefits	
	U.S. Plans	Non-U.S. Plans	U.S. Plans	Non-U.S. Plans
	(In millions)			
2012	\$ 448	\$ 38	\$ 109	\$ 3
2013	\$ 424	\$ 41	\$ 111	\$ 3
2014	\$ 456	\$ 45	\$ 114	\$ 3
2015	\$ 457	\$ 50	\$ 117	\$ 3
2016	\$ 474	\$ 58	\$ 118	\$ 3
2017-2021	\$ 2,687	\$ 322	\$ 605	\$ 14

Additional Information

As previously discussed, most of the assets of the U.S. pension and other postretirement benefit plans are held in group annuity and life insurance contracts issued by the Subsidiaries. Total revenues from these contracts recognized in the consolidated statements of operations were \$47 million, \$46 million and \$45 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and included policy charges and net investment income from investments backing the contracts and administrative fees. Total investment income (loss), including realized and unrealized gains (losses), credited to the account balances was \$885 million, \$767 million and \$725 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The terms of these contracts are consistent in all material respects with those the Subsidiaries offer to unaffiliated parties that are similarly situated.

Savings and Investment Plans

The Subsidiaries sponsor the U.S. savings and investment plans for substantially all Company employees under which a portion of employee contributions are matched. The Subsidiaries contributed \$95 million, \$86 million and \$93 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

18. Equity**Preferred Stock**

There are 200,000,000 authorized shares of preferred stock, of which 6,857,000 shares were designated for issuance of convertible preferred stock in connection with the financing of the Acquisition in 2010. See [Convertible Preferred Stock](#) below.

MetLife, Inc. has outstanding 24 million shares of Floating Rate Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series A (the [Series A preferred shares](#)) with a \$0.01 par value per share, and a liquidation preference of \$25 per share.

MetLife, Inc. has outstanding 60 million shares of 6.50% Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series B (the [Series B preferred shares](#)), with a \$0.01 par value per share, and a liquidation preference of \$25 per share.

The Preferred Stock ranks senior to the common stock with respect to dividends and liquidation rights. Dividends on the Preferred Stock are not cumulative. Holders of the Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive dividend payments only when, as and if declared by MetLife, Inc.'s Board of Directors or a duly authorized committee of the Board. If dividends are declared on the Series A preferred shares, they will be payable quarterly, in arrears, at an annual rate of the greater of: (i) 1.00% above three-month LIBOR on the related

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

LIBOR determination date; or (ii) 4.00%. Any dividends declared on the Series B preferred shares will be payable quarterly, in arrears, at an annual fixed rate of 6.50%. Accordingly, in the event that dividends are not declared on the Preferred Stock for payment on any dividend payment date, then those dividends will cease to accrue and be payable. If a dividend is not declared before the dividend payment date, MetLife, Inc. has no obligation to pay dividends accrued for that dividend period whether or not dividends are declared and paid in future periods. No dividends may, however, be paid or declared on MetLife, Inc.'s common stock or any other securities ranking junior to the Preferred Stock unless the full dividends for the latest completed dividend period on all Preferred Stock, and any parity stock, have been declared and paid or provided for.

MetLife, Inc. is prohibited from declaring dividends on the Preferred Stock if it fails to meet specified capital adequacy, net income and equity levels. In addition, under Federal Reserve Board policy, MetLife, Inc. may not be able to pay dividends if it does not earn sufficient operating income.

The Preferred Stock does not have voting rights except in certain circumstances where the dividends have not been paid for an equivalent of six or more dividend payment periods whether or not those periods are consecutive. Under such circumstances, the holders of the Preferred Stock have certain voting rights with respect to members of the Board of Directors of MetLife, Inc.

The Preferred Stock is not subject to any mandatory redemption, sinking fund, retirement fund, purchase fund or similar provisions. The Preferred Stock is redeemable at MetLife, Inc.'s option in whole or in part, at a redemption price of \$25 per share of Preferred Stock, plus declared and unpaid dividends.

In December 2008, MetLife, Inc. entered into an RCC related to the Preferred Stock. As part of such RCC, MetLife, Inc. agreed that it will not repay, redeem or purchase the Preferred Shares on or before December 31, 2018, unless, subject to certain limitations, it has received proceeds during a specified period from the sale of specified replacement securities. The RCC is for the benefit of the holders of the related Covered Debt, which was initially the Senior Notes. As a result of the issuance of the 10.750% JSDs, the 10.750% JSDs became the Covered Debt with respect to, and in accordance with, the terms of the RCC relating to the Preferred Shares. The RCC will terminate upon the occurrence of certain events, including the date on which MetLife, Inc. has no series of outstanding eligible debt securities.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Information on the declaration, record and payment dates, as well as per share and aggregate dividend amounts, for the Preferred Shares was as follows:

Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend			
			Series A Per Share	Series A Aggregate	Series B Per Share	Series B Aggregate
(In millions, except per share data)						
November 15, 2011	November 30, 2011	December 15, 2011	\$ 0.2527777	\$ 7	\$ 0.4062500	\$ 24
August 15, 2011	August 31, 2011	September 15, 2011	\$ 0.2555555	6	\$ 0.4062500	24
May 16, 2011	May 31, 2011	June 15, 2011	\$ 0.2555555	7	\$ 0.4062500	24
March 7, 2011	February 28, 2011	March 15, 2011	\$ 0.2500000	6	\$ 0.4062500	24
				\$ 26		\$ 96
November 15, 2010	November 30, 2010	December 15, 2010	\$ 0.2527777	\$ 7	\$ 0.4062500	\$ 24
August 16, 2010	August 31, 2010	September 15, 2010	\$ 0.2555555	6	\$ 0.4062500	24
May 17, 2010	May 31, 2010	June 15, 2010	\$ 0.2555555	7	\$ 0.4062500	24
March 5, 2010	February 28, 2010	March 15, 2010	\$ 0.2500000	6	\$ 0.4062500	24
				\$ 26		\$ 96
November 16, 2009	November 30, 2009	December 15, 2009	\$ 0.2527777	\$ 7	\$ 0.4062500	\$ 24
August 17, 2009	August 31, 2009	September 15, 2009	\$ 0.2555555	6	\$ 0.4062500	24
May 15, 2009	May 31, 2009	June 15, 2009	\$ 0.2555555	7	\$ 0.4062500	24
March 5, 2009	February 28, 2009	March 16, 2009	\$ 0.2500000	6	\$ 0.4062500	24
				\$ 26		\$ 96

See Note 24 for information on subsequent dividends declared.

Convertible Preferred Stock

In connection with the financing of the Acquisition in November 2010, MetLife, Inc. issued to AM Holdings 6,857,000 shares of convertible preferred stock with a \$0.01 par value per share, a liquidation preference of \$0.01 per share and a fair value of \$2.8 billion. On March 8, 2011, MetLife, Inc. repurchased and canceled all of the convertible preferred stock for \$3.0 billion in cash, which resulted in a preferred stock redemption premium of \$146 million. See Note 2.

For purposes of the earnings per common share calculation, for the year ended December 31, 2010, the convertible preferred stock was assumed converted into shares of common stock for both basic and diluted weighted average common shares. See Note 20.

Common Stock*Issuances*

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

In March 2011, MetLife, Inc. issued 68,570,000 new shares of its common stock in a public offering at a price of \$43.25 per share for gross proceeds of \$3.0 billion. In connection with the offering of common stock, MetLife, Inc. incurred \$16 million of issuance costs which have been recorded as a reduction of additional paid-in capital. The proceeds were used to repurchase the convertible preferred stock issued to AM Holdings in November 2010. See Note 2.

In November 2010, MetLife, Inc. issued to AM Holdings in connection with the financing of the Acquisition 78,239,712 new shares of its common stock at \$40.90 per share with a fair value of \$3.2 billion.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

In August 2010, MetLife, Inc. issued 86,250,000 new shares of its common stock at a price of \$42.00 per share for gross proceeds of \$3.6 billion. In connection with the offering of common stock, MetLife, Inc. incurred \$94 million of issuance costs which have been recorded as a reduction of additional paid-in capital.

In February 2009, MetLife, Inc. delivered 24,343,154 shares of newly issued common stock for \$1.0 billion. The issuance was made in connection with the initial settlement of stock purchase contracts issued as part of common equity units sold in 2005.

During the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, 3,549,211 and 2,182,174 new shares of common stock were issued for \$115 million and \$74 million, respectively, to satisfy various stock option exercises and other stock-based awards. There were no new shares of common stock issued to satisfy the various stock option exercises and other stock-based awards during the year ended December 31, 2009. There were no shares of common stock issued from treasury stock during the year ended December 31, 2011. During the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, 332,121 shares and 861,586 shares of common stock were issued from treasury stock for \$18 million and \$46 million, respectively, to satisfy various stock option exercises and other stock-based awards.

Repurchase Programs

At December 31, 2011, MetLife, Inc. had \$1.3 billion remaining under its common stock repurchase program authorizations. During the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, MetLife, Inc. did not repurchase any shares.

Under these authorizations, MetLife, Inc. may purchase its common stock from the MetLife Policyholder Trust, in the open market (including pursuant to the terms of a pre-set trading plan meeting the requirements of Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) and in privately negotiated transactions. Any future common stock repurchases will be dependent upon several factors, including the Company's capital position, its liquidity, its financial strength and credit ratings, general market conditions and the market price of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock compared to management's assessment of the stock's underlying value and applicable regulatory approvals, as well as other legal and accounting factors.

Dividends

The table below presents declaration, record and payment dates, as well as per share and aggregate dividend amounts, for the common stock:

Declaration Date	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend	
			Per Share (In millions, except per share data)	Aggregate per share
October 25, 2011	November 9, 2011	December 14, 2011	\$ 0.74	\$ 787
October 26, 2010	November 9, 2010	December 14, 2010	\$ 0.74	\$ 784 (1)
October 29, 2009	November 9, 2009	December 14, 2009	\$ 0.74	\$ 610

(1) Includes dividends on convertible preferred stock (see [Convertible Preferred Stock](#) above).

Stock-Based Compensation Plans

Description of Plans for Employees and Agents [General Terms](#)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

The MetLife, Inc. 2000 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended (the 2000 Stock Plan) authorized the granting of awards to employees and agents in the form of options to buy shares of MetLife, Inc. common stock (Stock

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Options) that either qualify as incentive Stock Options under Section 422A of the Code or are non-qualified. By December 31, 2009 all awards under the 2000 Stock Plan had either vested or been forfeited. No awards have been made under the 2000 Stock Plan since 2005.

Under the MetLife, Inc. 2005 Stock and Incentive Compensation Plan (the 2005 Stock Plan), awards granted to employees and agents may be in the form of Stock Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units, Performance Shares or Performance Share Units, Cash-Based Awards and Stock-Based Awards (each as defined in the 2005 Stock Plan with reference to MetLife, Inc. common stock).

The aggregate number of shares authorized for issuance under the 2005 Stock Plan is 68,000,000, plus those shares available but not utilized under the 2000 Stock Plan and those shares utilized under the 2000 Stock Plan that are recovered due to forfeiture of Stock Options. Each share issued under the 2005 Stock Plan in connection with a Stock Option or Stock Appreciation Right reduces the number of shares remaining for issuance under that plan by one, and each share issued under the 2005 Stock Plan in connection with awards other than Stock Options or Stock Appreciation Rights reduces the number of shares remaining for issuance under that plan by 1.179 shares. At December 31, 2011, the aggregate number of shares remaining available for issuance pursuant to the 2005 Stock Plan was 31,803,801. Stock Option exercises and other awards settled in shares are satisfied through the issuance of shares held in treasury by the Company or by the issuance of new shares.

Compensation expense related to awards under the 2005 Stock Plan is recognized based on the number of awards expected to vest, which represents the awards granted less expected forfeitures over the life of the award, as estimated at the date of grant. Unless a material deviation from the assumed forfeiture rate is observed during the term in which the awards are expensed, any adjustment necessary to reflect differences in actual experience is recognized in the period the award becomes payable or exercisable.

Compensation expense related to awards under the 2005 Stock Plan is principally related to the issuance of Stock Options, Performance Shares and Restricted Stock Units. The majority of the awards granted each year under the 2005 Stock Plan are made in the first quarter of each year.

Certain stock-based awards provide solely for cash settlement based on changes in the price of MetLife, Inc. common stock and other factors (Phantom Stock-Based Awards). Such awards are made under the MetLife, Inc. International Unit Option Incentive Plan, the MetLife International Performance Unit Incentive Plan, and the MetLife International Restricted Unit Incentive Plan.

Description of Plans for Directors General Terms

The MetLife, Inc. 2000 Directors Stock Plan, as amended (the 2000 Directors Stock Plan) authorized the granting of awards in the form of MetLife, Inc. common stock, non-qualified Stock Options, or a combination of the foregoing to non-management Directors of MetLife, Inc. As of December 31, 2009, all awards under the 2000 Directors Stock Plan had either vested or been forfeited. No awards have been made under the 2000 Directors Stock Plan since 2004.

Under the MetLife, Inc. 2005 Non-Management Director Stock Compensation Plan (the 2005 Directors Stock Plan), awards granted may be in the form of non-qualified Stock Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units, or Stock-Based Awards (each as defined in the 2005 Directors Stock Plan with reference to MetLife, Inc. common stock) to non-management Directors of MetLife, Inc. The number of shares authorized for issuance under the 2005 Directors Stock Plan is 2,000,000. There were no shares carried forward from the 2000 Directors Stock Plan to the 2005 Directors Stock Plan. At December 31, 2011, the aggregate number of shares remaining available for issuance pursuant to the 2005 Directors Stock Plan was 1,777,288. Stock Option exercises and other awards settled in shares are satisfied through the issuance of shares held in treasury by the Company or by the issuance of new shares.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Compensation expense related to awards under the 2005 Directors Plan is recognized based on the number of shares awarded. The Stock-Based Awards granted under the 2005 Directors Plan have vested immediately. The majority of the awards granted each year under the 2005 Directors Stock Plan are made in the second quarter of each year.

Compensation Expense Related to Stock-Based Compensation

The components of compensation expense related to stock-based compensation which includes compensation expense related to Phantom Stock-Based Awards, and excludes the insignificant compensation expense related to the 2005 Directors Stock Plan, were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Stock Options	\$ 58	\$ 45	\$ 55
Performance Shares (1)	68	29	11
Restricted Stock Units	18	10	3
Total compensation expenses	\$ 144	\$ 84	\$ 69
Income tax benefits	\$ 50	\$ 29	\$ 24

(1) Performance Shares expected to vest and the related compensation expenses may be further adjusted by the performance factor most likely to be achieved, as estimated by management, at the end of the performance period.

The following table presents the total unrecognized compensation expense related to stock-based compensation and the expected weighted average period over which these expenses will be recognized at:

	December 31, 2011	
	Expense (In millions)	Weighted Average Period (Years)
Stock Options	\$ 52	1.82
Performance Shares	\$ 44	1.76
Restricted Stock Units	\$ 23	1.82

Stock Options

Stock Options are the contingent right of award holders to purchase shares of MetLife, Inc. common stock at a stated price for a limited time. All Stock Options have an exercise price equal to the closing price of MetLife, Inc. common stock reported on the NYSE on the date of grant, and

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

have a maximum term of 10 years. The vast majority of Stock Options granted have become or will become exercisable at a rate of one-third of each award on each of the first three anniversaries of the grant date. Other Stock Options have become or will become exercisable on the third anniversary of the grant date. Vesting is subject to continued service, except for employees who are retirement eligible and in certain other limited circumstances.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

A summary of the activity related to Stock Options for the year ended December 31, 2011 was as follows:

	Shares Under Option	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (1) (In millions)
Outstanding at January 1, 2011	32,702,331	\$ 38.47	5.30	\$ 195
Granted (2)	5,471,447	\$ 45.16		
Exercised	(2,944,529)	\$ 29.83		
Expired	(317,342)	\$ 42.32		
Forfeited	(198,381)	\$ 38.34		
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	34,713,526	\$ 40.22	5.35	\$
Aggregate number of stock options expected to vest at a future date as of December 31, 2011	33,596,536	\$ 40.31	5.25	\$
Exercisable at December 31, 2011	24,345,356	\$ 41.06	4.02	\$

(1) The aggregate intrinsic value was computed using the closing share price on December 30, 2011 of \$31.18 and December 31, 2010 of \$44.44, as applicable.

