

LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP
Form 10-Q
October 30, 2014

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(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, 2014

OR

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the transition period from to

Commission File Number: 1-6028

LINCOLN NATIONAL CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Indiana	35-1140070
(State or other jurisdiction of	(I.R.S. Employer
incorporation or organization)	Identification No.)
150 N. Radnor Chester Road, Suite A305, Radnor, Pennsylvania	19087
(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)

(484) 583-1400

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report.)

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

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

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

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

Smaller reporting company

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

As of October 27, 2014, there were 259,789,727 shares of the registrant’s common stock outstanding.

Lincoln National Corporation

Table of Contents

Item	Page
PART I	
1. Financial Statements	1
2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	44
Forward-Looking Statements – Cautionary Language	
Introduction	45
Executive Summary	45
Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates	46
Acquisitions and Dispositions	48
Results of Consolidated Operations	48
Results of Annuities	49
Results of Retirement Plan Services	55
Results of Life Insurance	61
Results of Group Protection	67
Results of Other Operations	70
Realized Gain (Loss) and Benefit Ratio	72
Unlocking	

	Consolidated	74
	Investments	
	Reinsurance	86
	Review of	86
	Consolidated	
	Financial	
	Condition	
	Liquidity and	86
	Capital	
	Resources	
	Other Matters	90
	Other Factors	90
	Affecting Our	
	Business	
	Recent	90
	Accounting	
	Pronouncements	
3.	Quantitative and	90
	Qualitative	
	Disclosures About	
	Market Risk	
4.	Controls and	
	Procedures	92

PART II

1.	Legal Proceedings	93
	Unregistered Sales of	
2.	Equity Securities and	93
	Use of Proceeds	
6.	Exhibits	93
	Signatures	94
	Exhibit Index for the E-1	
	Report on Form	
	10-Q	

PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

LINCOLN NATIONAL CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in millions, except share data)

	As of September 30, 2014 (Unaudited)	As of December 31, 2013
ASSETS		
Investments:		
Available-for-sale securities, at fair value:		
Fixed maturity securities (amortized cost: 2014 – \$78,484; 2013 – \$76,353)	\$ 85,348	\$ 80,078
Variable interest entities' fixed maturity securities (amortized cost: 2014 – \$586; 2013 – \$682)	598	697
Equity securities (cost: 2014 – \$217; 2013 – \$182)	234	201
Trading securities	2,134	2,282
Mortgage loans on real estate	7,466	7,210
Real estate	20	47
Policy loans	2,677	2,677
Derivative investments	1,439	881
Other investments	1,469	1,218
Total investments	101,385	95,291
Cash and invested cash	1,821	2,364
Deferred acquisition costs and value of business acquired	8,372	8,886
Premiums and fees receivable	448	420
Accrued investment income	1,129	1,029
Reinsurance recoverables	5,906	6,041
Funds withheld reinsurance assets	761	776
Goodwill	2,273	2,273
Other assets	3,414	2,730
Separate account assets	122,937	117,135
Total assets	\$ 248,446	\$ 236,945
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Future contract benefits	\$ 19,553	\$ 17,251
Other contract holder funds	74,893	74,548
Short-term debt	250	501
Long-term debt	5,186	5,320
Reinsurance related embedded derivatives	141	108
Funds withheld reinsurance liabilities	806	867

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Deferred gain on business sold through reinsurance	190	245
Payables for collateral on investments	3,853	3,238
Variable interest entities' liabilities	17	27
Other liabilities	5,168	4,253
Separate account liabilities	122,937	117,135
Total liabilities	232,994	223,493

Contingencies and Commitments (See Note 8)

Stockholders' Equity		
Preferred stock – 10,000,000 shares authorized	-	-
Common stock – 800,000,000 shares authorized; 259,786,446 and 262,896,701 shares issued and outstanding as of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, respectively	6,696	6,876
Retained earnings	5,834	5,013
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	2,922	1,563
Total stockholders' equity	15,452	13,452
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 248,446	\$ 236,945

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

LINCOLN NATIONAL CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

(Unaudited, in millions, except per share data)

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		2013	
Revenues						
Insurance premiums	\$	741	\$	672	\$	2,236
Fee income		1,216		1,032		2,973
Net investment income		1,212		1,180		3,543
Realized gain (loss):						
Total other-than-temporary impairment losses on securities		(6)		(22)		(21)
Portion of loss recognized in other comprehensive income		2		3		10
Net other-than-temporary impairment losses on securities recognized in earnings		(4)		(19)		(11)
Realized gain (loss), excluding other-than-temporary impairment losses on securities		93		(9)		117
Total realized gain (loss)		89		(28)		106
Amortization of deferred gain on business sold through reinsurance		18		19		55
Other revenues		135		134		397
Total revenues		3,411		3,009		9,869
Expenses						
Interest credited		631		627		1,900
Benefits		1,117		945		3,275
Commissions and other expenses		995		928		2,929
Interest and debt expense		67		67		201
Total expenses		2,810		2,567		8,305
Income (loss) before taxes		601		442		1,564
Federal income tax expense (benefit)		162		105		398
Net income (loss)		439		337		1,166
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax		(277)		(143)		1,359
Comprehensive income (loss)	\$	162	\$	194	\$	2,525
						\$ (1,165)
Net Income (Loss) Per Common Share						
Basic	\$	1.69	\$	1.28	\$	4.45
Diluted		1.65		1.23		4.34
						3.24

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

2

LINCOLN NATIONAL CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

(Unaudited, in millions, except per share data)

For the Nine
Months Ended
September 30,
2014 2013

Common Stock

Balance as of beginning-of-year	\$ 6,876	\$ 7,121
Stock compensation/issued for benefit plans	51	27
Retirement of common stock/cancellation of shares	(231)	(262)
Balance as of end-of-period	6,696	6,886

Retained Earnings

Balance as of beginning-of-year	5,013	4,044
Net income (loss)	1,166	893
Retirement of common stock	(219)	(88)
Common stock dividends declared (2014 – \$0.48; 2013 – \$0.36)	(126)	(96)
Balance as of end-of-period	5,834	4,753

Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

Balance as of beginning-of-year	1,563	3,808
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	1,359	(2,058)
Balance as of end-of-period	2,922	1,750
Total stockholders' equity as of end-of-period	\$ 15,452	\$ 13,389

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

LINCOLN NATIONAL CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(Unaudited, in millions)

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,166	\$ 893
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Deferred acquisition costs, value of business acquired, deferred sales inducements and deferred front-end loads deferrals and interest, net of amortization	(346)	(355)
Trading securities purchases, sales and maturities, net	223	90
Change in premiums and fees receivable	(28)	(47)
Change in accrued investment income	(100)	(96)
Change in future contract benefits and other contract holder funds	224	18
Change in reinsurance related assets and liabilities	10	(207)
Change in federal income tax accruals	198	262
Realized (gain) loss	(106)	105
Amortization of deferred gain on business sold through reinsurance	(55)	(56)
Other	(91)	(103)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	1,095	504
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Purchases of available-for-sale securities	(6,127)	(8,719)
Sales of available-for-sale securities	498	800
Maturities of available-for-sale securities	3,607	4,772
Purchases of other investments	(2,843)	(1,867)
Sales or maturities of other investments	2,597	1,901
Increase (decrease) in payables for collateral on investments	615	(628)
Other	(69)	(73)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(1,722)	(3,814)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Payment of long-term debt, including current maturities	(500)	-
Issuance of long-term debt, net of issuance costs	-	397
Deposits of fixed account values, including the fixed portion of variable	7,213	7,847
Withdrawals of fixed account values, including the fixed portion of variable	(4,162)	(3,910)
Transfers to and from separate accounts, net	(1,914)	(2,158)
Common stock issued for benefit plans and excess tax benefits	23	1
Repurchase of common stock	(450)	(350)
Dividends paid to common and preferred stockholders	(126)	(97)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	84	1,730

Net increase (decrease) in cash and invested cash	(543)	(1,580)
Cash and invested cash as of beginning-of-year	2,364	4,230
Cash and invested cash as of end-of-period	\$ 1,821	\$ 2,650

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

LINCOLN NATIONAL CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

1. Nature of Operations and Basis of Presentation

Nature of Operations

Lincoln National Corporation and its majority owned subsidiaries (“LNC” or the “Company,” which also may be referred to as “we,” “our” or “us”) operate multiple insurance businesses through four business segments. See Note 13 for additional details. The collective group of businesses uses “Lincoln Financial Group” as its marketing identity. Through our business segments, we sell a wide range of wealth protection, accumulation and retirement income products and solutions. These products include fixed and indexed annuities, variable annuities, universal life insurance (“UL”), variable universal life insurance (“VUL”), linked-benefit UL, indexed UL, term life insurance, employer-sponsored retirement plans and services, and group life, disability and dental.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with United States of America generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) for interim financial information and with the instructions for the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, including Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and notes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. Therefore, the information contained in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 (“2013 Form 10-K”), should be read in connection with the reading of these interim unaudited consolidated financial statements.

Certain GAAP policies, which significantly affect the determination of financial position, results of operations and cash flows, are summarized in our 2013 Form 10-K.

In the opinion of management, these statements include all normal recurring adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the Company’s results. Operating results for the nine month period ended September 30, 2014, are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the full year ending December 31, 2014. All material inter-company accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

2. New Accounting Standards

Adoption of New Accounting Standards

Financial Services – Investment Companies Topic

In June 2013, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) No. 2013-08, “Amendments to the Scope, Measurement, and Disclosure Requirements” (“ASU 2013-08”), which provides comprehensive accounting guidance for assessing whether an entity is an investment company. For a more detailed description of ASU 2013-08, see “Future Adoption of New Accounting Standards – Financial Services – Investment Companies Topic” in Note 2 of our 2013 Form 10-K. We adopted the requirements in ASU 2013-08 effective January 1, 2014, and evaluated all of our entities under the investment company criteria defined in ASU 2013-08. The adoption of ASU 2013-08 did not have an effect on our consolidated financial condition and results of operations.

Income Taxes Topic

In July 2013, the FASB issued ASU No. 2013-11, “Presentation of an Unrecognized Tax Benefit When a Net Operating Loss Carryforward, a Similar Tax Loss, or a Tax Credit Carryforward Exists” (“ASU 2013-11”) in order to explicitly define the financial statement presentation requirements in GAAP. For a more detailed description of ASU 2013-11, see “Future Adoption of New Accounting Standards – Income Taxes Topic” in Note 2 of our 2013 Form 10-K. We adopted the requirements of ASU 2013-11 effective January 1, 2014. The adoption of ASU 2013-11 did not have an effect on the deferred tax asset or liability classification on our balance sheet and did not result in any additional disclosures to our financial statements.

Other Expenses Topic

In July 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-06, “Fees Paid to the Federal Government by Health Insurers” (“ASU 2011-06”) in order to address the question of how health insurers should recognize and classify fees mandated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act. For a more detailed description of ASU 2011-06, see “Future Adoption of New Accounting Standards – Other Expenses Topic” in Note 2 of our 2013 Form 10-K. We adopted the requirements of ASU 2011-06 effective January 1, 2014. The adoption of ASU 2011-06 did not have a material effect on our consolidated financial condition and results of operations.

