

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO
Form 10-Q
November 08, 2011

FORM 10-Q

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

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2011

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 : 001-31911

American Equity Investment Life Holding Company
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Iowa 42-1447959
(State of Incorporation) (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

6000 Westown Parkway 50266
West Des Moines, Iowa
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (515) 221-0002
(Telephone)

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

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$1	New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: Common Stock, par value \$1

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Sections 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or 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 whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See definition of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a 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

APPLICABLE TO CORPORATE ISSUERS:

Shares of common stock outstanding at October 31, 2011: 59,581,489

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>PART I — FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>	
<u>Item 1: Financial Statements:</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Item 2: Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>Item 3: Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</u>	<u>53</u>
<u>Item 4: Controls and Procedures</u>	<u>54</u>
<u>PART II — OTHER INFORMATION</u>	
<u>Item 1: Legal Proceedings</u>	<u>54</u>
<u>Item 1A: Risk Factors</u>	<u>54</u>
<u>Item 2: Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	<u>55</u>
<u>Item 6: Exhibits</u>	<u>55</u>
<u>Signatures</u>	<u>56</u>

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)

	September 30, 2011 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2010
Assets		
Investments:		
Fixed maturity securities:		
Available for sale, at fair value (amortized cost: 2011 - \$15,924,537; 2010 - \$15,621,894)	\$17,378,812	\$15,830,663
Held for investment, at amortized cost (fair value: 2011 - \$2,838,736; 2010 - \$781,748)	2,827,461	822,200
Equity securities, available for sale, at fair value (cost: 2011 - \$59,197; 2010 - \$61,185)	65,401	65,961
Mortgage loans on real estate	2,838,893	2,598,641
Derivative instruments	171,905	479,786
Other investments	112,876	19,680
Total investments	23,395,348	19,816,931
Cash and cash equivalents	572,314	597,766
Coinsurance deposits	2,759,735	2,613,191
Accrued investment income	212,792	167,645
Deferred policy acquisition costs	1,638,087	1,747,760
Deferred sales inducements	1,199,372	1,227,328
Deferred income taxes	21,386	143,253
Income taxes recoverable	18,036	6,134
Other assets	58,867	106,755
Total assets	\$29,875,937	\$26,426,763
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Liabilities:		
Policy benefit reserves	\$26,917,463	\$23,655,807
Other policy funds and contract claims	375,368	222,860
Notes payable	340,552	330,835
Subordinated debentures	268,552	268,435
Other liabilities	614,465	1,010,779
Total liabilities	28,516,400	25,488,716
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, no par value, 2,000,000 shares authorized, 2011 and 2010 no shares issued and outstanding	—	—
Common stock, par value \$1 per share, 125,000,000 shares authorized; issued and 57,855 outstanding:		56,968

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO - Form 10-Q

2011 - 57,855,375 shares (excluding 5,569,610 treasury shares); 2010 - 56,968,446 shares (excluding 5,874,392 treasury shares)

Additional paid-in capital	464,768		454,454
Unallocated common stock held by ESOP; 2011 - 395,859 shares; 2010 - 447,048 shares	(3,965	)	(4,815)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	454,710		81,820
Retained earnings	386,169		349,620
Total stockholders' equity	1,359,537		938,047
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$29,875,937		\$26,426,763

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

2

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)

(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
Revenues:				
Traditional life and accident and health insurance premiums	\$3,126	\$3,181	\$9,331	\$9,111
Annuity product charges	20,405	18,538	57,259	52,673
Net investment income	305,502	260,475	894,508	758,230
Change in fair value of derivatives	(333,621)	93,980	(206,997)	(32,742)
Net realized gains (losses) on investments, excluding other than temporary impairment ("OTTI") losses	(17,292)	11,298	(19,339)	22,264
OTTI losses on investments:				
Total OTTI losses	(5,133)	(2,160)	(10,346)	(16,347)
Portion of OTTI losses recognized in (from) other comprehensive income	(3,758)	(1,830)	(7,345)	8,316
Net OTTI losses recognized in operations	(8,891)	(3,990)	(17,691)	(8,031)
Loss on extinguishment of debt	—	—	—	(292)
Total revenues	(30,771)	383,482	717,071	801,213
Benefits and expenses:				
Insurance policy benefits and change in future policy benefits	1,888	2,128	6,282	6,629
Interest sensitive and index product benefits	223,232	159,155	621,317	584,842
Amortization of deferred sales inducements	(28,065)	5,184	22,892	21,516
Change in fair value of embedded derivatives	(205,565)	114,823	(138,225)	(11,513)
Interest expense on notes payable	7,984	4,940	23,723	14,264
Interest expense on subordinated debentures	3,488	3,805	10,435	11,206
Interest expense on amounts due under repurchase agreements	—	—	5	—
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	(28,930)	45,795	65,155	73,980
Other operating costs and expenses	15,903	16,213	50,011	48,900
Total benefits and expenses	(10,065)	352,043	661,595	749,824
Income (loss) before income taxes	(20,706)	31,439	55,476	51,389
Income tax expense (benefit)	(7,638)	10,925	18,927	17,494
Net income (loss)	\$(13,068)	\$20,514	\$36,549	\$33,895
Earnings (loss) per common share	\$(0.22)	\$0.35	\$0.62	\$0.58
Earnings (loss) per common share - assuming dilution	\$(0.22)	\$0.33	\$0.59	\$0.56

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)
(Unaudited)

	Common Stock	Additional Paid-in Capital	Unallocated Common Stock Held by ESOP	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Retained Earnings	Total Stockholders' Equity
Balance at December 31, 2010	\$56,968	\$454,454	\$(4,815)	\$81,820	\$349,620	\$938,047
Other comprehensive income:						
Net income for period	—	—	—	—	36,549	36,549
Change in net unrealized investment gains/losses	—	—	—	370,694	—	370,694
Noncredit component of OTTI losses, available for sale securities, net	—	—	—	2,196	—	2,196
Other comprehensive income						409,439
Acquisition of 1,250 shares of common stock	(1)	(12)	—	—	—	(13)
Allocation of 78,897 shares of common stock by ESOP, including excess income tax benefits	—	65	850	—	—	915
Share-based compensation, including excess income tax benefits	—	6,575	—	—	—	6,575
Issuance of 888,179 shares of common stock under compensation plans, including excess income tax benefits	888	3,686	—	—	—	4,574
Balance at September 30, 2011	\$57,855	\$464,768	\$(3,965)	\$454,710	\$386,169	\$1,359,537
Balance at December 31, 2009	\$56,203	\$422,225	\$(5,679)	\$(30,456)	\$312,330	\$754,623
Other comprehensive income:						
Net income for period	—	—	—	—	33,895	33,895
Change in net unrealized investment gains/losses	—	—	—	234,529	—	234,529
Noncredit component of OTTI losses, available for sale securities, net	—	—	—	(2,302)	—	(2,302)
Other comprehensive income						266,122
Conversion of \$60 of subordinated debentures	7	49	—	—	—	56
Acquisition of 6,300 shares of common stock	(6)	(44)	—	—	—	(50)
Allocation of 44,641 shares of common stock by ESOP, including excess income tax benefits	—	(31)	484	—	—	453
	—	6,800	—	—	—	6,800

Share-based compensation, including
excess income tax benefits

Issuance of 488,725 shares of common stock under compensation plans, including excess income tax benefits	489	2,296	—	—	—	2,785	
Issuance of warrants	—	15,600	—	—	—	15,600	
Balance at September 30, 2010	\$56,693	\$446,895	\$(5,195)	\$201,771	\$346,225	\$1,046,389

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

4

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(Dollars in thousands)

(Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
Operating activities		
Net income	\$36,549	\$33,895
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Interest sensitive and index product benefits	621,317	584,842
Amortization of deferred sales inducements	22,892	21,516
Annuity product charges	(57,259)	(52,673)
Change in fair value of embedded derivatives	(138,225)	(11,513)
Increase in traditional life and accident and health insurance reserves	70,612	20,777
Policy acquisition costs deferred	(342,299)	(260,837)
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	65,155	73,980
Provision for depreciation and other amortization	14,113	7,391
Amortization of discounts and premiums on investments	(115,340)	(188,044)
Realized gains on investments and net OTTI losses recognized	37,030	(14,233)
Change in fair value of derivatives	205,264	30,876
Deferred income taxes	(78,920)	(100,804)
Loss on extinguishment of debt	—	292
Share-based compensation	5,591	6,624
Change in accrued investment income	(45,147)	(34,854)
Change in income taxes recoverable/payable	(11,902)	95,924
Change in other assets	4,375	(10,061)
Change in other policy funds and contract claims	152,508	64,545
Change in collateral held for derivatives	(284,870)	(157,791)
Change in other liabilities	(61,921)	25,439
Other	516	421
Net cash provided by operating activities	100,039	135,712
Investing activities		
Sales, maturities, or repayments of investments:		
Fixed maturity securities - available for sale	3,433,977	3,084,551
Fixed maturity securities - held for investment	—	1,585,267
Equity securities - available for sale	2,958	31,665
Mortgage loans on real estate	133,560	111,305
Derivative instruments	432,411	406,563
Other investments	91	—
Acquisition of investments:		
Fixed maturity securities - available for sale	(3,685,523)	(5,620,989)
Fixed maturity securities - held for investment	(1,940,163)	(215,870)
Equity securities - available for sale	—	(10,125)
Mortgage loans on real estate	(413,536)	(203,606)
Derivative instruments	(295,099)	(241,962)
Short-term investments	—	(599,746)
Other investments	(77,189)	(533)

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO - Form 10-Q

Purchases of property, furniture and equipment	(4,643	)	(5,342)
Net cash used in investing activities	(2,413,156	)	(1,678,822)

5

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Continued)

(Dollars in thousands)

(Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
Financing activities		
Receipts credited to annuity policyholder account balances	\$3,718,010	\$3,114,235
Coinsurance deposits	(80,932	) (248,488
Return of annuity policyholder account balances	(1,357,892	) (1,189,388
Financing fees incurred and deferred	(1,566	) (6,742
Proceeds from notes payable	—	200,000
Repayments of notes payable	—	(156,641
Purchase of call spread - 2015 Notes Hedges	—	(37,000
Acquisition of common stock	(13	) (50
Excess tax benefits realized from share-based compensation plans	1,060	256
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	4,461	2,723
Proceeds from issuance of warrants	—	15,600
Change in checks in excess of cash balance	4,537	(14,878
Net cash provided by financing activities	2,287,665	1,679,627
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(25,452	) 136,517
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	597,766	528,002
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$572,314	\$664,519
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information		
Cash paid during period for:		
Interest expense	\$22,129	\$17,101
Income taxes	108,800	121,488
Income tax refunds received	—	100,000
Non-cash operating activity:		
Deferral of sales inducements	281,376	244,979
Non-cash investing activity:		
Real estate acquired in satisfaction of mortgage loans	17,358	7,408
Mortgage loan on real estate sold	1,215	—
Non-cash financing activities:		
Conversion of subordinated debentures	—	56

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING COMPANY
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2011

(Unaudited)

1. Significant Accounting Policies

Consolidation and Basis of Presentation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements of American Equity Investment Life Holding Company (“we”, “us” or “our”) have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) for interim financial information and the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all the information and notes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. The consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring items, which are necessary to present fairly our financial position and results of operations on a basis consistent with the prior audited consolidated financial statements. Operating results for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2011 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ended December 31, 2011. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated. The preparation of financial statements requires the use of management estimates. For further information related to a description of areas of judgment and estimates and other information necessary to understand our financial position and results of operations, refer to the audited consolidated financial statements and notes included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010. During 2011, we discovered a prior period error related to policy benefit reserves for our single premium immediate annuity products. Accordingly, we made an adjustment in the first quarter of 2011 which resulted in a decrease of policy benefit reserves and a decrease in interest sensitive and index product benefits of \$4.2 million. On an after-tax basis, the adjustment resulted in a \$2.7 million increase in net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2011.

Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

In January 2010, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued an accounting standards update that expands the disclosure requirements related to fair value measurements. A reporting entity is now required to present on a gross basis rather than as one net number information about the purchases, sales, issuances and settlements of financial instruments that are categorized as Level 3 for fair value measurements. Clarification on existing disclosure requirements is also provided in this update relating to the level of disaggregation of information as to determining appropriate classes of assets and liabilities as well as disclosure requirements regarding valuation techniques and inputs used to measure fair value for both recurring and nonrecurring fair value measurements. This standard was effective for us on January 1, 2011, and has not had a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In April 2011, the FASB issued an accounting standards update that gives creditors guidance in determining whether a creditor has granted a concession and whether a debtor is experiencing financial difficulties for purposes of determining whether a restructuring constitutes a troubled debt restructuring. Troubled debt restructures are considered impaired receivables for which an amount of impairment loss is determined at the time the loan is restructured. This standard update was effective for us on July 1, 2011, was applied retrospectively to restructures that we have completed on or after January 1, 2011, and has not had a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In October 2010, as a result of a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force, the FASB issued an accounting standards update that modifies the definition of the types of costs incurred that can be capitalized in the acquisition of new and renewal insurance contracts. This guidance defines the costs that qualify for deferral as incremental direct costs that result directly from and are essential to successful contract transactions and would not have been incurred by the insurance entity had the contract transactions not occurred. In addition, it lists certain costs as deferrable as those that are directly related to underwriting, policy issuance and processing, medical and inspection, and sales force contract selling as deferrable, as well as the portion of an employee's total compensation related directly to time spent performing those activities for actual acquired contracts and other costs related directly to those activities that would not have been incurred if the contract had not been acquired. This amendment to current GAAP should be applied

prospectively and is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2011, with retrospective application permitted. We are currently evaluating the impact of the guidance on our consolidated financial statements and we expect to apply prospectively. See note 6 to our audited consolidated financial statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010, for the policy issue costs that could be subject to non-deferral.

In May 2011, the FASB issued an accounting standards update that addresses fair value measurement and disclosure as part of its convergence efforts with the International Accounting Standards Board. The result is common fair value measurement and disclosure requirements in GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards. This accounting standards update changes the wording used to describe many of the requirements in GAAP for measuring fair value and for disclosing information about fair value measurements. Some changes clarify the FASB's intent about 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 disclosure requirements add information about transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy, information about the sensitivity of a fair value measurement categorized within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy to changes in unobservable inputs and any interrelationships between those unobservable inputs, and the categorization by level of the fair value hierarchy for items that are not measured at fair value in the statement of financial position, but for which the fair value of such items is required to be disclosed. This accounting standards update is effective during interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011 and early application is not permitted. We do not anticipate any effect to our financial position, results of operations or cash flows upon adoption.

In June 2011, the FASB issued an accounting standards update that expands the disclosure requirements related to other comprehensive income. A reporting entity is now required to present the total of comprehensive income, the 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. Under both choices, the reporting entity is required to present each component of net income along with total net income, each component of other comprehensive income along with a total for other comprehensive income and a total amount for comprehensive income. This standard also requires the reporting entity to present reclassification adjustments from other comprehensive income to net income and eliminates the presentation of other comprehensive income as part of the statements of stockholders' equity. This accounting standards update is effective during interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011 and should be applied retrospectively. We do not anticipate any effect to our financial position, results of operations or cash flows upon adoption.