(2) The total fair value on the date of the grant was \$78 million.

The fair value of Stock Options is estimated on the date of grant using a binomial lattice model. Significant assumptions used in the Company's binomial lattice model, which are further described below, include: expected volatility of the price of MetLife, Inc. common stock; risk-free rate of return; expected dividend yield on MetLife, Inc. common stock; exercise multiple; and the post-vesting termination rate.

Expected volatility is based upon an analysis of historical prices of MetLife, Inc. common stock and call options on that common stock traded on the open market. The Company uses a weighted-average of the implied volatility for publicly-traded call options with the longest remaining maturity nearest to the money as of each valuation date and the historical volatility, calculated using monthly closing prices of MetLife, Inc. common stock. The Company chose a monthly measurement interval for historical volatility as it believes this better depicts the nature of employee option exercise decisions being based on longer-term trends in the price of the underlying shares rather than on daily price movements.

The binomial lattice model used by the Company incorporates different risk-free rates based on the imputed forward rates for U.S. Treasury Strips for each year over the contractual term of the option. The table below presents the full range of rates that were used for options granted during the respective periods.

Dividend yield is determined based on historical dividend distributions compared to the price of the underlying common stock as of the valuation date and held constant over the life of the Stock Option.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

The binomial lattice model used by the Company incorporates the contractual term of the Stock Options and then factors in expected exercise behavior and a post-vesting termination rate, or the rate at which vested options are exercised or expire prematurely due to termination of employment, to derive an expected life. Exercise behavior in the binomial lattice model used by the Company is expressed using an exercise multiple, which reflects the ratio of exercise price to the strike price of Stock Options granted at which holders of the Stock Options are expected to exercise. The exercise multiple is derived from actual historical exercise activity. The post-vesting termination rate is determined from actual historical exercise experience and expiration activity under the Incentive Plans.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents the weighted average assumptions, with the exception of risk-free rate, which is expressed as a range, used to determine the fair value of Stock Options issued:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
Dividend yield	1.65%	2.11%	3.15%
Risk-free rate of return	0.29%-5.51%	0.35%-5.88%	0.73%-6.67%
Expected volatility	32.64%	34.41%	44.39%
Exercise multiple	1.69	1.75	1.76
Post-vesting termination rate	3.36%	3.64%	3.70%
Contractual term (years)	10	10	10
Expected life (years)	7	7	6
Weighted average exercise price of stock options granted	\$45.16	\$35.06	\$23.61
Weighted average fair value of stock options granted	\$14.27	\$11.29	\$8.37

The following table presents a summary of Stock Option exercise activity:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Total intrinsic value of stock options exercised	\$ 41	\$ 22	\$ 1
Cash received from exercise of stock options	\$ 88	\$ 52	\$ 8
Tax benefit realized from stock options exercised	\$ 14	\$ 8	\$

Performance Shares

Performance Shares are units that, if they vest, are multiplied by a performance factor to produce a number of final Performance Shares which are payable in shares of MetLife, Inc. common stock. Performance Shares are accounted for as equity awards, but are not credited with dividend-equivalents for actual dividends paid on MetLife, Inc. common stock during the performance period. Accordingly, the estimated fair value of Performance Shares is based upon the closing price of MetLife, Inc. common stock on the date of grant, reduced by the present value of estimated dividends to be paid on that stock during the performance period.

Performance Share awards normally vest in their entirety at the end of the three-year performance period. Vesting is subject to continued service, except for employees who are retirement eligible and in certain other limited circumstances. Vested Performance Shares are multiplied by a performance factor of 0.0 to 2.0 based largely on MetLife, Inc.'s performance in change in annual net operating earnings and total shareholder return over the applicable three-year performance period compared to the performance of its competitors. The performance factor was 0.90 for the January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2010 performance period.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents a summary of Performance Share activity for the year ended December 31, 2011:

	Performance Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at January 1, 2011	4,155,574	\$ 31.91
Granted (1)	1,783,070	\$ 42.84
Forfeited	(89,725)	\$ 32.79
Payable (2)	(824,825)	\$ 57.95
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	5,024,094	\$ 31.50
Performance Shares expected to vest at a future date as of December 31, 2011	4,729,890	\$ 32.35

(1) The total fair value on the date of the grant was \$76 million.

(2) Includes both shares paid and shares deferred for later payment.

Performance Share amounts above represent aggregate initial target awards and do not reflect potential increases or decreases resulting from the performance factor determined after the end of the respective performance periods. At December 31, 2011, the three year performance period for the 2009 Performance Share grants was completed, but the performance factor had not yet been calculated. Included in the immediately preceding table are 1,791,609 outstanding Performance Shares to which the 2009-2011 performance factor will be applied.

Restricted Stock Units

Restricted Stock Units are units that, if they vest, are payable in shares of MetLife, Inc. common stock. Restricted Stock Units are accounted for as equity awards, but are not credited with dividend-equivalents for actual dividends paid on MetLife, Inc. common stock during the performance period. Accordingly, the estimated fair value of Restricted Stock Units is based upon the closing price of MetLife, Inc. common stock on the date of grant, reduced by the present value of estimated dividends to be paid on that stock during the performance period.

The vast majority of Restricted Stock Units normally vest in their entirety on the third anniversary of their grant date. Other Restricted Stock Units normally vest in their entirety on the fifth anniversary of their grant date. Vesting is subject to continued service, except for employees who are retirement eligible and in certain other limited circumstances.

The following table presents a summary of Restricted Stock Unit activity for the year ended December 31, 2011:

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

	Restricted Stock Units	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at January 1, 2011	937,172	\$ 29.63
Granted (1)	734,159	\$ 41.94
Forfeited	(61,160)	\$ 35.36
Payable (2)	(47,322)	\$ 44.35
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	1,562,849	\$ 34.74
Restricted Stock Units expected to vest at a future date as of December 31, 2011	1,562,849	\$ 34.74

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(1) The total fair value on the date of the grant was \$31 million.

(2) Includes both shares paid and shares deferred for later payment.

Liability Awards (Phantom Stock-Based Awards)

Certain MetLife international subsidiaries have granted Phantom Stock-Based Awards in the form of Unit Options, Restricted Units, and Performance Units. These share-based cash settled awards are recorded as liabilities until payout is made. Unlike share-settled awards, which have a fixed grant-date fair value, the fair value of unsettled or unvested liability awards is remeasured at the end of each reporting period based on the change in fair value of one share of MetLife, Inc. common stock. The liability and corresponding expense are adjusted accordingly until the award is settled.

Unit Options.

Each Unit Option is the contingent right of the holders to receive a cash payment equal to the closing price of one share of MetLife, Inc. common stock on the surrender date, less the closing price on the grant date, if the difference is greater than zero. The vast majority of Unit Options have become or will become eligible for surrender at a rate of one-third of each award on each of the first three anniversaries of the grant date. Other Unit Options have become or will become eligible for surrender on the third anniversary of the grant date. Vesting is subject to continued service, except for employees who are retirement eligible and in certain other limited circumstances.

Restricted Units.

Restricted Units are units that, if they vest, are payable in cash equal to the closing price of MetLife, Inc. common stock on the last day of the restriction period. The vast majority of Restricted Units normally vest in their entirety on the third anniversary of their grant date. Vesting is subject to continued service, except for employees who are retirement eligible and in certain other limited circumstances.

Performance Units.

Performance Units are units that, if they vest, are multiplied by a performance factor to produce a number of final Performance Units which are payable in cash equal to the closing price of MetLife, Inc. common stock on a date following the last day of the three-year performance period. Performance Units are accounted for as liability awards, but are not credited with dividend-equivalents for actual dividends paid on MetLife, Inc. common stock during the performance period. Accordingly, the estimated fair value of Performance Units is based upon the closing price of MetLife, Inc. common stock on the date of grant, reduced by the present value of estimated dividends to be paid on that stock during the performance period.

Performance Units normally vest in their entirety at the end of the three-year performance period. Vesting is subject to continued service, except for employees who are retirement eligible and in certain other limited circumstances. Vested Performance Units are multiplied by a performance factor of 0.0 to 2.0 based largely on MetLife, Inc.'s performance in change in annual net operating earnings and total shareholder return over the applicable three-year performance period compared to the performance of its competitors.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

The following table presents a summary of Liability Award activity for the year ended December 31, 2011:

	Unit Options	Performance Units	Restricted Units
Outstanding at January 1, 2011	811,221	139,893	216,251
Granted	369,665	125,710	340,750
Exercised	(29,068)		
Forfeited	(68,448)	(6,825)	(44,680)
Paid		(25,521)	(1,640)
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	1,083,370	233,257	510,681
Units expected to vest at a future date as of December 31, 2011	1,083,370	209,931	459,613

Statutory Equity and Income

Except for American Life, each insurance company's state of domicile imposes minimum risk-based capital (RBC) requirements that were developed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). The formulas for determining the amount of RBC specify various weighting factors that are applied to financial balances or various levels of activity based on the perceived degree of risk. Regulatory compliance is determined by a ratio of total adjusted capital, as defined by the NAIC, to authorized control level RBC, as defined by the NAIC. Companies below specific trigger points or ratios are classified within certain levels, each of which requires specified corrective action. Each of MetLife, Inc.'s U.S. insurance subsidiaries exceeded the minimum RBC requirements for all periods presented herein.

American Life does not write business in Delaware or any other domestic state and, as such, is exempt from RBC by Delaware law. American Life operations are regulated by applicable authorities of the countries in which the company operates and are subject to capital and solvency requirements in those countries.

The NAIC has adopted the Codification of Statutory Accounting Principles (Statutory Codification). Statutory Codification is intended to standardize regulatory accounting and reporting to state insurance departments. However, statutory accounting principles continue to be established by individual state laws and permitted practices. Modifications by the various state insurance departments may impact the effect of Statutory Codification on the statutory capital and surplus of MetLife, Inc.'s U.S. insurance subsidiaries.

Statutory accounting principles differ from GAAP primarily by charging policy acquisition costs to expense as incurred, establishing future policy benefit liabilities using different actuarial assumptions, reporting surplus notes as surplus instead of debt and valuing securities on a different basis.

In addition, certain assets are not admitted under statutory accounting principles and are charged directly to surplus. The most significant assets not admitted by the Company are net deferred income tax assets resulting from temporary differences between statutory accounting principles basis and tax basis not expected to reverse and become recoverable within three years. Further, statutory accounting principles do not give recognition to purchase accounting adjustments.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Statutory net income (loss) (unaudited) was as follows:

	State of Domicile	Years Ended December 31,		
		2011	2010	2009
		(In millions)		
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company	New York	\$ 1,970	\$ 2,066	\$ 1,221
American Life Insurance Company (1)	Delaware	\$ 334	\$ 803	N/A
MetLife Insurance Company of Connecticut	Connecticut	\$ 46	\$ 668	\$ 81
Metropolitan Property and Casualty Company	Rhode Island	\$ 41	\$ 273	\$ 266
Metropolitan Tower Life Insurance Company	Delaware	\$ 63	\$ 151	\$ 57
MetLife Investors Insurance Company	Missouri	\$ 94	\$ 153	\$ 49
Delaware American Life Insurance Company	Delaware	\$ 13	\$ 6	N/A

(1) Represents approximate statutory net income (loss) (unaudited).
Statutory capital and surplus (unaudited) was as follows at:

	December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company	\$ 13,507	\$ 13,217
American Life Insurance Company (1)	\$ 3,310	\$ 4,321
MetLife Insurance Company of Connecticut	\$ 5,133	\$ 5,105
Metropolitan Property and Casualty Company	\$ 1,857	\$ 1,845
Metropolitan Tower Life Insurance Company	\$ 828	\$ 805
MetLife Investors Insurance Company	\$ 600	\$ 499
Delaware American Life Insurance Company	\$ 51	\$ 29

(1) Represents approximate statutory capital and surplus (unaudited).

Dividend Restrictions

The table below sets forth the dividends permitted to be paid by the respective insurance subsidiary without insurance regulatory approval and the respective dividends paid:

Company	2012		2011		2010	
	Permitted w/o Approval (1)	Paid (2)	Permitted w/o Approval (3)	Paid (2)	Permitted w/o Approval (3)	
	(In millions)					
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,321(4)	\$ 1,321	\$ 631(4)	\$ 1,262	
American Life Insurance Company	\$ 168(5)	\$ 661	\$ 661(5)	\$ (6)	\$ 511(5)	

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

MetLife Insurance Company of Connecticut	\$ 504	\$ 517	\$ 517	\$ 330	\$ 659
Metropolitan Property and Casualty Insurance Company	\$	\$ 30	\$	\$ 260	\$
Metropolitan Tower Life Insurance Company	\$ 82	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ 569(7)	\$ 93
MetLife Investors Insurance Company	\$ 18	\$	\$	\$	\$
Delaware American Life Insurance Company	\$ 12	\$	\$	\$	\$

- (1) Reflects dividend amounts that may be paid during 2012 without prior regulatory approval. However, because dividend tests may be based on dividends previously paid over rolling 12-month periods, if paid before a specified date during 2012, some or all of such dividends may require regulatory approval.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

- (2) All amounts paid, including those requiring regulatory approval.
- (3) Reflects dividend amounts that could have been paid during the relevant year without prior regulatory approval.
- (4) Includes securities transferred to MetLife, Inc. of \$170 million and \$399 million during the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.
- (5) Reflects approximate dividend amounts permitted to be paid without prior regulatory approval.
- (6) Reflects the respective dividends paid since the Acquisition Date. See Note 2.
- (7) Includes shares of an affiliate distributed to MetLife, Inc. as an in-kind dividend of \$475 million.

Under New York State Insurance Law, MLIC is permitted, without prior insurance regulatory clearance, to pay stockholder dividends to MetLife, Inc. as long as the aggregate amount of all such dividends in any calendar year does not exceed the lesser of: (i) 10% of its surplus to policyholders as of the end of the immediately preceding calendar year; or (ii) its statutory net gain from operations for the immediately preceding calendar year (excluding realized capital gains). MLIC will be permitted to pay a dividend to MetLife, Inc. in excess of the lesser of such two amounts only if it files notice of its intention to declare such a dividend and the amount thereof with the Superintendent and the Superintendent does not disapprove the dividend within 30 days of its filing. Under New York State Insurance Law, the Superintendent has broad discretion in determining whether the financial condition of a stock life insurance company would support the payment of such dividends to its shareholders.

Under Delaware State Insurance Law, each of American Life, DelAm and MTL is permitted, without prior insurance regulatory clearance, to pay a stockholder dividend to MetLife, Inc. as long as the amount of the dividend when aggregated with all other dividends in the preceding 12 months does not exceed the greater of: (i) 10% of its surplus to policyholders as of the end of the immediately preceding calendar year; or (ii) its statutory net gain from operations for the immediately preceding calendar year (excluding realized capital gains). Each of American Life, DelAm and MTL will be permitted to pay a dividend to MetLife, Inc. in excess of the greater of such two amounts only if it files notice of the declaration of such a dividend and the amount thereof with the Delaware Commissioner of Insurance (the Delaware Commissioner) and the Delaware Commissioner either approves the distribution of the dividend or does not disapprove the distribution within 30 days of its filing. In addition, any dividend that exceeds earned surplus (defined as unassigned funds) as of the last filed annual statutory statement requires insurance regulatory approval. Under Delaware State Insurance Law, the Delaware Commissioner has broad discretion in determining whether the financial condition of a stock life insurance company would support the payment of such dividends to its shareholders.