Future Adoption of New Accounting Standards

Investments – Equity Method and Joint Ventures Topic

In January 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-01, “Accounting for Investments in Qualified Affordable Housing Projects” (“ASU 2014-01”) in response to stakeholders’ feedback that the presence of certain conditions in order to apply the effective yield method to investments in qualified affordable housing projects may be overly restrictive and could result in certain investments being accounted for under a method of accounting that may not fairly represent the economics of the investments. For a more detailed description of ASU 2014-01, see “Future Adoption of New Accounting Standards – Investments – Equity Method and Joint Ventures” in Note 2 of our 2013 Form 10-K. We will adopt the requirements of ASU 2014-01 effective January 1, 2015, and do not expect the adoption will have a material effect on our consolidated financial condition and results of operations.

Revenue from Contracts with Customers Topic

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09, “Revenue from Contracts with Customers” (“ASU 2014-09”) in order to clarify the principles of recognizing revenue. ASU 2014-09 establishes the core principle of recognizing revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services in an amount that reflects the consideration the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The FASB defines a five-step process that systematically identifies the various components of the revenue recognition process, culminating with the recognition of revenue upon satisfaction of an entity’s performance obligation. By completing all five steps of the process, the core principles of revenue recognition will be achieved. The amendments in ASU 2014-09 are effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, with early adoption prohibited. We will adopt the requirements of ASU 2014-09 effective January 1, 2017, and are currently evaluating the impact of the adoption on our consolidated financial condition and results of operations.

Transfers and Servicing Topic

In June 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-11, “Repurchase-to-Maturity Transactions, Repurchase Financings and Disclosures” (“ASU 2014-11”) in order to eliminate a distinction in current accounting guidance related to certain repurchase agreements. The FASB noted that the distinction in the accounting guidance was not warranted because in all types of repurchase transactions the transferor retains exposure to the transferred financial assets and obtains important benefits from those assets through the term of the transaction. ASU 2014-11 amends current accounting guidance to require repurchase-to-maturity transactions and linked repurchase financings to be accounted for as secured borrowings, which is consistent with the accounting for other repurchase agreements. In addition, ASU 2014-11 includes new disclosure requirements related to transfers accounted for as sales that are economically similar to repurchase agreements, and information about the types of collateral pledged in repurchase agreements and similar

transactions accounted for as secured borrowings. The amendments in ASU 2014-11 are effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2014, with early adoption prohibited. Changes in accounting for transactions outstanding on the effective date are reported as a cumulative-effect adjustment to retained earnings as of the beginning of the period of adoption. The disclosures are not required to be presented for comparative periods before the effective date. We will adopt the requirements of ASU 2014-11 effective January 1, 2015, and are currently evaluating the impact of the adoption on our consolidated financial condition and results of operations.

3. Variable Interest Entities (“VIEs”)

Consolidated VIEs

See Note 4 in our 2013 Form 10-K for a detailed discussion of our consolidated VIEs, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

The following summarizes information regarding the credit-linked note (“CLN”) structures (dollars in millions) as of September 30, 2014:

	Amount and Date of Issuance	
	\$400 December 2006	\$200 April 2007
Original attachment point (subordination)	5.50%	2.05%
Current attachment point (subordination)	4.21%	1.48%
Maturity	12/20/2016	3/20/2017
Current rating of tranche	BBB-	Ba2
Current rating of underlying reference obligations	AA - BB	AAA - CCC
Number of defaults in	3	2

underlying reference obligations		
Number of entities	123	99
Number of countries	20	21

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

The following summarizes the exposure of the CLN structures' underlying reference obligations by industry and rating as of September 30, 2014:

	AAA	AA	A	BBB	BB	B	CCC	Total
Industry								
Financial intermediaries	0.0%	2.1%	6.7%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.5%
Telecommunications	0.0%	0.0%	4.0%	5.5%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	10.9%
Oil and gas	0.3%	2.1%	1.0%	4.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.0%
Utilities	0.0%	0.0%	2.6%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.5%
Chemicals and plastics	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	1.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	3.8%
Drugs	0.3%	2.2%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.7%
Retailers (except food and drug)	0.0%	0.0%	2.1%	0.9%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	3.5%
Industrial equipment	0.0%	0.0%	2.6%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.3%
Sovereign	0.0%	0.7%	1.2%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.3%
Conglomerates	0.0%	2.3%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.2%
Forest products	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%
Other	0.0%	4.1%	15.5%	17.1%	4.6%	0.7%	0.3%	42.3%
Total	0.6%	13.5%	40.1%	36.6%	8.2%	0.7%	0.3%	100.0%

Asset and liability information (dollars in millions) for the consolidated VIEs included on our Consolidated Balance Sheets was as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014			As of December 31, 2013		
	Number of Instruments	Notional Amounts	Carrying Value	Number of Instruments	Notional Amounts	Carrying Value
Assets						
Fixed maturity securities:						
Asset-backed credit card loans	N/A	\$ -	\$ 598	N/A	\$ -	\$ 595
U.S. government bonds	N/A	-	-	N/A	-	102
Total return swap	1	402	-	1	361	-
Total assets (1)	1	\$ 402	\$ 598	1	\$ 361	\$ 697
Liabilities						
Non-qualifying hedges:						
Credit default swaps	2	\$ 600	\$ 17	2	\$ 600	\$ 27
Contingent forwards	2	-	-	2	-	-
Total liabilities (2)	4	\$ 600	\$ 17	4	\$ 600	\$ 27

- (1) Reported in variable interest entities' fixed maturity securities on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.
- (2) Reported in variable interest entities' liabilities on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

For details related to the fixed maturity available-for-sale ("AFS") securities for these VIEs, see Note 4.

As described more fully in Note 1 of our 2013 Form 10-K, we regularly review our investment holdings for other-than-temporary impairment ("OTTI"). Based upon this review, we believe that the AFS fixed maturity securities were not other-than-temporarily impaired as of September 30, 2014.

The gains (losses) for the consolidated VIEs (in millions) recorded on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013	
Non-Qualifying Hedges				
Credit default swaps	\$ (7)	\$ 35	\$ 10	\$ 61
Contingent forwards	-	-	-	-
Total non-qualifying hedges (1)	\$ (7)	\$ 35	\$ 10	\$ 61

(1) Reported in realized gain (loss) on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).

Unconsolidated VIEs

See Note 4 in our 2013 Form 10-K for a detailed discussion of our unconsolidated VIEs, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

Effective December 31, 2010, we issued a \$500 million long-term senior note in exchange for a corporate bond AFS security of like principal and duration from a non-affiliated VIE. For a more detailed description of this transaction, see “Unconsolidated VIEs” in Note 4 of our 2013 Form 10-K. Effective September 30, 2014, we terminated our \$500 million long-term senior note financing arrangement and entered into a new transaction with the same non-affiliated VIE whose primary activities are to acquire, hold and issue notes and loans, pay and collect interest on the notes and loans, and enter into derivative instruments. Under this new transaction, we issued a \$697 million long-term senior note to the non-affiliated VIE in exchange for a corporate bond AFS security of like principal and duration that was assigned to one of our subsidiaries. The outstanding principal balance of this new long-term senior note is variable in nature, moving concurrently with any variability in the face amount of the corporate bond AFS security up to a maximum amount of \$1.1 billion. We have concluded that we are not the primary beneficiary of the non-affiliated VIE because we do not have power over the activities that most significantly affect its economic performance. In addition, the terms of the senior note provide us with a set-off right with the corporate bond AFS security we purchased from the VIE; therefore, neither appears on our Consolidated Balance Sheets. The VIE has entered into a total return swap with an unaffiliated third party that supports any necessary principal funding of the corporate bond AFS security required by our subsidiaries while the security is outstanding.

We invest in certain limited partnerships (“LPs”) that operate qualified affordable housing projects that we have concluded are VIEs. We receive returns from the LPs in the form of income tax credits that are guaranteed by creditworthy third parties, and our exposure to loss is limited to the capital we invest in the LPs. We are not the primary beneficiary of these VIEs as we do not have the power to direct the most significant activities of the LPs. Our maximum exposure to loss was \$70 million and \$77 million as of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, respectively.

4. Investments

AFS Securities

See Note 1 in our 2013 Form 10-K for information regarding our accounting policy relating to AFS securities, which also includes additional disclosures regarding our fair value measurements.

The amortized cost, gross unrealized gains, losses and OTTI and fair value of AFS securities (in millions) were as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014				
	Amortized Cost	Gross Gains	Unrealized Losses	OTTI	Fair Value
Fixed maturity securities:					
Corporate bonds	\$ 68,077	\$ 6,175	\$ 369	\$ 85	\$ 73,798
U.S. government bonds	365	38	1	-	402
Foreign government bonds	489	62	-	-	551
Residential mortgage-backed securities ("RMBS")	4,063	267	-	21	4,309
Commercial mortgage-backed securities ("CMBS")	607	29	-	14	622
Collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs")	287	-	1	-	286
State and municipal bonds	3,709	716	5	-	4,420
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	887	110	37	-	960
VIEs' fixed maturity securities	586	12	-	-	598
Total fixed maturity securities	79,070	7,409	413	120	85,946
Equity securities	217	17	-	-	234
Total AFS securities	\$ 79,287	\$ 7,426	\$ 413	\$ 120	\$ 86,180

As of December 31, 2013				
Amortized Cost	Gross Gains	Unrealized Losses	OTTI	Fair Value

Fixed maturity securities:

Corporate bonds	\$ 65,808	\$ 4,374	\$ 1,157	\$ 90	\$ 68,935
U.S. government bonds	355	26	14	-	367
Foreign government bonds	505	45	1	-	549
RMBS	4,135	256	10	31	4,350
CMBS	713	36	4	17	728
CLOs	232	-	1	6	225
State and municipal bonds	3,638	308	27	-	3,919
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	967	89	51	-	1,005
VIEs' fixed maturity securities	682	15	-	-	697
Total fixed maturity securities	77,035	5,149	1,265	144	80,775
Equity securities	182	19	-	-	201
Total AFS securities	\$ 77,217	\$ 5,168	\$ 1,265	\$ 144	\$ 80,976

The amortized cost and fair value of fixed maturity AFS securities by contractual maturities (in millions) as of September 30, 2014, were as follows:

	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
Due in one year or less	\$ 2,338	\$ 2,388
Due after one year through five years	17,352	18,852
Due after five years through ten years	22,426	23,467
Due after ten years	31,997	36,022
Subtotal	74,113	80,729
Mortgage-backed securities ("MBS")	4,670	4,931
CLOs	287	286
Total fixed maturity AFS securities	\$ 79,070	\$ 85,946

Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because issuers may have the right to call or pre-pay obligations.

The fair value and gross unrealized losses, including the portion of OTTI recognized in other comprehensive income (loss) ("OCI"), of AFS securities (dollars in millions), aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, were as follows:

As of September 30, 2014						
	Less Than or Equal to Twelve Months		Greater Than Twelve Months		Total	Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI
	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI	Fair Value	
Fixed maturity securities:						
Corporate bonds	\$ 5,133	\$ 90	\$ 5,810	\$ 364	\$ 10,943	\$ 454
U.S. government bonds	156	1	-	-	156	1
RMBS	403	3	293	18	696	21
CMBS	6	-	116	14	122	14
CLOs	34	-	81	1	115	1
State and municipal bonds	44	1	24	4	68	5
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	13	-	194	37	207	37
Total AFS securities	\$ 5,789	\$ 95	\$ 6,518	\$ 438	\$ 12,307	\$ 533
Total number of AFS securities in an unrealized loss position						1,057

As of December 31, 2013						
	Less Than or Equal to Twelve Months		Greater Than Twelve Months		Total	Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI
	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI	Fair Value	
Fixed maturity securities:						
Corporate bonds	\$ 16,918	\$ 1,018	\$ 1,258	\$ 229	\$ 18,176	\$ 1,247
U.S. government bonds	163	14	-	-	163	14
Foreign government bonds	69	1	-	-	69	1
RMBS	488	17	267	24	755	41
CMBS	109	7	43	14	152	21
CLOs	136	2	50	5	186	7

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

State and municipal bonds	377	20	24	7	401	27
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	62	6	197	45	259	51
Total AFS securities	\$ 18,322	\$ 1,085	\$ 1,839	\$ 324	\$ 20,161	\$ 1,409

Total number of AFS securities in an unrealized loss position 1,484

For information regarding our investments in VIEs, see Note 3.