2. Fair Values of Financial Instruments

The following sets forth a comparison of the fair values and carrying amounts of our financial instruments:

	September 30, 2011		December 31, 2010	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
(Dollars in thousands)				
Assets				
Fixed maturity securities:				
Available for sale	\$17,378,812	\$17,378,812	\$15,830,663	\$15,830,663
Held for investment	2,827,461	2,838,736	822,200	781,748
Equity securities, available for sale	65,401	65,401	65,961	65,961
Mortgage loans on real estate	2,838,893	2,942,195	2,598,641	2,670,009
Derivative instruments	171,905	171,905	479,786	479,786
Other investments	78,051	78,129	558	558
Cash and cash equivalents	572,314	572,314	597,766	597,766
Coinsurance deposits	2,759,735	2,479,722	2,613,191	2,282,998
2015 notes hedges	21,695	21,695	66,595	66,595
Liabilities				
Policy benefit reserves	26,651,672	22,412,815	23,464,810	19,594,396
Notes payable	340,552	389,243	330,835	489,097
Subordinated debentures	268,552	243,135	268,435	213,369
2015 notes embedded derivatives	21,695	21,695	66,595	66,595
Interest rate swaps	387	387	1,976	1,976

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (exit price) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The objective of a fair value measurement is to determine that price for each financial instrument at each measurement date. We meet this objective using various methods of valuation that include market, income and cost approaches.

We categorize our financial instruments into three levels of fair value hierarchy based on the priority of inputs used in determining fair value. The hierarchy defines the highest priority inputs (Level 1) as quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. The lowest priority inputs (Level 3) are our own assumptions about what a market participant would use in determining fair value such as estimated future cash flows. In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, a financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Our assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to the financial instrument.

We categorize financial assets and liabilities recorded at fair value in the consolidated balance sheets as follows:

Level 1— Quoted prices are available in active markets for identical financial instruments as of the reporting date. We do not adjust the quoted price for these financial instruments, even in situations where we hold a large position and a sale could reasonably impact the quoted price.

Level 2— Quoted prices in active markets for similar financial instruments, quoted prices for identical or similar financial instruments in markets that are not active; and models and other valuation methodologies using inputs other than quoted prices that are observable.

Level 3— Models and other valuation methodologies using significant inputs that are unobservable for financial instruments and include situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the financial instrument. The inputs into the determination of fair value require significant management judgment or estimation. Financial instruments that are included in Level 3 are securities for which no market activity or data exists and for which we used discounted expected future cash flows with our own assumptions about what a market participant would use in determining fair value.

Transfers of securities among the levels occur at times and depend on the type of inputs used to determine fair value of each security, however there were no transfers between levels during the nine months ended September 30, 2011.

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO - Form 10-Q

Our assets and liabilities which are measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010 are presented below based on the fair value hierarchy levels:

	Total Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
(Dollars in thousands)				
September 30, 2011				
Assets				
Fixed maturity securities:				
Available for sale:				
United States Government full faith and credit	\$4,681	\$4,681	\$—	\$—
United States Government sponsored agencies	1,232,751	—	1,232,751	—
United States municipalities, states and territories	3,157,337	—	3,157,337	—
Corporate securities	9,757,306	58,734	9,698,572	—
Residential mortgage backed securities	2,841,189	—	2,839,094	2,095
Other asset backed securities	385,548	—	385,548	—
Equity securities, available for sale: finance, insurance and real estate	65,401	43,499	21,902	—
Derivative instruments	171,905	—	171,905	—
Cash and cash equivalents	572,314	572,314	—	—
2015 notes hedges	21,695	—	21,695	—
	\$18,210,127	\$679,228	\$17,528,804	\$2,095
Liabilities				
Interest rate swaps	\$387	\$—	\$387	\$—
2015 notes embedded derivatives	21,695	—	21,695	—
Fixed index annuities - embedded derivatives	2,399,097	—	—	2,399,097
	\$2,421,179	\$—	\$22,082	\$2,399,097
December 31, 2010				
Assets				
Fixed maturity securities:				
Available for sale:				
United States Government full faith and credit	\$4,388	\$4,388	\$—	\$—
United States Government sponsored agencies	3,003,651	—	3,003,651	—
United States municipalities, states and territories	2,367,003	—	2,367,003	—
Corporate securities	7,372,537	71,230	7,301,307	—
Residential mortgage backed securities	2,878,557	—	2,875,855	2,702
Other asset backed securities	204,527	—	204,527	—
Equity securities, available for sale: finance, insurance and real estate	65,961	46,925	19,036	—
Derivative instruments	479,786	—	479,786	—
Cash and cash equivalents	597,766	597,766	—	—
2015 notes hedges	66,595	—	66,595	—
	\$17,040,771	\$720,309	\$16,317,760	\$2,702
Liabilities				
Interest rate swaps	\$1,976	\$—	\$1,976	\$—
2015 notes embedded derivatives	66,595	—	66,595	—

Fixed index annuities - embedded derivatives	1,971,383	—	—	1,971,383
	\$2,039,954	\$—	\$68,571	\$1,971,383

The following methods and assumptions were used in estimating the fair values of financial instruments during the periods presented in these consolidated financial statements.

Fixed maturity securities and equity securities

The fair values of fixed maturity securities and equity securities in an active and orderly market are determined by utilizing independent pricing services. The independent pricing services incorporate a variety of observable market data in their valuation techniques, including:

- reported trading prices,
- benchmark yields
- broker-dealer quotes,
- benchmark securities,
- bids and offers,
- credit ratings,
- relative credit information, and
- other reference data.

The independent pricing services also take into account perceived market movements and sector news, as well as a security's terms and conditions, including any features specific to that issue that may influence risk and marketability. Depending on the security, the priority of the use of observable market inputs may change as some observable market inputs may not be relevant or additional inputs may be necessary.

The independent pricing services provide quoted market prices when available. Quoted prices are not always available due to market inactivity. When quoted market prices are not available, the third parties use yield data and other factors relating to instruments or securities with similar characteristics to determine fair value for securities that are not actively traded. We generally obtain one value from our primary external pricing service. In situations where a price is not available from this service, we may obtain further quotes or prices from additional parties as needed. In addition, for our callable United States Government sponsored agencies we obtain two broker quotes and take the average of two broker prices received. Market indices of similar rated asset class spreads are considered for valuations and broker indications of similar securities are compared. Inputs used by the broker include market information, such as yield data and other factors relating to instruments or securities with similar characteristics. Valuations and quotes obtained from third party commercial pricing services are non-binding and do not represent quotes on which one may execute the disposition of the assets.

We validate external valuations at least quarterly through a combination of procedures that include the evaluation of methodologies used by the pricing services, analytical reviews and performance analysis of the prices against trends, and maintenance of a securities watch list. Additionally, as needed we utilize discounted cash flow models or perform independent valuations on a case-by-case basis of inputs and assumptions similar to those used by the pricing services. Although we do identify differences from time to time as a result of these validation procedures, we did not make any significant adjustments as of September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010.

Mortgage loans on real estate

Mortgage loans on real estate are not measured at fair value on a recurring basis. The fair values of mortgage loans on real estate are calculated using discounted expected cash flows using current competitive market interest rates currently being offered for similar loans which are not fair value exit prices. The fair values of impaired mortgage loans on real estate that we have considered to be collateral dependent are based on the fair value of the real estate collateral (based on appraised values) less estimated costs to sell.

Derivative instruments

The fair values of derivative instruments, primarily call options, are based upon the amount of cash that we will receive to settle each derivative instrument on the reporting date. These amounts are obtained from each of the counterparties using industry accepted valuation models and are adjusted for the nonperformance risk of each counterparty net of any collateral held. Inputs include market volatility and risk free interest rates and are used in income valuation techniques in arriving at a fair value for each option contract. The nonperformance risk for each counterparty is based upon its credit default swap rate. We have no performance obligations related to the call options purchased to fund our fixed index annuity policy liabilities.

Other investments

None of the assets included in other investments are measured at fair value on a recurring basis. Other investments is comprised of policy loans, an equity method investment, and company owned life insurance (COLI). We have not attempted to determine the fair values associated with our policy loans, as we believe any differences between carrying value and the fair values afforded these instruments are immaterial to our consolidated financial position and, accordingly, the cost to provide such disclosure does not justify the benefit to be derived. The fair value of of our equity method investment was determined by calculating the present value of future cash flows discounted by a risk free rate, a risk spread, and a liquidity discount. The fair value of our COLI approximates the carrying value which is equal to the cash surrender value.

Cash and cash equivalents

Amounts reported in the consolidated balance sheets for these instruments are reported at their historical cost which approximates fair value due to the nature of the assets assigned to this category.

2015 notes hedges

The fair value of these call options is determined by a third party who applies market observable data such as our common stock price, its dividend yield and its volatility, as well as the time to expiration of the call options to determine a fair value of the buy side of these options.

Policy benefit reserves and coinsurance deposits

The fair values of the liabilities under contracts not involving significant mortality or morbidity risks (principally deferred annuities), are stated at the cost we would incur to extinguish the liability (i.e., the cash surrender value) as these contracts are generally issued without an annuitization date. The coinsurance deposits related to the annuity benefit reserves have fair values determined in a similar fashion. We are not required to and have not estimated the fair value of the liabilities under contracts that involve significant mortality or morbidity risks, as these liabilities fall within the definition of insurance contracts that are exceptions from financial instruments that require disclosures of fair value. Neither policy benefit reserves nor coinsurance deposits are measured at fair value on a recurring basis.

Notes payable

The fair value of the convertible senior notes is based upon quoted market prices, and notes payable are not remeasured at fair value on a recurring basis.

Subordinated debentures

Fair values for subordinated debentures are estimated using discounted cash flow calculations based principally on observable inputs including our incremental borrowing rates, which reflect our credit rating, for similar types of borrowings with maturities consistent with those remaining for the debt being valued. Subordinated debentures are not measured at fair value on a recurring basis.

Interest rate swaps

The fair values of our pay fixed/receive variable interest rate swaps are obtained from third parties and are determined by discounting expected future cash flows using projected LIBOR rates for the term of the swaps.

2015 notes embedded derivatives

The fair value of this embedded derivative is determined by pricing the call options that hedge this potential liability. The terms of the conversion premium are identical to the 2015 notes hedges and the method of determining fair value of the call options is based upon observable market data.

Fixed index annuities - embedded derivatives

We estimate the fair value of the embedded derivative component of our fixed index annuity policy liabilities at each valuation date by (i) projecting policy contract values and minimum guaranteed contract values over the expected lives of the contracts and (ii) discounting the excess of the projected contract value amounts at the applicable risk free interest rates adjusted for our nonperformance risk related to those liabilities. The projections of policy contract values are based on our best estimate assumptions for future policy growth and future policy decrements. Our best estimate assumptions for future policy growth include assumptions for the expected index credit on the next policy anniversary date which are derived from the fair values of the underlying call options purchased to fund such index credits and the expected costs of annual call options we will purchase in the future to fund index credits beyond the next policy anniversary. The projections of minimum guaranteed contract values include the same best estimate assumptions for policy decrements as were used to project policy contract values.

The following tables provide a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances for our Level 3 assets and liabilities, which are measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Available for sale securities				
Beginning balance	\$2,193	\$8,910	\$2,702	\$17,918
Sales	—		—	(14,838)
Principal returned	(80)	(181)	(346)	(495)
(Amortization)/accretion of premium/discount	29	10	37	42
Transfers out of Level 3	—	(6,155)	—	(6,155)
Total gains (losses) (realized/unrealized):				
Included in other comprehensive income (loss)	105	115	384	8,457
Included in operations	(152)	—	(682)	(2,230)
Ending balance	\$2,095	\$2,699	\$2,095	\$2,699

The transfers out of Level 3 were corporate debt and equity securities in the home building sector that were issued as a result of a bankruptcy reorganization in late 2009. The operation that has resulted from this emergence from bankruptcy has become a stable business to which a third party broker has applied observable market data such as similar securities and credit spreads in determining fair value of these securities.

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Fixed index annuities - embedded derivatives				
Beginning balance	\$2,368,533	\$1,482,429	\$1,971,383	\$1,375,866
Premiums less benefits	274,579	156,984	742,255	571,719
Change in unrealized gains, net	(244,015)	66,849	(314,541)	(241,323)
Ending balance	\$2,399,097	\$1,706,262	\$2,399,097	\$1,706,262

Change in unrealized gains, net for each period in our embedded derivatives are included in change in fair value of embedded derivatives in the unaudited consolidated statements of operations.

3. Investments

At September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010, the amortized cost and fair value of fixed maturity securities and equity securities were as follows:

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
	(Dollars in thousands)			
September 30, 2011				
Fixed maturity securities:				
Available for sale:				
United States Government full faith and credit	\$4,083	\$598	\$—	\$4,681
United States Government sponsored agencies	1,215,879	16,981	(109)	) 1,232,751
United States municipalities, states and territories	2,813,263	344,132	(58)	) 3,157,337
Corporate securities	8,780,244	1,049,175	(72,113)	) 9,757,306
Residential mortgage backed securities	2,747,860	168,051	(74,722)	) 2,841,189
Other asset backed securities	363,208	26,196	(3,856)	) 385,548
	\$15,924,537	\$1,605,133	\$(150,858)	) \$17,378,812
Held for investment:				
United States Government sponsored agencies	\$2,751,566	\$30,739	\$—	\$2,782,305
Corporate security	75,895	—	(19,464)	) 56,431
	\$2,827,461	\$30,739	\$(19,464)	) \$2,838,736
Equity securities, available for sale:				
Finance, insurance, and real estate	\$59,197	\$9,030	\$(2,826)	) \$65,401
December 31, 2010				
Fixed maturity securities:				
Available for sale:				
United States Government full faith and credit	\$4,082	\$324	\$(18)	) \$4,388
United States Government sponsored agencies	2,994,174	11,123	(1,646)	) 3,003,651
United States municipalities, states and territories	2,397,622	22,765	(53,384)	) 2,367,003
Corporate securities	7,124,316	380,124	(131,903)	) 7,372,537
Residential mortgage backed securities	2,900,028	86,950	(108,421)	) 2,878,557
Other asset backed securities	201,672	7,792	(4,937)	) 204,527
	\$15,621,894	\$509,078	\$(300,309)	) \$15,830,663
Held for investment:				
United States Government sponsored agencies	\$746,414	\$—	\$(15,309)	) \$731,105
Corporate security	75,786	—	(25,143)	) 50,643
	\$822,200	\$—	\$(40,452)	) \$781,748
Equity securities, available for sale:				
Finance, insurance, and real estate	\$61,185	\$6,722	\$(1,946)	) \$65,961

During the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, we received \$2.9 billion and \$4.0 billion, respectively, in redemption proceeds related to calls of our callable United States Government sponsored agency securities and public and private corporate bonds, of which \$1.6 billion were classified as held for investment for the nine months ended September 30, 2010. There were no calls of held for investment securities during the nine months ended September 30, 2011. We reinvested the proceeds from these redemptions primarily in United States Government sponsored agencies, United States municipalities, states, and territories, corporate securities and residential mortgage and other asset backed securities. At September 30, 2011, 36% of our fixed income securities have call features and 1% (\$0.1 billion) were subject to call redemption. Another 21% (\$4.0 billion) will become subject to call redemption during the next twelve months (principally the first three quarters of 2012).

The amortized cost and fair value of fixed maturity securities at September 30, 2011, by contractual maturity, are shown below. Actual maturities will differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties. All of our residential mortgage and other asset backed securities provide for periodic payments throughout their lives and are shown below as separate lines.

	Available-for-sale		Held for investment	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Due in one year or less	\$44,455	\$45,218	\$—	\$—
Due after one year through five years	438,413	492,808	—	—
Due after five years through ten years	1,993,044	2,202,168	—	—
Due after ten years through twenty years	3,960,426	4,283,903	—	—
Due after twenty years	6,377,131	7,127,978	2,827,461	2,838,736
	12,813,469	14,152,075	2,827,461	2,838,736
Residential mortgage backed securities	2,747,860	2,841,189	—	—
Other asset backed securities	363,208	385,548	—	—
	\$15,924,537	\$17,378,812	\$2,827,461	\$2,838,736

Net unrealized gains on available for sale fixed maturity securities and equity securities reported as a separate component of stockholders' equity were comprised of the following:

	September 30, 2011	December 31, 2010
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Net unrealized gains on available for sale fixed maturity securities and equity securities	\$1,460,479	\$213,545
Adjustments for assumed changes in amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs and deferred sales inducements	(795,593)	(122,336)
Deferred income tax valuation allowance reversal	22,534	22,534
Deferred income tax benefit	(232,710)	(31,923)
Net unrealized gains reported as accumulated other comprehensive income	\$454,710	\$81,820

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (“NAIC”) assigns designations to fixed maturity securities. These designations range from Class 1 (highest quality) to Class 6 (lowest quality). In general, securities are assigned a designation based upon the ratings they are given by the Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations (“NRSRO’s”). The NAIC designations are utilized by insurers in preparing their annual statutory statements. NAIC Class 1 and 2 designations are considered “investment grade” while NAIC Class 3 through 6 designations are considered “non-investment grade.” Based on the NAIC designations, we had 99% and 98% of our fixed maturity portfolio rated investment grade at September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively.