Under Connecticut State Insurance Law, MICC is permitted, without prior insurance regulatory clearance, to pay stockholder dividends to its stockholders as long as the amount of such dividends, when aggregated with all other dividends in the preceding 12 months, does not exceed the greater of: (i) 10% of its surplus to policyholders as of the end of the immediately preceding calendar year; or (ii) its statutory net gain from operations for the immediately preceding calendar year. MICC will be permitted to pay a dividend in excess of the greater of such two amounts only if it files notice of its declaration of such a dividend and the amount thereof with the Connecticut Commissioner of Insurance (the Connecticut Commissioner) and the Connecticut Commissioner does not disapprove the payment within 30 days after notice. In addition, any dividend that exceeds earned surplus (unassigned funds, reduced by 25% of unrealized appreciation in value or revaluation of assets or unrealized profits on investments) as of the last filed annual statutory statement requires insurance regulatory

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

approval. Under Connecticut State Insurance Law, the Connecticut Commissioner has broad discretion in determining whether the financial condition of a stock life insurance company would support the payment of such dividends to its shareholders.

Under Rhode Island State Insurance Law, MPC is permitted, without prior insurance regulatory clearance, to pay a stockholder dividend to MetLife, Inc. as long as the aggregate amount of all such dividends in any twelve-month period does not exceed the lesser of: (i) 10% of its surplus to policyholders as of the end of the immediately preceding calendar year; or (ii) net income, not including realized capital gains, for the immediately preceding calendar year, which may include carry forward net income from the second and third preceding calendar years excluding realized capital gains and less dividends paid in the second and immediately preceding calendar years. MPC will be permitted to pay a dividend to MetLife, Inc. in excess of the lesser of such two amounts only if it files notice of its intention to declare such a dividend and the amount thereof with the Rhode Island Commissioner of Insurance (the Rhode Island Commissioner) and the Rhode Island Commissioner does not disapprove the distribution within 30 days of its filing. Under Rhode Island State Insurance Code, the Rhode Island Commissioner has broad discretion in determining whether the financial condition of a stock property and casualty insurance company would support the payment of such dividends to its shareholders.

Under Missouri State Insurance Law, MetLife Investors Insurance Company (MLIIC) is permitted, without prior insurance regulatory clearance, to pay a stockholder dividend to its parent as long as the amount of the dividend when aggregated with all other dividends in the preceding 12 months does not exceed the greater of: (i) 10% of its surplus to policyholders as of the end of the immediately preceding calendar year; or (ii) its statutory net gain from operations for the immediately preceding calendar year (excluding net realized capital gains). MLIIC will be permitted to pay a cash dividend to its parent in excess of the greater of such two amounts only if it files notice of the declaration of such a dividend and the amount thereof with the Missouri Commissioner of Insurance (the Missouri Commissioner) and the Missouri Commissioner does not disapprove the distribution within 30 days of its filing. In addition, any dividend that exceeds earned surplus (defined as unassigned funds) as of the last filed annual statutory statement requires insurance regulatory approval. Under Missouri State Insurance Law, the Missouri Commissioner has broad discretion in determining whether the financial condition of a stock life insurance company would support the payment of such dividends to its shareholders.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)*****Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)***

The following table sets forth the balance and changes in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) including reclassification adjustments required for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 in other comprehensive income (loss) that are included as part of net income for the current year that have been reported as a part of other comprehensive income (loss) in the current or prior year:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Holding gains (losses) on investments arising during the year	\$ 13,945	\$ 10,092	\$ 18,548
Income tax effect of holding gains (losses)	(4,783)	(3,516)	(6,243)
Reclassification adjustments for recognized holding (gains) losses included in current year income	755	(733)	1,464
Income tax effect	(260)	255	(493)
Unrealized investment loss of subsidiary at the date of disposal	(105)		
Income tax on unrealized investment loss of subsidiary at the date of disposal	37		
Allocation of holding (gains) losses on investments relating to other policyholder amounts	(6,339)	(2,813)	(2,979)
Income tax effect of allocation of holding (gains) losses to other policyholder amounts	2,174	980	1,002
Allocation of holding (gains) losses on investments relating to other policyholder amounts of subsidiary at the date of disposal	93		
Income tax effect of allocation of holding (gains) losses on investments relating to other policyholder amounts of subsidiary at the date of disposal	(33)		
Net unrealized investment gains (losses), net of income tax	5,484	4,265	11,299
Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of income tax	(135)	(350)	63
Foreign currency translation adjustments of subsidiary at the date of disposal	(7)		
Defined benefit plans adjustment, net of income tax	(494)	96	(102)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	4,848	4,011	11,260
Other comprehensive (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	38	(5)	11
Other comprehensive income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc., excluding cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	4,886	4,006	11,271
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of income tax of \$0, \$27 million and \$40 million (see Note 1)		52	(76)
Other comprehensive income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ 4,886	\$ 4,058	\$ 11,195

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****19. Other Expenses**

Information on other expenses was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010 (In millions)	2009
Compensation	\$ 5,287	\$ 3,575	\$ 3,394
Pension, postretirement & post employment benefit costs	463	380	452
Commissions	6,378	3,607	3,393
Volume-related costs	335	379	407
Interest credited to bank deposits	95	137	163
Capitalization of DAC	(6,858)	(3,299)	(2,976)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	5,391	2,843	1,289
Amortization of negative VOBA	(697)	(64)	
Interest expense on debt and debt issuance costs	1,629	1,550	1,044
Premium taxes, licenses & fees	633	513	526
Professional services	1,597	1,103	901
Rent, net of sublease income	426	305	383
Other	3,051	1,735	1,545
Total other expenses	\$ 17,730	\$ 12,764	\$ 10,521

Capitalization of DAC and Amortization of DAC and VOBA

See Note 6 for DAC and VOBA by segment and a roll forward of each including impacts of capitalization and amortization. See also Note 10 for a description of the DAC amortization impact associated with the closed block.

Interest Expense on Debt and Debt Issuance Costs

See Notes 11, 12, 13 and 14 for attribution of interest expense by debt issuance. Interest expense on debt and debt issuance costs includes interest expense related to CSEs. See Note 3.

Lease Impairments

See Note 16 for description of lease impairments included within other expenses.

Costs Related to the Acquisition***Transaction and Integration-Related Expenses***

The Company incurred transaction costs of \$3 million and \$100 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Transaction costs represent costs directly related to effecting the Acquisition and primarily include banking and legal expenses. Such costs have been expensed as incurred within Corporate & Other.

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Integration-related costs were \$362 million and \$176 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Integration-related costs represent costs directly related to integrating ALICO, including expenses for consulting, rebranding and the integration of information systems. Such costs have been expensed as incurred and as the integration of ALICO is an enterprise-wide initiative, these expenses are reported within Corporate & Other.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Restructuring Charges*

As part of the integration of ALICO's operations, management initiated restructuring plans focused on increasing productivity and improving the efficiency of the Company's operations. See Note 2. Estimated restructuring charges may change as management continues to execute its restructuring plans. Management anticipates further restructuring charges, including severance, contract termination costs and other associated costs through the year ended December 31, 2013. However, such restructuring plans are not sufficiently developed to enable management to make an estimate of such restructuring charges at December 31, 2011.

Restructuring charges associated with restructuring plans related to the Acquisition are included in other expenses within Corporate & Other. Such restructuring charges included:

	Years Ended December 31,	
	2011	2010
	(In millions)	
Balance at January 1,	\$ 10	\$ 10
Restructuring charges	46	10
Cash payments	(43)	
Balance at December 31,	\$ 13	\$ 10
Restructuring charges incurred in current period	\$ 46	\$ 10
Total restructuring charges incurred since inception of restructuring plans	\$ 56	\$ 10

Other Restructuring Charges

In September 2008, the Company began an enterprise-wide cost reduction and revenue enhancement initiative which was fully implemented by December 31, 2011. This initiative was focused on reducing complexity, leveraging scale, increasing productivity and improving the effectiveness of the Company's operations, as well as providing a foundation for future growth.

These restructuring charges are included in other expenses. As the expenses relate to an enterprise-wide initiative, they are reported within Corporate & Other. Restructuring charges associated with this enterprise-wide initiative were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Balance at January 1,	\$ 7	\$ 36	\$ 86
Severance charges	2	17	84
Change in severance charge estimates	(1)	(1)	(8)
Cash payments	(8)	(45)	(126)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Balance at December 31,	\$	\$ 7	\$ 36
Restructuring charges incurred in current period	\$ 1	\$ 16	\$ 76
Total restructuring charges incurred since inception of initiative	\$ 194	\$ 193	\$ 177

Changes in severance charge estimates were due to changes in estimates for variable incentive compensation, COBRA benefits, employee outplacement services and for employees whose severance status changed.

In addition to the above charges, the Company has recognized lease charges of \$28 million associated with the consolidation of office space since the inception of the initiative.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****20. Earnings Per Common Share**

The following table presents the weighted average shares used in calculating basic earnings per common share and those used in calculating diluted earnings per common share for each income category presented below:

	2011	Years Ended December 31, 2010	2009
	(In millions, except share and per share data)		
Weighted Average Shares:			
Weighted average common stock outstanding for basic earnings per common share (1)	1,059,580,442	882,436,532	818,462,150
Incremental common shares from assumed:			
Stock purchase contracts underlying common equity units (2)	1,641,444		
Exercise or issuance of stock-based awards (3)	6,872,474	7,131,346	
Weighted average common stock outstanding for diluted earnings per common share (1)	1,068,094,360	889,567,878	818,462,150
Income (Loss) from Continuing Operations:			
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	\$ 6,951	\$ 2,747	\$ (2,336)
Less: Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, attributable to noncontrolling interests	(10)	(4)	(32)
Less: Preferred stock dividends	122	122	122
Preferred stock redemption premium	146		
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 6,693	\$ 2,629	\$ (2,426)
Basic	\$ 6.32	\$ 2.98	\$ (2.96)
Diluted	\$ 6.27	\$ 2.96	\$ (2.96)
Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operations:			
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	\$ 20	\$ 39	\$ 58
Less: Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax, attributable to noncontrolling interests			
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax, available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 20	\$ 39	\$ 58
Basic	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.07
Diluted	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.07
Net Income (Loss):			
Net income (loss)	\$ 6,971	\$ 2,786	\$ (2,278)
Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	(10)	(4)	(32)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Less: Preferred stock dividends		122		122		122
Preferred stock redemption premium		146				
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc. s common shareholders	\$	6,713	\$	2,668	\$	(2,368)
Basic	\$	6.34	\$	3.02	\$	(2.89)
Diluted	\$	6.29	\$	3.00	\$	(2.89)

416

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

- (1) For purposes of the earnings per common share calculation, for the year ended December 31, 2010, the convertible preferred stock was assumed converted into shares of common stock for both basic and diluted weighted average shares. See Note 18.

- (2) See Note 14 for a description of the Company's common equity units.

- (3) For the year ended December 31, 2009, 4,213,700 shares related to the assumed exercise or issuance of stock-based awards have been excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per common share as these assumed shares are anti-dilutive.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****21. Quarterly Results of Operations (Unaudited)**

The unaudited quarterly results of operations for 2011 and 2010 are summarized in the table below:

	March 31,	Three Months Ended		December 31,
		June 30,	September 30,	
		(In millions, except per share data)		
2011				
Total revenues	\$ 15,911	\$ 17,148	\$ 20,457	\$ 16,746
Total expenses	\$ 14,429	\$ 15,430	\$ 15,152	\$ 15,225
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	\$ 1,054	\$ 1,199	\$ 3,571	\$ 1,127
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	\$ (41)	\$ 31	\$ 5	\$ 25
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,013	\$ 1,230	\$ 3,576	\$ 1,152
Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	\$ 7	\$ (7)	\$ (6)	\$ (4)
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ 1,006	\$ 1,237	\$ 3,582	\$ 1,156
Less: Preferred stock dividends	\$ 30	\$ 31	\$ 30	\$ 31
Preferred stock redemption premium	\$ 146	\$	\$	\$
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 830	\$ 1,206	\$ 3,552	\$ 1,125
Basic earnings per common share:				
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 0.82	\$ 1.11	\$ 3.35	\$ 1.04
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax, attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ (0.04)	\$ 0.03	\$	\$ 0.02
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ 0.95	\$ 1.17	\$ 3.38	\$ 1.09
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 0.78	\$ 1.14	\$ 3.35	\$ 1.06
Diluted earnings per common share:				
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 0.82	\$ 1.10	\$ 3.33	\$ 1.04
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax, attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ (0.04)	\$ 0.03	\$	\$ 0.02
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ 0.94	\$ 1.16	\$ 3.36	\$ 1.08
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 0.78	\$ 1.13	\$ 3.33	\$ 1.06
2010				
Total revenues	\$ 13,098	\$ 14,139	\$ 12,338	\$ 12,690
Total expenses	\$ 11,915	\$ 11,775	\$ 11,953	\$ 12,710
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	\$ 828	\$ 1,536	\$ 317	\$ 66
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	\$ 6	\$ 11	\$ 3	\$ 19
Net income (loss)	\$ 834	\$ 1,547	\$ 320	\$ 85
Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	\$ (1)	\$ (10)	\$ 4	\$ 3
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ 835	\$ 1,557	\$ 316	\$ 82
Less: Preferred stock dividends	\$ 30	\$ 31	\$ 30	\$ 31
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 805	\$ 1,526	\$ 286	\$ 51
Basic earnings per common share:				
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 0.97	\$ 1.84	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.03
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax, attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$	\$ 0.02
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ 1.02	\$ 1.90	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.08

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 0.98	\$ 1.85	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.05
Diluted earnings per common share:				
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 0.96	\$ 1.83	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.03
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax, attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$	\$ 0.02
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	\$ 1.01	\$ 1.87	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.08
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	\$ 0.97	\$ 1.84	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.05

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****22. Business Segment Information**

MetLife is organized into six segments: Insurance Products, Retirement Products, Corporate Benefit Funding and Auto & Home (collectively, U.S. Business), and Japan and Other International Regions (collectively, International). The assets, liabilities and operating results relating to the Acquisition are included in the Japan and Other International Regions segments. Prior year results have been adjusted to conform to the current year presentation. In addition, the Company reports certain of its results of operations in Corporate & Other, which includes MetLife Bank and other business activities. On November 21, 2011, MetLife, Inc. announced that it will be reorganizing its business into three broad geographic regions: The Americas; Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA); and Asia, and creating a global employee benefits business to better reflect its global reach. While the Company has initiated certain changes in response to this announcement, management continued to evaluate the performance of the operating segments under the existing segment structure as of December 31, 2011.

Insurance Products offers a broad range of protection products and services to individuals and corporations, as well as other institutions and their respective employees, and is organized into three distinct businesses: Group Life, Individual Life and Non-Medical Health. Group Life insurance products and services include variable life, universal life and term life products. Individual Life insurance products and services include variable life, universal life, term life and whole life products. Non-Medical Health products and services include dental insurance, group short- and long-term disability, individual disability income, LTC, critical illness and accidental death & dismemberment coverages. Retirement Products offers a variety of variable and fixed annuities. Corporate Benefit Funding offers pension risk solutions, structured settlements, stable value and investment products and other benefit funding products. Auto & Home provides personal lines property and casualty insurance, including private passenger automobile, homeowners and personal excess liability insurance.

Japan life insurance products include whole life, term life, variable life and universal life products. Japan also provides accident and health insurance, fixed and variable annuities and endowment products. These products are offered to both individuals and groups. Other International Regions provides life insurance, accident and health insurance, credit life insurance, annuities, endowment and retirement & savings products to both individuals and groups.

Corporate & Other contains the excess capital not allocated to the segments, external integration costs, internal resource costs for associates committed to acquisitions and various start-up and run-off entities. Additionally, Corporate & Other includes interest expense related to the majority of the Company's outstanding debt, expenses associated with certain legal proceedings, the financial results of MetLife Bank (see Note 2) and income tax audit issues. Corporate & Other also includes the elimination of intersegment amounts, which generally relate to intersegment loans, which bear interest rates commensurate with related borrowings.

Operating earnings is the measure of segment profit or loss the Company uses to evaluate segment performance and allocate resources. Consistent with GAAP accounting guidance for segment reporting, operating earnings is the Company's measure of segment performance and is reported below. Operating earnings should not be viewed as a substitute for GAAP income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax. The Company believes the presentation of operating earnings as the Company measures it for management purposes enhances the understanding of its performance by highlighting the results of operations and the underlying profitability drivers of the business.

Operating earnings is defined as operating revenues less operating expenses, both net of income tax.