We perform detailed analysis on the AFS securities backed by pools of residential and commercial mortgages that are most at risk of impairment based on factors discussed in Note 1 in our 2013 Form 10-K. Selected information for these securities in a gross unrealized loss position (in millions) was as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014		
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss
Total			
AFS securities backed by pools of residential mortgages	\$ 1,088	\$ 1,024	\$ 64
AFS securities backed by pools of commercial mortgages	148	134	14
Total	\$ 1,236	\$ 1,158	\$ 78
Subject to Detailed Analysis			
AFS securities backed by pools of residential mortgages	\$ 790	\$ 731	\$ 59
AFS securities backed by pools of commercial mortgages	26	25	1
Total	\$ 816	\$ 756	\$ 60

	As of December 31, 2013		
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss
Total			
AFS securities backed by pools of residential mortgages	\$ 1,261	\$ 1,146	\$ 115
AFS securities backed by pools of commercial mortgages	193	169	24
Total	\$ 1,454	\$ 1,315	\$ 139
Subject to Detailed Analysis			
AFS securities backed by pools of residential mortgages	\$ 933	\$ 833	\$ 100
AFS securities backed by pools of commercial mortgages	29	24	5
Total	\$ 962	\$ 857	\$ 105

The fair value, gross unrealized losses, the portion of OTTI recognized in OCI (in millions) and number of AFS securities where the fair value had declined and remained below amortized cost by greater than 20% were as follows:

As of September 30, 2014

	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	OTTI	Number of Securities (1)
Less than six months	\$ 14	\$ -	\$ 7	3
Nine months or greater, but less than twelve months	1	-	-	3
Twelve months or greater	242	58	51	77
Total	\$ 257	\$ 58	\$ 58	83

As of December 31, 2013

	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	OTTI	Number of Securities (1)
Less than six months	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ -	4
Six months or greater, but less than nine months	7	3	-	1
Nine months or greater, but less than twelve months	59	19	-	4
Twelve months or greater	349	92	81	92
Total	\$ 416	\$ 115	\$ 81	101

(1) We may reflect a security in more than one aging category based on various purchase dates.

We regularly review our investment holdings for OTTI. Our gross unrealized losses, including the portion of OTTI recognized in OCI, on AFS securities decreased by \$876 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014. As discussed further below, we believe the unrealized loss position as of September 30, 2014, did not represent OTTI as (i) we did not intend to sell the fixed maturity AFS securities; (ii) it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell the fixed maturity AFS securities before recovery of their amortized cost basis; (iii) the estimated future cash flows were equal to or greater than the amortized cost basis of the debt securities; and (iv) we had the ability and intent to hold the equity AFS securities for a period of time sufficient for recovery.

Based upon this evaluation as of September 30, 2014, management believes we have the ability to generate adequate amounts of cash from our normal operations (e.g., insurance premiums and fees and investment income) to meet cash requirements with a prudent margin of safety without requiring the sale of our temporarily-impaired securities.

As of September 30, 2014, the unrealized losses associated with our corporate bond securities were attributable primarily to securities that were backed by individual issuer companies. For individual issuers, we performed detailed analysis of the financial performance of the issuer and determined that we expected to recover the entire amortized cost for each security.

As of September 30, 2014, the unrealized losses associated with our MBS and commercial real estate (“CRE”) collateralized debt obligations (“CDOs”) were attributable primarily to collateral losses and credit spreads. We assessed our MBS and CRE CDOs for credit impairment using a cash flow model that incorporates key assumptions including default rates, severities and prepayment rates. We estimated losses for a security by forecasting the underlying loans in each transaction. The forecasted loan performance was used to project cash flows to the various tranches in the structure, as applicable. Our forecasted cash flows also considered, as applicable, independent industry analyst reports and forecasts, sector credit ratings and other independent market data. Based upon our assessment of the expected credit losses of the security given the performance of the underlying collateral compared to our subordination or other credit enhancement, we expected to recover the entire amortized cost basis of each temporarily-impaired security.

As of September 30, 2014, the unrealized losses associated with our hybrid and redeemable preferred securities were attributable primarily to wider credit spreads caused by illiquidity in the market and subordination within the capital structure, as well as credit risk of specific issuers. For our hybrid and redeemable preferred securities, we evaluated the financial performance of the issuer based upon credit performance and investment ratings and determined that we expected to recover the entire amortized cost of each security.

Changes in the amount of credit loss of OTTI recognized in net income (loss) where the portion related to other factors was recognized in OCI (in millions) on fixed maturity AFS securities were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013	
Balance as of beginning-of-period	\$ 389	\$ 413	\$ 404	\$ 424
Increases attributable to:				

Credit losses on securities for which an OTTI was not previously recognized	1	6	2	26
Credit losses on securities for which an OTTI was previously recognized	4	16	12	37
Decreases attributable to:				
Securities sold	(17)	(16)	(41)	(68)
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ 377	\$ 419	\$ 377	\$ 419

During the nine months ended September 30, 2014 and 2013, we recorded credit losses on securities for which an OTTI was not previously recognized as we determined the cash flows expected to be collected would not be sufficient to recover the entire amortized cost basis of the debt security. The credit losses we recorded on securities for which an OTTI was not previously recognized were attributable primarily to one or a combination of the following reasons:

- Failure of the issuer of the security to make scheduled payments;
- Deterioration of creditworthiness of the issuer;
- Deterioration of conditions specifically related to the security;
- Deterioration of fundamentals of the industry in which the issuer operates; and
- Deterioration of the rating of the security by a rating agency.

We recognize the OTTI attributed to the noncredit portion as a separate component in OCI referred to as unrealized OTTI on AFS securities.

Details of the amount of credit loss of OTTI recognized in net income (loss) for which a portion related to other factors was recognized in OCI (in millions), were as follows:

As of September 30, 2014					
	Gross Unrealized Losses			OTTI in	
	Amortized Cost	Gains	OTTI	Fair Value	Credit Losses
Corporate bonds	\$ 280	\$ 34	\$ 35	\$ 279	\$ 125
RMBS	472	27	10	489	187
CMBS	48	4	12	40	65
Total	\$ 800	\$ 65	\$ 57	\$ 808	\$ 377

As of December 31, 2013					
	Gross Unrealized Losses			OTTI in	
	Amortized Cost	Gains	OTTI	Fair Value	Credit Losses
Corporate bonds	\$ 265	\$ 18	\$ 49	\$ 234	\$ 133
RMBS	550	18	18	550	184
CMBS	35	4	12	27	87
Total	\$ 850	\$ 40	\$ 79	\$ 811	\$ 404

Mortgage Loans on Real Estate

See Note 1 in our 2013 Form 10-K for information regarding our accounting policy relating to mortgage loans on real estate.

Mortgage loans on real estate principally involve commercial real estate. The commercial loans are geographically diversified throughout the U.S. with the largest concentrations in California and Texas, which accounted for 23% and 9%, respectively, of mortgage loans on real estate as of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013.

The following provides the current and past due composition of our mortgage loans on real estate (in millions):

	As of September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
Current	\$ 7,457	\$ 7,200
60 to 90 days past due	-	4
Greater than 90 days past due	8	3
Valuation allowance associated with impaired mortgage loans on real estate	(3)	(3)
Unamortized premium (discount)	4	6
Total carrying value	\$ 7,466	\$ 7,210

The number of impaired mortgage loans on real estate, each of which had an associated specific valuation allowance, and the carrying value of impaired mortgage loans on real estate (dollars in millions) were as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
Number of impaired mortgage loans on real estate	3	3
Principal balance of impaired mortgage loans on real estate	\$ 27	\$ 27
Valuation allowance associated with impaired mortgage loans on real estate	(3)	(3)
Carrying value of impaired mortgage loans on real estate	\$ 24	\$ 24

The changes in the valuation allowance associated with impaired mortgage loans on real estate (in millions) were as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
Balance as of beginning-of-year	\$ 3	\$ 21
Additions	-	3
Charge-offs, net of recoveries	-	(21)
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ 3	\$ 3

The average carrying value on the impaired mortgage loans on real estate (in millions) was as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 2013		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 2013	
Average carrying value for impaired mortgage loans on real estate	\$ 24	\$ 31	\$ 24	\$ 37
Interest income recognized on impaired mortgage loans on real estate	-	-	1	1
Interest income collected on impaired mortgage loans on real estate	-	-	1	1

As described in Note 1 in our 2013 Form 10-K, we use the loan-to-value and debt-service coverage ratios as credit quality indicators for our mortgage loans, which were as follows (dollars in millions):

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

	As of September 30, 2014			As of December 31, 2013		
	Carrying	% of	Debt- Service Coverage	Carrying	% of	Debt- Service Coverage
	Value	Total	Ratio	Value	Total	Ratio
Less than 65%	\$ 6,480	86.8%	1.86	\$ 6,026	83.6%	1.78
65% to 74%	663	8.9%	1.54	744	10.3%	1.42
75% to 100%	292	3.9%	0.81	402	5.6%	0.83
Greater than 100%	31	0.4%	0.76	35	0.5%	0.78
Total mortgage loans on real estate	\$ 7,466	100.0%		\$ 7,207	100.0%	

Alternative Investments

As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, alternative investments included investments in 152 and 121 different partnerships, respectively, and the portfolio represented approximately 1% of our overall invested assets.

Realized Gain (Loss) Related to Certain Investments

The detail of the realized gain (loss) related to certain investments (in millions) was as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013	
Fixed maturity AFS securities:				
Gross gains	\$ 4	\$ 5	\$ 23	\$ 17
Gross losses	(6)	(28)	(18)	(73)
Equity AFS securities:				
Gross gains	2	1	5	7
Gross losses	-	(1)	-	(2)
Gain (loss) on other investments	-	(2)	3	(3)
Associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL and changes in other contract holder funds	(7)	(8)	(24)	(19)
Total realized gain (loss) related to certain investments, pre-tax	\$ (7)	\$ (33)	\$ (11)	\$ (73)

Details underlying write-downs taken as a result of OTTI (in millions) that were recognized in net income (loss) and included in realized gain (loss) on AFS securities above, and the portion of OTTI recognized in OCI (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013	
OTTI Recognized in Net Income (Loss)				
Fixed maturity securities:				
Corporate bonds	\$ (2)	\$ (11)	\$ (7)	\$ (21)

RMBS	(1)	(10)	(4)	(25)
CMBS	-	(1)	(1)	(15)
CRE CDOs	(2)	-	(2)	(1)
Total fixed maturity securities	(5)	(22)	(14)	(62)
Equity securities	-	(1)	-	(1)
Gross OTTI recognized in net income (loss)	(5)	(23)	(14)	(63)
Associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	1	4	3	11
Net OTTI recognized in net income (loss), pre-tax	\$ (4)	\$ (19)	\$ (11)	\$ (52)

Portion of OTTI Recognized in OCI

Gross OTTI recognized in OCI	\$ 2	\$ 4	\$ 11	\$ 10
Change in DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	-	(1)	(1)	(1)
Net portion of OTTI recognized in OCI, pre-tax	\$ 2	\$ 3	\$ 10	\$ 9

Determination of Credit Losses on Corporate Bonds and CDOs

As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, we reviewed our corporate bond and CDO portfolios for potential shortfall in contractual principal and interest based on numerous subjective and objective inputs. The factors used to determine the amount of credit loss for each individual security, include, but are not limited to, near term risk, substantial discrepancy between book and market value, sector or company-specific volatility, negative operating trends and trading levels wider than peers.