The following table summarizes the credit quality, as determined by NAIC designation, of our fixed maturity portfolio as of the dates indicated:

NAIC Designation	September 30, 2011		December 31, 2010	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
	(Dollars in thousands)			
1	\$14,135,552	\$15,232,031	\$12,152,552	\$12,246,954
2	4,376,651	4,771,912	3,892,680	4,012,076
3	221,596	194,853	368,680	323,113
4	9,876	9,041	19,820	19,178
5	5,041	5,861	6,089	6,262
6	3,282	3,850	4,273	4,828
	\$18,751,998	\$20,217,548	\$16,444,094	\$16,612,411

The following tables show our investments' gross unrealized losses and fair value, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities (consisting of 233 and 780 securities, respectively) have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, at September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010:

	Less than 12 months		12 months or more		Total	
	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses
	(Dollars in thousands)					
September 30, 2011						
Fixed maturity securities:						
Available for sale:						
United States Government sponsored agencies	\$52,933	\$(109)	\$—	\$—	\$52,933	\$(109)
United States municipalities, states and territories	3,487	(58)	—	—	3,487	(58)
Corporate securities:						
Finance, insurance and real estate	520,139	(37,487)	116,744	(9,711)	636,883	(47,198)
Manufacturing, construction and mining	141,465	(3,515)	29,093	(2,669)	170,558	(6,184)
Utilities and related sectors	206,963	(9,784)	26,043	(3,755)	233,006	(13,539)
Wholesale/retail trade	22,029	(477)	9,100	(1,371)	31,129	(1,848)
Services, media and other	13,284	(137)	21,232	(3,207)	34,516	(3,344)
Residential mortgage backed securities	279,160	(15,088)	781,104	(59,634)	1,060,264	(74,722)
Other asset backed securities	28,790	(1,257)	10,762	(2,599)	39,552	(3,856)
	\$1,268,250	\$(67,912)	\$994,078	\$(82,946)	\$2,262,328	\$(150,858)
Held for investment:						
Corporate security:						
Insurance	\$—	\$—	\$56,431	\$(19,464)	\$56,431	\$(19,464)
Equity securities, available for sale:						
Finance, insurance and real estate	\$11,593	\$(1,406)	\$6,237	\$(1,420)	\$17,830	\$(2,826)
December 31, 2010						
Fixed maturity securities:						
Available for sale:						
United States Government full faith and credit	\$548	\$(18)	\$—	\$—	\$548	\$(18)
United States Government sponsored agencies	110,101	(1,646)	—	—	110,101	(1,646)
United States municipalities, states and territories	1,510,354	(51,989)	7,525	(1,395)	1,517,879	(53,384)
Corporate securities:						
Finance, insurance and real estate	570,978	(27,603)	114,128	(13,001)	685,106	(40,604)
Manufacturing, construction and mining	1,024,454	(33,239)	34,490	(2,333)	1,058,944	(35,572)
Utilities and related sectors	927,476	(34,630)	14,157	(4,552)	941,633	(39,182)
Wholesale/retail trade	153,699	(4,947)	9,175	(1,304)	162,874	(6,251)
Services, media and other	181,857	(10,294)	—	—	181,857	(10,294)
	396,083	(14,100)	966,332	(94,321)	1,362,415	(108,421)

Residential mortgage backed securities						
Other asset backed securities	83,011	(4,937)	—	—	83,011	(4,937)
	\$4,958,561	\$(183,403)	\$1,145,807	\$(116,906)	\$6,104,368	\$(300,309)
Held for investment:						
United States Government sponsored agencies	\$731,105	\$(15,309)	\$—	\$—	\$731,105	\$(15,309)
Corporate security:						
Insurance	—	—	50,643	(25,143)	50,643	(25,143)
	\$731,105	\$(15,309)	\$50,643	\$(25,143)	\$781,748	\$(40,452)
Equity securities, available for sale:						
Finance, insurance and real estate	\$14,583	\$(1,199)	\$16,253	\$(747)	\$30,836	\$(1,946)

The following is a description of the factors causing the temporary unrealized losses by investment category as of September 30, 2011:

United States Government sponsored agencies; and United States municipalities, states and territories: These securities are relatively long in duration, making the value of such securities sensitive to changes in market interest rates. We purchase these securities regularly over time at different interest rates available at time of purchase; thus, some securities carry yields less than those available at September 30, 2011.

Corporate securities: The unrealized losses in these securities are due partially to the timing of purchases in 2011 and a small number of securities seeing their yield spreads widen due to issuer specific news. In addition, the financial sector credit spreads widened during the quarter on declining fiscal policy and continued stress in the European Union.

Residential mortgage backed securities: At September 30, 2011, we had no exposure to sub-prime residential mortgage backed securities. All of our residential mortgage backed securities are pools of first-lien residential mortgage loans. Substantially all of the securities that we own are in the most senior tranche of the securitization in which they are structured and are not subordinated to any other tranche. Our "Alt-A"

residential mortgage backed securities are comprised of 36 securities with a total amortized cost basis of \$445.3million and a fair value of \$405.6 million. Despite recent improvements in the capital markets, the fair values of RMBS continue at prices below amortized cost. RMBS prices will likely remain below our cost basis until the housing market is able to absorb current and future foreclosures.

Equity securities: Equity securities in an unrealized loss position have exposure to the economic uncertainty surrounding the European Union which has resulted in unrealized losses in this category. A majority of these securities have been in an unrealized loss position for 12 months or more and are investment grade perpetual preferred stocks that are absent credit deterioration. A continued difficult investment environment has raised concerns in regard to earnings and dividend stability in many companies which directly affect the values of these securities.

Where the decline in market value of debt securities is attributable to changes in market interest rates or to factors such as market volatility, liquidity and spread widening, and we anticipate recovery of all contractual or expected cash flows, we do not consider these investments to be other than temporarily impaired because we do not intend to sell these investments and it is not more likely than not we will be required to sell these securities before a recovery of amortized cost, which may be maturity. For equity securities, we recognize an impairment charge in the period in which we do not have the intent and ability to hold the securities until a recovery of cost or we determine that the security will not recover to book value within a reasonable period of time. We determine what constitutes a reasonable period of time on a security-by-security basis based upon consideration of all the evidence available to us, including the magnitude of an unrealized loss and its duration. In any event, this period does not exceed 18 months from the date of impairment for perpetual preferred securities for which there is evidence of deterioration in credit of the issuer and common equity securities. For perpetual preferred securities absent evidence of a deterioration in credit of the issuer we apply an impairment model, including an anticipated recovery period, similar to a debt security. For equity securities we measure impairment charges based upon the difference between the book value of a security and its fair value.

All of the securities with unrealized losses are current with respect to the payment of principal and interest.

Changes in net unrealized gains on investments for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 are as follows:

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Fixed maturity securities held for investment carried at amortized cost	\$51,727	\$3,993
Investments carried at fair value:		
Fixed maturity securities, available for sale	\$1,245,506	\$838,344
Short-term investments	—	11
Equity securities, available for sale	1,428	1,223
	1,246,934	839,578
Adjustment for effect on other balance sheet accounts:		
Deferred policy acquisition costs and deferred sales inducements	(673,257	) (482,306
Deferred income tax asset	(200,787	) (125,045
	(874,044	) (607,351
Increase in net unrealized gains on investments carried at fair value	\$372,890	\$232,227

Proceeds from sales of available for sale securities for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 were \$144.4 million and \$271.5 million, respectively. Scheduled principal repayments, calls and tenders for available for sale securities for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 were \$3.3 billion and \$2.7 billion, respectively.

Realized gains and losses on sales are determined on the basis of specific identification of investments based on the trade date. Realized gains (losses) on investments, excluding net OTTI losses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 are as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Available for sale fixed maturity securities:				
Gross realized gains	\$ 169	\$ 9,732	\$ 4,711	\$ 22,019
Gross realized losses	—	—	(1,423	) (2,359
	169	9,732	3,288	19,660
Equity securities:				
Gross realized gains	—	3,264	966	9,471
Gross realized losses	—	(71	) —	(71
	—	3,193	966	9,400
Mortgage loans on real estate:				
Increase in allowance for credit losses	(17,461	) (1,043	) (23,581	) (6,212
Other investments:				
Impairment losses	—	(584	) (12	) (584
	\$(17,292	) \$11,298	\$(19,339	) \$22,264

We review and analyze all investments on an ongoing basis for changes in market interest rates and credit deterioration. This review process includes analyzing our ability to recover the amortized cost basis of each investment that has a fair value that is materially lower than its amortized cost and requires a high degree of management judgment and involves uncertainty. The evaluation of securities for other than temporary impairments is a quantitative and qualitative process, which is subject to risks and uncertainties.

We have a policy and process in place to identify securities that could potentially have impairments that are other than temporary. This process involves monitoring market events and other items that could impact issuers. The evaluation includes but is not limited to such factors as:

- the length of time and the extent to which the fair value has been less than amortized cost or cost;
- whether the issuer is current on all payments and all contractual payments have been made as agreed;
- the remaining payment terms and the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer;
- the lack of ability to refinance due to liquidity problems in the credit market;
- the fair value of any underlying collateral;
- the existence of any credit protection available;
- our intent to sell and whether it is more likely than not we would be required to sell prior to recovery for debt securities;
- our assessment in the case of equity securities including perpetual preferred stocks with credit deterioration that the security cannot recover to cost in a reasonable period of time;
- our intent and ability to retain equity securities for a period of time sufficient to allow for recovery;
- consideration of rating agency actions; and
- changes in estimated cash flows of residential mortgage and asset backed securities.

We determine whether other than temporary impairment losses should be recognized for debt and equity securities by assessing all facts and circumstances surrounding each security. Where the decline in market value of debt securities is attributable to changes in market interest rates or to factors such as market volatility, liquidity and spread widening, and we anticipate recovery of all contractual or expected cash flows, we do not consider these investments to be other than temporarily impaired because we do not intend to sell these investments and it is not more likely than not we will be required to sell these investments before a recovery of amortized cost, which may be maturity. For equity securities, we recognize an impairment charge in the period in which we do not have the intent and ability to hold the

securities until recovery of cost or we determine that the security will not recover to book value within a reasonable period of time. We determine what constitutes a reasonable period of time on a security-by-security basis by considering all the evidence available to us, including the magnitude of any unrealized loss and its duration. In any event, this period does not exceed 18 months from the date of impairment for perpetual preferred securities for which there is evidence of deterioration in credit of the issuer and common equity securities. For perpetual preferred securities absent evidence of a deterioration in credit of the issuer we apply an impairment model, including an anticipated recovery period, similar to a debt security.

Other than temporary impairment losses on equity securities are recognized in operations. If we intend to sell a debt security or if it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell a debt security before recovery of its amortized cost basis, other than temporary impairment has occurred and the difference between amortized cost and fair value will be recognized as a loss in operations.

If we do not intend to sell and it is not more likely than not we will be required to sell the debt security but also do not expect to recover the entire amortized cost basis of the security, an impairment loss would be recognized in operations in the amount of the expected credit loss. We calculate the present value of the cash flows expected to be collected discounted at each security's acquisition yield based on our consideration of whether the security was of high credit quality at the time of acquisition. The difference between the present value of expected future cash flows and the amortized cost basis of the security is the amount of credit loss recognized in operations. The remaining amount of the other than temporary impairment is recognized in other comprehensive income.

The determination of the credit loss component of a residential mortgage backed security is based on a number of factors. The primary consideration in this evaluation process is the issuer's ability to meet current and future interest and principal payments as contractually stated at time of purchase. Our review of these securities includes an analysis of the cash flow modeling under various default scenarios considering independent third party benchmarks, the seniority of the specific tranche within the structure of the security, the composition of the collateral and the actual default, loss severity and prepayment experience exhibited. With the input of third party assumptions for default projections, loss severity and prepayment expectations, we evaluate the cash flow projections to determine whether the security is performing in accordance with its contractual obligation.

We utilize the models from a leading structured product software specialist serving institutional investors. These models incorporate each security's seniority and cash flow structure. In circumstances where the analysis implies a potential for principal loss at some point in the future, we use the "best estimate" cash flow projection discounted at the security's effective yield at acquisition to determine the amount of our potential credit loss associated with this security. The discounted expected future cash flows equates to our expected recovery value. Any shortfall of the expected recovery when compared to the amortized cost of the security will be recorded as the credit loss component of other than temporary impairment.

The cash flow modeling is performed on a security-by-security basis and incorporates actual cash flows on the residential mortgage backed securities through the current period, as well as the projection of remaining cash flows using a number of assumptions including default rates, prepayment rates and loss severity rates. The default curves we use are tailored to the Prime or Alt-A residential mortgage backed securities that we own, which assume lower default rates and loss severity for Prime securities versus Alt-A securities. These default curves are scaled higher or lower depending on factors such as current underlying mortgage loan performance, rating agency loss projections, loan to value ratios, geographic diversity, as well as other appropriate considerations. The default curves generally assume lower loss levels for older vintage securities versus more recent vintage securities, which reflects the decline in underwriting standards over the years.

The following table presents the range of significant assumptions used to determine the credit loss component of other than temporary impairments we have recognized on residential mortgage backed securities for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 which are all senior level tranches within the structure of the securities:

Sector	Vintage	Discount Rate		Default Rate		Loss Severity		
		Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
Nine months ended September 30, 2011								
Prime	2005	5.8	% 7.7	% 6	% 13	% 45	% 55	%
	2006	6.4	% 7.6	% 8	% 14	% 45	% 60	%
	2007	5.8	% 7.9	% 8	% 30	% 40	% 60	%
Alt-A	2005	5.8	% 7.7	% 11	% 25	% 5	% 55	%
	2006	6.0	% 6.5	% 23	% 33	% 50	% 55	%
	2007	6.2	% 7.4	% 29	% 41	% 50	% 70	%
Nine months ended September 30, 2010								
Prime	2005	7.5	% 7.5	% 11	% 11	% 45	% 45	%
	2006	7.3	% 7.3	% 7	% 11	% 45	% 55	%
	2007	5.8	% 6.6	% 11	% 19	% 45	% 60	%
Alt-A	2005	6.2	% 7.4	% 12	% 27	% 45	% 50	%
	2007	7.0	% 7.0	% 44	% 45	% 57	% 60	%

The determination of the credit loss component of a corporate bond (including redeemable preferred stocks) is based on the underlying financial performance of the issuer and their ability to meet their contractual obligations.

Considerations in our evaluation include, but are not limited to, credit rating changes, financial statement and ratio analysis, changes in management, significant changes in credit spreads, breaches of financial covenants and a review of the economic outlook for the industry and markets in which they trade. In circumstances where an issuer appears unlikely to meet its future obligation, or the security's price decline is deemed other than temporary, an estimate of

credit loss is determined. Credit loss is calculated using default probabilities as derived from the credit default swaps markets in conjunction with recovery rates derived from independent third party analysis or a best estimate of credit loss. This credit loss rate is then incorporated into a present value calculation based on an expected principal loss in the future discounted at the yield at the date of purchase and compared to amortized cost to determine the amount of credit loss associated with the security.