Operating revenues and operating expenses exclude results of discontinued operations and other businesses that have been or will be sold or exited by MetLife, Inc. (Divested Businesses). Operating revenues also excludes net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses).

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

The following additional adjustments are made to GAAP revenues, in the line items indicated, in calculating operating revenues:

Universal life and investment-type product policy fees excludes the amortization of unearned revenue related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses) and certain variable annuity GMIB fees (GMIB Fees);

Net investment income: (i) includes amounts for scheduled periodic settlement payments and amortization of premium on derivatives that are hedges of investments but do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment, (ii) includes income from discontinued real estate operations, (iii) excludes post-tax operating earnings adjustments relating to insurance joint ventures accounted for under the equity method, (iv) excludes certain amounts related to contractholder-directed unit-linked investments, and (v) excludes certain amounts related to securitization entities that are VIEs consolidated under GAAP; and

Other revenues are adjusted for settlements of foreign currency earnings hedges.

The following additional adjustments are made to GAAP expenses, in the line items indicated, in calculating operating expenses:

Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends excludes: (i) changes in the policyholder dividend obligation related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses), (ii) inflation-indexed benefit adjustments associated with contracts backed by inflation-indexed investments and amounts associated with periodic crediting rate adjustments based on the total return of a contractually referenced pool of assets, (iii) benefits and hedging costs related to GMIBs (GMIB Costs), and (iv) market value adjustments associated with surrenders or terminations of contracts (Market Value Adjustments);

Interest credited to policyholder account balances includes adjustments for scheduled periodic settlement payments and amortization of premium on derivatives that are hedges of PABs but do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment and excludes amounts related to net investment income earned on contractholder-directed unit-linked investments;

Amortization of DAC and VOBA excludes amounts related to: (i) net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses), (ii) GMIB Fees and GMIB Costs, and (iii) Market Value Adjustments;

Amortization of negative VOBA excludes amounts related to Market Value Adjustments;

Interest expense on debt excludes certain amounts related to securitization entities that are VIEs consolidated under GAAP; and

Other expenses excludes costs related to: (i) noncontrolling interests, (ii) implementation of new insurance regulatory requirements, and (iii) business combinations.

In 2011, management modified its definition of operating earnings to exclude the impacts of Divested Businesses, which includes certain operations of MetLife Bank and the Caribbean Business, as these results are not relevant to understanding the Company's ongoing operating results. Consequently, prior years' results for Corporate & Other and total consolidated operating earnings have been decreased by \$111 million,

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

net of \$66 million of income tax, and \$211 million, net of \$139 million of income tax, for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

In addition, in 2011, management modified its definition of operating earnings to exclude impacts related to certain variable annuity guarantees and Market Value Adjustments to better conform to the way it manages and assesses its business. Accordingly, such results are no longer reported in operating earnings. Consequently, prior years' results for Retirement Products and total consolidated operating earnings have been increased by \$64 million, net of \$34 million of income tax, and \$90 million, net of \$49 million of income tax, for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Set forth in the tables below is certain financial information with respect to the Company's segments, as well as Corporate & Other for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 and at December 31, 2011 and 2010. The accounting policies of the segments are the same as those of the Company, except for operating earnings adjustments as defined above, the method of capital allocation and the accounting for gains (losses) from intercompany sales, which are eliminated in consolidation.

Economic capital is an internally developed risk capital model, the purpose of which is to measure the risk in the business and to provide a basis upon which capital is deployed. The economic capital model accounts for the unique and specific nature of the risks inherent in the Company's business.

Effective January 1, 2011, the Company updated its economic capital model to align segment allocated equity with emerging standards and consistent risk principles. Such changes to the Company's economic capital model are applied prospectively. Segment net investment income is also credited or charged based on the level of allocated equity; however, changes in allocated equity do not impact the Company's consolidated net investment income, operating earnings or income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

Year Ended December 31, 2010	U.S. Business				Operating Earnings				International		Total Adjustments	Total Consolidated
	Insurance Products	Retirement Products	Corporate Benefit Funding	Auto & Home	Total	Japan	Other International Regions	Total	Corporate & Other	Total		
Revenues												
Premiums	\$ 17,200	\$ 875	\$ 1,938	\$ 2,923	\$ 22,936	\$ 499	\$ 3,625	\$ 4,124	\$ 11	\$ 27,071	\$	\$ 27,071
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	2,247	2,024	226		4,497	55	1,265	1,320		5,817	211	6,028
Net investment income	6,068	3,395	4,954	209	14,626	145	1,466	1,611	643	16,880	631	17,511
Other revenues	761	220	246	22	1,249	7	28	35	391	1,675	653	2,328
Net investment gains (losses)											(408)	(408)
Net derivative gains (losses)											(265)	(265)
Total revenues	26,276	6,514	7,364	3,154	43,308	706	6,384	7,090	1,045	51,443	822	52,265
Expenses												
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	19,075	1,487	4,041	2,021	26,624	309	3,053	3,362	(14)	29,972	698	30,670
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	963	1,612	1,445		4,020	123	554	677		4,697	222	4,919
Capitalization of DAC	(841)	(1,067)	(19)	(448)	(2,375)	(149)	(775)	(924)		(3,299)		(3,299)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	966	808	16	439	2,229	82	490	572	1	2,802	41	2,843
Amortization of negative VOBA						(49)	(8)	(57)		(57)	(7)	(64)
Interest expense on debt	1	3	6		10		3	3	1,126	1,139	411	1,550
Other expenses	4,080	2,437	460	769	7,746	244	2,233	2,477	467	10,690	1,044	11,734
Total expenses	24,244	5,280	5,949	2,781	38,254	560	5,550	6,110	1,580	45,944	2,409	48,353
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	711	431	495	73	1,710	52	148	200	(366)	1,544	(379)	1,165
Operating earnings	\$ 1,321	\$ 803	\$ 920	\$ 300	\$ 3,344	\$ 94	\$ 686	\$ 780	\$ (169)	3,955		
Adjustments to:												
Total revenues											822	
Total expenses											(2,409)	
Provision for income tax (expense) benefit											379	
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax										\$ 2,747		\$ 2,747

At December 31, 2010	U.S. Business				International				Total	Total
	Insurance Products	Retirement Products	Corporate Benefit Funding	Auto & Home	Total	Japan	Other International Regions	Corporate & Other		
Total assets	\$ 141,366	\$ 177,045	\$ 172,929	\$ 5,541	\$ 496,881	\$ 87,416	\$ 77,579	\$ 164,995	\$ 69,030	\$ 730,906
Separate account assets	\$ 9,567	\$ 107,335	\$ 56,571	\$	\$ 173,473	\$	\$ 9,665	\$ 9,665	\$	\$ 183,138
Separate account liabilities	\$ 9,567	\$ 107,335	\$ 56,571	\$	\$ 173,473	\$	\$ 9,665	\$ 9,665	\$	\$ 183,138

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Year Ended December 31, 2009	Operating Earnings										Total Adjustments	Total Consolidated
	U.S. Business				Total	International			Corporate & Other	Total		
	Insurance Products	Retirement Products	Benefit Funding	Auto & Home		Japan	Other Regions	Total				
	Products	Products	Funding	Home	Total	Japan	Other Regions	Total	Other	Total		
Revenues												
Premiums	\$ 17,168	\$ 920	\$ 2,264	\$ 2,902	\$ 23,254	\$ 2,884	\$ 2,884	\$ 19	\$ 26,157	\$	\$ 26,157	
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	2,281	1,543	176		4,000	1,055	1,055		5,055	142	5,197	
Net investment income	5,614	3,098	4,527	180	13,419	1,111	1,111	70	14,600	141	14,741	
Other revenues	779	173	238	33	1,223	14	14	236	1,473	856	2,329	
Net investment gains (losses)										(2,901)	(2,901)	
Net derivative gains (losses)										(4,866)	(4,866)	
Total revenues	25,842	5,734	7,205	3,115	41,896	5,064	5,064	325	47,285	(6,628)	40,657	
Expenses												
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	19,111	1,486	4,245	1,932	26,774	2,326	2,326	4	29,104	548	29,652	
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	952	1,688	1,632		4,272	577	577		4,849	(4)	4,845	
Capitalization of DAC	(873)	(1,067)	(14)	(435)	(2,389)	(587)	(587)		(2,976)		(2,976)	
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	725	610	15	436	1,786	397	397	3	2,186	(897)	1,289	
Amortization of negative VOBA												
Interest expense on debt	6		3		9	8	8	1,027	1,044		1,044	
Other expenses	4,206	2,403	456	764	7,829	1,737	1,737	586	10,152	1,012	11,164	
Total expenses	24,127	5,120	6,337	2,697	38,281	4,458	4,458	1,620	44,359	659	45,018	
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	573	216	288	96	1,173	155	155	(756)	572	(2,597)	(2,025)	
Operating earnings	\$ 1,142	\$ 398	\$ 580	\$ 322	\$ 2,442	\$ 451	\$ 451	\$ (539)	2,354			
Adjustments to:												
Total revenues									(6,628)			
Total expenses									(659)			
Provision for income tax (expense) benefit									2,597			
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax									\$ (2,336)		\$ (2,336)	

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Net investment income is based upon the actual results of each segment's specifically identifiable asset portfolio adjusted for allocated equity. Other costs are allocated to each of the segments based upon: (i) a review of the nature of such costs; (ii) time studies analyzing the amount of employee compensation costs incurred by each segment; and (iii) cost estimates included in the Company's product pricing.

Operating revenues derived from any customer did not exceed 10% of consolidated operating revenues for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009. Operating revenues from U.S. operations were \$44.7 billion, \$43.7 billion and \$41.4 billion for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, which represented 68%, 85% and 88%, respectively, of consolidated operating revenues.

23. Discontinued Operations***Real Estate***

The Company actively manages its real estate portfolio with the objective of maximizing earnings through selective acquisitions and dispositions. Income related to real estate classified as held-for-sale or sold is presented in discontinued operations. These assets are carried at the lower of depreciated cost or estimated fair value less expected disposition costs. Income from discontinued real estate operations, net of income tax, was \$64 million, \$11 million and \$19 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

The carrying value of real estate related to discontinued operations was \$1 million and \$184 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Operations***MetLife Taiwan***

During the first quarter of 2011, the Company entered into a definitive agreement to sell its wholly-owned subsidiary, MetLife Taiwan, to a third party, and the sale occurred in November 2011. See Note 2. The following tables present the amounts related to the operations and financial position of MetLife Taiwan that have been reflected as discontinued operations in the consolidated statements of operations and as assets and liabilities held-for-sale in the consolidated balance sheet:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2011	2010	2009
	(In millions)		
Total revenues	\$ 379	\$ 440	\$ 386
Total expenses	363	406	373
Income (loss) before provision for income tax	16	34	13
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	(4)	12	4
Income (loss) from operations of discontinued operations, net of income tax	20	22	9
Gain (loss) on disposal, net of income tax	(64)		
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	\$ (44)	\$ 22	\$ 9

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

	December 31, 2010
	(In millions)
Total assets held-for-sale	\$ 3,331
Total liabilities held-for-sale	\$ 3,043
Major classes of assets and liabilities included above:	
Total investments	\$ 2,726
Total future policy benefits	\$ 2,461

425

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)***Texas Life Insurance Company*

During the fourth quarter of 2008, MetLife, Inc. entered into an agreement to sell its wholly-owned subsidiary, Cova, the parent company of Texas Life, to a third-party and the sale occurred in March 2009. See Note 2. The following table presents the amounts related to the operations of Cova that have been reflected as discontinued operations in the consolidated statements of operations:

	Year Ended December 31, 2009 (In millions)
Total revenues	\$ 25
Total expenses	19
Income before provision for income tax	6
Provision for income tax expense	2
Income from operations of discontinued operations, net of income tax	4
Gain on disposal, net of income tax	28
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	\$ 32

24. Subsequent Events*Dividends*

On February 17, 2012, MetLife, Inc. announced dividends of \$0.2527777 per share, for a total of \$6 million, on its Series A preferred shares, and \$0.4062500 per share, for a total of \$24 million, on its Series B preferred shares, subject to the final confirmation that it has met the financial tests specified in the Series A and Series B preferred shares, which the Company anticipates will be made on or about March 5, 2012. Both dividends will be payable March 15, 2012 to shareholders of record as of February 29, 2012.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.**

Schedule Consolidated Summary of Investments

Schedule I**Consolidated Summary of Investments****Other Than Investments in Related Parties**

December 31, 2011

(In millions)

Types of Investments	Cost or Amortized Cost (1)	Estimated Fair Value	Amount at Which Shown on Balance Sheet
Fixed maturity securities:			
Bonds:			
Foreign government securities	\$ 49,840	\$ 52,536	\$ 52,536
U.S. Treasury and agency securities	34,132	40,012	40,012
Public utilities	11,959	13,590	13,590
State and political subdivision securities	11,975	13,235	13,235
All other corporate bonds	145,342	153,587	153,587
Total bonds	253,248	272,960	272,960
Mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities	73,675	74,685	74,685
Redeemable preferred stock	2,888	2,626	2,626
Other fixed maturity securities			
Total fixed maturity securities	329,811	350,271	350,271
Trading and other securities	19,632	18,268	18,268
Equity securities:			
Common stock:			
Industrial, miscellaneous and all other	2,120	2,105	2,105
Banks, trust and insurance companies	99	100	100
Public utilities			
Non-redeemable preferred stock	989	818	818
Total equity securities	3,208	3,023	3,023
Mortgage loans:			
Held-for-investment	56,915		56,915
Held-for-sale	15,178		15,178
Mortgage loans, net	72,093		72,093
Policy loans	11,892		11,892

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Real estate and real estate joint ventures	8,299	8,299
Real estate acquired in satisfaction of debt	264	264
Other limited partnership interests	6,378	6,378
Short-term investments	17,310	17,310
Other invested assets	23,628	23,628
Total investments	\$ 492,515	\$ 511,426

- (1) The Company's trading and other securities portfolio is mainly comprised of fixed maturity and equity securities, including mutual funds and, to a lesser extent, short-term investments and cash and cash equivalents. Cost or amortized cost for fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans held-for-investment represents original cost reduced by repayments, valuation allowances and impairments from other-than-temporary declines in estimated fair value that are charged to earnings and adjusted for amortization of premiums or discounts; for equity securities, cost represents original cost reduced by impairments from other-than-temporary declines in estimated fair value; for real estate, cost represents original cost reduced by impairments and adjusted for valuation allowances and depreciation; for real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests cost represents original cost reduced for other-than-temporary impairments or original cost adjusted for equity in earnings and distributions.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Condensed Financial Information****Schedule II****Condensed Financial Information****(Parent Company Only)****December 31, 2011 and 2010****(In millions, except share and per share data)**

	2011	2010
Condensed Balance Sheets		
Assets		
Investments:		
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale, at estimated fair value (amortized cost: \$4,350 and \$2,691, respectively)	\$ 4,419	\$ 2,740
Equity securities available-for-sale, at estimated fair value (cost: \$17 and \$18, respectively)	13	15
Short-term investments, principally at estimated fair value	667	33
Other invested assets, at estimated fair value	275	114
Total investments	5,374	2,902
Cash and cash equivalents	309	624
Accrued investment income	44	42
Investment in subsidiaries	76,559	65,832
Loans to subsidiaries		1,275
Receivables from subsidiaries	165	73
Other assets	1,201	1,320
Total assets	\$ 83,652	\$ 72,068
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Liabilities		
Payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions	\$ 1,180	\$ 660
Long-term debt - unaffiliated	15,666	16,258
Long-term debt - affiliated	500	665
Collateral financing arrangements	2,797	2,797
Junior subordinated debt securities	1,748	1,748
Other liabilities	1,964	1,315
Total liabilities	23,855	23,443
Stockholders' Equity		
Preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share; 200,000,000 shares authorized:		
Preferred stock, 84,000,000 shares issued and outstanding; \$2,100 aggregate liquidation preference	1	1
Convertible preferred stock, 0 and 6,857,000 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively		
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share; 3,000,000,000 shares authorized; 1,061,150,915 and 989,031,704 shares issued at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively; 1,057,957,028 and 985,837,817 shares outstanding at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively	11	10
Additional paid-in capital	26,782	26,423
Retained earnings	27,289	21,363
Treasury stock, at cost; 3,193,887 shares at December 31, 2011 and 2010	(172)	(172)