Credit ratings express opinions about the credit quality of a security. Securities rated investment grade, that is those rated BBB- or higher by Standard & Poor's ("S&P") Rating Services or Baa3 or higher by Moody's Investors Service ("Moody's"), are generally considered by the rating agencies and market participants to be low credit risk. As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, 95% and 96%, respectively, of the fair value of our corporate bond portfolio was rated investment grade. As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, the portion of our corporate bond portfolio rated below investment grade had an amortized cost of \$3.5 billion and \$3.0 billion,

respectively, and a fair value of \$3.5 billion and \$2.9 billion, respectively. As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, 96% and 94%, respectively, of the fair value of our CDO portfolio was rated investment grade. As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, the portion of our CDO portfolio rated below investment grade had an amortized cost of \$12 million and \$16 million, respectively, and fair value of \$12 million and \$13 million, respectively. Based upon the analysis discussed above, we believe as of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, that we would recover the amortized cost of each fixed maturity security.

Determination of Credit Losses on MBS

As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, default rates were projected by considering underlying MBS loan performance and collateral type. Projected default rates on existing delinquencies vary between approximately 10% to 100% depending on loan type and severity of delinquency status. In addition, we estimate the potential contributions of currently performing loans that may become delinquent in the future based on the change in delinquencies and loan liquidations experienced in the recent history. Finally, we develop a default rate timing curve by aggregating the defaults for all loans in the pool (delinquent loans, foreclosure and real estate owned and new delinquencies from currently performing loans) and the associated loan-level loss severities.

We use certain available loan characteristics such as lien status, loan sizes and occupancy to estimate the loss severity of loans. Second lien loans are assigned 100% severity, if defaulted. For first lien loans, we assume a minimum of 30% severity with higher severity assumed for investor properties and further adjusted by housing price assumptions. With the default rate timing curve and loan-level severity, we derive the future expected credit losses.

Payables for Collateral on Investments

The carrying value of the payables for collateral on investments (in millions) included on our Consolidated Balance Sheets and the fair value of the related investments or collateral consisted of the following:

	As of September 30, 2014		As of December 31, 2013	
	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value
Collateral payable for derivative investments (1)	\$ 1,276	\$ 1,276	\$ 638	\$ 638
Securities pledged under securities lending agreements (2)	197	191	184	178
Securities pledged under repurchase agreements (3)	205	215	530	553
Securities pledged for Term Asset-Backed Securities				

Loan Facility ("TALF") (4)	-	-	36	49
Investments pledged for Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis ("FHLBI") (5)	2,175	3,535	1,850	3,127
Total payables for collateral on investments	\$ 3,853	\$ 5,217	\$ 3,238	\$ 4,545

- (1) We obtain collateral based upon contractual provisions with our counterparties. These agreements take into consideration the counterparties' credit rating as compared to ours, the fair value of the derivative investments and specified thresholds that if exceeded result in the receipt of cash that is typically invested in cash and invested cash. See Note 5 for details about maximum collateral potentially required to post on our credit default swaps.
- (2) Our pledged securities under securities lending agreements are included in fixed maturity AFS securities on our Consolidated Balance Sheets. We generally obtain collateral in an amount equal to 102% and 105% of the fair value of the domestic and foreign securities, respectively. We value collateral daily and obtain additional collateral when deemed appropriate. The cash received in our securities lending program is typically invested in cash and invested cash or fixed maturity AFS securities.
- (3) Our pledged securities under repurchase agreements are included in fixed maturity AFS securities on our Consolidated Balance Sheets. We obtain collateral in an amount equal to 95% of the fair value of the securities, and our agreements with third parties contain contractual provisions to allow for additional collateral to be obtained when necessary. The cash received in our repurchase program is typically invested in fixed maturity AFS securities.
- (4) Our pledged securities for TALF are included in fixed maturity AFS securities on our Consolidated Balance Sheets. We obtain collateral in an amount that has typically averaged 90% of the fair value of the TALF securities. The cash received in these transactions is invested in fixed maturity AFS securities.
- (5) Our pledged investments for FHLBI are included in fixed maturity AFS securities and mortgage loans on real estate on our Consolidated Balance Sheets. The FHLBI overcollateralization requirements for the assets that we pledge are generally 105% to 115% of the fair value for fixed maturity AFS securities and 165% to 175% of the unpaid principal balance for mortgage loans on real estate. The cash received in these transactions is primarily invested in cash and invested cash or fixed maturity AFS securities.

For information related to balance sheet offsetting of our securities lending and repurchase agreements, see Note 5.

Increase (decrease) in payables for collateral on investments (in millions) included on the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows consisted of the following:

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 2013	
Collateral payable for derivative investments	\$ 638	\$ (1,610)
Securities pledged under securities lending agreements	13	(17)
Securities pledged under repurchase agreements	(325)	250
Securities pledged for TALF	(36)	(1)
Investments pledged for FHLBI	325	750
Total increase (decrease) in payables for collateral on investments	\$ 615	\$ (628)

Investment Commitments

As of September 30, 2014, our investment commitments were \$1.1 billion, which included \$525 million of LPs, \$316 million of mortgage loans on real estate and \$282 million of private debt investments.

Concentrations of Financial Instruments

As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, our most significant investments in one issuer were our investments in securities issued by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation with a fair value of \$2.4 billion and \$2.6 billion, respectively, or 2% and 3%, respectively, of our invested assets portfolio, and our investments in securities issued by Fannie Mae with a fair value of \$1.4 billion and \$1.7 billion, respectively, or 1% and 2%, respectively, of our invested assets portfolio. These investments are included in corporate bonds in the tables above.

As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, our most significant investments in one industry were our investment securities in the electric industry with a fair value of \$9.7 billion and \$8.7 billion, respectively, or 10% and 9%, respectively, of our invested assets portfolio, and our investment securities in the banking industry with a fair value of \$5.0 billion, or 5% of our invested assets portfolio.

5. Derivative Instruments

We maintain an overall risk management strategy that incorporates the use of derivative instruments to minimize significant unplanned fluctuations in earnings that are caused by interest rate risk, foreign currency exchange risk, equity market risk, default risk, basis risk and credit risk. See Note 1 in our 2013 Form 10-K for a detailed discussion of the accounting treatment for derivative instruments. See Note 6 in our 2013 Form 10-K for a detailed discussion of our derivative instruments and use of them in our overall risk management strategy, which information is incorporated herein by reference. See Note 12 for additional disclosures related to the fair value of our derivative instruments and Note 3 for derivative instruments related to our consolidated VIEs.

We have derivative instruments with off-balance-sheet risks whose notional or contract amounts exceed the credit exposure. Outstanding derivative instruments with off-balance-sheet risks (in millions) were as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014			As of December 31, 2013		
	Notional Amounts	Fair Value Asset	Liability	Notional Amounts	Fair Value Asset	Liability
Qualifying Hedges						
Cash flow hedges:						
Interest rate contracts (1)	\$ 3,678	\$ 499	\$ 151	\$ 4,339	\$ 562	\$ 148
Foreign currency contracts (1)	610	36	32	615	32	46
Total cash flow hedges	4,288	535	183	4,954	594	194
Fair value hedges:						
Interest rate contracts (1)	875	175	-	875	92	33
Non-Qualifying Hedges						
Interest rate contracts (1)	52,185	519	418	45,620	215	744
Foreign currency contracts (1)	82	-	-	102	-	-
Equity market contracts (1)	22,522	921	175	19,917	957	193
Credit contracts (2)	126	-	1	126	-	2
Embedded derivatives:						
Guaranteed living benefit reserves (3) ("GLB")	-	592	-	-	1,244	-
GLB reserves (2)	-	-	79	-	-	-
Reinsurance related (4)	-	-	141	-	-	108
Indexed annuity and universal life contracts (5)	-	-	1,117	-	-	1,048
Total derivative instruments	\$ 80,078	\$ 2,742	\$ 2,114	\$ 71,594	\$ 3,102	\$ 2,322

(1) Reported in derivative investments and other liabilities on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

(2) Reported in other liabilities on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

(3) Reported in other assets on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

(4) Reported in reinsurance related embedded derivatives on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

(5) Reported in future contract benefits on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

The maturity of the notional amounts of derivative instruments (in millions) was as follows:

Remaining Life as of September 30, 2014						
Less						
Than	1 – 5	6 – 10	11 – 30	Over 30		
1 Year	Years	Years	Years	Years	Total	

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Interest rate contracts (1)	\$ 2,340	\$ 30,947	\$ 11,023	\$ 11,215	\$ 1,213	\$ 56,738
Foreign currency contracts (2)	108	156	250	178	-	692
Equity market contracts	12,082	5,072	5,345	21	2	22,522
Credit contracts	-	126	-	-	-	126
Total derivative instruments with notional amounts	\$ 14,530	\$ 36,301	\$ 16,618	\$ 11,414	\$ 1,215	\$ 80,078

- (1) As of September 30, 2014, the latest maturity date for which we were hedging our exposure to the variability in future cash flows for these instruments was April 2067.
- (2) As of September 30, 2014, the latest maturity date for which we were hedging our exposure to the variability in future cash flows for these instruments was August 2029.

The change in our unrealized gain (loss) on derivative instruments in accumulated OCI (in millions) was as follows:

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 2013	
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivative Instruments		
Balance as of beginning-of-year	\$ 256	\$ 163
Other comprehensive income (loss):		
Unrealized holding gains (losses) arising during the period:		
Cash flow hedges:		
Interest rate contracts	(118)	175
Foreign currency contracts	23	(17)
Fair value hedges:		
Interest rate contracts	3	3
Change in foreign currency exchange rate adjustment	25	(12)
Change in DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	2	6
Income tax benefit (expense)	23	(54)
Less:		
Reclassification adjustment for gains (losses) included in net income (loss):		
Cash flow hedges:		
Interest rate contracts (1)	(19)	(18)
Foreign currency contracts (1)	4	4
Fair value hedges:		
Interest rate contracts (2)	3	3
Associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	1	1
Income tax benefit (expense)	4	4
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ 221	\$ 270

(1) The OCI offset is reported within net investment income on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).

(2) The OCI offset is reported within interest and debt expense on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).

The gains (losses) on derivative instruments (in millions) recorded within income (loss) from continuing operations on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013	
Qualifying Hedges				
Cash flow hedges:				
Interest rate contracts (1)	\$ (7)	\$ (7)	\$ (18)	\$ (17)
Foreign currency contracts (1)	4	2	3	2
Total cash flow hedges	(3)	(5)	(15)	(15)
Fair value hedges:				
Interest rate contracts (2)	9	9	27	26
Non-Qualifying Hedges				
Interest rate contracts (3)	91	(113)	706	(775)
Foreign currency contracts (3)	3	6	4	(7)
Equity market contracts (3)	247	(381)	(164)	(959)
Equity market contracts (4)	(3)	11	6	26
Credit contracts (3)	-	4	-	7
Embedded derivatives:				
GLB reserves (3)	(365)	419	(704)	1,620
Reinsurance related (3)	14	10	(33)	94
Indexed annuity and universal life contracts (3)	6	(63)	(134)	(225)
Total derivative instruments	\$ (1)	\$ (103)	\$ (307)	\$ (208)

- (1) Reported in net investment income on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).
(2) Reported in interest and debt expense on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).
(3) Reported in realized gain (loss) on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).
(4) Reported in commissions and other expenses on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).