The following table summarizes other than temporary impairments for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, by asset type:

	Number of Securities	Total OTTI Losses	Portion of OTTI Losses Recognized in (from) Other Comprehensive Income	Net OTTI Losses Recognized in Operations	
(Dollars in thousands)					
Three months ended September 30, 2011					
Fixed maturity securities, available for sale:					
Residential mortgage backed securities	37	\$ (5,133	) \$ (3,758	) \$ (8,891)
	37	\$ (5,133	) \$ (3,758	) \$ (8,891)
Three months ended September 30, 2010					
Fixed maturity securities, available for sale:					
Corporate securities:					
Finance	1	\$ (822	) \$ —	\$ (822)
Retail	1	(1,338	) —	(1,338)
Residential mortgage backed securities	7	—	(1,830	) (1,830)
	9	\$ (2,160	) \$ (1,830	) \$ (3,990)
Nine months ended September 30, 2011					
Fixed maturity securities, available for sale:					
Residential mortgage backed securities	47	\$ (10,346	) \$ (7,345	) \$ (17,691)
	47	\$ (10,346	) \$ (7,345	) \$ (17,691)
Nine months ended September 30, 2010					
Fixed maturity securities, available for sale:					
Corporate securities:					
Finance	1	\$ (822	) \$ —	\$ (822)
Retail	1	(1,338	) —	(1,338)
Residential mortgage backed securities	10	(14,187	) 8,316	(5,871)
	12	\$ (16,347	) \$ 8,316	\$ (8,031)

The cumulative portion of other than temporary impairments determined to be credit losses which have been recognized in operations for debt securities are summarized as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2011		September 30, 2010	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
(Dollars in thousands)				
Cumulative credit loss at beginning of period	\$ (104,480)	\$ (81,962)	) \$ (96,893)	) \$ (82,930)
Credit losses on securities for which OTTI has not previously been recognized	(1,243	) (2,160	) (2,032	) (4,847
Additional credit losses on securities for which OTTI has previously been recognized	(7,648	) (1,830	) (15,659	) (3,184
Accumulated losses on securities that were disposed of during the period	—	1,855	1,213	6,864
Cumulative credit loss at end of period	\$ (113,371)	\$ (84,097)	) \$ (113,371)	) \$ (84,097)

The following table summarizes the cumulative noncredit portion of OTTI and the change in fair value since recognition of OTTI, both of which were recognized in other comprehensive income, by major type of security for securities that are part of our investment portfolio at September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010:

	Amortized Cost	OTTI Recognized in Other Comprehensive Income	Change in Fair Value Since OTTI was Recognized	Fair Value
(Dollars in thousands)				
September 30, 2011				
Corporate fixed maturity securities	\$3,296	\$(2,151)	) \$4,673	\$5,818
Residential mortgage backed securities	964,254	(193,577)	) 128,447	899,124
Equity securities:				
Finance, insurance and real estate	12,779	—	5,727	18,506
	\$980,329	\$(195,728)	) \$138,847	\$923,448
December 31, 2010				
Corporate fixed maturity securities	\$5,055	\$(2,151)	) \$5,437	\$8,341
Residential mortgage backed securities	904,704	(200,921)	) 124,240	828,023
Equity securities:				
Finance, insurance and real estate	14,771	—	5,783	20,554
	\$924,530	\$(203,072)	) \$135,460	\$856,918

4. Mortgage Loans on Real Estate

Our mortgage loan portfolio totaled \$2.8 billion and \$2.6 billion at September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively, with commitments outstanding of \$37.6 million at September 30, 2011. The portfolio consists of commercial mortgage loans collateralized by the related properties and diversified as to property type, location and loan size. Our mortgage lending policies establish limits on the amount that can be loaned to one borrower and other criteria to attempt to reduce the risk of default. The mortgage loan portfolio is summarized by geographic region and property type as follows:

	September 30, 2011		December 31, 2010		
	Carrying Amount	Percent	Carrying Amount	Percent	
	(Dollars in thousands)				
Geographic distribution					
East	\$714,735	24.9	% \$618,250	23.6	%
Middle Atlantic	178,842	6.2	% 172,443	6.6	%
Mountain	410,779	14.3	% 402,965	15.4	%
New England	42,974	1.5	% 42,695	1.6	%
Pacific	308,788	10.8	% 247,254	9.5	%
South Atlantic	494,149	17.2	% 496,606	19.0	%
West North Central	479,750	16.7	% 419,002	16.0	%
West South Central	239,687	8.4	% 215,650	8.3	%
	2,869,704	100.0	% 2,614,865	100.0	%
Loan loss allowance	(30,811)		(16,224)		
	\$2,838,893		\$2,598,641		
Property type distribution					
Office	\$766,184	26.7	% \$683,404	26.1	%
Medical Office	173,406	6.0	% 166,930	6.4	%
Retail	644,240	22.5	% 589,369	22.5	%
Industrial/Warehouse	707,523	24.7	% 666,908	25.6	%
Hotel	140,374	4.9	% 151,516	5.8	%
Apartment	187,399	6.5	% 131,682	5.0	%
Mixed use/other	250,578	8.7	% 225,056	8.6	%
	2,869,704	100.0	% 2,614,865	100.0	%
Loan loss allowance	(30,811)		(16,224)		
	\$2,838,893		\$2,598,641		

We evaluate our mortgage loan portfolio for the establishment of a loan loss reserve by specific identification of impaired loans and the measurement of an estimated loss for each individual loan identified. A mortgage loan is impaired when it is probable that we will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement. If we determine that the value of any specific mortgage loan is impaired, the carrying amount of the mortgage loan will be reduced to its fair value, based upon the present value of expected future cash flows from the loan discounted at the loan's effective interest rate, or the fair value of the underlying collateral less estimated costs to sell. In addition, we analyze the mortgage loan portfolio for the need of a general loan allowance for probable losses on all other loans. The amount of the general loan allowance is based upon management's evaluation of the collectability of the loan portfolio, historical loss experience, delinquencies, credit concentrations, underwriting standards and national and local economic conditions.

Mortgage loans summarized in the following table represent all loans that we are either not currently collecting or those we feel it is probable we will not collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreements (all loans that we have worked with the borrower to alleviate short-term cash flow issues, loans delinquent for more than 60 days at the reporting date, and loans we have determined to be collateral dependent).

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO - Form 10-Q

	September 30, 2011	December 31, 2010
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Mortgage loans with allowances - individually evaluated for impairment	\$69,792	\$31,027
Mortgage loans with no specific allowance for losses - collectively evaluated for impairment	56,495	81,994
Allowance for probable loan losses	(25,111	) (13,224
Net carrying value	\$101,176	\$99,797

22

Our financing receivables currently consist of one portfolio segment which is our commercial mortgage loan portfolio. These are mortgage loans with collateral consisting of commercial real estate and borrowers consisting mostly of limited liability partnerships or limited liability corporations. Credit loss experience in our mortgage loan portfolio has been limited to the most recent fiscal years. We experienced our first credit loss from our mortgage loan portfolio in 2009.

Since 2008, we have had a population of mortgage loans that we have been carrying with workout terms (e.g. short-term interest only periods, short-term suspended payments, etc.) and a population of mortgage loans that have been in a delinquent status (i.e. more than 60 days past due). It is from this population that we have been recognizing impairment loss due to nonpayment and eventual satisfaction of the loan by taking ownership of the collateral real estate. In most cases the fair value of the collateral less estimated costs to sell such collateral has been less than the outstanding principal amount of the mortgage loan.

Beginning in 2010, we calculated a general loan loss allowance on the cumulative outstanding principal on loans making up the group of loans currently in workout terms and loans currently more than 60 days past due. We have expanded the criteria for loans that are included in our general loan loss allowance to loans for which the borrower has requested workout terms. We apply a factor to the total outstanding principal of these loans that is calculated as the average specific impairment loss for the most recent 4 quarters divided by the sum of the average of the total outstanding principal of delinquent loans for the most recent 4 quarters and the average of the total outstanding principal of loans in workout and those we are considering for workout for the most recent 4 quarters. If any of the loans within our general loan loss allowance are deemed to be at a higher risk (factors such as single tenant, bankruptcy of borrower, etc.) we apply a factor to the higher risk loans that is double that of what we calculated. The following table presents a rollforward of our specific and general valuation allowances for commercial mortgage loans for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2011		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2011	
	Specific Allowance	General Allowance	Specific Allowance	General Allowance
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Beginning allowance balance	\$ (15,027	) \$ (4,200	) \$ (13,224	) \$ (3,000
Charge-offs	5,877	—	8,994	—
Recoveries	—	—	—	—
Provision for credit losses	(15,961	) (1,500	) (20,881	) (2,700
Ending allowance balance	\$ (25,111	) \$ (5,700	) \$ (25,111	) \$ (5,700

The specific allowance is a total of credit loss allowances on loans which are individually evaluated for impairment. The general allowance is the group of loans discussed above which are collectively evaluated for impairment. The amount of charge-offs include the amount of allowance that has been established for loans that we were in the process of satisfying the outstanding principal by taking ownership of the collateral. When the property is taken it is recorded at its fair value and the mortgage loan is recorded as fully paid, with any allowance for credit loss that has been established charged off. There could be other situations that develop where we have established a larger specific loan loss allowance than is needed based on increases in the fair value of collateral supporting collateral dependent loans, or improvements in the financial position of a borrower so that a loan would become reliant on cash flows from debt service instead of dependent upon sale of the collateral. Charge-offs of the allowance would be recognized in those situations as well.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2011, nine mortgage loans were satisfied by taking ownership of the real estate serving as collateral. These loans had an aggregate principal amount outstanding of \$26.4 million and specific loan loss allowances totaling \$8.9 million, of which \$1.8 million were established and recognized during the nine months ended September 30, 2011. Additional impairment of \$0.1 million was recognized on one loan at foreclosure during the second quarter of 2011 based on the fair value received from a third party appraisal less costs to sell. During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, five mortgage loans were satisfied by taking ownership of the real estate serving as collateral. These loans had a total aggregate principal amount outstanding of \$11.7 million, for which

specific loan loss allowances totaling \$4.3 million were established and recognized during the nine months ended September 30, 2010.

We analyze credit risk of our mortgage loans by analyzing all available evidence on loans that are delinquent and loans that are in a workout period.

	September 30, 2011 (Dollars in thousands)	December 31, 2010
Credit Exposure--By Payment Activity		
Performing	\$2,761,195	\$2,501,843
In workout	71,221	68,477
Delinquent	6,425	20,482
Collateral dependent	30,863	24,063
	\$2,869,704	\$2,614,865

Mortgage loans are considered delinquent when they become 60 days past due. When loans become 90 days past due, become collateral dependent or enter a period with no debt service payments required we place them on non-accrual status and discontinue recognizing interest income. If payments are received on a delinquent loan, interest income is recognized to the extent it would have been recognized if normal principal and interest would have been received timely. If payments are received to bring a delinquent loan current we will resume accruing interest income on that loan. Outstanding principal of loans in a non-accrual status at September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010 totaled \$39.2 million and \$41.0 million, respectively.

All of our commercial mortgage loans depend on the cash flow of the borrower to be at a sufficient level to service the principal and interest payments as they come due. In general, cash inflows of the borrowers are generated by collecting monthly rent from tenants occupying space within the borrowers' properties. Our borrowers face collateral risks such as tenants going out of business, tenants struggling to make rent payments as they become due, and tenants canceling leases and moving to other locations. We have a number of loans where the real estate is occupied by a single tenant. The current depressed and somewhat inactive commercial real estate market has resulted in some of our borrowers experiencing both a reduction in cash flow on their mortgage property as well as a reduction in the fair value of the real estate collateral. If these borrowers are unable to replace lost rent revenue and increases in the fair value of their property do not materialize we could potentially incur more losses than what we have allowed for in our specific and general loan loss allowances.

Aging of commercial mortgage loans, with loans in a "workout" period as of the reporting date considered current if payments are current in accordance with agreed upon terms:

	30 - 59 Days	60 - 89 Days	90 Days and Over	Total Past Due	Current	Collateral Dependent Receivables	Total Financing Receivables
	(Dollars in thousands)						
September 30, 2011	\$—	\$3,701	\$2,724	\$6,425	\$2,832,416	\$30,863	\$2,869,704
December 31, 2010	\$3,002	\$9,169	\$11,313	\$23,484	\$2,567,318	\$24,063	\$2,614,865

Financing receivables summarized in the following table represent all loans that we are either not currently collecting or those we feel it is probable we will not collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreements (all loans that we have worked with the borrower to alleviate short-term cash flow issues, loans delinquent for more than 60 days at the reporting date, and loans we have determined to be collateral dependent).

	Recorded Investment	Unpaid Principal Balance	Related Allowance	Average Recorded Investment	Interest Income Recognized
	(Dollars in thousands)				
September 30, 2011					
Mortgage loans with an allowance	\$44,681	\$69,792	\$(25,111)	\$55,098	\$2,436
Mortgage loans with no related allowance	56,495	56,495	—	56,648	2,254
	\$101,176	\$126,287	\$(25,111)	\$111,746	\$4,690
December 31, 2010					
Mortgage loans with an allowance	\$17,803	\$31,027	\$(13,224)	\$24,062	\$656
Mortgage loans with no related allowance	81,994	81,994	—	82,535	4,921
	\$99,797	\$113,021	\$(13,224)	\$106,597	\$5,577

The loans that are categorized as "in workout" consist of loans that we have agreed to lower or no mortgage payments for a period of time while the borrowers address cash flow and/or operational issues. The key features of these workouts have been determined on a loan-by-loan basis. Most of these loans are in a period of low cash flow due to tenants vacating their space or tenants requesting rent relief during difficult economic periods. Generally, we have allowed the borrower a six month interest only period and in some cases a twelve month period of interest only.

Interest only workout loans are expected to return to their regular debt service payments after the interest only period. Interest only loans that are not fully amortizing will have a larger balance at their balloon date than originally contracted. Fully amortizing loans that are in interest only periods will have larger debt service payments for their remaining term due to lost principal payments during the interest only period. In one case we have allowed a borrower no debt service payments for 24 months. We have agreed to a lump sum cash payment to allow the borrower to settle this loan in full at the end of the 24 month period. In limited circumstances we have allowed borrowers to pay the principal portion of their loan payment into an escrow account that can be used for capital and tenant improvements for a period of not more than 12 months. In these situations new loan amortization schedules are calculated based on the principal not collected during this 12 month workout period and larger payments are collected for the remaining term of each loan. In all cases, original interest rate and maturity date have not been modified and we have not forgiven any principal amounts.

A Troubled Debt Restructuring ("TDR") is a situation where we have granted a concession to a borrower for economic or legal reasons related to the borrower's financial difficulties that we would not otherwise consider. A mortgage loan that has been granted new terms, including workout terms as described previously, would be considered a TDR if it meets conditions that would indicate a borrower experiencing financial difficulty and the new terms constituting a concession on our part. We analyze all loans that we agree to workout terms and all loans that we have refinanced to determine if they meet the definition of a TDR. We consider the following factors in determining whether or not a borrower is experiencing financial difficulty:

- borrower is in default,
- borrower has declared bankruptcy,
- there is growing concern about the borrower's ability to continue as a going concern,
- borrower has insufficient cash flows to service debt,
- borrower's inability to obtain funds from other sources, and
- there is a breach of financial covenants by the borrower.

If the borrower is determined to be in financial difficulty, we consider the following conditions to determine if the borrower was granted a concession:

- assets used to satisfy debt are less than our recorded investment,
- interest rate is modified,
- maturity date extension at an interest rate less than market rate,
- capitalization of interest,
- delaying principal and/or interest for a period of three months or more, and
- partial forgiveness of the balance or charge-off.