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	5,886	1,000
Total stockholders' equity	59,797	48,625
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 83,652	\$ 72,068

See accompanying notes to the condensed financial information.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Schedule II**Condensed Financial Information (Continued)****(Parent Company Only)****For the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009****(In millions)**

	2011	2010	2009
Condensed Statements of Operations			
Equity in earnings of subsidiaries	\$ 7,537	\$ 3,441	\$ (1,811)
Net investment income	121	144	153
Other income	155	144	155
Net investment gains (losses):			
Other-than-temporary impairments on fixed maturity securities			(23)
Other net investment gains (losses)	(146)	31	(85)
Total net investment gains (losses)	(146)	31	(108)
Net derivative gains (losses)	82	(81)	199
Interest expense	(1,007)	(882)	(776)
Other expenses	(149)	(319)	(202)
Income (loss) before provision for income tax	6,593	2,478	(2,390)
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	(388)	(312)	(144)
Net income (loss)	6,981	2,790	(2,246)
Less: Preferred stock dividends	122	122	122
Preferred stock redemption premium	146		
Net income (loss) available to common shareholders	\$ 6,713	\$ 2,668	\$ (2,368)

See accompanying notes to the condensed financial information.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Schedule II****Condensed Financial Information (Continued)****(Parent Company Only)****For the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009****(In millions)**

	2011	2010	2009
Condensed Statements of Cash Flows			
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net income (loss)	\$ 6,981	\$ 2,790	\$ (2,246)
Earnings of subsidiaries	(7,537)	(3,441)	1,811
Dividends from subsidiaries	2,578	916	515
Other, net	697	376	(458)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	2,719	641	(378)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Sales of fixed maturity securities	3,265	7,422	1,005
Purchases of fixed maturity securities	(4,787)	(6,542)	(3,002)
Sales of equity securities	1	5	
Purchases of equity securities			(3)
Cash received in connection with freestanding derivatives	257	200	239
Cash paid in connection with freestanding derivatives	(276)	(450)	(496)
Sales of businesses	180		130
Disposal of subsidiary			(19)
Purchases of businesses		(7,196)	
Expense paid on behalf of subsidiaries	(75)	(72)	(69)
Repayments of loans to subsidiaries	1,275	300	
Investment in preferred stock of subsidiary	(250)	(50)	(75)
Returns of capital from subsidiaries	591	54	
Capital contributions to subsidiaries	(1,439)	(374)	(876)
Net change in short-term investments	(620)	271	772
Other, net	(10)	(35)	186
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,888)	(6,467)	(2,208)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net change in payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions	520	233	84
Net change in change in short-term debt			(300)
Long-term debt issued		2,987	1,647
Long-term debt repaid	(750)		
Cash received in connection with collateral financing arrangements	100		775
Cash paid in connection with collateral financing arrangements	(63)		(400)
Junior subordinated debt securities issued			500
Debt issuance costs	(1)	(14)	(30)
Stock options exercised	88	5	8
Common stock issued, net of issuance costs	2,950	3,576	
Common stock issued to settle stock forward contracts			1,035
Redemption of convertible preferred stock	(2,805)		
Preferred stock redemption premium	(146)		

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Dividends on preferred stock	(122)	(122)	(122)
Dividends on common stock	(787)	(784)	(610)
Other, net	(130)	(110)	
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(1,146)	5,771	2,587
Change in cash and cash equivalents	(315)	(55)	1
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	624	679	678
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 309	\$ 624	\$ 679
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:			
Net cash paid (received) during the year for:			
Interest	\$ 997	\$ 808	\$ 704
Income tax	\$ (659)	\$ (474)	\$ 104

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Schedule II****Condensed Financial Information (Continued)****(Parent Company Only)****For the Years Ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009****(In millions)**

Non-cash transactions during the year:			
Business acquisitions:			
Assets acquired (1)	\$	\$ 125,728	\$
Liabilities assumed (1)		(109,306)	
Redeemable and non-redeemable noncontrolling interests assumed		(130)	
Net assets acquired		16,292	
Cash paid, excluding transaction costs of \$0, \$88 and \$0, respectively		(7,196)	
Other purchase price adjustments		98	
Securities issued	\$	\$ 9,194	\$
Remarketing of debt securities:			
Fixed maturity securities redeemed	\$	\$	\$ 32
Long-term debt issued	\$	\$	\$ 1,035
Junior subordinated debt securities redeemed	\$	\$	\$ 1,067
Issuance of collateral financing arrangements	\$	\$	\$ 105
Dividends from subsidiaries	\$ 170	\$ 874	\$
Returns of capital from subsidiaries	\$ 47	\$	\$
Capital contributions to subsidiaries	\$ 316	\$	\$ 105
Allocation of interest expense to subsidiary	\$ 29	\$ 30	\$ 44
Allocation of interest income to subsidiary	\$ 68	\$ 46	\$ 56
Issuance of loan to subsidiary via transfer of fixed maturity securities	\$	\$	\$ 300

(1) The 2010 amounts include measurement period adjustments described in Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Schedule II****Notes to the Condensed Financial Information****(Parent Company Only)****1. Basis of Presentation**

The condensed financial information of MetLife, Inc. (the Parent Company) should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements of MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries and the notes thereto (the Consolidated Financial Statements). These condensed unconsolidated financial statements reflect the results of operations, financial position and cash flows for MetLife, Inc. Investments in subsidiaries are accounted for using the equity method of accounting.

The preparation of these condensed unconsolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to adopt accounting policies and make certain estimates and assumptions. The most important of these estimates and assumptions relate to the fair value measurements, the accounting for goodwill and identifiable intangible assets and the provision for potential losses that may arise from litigation and regulatory proceedings and tax audits, which may affect the amounts reported in the condensed unconsolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

2. Acquisition

On November 1, 2010, MetLife, Inc. acquired all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of American Life Insurance Company (American Life) and Delaware American Life Insurance Company (DelAm) (collectively, ALICO). For further information on the \$16.4 billion purchase price including cash, common stock, convertible preferred stock and common equity units, as well as on the capital raised in anticipation of the acquisition, see Notes 2, 11, 14 and 18 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

3. Loans to Subsidiaries

MetLife, Inc. lends funds, as necessary, to its subsidiaries, some of which are regulated, to meet their capital requirements. Such loans are included in loans to subsidiaries and consisted of the following at:

Subsidiaries	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	December 31,	
			2011	2010
(In millions)				
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company	Six-month LIBOR + 1.80%	December 31, 2011	\$	\$ 775
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company	7.13%	December 15, 2032		400
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company	7.13%	January 15, 2033		100
Total			\$	\$ 1,275

On December 15, 2011, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MLIC) repaid in cash the \$400 million and \$100 million capital notes issued to MetLife, Inc. in December 2002.

In September and November 2011, American Life issued notes to MetLife, Inc. for \$100 million and \$270 million, respectively. American Life repaid both notes during the fourth quarter of 2011.

In December 2009, the \$700 million surplus note issued to MetLife, Inc. by MLIC was renewed and increased to \$775 million, extending the maturity to December 31, 2011 with an interest rate of six-month LIBOR + 1.80%. In April 2011, MLIC repaid in cash the \$775 million surplus note. The early redemption was approved by the New York Superintendent of Insurance.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Schedule II****Notes to the Condensed Financial Information (Continued)****(Parent Company Only)**

In December 2009, MLIC issued a surplus note to MetLife, Inc. for \$300 million maturing in 2011 with an interest rate of six-month LIBOR + 1.80%. MLIC received securities in exchange for the surplus note. On December 29, 2010, MLIC repaid the \$300 million surplus note to MetLife, Inc. in cash.

Interest income earned on loans to subsidiaries of \$40 million, \$63 million and \$50 million for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively, is included in net investment income.

Payments of interest and principal on surplus notes, which are subordinate to all other obligations of the issuing company, may be made only with the prior approval of the insurance department of the state of domicile.

4. Long-term and Short-term Debt**Long-term Debt**

Long-term debt outstanding was as follows:

		Interest Rates			December 31,	
	Range	Weighted Average	Maturity	2011	2010	
				(In millions)		
Senior notes unaffiliated	0.57%-7.72%	4.84 %	2012-2045	\$ 15,666	\$	16,258
Senior notes affiliated (1)	5.00%-6.82%	5.48 %	2011			165
Other affiliated debt	0.95%-1.07%	1.01 %	2015-2016	500		500
Total				\$ 16,166	\$	16,923

(1) Represents \$165 million of affiliated senior notes associated with bonds held by ALICO at December 31, 2010. Such bonds were sold to a third party in the second quarter of 2011.

The aggregate maturities of long-term debt at December 31, 2011 for the next five years and thereafter are \$797 million in 2012, \$749 million in 2013, \$1.4 billion in 2014, \$1.3 billion in 2015, \$1.5 billion in 2016 and \$10.5 billion thereafter.

Short-term Debt

There was no short-term debt outstanding at both December 31, 2011 and 2010. During the year ended December 31, 2009, the weighted average interest rate on short-term debt was 1.25%. During the year ended December 31, 2009, the average daily balance on short-term debt was \$5 million, and the average days outstanding was six days. There was no short-term debt activity in 2011 and 2010.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Schedule II****Notes to the Condensed Financial Information (Continued)****(Parent Company Only)****Interest Expense**

Interest expense was comprised of the following:

	2011	December 31, 2010 (In millions)	2009
Long-term debt unaffiliated	\$ 806	\$ 689	\$ 589
Long-term debt affiliated	16	15	16
Collateral financing arrangements	43	44	59
Junior subordinated debt securities	134	134	112
Stock purchase contracts	8		
Total	\$ 1,007	\$ 882	\$ 776

5. Support Agreements

MetLife, Inc. is party to various capital support commitments and guarantees with certain of its subsidiaries. Under these arrangements, MetLife, Inc. has agreed to cause each such entity to meet specified capital and surplus levels or has guaranteed certain contractual obligations.

In June 2011, MetLife, Inc. guaranteed the obligations of its subsidiary, DelAm, under a stop loss reinsurance agreement with RGA Reinsurance (Barbados) Inc. (RGARE), pursuant to which RGARE retrocedes to DelAm a portion of the whole life medical insurance business that RGARE assumed from American Life on behalf of its Japan branch.

Prior to the sale in April 2011 of its 50% interest in MSI MetLife to a third party, MetLife, Inc. guaranteed the obligations of its subsidiary, Exeter Reassurance Company, Ltd. (Exeter), under a reinsurance agreement with MSI MetLife, under which Exeter reinsures variable annuity business written by MSI MetLife. This guarantee will remain in place until such time as the reinsurance agreement between Exeter and MSI MetLife is terminated, notwithstanding the April 2011 disposition of MetLife, Inc.'s interest in MSI MetLife as described in Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

In March 2011, MetLife, Inc. guaranteed the obligations of its subsidiary, Missouri Reinsurance (Barbados) Inc. (MoRe), under a retrocession agreement with RGARE, pursuant to which MoRe retrocedes a portion of the closed block liabilities associated with industrial life and ordinary life insurance policies that it assumed from MLIC.

In November 2010, MetLife, Inc. guaranteed the obligations of Exeter in an aggregate amount up to \$1.0 billion, under a reinsurance agreement with MetLife Europe Limited (MEL), under which Exeter reinsures the guaranteed living benefits and guaranteed death benefits associated with certain unit-linked annuity contracts issued by MEL.

In January 2010, MetLife, Inc. guaranteed the obligations of MoRe, under a retrocession agreement with RGARE, pursuant to which MoRe retrocedes certain group term life insurance liabilities that it assumed from MLIC.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Schedule II

Notes to the Condensed Financial Information (Continued)

(Parent Company Only)

In December 2009, MetLife, Inc., in connection with MetLife Reinsurance Company of Vermont's (MRV) reinsurance of certain universal life and term life insurance risks, committed to the Vermont Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration to take necessary action to cause the third protected cell of MRV to maintain total adjusted capital equal to or greater than 200% of such protected cell's authorized control level risk-based capital (RBC), as defined in state insurance statutes. See Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

MetLife, Inc., in connection with MRV's reinsurance of certain universal life and term life insurance risks, committed to the Vermont Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration to take necessary action to cause each of the two initial protected cells of MRV to maintain total adjusted capital equal to or greater than 200% of such protected cell's authorized control level RBC, as defined in state insurance statutes. See Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

MetLife, Inc., in connection with the collateral financing arrangement associated with MetLife Reinsurance Company of Charleston's (MRC) reinsurance of a portion of the liabilities associated with the closed block, committed to the South Carolina Department of Insurance to make capital contributions, if necessary, to MRC so that MRC may at all times maintain its total adjusted capital at a level of not less than 200% of the company action level RBC, as defined in state insurance statutes as in effect on the date of determination or December 31, 2007, whichever calculation produces the greater capital requirement, or as otherwise required by the South Carolina Department of Insurance. See Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

MetLife, Inc., in connection with the collateral financing arrangement associated with MetLife Reinsurance Company of South Carolina's (MRSC) reinsurance of universal life secondary guarantees, committed to the South Carolina Department of Insurance to take necessary action to cause MRSC to maintain total adjusted capital equal to the greater of \$250,000 or 100% of MRSC's authorized control level RBC, as defined in state insurance statutes. See Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

MetLife, Inc. has net worth maintenance agreements with two of its insurance subsidiaries, MetLife Investors Insurance Company and First MetLife Investors Insurance Company. Under these agreements, as subsequently amended, MetLife, Inc. agreed, without limitation as to the amount, to cause each of these subsidiaries to have a minimum capital and surplus of \$10 million, total adjusted capital at a level not less than 150% of the company action level RBC, as defined by state insurance statutes, and liquidity necessary to enable it to meet its current obligations on a timely basis.