Gains (losses) (in millions) on derivative instruments designated and qualifying as cash flow hedges were as follows:

For the Three Months Ended	For the Nine Months Ended
-------------------------------------	---------------------------------

	September 30, 2014		September 30, 2013	
Gain (loss) recognized as a component of OCI with the offset to net investment income	\$ (3)	\$ (5)	\$ (15)	\$ (14)

As of September 30, 2014, \$20 million of the deferred net losses on derivative instruments in accumulated OCI were expected to be reclassified to earnings during the next 12 months. This reclassification would be due primarily to interest rate variances related to our interest rate swap agreements.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2014 and 2013, there were no material reclassifications to earnings due to hedged firm commitments no longer deemed probable or due to hedged forecasted transactions that had not occurred by the end of the originally specified time period.

Gains (losses) (in millions) on derivative instruments designated and qualifying as fair value hedges were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013	
Gain (loss) recognized as a component of OCI with the offset to interest expense	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 3	\$ 3

Information related to our open credit default swap liabilities for which we are the seller (dollars in millions) was as follows:

As of September 30, 2014

	Reason for	Nature of	Credit Rating of Underlying Obligation	Number of	Fair Value	Maximum Potential
Maturity	Entering	Recourse	(1)	Instruments	(2)	Payout
12/20/2016 (3)	(4)	(5)	BBB-	3	\$ -	\$ 68
3/20/2017 (3)	(4)	(5)	BBB-	3	(1)	58
				6	\$ (1)	\$ 126

As of December 31, 2013

	Reason for	Nature of	Credit Rating of Underlying Obligation	Number of	Fair Value	Maximum Potential
Maturity	Entering	Recourse	(1)	Instruments	(2)	Payout
12/20/2016 (3)	(4)	(5)	BBB-	3	\$ (1)	\$ 68
3/20/2017 (3)	(4)	(5)	BBB-	3	(1)	58
				6	\$ (2)	\$ 126

- (1) Represents average credit ratings based on the midpoint of the applicable ratings among Moody's, S&P and Fitch Ratings, as scaled to the corresponding S&P ratings.
- (2) Broker quotes are used to determine the market value of credit default swaps.
- (3) These credit default swaps were sold to a counterparty of the consolidated VIEs discussed in Note 4 in our 2013 Form 10-K.
- (4) Credit default swaps were entered into in order to generate income by providing default protection in return for a quarterly payment.
- (5) Sellers do not have the right to demand indemnification or compensation from third parties in case of a loss (payment) on the contract.

Details underlying the associated collateral of our open credit default swaps for which we are the seller if credit risk-related contingent features were triggered (in millions), were as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
Maximum potential payout	\$ 126	\$ 126
Less: Counterparty thresholds	-	-
Maximum collateral potentially required to post	\$ 126	\$ 126

Certain of our credit default swap agreements contain contractual provisions that allow for the netting of collateral with our counterparties related to all of our collateralized financing transactions that we have outstanding. If these netting agreements were not in place, we would have been required to post \$1 million as of September 30, 2014, after considering the fair values of the associated investments counterparties' credit ratings as compared to ours and specified thresholds that once exceeded result in the payment of cash.

Credit Risk

We are exposed to credit loss in the event of non-performance by our counterparties on various derivative contracts and reflect assumptions regarding the credit or non-performance risk ("NPR"). The NPR is based upon assumptions for each counterparty's credit spread over the estimated weighted average life of the counterparty exposure less collateral held. As of September 30, 2014, the NPR adjustment was less than \$1 million. The credit risk associated with such agreements is minimized by entering into agreements from financial institutions with long-standing, superior performance records. Additionally, we maintain a policy of requiring derivative contracts to be governed by an International Swaps and Derivatives Association ("ISDA") Master Agreement. We are required to maintain minimum ratings as a matter of routine practice in negotiating ISDA agreements. Under some ISDA agreements, our insurance subsidiaries have agreed to maintain certain financial strength or claims-paying ratings. A downgrade below these levels could result in termination of derivative contracts, at which time any amounts payable by us would be dependent on the market value of the underlying derivative contracts. In certain transactions, we and the counterparty have entered into a credit support annex requiring either party to post collateral when net exposures exceed pre-determined thresholds. These thresholds vary by counterparty and credit rating. The amount of such exposure is essentially the net replacement cost or market value less collateral held for such agreements with each counterparty if the net market value is in our favor. As of September 30, 2014, our exposure was \$42 million.

The amounts recognized (in millions) by S&P credit rating of each counterparty, for which we had the right to reclaim cash collateral or were obligated to return cash collateral, were as follows:

S&P Credit Rating of Counterparty	As of September 30, 2014		As of December 31, 2013	
	Collateral Posted by Counter- Party (Held by LNC)	Collateral Posted by LNC (Held by Counter- Party)	Collateral Posted by Counter- Party (Held by LNC)	Collateral Posted by LNC (Held by Counter- Party)
AA-	\$ 49	\$ (4)	\$ 34	\$ (10)
A+	73	-	19	-
A	913	(64)	339	(183)
A-	213	-	468	(123)
BBB+	28	-	79	-
	\$ 1,276	\$ (68)	\$ 939	\$ (316)

Balance Sheet Offsetting

Information related to our derivative instruments and the effects of offsetting on our Consolidated Balance Sheets (in millions) were as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014		
	Derivative Instruments	Embedded Derivative Instruments	Total
Financial Assets			
Gross amount of recognized assets	\$ 2,109	\$ 592	\$ 2,701
Gross amounts offset	(670)	-	(670)
Net amount of assets	1,439	592	2,031
Gross amounts not offset:			
Cash collateral	(1,276)	-	(1,276)

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Net amount	\$ 163	\$ 592	\$ 755
Financial Liabilities			
Gross amount of recognized liabilities	\$ 106	\$ 1,337	\$ 1,443
Gross amounts offset	(40)	-	(40)
Net amount of liabilities	66	1,337	1,403
Gross amounts not offset:			
Cash collateral	(68)	-	(68)
Net amount	\$ (2)	\$ 1,337	\$ 1,335

	As of December 31, 2013		
	Embedded		
	Derivative	Derivative	Total
	Instruments	Instruments	
Financial Assets			
Gross amount of recognized assets	\$ 1,805	\$ 1,244	\$ 3,049
Gross amounts offset	(924)	-	(924)
Net amount of assets	881	1,244	2,125
Gross amounts not offset:			
Cash collateral	(623)	-	(623)
Net amount	\$ 258	\$ 1,244	\$ 1,502
Financial Liabilities			
Gross amount of recognized liabilities	\$ 242	\$ 1,156	\$ 1,398
Gross amounts offset	(55)	-	(55)
Net amount of liabilities	187	1,156	1,343
Gross amounts not offset:			
Cash collateral	-	-	-
Net amount	\$ 187	\$ 1,156	\$ 1,343

6. Federal Income Taxes

The effective tax rate is the ratio of tax expense over pre-tax income (loss). The effective tax rate was 27% and 25% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively. The effective tax rate was 24% and 23% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, respectively. The effective tax rate on pre-tax income from continuing operations was lower than the prevailing corporate federal income tax rate. Differences in the effective rates and the U.S. statutory rate of 35% were the result of certain tax preferred investment income, separate account dividends-received deductions, foreign tax credits and other tax preference items.

7. Guaranteed Benefit Features

Information on the guaranteed death benefit (“GDB”) features outstanding (dollars in millions) was as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014 (1)	As of December 31, 2013 (1)
Return of Net Deposits		
Total account value	\$ 84,253	\$ 79,391
Net amount at risk (2)	171	141
Average attained age of contract holders	62 years	61 years
Minimum Return		
Total account value	\$ 137	\$ 151
Net amount at risk (2)	26	27
Average attained age of contract holders	74 years	73 years
Guaranteed minimum return	5%	5%
Anniversary Contract Value		
Total account value	\$ 25,932	\$ 25,958
Net amount at risk (2)	623	570
Average attained age of contract holders	68 years	68 years

(1) Our variable contracts with guarantees may offer more than one type of guarantee in each contract; therefore, the amounts listed are not mutually exclusive.

(2) Represents the amount of death benefit in excess of the account balance that is subject to market volatility.

The determination of GDB liabilities is based on models that involve a range of scenarios and assumptions, including those regarding expected market rates of return and volatility, contract surrender rates and mortality experience. The following summarizes the balances of and changes in the liabilities for GDBs (in millions), which were recorded in future contract benefits on our Consolidated Balance Sheets:

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013
Balance as of beginning-of-year	\$ 73	\$ 104
Changes in reserves	26	(12)
Benefits paid	(13)	(16)
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ 86	\$ 76

Variable Annuity Contracts

Account balances of variable annuity contracts with guarantees (in millions) were invested in separate account investment options as follows:

Asset Type	As of September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
Domestic equity	\$ 48,446	\$ 47,042
International equity	18,692	18,341
Bonds	26,487	24,547
Money market	12,345	10,926
Total	\$ 105,970	\$ 100,856
Percent of total variable annuity separate account values	99%	98%

Secondary Guarantee Products

Future contract benefits and other contract holder funds include reserves for our secondary guarantee products sold through our Life Insurance segment. These UL and VUL products with secondary guarantees represented 34% of total life insurance in-force reserves as of September 30, 2014, and 40% of total sales for the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

8. Contingencies and Commitments

Regulatory bodies, such as state insurance departments, the SEC, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and other regulatory bodies regularly make inquiries and conduct examinations or investigations concerning our compliance with, among other things, insurance laws, securities laws, laws governing the activities of broker-dealers, registered investment advisors and unclaimed property laws.

LNC and its subsidiaries are involved in various pending or threatened legal or regulatory proceedings, including purported class actions, arising from the conduct of business both in the ordinary course and otherwise. In some of the matters, very large and/or indeterminate amounts, including punitive and treble damages, are sought. Modern pleading practice in the U.S. permits considerable variation in the assertion of monetary damages or other relief. Jurisdictions may permit claimants not to specify the monetary damages sought or may permit claimants to state only that the amount sought is sufficient to invoke the jurisdiction of the trial court. In addition, jurisdictions may permit plaintiffs to allege monetary damages in amounts well exceeding reasonably possible verdicts in the jurisdiction for similar matters. This variability in pleadings, together with the actual experiences of LNC in litigating or resolving through settlement numerous claims over an extended period of time, demonstrates to management that the monetary relief which may be specified in a lawsuit or claim bears little relevance to its merits or disposition value.

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

We establish liabilities for litigation and regulatory loss contingencies when information related to the loss contingencies shows both that it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. It is possible that some matters could require us to pay damages or make other expenditures or establish accruals in amounts that could not be estimated as of September 30, 2014. While the potential future charges could be material in the particular quarterly or annual periods in which they are recorded, based

on information currently known by management, management does not believe any such charges are likely to have a material adverse effect on LNC's financial condition.