Mortgage loan workouts, refinances or restructures that are classified as TDR are individually evaluated and measured for impairment. As stated in Note 1 to these financial statements, we adopted an accounting standards update that provides guidance on determining what constitutes a TDR and applied it to all workouts, refinances and restructures that we have entered into in 2011.

A summary of mortgage loans on commercial real estate that we have granted or extended workout terms in 2011 that we determined to be TDR's are as follows:

Geographic Region	Number of Workouts	Principal Balance Outstanding	Specific Loan Loss Allowance	Net Carrying Amount	Loss Recognized in Connection with TDR
(Dollars in thousands)					
Three months ended September 30, 2011:					
East	2	\$8,033	\$(3,154)	) \$4,879	\$(536)
South Atlantic	1	1,081	—	) 1,081	—
	3	\$9,114	\$(3,154)	) \$5,960	\$(536)
Nine months ended September 30, 2011:					
East	3	\$9,677	\$(3,154)	) \$6,523	\$(536)
Mountain	7	20,862	(1,021)	) 19,841	(1,021)
South Atlantic	7	19,859	(4,091)	) 15,768	(3,848)
	17	\$50,398	\$(8,266)	) \$42,132	\$(5,405)

In addition to the TDR's on workout loans, we also have TDR's on mortgage loans that will be satisfied by obtaining ownership of the commercial real estate collateral from the borrower. Due to financial difficulties experienced by the borrowers, we have conceded that foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure as the best means for maximizing the collection of the debt outstanding. We determine a TDR to have taken place at the time we initiate foreclosure proceedings or negotiations in the event of a deed in lieu of foreclosure. During 2011 we initiated foreclosure proceedings or negotiations of a deed in lieu of foreclosure, but have not yet obtained ownership, on the following mortgage loans:

Geographic Region	Number of Loans	Principal Balance Outstanding	Specific Loan Loss Allowance	Net Carrying Amount	Loss Recognized in Connection with TDR
(Dollars in thousands)					
Three months ended September 30, 2011:					
East	3	\$8,908	\$(2,311)	\$6,597	\$(2,311)
Mountain	1	1,840	(377)	1,463	(377)
West North Central	1	1,937	(269)	1,668	(269)
	5	\$12,685	\$(2,957)	\$9,728	\$(2,957)
Nine months ended September 30, 2011:					
East	3	\$8,908	\$(2,311)	\$6,597	\$(2,311)
Mountain	3	8,834	(377)	8,457	(377)
South Atlantic	1	2,731	(799)	1,932	(799)
West North Central	1	1,937	(269)	1,668	(269)
	8	\$22,410	\$(3,756)	\$18,654	\$(3,756)

Finally, we have loans that have been fully satisfied by transfer of ownership of the real estate. The following loans were determined to be TDR during the reporting periods as we initiated proceedings to obtain ownership of the real estate serving as collateral on the loans within the reporting period.

Geographic Region	Number of Loans	Principal Balance Outstanding at Foreclosure	Specific Loan Loss Allowance	Net Carrying Amount at Foreclosure	Loss Recognized in Connection with TDR
(Dollars in thousands)					
Three months ended September 30, 2011:					
East	1	\$5,783	\$(723)	\$5,060	\$(723)
Nine months ended September 30, 2011:					
East	2	\$7,944	\$(1,136)	\$6,808	\$(1,136)
Mountain	1	2,404	(650)	1,754	(650)
South Atlantic	1	1,483	(618)	865	(618)
	4	\$11,831	\$(2,404)	\$9,427	\$(2,404)

For those mortgage loans that are modified but not considered to be TDR's, it was determined that either the borrower was not in financial difficulty or for those modifications where the borrower was in financial difficulty no concession was granted by us to the borrower. In these instances the modified terms of the mortgage loans are consistent with competitive market conditions, the borrower could obtain similar terms in the open market, and the quality of the loans meet our underwriting guidelines. These loans are subject to our standard impaired loan procedures discussed above.

5. Derivative Instruments

We recognize all derivative instruments as assets or liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets at fair value. None of our derivatives qualify for hedge accounting, thus, any change in the fair value of the derivatives is recognized immediately in the consolidated statements of operations.

The fair value of our derivative instruments, including derivative instruments embedded in fixed index annuity contracts, presented in the unaudited consolidated balance sheets are as follows:

	September 30, 2011	December 31, 2010
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Assets		
Derivative Instruments		
Call options	\$ 171,905	\$ 479,786
Other Assets		
2015 notes hedges	21,695	66,595
	\$ 193,600	\$ 546,381
Liabilities		
Policy benefit reserves - annuity products		
Fixed index annuities - embedded derivatives	\$ 2,399,097	\$ 1,971,383
Other liabilities		
2015 notes embedded derivatives	21,695	66,595
Interest rate swaps	387	1,976
	\$ 2,421,179	\$ 2,039,954

The changes in fair value of derivatives included in the unaudited consolidated statements of operations are as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
Change in fair value of derivatives:				
Call options	\$(292,167	) \$93,109	\$(161,953	) \$(31,720
2015 notes hedges	(41,446	) 1,483	(44,900	) 1,483
Interest rate swaps	(8	) (612	) (144	) (2,505
	\$ (333,621	) \$93,980	\$ (206,997	) \$(32,742
Change in fair value of embedded derivatives:				
2015 notes embedded derivatives	\$(41,446	) \$1,483	\$(44,900	) \$1,483
Fixed index annuities	(164,119	) 113,340	(93,325	) (12,996
	\$ (205,565	) \$114,823	\$ (138,225	) \$(11,513

We have fixed index annuity products that guarantee the return of principal to the policyholder and credit interest based on a percentage of the gain in a specified market index. When fixed index annuity deposits are received, a portion of the deposit is used to purchase derivatives consisting of call options on the applicable market indices to fund the index credits due to fixed index annuity policyholders. Substantially all such call options are one year options purchased to match the funding requirements of the underlying policies. The call options are marked to fair value with the change in fair value included as a component of revenues. The change in fair value of derivatives includes the gains or losses recognized at the expiration of the option term or upon early termination and the changes in fair value for open positions. On the respective anniversary dates of the index policies, the index used to compute the annual index credit is reset and we purchase new one-year call options to fund the next annual index credit. We manage the cost of these purchases through the terms of our fixed index annuities, which permit us to change caps, participation rates, and/or asset fees, subject to guaranteed minimums on each policy's anniversary date. By adjusting caps, participation rates, or asset fees, we can generally manage option costs except in cases where the contractual features would prevent further modifications.

Our strategy attempts to mitigate any potential risk of loss under these agreements through a regular monitoring process which evaluates the program's effectiveness. We do not purchase call options that would require payment or collateral to another institution and our call options do not contain counterparty credit-risk-related contingent features. We are exposed to risk of loss in the event of nonperformance by the counterparties and, accordingly, we purchase our option contracts from multiple counterparties and evaluate the creditworthiness of all counterparties prior to purchase of the contracts. All of these options have been purchased from nationally recognized financial institutions with a Standard and Poor's credit rating of A- or higher at the time of purchase and the maximum credit exposure to any single counterparty is subject to concentration limits. We also have credit support agreements that allow us to request the counterparty to provide collateral to us when the fair value of our exposure to the counterparty exceeds specified amounts.

27

The notional amount and maximum amount of loss due to credit risk that we would incur if parties to the call options failed completely to perform according to the terms of the contracts are as follows:

Counterparty	Credit Rating (S&P)	Credit Rating (Moody's)	September 30, 2011		December 31, 2010	
			Notional Amount	Fair Value	Notional Amount	Fair Value
(Dollars in thousands)						
Bank of America	A+	Aa3	\$2,184,967	\$25,413	\$588,650	\$25,704
BNP Paribas	AA	Aa2	1,951,425	18,824	786,561	34,772
Bank of New York	AA-	Aa2	—	—	18,082	111
Credit Suisse	A+	Aa1	2,088,750	32,505	2,462,920	95,910
Barclays	AA-	Aa3	2,344,984	42,175	1,728,218	72,751
SunTrust	BBB+	A3	—	—	50,540	3,164
Wells Fargo (Wachovia)	NR	Aa2	2,054,303	25,141	1,745,775	76,250
J.P. Morgan	AA-	Aa1	2,189,311	18,527	2,858,902	133,368
UBS	A+	Aa3	236,251	4,798	921,596	37,756
HSBC	AA	Aa2	317,547	2,334	—	—
Deutsche Bank	A+	AA3	181,332	2,188	—	—
			\$13,548,870	\$171,905	\$11,161,244	\$479,786

As of September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010, we held \$96.3 million and \$381.2 million, respectively, of cash and cash equivalents received from counterparties for derivative collateral, which is included in other liabilities on our consolidated balance sheets. This derivative collateral limits the maximum amount of economic loss due to credit risk that we would incur if parties to the call options failed to perform according to the terms of the contracts to \$82.5 million and \$108.1 million at September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively.

We entered into interest rate swaps to manage interest rate risk associated with the floating rate component on certain of our subordinated debentures and our revolving line of credit. See notes 9 and 10 in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 for more information on our revolving line of credit and subordinated debentures. The terms of the interest rate swaps provide that we pay a fixed rate of interest and receive a floating rate of interest. The interest rate swaps are not effective hedges under accounting guidance for derivative instruments and hedging activities. Therefore, we record the interest rate swaps at fair value and any net cash payments received or paid are included in the change in fair value of derivatives in the unaudited consolidated statements of operations. Details regarding the interest rate swaps are as follows:

Maturity Date	Notional Amount		Receive Rate	Pay Rate	Counterparty	Fair Value	
	June 30, 2011	December 31, 2010				June 30, 2011	December 31, 2010
April 7, 2011	—	20,000	*LIBOR (a)	5.23 %	Bank of America	—	(99)
October 15, 2011	15,000	15,000	**LIBOR	1.54 %	SunTrust	(57)	(193)
October 31, 2011	30,000	30,000	**LIBOR	1.51 %	SunTrust	(112)	(374)
October 31, 2011	30,000	30,000	**LIBOR	1.61 %	SunTrust	(119)	(405)
October 31, 2011	75,000	75,000	**LIBOR	1.77 %	SunTrust	(99)	(905)
	\$150,000	170,000				\$(387)	\$(1,976)

* - three month London Interbank Offered Rate

** - one month London Interbank Offered Rate

(a) - subject to a floor of 4.25%

6. Notes Payable

The liability and equity components of our contingent convertible senior notes included in notes payable are accounted for separately as a liability component and an equity component in the consolidated balance sheets. The liability component and equity component are as follows:

	September 30, 2011			December 31, 2010		
	September 2015 Notes	December 2029 Notes	December 2024 Notes	September 2015 Notes	December 2029 Notes	December 2024 Notes
	(Dollars in thousands)					
Notes payable:						
Principal amount of liability component	\$200,000	\$115,839	\$74,494	\$200,000	\$115,839	\$74,494
Unamortized discount	(30,562)	(18,803)	(416)	(35,335)	(22,306)	(1,857)
Net carrying amount of liability component	\$169,438	\$97,036	\$74,078	\$164,665	\$93,533	\$72,637
Additional paid-in capital:						
Carrying amount of equity component		\$15,586	\$22,637		\$15,586	\$22,637
Amount by which the if-converted value exceeds principal	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$800	\$34,191	\$—

The discount is being amortized over the expected lives of the notes, which is December 15, 2011 for the 2024 notes, December 15, 2014 for the 2029 notes and September 15, 2015 for the 2015 notes. The expected lives of the notes are based on the dates at which we may redeem the notes or the holders may require us to repurchase the notes. The effective interest rates are 8.9%, 8.5% and 11.9% on the 2015 notes, the 2024 notes and the 2029 notes, respectively. The interest cost recognized in operations for the convertible senior notes, inclusive of the coupon and amortization of the discount and debt issue costs, was \$8.0 million and \$23.7 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011, respectively, and \$4.5 million and \$13.0 million for the same periods in 2010.

We are required to include the dilutive effect of the 2024 and 2029 notes in our diluted earnings per share calculation. Because these notes include a mandatory cash settlement feature for the principal amount, incremental dilutive shares will only exist when the fair value of our common stock at the end of the reporting period exceeds the conversion price per share of \$14.03 for the 2024 notes and \$9.69 for the 2029 notes. At September 30, 2011 the conversion premiums of the 2024 notes and 2029 notes were not dilutive. The 2015 notes and the 2015 notes hedges are excluded from the dilutive effect in our diluted earnings per share calculation as they are currently to be settled only in cash. The 2015 warrants could have a dilutive effect on our earnings per share to the extent that the price of our common stock exceeds the strike price of the 2015 warrants.

During the first quarter 2011, we terminated our existing \$150 million revolving line of credit agreement and entered into a \$160 million revolving line of credit agreement with seven banks. The revolving period of the \$160 million facility is three years. The interest rate is floating at a rate based on our election that will be equal to the alternate base rate (as defined in the credit agreement) plus the applicable margin or the adjusted LIBOR rate (as defined in the credit agreement) plus the applicable margin. We also pay a commitment fee on the available unused portion of the credit facility. The applicable margin and commitment fee rate are based on our credit rating and can change throughout the period of the credit facility. Based upon our current credit rating, the applicable margin is 2.00% for alternate base rate borrowings and 3.00% for adjusted LIBOR rate borrowings and the commitment fee is 0.50%. Under this agreement, we are required to maintain a minimum risk-based capital ratio at American Equity Life, a maximum ratio of debt to total capital, a minimum cash coverage ratio, and a minimum level of statutory surplus at American Equity Life.

7. Contingencies

We are occasionally involved in litigation, both as a defendant and as a plaintiff. In addition, state regulatory bodies, such as state insurance departments, the SEC, FINRA, the Department of Labor, and other regulatory bodies regularly

make inquiries and conduct examinations or investigations concerning our compliance with, among other things, insurance laws, securities laws, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, and laws governing the activities of broker-dealers.

In accordance with applicable accounting guidelines, we establish an accrued liability for litigation and regulatory matters when those matters present loss contingencies that are both probable and estimable. As a litigation or regulatory matter is developing we, in conjunction with outside counsel, evaluate on an ongoing basis whether the matter presents a loss contingency that meets conditions indicating the need for accrual and/or disclosure, and if not the matter will continue to be monitored for further developments. If and when the loss contingency related to litigation or regulatory matters is deemed to be both probable and estimable, we will establish an accrued liability with respect to that matter and will continue to monitor the matter for further developments that may affect the amount of the accrued liability.

In recent years, companies in the life insurance and annuity business have faced litigation, including class action lawsuits, alleging improper product design, improper sales practices and similar claims. We are currently a defendant in a purported class action, McCormack, et al. v. American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company, et al., in the United States District Court for the Central District of California, Western Division and Anagnostis v. American Equity, et al., coordinated in the Central District, entitled, In Re: American Equity Annuity Practices and Sales Litigation, in the United States District Court for the Central District of California, Western Division (complaint filed September 7, 2005) (the "Los Angeles Case"), involving allegations of improper sales practices and similar claims as described below.

The Los Angeles Case is a consolidated action involving several lawsuits filed by individuals, and the individuals are seeking class action status for a national class of purchasers of annuities issued by us; however, no class has yet been certified. The named plaintiffs in this consolidated case are Bernard McCormack, Gust Anagnostis by and through Gary S. Anagnostis and Robert C. Anagnostis, Regina Bush by and through Sharon Schipiour, Lenice Mathews by and through Mary Ann Maclean and George Miller. The allegations generally attack the suitability of sales of deferred annuity products to persons over the age of 65. The plaintiffs seek rescission and injunctive relief including restitution and disgorgement of profits on behalf of all class members under California Business & Professions Code section 17200 et seq. and Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act; compensatory damages for breach of fiduciary duty and aiding and abetting of breach of fiduciary duty; unjust enrichment and constructive trust; and other pecuniary damages under California Civil Code section 1750 and California Welfare & Institutions Codes section 15600 et seq. We participated in mediation sessions with plaintiffs' counsel during the second and third quarters of 2011 and potential settlement terms are currently being discussed. However, due to (i) the fact no class has been certified (ii) the lack of specificity as to legal theories put forth by the plaintiffs, (iii) the lack of specificity of the remedies sought, and (iv) the lack of any basis on which to compute estimated compensatory and/or punitive damages, we generally cannot predict what the outcome of the pending purported class action lawsuit will be, what the timing of the ultimate resolution of this lawsuit will be, or an estimate and/or range of possible loss related to the pending purported class action lawsuit. In light of the inherent uncertainties involved in the pending purported class action lawsuit, there can be no assurance that such litigation, or any other pending or future litigation, will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, or results of operations.