MetLife, Inc. also guarantees the obligations of a number of its subsidiaries under credit facilities with third-party banks. See Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.**

Consolidated Supplementary Insurance Information

Schedule III**Consolidated Supplementary Insurance Information**

December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009

(In millions)

Segment	DAC and VOBA	Future Policy Benefits, Other Policy-Related Balances and Policyholder Dividend Obligation	Policyholder Account Balances	Policyholder Dividends Payable	Unearned Revenue (1)
2011					
U.S. Business:					
Insurance Products	\$ 8,609	\$ 83,309	\$ 30,196	\$ 659	\$ 872
Retirement Products	5,489	10,616	48,689		123
Corporate Benefit Funding	104	44,652	56,308		49
Auto & Home	194	3,145			
Total U.S. Business	14,396	141,722	135,193	659	1,044
International:					
Japan	8,498	31,871	58,195		200
Other International Regions	5,075	22,592	24,278	115	1,072
Total International	13,573	54,463	82,473	115	1,272
Corporate & Other	2	6,585	34		
Total	\$ 27,971	\$ 202,770	\$ 217,700	\$ 774	\$ 2,316
2010					
U.S. Business:					
Insurance Products	\$ 9,080	\$ 79,643	\$ 29,407	\$ 722	\$ 988
Retirement Products	5,800	8,975	46,517		103
Corporate Benefit Funding	75	39,371	57,773		53
Auto & Home	190	3,207			
Total U.S. Business	15,145	131,196	133,697	722	1,144
International:					
Japan	6,988	28,394	53,161		12
Other International Regions	4,956	21,727	23,857	108	932
Total International	11,944	50,121	77,018	108	944
Corporate & Other	3	6,221	42		
Total	\$ 27,092	\$ 187,538	\$ 210,757	\$ 830	\$ 2,088

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

2009					
U.S. Business:					
Insurance Products	\$ 10,103	\$ 76,948	\$ 28,118	\$ 761	\$ 1,123
Retirement Products	6,024	8,348	46,855		79
Corporate Benefit Funding	74	37,574	55,522		62
Auto & Home	181	3,156			
Total U.S. Business	16,382	126,026	130,495	761	1,264
International:					
Japan					
Other International Regions	2,697	10,353	7,970		776
Total International	2,697	10,353	7,970		776
Corporate & Other	4	5,832	50		
Total	\$ 19,083	\$ 142,211	\$ 138,515	\$ 761	\$ 2,040

(1) Amounts are included within the future policy benefits, other policy-related balances and policyholder dividend obligation column.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.****Schedule III (Continued)****Consolidated Supplementary Insurance Information****December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009****(In millions)**

Segment	Premium Revenue and Policy Charges	Net Investment Income	Policyholder Benefits and Claims and Interest Credited to Policyholder Account Balances	Amortization of DAC and VOBA Charged to Other Expenses (1)	Other Operating Expenses (1) (2)	Premiums Written (Excluding Life)
2011						
U.S. Business:						
Insurance Products	\$ 19,227	\$ 5,883	\$ 18,318	\$ 812	\$ 4,665	\$ 5,818
Retirement Products	3,860	3,017	3,642	1,658	1,533	
Corporate Benefit Funding	2,649	5,326	5,969	17	468	
Auto & Home	3,000	205	2,375	448	339	3,044
Total U.S. Business	28,736	14,431	30,304	2,935	7,005	8,862
International:						
Japan	7,149	1,660	5,149	1,331	514	4,203
Other International Regions	8,272	1,946	5,599	1,124	2,653	1,757
Total International	15,421	3,606	10,748	2,455	3,167	5,960
Corporate & Other	10	1,569	8	1	3,613	
Total	\$ 44,167	\$ 19,606	\$ 41,060	\$ 5,391	\$ 13,785	\$ 14,822
2010						
U.S. Business:						
Insurance Products	\$ 19,448	\$ 5,917	\$ 18,568	\$ 1,056	\$ 4,714	\$ 5,899
Retirement Products	3,109	3,146	3,491	759	1,372	
Corporate Benefit Funding	2,164	5,144	5,539	16	444	
Auto & Home	2,923	209	2,021	439	321	2,970
Total U.S. Business	27,644	14,416	29,619	2,270	6,851	8,869
International:						
Japan	554	261	543	82	39	344
Other International Regions	4,890	1,394	3,956	490	1,471	785
Total International	5,444	1,655	4,499	572	1,510	1,129
Corporate & Other	11	1,440	(14)	1	3,045	
Total	\$ 33,099	\$ 17,511	\$ 34,104	\$ 2,843	\$ 11,406	\$ 9,998
2009						
U.S. Business:						
Insurance Products	\$ 19,422	\$ 5,533	\$ 18,431	\$ 753	\$ 4,981	\$ 5,936
Retirement Products	2,632	2,878	3,638	(315)	1,367	

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

Corporate Benefit Funding	2,440	4,711	5,942	15	443	
Auto & Home	2,902	180	1,930	436	331	2,898
Total U.S. Business	27,396	13,302	29,941	889	7,122	8,834
International:						
Japan						
Other International Regions	3,939	942	2,903	397	1,195	590
Total International	3,939	942	2,903	397	1,195	590
Corporate & Other	19	497	4	3	2,564	
Total	\$ 31,354	\$ 14,741	\$ 32,848	\$ 1,289	\$ 10,881	\$ 9,424

- (1) For 2010, certain amounts have been reclassified to conform with the 2011 presentation.
- (2) Includes other expenses and policyholder dividends, excluding amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs (DAC) and value of business acquired (VOBA) charged to other expenses.

Table of Contents**MetLife, Inc.**

Consolidated Reinsurance

Schedule IV**Consolidated Reinsurance****December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009****(In millions)**

	Gross Amount	Ceded	Assumed	Net Amount	% Amount Assumed to Net
2011					
Life insurance in-force	\$ 4,263,421	\$ 754,781	\$ 604,555	\$ 4,113,195	14.7 %
Insurance premium					
Life insurance	\$ 21,930	\$ 1,670	\$ 1,198	\$ 21,458	5.6 %
Accident and health	12,186	568	275	11,893	2.3 %
Property and casualty insurance	3,069	70	11	3,010	0.4 %
Total insurance premium	\$ 37,185	\$ 2,308	\$ 1,484	\$ 36,361	4.1 %
2010					
Life insurance in-force	\$ 4,199,755	\$ 742,194	\$ 628,879	\$ 4,086,440	15.4 %
Insurance premium					
Life insurance	\$ 17,300	\$ 1,469	\$ 1,183	\$ 17,014	7.0 %
Accident and health	7,298	364	189	7,123	2.7 %
Property and casualty insurance	2,998	69	5	2,934	0.2 %
Total insurance premium	\$ 27,596	\$ 1,902	\$ 1,377	\$ 27,071	5.1 %
2009					
Life insurance in-force	\$ 3,792,074	\$ 713,992	\$ 740,196	\$ 3,818,278	19.4 %
Insurance premium					
Life insurance	\$ 17,342	\$ 1,813	\$ 1,223	\$ 16,752	7.3 %
Accident and health	6,842	429	79	6,492	1.2 %
Property and casualty insurance	2,981	79	11	2,913	0.4 %
Total insurance premium	\$ 27,165	\$ 2,321	\$ 1,313	\$ 26,157	5.0 %

Table of Contents

Item 9. *Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure*

None.

Item 9A. *Controls and Procedures*

Management, with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer have concluded that these disclosure controls and procedures are effective.

Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management of MetLife, Inc. and subsidiaries is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of control procedures. The objectives of internal control include providing management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

Management has documented and evaluated the effectiveness of the internal control of the Company at December 31, 2011 pertaining to financial reporting in accordance with the criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

In the opinion of management, MetLife, Inc. maintained effective internal control over financial reporting at December 31, 2011.

Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, has audited the consolidated financial statements and consolidated financial statement schedules included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. The Report of the Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on their audit of the consolidated financial statements and consolidated financial statement schedules is included at page 204.

Attestation Report of the Company's Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Company's independent registered public accounting firm, Deloitte & Touche LLP, has issued their attestation report on management's internal control over financial reporting which is set forth below.

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of

MetLife, Inc.:

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of MetLife, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2011, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Company'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 by, or under the supervision of, the company's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the company's board of directors, management, and other personnel 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 the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the 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, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedules of the Company as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, and our report dated February 28, 2012 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedules.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

New York, New York

February 28, 2012

Table of Contents

Item 9B. *Other Information*

None.

441

Table of Contents**Part III****Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance**

The information called for by this Item pertaining to Directors is incorporated herein by reference to the sections entitled Proposal 1 Election of Directors, Corporate Governance Information about the Board of Directors, Corporate Governance Board Committees, Corporate Governance Membership on Board Committees and Security Ownership of Directors and Executive Officers Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance in MetLife, Inc.'s definitive proxy statement for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on April 24, 2012, to be filed by MetLife, Inc. with the SEC pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days after the year ended December 31, 2011 (the 2012 Proxy Statement).

The information called for by this Item pertaining to Executive Officers appears in Business Executive Officers in this Annual Report on Form 10-K and Security Ownership of Directors and Executive Officers Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance in the 2012 Proxy Statement.

The Company has adopted the MetLife Financial Management Code of Professional Conduct (the Financial Management Code), a code of ethics as defined under the rules of the SEC, that applies to MetLife, Inc.'s Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Accounting Officer and all professionals in finance and finance-related departments. In addition, the Company has adopted the Directors Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the Directors Code) which applies to all members of MetLife, Inc.'s Board of Directors, including the Chief Executive Officer, and the Employee Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (together with the Financial Management Code and the Directors Code, collectively, the Ethics Codes), which applies to all employees of the Company, including MetLife, Inc.'s Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer. The Ethics Codes are available on the Company's website at <http://www.metlife.com/about/corporate-profile/corporate-governance/corporate-conduct/index.html>. The Company intends to satisfy its disclosure obligations under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K by posting information about amendments to, or waivers from a provision of, the Ethics Codes that apply to MetLife, Inc.'s Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer on the Company's website at the address given above.

Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information called for by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the sections entitled Corporate Governance Board Committees, Corporate Governance Compensation of Non-Management Directors, Compensation Committee Report, Compensation Discussion and Analysis, Summary Compensation Table, Grants of Plan-Based Awards in 2011, Outstanding Equity Awards at 2011 Fiscal Year-End, Option Exercises and Stock Vested in 2011, Pension Benefits, Nonqualified Deferred Compensation and Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change-in-Control in the 2012 Proxy Statement.

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

The information called for by this Item pertaining to ownership of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock is incorporated herein by reference to the sections entitled Security Ownership of Directors and Executive Officers and Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners in the 2012 Proxy Statement. The following table provides information, at December 31, 2011, regarding the securities authorized for issuance under MetLife, Inc.'s equity compensation plans:

Table of Contents**Equity Compensation Plan Information at December 31, 2011**

Plan Category	Number of Securities to be Issued upon Exercise of Outstanding Options Warrants and Rights (2) (a)	Weighted-average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (3) (b)	Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column (a)) (4) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders (1)	51,129,763	\$ 40.22	33,581,090
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	None		None
Total	51,129,763	\$ 40.22	33,581,090

(1) Includes the MetLife, Inc. 2000 Stock Incentive Plan (the 2000 Stock Plan) and the MetLife, Inc. 2000 Directors Stock Plan (the 2000 Directors Stock Plan) each of which was approved by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MLIC), the sole shareholder of MetLife, Inc. at the time of approval. The policyholders of MLIC entitled to vote on its plan of reorganization (the Plan of Reorganization) approved the Plan of Reorganization, which included both the 2000 Stock Plan and the 2000 Directors Stock Plan. The policyholders entitled to so vote received a summary description of each plan, including the applicable limits on the number of shares of common stock of MetLife, Inc. (Shares) available for issuance under each plan. Also includes the MetLife, Inc. 2005 Stock and Incentive Compensation Plan (the 2005 Stock Plan) and the MetLife, Inc. 2005 Non-Management Director Stock Compensation Plan (the 2005 Directors Stock Plan), which were approved by MetLife, Inc. security holders.

(2) As of December 31, 2011, awards of Stock Options remained outstanding under the 2000 Stock Plan and 2000 Directors Stock Plan, and awards of Stock Options, Performance Shares, and Restricted Stock Units (each as defined in the 2005 Stock Plan) remained outstanding under the 2005 Stock Plan. In addition, as of December 31, 2011, a number of Shares that had vested and become payable from any awards under any plan, but had been deferred, remained deferred and unpaid (Deferred Shares).

Under the award agreements that apply to the Performance Share awards made under the 2005 Stock Plan as of December 31, 2011, Shares are payable to eligible award recipients following the conclusion of the performance period. The number of shares payable is determined by multiplying the number of Performance Shares by a performance factor (from 0% to 200%) based on the performance of MetLife, Inc. with respect to: (i) change in annual net operating earnings per share; and (ii) proportionate total shareholder return, as defined, as a percentile of the performance of other companies in the Fortune 500[®] companies in the Standard & Poor's Insurance Index, with such exceptions as MetLife, Inc. Compensation Committee has determined, with regard to the performance period. With respect to Performance Share awards made in 2009, no Performance Shares will be payable unless MetLife, Inc. generates positive net income available to common shareholders for either the third year of the performance period or for the performance period as a whole. With respect to Performance Share awards made in 2010 and 2011, no Performance Shares will be payable unless MetLife, Inc. generates positive income from continuing operations before provision for income tax, excluding net investment gains (losses) (as defined in the applicable award agreements) for the performance period or the third calendar year of the performance period, or generates positive proportionate total shareholder return for the performance period or the third calendar year of the performance period. In addition, the performance factor for awards made in 2009, 2010, or 2011 will be multiplied by 0.75 if MetLife, Inc.'s total shareholder return with regard to the performance period is zero percent or less.

Under the award agreements that apply to the Restricted Stock Unit awards made under the 2005 Stock Plan as of December 31, 2011, Shares equal to the number of Restricted Stock Units awarded are normally payable to eligible award recipients on the third or later anniversary of the date the Restricted Stock Units were granted.

Table of Contents

- (3) Column (b) reflects the weighted average exercise price of all Stock Options under any plan that, as of December 31, 2011, had been granted but not forfeited, expired, or exercised. Performance Shares, Restricted Stock Units, and Deferred Shares are not included in determining the weighted average in column (b) because they have no exercise price.
- (4) The aggregate number of Shares available for issuance under the 2005 Stock Plan is 68,000,000. In addition, 6,099,881 Shares that were available but had not been utilized under the 2000 Stock Plan became available for issuance under the 2005 Stock Plan at the time the 2005 Stock Plan became effective. At December 31, 2011, 7,107,463 additional Shares recovered due to forfeiture or expiration of awards under the 2000 Stock Plan, or that, under the Plan of Reorganization, would otherwise have reduced the number of Shares available for issuance under the 2000 Stock Plan, from the time the 2005 Stock Plan became effective to December 31, 2011, were also available for issuance under the 2005 Stock Plan. The aggregate number of Shares available for issuance under the 2005 Directors Stock Plan is 2,000,000.

Each Share issued under the 2005 Stock Plan in connection with awards other than Stock Options or Stock Appreciation Rights (including Shares payable on account of Performance Shares, Restricted Stock Units, and Stock-Based Awards) reduces the number of Shares remaining for issuance under the 2005 Stock Plan by 1.179 Shares. Each Share issued under the 2005 Stock Plan in connection with a Stock Option or Stock Appreciation Right reduces the number of Shares remaining for issuance under the 2005 Stock Plan by 1.0.

As of December 31, 2011, all Stock-Based awards made under the 2005 Directors Stock Plan have been immediately vested. Share awards to Directors under the 2000 Directors Stock Plan were made under a separate Share award authorization under that plan, and have not reduced the number of Shares remaining available for issuance under any plan as of December 31, 2011.

Under the 2005 Stock Plan, awards may be in the form of Stock Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units, Performance Shares or Performance Share Units, Cash-Based Awards, and Stock-Based Awards (each as defined in the 2005 Stock Plan). Under the MetLife, Inc. 2005 Non-Management Director Stock Compensation Plan (the 2005 Directors Stock Plan), awards granted may be in the form of non-qualified Stock Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units, or Stock-Based Awards (each as defined in the 2005 Directors Stock Plan). Under both the 2005 Stock Plan and the 2005 Directors Stock Plan, in the event of a corporate event or transaction (including, but not limited to, a change in the Shares or the capitalization of MetLife, Inc.) such as a merger, consolidation, reorganization, recapitalization, separation, stock dividend, extraordinary dividend, stock split, reverse stock split, split up, spin-off, or other distribution of stock or property of MetLife, Inc., combination of securities, exchange of securities, dividend in kind, or other like change in capital structure or distribution (other than normal cash dividends) to shareholders of MetLife, Inc., or any similar corporate event or transaction, the appropriate committee of the Board of Directors of MetLife, Inc. (each, a Committee), in order to prevent dilution or enlargement of participants' rights under the applicable plan, shall in its sole discretion substitute or adjust, as applicable, the number and kind of Shares that may be issued under that plan and shall adjust the number and kind of Shares subject to outstanding awards. Any Shares related to awards under either plan which: (i) terminate by expiration, forfeiture, cancellation, or otherwise without the issuance of Shares; (ii) are settled in cash either in lieu of Shares or otherwise; or (iii) are exchanged with the appropriate Committee's permission for awards not involving Shares, are available again for grant under the applicable plan. If the option price of any Stock Option granted under either plan or the tax withholding requirements with respect to any award granted under either plan are satisfied by tendering Shares to MetLife, Inc. (by either actual delivery or by attestation), or if a Stock Appreciation Right is exercised, only the number of Shares issued, net of the Shares tendered, if any, will be deemed delivered for purposes of determining the maximum number of Shares available for issuance under that plan. The maximum number of Shares available for issuance under either plan shall not be reduced to reflect any dividends or dividend equivalents that are reinvested into additional Shares or credited as additional Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units, or Stock-Based Awards.

Table of Contents

Item 13. *Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence*

The information called for by this Item is incorporated herein by reference to the sections entitled Corporate Governance Procedures for Reviewing Related Person Transactions, Corporate Governance Related Person Transactions and Corporate Governance Information About the Board of Directors Composition and Independence of the Board of Directors in the 2012 Proxy Statement.