See Note 13 in our 2013 Form 10-K and Note 8 in our Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2014, and June 30, 2014, for additional discussion of commitments and contingencies, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

9. Shares and Stockholders' Equity

Common and Preferred Shares

The changes in our preferred and common stock (number of shares) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Series A Preferred Stock				
Balance as of beginning-of-period	-	4,164	-	9,532
Conversion of convertible preferred stock (1)	-	(450)	-	(5,818)
Redemption of convertible preferred stock	-	(3,714)	-	(3,714)
Balance as of end-of-period	-	-	-	-
Common Stock				
Balance as of beginning-of-period	260,831,708	264,316,340	262,896,701	271,402,586
Conversion of convertible preferred stock (1)	-	7,200	-	93,088
Stock issued for exercise of warrants	1,199,609	220,107	4,299,088	220,318
Stock compensation/issued for benefit plans	601,359	112,398	1,501,167	636,356
Retirement/cancellation of shares	(2,846,230)	(2,313,682)	(8,910,510)	(10,009,985)
Balance as of end-of-period	259,786,446	262,342,363	259,786,446	262,342,363
Common Stock as of End-of-Period				
Assuming conversion of preferred stock	259,786,446	262,342,363	259,786,446	262,342,363
Diluted basis	265,527,521	272,503,337	265,527,521	272,503,337

- (1) Represents the conversion of Series A preferred stock into common stock.

Our common and Series A preferred stocks are without par value.

Average Shares

A reconciliation of the denominator (number of shares) in the calculations of basic and diluted earnings (loss) per common share was as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Weighted-average shares, as used in basic calculation	260,371,956	263,546,308	261,785,387	266,701,799
Shares to cover exercise of outstanding warrants	3,485,992	9,920,368	4,929,079	10,073,503
Shares to cover conversion of preferred stock	-	1,455	-	99,716
Shares to cover non-vested stock	1,499,529	1,601,684	1,476,448	1,411,833
Average stock options outstanding during the period	3,863,508	3,206,314	3,810,763	2,511,175
Assumed acquisition of shares with assumed proceeds from exercising outstanding warrants	(689,803)	(2,199,597)	(1,026,460)	(2,911,005)
Assumed acquisition of shares with assumed proceeds and benefits from exercising stock options (at average market price for the period)	(2,720,155)	(2,191,630)	(2,657,408)	(1,792,019)
Shares repurchaseable from measured but unrecognized stock option expense	(63,286)	(190,894)	(84,600)	(138,683)
Average deferred compensation shares	1,037,370	-	1,036,683	-
Weighted-average shares, as used in diluted calculation	266,785,111	273,694,008	269,269,892	275,956,319

In the event the average market price of LNC common stock exceeds the issue price of stock options and the options have a dilutive effect to our earnings per share ("EPS"), such options will be shown in the table above.

We have participants in our deferred compensation plans who selected LNC stock as the measure for the investment return attributable to their deferral amounts. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, the effect of settling this obligation in LNC stock ("equity classification") was more dilutive than the scenario of settling it in cash ("liability classification"). Therefore, for our EPS calculation for this period, we added these shares to the denominator and adjusted the numerator to present net income as if the shares had been accounted for under equity classification by removing the mark-to-market adjustment included in net income attributable to these deferred units of LNC stock. The amount of this adjustment was \$(2) million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014.

The income used in the calculation of our diluted EPS is our net income (loss) reduced by preferred stock dividends.

Accumulated OCI ("AOCI")

The following summarizes the components and changes in AOCI (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 2013	
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on AFS Securities		
Balance as of beginning-of-year	\$ 1,609	\$ 4,066
Unrealized holding gains (losses) arising during the period	3,120	(5,145)
Change in foreign currency exchange rate adjustment	(21)	10
Change in DAC, VOBA, DSI, future contract benefits and other contract holder funds	(983)	1,685
Income tax benefit (expense)	(742)	1,208
Less:		
Reclassification adjustment for gains (losses) included in net income (loss)	10	(51)
Associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	(25)	(20)
Income tax benefit (expense)	5	25
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ 2,993	\$ 1,870
Unrealized OTTI on AFS Securities		
Balance as of beginning-of-year	\$ (78)	\$ (107)
(Increases) attributable to:		
Gross OTTI recognized in OCI during the period	(11)	(10)
Change in DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	1	1
Income tax benefit (expense)	4	3
Decreases attributable to:		
Sales, maturities or other settlements of AFS securities	35	51
Change in DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	(7)	(6)
Income tax benefit (expense)	(9)	(16)
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ (65)	\$ (84)
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivative Instruments		
Balance as of beginning-of-year	\$ 256	\$ 163
Unrealized holding gains (losses) arising during the period	(92)	161
Change in foreign currency exchange rate adjustment	25	(12)
Change in DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	2	6
Income tax benefit (expense)	23	(54)
Less:		
Reclassification adjustment for gains (losses) included in net income (loss)	(12)	(11)
Associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	1	1
Income tax benefit (expense)	4	4
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ 221	\$ 270

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment		
Balance as of beginning-of-year	\$ (5)	\$ (4)
Foreign currency translation adjustment arising during the period	(5)	(1)
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ (10)	\$ (5)
Funded Status of Employee Benefit Plans		
Balance as of beginning-of-year	\$ (219)	\$ (310)
Adjustment arising during the period	2	17
Income tax benefit (expense)	-	(8)
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ (217)	\$ (301)

The following summarizes the reclassifications out of AOCI (in millions) and the associated line item in the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss):

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 2013		
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on AFS Securities			
Gross reclassification	\$ 10	\$ (51)	Total realized gain (loss)
Associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	(25)	(20)	Total realized gain (loss)
Reclassification before income tax benefit (expense)	(15)	(71)	Income (loss) from continuing operations before taxes
Income tax benefit (expense)	5	25	Federal income tax expense (benefit)
Reclassification, net of income tax	\$ (10)	\$ (46)	Net income (loss)
Unrealized OTTI on AFS Securities			
Gross reclassification	\$ 35	\$ 51	Total realized gain (loss)
Change in DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	(7)	(6)	Total realized gain (loss)
Reclassification before income tax benefit (expense)	28	45	Income (loss) from continuing operations before taxes
Income tax benefit (expense)	(9)	(16)	Federal income tax expense (benefit)
Reclassification, net of income tax	\$ 19	\$ 29	Net income (loss)
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Derivative Instruments			
Gross reclassifications:			
Interest rate contracts	\$ (19)	\$ (18)	Net investment income
Interest rate contracts	3	3	Interest and debt expense
Foreign currency contracts	4	4	Net investment income
Total gross reclassifications	(12)	(11)	
Associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	1	1	Commissions and other expenses
Reclassifications before income tax benefit (expense)	(11)	(10)	Income (loss) from continuing operations before taxes
Income tax benefit (expense)	4	4	Federal income tax expense (benefit)
Reclassification, net of income tax	\$ (7)	\$ (6)	Net income (loss)

10. Realized Gain (Loss)

Details underlying realized gain (loss) (in millions) reported on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Total realized gain (loss) related to certain investments (1)	\$ (7)	\$ (33)	\$ (11)	\$ (73)
Realized gain (loss) on the mark-to-market on certain instruments (2)	(18)	21	(31)	21
Indexed annuity and universal life net derivatives results: (3)				
Gross gain (loss)	21	(12)	(18)	(25)
Associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	(6)	3	3	5
Variable annuity net derivatives results: (4)				
Gross gain (loss)	116	(4)	182	(29)
Associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	(17)	(3)	(19)	(4)
Total realized gain (loss)	\$ 89	\$ (28)	\$ 106	\$ (105)

(1) See “Realized Gain (Loss) Related to Certain Investments” section in Note 4.

(2) Represents changes in the fair values of certain derivative investments (not including those associated with our variable annuity net derivatives results), reinsurance related embedded derivatives and trading securities.

(3) Represents the net difference between the change in the fair value of the S&P 500 call options that we hold and the change in the fair value of the embedded derivative liabilities of our indexed annuity and universal life products along with changes in the fair value of embedded derivative liabilities related to index call options we may purchase in the future to hedge contract holder index allocations applicable to future reset periods for our indexed annuity products.

(4) Includes the net difference in the change in embedded derivative reserves of our GLB riders and the change in the fair value of the derivative instruments we own to hedge the change in embedded derivative reserves on our GLB riders and the benefit ratio unlocking on our GDB riders, including the cost of purchasing the hedging instruments.

11. Stock-Based Compensation Plans

We sponsor stock-based compensation plans for our employees and directors and for the employees and agents of our subsidiaries that provide for the grant of stock options, performance shares (performance-vested shares as opposed to service-vested shares), stock appreciation rights (“SARs”), restricted stock units (“RSUs”) and deferred stock units (“DSUs”). We issue new shares to satisfy option exercises.

LNC stock-based awards granted were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014
10-year LNC stock options	14,007	490,852
Performance shares	4,834	182,149
RSUs	11,555	447,012
Non-employee:		
SARs	-	62,887
Agent stock options	-	88,311
Director DSUs	7,754	24,035

12. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The carrying values and estimated fair values of our financial instruments (in millions) were as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014		As of December 31, 2013	
	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value
Assets				
AFS securities:				
Fixed maturity securities	\$ 85,348	\$ 85,348	\$ 80,078	\$ 80,078
VIEs' fixed maturity securities	598	598	697	697
Equity securities	234	234	201	201
Trading securities	2,134	2,134	2,282	2,282
Mortgage loans on real estate	7,466	7,792	7,210	7,386
Derivative investments (1)	1,439	1,439	881	881
Other investments	1,469	1,469	1,218	1,218
Cash and invested cash	1,821	1,821	2,364	2,364
Other assets:				
GLB reserves embedded derivatives (2)	592	592	-	-
Reinsurance recoverable	79	79	-	-
Separate account assets	122,937	122,937	117,135	117,135
Liabilities				
Future contract benefits:				
Indexed annuity and universal life contracts				
embedded derivatives	(1,117)	(1,117)	(1,048)	(1,048)
GLB reserves embedded derivatives	-	-	1,244	1,244
Other contract holder funds:				
Remaining guaranteed interest and similar contracts	(741)	(741)	(809)	(809)
Account values of certain investment contracts	(29,506)	(31,803)	(29,078)	(30,574)
Short-term debt	(250)	(256)	(501)	(500)
Long-term debt	(5,186)	(5,711)	(5,320)	(5,762)
Reinsurance related embedded derivatives	(141)	(141)	(108)	(108)
VIEs' liabilities – derivative instruments	(17)	(17)	(27)	(27)
Other liabilities:				
Credit default swaps	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)
Derivative liabilities (1)	(65)	(65)	(187)	(187)
GLB reserves embedded derivatives (2)	(79)	(79)	-	-

- (1) We have master netting agreements with each of our derivative counterparties, which allow for the netting of our derivative asset and liability positions by counterparty.
- (2) Portions of our GLB reserves embedded derivatives are ceded to our third-party reinsurance counterparties. Refer to Note 5 for additional detail.

Valuation Methodologies and Associated Inputs for Financial Instruments Not Carried at Fair Value

The following discussion outlines the methodologies and assumptions used to determine the fair value of our financial instruments not carried at fair value on our Consolidated Balance Sheets. Considerable judgment is required to develop these assumptions used to measure fair value. Accordingly, the estimates shown are not necessarily indicative of the amounts that would be realized in a one-time, current market exchange of all of our financial instruments.

Mortgage Loans on Real Estate

The fair value of mortgage loans on real estate is established using a discounted cash flow method based on credit rating, maturity and future income. The ratings for mortgages in good standing are based on property type, location, market conditions, occupancy, debt-service coverage, loan-to-value, quality of tenancy, borrower and payment record. The fair value for impaired mortgage loans is based on the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's effective interest rate, the loan's market price or the fair value of the collateral if the loan is collateral dependent. The inputs used to measure the fair value of our mortgage loans on real estate are classified as Level 2 within the fair value hierarchy.