8. Earnings Per Share

The following table sets forth the computation of earnings (loss) per common share and earnings (loss) per common share - assuming dilution:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)			
Numerator:				
Net income (loss) - numerator for earnings per common share	\$(13,068	) \$20,514	\$36,549	\$33,895
Interest on convertible subordinated debentures (net of income tax benefit)	258	258	775	776
Numerator for earnings (loss) per common share - assuming dilution	\$(12,810	) \$20,772	\$37,324	\$34,671
Denominator:				
Weighted average common shares outstanding (1)	59,595,846	58,563,757	59,428,844	58,422,324
Effect of dilutive securities:				
Convertible subordinated debentures	2,727,084	2,727,121	2,727,084	2,730,323
Convertible senior notes	—	729,783	—	729,783
Stock options and deferred compensation agreements	375,497	477,393	627,347	363,656
Denominator for earnings (loss) per common share - assuming dilution	\$62,698,427	\$62,498,054	\$62,783,275	\$62,246,086
Earnings (loss) per common share	(0.22	) 0.35	0.62	0.58
Earnings (loss) per common share - assuming dilution	(0.22	) 0.33	0.59	0.56

(1) Weighted average common shares outstanding include shares vested under the NMO Deferred Compensation Plan and exclude unallocated shares held by the ESOP.

Options to purchase shares of our common stock that were outstanding during the respective periods indicated but were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because the options' exercise price was greater than the average market price of the common shares are as follows:

Period	Number of Shares	Range of Exercise Prices
Three months ended September 30, 2011	2,296,600	\$10.65 - \$14.34
Nine months ended September 30, 2011	2,296,600	\$10.65 - \$14.34
Three months ended September 30, 2010	943,000	\$10.65 - \$14.34
Nine months ended September 30, 2010	2,222,929	\$8.75 - \$14.34

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Management's discussion and analysis reviews our unaudited consolidated financial position at September 30, 2011, and the unaudited consolidated results of operations for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, and where appropriate, factors that may affect future financial performance. This analysis should be read in conjunction with our unaudited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto appearing elsewhere in this Form 10-Q, and the audited consolidated financial statements, notes thereto and selected consolidated financial data appearing in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information

All statements, trend analyses and other information contained in this report and elsewhere (such as in filings by us with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), press releases, presentations by us or our management or oral statements) relative to markets for our products and trends in our operations or financial results, as well as other statements including words such as "anticipate", "believe", "plan", "estimate", "expect", "intend", and other similar expressions, constitute forward-looking statements. We caution that these statements may and often do vary from actual results and the differences between these statements and actual results can be material. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that actual results will not differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Factors that could contribute to these differences include, among other things:

- general economic conditions and other factors, including prevailing interest rate levels and stock and credit market performance which may affect (among other things) our ability to sell our products, our ability to access capital resources and the costs associated therewith, the fair value of our investments, which could result in other than temporary impairments, and certain liabilities, and the lapse rate and profitability of policies;

- customer response to new products and marketing initiatives;

- changes in Federal income tax laws and regulations which may affect the relative income tax advantages of our products;

- increasing competition in the sale of annuities;

- regulatory changes or actions, including those relating to regulation of financial services affecting (among other things) bank sales and underwriting of insurance products and regulation of the sale, underwriting and pricing of products; and

- the risk factors or uncertainties listed from time to time in our filings with the SEC.

For a detailed discussion of these and other factors that might affect our performance, see Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Overview

We specialize in the sale of individual annuities (primarily deferred annuities) and, to a lesser extent, we also sell life insurance policies. Under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), premium collections for deferred annuities are reported as deposit liabilities instead of as revenues. Similarly, cash payments to policyholders are reported as decreases in the liabilities for policyholder account balances and not as expenses. Sources of revenues for products accounted for as deposit liabilities are net investment income, surrender and other charges deducted from policyholder account balances, net realized gains (losses) on investments and changes in fair value of derivatives. Components of expenses for products accounted for as deposit liabilities are interest sensitive and index product benefits (primarily interest credited to account balances), changes in fair value of embedded derivatives, amortization of deferred sales inducements and deferred policy acquisition costs, other operating costs and expenses and income taxes.

Annuity deposits by product type collected during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, were as follows:

Product Type	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Fixed index annuities:				
Index strategies	\$701,796	\$581,907	\$2,075,800	\$1,530,269

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO - Form 10-Q

Fixed strategy	317,091	387,066	986,724	1,091,296
	1,018,887	968,973	3,062,524	2,621,565
Fixed rate annuities:				
Single-year rate guaranteed	37,195	35,492	118,084	93,277
Multi-year rate guaranteed	116,768	169,641	279,407	295,526
Single premium immediate annuities	94,514	46,487	257,995	103,867
	248,477	251,620	655,486	492,670
Total before coinsurance ceded	1,267,364	1,220,593	3,718,010	3,114,235
Coinsurance ceded	94,412	143,225	230,620	402,297
Net after coinsurance ceded	\$1,172,952	\$1,077,368	\$3,487,390	\$2,711,938

31

Annuity deposits before coinsurance ceded increased 4% during the third quarter of 2011 and increased 19% for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to the same periods in 2010. We attribute these increases to several factors, including our continued strong relationships with our national marketing organizations and field force of licensed, independent insurance agents, the continued attractiveness of safe money products in volatile markets, lower interest rates on competing products such as bank certificates of deposit and product enhancements including a new generation of guaranteed income withdrawal benefit riders. In addition, we continue to benefit from the actions of several competitors who have been less aggressive in marketing their products than in prior periods. The extent to which this trend will continue is uncertain.

As reported in our previous filings, we undertook several actions in 2010 and 2009 to manage our statutory capital position to facilitate growth. These actions included a restructuring of commission payments to agents, amendments to a reinsurance agreement to expand such agreement to cover certain policy forms that were not in existence when the agreement was executed and the entry into two funds withheld coinsurance agreements. To help support further sales growth in 2011, we entered into a \$50 million "financing" reinsurance transaction in the first quarter of 2011 that provided an initial after tax statutory surplus benefit of \$31.8 million. We believe our existing statutory capital and surplus and the statutory surplus we expect to generate internally through statutory earnings will support a higher level of new business than in previous years. However, while we have the capital resources to accept more business than was sold in 2010 and 2009, our capacity is not unlimited and sales growth must be matched with available resources to maintain desired financial strength ratings from credit rating agencies and in particular, A.M. Best Company. Should sales growth accelerate to levels that cannot be supported by internal capital generation, we would intend to obtain capital from external sources to facilitate such growth.

Earnings from products accounted for as deposit liabilities are primarily generated from the excess of net investment income earned over the interest credited or the cost of providing index credits to the policyholder, or the "investment spread." Our investment spread is summarized as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
Average yield on invested assets	5.70%	5.98%	5.81%	6.08%
Cost of money:				
Aggregate	2.75%	2.89%	2.77%	2.92%
Cost of money for fixed index annuities	2.70%	2.84%	2.72%	2.87%
Average crediting rate for fixed rate annuities:				
Annually adjustable	3.16%	3.26%	3.17%	3.26%
Multi-year rate guaranteed	3.63%	3.74%	3.66%	3.75%
Investment spread:				
Aggregate	2.95%	3.09%	3.04%	3.16%
Fixed index annuities	3.00%	3.14%	3.09%	3.21%
Fixed rate annuities:				
Annually adjustable	2.54%	2.72%	2.64%	2.82%
Multi-year rate guaranteed	2.07%	2.24%	2.15%	2.33%

The cost of money for fixed index annuities and average crediting rates for fixed rate annuities are computed based upon policyholder account balances and do not include the impact of amortization of deferred sales inducements. See Critical Accounting Policies - Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs and Deferred Sales Inducements included in Management's Discussion and Analysis in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010. With respect to our fixed index annuities, the cost of money includes the average crediting rate on amounts allocated to the fixed rate strategy, expenses we incur to fund the annual index credits and where applicable, minimum guaranteed interest credited. Proceeds received upon expiration or early termination of call options purchased to fund annual index credits are recorded as part of the change in fair value of derivatives, and are largely offset by an expense

for interest credited to annuity policyholder account balances. See Critical Accounting Policies - Policy Liabilities for Fixed Index Annuities and Financial Condition - Derivative Instruments included in Management's Discussion and Analysis in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Our profitability depends in large part upon the amount of assets under our management, investment spreads we earn on our policyholder account balances, our ability to manage our investment portfolio to maximize returns and minimize risks such as interest rate changes and defaults or impairment of investments, our ability to manage interest rates credited to policyholders and costs of the options purchased to fund the annual index credits on our fixed index annuities, our ability to manage the costs of acquiring new business (principally commissions to agents and bonuses credited to policyholders) and our ability to manage our operating expenses. On September 22, 2011, we announced to its producers that rates on fixed interest strategies as well as caps and participation rates on indexed strategies would be reduced in the fourth quarter of 2011. Rates on new sales were reduced by 0.40% - 0.50% beginning with applications for policies received after October 7, 2011. In addition, renewal rate adjustments on the company's \$23.4 billion of annuity account values at September 30, 2011 (net of coinsurance) will be implemented as of policyholder anniversary dates beginning after November 14, 2011.

Results of Operations

Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2011 and 2010

Net income (loss) was \$(13.1) million in the third quarter of 2011 and \$36.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$20.5 million and \$33.9 million for the same periods in 2010.

Net income (loss) was impacted by the decrease in fair value of our call options held during 2011, which was larger than the net decrease in the fair value of our embedded derivatives, net of the increase in our interest sensitive and index product benefits. In general, net income (loss) has been positively impacted by the growth in the volume of business in force and the investment spread earned on this business. Average annuity account values outstanding increased 24% for both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to the same periods in 2010. Our investment spread measured in dollars was \$143.8 million during the third quarter of 2011 and \$433.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$125.3 million and \$367.9 million during the same periods in 2010.

Our investment spread measured on a percentage basis was 2.95% in the third quarter of 2011 and 3.04% for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to 3.09% and 3.16% for same periods in 2010. The decreases in investment spread for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 resulted from a decline in the average yield in investments, offset in part, by a smaller decline in the average cost of money on our fixed index annuities. The lower cost of money for fixed index annuities during 2011 was due to lower costs of options purchased to fund the annual index credits on fixed index annuities and lower rates for the fixed rate strategy in fixed index annuities. The decrease in the average yield on invested assets was primarily attributable to lower yields on investments purchased in 2010 and the nine months ended September 30, 2011.

Our investment spread has also been impacted by shortfalls in investment income from excess liquidity resulting from a lag in the reinvestment of proceeds of bonds called for redemption and benefits from positive hedging experience of the annual index credits for index annuities. The impact of excess liquidity on net investment income and average yield on invested assets is quantified in the Net investment income discussion that follows. The benefit from index annuity hedging experience reduced the cost of money by 0.05% and 0.07% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011, respectively, and by 0.11% during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010.

We periodically revise the key assumptions used in the calculation of amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs and deferred sales inducements retrospectively through an unlocking process when estimates of current or future gross profits/margins (including the impact of realized investment gains and losses) to be realized from a group of products are revised. The impact of unlocking during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 was a \$5.0 million decrease in the amortization of deferred sales inducements and a \$9.1 million decrease in amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs and included the impact of account balance true ups as of September 30, 2011 and adjustment to future period assumptions for interest margins and surrenders. The impact of unlocking during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 was a \$0.3 million increase in the amortization of deferred sales inducements and a \$1.4 million increase in amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs.

During 2011, we discovered a prior period error related to policy benefit reserves for our single premium immediate annuity products. We evaluated the materiality of the error from qualitative and quantitative perspectives and concluded it was not material to any prior periods. The correction of the error in 2011 could have been considered material to the results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2011, but is not material to the projected results of operations for the year ended December 31, 2011. Accordingly, we made an adjustment in the first quarter of 2011 which resulted in a decrease of policy benefit reserves and a decrease in interest sensitive and index product benefits of \$4.2 million. On an after-tax basis, the adjustment resulted in a \$2.7 million increase in net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2011.

Operating income (a non-GAAP financial measure) increased 50% to \$41.5 million in the third quarter of 2011 and increased 22% to \$101.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$27.6 million and \$82.6 million for the same periods in 2010. The impact of unlocking during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 was a \$12.5 million increase to operating income compared to a \$1.1 million decrease during the same periods in 2010.

In addition to net income, we have consistently utilized operating income, a non-GAAP financial measure commonly used in the life insurance industry, as an economic measure to evaluate our financial performance. Operating income equals net income adjusted to eliminate the impact of net realized gains (losses) on investments, including net other than temporary impairment ("OTTI") losses recognized in operations, loss on extinguishment of debt and fair value changes in derivatives and embedded derivatives. Because these items fluctuate from period to period in a manner unrelated to core operations, we believe measures excluding their impact are useful in analyzing operating trends. We believe the combined presentation and evaluation of operating income together with net income, provides information that may enhance an investor's understanding of our underlying results and profitability.

Operating income is not a substitute for net income determined in accordance with GAAP. The adjustments made to derive operating income are important to understanding our overall results from operations and, if evaluated without proper context, operating income possesses material limitations. As an example, we could produce a low level of net income in a given period, despite strong operating performance, if in that period we generate significant net realized losses from our investment portfolio. We could also produce a high level of net income in a given period, despite poor operating performance, if in that period we generate significant net realized gains from our investment portfolio. As an example of another limitation of operating income, it does not include the decrease in cash flows expected to be collected as a result of credit loss OTTI. Therefore, our management and board of directors also separately review net realized investment gains (losses) and analyses of our net investment income, including impacts related to OTTI write-downs, in connection with their review of our investment portfolio. In addition, our management and board of directors examine net income as part of their review of our overall financial results.

The adjustments made to net income to arrive at operating income for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 are set forth in the table that follows:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2011	2010	September 30, 2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Operating Income	\$41,464	\$27,562	\$101,051	\$82,553
Reconciliation to net income (loss):				
Net income (loss)	\$(13,068)	\$20,514	\$36,549	\$33,895
Net realized (gains) losses and net OTTI losses on investments, net of offsets	8,988	(1,950)	12,738	(4,308)
Convertible debt retirement, net of income taxes	—	—	—	171
Net effect of derivatives, embedded derivatives and other index annuity, net of offsets	45,544	8,998	51,764	52,795
Operating income	\$41,464	\$27,562	\$101,051	\$82,553

Net realized (gains) losses on investments and net impairment losses recognized in operations fluctuate from period to period based upon changes in the interest rate and economic environment and the timing of the sale of investments or the recognition of other than temporary impairments. The amounts disclosed above are net of related reductions in amortization of deferred sales inducements and deferred policy acquisition costs and income taxes.

Amounts attributable to the fair value accounting for fixed index annuity derivatives and embedded derivatives fluctuate from period to period primarily based upon changes in the fair values of call options purchased to fund the annual index credits for fixed index annuities and changes in the interest rates used to discount the embedded derivative liability. The amounts disclosed above are net of related adjustments to amortization of deferred sales inducements and deferred policy acquisition costs and income taxes.