Item 14. *Principal Accountant Fees and Services*

The information called for by this item is incorporated herein by reference to the section entitled Proposal 2 Ratification of Appointment of the Independent Auditor in the 2012 Proxy Statement.

Table of Contents

Part IV

Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules

The following documents are filed as part of this report:

1. Financial Statements

The financial statements are listed in the Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Schedules on page 203.

2. Financial Statement Schedules

The financial statement schedules are listed in the Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Schedules on page 203.

3. Exhibits

The exhibits are listed in the Exhibit Index which begins on page E-1.

Table of Contents**Signatures**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

February 28, 2012

METLIFE, INC.

By /s/ Steven A. Kandarian

Name: Steven A. Kandarian

Title: *Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer*

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Sylvia Mathews Burwell Sylvia Mathews Burwell	Director	February 28, 2012
/s/ Eduardo Castro-Wright Eduardo Castro-Wright	Director	February 28, 2012
/s/ Cheryl W. Gris�e Cheryl W. Gris�e	Director	February 28, 2012
/s/ R. Glenn Hubbard R. Glenn Hubbard	Director	February 28, 2012
/s/ John M. Keane John M. Keane	Director	February 28, 2012
/s/ Alfred F. Kelly, Jr. Alfred F. Kelly, Jr.	Director	February 28, 2012
/s/ James M. Kilts James M. Kilts	Director	February 28, 2012
/s/ Catherine R. Kinney Catherine R. Kinney	Director	February 28, 2012

Edgar Filing: METLIFE INC - Form 10-K

/s/ Hugh B. Price	Director	February 28, 2012
Hugh B. Price		
/s/ David Satcher, M.D.	Director	February 28, 2012
David Satcher, M.D.		
/s/ Kenton J. Sicchitano	Director	February 28, 2012
Kenton J. Sicchitano		
/s/ Lulu C. Wang	Director	February 28, 2012
Lulu C. Wang		
/s/ Steven A. Kandarian	Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)	February 28, 2012
Steven A. Kandarian		
/s/ Eric T. Steigerwalt	Executive Vice President and Interim Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)	February 28, 2012
Eric T. Steigerwalt		
/s/ Peter M. Carlson	Executive Vice President, Finance Operations and Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer)	February 28, 2012
Peter M. Carlson		

Table of Contents**Exhibit Index**

(Note Regarding Reliance on Statements in Our Contracts: In reviewing the agreements included as exhibits to this Annual Report on Form 10-K, please remember that they are included to provide you with information regarding their terms and are not intended to provide any other factual or disclosure information about MetLife, Inc., its subsidiaries or affiliates, or the other parties to the agreements. The agreements contain representations and warranties by each of the parties to the applicable agreement. These representations and warranties have been made solely for the benefit of the other parties to the applicable agreement and (i) should not in all instances be treated as categorical statements of fact, but rather as a way of allocating the risk to one of the parties if those statements prove to be inaccurate; (ii) have been qualified by disclosures that were made to the other party in connection with the negotiation of the applicable agreement, which disclosures are not necessarily reflected in the agreement; (iii) may apply standards of materiality in a way that is different from what may be viewed as material to investors; and (iv) were made only as of the date of the applicable agreement or such other date or dates as may be specified in the agreement and are subject to more recent developments. Accordingly, these representations and warranties may not describe the actual state of affairs as of the date they were made or at any other time. Additional information about MetLife, Inc., its subsidiaries and affiliates may be found elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K and MetLife, Inc.'s other public filings, which are available without charge through the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.)

Exhibit No.	Description
2.1	Plan of Reorganization. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to MetLife, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form S-1 (No. 333-91517) (the "S-1 Registration Statement").
2.2	Amendment to Plan of Reorganization, dated as of March 9, 2000. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.2 to the S-1 Registration Statement).
2.3	Acquisition Agreement between MetLife, Inc. and Citigroup Inc., dated as of January 31, 2005. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.3 to MetLife, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 (the "2009 Annual Report").
2.4	Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of March 7, 2010, among MetLife, Inc., AM Holdings LLC (formerly known as ALICO Holdings LLC) and American International Group, Inc. ("AIG") (the "Stock Purchase Agreement"). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to MetLife, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 11, 2010 (the "March 11, 2010 Form 8-K").
2.5	Amendment, dated October 28, 2010, among MetLife, Inc., AM Holdings LLC (formerly known as ALICO Holdings LLC) and AIG to the Stock Purchase Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to MetLife, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated November 2, 2010 (the "November 2, 2010 Form 8-K").
2.6	Amendment, dated October 29, 2010, among MetLife, Inc., AM Holdings LLC (formerly known as ALICO Holdings LLC) and AIG to the Stock Purchase Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.2 to the November 2, 2010 Form 8-K).
3.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of MetLife, Inc.
3.2	Certificate of Designation, Preferences and Rights of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock of MetLife, Inc., filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on April 7, 2000.
3.3	Certificate of Designations of Floating Rate Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series A, of MetLife, Inc., filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on June 10, 2005.

Table of Contents

- 3.4 Certificate of Designations of 6.50% Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series B, of MetLife, Inc., filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on June 14, 2005.
- 3.5 Certificate of Designations of Series B Contingent Convertible Junior Participating Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock of MetLife, Inc., filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on October 27, 2010.
- 3.6 Certificate of Amendment of Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of MetLife, Inc., dated April 29, 2011.
- 3.7 Amended and Restated By-Laws of MetLife, Inc., effective June 20, 2011. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to MetLife, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 23, 2011).
- 4.1(a) Indenture, dated as of November 9, 2001, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association (as successor to Bank One Trust Company, N.A.)), as trustee, relating to Senior Debt Securities.
- 4.1(b) Form of Indenture for Senior Debt Securities between MetLife, Inc. and one or more banking institutions to be qualified as Trustee pursuant to Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1(a), except for the name of the trustee).
- 4.2 Third Supplemental Indenture, dated as of December 10, 2002, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association (as successor to Bank One Trust Company, N.A.)), as trustee, relating to the 5.375% Senior Notes due December 15, 2012. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to MetLife, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007 (the 2007 Annual Report)).
- 4.3 Fourth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of December 10, 2002, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association (as successor to Bank One Trust Company, N.A.)), as trustee, relating to the 6.50% Senior Notes due December 15, 2032. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the 2007 Annual Report).
- 4.4 Fifth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of November 21, 2003, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 5.875% Senior Notes due November 21, 2033. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to MetLife, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008 (the 2008 Annual Report)).
- 4.5 Sixth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of November 24, 2003, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 5.00% Senior Notes due November 24, 2013. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.6 to the 2008 Annual Report).
- 4.6 Seventh Supplemental Indenture, dated as of June 3, 2004, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 5.50% Senior Notes due June 15, 2014. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to the 2009 Annual Report).
- 4.7 Eighth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of June 3, 2004, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 6.375% Senior Notes due June 15, 2034. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.8 to the 2009 Annual Report).
- 4.8 Ninth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of July 23, 2004, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 5.50% Senior Notes due June 15, 2014. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.9 to the 2009 Annual Report).

Table of Contents

- 4.9 Tenth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of July 23, 2004, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 6.375% Senior Notes due June 15, 2034. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.10 to the 2009 Annual Report).
- 4.10 Eleventh Supplemental Indenture, dated as of December 9, 2004, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 5.375% Senior Notes due December 9, 2024. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.11 to the 2009 Annual Report).
- 4.11 Twelfth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of June 23, 2005, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 5.00% Senior Notes due June 15, 2015. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.12 to MetLife, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010 (the 2010 Annual Report)).
- 4.12 Thirteenth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of June 23, 2005, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 5.70% Senior Notes due June 15, 2035. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.13 to the 2010 Annual Report).
- 4.13 Fourteenth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of June 29, 2005, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 5.25% Senior Notes due June 29, 2020. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.14 to the 2010 Annual Report).
- 4.14 Fifteenth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of May 29, 2009, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the 6.75% Senior Notes due June 1, 2016. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to MetLife, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 29, 2009 (the May 29, 2009 Form 8-K)).
- 4.15 Sixteenth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of August 6, 2010, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the 2.375% Senior Notes due February 6, 2014. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to MetLife, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 6, 2010 (the August 6, 2010 Form 8-K)).
- 4.16 Seventeenth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of August 6, 2010, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the 4.750% Senior Notes due February 8, 2021. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the August 6, 2010 Form 8-K).
- 4.17 Eighteenth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of August 6, 2010, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the 5.875% Senior Notes due February 6, 2041. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the August 6, 2010 Form 8-K).
- 4.18 Nineteenth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of August 6, 2010, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the Floating Rate Senior Notes due August 6, 2013. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the August 6, 2010 Form 8-K).
- 4.19 Twentieth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of November 1, 2010, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the Series C Senior Debentures due June 15, 2023. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to the November 2, 2010 Form 8-K).
- 4.20 Twenty-First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of November 1, 2010, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the Series D Senior Debentures due June 15, 2024. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.6 to the November 2, 2010 Form 8-K).

Table of Contents

4.21	Twenty-Second Supplemental Indenture, dated as of November 1, 2010, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the Series E Senior Debentures due June 15, 2045. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to the November 2, 2010 Form 8-K).
4.22	Form of 5.375% Senior Note due December 15, 2012. (Included in Exhibit 4.2 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the 2007 Annual Report).
4.23	Form of 6.50% Senior Note due December 15, 2032. (Included in Exhibit 4.3 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the 2007 Annual Report).
4.24	Form of 5.875% Senior Note due November 21, 2033. (Included in Exhibit 4.4 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to the 2008 Annual Report).
4.25	Form of 5.00% Senior Note due November 24, 2013. (Included in Exhibit 4.5 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.6 to the 2008 Annual Report).
4.26	Form of 5.50% Senior Note due June 15, 2014. (Included in Exhibit 4.6 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to the 2009 Annual Report).
4.27	Form of 6.375% Senior Note due June 15, 2034. (Included in Exhibit 4.7 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.8 to the 2009 Annual Report).
4.28	Form of 5.50% Senior Note due June 15, 2014. (Included in Exhibit 4.8 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.9 to the 2009 Annual Report).
4.29	Form of 6.375% Senior Note due June 15, 2034. (Included in Exhibit 4.9 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.10 to the 2009 Annual Report).
4.30	Form of 5.375% Senior Note due December 9, 2024. (Included in Exhibit 4.10 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.11 to the 2009 Annual Report).
4.31	Form of 5.00% Senior Note due June 15, 2015. (Included in Exhibit 4.11 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.12 to the 2010 Annual Report).
4.32	Form of 5.70% Senior Note due June 15, 2035. (Included in Exhibit 4.12 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.13 to the 2010 Annual Report).
4.33	Form of 5.25% Senior Note due June 29, 2020. (Included in Exhibit 4.13 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.14 to the 2010 Annual Report).
4.34	Form of 6.75% Senior Note due June 1, 2016. (Included in Exhibit 4.14 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the May 29, 2009 Form 8-K).
4.35	Form of 2.375% Senior Note due February 6, 2014. (Included in Exhibit 4.15 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the August 6, 2010 Form 8-K).
4.36	Form of 4.750% Senior Note due February 8, 2021. (Included in Exhibit 4.16 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the August 6, 2010 Form 8-K).
4.37	Form of 5.875% Senior Note due February 6, 2041. (Included in Exhibit 4.17 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the August 6, 2010 Form 8-K).
4.38	Form of Floating Rate Senior Note due August 6, 2013. (Included in Exhibit 4.18 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the August 6, 2010 Form 8-K).
4.39	Form of Series C Senior Debenture due June 15, 2023. (Included in Exhibit 4.19 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to the November 2, 2010 Form 8-K).
4.40	Form of Series D Senior Debenture due June 15, 2024. (Included in Exhibit 4.20 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.6 to the November 2, 2010 Form 8-K).

Table of Contents

- 4.41 Form of Series E Senior Debenture due June 15, 2045. (Included in Exhibit 4.21 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to the November 2, 2010 Form 8-K).
- 4.42(a) Indenture, dated as of June 21, 2005, between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to Subordinated Debt Securities (the Subordinated Indenture). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.41(a) to the 2010 Annual Report).
- 4.42(b) Form of Indenture for Subordinated Debt Securities between MetLife, Inc. and one or more banking institutions to be qualified as Trustee pursuant to Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.42(a), except for the name of the trustee).
- 4.43 First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of June 21, 2005, to the Subordinated Indenture (the First Supplemental Indenture) between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 4.82% Junior Subordinated Debt Securities, Series A, due February 15, 2039 (the Series A Debentures). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.42 to the 2010 Annual Report).
- 4.44 Second Supplemental Indenture, dated as of June 21, 2005, to the Subordinated Indenture (the Second Supplemental Indenture) between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor in interest to J.P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association), as trustee, relating to the 4.91% Junior Subordinated Debt Securities, Series B, due February 15, 2040 (the Series B Debentures). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.43 to the 2010 Annual Report).
- 4.45 Third Supplemental Indenture, dated as of December 21, 2006, to the Subordinated Indenture between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the 6.40% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Junior Subordinated Debentures due December 15, 2066.
- 4.46 Sixth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of August 7, 2008, to the Subordinated Indenture between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, amending the First Supplemental Indenture. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 8, 2008).
- 4.47 Seventh Supplemental Indenture, dated as of February 6, 2009, to the Subordinated Indenture between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, amending the Second Supplemental Indenture. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 9, 2009).
- 4.48 Eighth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of July 8, 2009, to the Subordinated Indenture between MetLife, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, relating to the 10.750% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Junior Subordinated Debentures due August 1, 2069. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 8, 2009 (the July 8, 2009 Form 8-K)).
- 4.49 Form of Series A Debenture. (Included in Exhibit 4.43. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.48 to the 2010 Annual Report).
- 4.50 Form of Series B Debenture. (Included in Exhibit 4.44. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.49 to the 2010 Annual Report).
- 4.51 Form of 6.40% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Junior Subordinated Debenture due 2066. (Included in Exhibit 4.45).
- 4.52 Form of 6.817% Senior Debt Securities, Series A, due 2018. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 15, 2008).
- 4.53 Form of 7.717% Senior Debt Securities, Series B, due 2019. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to MetLife Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 18, 2009).

Table of Contents

4.54 Form of 10.750% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Junior Subordinated Debentures due August 1, 2069. (Included in Exhibit 4.48 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the July 8, 2009 Form 8-K).

4.55 Certificate of Trust of MetLife Capital Trust V. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to MetLife, Inc.'s, MetLife Capital Trust V's, MetLife Capital Trust VI's, MetLife Capital Trust VII's, MetLife Capital Trust VIII's and MetLife Capital Trust IX's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (Nos. 333-147180, 333-147180-01, 333-147180-02, 333-147180-03, 333-147180-04 and 333-147180-05) (the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement)).

4.56 Certificate of Trust of MetLife Capital Trust VI. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.57 Certificate of Trust of MetLife Capital Trust VII. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.58 Certificate of Trust of MetLife Capital Trust VIII. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.6 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.59 Certificate of Trust of MetLife Capital Trust IX. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.60 Declaration of Trust of MetLife Capital Trust V. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.8 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.61 Declaration of Trust of MetLife Capital Trust VI. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.9 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.62 Declaration of Trust of MetLife Capital Trust VII. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.10 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.63 Declaration of Trust of MetLife Capital Trust VIII. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.11 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.64 Declaration of Trust of MetLife Capital Trust IX. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.12 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.65 Form of Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust (substantially identical, except for names and dates, for MetLife Capital Trust V, MetLife Capital Trust VI, MetLife Capital Trust VII, MetLife Capital Trust VIII and MetLife Capital Trust IX). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.13 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.66 Form of Trust Preferred Security Certificate (substantially identical, except for names and dates, for MetLife Capital Trust V, MetLife Capital Trust VI, MetLife Capital Trust VII, MetLife Capital Trust VIII and MetLife Capital Trust IX). (Included in Exhibit 4.65. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.14 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.67 Form of Trust Preferred Securities Guarantee Agreement (substantially identical, except for names and dates, for MetLife Capital Trust V, MetLife Capital Trust VI, MetLife Capital Trust VII, MetLife Capital Trust VIII and MetLife Capital Trust IX). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.15 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.68 Form of Common Securities Guarantee Agreement (substantially identical, except for names and dates, for MetLife Capital Trust V, MetLife Capital Trust VI, MetLife Capital Trust VII, MetLife Capital Trust VIII and MetLife Capital Trust IX). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.16 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).