Other Investments

The carrying value of our assets classified as other investments approximates fair value. Other investments includes primarily LPs and other privately held investments that are accounted for using the equity method of accounting and the carrying value is based on our proportional share of the net assets of the LPs. The inputs used to measure the fair value of our other investments are classified as Level 3 within the fair value hierarchy.

Other Contract Holder Funds

Other contract holder funds include remaining guaranteed interest and similar contracts and account values of certain investment contracts. The fair value for the remaining guaranteed interest and similar contracts is estimated using discounted cash flow calculations as of the balance sheet date. These calculations are based on interest rates currently offered on similar contracts with maturities that are consistent with those remaining for the contracts being valued. As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, the remaining guaranteed interest and similar contracts carrying value approximated fair value. The fair value of the account values of certain investment contracts is based on their approximate surrender value as of the balance sheet date. The inputs used to measure the fair value of our other contract holder funds are classified as Level 3 within the fair value hierarchy.

Short-Term and Long-Term Debt

The fair value of long-term debt is based on quoted market prices. For short-term debt, excluding current maturities of long-term debt, the carrying value approximates fair value. The inputs used to measure the fair value of our short-term and long-term debt are classified as Level 2 within the fair value hierarchy.

Financial Instruments Carried at Fair Value

We did not have any assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis as of September 30, 2014, or December 31, 2013, and we noted no changes in our valuation methodologies between these periods.

The following summarizes our financial instruments carried at fair value (in millions) on a recurring basis by the fair value hierarchy levels described in “Summary of Significant Accounting Policies” in Note 1 of our 2013 Form 10-K:

	As of September 30, 2014			
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Fair Value
Assets				
Investments:				
Fixed maturity AFS securities:				
Corporate bonds	\$ 62	\$ 71,753	\$ 1,983	\$ 73,798
U.S. government bonds	382	20	-	402
Foreign government bonds	-	443	108	551
RMBS	-	4,308	1	4,309
CMBS	-	604	18	622
CLOs	-	32	254	286
State and municipal bonds	-	4,420	-	4,420
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	45	863	52	960
VIEs' fixed maturity securities	-	598	-	598
Equity AFS securities	7	69	158	234
Trading securities	-	2,065	69	2,134
Derivative investments (1)	-	952	1,198	2,150
Cash and invested cash	-	1,821	-	1,821
Other assets:				
GLB reserves embedded derivatives	-	-	592	592
Reinsurance recoverable	-	-	79	79
Separate account assets	977	121,960	-	122,937
Total assets	\$ 1,473	\$ 209,908	\$ 4,512	\$ 215,893
Liabilities				
Future contract benefits – indexed annuity and universal life contracts embedded derivatives	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,117)	\$ (1,117)
Long-term debt	-	(1,203)	-	(1,203)
Reinsurance related embedded derivatives	-	(141)	-	(141)
VIEs' liabilities – derivative instruments	-	-	(17)	(17)
Other liabilities:				

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Credit default swaps	-	-	(1)	(1)
Derivative liabilities (1)	-	(601)	(175)	(776)
GLB reserves embedded derivatives	-	-	(79)	(79)
Total liabilities	\$ -	\$ (1,945)	\$ (1,389)	\$ (3,334)

As of December 31, 2013				
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Fair Value
Assets				
Investments:				
Fixed maturity AFS securities:				
Corporate bonds	\$ 60	\$ 67,164	\$ 1,711	\$ 68,935
U.S. government bonds	346	21	-	367
Foreign government bonds	-	470	79	549
RMBS	-	4,349	1	4,350
CMBS	-	708	20	728
CLOs	-	46	179	225
State and municipal bonds	-	3,891	28	3,919
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	40	899	66	1,005
VIEs' fixed maturity securities	102	595	-	697
Equity AFS securities	3	37	161	201
Trading securities	-	2,230	52	2,282
Derivative investments (1)	-	340	1,518	1,858
Cash and invested cash	-	2,364	-	2,364
Separate account assets	1,767	115,368	-	117,135
Total assets	\$ 2,318	\$ 198,482	\$ 3,815	\$ 204,615
Liabilities				
Future contract benefits:				
Indexed annuity and universal life contracts				
embedded derivatives	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,048)	\$ (1,048)
GLB reserves embedded derivatives	-	-	1,244	1,244
Long-term debt	-	(1,203)	-	(1,203)
Reinsurance related embedded derivatives	-	(108)	-	(108)
VIEs' liabilities – derivative instruments	-	-	(27)	(27)
Other liabilities:				
Credit default swaps	-	-	(2)	(2)
Derivative liabilities (1)	-	(912)	(252)	(1,164)
Total liabilities	\$ -	\$ (2,223)	\$ (85)	\$ (2,308)

- (1) Derivative investment assets and liabilities presented within the fair value hierarchy are presented on a gross basis by derivative type and not on a master netting basis by counterparty.

The following summarizes changes to our financial instruments carried at fair value (in millions) and classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. This summary excludes any effect of amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL. The gains and losses below may include changes in fair value due in part to observable inputs that are a component of the valuation methodology.

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014					
	Beginning in Fair Value	Items Included Net Income	Gains (Losses) in OCI and Other (1)	Issuances, Sales, Maturities, Settlements, Calls, Net	Transfers In or Out of Level 3, Net (2)(3)	Ending Fair Value
Investments: (4)						
Fixed maturity AFS securities:						
Corporate bonds	\$ 2,204	\$ 1	\$ (33)	\$ 51	\$ (240)	\$ 1,983
Foreign government bonds	108	-	-	-	-	108
RMBS	1	-	-	-	-	1
CMBS	19	-	1	(2)	-	18
CLOs	210	(2)	1	45	-	254
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	52	-	-	-	-	52
Equity AFS securities	158	-	-	-	-	158
Trading securities	67	1	(2)	8	(5)	69
Derivative investments	780	278	37	(72)	-	1,023
Other assets (5):						
GLB reserves embedded derivatives	932	(340)	-	-	-	592
Reinsurance recoverable	54	25	-	-	-	79
Future contract benefits – indexed annuity and universal life contracts embedded derivatives (5)	(1,167)	6	-	44	-	(1,117)
VIEs' liabilities – derivative instruments (6)	(10)	(7)	-	-	-	(17)
Other liabilities:						
Credit default swaps (7)	(1)	-	-	-	-	(1)
GLB reserves embedded derivatives (5)	(54)	(25)	-	-	-	(79)
Total, net	\$ 3,353	\$ (63)	\$ 4	\$ 74	\$ (245)	\$ 3,123

For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2013

		Items	Gains	Issuances,	Transfers	
		Included	(Losses)	Sales	In or	
	Beginning	in	in	Maturities,	Out	Ending
	Fair	Net	OCI	Settlements,	Level 3,	Fair
	Value	Income	and	Calls,	Net (2)	Value
			Other (1)	Net		
Investments: (4)						
Fixed maturity AFS securities:						
Corporate bonds	\$ 1,792	\$ 2	\$ (2)	\$ 14	\$ (126)	\$ 1,680
Foreign government bonds	75	-	1	20	-	96
RMBS	1	-	-	-	-	1
CMBS	28	1	(1)	(1)	(8)	19
CLOs	143	-	1	29	-	173
State and municipal bonds	30	-	(1)	-	-	29
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	93	-	2	(11)	(18)	66
Equity AFS securities	147	(1)	1	-	-	147
Trading securities	53	-	(3)	(2)	7	55
Derivative investments	1,823	(368)	24	(73)	-	1,406
Future contract benefits: (5)						
Indexed annuity and universal life contracts embedded derivatives	(875)	(63)	-	14	-	(924)
GLB reserves embedded derivatives	292	419	-	-	-	711
VIEs' liabilities – derivative instruments (6)	(101)	34	-	-	-	(67)
Other liabilities – credit default swaps (7)	(8)	3	-	-	-	(5)
Total, net	\$ 3,493	\$ 27	\$ 22	\$ (10)	\$ (145)	\$ 3,387

For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014

				Purchases,		
		Items	Gains	Issuances,	Transfers	
		Included	(Losses)	Sales,	In or	
	Beginning in		in	Maturities,	Out	Ending
	Fair	Net	OCI	Settlements,	Level 3,	Fair
	Value	Income	and	Calls,	Net (2)(3)	Value
			Other (1)	Net		
Investments: (4)						
Fixed maturity AFS securities:						
Corporate bonds	\$ 1,711	\$ 9	\$ 41	\$ 202	\$ 20	\$ 1,983
Foreign government bonds	79	-	4	-	25	108
RMBS	1	-	-	-	-	1
CMBS	20	-	1	(9)	6	18
CLOs	179	(3)	5	69	4	254
State and municipal bonds	28	-	1	-	(29)	-
Hybrid and redeemable						
preferred securities	66	-	1	(5)	(10)	52
Equity AFS securities	161	3	(1)	(5)	-	158
Trading securities	52	4	4	10	(1)	69
Derivative investments	1,266	128	250	(195)	(426)	1,023
Other assets(5):						
GLB reserves embedded derivatives	-	(652)	-	-	1,244	592
Reinsurance recoverable	27	52	-	-	-	79
Future contract benefits: (5)						
Indexed annuity and universal life						
contracts embedded derivatives	(1,048)	(134)	-	65	-	(1,117)
GLB reserves embedded derivatives	1,244	-	-	-	(1,244)	-
VIEs' liabilities – derivative instruments (6)	(27)	10	-	-	-	(17)
Other liabilities:						
Credit default swaps (7)	(2)	1	-	-	-	(1)
GLB reserves embedded derivatives (5)	(27)	(52)	-	-	-	(79)
Total, net	\$ 3,730	\$ (634)	\$ 306	\$ 132	\$ (411)	\$ 3,123

For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

				Purchases, Gains Issuances, Transfers (Losses) Sales, In or in OCI Maturities, Out and Settlements, of Other (1) Calls, Level 3, Net (2) Beginning Fair Value Net Income		Ending Fair Value
Investments: (4)						
Fixed maturity AFS securities:						
Corporate bonds	\$ 1,505	\$ (1)	\$ (12)	\$ (26)	\$ 214	\$ 1,680
U.S. government bonds	1	-	-	(1)	-	-
Foreign government bonds	46	-	-	50	-	96
RMBS	3	-	-	(2)	-	1
CMBS	27	1	4	(5)	(8)	19
CLOs	154	(1)	2	18	-	173
State and municipal bonds	32	-	(3)	-	-	29
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	118	-	2	(11)	(43)	66
Equity AFS securities	87	(1)	3	58	-	147
Trading securities	56	1	(8)	(3)	9	55
Derivative investments	2,026	(616)	93	(97)	-	1,406
Future contract benefits: (5)						
Indexed annuity and universal life contracts embedded derivatives	(732)	(225)	-	33	-	(924)
GLB reserves embedded derivatives	(909)	1,620	-	-	-	711
VIEs' liabilities – derivative instruments (6)	(128)	61	-	-	-	(67)
Other liabilities – credit default swaps (7)	(11)	6	-	-	-	(5)
Total, net	\$ 2,275	\$ 845	\$ 81	\$ 14	\$ 172	\$ 3,387

- (1) The changes in fair value of the interest rate swaps are offset by an adjustment to derivative investments (see Note 5).
- (2) Transfers in or out of Level 3 for AFS and trading securities are displayed at amortized cost as of the beginning-of-period. For AFS and trading securities, the difference between beginning-of-period amortized cost and beginning-of-period fair value was included in OCI and earnings, respectively, in prior periods.
- (3) Transfers in or out of Level 3 for GLB reserves embedded derivatives represent reclassifications between future contract benefits, other assets and other liabilities on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.
- (4) Amortization and accretion of premiums and discounts are included in net investment income on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss). Gains (losses) from sales, maturities, settlements and calls and OTTI are included in realized gain (loss) on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).
- (5) Gains (losses) from sales, maturities, settlements and calls are included in realized gain (loss) on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).
- (6) Gains (losses) from sales, maturities, settlements and calls are included in net investment income on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).