Annuity product charges (surrender charges assessed against policy withdrawals and fees deducted from policyholder account balances for lifetime income benefit riders) increased 10% to \$20.4 million in the third quarter of 2011 and increased 9% to \$57.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$18.5 million and \$52.7 million for the same periods in 2010. The increases were primarily attributable to increases in the amount of fees assessed for lifetime income benefit riders which were \$7.3 million in the third quarter of 2011 and \$17.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$4.3 million and \$10.1 million for the same periods in 2010. The increases in these fees for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 are attributable to a large volume of business in force subject to the fee. See Interest sensitive and index product benefits below for corresponding expense recognized on lifetime income benefit riders. Withdrawals from annuity and single premium universal life policies subject to surrender charges were \$101.6 million in the third quarter of 2011 and \$304.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$104.7 million and \$321.7 million for the same periods in 2010. The average surrender charge collected on withdrawals subject to a surrender charge was 13.3% in the third quarter of 2011 and 13.1% for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to 13.6% and 13.2% for the same periods in 2010.

Net investment income increased 17% to \$305.5 million in the third quarter of 2011 and increased 18% to \$894.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$260.5 million and \$758.2 million for the same periods in 2010. The increases were principally attributable to the growth in our annuity business and corresponding increases in our invested assets. Average invested assets excluding derivative instruments (on an amortized cost basis) increased 23% to \$21.5 billion in the third quarter of 2011 and 23% to \$20.5 billion for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$17.5 billion and \$16.6 billion for the same periods in 2010. The average yield earned on average invested assets was 5.70% in the third quarter of 2011 and 5.81% for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to 5.98% and 6.08% for the same periods in 2010. The decrease in yield earned on average invested assets was primarily attributable to lower yields on investments purchased in 2010 and the nine months ended September 30, 2011. In addition, net investment income and average yield for the periods ended

September 30, 2011 and 2010 were negatively impacted by a lag in reinvestment of proceeds from bonds called for redemption during the periods into new assets causing excess liquidity. Based on yields received for purchases of fixed maturity securities during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, we estimate that approximately \$6.2 million and \$14.0 million in net investment income was foregone during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$11.9 million and \$20.6 million for the same periods in 2010, and the average yield on invested assets would have been 5.81% and 5.90% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011, respectively, compared to 6.25% for both periods in 2010 if such income had been earned.

Change in fair value of derivatives (principally call options purchased to fund annual index credits on fixed index annuities) is affected by the performance of the indices upon which our options are based and the aggregate cost of options purchased. The components of change in fair value of derivatives are as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Call options:				
Gain on option expiration	\$62,695	\$25,069	\$169,156	\$194,836
Change in unrealized gain/loss	(354,862	) 68,040	(331,109	) (226,556
2015 notes hedges	(41,446	) 1,483	(44,900	) 1,483
Interest rate swaps	(8	) (612	) (144	) (2,505
	\$ (333,621	) \$93,980	\$ (206,997	) \$ (32,742

The differences between the change in fair value of derivatives between periods are primarily due to the performance of the indices upon which our call options are based. A substantial portion of our call options are based upon the S&P 500 Index with the remainder based upon other equity and bond market indices. The range of index appreciation for options expiring during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 is as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
S&P 500 Index				
Point-to-point strategy	0.0% - 31.0%	1.9% - 22.7%	0.0% - 31.0%	1.9% - 68.6%
Monthly average strategy	9.7% - 22.7%	3.9% - 25.3%	0.0% - 22.7%	1.5% - 51.2%
Monthly point-to-point strategy	0.0% - 16.5%	0.0% - 7.3%	0.0% - 16.5%	0.0% - 23.7%
Fixed income (bond index) strategies	1.4% - 10.6%	4.9% - 10.2%	1.4% - 10.6%	0.0% - 10.7%

Actual amounts credited to policyholder account balances may be less than the index appreciation due to contractual features in the fixed index annuity policies (caps, participation rates and asset fees) which allow us to manage the cost of the options purchased to fund the annual index credits. The change in fair value of derivatives is also influenced by the aggregate costs of options purchased. The aggregate cost of options has increased primarily due to an increased amount of fixed index annuities in force. The aggregate cost of options is also influenced by the amount of policyholder funds allocated to the various indices and market volatility which affects option pricing. Costs for options purchased during the nine months ended September 30, 2011 decreased compared to the same period in 2010 due to lower caps for the policies for which options were purchased and lower volatility in equity markets. See Critical Accounting Policies - Policy Liabilities for Fixed Index Annuities included in Management's Discussion and Analysis in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Concurrently with the issuance of the 2015 notes, we entered into hedge transactions (the "2015 notes hedges") to provide the cash needed to meet our cash obligations in excess of the principal amount of the 2015 notes upon conversion of the 2015 notes. The fair value of the 2015 notes hedges changes based upon changes in the price of our common stock, interest rates, stock price volatility, dividend yield and the time to expiration of the 2015 notes hedges. Similarly, the fair value of the conversion option obligation to the holders of the 2015 notes changes based upon these same factors and the conversion option obligation is accounted for as an embedded derivative liability with changes in fair value reported in the Change in fair value of embedded derivatives. The amount for the change in fair value of the 2015 notes hedges equals the amount for the change in the related embedded derivative liabilities and there is an offsetting expense in the change in fair value of embedded derivatives. See Note 9 to our audited consolidated financial statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 for a discussion of the 2015 notes hedges.

Net realized gains (losses) on investments, excluding OTTI losses include gains and losses on the sale of securities and impairment losses on mortgage loans on real estate which fluctuate from year to year due to changes in the interest rate and economic environment and the timing of the sale of investments. The components of realized gains (losses) on investments for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 are set forth in the table that follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Available for sale fixed maturity securities:				
Gross realized gains	\$169	\$9,732	\$4,711	\$22,019
Gross realized losses	—	—	(1,423)	(2,359)
	169	9,732	3,288	19,660
Equity securities:				
Gross realized gains	—	3,264	966	9,471
Gross realized losses	—	(71)	—	(71)
	—	3,193	966	9,400
Mortgage loans on real estate:				
Increase in allowance for credit losses	(17,461)	(1,043)	(23,581)	(6,212)
Other investments:				
Impairment losses	—	(584)	(12)	(584)
	\$(17,292)	\$11,298	\$(19,339)	\$22,264

Gross realized gains were realized in 2011 and 2010 due to tax planning strategies to generate taxable capital gains that will permit deductions of capital losses for income tax purposes. Gross realized losses primarily relate to securities that experienced credit events resulting in the decision to sell the securities at a loss. See Financial Conditions - Investments for additional discussion of allowance for credit losses on mortgage loans on real estate. Net OTTI losses recognized in operations increased to \$8.9 million in the third quarter of 2011 and \$17.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$4.0 million and \$8.0 million for the same periods in 2010. The impairments recognized during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 were all on residential mortgage backed securities and were principally due to a change of assumptions regarding loss severity of a number of securities we hold which affected our ongoing analysis of expected cash flow projections. See Financial Condition - Investments for additional discussion of write downs of securities for other than temporary impairments. Loss on extinguishment of debt for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 of \$0.3 million was incurred upon the extinguishment of \$6.7 million principal amount of our 2024 contingent convertible senior notes in May 2010. The notes had a carrying value of \$6.3 million with unamortized debt issue costs and unamortized debt discounts of \$0.3 million and were extinguished for \$6.6 million in cash. There was no value assigned to reacquire the equity component of the debt.

Interest sensitive and index product benefits increased 40% to \$223.2 million in the third quarter of 2011, and increased 6% to \$621.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011, compared to \$159.2 million and \$584.8 million for the same periods in 2010. The components of interest credited to account balances are summarized as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Index credits on index policies	\$138,624	\$85,893	\$383,212	\$381,425
Interest credited (including changes in minimum guaranteed interest for index annuities)	77,532	68,971	220,861	194,061
Living income benefit rider	7,076	4,291	17,244	9,356

\$223,232 \$159,155 \$621,317 \$584,842

The changes in index credits were attributable to changes in the appreciation of the underlying indices (see discussion above under change in fair value of derivatives) and the amount of funds allocated by policyholders to the respective index options. Total proceeds received upon expiration of the call options purchased to fund the annual index credits were \$140.2 million and \$388.7 million for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2011, respectively, compared to \$84.0 million and \$364.3 million for the same periods in 2010. The increases in interest credited were due to an increase in the average amount of annuity liabilities outstanding receiving a fixed rate of interest. The average amount of annuity liabilities outstanding (net of annuity liabilities ceded under coinsurance agreements) increased 24% during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 to \$22.8 billion and \$21.8 billion, respectively, from \$18.4 billion and \$17.6 billion during the same periods in 2010.

Amortization of deferred sales inducements decreased to \$(28.1) million in the third quarter of 2011, and increased 6% to \$22.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$5.2 million and \$21.5 million for the same periods in 2010. In general, amortization of deferred sales inducements has been increasing each period due to growth in our annuity business and the deferral of sales inducements incurred with respect to sales of premium bonus annuity products. Bonus products represented 95% of our net annuity deposits during the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010. The anticipated increase in amortization from these factors has been affected by amortization associated with fair value accounting for derivatives and embedded derivatives utilized in our fixed index annuity business and amortization associated with net realized gains (losses) on investments and net OTTI losses recognized in operations. See Net Income (loss) above for discussion of the impact of unlocking on amortization of deferred sales inducements for the three and nine months ended September 31, 2011 and 2010.

Fair value accounting for derivatives and embedded derivatives utilized in our fixed index annuity business creates differences in the recognition of revenues and expenses from derivative instruments including the embedded derivative liabilities in our fixed index annuity contracts. The change in fair value of the embedded derivatives will not correspond to the change in fair value of the derivatives (purchased call options) because the purchased call options are one-year options while the options valued in the fair value of embedded derivatives cover the expected life of the contracts which typically exceeds ten years. The gross profit adjustments resulting from fair value accounting for derivatives and embedded derivatives utilized in our fixed index annuity business decreased amortization by \$47.3 million for the third quarter of 2011 and \$55.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to decreases of \$21.7 million and \$54.2 million for same periods in 2010. The gross profit adjustments from net realized gains (losses) on investments and net OTTI losses recognized in operations decreased amortization by \$5.0 million for the third quarter of 2011 and \$7.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and increased amortization by \$2.0 million and \$3.5 million for the same periods in 2010. Excluding the amortization amounts attributable to fair value accounting for derivatives and embedded derivatives, net realized gains on investments and net OTTI losses recognized in operations, amortization for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 would have been \$24.3 million and \$85.4 million, respectively, compared to \$24.9 million and \$72.2 million for the same periods in 2010. The foregoing amounts for the 2011 periods were reduced by \$7.3 million due to unlocking. See Critical Accounting Policies - Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs and Deferred Sales Inducements included in Management's Discussion and Analysis in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Change in fair value of embedded derivatives was a decrease of \$205.6 million in the third quarter of 2011 and a decrease of \$138.2 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to an increase of \$114.8 million and a decrease of \$11.5 million for the same periods in 2010. The 2011 changes include decreases of \$41.4 million and \$44.9 million in the fair value of the 2015 notes embedded conversion derivative for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011, respectively. As discussed previously, these amounts were offset by decreases in the change in fair value of the 2015 notes hedges. The remainder of the 2011 decreases and the 2010 changes resulted from (i) changes in the expected index credits on the next policy anniversary dates, which are related to the change in fair value of the call options acquired to fund these index credits discussed above in change in fair value of derivatives; (ii) changes in discount rates used in estimating our liability for policy growth; and (iii) the growth in the host component of the policy liability. See Critical Accounting Policies - Policy Liabilities for Fixed Index Annuities included in Management's Discussion and Analysis in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010. The primary reason for the decreases in the change in fair value of embedded derivatives during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and the nine months ended September, 2010 were decreases in the expected index credits on the next policy anniversary dates which correlated with the changes in the fair value of the call options acquired to fund these index credits. The primary reasons for the increase in the change in fair value of the embedded derivatives in the third quarter of 2010 were an increase in the expected index credits that resulted from the increase in the fair value of the call options acquired to fund these index credits and decreases in the discount rates used in estimating our liability for policy growth.

Interest expense on notes payable increased 62% to \$8.0 million in the third quarter of 2011 and 66% to \$23.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$4.9 million and \$14.3 million for the same periods in 2010. These increases were primarily due to the September 2010 issuance of \$200.0 million principal amount of

3.50% convertible senior notes. The increase in interest expense on the 3.50% convertible notes was partially offset by a decrease in interest expense on borrowings under our revolving lines of credit with banks. The weighted average interest on the bank credit facility was 1.09% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and average borrowings outstanding were \$145.1 million. We had no borrowings outstanding on our revolving lines of credit during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011.

Interest expense on subordinated debentures decreased 8% to \$3.5 million in the third quarter of 2011 and 7% to \$10.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to \$3.8 million and \$11.2 million for the same periods in 2010. These decreases were primarily due to decreases in the weighted average interest rate on the outstanding subordinated debentures which were 5.10% and 5.09% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011, respectively, compared to 5.58% and 5.48% for the same periods in 2010. The weighted average interest rates have decreased because \$169.6 million principal amount of the subordinated debentures have a floating rate of interest based upon the three month London Interbank Offered Rate plus an applicable margin. See Financial Condition - Liabilities included in Management's Discussion and Analysis in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Interest expense on amounts due under repurchase agreements was immaterial for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011. The weighted average interest rate was 0.3% for the nine months ended September 30, 2011, and average borrowings outstanding was \$2.5 million for the same period. There were no amounts outstanding during the three months ended September 30, 2011 and the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010.

Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs decreased to \$(28.9) million in the third quarter of 2011, and decreased 12% to \$65.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011, compared to \$45.8 million and \$74.0 million for the same periods in 2010. In general, amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs has been increasing each period due to the growth in our annuity business and the deferral of policy acquisition costs incurred with respect to sales of annuity products. The anticipated increase in amortization from these factors has been affected by amortization associated with fair value accounting for derivatives and embedded derivatives utilized in our fixed index annuity business and amortization associated with net realized gains (losses) on investments and net OTTI losses recognized in operations. See Net Income (loss) above for discussion of the impact of unlocking on amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs for the three and nine months ended September 31, 2011 and 2010.

As discussed above, fair value accounting for derivatives and embedded derivatives utilized in our fixed index annuity business creates differences in the recognition of revenues and expenses from derivative instruments including the embedded derivative liabilities in our fixed index annuity contracts. The gross profit adjustments resulting from fair value accounting for derivatives and embedded derivatives utilized in our fixed index annuity business decreased amortization by \$63.9 million in the third quarter of 2011 and \$74.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011, compared to a decreases of \$4.3 million and \$68.5 million for the same periods in 2010. The gross profit adjustment from net realized gains (losses) on investments and net OTTI losses recognized in operations decreased amortization by \$7.2 million and \$10.2 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011 and increased amortization by \$2.3 million and \$4.1 million for the same periods in 2010. Excluding the amortization amounts attributable to fair value accounting for derivatives, net realized gains on investments and net OTTI losses recognized in operations, amortization for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2011 would have been \$42.2 million and \$149.8 million, respectively, compared to \$47.8 million and \$138.3 million for the same periods in 2010. The foregoing amounts for the 2011 periods were reduced by \$12.1 million due to unlocking.

Other operating costs and expenses decreased 2% to \$15.9 million in the third quarter of 2011 and increased 2% to \$50.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011, compared to \$16.2 million and \$48.9 million for the same periods in 2010. Other operating costs and expenses are primarily affected by increases in salaries and benefits, marketing expenses and general operating expenses due to the growth of our business as well as fluctuations in legal expense for the cost of defense of on-going litigation. Legal expense decreased \$1.4 million during the third quarter of 2011 and \$2.5 millions during the nine months ended September 30, 2011 when compared to the same periods in 2010. We recorded compensation expense of \$1.2 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2011 related to the grant of stock options to several retirement eligible employees.