4.69 Form of Certificate for Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the S-1 Registration Statement).

Table of Contents

4.70	Certificate of Designation, Preferences and Rights of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock of MetLife, Inc., filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on April 7, 2000. (See Exhibit 3.2 above).
4.71	Form of Warrant Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.21 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).**
4.72	Form of Deposit Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.22 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).**
4.73	Form of Depositary Receipt. (Included in Exhibit 4.72 incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.22 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).**
4.74	Form of Purchase Contract Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.24 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).**
4.75	Form of Pledge Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.25 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).**
4.76	Form of Unit Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.26 to the 2007 S-3 Registration Statement).**
4.77	Certificate of Designations of Floating Rate Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series A, of MetLife, Inc., filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on June 10, 2005. (See Exhibit 3.3 above).
4.78	Form of Stock Certificate, Floating Rate Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series A, of MetLife, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.6 to MetLife, Inc. s Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed on June 10, 2005).
4.79	Certificate of Designations of 6.50% Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series B, of MetLife, Inc., filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on June 14, 2005. (See Exhibit 3.4 above).
4.80	Form of Stock Certificate, 6.50% Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series B, of MetLife, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.6 to MetLife, Inc. s Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed on June 15, 2005).
4.81	Certificate of Designations of Series B Contingent Convertible Junior Participating Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock of MetLife, Inc., filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on October 27, 2010. (See Exhibit 3.5 above).
4.82	Replacement Capital Covenant, dated as of December 21, 2006.
4.83	Replacement Capital Covenant, dated as of December 12, 2007. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 12, 2007).
4.84	Replacement Capital Covenant, dated as of April 8, 2008. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated April 8, 2008).
4.85	Replacement Capital Covenant, dated as of December 30, 2008. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 30, 2008 (the December 30, 2008 Form 8-K)).
4.86	Replacement Capital Covenant, dated as of July 8, 2009. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the July 8, 2009 Form 8-K).
4.87	Stock Purchase Contract Agreement, dated as of November 1, 2010, among MetLife, Inc. and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Stock Purchase Contract Agent. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the November 2, 2010 Form 8-K).

Table of Contents

4.88	Pledge Agreement, dated as of November 1, 2010, among MetLife, Inc. and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Collateral Agent, Custodial Agent, Securities Intermediary and Stock Purchase Contract Agent. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the November 2, 2010 Form 8-K).
4.89	Amended and Restated Indemnification Collateral Account Security and Control Agreement, dated as of March 8, 2011, among MetLife, Inc., AM Holdings LLC (formerly known as ALICO Holdings LLC), Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Securities Intermediary, Pledge Collateral Agent and Stock Purchase Contract Agent, and AIG. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to MetLife, Inc. s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2011).
10.1	MetLife Executive Severance Plan (effective as of December 17, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 13, 2007).*
10.2	MetLife Executive Severance Plan (as amended and restated, effective June 14, 2010). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 21, 2009 (the December 21, 2009 Form 8-K)).*
10.3	Separation Agreement, Waiver and General Release, dated August 17, 2009, between Lisa M. Weber and MetLife Group, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated September 3, 2009).*
10.4	Employment Agreement, effective as of April 30, 2010, by and between James L. Lipscomb and MetLife, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2010).*
10.5	Agreement, effective as of May 9, 2011, by and between Kathleen A. Henkel and MetLife, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2011).*
10.6	Offer Letter and Appendix, dated July 14, 2011, between MetLife, Inc. and Martin J. Lippert. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to MetLife, Inc. s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2011 (the Third Quarter 2011 10-Q)).*
10.7	Offer Letter, dated July 27, 2011, between MetLife, Inc. and Frans Hijkoop. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Third Quarter 2011 10-Q).*
10.8	Agreement between MetLife, Inc. and William J. Toppeta, which became final on December 20, 2011. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 23, 2011).*
10.9	Agreement between MetLife, Inc. and William J. Mullaney, which became final on December 24, 2011. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 29, 2011).*
10.10	Letter, dated March 24, 2011, from MetLife, Inc. to Michel Khalaf.*
10.11	Offer Letter, dated March 25, 2009, between American Life Insurance Company and Michel Khalaf.*
10.12	MetLife, Inc. 2000 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended and restated March 28, 2000. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the S-1 Registration Statement).*
10.13	MetLife, Inc. 2000 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended, effective February 8, 2002. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.13 to the 2007 Annual Report).*
10.14	Management Stock Option Agreement under the MetLife, Inc. 2000 Stock Incentive Plan. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the 2008 Annual Report).*

Table of Contents

10.15	MetLife, Inc. 2000 Directors Stock Plan, as amended and restated March 28, 2000. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to the S-1 Registration Statement).*
10.16	MetLife, Inc. 2000 Directors Stock Plan, as amended, effective February 8, 2002. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.17 to the 2007 Annual Report).*
10.17	Form of Director Stock Option Agreement under the MetLife, Inc. 2000 Directors Stock Plan. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the 2008 Annual Report).*
10.18	MetLife, Inc. 2005 Stock and Incentive Compensation Plan, effective April 15, 2005 (the 2005 SIC Plan). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 to the 2009 Annual Report).*
10.19	MetLife, Inc. 2005 Non-Management Director Stock Compensation Plan, effective April 15, 2005. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.13 to the 2009 Annual Report).*
10.20	Form of Management Stock Option Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective as of April 25, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to MetLife, Inc. s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2007 (the First Quarter 2007 10-Q)).*
10.21	Amendment to Stock Option Agreements under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective as of April 25, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the First Quarter 2007 10-Q).*
10.22	Form of Management Stock Option Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective December 15, 2009). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the December 21, 2009 Form 8-K).*
10.23	Form of Management Stock Option Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.14 to the 2009 Annual Report).*
10.24	Form of Management Restricted Stock Unit Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.18 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.25	Amendment to Management Restricted Stock Unit Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective December 31, 2005). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.19 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.26	Form of Management Restricted Stock Unit Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective December 31, 2005). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.20 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.27	Form of Management Restricted Stock Unit Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective as of April 25, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the First Quarter 2007 10-Q).*
10.28	Amendment to Restricted Stock Unit Agreements under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective as of April 25, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the First Quarter 2007 10-Q).*
10.29	Form of Management Restricted Stock Unit Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective December 11, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 13, 2007 (the December 13, 2007 Form 8-K)).*
10.30	Amendment to Restricted Stock Unit Agreements under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective as of December 31, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.29 to the 2007 Annual Report).*
10.31	Form of Management Restricted Stock Unit Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective December 15, 2009). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the December 21, 2009 Form 8-K).*
10.32	Form of Management Performance Share Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective December 31, 2005). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.31 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.33	Clarification of Management Performance Share Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.29 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.34	Amendment to Management Performance Share Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective December 31, 2005). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.30 to the 2010 Annual Report).*

Table of Contents

10.35	Form of Management Performance Share Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective February 27, 2007).*
10.36	Form of Management Performance Share Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective as of April 25, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the First Quarter 2007 10-Q).*
10.37	Amendment to Management Performance Share Agreements under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective as of April 25, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the First Quarter 2007 10-Q).*
10.38	Form of Management Performance Share Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective December 11, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the December 13, 2007 Form 8-K).*
10.39	Amendment to Management Performance Share Agreements under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective as of December 31, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the December 13, 2007 Form 8-K).*
10.40	Form of Management Performance Share Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective January 27, 2009). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated January 30, 2009).*
10.41	Form of Management Performance Share Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective February 24, 2009). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 13, 2009).*
10.42	Form of Management Performance Share Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective December 15, 2009). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the December 21, 2009 Form 8-K).*
10.43	Form of Management Performance Share Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective February 21, 2010). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 22, 2010).*
10.44	Form of Management Performance Share Agreement under the 2005 SIC Plan (effective December 14, 2010). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 17, 2010).*
10.45	Amended and Restated 2010-2011 Long Term Incentive Plan for Employees of ALICO, including 2010-2011 Alico LTI Performance Measures and Goals (effective November 1, 2010).*
10.46	MetLife International Performance Unit Incentive Plan, dated July 21, 2011 (as amended and restated effective February 23, 2011).*
10.47	Form of Performance Unit Agreement under the MetLife International Performance Unit Incentive Plan (effective February 23, 2011).*
10.48	MetLife International Unit Option Incentive Plan, dated July 21, 2011 (as amended and restated effective February 23, 2011).*
10.49	Form of Unit Option Agreement under the MetLife International Unit Option Incentive Plan (effective February 23, 2011).*
10.50	MetLife Policyholder Trust Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 to the S-1 Registration Statement).
10.51	Amendment to MetLife Policyholder Trust Agreement. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the MetLife Policyholder Trust s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007).
10.52	Five-Year Credit Agreement, dated as of August 12, 2011, among MetLife, Inc. and MetLife Funding, Inc., as borrowers, and the other parties signatory thereto, amending and restating the 364-Day Credit Agreement, dated as of October 15, 2010, among MetLife, Inc. and MetLife Funding, Inc., as borrowers, and the other parties signatory thereto. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 15, 2011).

Table of Contents

10.53	Three-Year Credit Agreement, dated as of October 15, 2010, among MetLife, Inc. and MetLife Funding, Inc., as borrowers, and the other parties signatory thereto. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated October 15, 2010).
10.54	MetLife Annual Variable Incentive Plan (AVIP). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.41 to the 2009 Annual Report).*
10.55	Amendment Number One to the AVIP. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.48 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.56	Resolutions of the MetLife, Inc. Board of Directors (adopted February 18, 2010) regarding the selection of performance measures for 2010 awards under the AVIP. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2010).*
10.57	Resolutions of the MetLife, Inc. Board of Directors (adopted December 14, 2010) regarding the selection of performance measures for 2011 awards under the AVIP. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.52 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.58	Resolutions of the MetLife, Inc. Board of Directors (adopted December 13, 2011) regarding the selection of performance measures for 2012 awards under the AVIP.*
10.59	Resolutions of the MetLife, Inc., Board of Directors (adopted September 13, 2011) regarding non-management director compensation. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Third Quarter 2011 10-Q).*
10.60	Metropolitan Life Auxiliary Savings and Investment Plan (as amended and restated, effective January 1, 2008). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.57 to the 2007 Annual Report).*
10.61	Amendment 1 to the Metropolitan Life Auxiliary Savings and Investment Plan (as amended and restated, effective January 1, 2008). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.46 to the 2009 Annual Report).*
10.62	Amendment Number 2 to the Metropolitan Life Auxiliary Savings and Investment Plan (Amended and Restated Effective January 1, 2008). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.55 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.63	MetLife Deferred Compensation Plan for Officers, as amended and restated, effective November 1, 2003. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.41 to the 2008 Annual Report).*
10.64	Amendment Number One to the MetLife Deferred Compensation Plan for Officers (as amended and restated as of November 1, 2003), dated May 4, 2005. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.57 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.65	Amendment Number Two to the MetLife Deferred Compensation Plan for Officers (as amended and restated as of November 1, 2003, effective December 14, 2005). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.58 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.66	Amendment Number Three to the MetLife Deferred Compensation Plan for Officers (as amended and restated as of November 1, 2003, effective February 26, 2007).*
10.67	MetLife Leadership Deferred Compensation Plan, dated November 2, 2006 (as amended and restated, effective with respect to salary and cash incentive compensation, January 1, 2005, and with respect to stock compensation, April 15, 2005). *
10.68	Amendment Number One to the MetLife Leadership Deferred Compensation Plan, dated December 13, 2007 (effective as of December 31, 2007). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.63 to the 2007 Annual Report).*

Table of Contents

10.69	Amendment Number Two to the MetLife Leadership Deferred Compensation Plan, dated December 11, 2008 (effective December 31, 2008). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.47 to the 2008 Annual Report).*
10.70	Amendment Number Three to the MetLife Leadership Deferred Compensation Plan, dated December 11, 2009 (effective January 1, 2010). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.54 to the 2009 Annual Report).*
10.71	Amendment Number Four to the MetLife Leadership Deferred Compensation Plan, dated December 11, 2009 (effective December 31, 2009). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.55 to the 2009 Annual Report).*
10.72	Amendment Number Five to the MetLife Leadership Deferred Compensation Plan, dated December 11, 2009 (effective January 1, 2011). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.65 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.73	MetLife Deferred Compensation Plan for Outside Directors (effective December 9, 2003). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.48 to the 2008 Annual Report).*
10.74	Amendment Number One to the MetLife Deferred Compensation Plan for Outside Directors (as amended and restated as of December 9, 2003, effective February 26, 2007).*
10.75	MetLife Non-Management Director Deferred Compensation Plan, dated November 2, 2006 (as amended and restated, effective January 1, 2005). *
10.76	Amendment Number One to the MetLife Non-Management Director Deferred Compensation Plan (as amended and restated as of December 9, 2006, effective February 26, 2007).*
10.77	MetLife Non-Management Director Deferred Compensation Plan, dated December 5, 2007 (as amended and restated, effective January 1, 2005). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.68 to the 2007 Annual Report).*
10.78	The MetLife Non-Management Director Deferred Compensation Plan, dated December 9, 2008 (as amended and restated, effective January 1, 2005). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.53 to the 2008 Annual Report).*
10.79	MetLife, Inc. Director Indemnity Plan (dated and effective July 22, 2008). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 25, 2008).*
10.80	MetLife Auxiliary Pension Plan, dated August 7, 2006 (as amended and restated, effective June 30, 2006). *
10.81	MetLife Auxiliary Pension Plan, dated December 21, 2006 (amending and restating Part I thereof, effective January 1, 2007).*
10.82	MetLife Auxiliary Pension Plan, dated December 21, 2007 (amending and restating Part I thereof, effective January 1, 2008). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 28, 2007).*
10.83	Amendment #1 to the MetLife Auxiliary Pension Plan (as amended and restated, effective January 1, 2008), dated October 24, 2008 (effective October 1, 2008). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.58 to the 2008 Annual Report).*
10.84	Amendment Number Two to the MetLife Auxiliary Pension Plan (as amended and restated, effective January 1, 2008), dated December 12, 2008 (effective December 31, 2008). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.59 to the 2008 Annual Report).*
10.85	Amendment Number Three to the MetLife Auxiliary Pension Plan (as amended and restated, effective January 1, 2008) dated March 25, 2009 (effective January 1, 2009). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to MetLife, Inc. s Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 31, 2009).*

Table of Contents

10.86	Amendment Number Four to the MetLife Auxiliary Pension Plan (as amended and restated, effective January 1, 2008), dated December 16, 2009 (effective January 1, 2010). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the December 21, 2009 Form 8-K).*
10.87	Amendment Number Five to the MetLife Auxiliary Pension Plan (as amended and restated, effective January 1, 2008) dated December 21, 2010 (effective January 1, 2010). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.80 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.88	Alico Overseas Pension Plan, dated January 2009.*
10.89	Amendment Number One to the Alico Overseas Pension Plan (effective November 1, 2010), dated December 20, 2010.*
10.90	Amendment Number Two to the Alico Overseas Pension Plan (effective as of November 1, 2010), dated December 13, 2011.*
10.91	MetLife Plan for Transition Assistance for Officers, dated December 28, 2009 (as amended and restated, effective January 1, 2010 (the MPTA)). (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.84 to the 2009 Annual Report).*
10.92	Amendment Number One to the MPTA, dated December 15, 2010. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.96 to the 2010 Annual Report).*
10.93	Amendment Number Two to the MPTA, dated December 7, 2011.*
10.94	Amendment Number Three to the MPTA, dated December 22, 2011.*
12.1	Statement re: Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges.
21.1	Subsidiaries of the Registrant.
23.1	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP.
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification of Interim Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2	Certification of Interim Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document.
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document.
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document.
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document.
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.

* Indicates management contracts or compensatory plans or arrangements.

** Indicates document to be filed as an exhibit to a Current Report on Form 8-K or Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q pursuant to Item 601 of Regulation S-K and incorporated herein by reference.