Income tax expense (benefit) decreased to \$(7.6) million in the third quarter of 2011 and increased 8% to \$18.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011, compared to \$10.9 million and \$17.5 million for the same periods in 2010. These changes were primarily due to changes in income before income taxes. The effective tax rates were 36.9% for the third quarter of 2011 and 34.1% for the nine months ended September 30, 2011, compared to 34.7% and 34.0% for the same periods in 2010. The effective tax rate does not equal the federal statutory rate of 35% due to state income taxes that apply to our non-life subsidiaries. Our non-life subsidiaries have generated net operating losses that are deductible by our life subsidiaries subject to annual limitations.

Financial Condition

Investments

Our investment strategy is to maintain a substantially investment grade fixed income portfolio, provide adequate liquidity to meet our cash obligations to policyholders and others and maximize current income and total investment return through active investment management. Consistent with this strategy, our investments principally consist of fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans on real estate.

Insurance statutes regulate the type of investments that our life subsidiaries are permitted to make and limit the amount of funds that may be used for any one type of investment. In light of these statutes and regulations and our business and investment strategy, we generally seek to invest in United States government and government-sponsored agency securities and corporate securities rated investment grade by established nationally recognized statistical rating organizations ("NRSRO's") or in securities of comparable investment quality, if not rated and commercial mortgage

loans on real estate.

38

The composition of our investment portfolio is summarized in the table below:

	September 30, 2011		December 31, 2010		
	Carrying Amount	Percent	Carrying Amount	Percent	
	(Dollars in thousands)				
Fixed maturity securities:					
United States Government full faith and credit	\$4,681	—	% \$4,388	—	%
United States Government sponsored agencies	3,984,317	17.0	% 3,750,065	18.9	%
United States municipalities, states and territories	3,157,337	13.5	% 2,367,003	12.0	%
Corporate securities	9,833,201	42.0	% 7,448,323	37.6	%
Residential mortgage backed securities	2,841,189	12.1	% 2,878,557	14.5	%
Other asset backed securities	385,548	1.7	% 204,527	1.0	%
Total fixed maturity securities	20,206,273	86.3	% 16,652,863	84.0	%
Equity securities	65,401	0.4	% 65,961	0.4	%
Mortgage loans on real estate	2,838,893	12.1	% 2,598,641	13.1	%
Derivative instruments	171,905	0.7	% 479,786	2.4	%
Other investments	112,876	0.5	% 19,680	0.1	%
	\$23,395,348	100.0	% \$19,816,931	100.0	%

During the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, we received \$2.9 billion and \$4.0 billion, respectively, in redemption proceeds related to calls of our callable United States Government sponsored agency securities and public and private corporate bonds, of which \$1.6 billion were classified as held for investment for the six months ended September 30, 2010. There were no calls of held for investment securities during the nine months ended September 30, 2011. We reinvested the proceeds from these redemptions primarily in United States Government sponsored agencies, United States municipalities, states, and territories, corporate securities and residential mortgage and other asset backed securities. At September 30, 2011, 36% of our fixed income securities have call features and 1% (\$0.1 billion) were subject to call redemption. Another 21% (\$4.0 billion) will become subject to call redemption during the next twelve months (principally the first three quarters of 2012).

Fixed Maturity Securities

Our fixed maturity security portfolio is managed to minimize risks such as interest rate changes and defaults or impairments while earning a sufficient and stable return on our investments. Historically, we have had a high percentage of our fixed maturity securities in U.S. Government sponsored agency securities (for the most part Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation and Federal National Mortgage Association). While U.S. Government sponsored agency securities are of high credit quality, the call features have resulted in our excess cash position. These calls resulted from the low interest rate and tight agency spread environment. Since 2007, when we had almost 80% of our fixed maturity portfolio invested in callable agencies, we have reallocated a significant portion of our fixed maturities from the callable agency securities to other highly rated, long-term securities. The largest portion of our fixed maturity securities are now in investment grade (NAIC designation 1 or 2) publicly traded or privately placed corporate securities. We have also built a portfolio of residential mortgage backed securities ("RMBS") that provide our investment portfolio a source of regular cash flow and higher yielding assets than our agency securities. Additionally, in 2009 we began building a portfolio of taxable bonds issued by municipalities, states and territories of the United States that provide us with attractive yields while consistent with our aversion to credit risk.

A summary of our fixed maturity securities by NRSRO ratings is as follows:

Rating Agency Rating	September 30, 2011		December 31, 2010		
	Carrying Amount	Percent of Fixed Maturity Securities	Carrying Amount	Percent of Fixed Maturity Securities	
	(Dollars in thousands)				
Aaa/Aa/A	\$14,255,638	70.5	% \$11,599,255	69.6	%
Baa	4,603,201	22.8	% 3,725,920	22.4	%

Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO - Form 10-Q

Total investment grade	18,858,839	93.3	% 15,325,175	92.0	%
Ba	261,170	1.3	% 294,200	1.8	%
B	134,617	0.7	% 69,033	0.4	%
Caa and lower	859,306	4.2	% 959,437	5.8	%
In or near default	92,341	0.5	% 5,018	—	%
Total below investment grade	1,347,434	6.7	% 1,327,688	8.0	%
	\$20,206,273	100.0	% \$16,652,863	100.0	%

39

The NAIC's Securities Valuation Office ("SVO") is responsible for the day-to-day credit quality assessment and valuation of securities owned by state regulated insurance companies. Insurance companies report ownership of securities to the SVO when such securities are eligible for regulatory filings. The SVO conducts credit analysis on these securities for the purpose of assigning an NAIC designation and/or unit price. Typically, if a security has been rated by an NRSRO, the SVO utilizes that rating and assigns an NAIC designation based upon the following system:

NAIC Designation	NRSRO Equivalent Rating
1	Aaa/Aa/A
2	Baa
3	Ba
4	B
5	Caa and lower
6	In or near default

In November 2010, the NAIC membership approved continuation of a process developed in 2009 to assess non-agency RMBS for the 2010 filing year that does not rely on NRSRO ratings. The NAIC retained the services of PIMCO Advisory to model each non-agency RMBS owned by U.S. insurers at year-end 2010. PIMCO Advisory has provided 5 prices for each security for life insurance companies to utilize in determining the NAIC designation for each RMBS based on each insurer's statutory book value price. This process is used to determine the level of RBC requirements for non-agency RMBS.

The table below presents our fixed maturity securities by NAIC designation:

NAIC Designation	September 30, 2011			December 31, 2010			Percent of Total Carrying Amount	Percent of Total Carrying Amount
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Carrying Amount		
	(Dollars in thousands)			(Dollars in thousands)				
1	\$ 14,135,552	\$ 15,232,031	\$ 15,201,291	75.2 %	\$ 12,152,552	\$ 12,246,954	\$ 12,262,263	73.6 %
2	4,376,651	4,771,912	4,771,912	23.7 %	3,892,680	4,012,076	4,012,076	24.1 %
3	221,596	194,853	214,317	1.1 %	368,680	323,113	348,256	2.1 %
4	9,876	9,041	9,041	— %	19,820	19,178	19,178	0.1 %
5	5,041	5,861	5,861	— %	6,089	6,262	6,262	0.1 %
6	3,282	3,850	3,851	— %	4,273	4,828	4,828	— %
	\$ 18,751,998	\$ 20,217,548	\$ 20,206,273	100.0 %	\$ 16,444,094	\$ 16,612,411	\$ 16,652,863	100.0 %

A summary of our RMBS by collateral type and by NAIC designation is as follows as of September 30, 2011:

Collateral Type	Principal Amount (Dollars in thousands)	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
OTTI has not been recognized			
Government agency	\$528,695	\$470,225	\$570,938
Prime	1,332,179	1,266,213	1,322,637
Alt-A	46,456	47,167	48,490
	\$1,907,330	\$1,783,605	\$1,942,065
OTTI has been recognized			
Prime	\$627,137	\$566,127	\$541,984
Alt-A	482,352	398,128	357,140
	\$1,109,489	\$964,255	\$899,124
Total by collateral type			
Government agency	\$528,695	\$470,225	\$570,938
Prime	1,959,316	1,832,340	1,864,621
Alt-A	528,808	445,295	405,630
	\$3,016,819	\$2,747,860	\$2,841,189
Total by NAIC designation			
1	\$2,756,575	\$2,509,172	\$2,616,848
2	232,951	213,838	202,229
3	22,930	21,781	20,017
6	4,363	3,069	2,095
	\$3,016,819	\$2,747,860	\$2,841,189

The amortized cost and fair value of fixed maturity securities at September 30, 2011, by contractual maturity, are shown below. Actual maturities will differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties. All of our residential mortgage and other asset backed securities provide for periodic payments throughout their lives and are shown below as a separate line.

	Available-for-sale		Held for investment	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Due in one year or less	\$44,455	\$45,218	\$—	\$—
Due after one year through five years	438,413	492,808	—	—
Due after five years through ten years	1,993,044	2,202,168	—	—
Due after ten years through twenty years	3,960,426	4,283,903	—	—
Due after twenty years	6,377,131	7,127,978	2,827,461	2,838,736
	12,813,469	14,152,075	2,827,461	2,838,736
Residential mortgage backed securities	2,747,860	2,841,189	—	—
Other asset backed securities	363,208	385,548	—	—
	\$15,924,537	\$17,378,812	\$2,827,461	\$2,838,736

Unrealized Losses

The amortized cost and fair value of fixed maturity securities and equity securities that were in an unrealized loss position were as follows:

	Number of Securities	Amortized Cost (Dollars in thousands)	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
September 30, 2011				
Fixed maturity securities, available for sale:				
United States Government sponsored agencies	1	\$53,042	\$(109)	) \$52,933
United States municipalities, states and territories	1	3,545	(58)	) 3,487
Corporate securities:				
Finance, insurance and real estate	62	684,081	(47,198)	) 636,883
Manufacturing, construction and mining	22	176,742	(6,184)	) 170,558
Utilities and related sectors	29	246,545	(13,539)	) 233,006
Wholesale/retail trade	5	32,977	(1,848)	) 31,129
Services, media and other	6	37,860	(3,344)	) 34,516
Residential mortgage backed securities	92	1,134,986	(74,722)	) 1,060,264
Other asset backed securities	7	43,408	(3,856)	) 39,552
	225	\$2,413,186	\$(150,858)	) \$2,262,328
Fixed maturity securities, held for investment:				
Corporate security:				
Insurance	1	\$75,895	\$(19,464)	) \$56,431
Equity securities, available for sale:				
Finance, insurance and real estate	7	\$20,656	\$(2,826)	) \$17,830
December 31, 2010				
Fixed maturity securities, available for sale:				
United States Government full faith and credit	2	\$566	\$(18)	) \$548
United States Government sponsored agencies	1	111,747	(1,646)	) 110,101
United States municipalities, states and territories	289	1,571,263	(53,384)	) 1,517,879
Corporate securities:				
Finance, insurance and real estate	72	725,710	(40,604)	) 685,106
Manufacturing, construction and mining	110	1,094,516	(35,572)	) 1,058,944
Utilities and related sectors	144	980,815	(39,182)	) 941,633
Wholesale/retail trade	25	169,125	(6,251)	) 162,874
Services, media and other	17	192,151	(10,294)	) 181,857
Residential mortgage backed securities	98	1,470,836	(108,421)	) 1,362,415
Other asset backed securities	10	87,948	(4,937)	) 83,011
	768	\$6,404,677	\$(300,309)	) \$6,104,368
Fixed maturity securities, held for investment:				
United States Government sponsored agencies	3	\$746,414	\$(15,309)	) \$731,105
Corporate security:				
Insurance	1	75,786	(25,143)	) 50,643
	4	\$822,200	\$(40,452)	) \$781,748
Equity securities, available for sale				
Finance, insurance and real estate	8	\$32,782	\$(1,946)	) \$30,836

Unrealized losses decreased \$169.6 million from \$342.7 million at December 31, 2010 to \$173.1 million at September 30, 2011. Unrealized losses decreased due to changes in market interest rates on United States Government

sponsored agencies and United States municipalities, states and territories and a narrowing of credit spreads in certain sectors of the corporate bond market during the nine months ended September 30, 2011.

The following table sets forth the composition by credit quality (NAIC designation) of fixed maturity securities with gross unrealized losses:

NAIC Designation	Carrying Value of Securities with Gross Unrealized Losses (Dollars in thousands)	Percent of Total	Gross Unrealized Losses	Percent of Total	
September 30, 2011					
1	\$1,504,120	64.3	% \$(105,013	) 61.7	%
2	661,049	28.3	% (34,404	) 20.2	%
3	166,834	7.1	% (29,077	) 17.1	%
4	4,125	0.2	% (854	) 0.5	%
5	—	—	% —	—	%
6	2,095	0.1	% (974	) 0.6	%
	\$2,338,223	100.0	% \$(170,322	) 100.0	%
December 31, 2010					
1	\$5,017,596	72.4	% \$(186,066	) 54.6	%
2	1,619,437	23.4	% (102,931	) 30.2	%
3	269,555	3.9	% (49,764	) 14.6	%
4	17,278	0.2	% (642	) 0.2	%
5	—	—	% —	—	%
6	2,702	0.1	% (1,358	) 0.4	%
	\$6,926,568	100.0	% \$(340,761	) 100.0	%

The following tables show our investments' gross unrealized losses and fair value, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities (consisting of 233 and 780 securities, respectively) have been in a continuous unrealized loss position at September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010:

	Less than 12 months		12 months or more		Total	
	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses
	(Dollars in thousands)					
September 30, 2011						
Fixed maturity securities:						
Available for sale:						
United States Government sponsored agencies	\$52,933	\$(109)	\$—	\$—	\$52,933	\$(109)
United States municipalities, states and territories	3,487	(58)	—	—	3,487	(58)
Corporate securities:						
Finance, insurance and real estate	520,139	(37,487)	116,744	(9,711)	636,883	(47,198)
Manufacturing, construction and mining	141,465	(3,515)	29,093	(2,669)	170,558	(6,184)
Utilities and related sectors	206,963	(9,784)	26,043	(3,755)	233,006	(13,539)
Wholesale/retail trade	22,029	(477)	9,100	(1,371)	31,129	(1,848)
Services, media and other	13,284	(137)	21,232	(3,207)	34,516	(3,344)
Residential mortgage backed securities	279,160	(15,088)	781,104	(59,634)	1,060,264	(74,722)
Other asset backed securities	28,790	(1,257)	10,762	(2,599)	39,552	(3,856)
	\$1,268,250	\$(67,912)	\$994,078	\$(82,946)	\$2,262,328	\$(150,858)
Held for investment:						
Corporate security:						
Insurance	\$—	\$—	\$56,431	\$(19,464)	\$56,431	\$(19,464)
Equity securities, available for sale:						
Finance, insurance and real estate	\$11,593	\$(1,406)	\$6,237	\$(1,420)	\$17,830	\$(2,826)
December 31, 2010						
Fixed maturity securities:						
Available for sale:						
United States Government full faith and credit	\$548	\$(18)	\$—	\$—	\$548	\$(18)
United States Government sponsored agencies	110,101	(1,646)	—	—	110,101	(1,646)
United States municipalities, states and territories	1,510,354	(51,989)	7,525	(1,395)	1,517,879	(53,384)
Corporate securities:						
Finance, insurance and real estate	570,978	(27,603)	114,128	(13,001)	685,106	(40,604)
Manufacturing, construction and mining	1,024,454	(33,239)	34,490	(2,333)	1,058,944	(35,572)
Utilities and related sectors	927,476	(34,630)	14,157	(4,552)	941,633	(39,182)
Wholesale/retail trade	153,699	(4,947)	9,175	(1,304)	162,874	(6,251)
Services, media and other	181,857	(10,294)	—	—	181,857	(10,294)
	396,083	(14,100)	966,332	(94,321)	1,362,415	(108,421)

Residential mortgage backed securities

Other asset backed securities	83,011	(4,937)	—	—	83,011	(4,937)
	\$4,958,561	\$(183,403)	\$1,145,807	\$(116,906)		