- (7) The changes in fair value of the credit default swaps and contingency forwards are included in realized gain (loss) on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).

The following provides the components of the items included in issuances, sales, maturities, settlements and calls, net, excluding any effect of amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL and changes in future contract benefits, (in millions) as reported above:

For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014

Issuances Sales Maturities Settlements Calls Total

Investments:

Fixed maturity AFS securities:

Corporate bonds	\$ 144	\$ (17)	\$ (13)	\$ (9)	\$ (54)	\$ 51
CMBS	-	-	-	(2)	-	(2)
CLOs	79	-	-	(34)	-	45
Trading securities	8	-	-	-	-	8
Derivative investments	45	(106)	(11)	-	-	(72)
Future contract benefits – indexed annuity and universal life contracts embedded derivatives	(11)	-	-	55	-	44
Total, net	\$ 265	\$ (123)	\$ (24)	\$ 10	\$ (54)	\$ 74

For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2013

Issuances Sales Maturities Settlements Calls Total

Investments:

Fixed maturity AFS securities:

Corporate bonds	\$ 51	\$ (6)	\$ -	\$ (9)	\$ (22)	\$ 14
Foreign government bonds	20	-	-	-	-	20
CMBS	-	-	-	-	(1)	(1)
CLOs	34	-	-	(5)	-	29
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	-	(11)	-	-	-	(11)
Trading securities	-	(1)	-	(1)	-	(2)
Derivative investments	45	(27)	(91)	-	-	(73)
Future contract benefits – indexed annuity and universal life contracts embedded derivatives	(14)	-	-	28	-	14
Total, net	\$ 136	\$ (45)	\$ (91)	\$ 13	\$ (23)	\$ (10)

For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014

Issuances Sales Maturities Settlements Calls Total

Investments:

Fixed maturity AFS securities:

Corporate bonds	\$ 521	\$ (74)	\$ (86)	\$ (41)	\$ (118)	\$ 202
CMBS	-	-	-	(9)	-	(9)
CLOs	110	-	-	(41)	-	69
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	-	(5)	-	-	-	(5)
Equity AFS securities	-	(5)	-	-	-	(5)
Trading securities	14	-	-	(4)	-	10
Derivative investments	124	(50)	(269)	-	-	(195)
Future contract benefits – indexed annuity and universal life contracts embedded derivatives	(60)	-	-	125	-	65
Total, net	\$ 709	\$ (134)	\$ (355)	\$ 30	\$ (118)	\$ 132

For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

	Issuance	Sales	Maturities	Settlements	Calls	Total
Investments:						
Fixed maturity AFS securities:						
Corporate bonds	\$ 113	\$ (41)	\$ (4)	\$ (40)	\$ (54)	\$ (26)
U.S. government bonds	-	-	-	(1)	-	(1)
Foreign government bonds	50	-	-	-	-	50
RMBS	-	-	-	(2)	-	(2)
CMBS	-	-	-	(3)	(2)	(5)
CLOs	35	-	-	(17)	-	18
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	-	(11)	-	-	-	(11)
Equity AFS securities	63	(5)	-	-	-	58
Trading securities	-	(1)	-	(2)	-	(3)
Derivative investments	119	17	(233)	-	-	(97)
Future contract benefits – indexed annuity and universal life contracts embedded derivatives	(53)	-	-	86	-	33
Total, net	\$ 327	\$ (41)	\$ (237)	\$ 21	\$ (56)	\$ 14

The following summarizes changes in unrealized gains (losses) included in net income, excluding any effect of amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL and changes in future contract benefits, related to financial instruments carried at fair value classified within Level 3 that we still held (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		For the Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Derivative investments (1)	\$ 262	\$ (343)	\$ 84	\$ (533)
Embedded derivatives: (1)				
Indexed annuity and universal life contracts	20	5	(19)	25
GLB reserves	(175)	508	(247)	1,825
VIEs' liabilities – derivative instruments (2)	(7)	35	10	61
Credit default swaps (1)	-	4	1	6
Total, net	\$ 100	\$ 209	\$ (171)	\$ 1,384

(1) Included in realized gain (loss) on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).

(2) Included in net investment income on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).

The following provides the components of the transfers in and out of Level 3 (in millions) as reported above:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2013		
	Transfers			Transfers		
	In to Level 3	Out of Level 3	Total	In to Level 3	Out of Level 3	Total
Investments:						
Fixed maturity AFS securities:						
Corporate bonds	\$ 40	\$ (280)	\$ (240)	\$ 71	\$ (197)	\$ (126)
CMBS	-	-	-	-	(8)	(8)
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	-	-	-	-	(18)	(18)
Trading securities	-	(5)	(5)	7	-	7
Total, net	\$ 40	\$ (285)	\$ (245)	\$ 78	\$ (223)	\$ (145)

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013		
	Transfers			Transfers		
	In to Level 3	Out of Level 3	Total	In to Level 3	Out of Level 3	Total
Investments:						
Fixed maturity AFS securities:						
Corporate bonds	\$ 444	\$ (424)	\$ 20	\$ 257	\$ (43)	\$ 214
Foreign government bonds	25	-	25	-	-	-
CMBS	6	-	6	-	(8)	(8)
CLOs	8	(4)	4	-	-	-
State and municipal bonds	-	(29)	(29)	-	-	-
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	12	(22)	(10)	5	(48)	(43)
Trading securities	10	(11)	(1)	9	-	9
Derivative investments	-	(426)	(426)	-	-	-
Other assets – GLB reserves embedded derivatives	1,244	-	1,244	-	-	-
Future contract benefits – GLB reserves embedded derivatives	-	(1,244)	(1,244)	-	-	-

40

The following summarizes the fair value (in millions), valuation techniques and significant unobservable inputs of the Level 3 fair value measurements as of September 30, 2014:

	Fair Value	Valuation Technique	Significant Unobservable Inputs	Assumption or Input Ranges
Assets				
Investments:				
Fixed maturity AFS and trading securities:				
Corporate bonds	\$ 1,291	Discounted cash flow	Liquidity/duration adjustment (1)	0.7 % - 12.4 %
Foreign government bonds	80	Discounted cash flow	Liquidity/duration adjustment (1)	1.8 % - 3.0 %
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	21	Discounted cash flow	Liquidity/duration adjustment (1)	1.8 % - 1.8 %
Equity AFS and trading securities	28	Discounted cash flow	Liquidity/duration adjustment (1)	4.3 % - 5.8 %
Other assets – GLB reserves embedded derivatives and reinsurance recoverable	671	Discounted cash flow	Long-term lapse rate (2) Utilization of guaranteed withdrawals (3) Claims utilization factor (4) Premiums utilization factor (4) NPR (5) Mortality rate (6) Volatility (7)	1 % - 30 % 90 % - 100 % 60 % - 100 % 70 % - 140 % 0.02 % - 0.36 % (8) 1 % - 29 %
Liabilities				
Future contract benefits – indexed annuity and universal life contracts				

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

embedded derivatives	(1,117)	Discounted cash flow	Lapse rate			
			(2)	1	%	- 15 %
Other liabilities – GLB reserves			Mortality rate (6)	(9)		
embedded derivatives	(79)	Discounted cash flow	Long-term lapse rate			
			(2)	1	%	- 30 %
			Utilization of guaranteed withdrawals (3)	90	%	- 100 %
			Claims utilization factor (4)	60	%	- 100 %
			Premiums utilization factor (4)	70	%	- 140 %
			NPR (5)	0.02	%	- 0.36 %
			Mortality rate (6)	(8)		
			Volatility (7)	1	%	- 29 %

- (1) The liquidity/duration adjustment input represents an estimated market participant composite of adjustments attributable to liquidity premiums, expected durations, structures and credit quality that would be applied to the market observable information of an investment.
- (2) The lapse rate input represents the estimated probability of a contract surrendering during a year, and thereby forgoing any future benefits. The range for indexed annuity and universal life contracts represents the lapse rates during the surrender charge period.
- (3) The utilization of guaranteed withdrawals input represents the estimated percentage of contract holders that utilize the guaranteed withdrawal feature.
- (4) The utilization factors are applied to the present value of claims or premiums, as appropriate, in the GLB reserve calculation to estimate the impact of inefficient withdrawal behavior, including taking less than or more than the maximum guaranteed withdrawal.
- (5) The NPR input represents the estimated additional credit spread that market participants would apply to the market observable discount rate when pricing a contract.
- (6) The mortality rate input represents the estimated probability of when an individual belonging to a particular group, categorized according to age or some other factor such as gender, will die.
- (7) The volatility input represents overall volatilities assumed for the underlying variable annuity funds, which include a mixture of equity and fixed income assets. Fair value of the variable annuity GLB embedded derivatives would increase if higher volatilities were used for valuation.
- (8) The mortality rate is based on a combination of company and industry experience, adjusted for improvement factors.
- (9) Based on the “Annuity 2000 Mortality Table” developed by the Society of Actuaries Committee on Life Insurance Research that was adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners in 1996 for our mortality input.

From the table above, we have excluded Level 3 fair value measurements obtained from independent, third-party pricing sources. We do not develop the significant inputs used to measure the fair value of these assets and liabilities,

and the information regarding the significant inputs is not readily available to us. Independent broker-quoted fair values are non-binding quotes developed by market

makers or broker-dealers obtained from third-party sources recognized as market participants. The fair value of a broker-quoted asset or liability is based solely on the receipt of an updated quote from a single market maker or a broker-dealer recognized as a market participant as we do not adjust broker quotes when used as the fair value measurement for an asset or liability. Significant increases or decreases in any of the quotes received from a third-party broker-dealer may result in a significantly higher or lower fair value measurement.

Changes in any of the significant inputs presented in the table above may result in a significant change in the fair value measurement of the asset or liability as follows:

- Investments – An increase in the liquidity/duration adjustment input would result in a decrease in the fair value measurement.
- Indexed annuity and universal life contracts embedded derivatives – An increase in the lapse rate or mortality rate inputs would result in a decrease in the fair value measurement.
- GLB reserves embedded derivatives – Assuming our GLB reserves embedded derivatives are in a liability position: an increase in our lapse rate, NPR or mortality rate inputs would result in a decrease in the fair value measurement; and an increase in the utilization of guarantee withdrawal or volatility inputs would result in an increase in the fair value measurement.

For each category discussed above, the unobservable inputs are not inter-related; therefore, a directional change in one input will not affect the other inputs.

As part of our on-going valuation process, we assess the reasonableness of our valuation techniques or models and make adjustments as necessary. For more information, see “Summary of Significant Accounting Policies” in Note 1 of our 2013 Form 10-K.

13. Segment Information

We provide products and services and report results through our Annuities, Retirement Plan Services, Life Insurance and Group Protection segments. We also have Other Operations, which includes the financial data for operations that are not directly related to the business segments. Our reporting segments reflect the manner by which our chief operating decision makers view and manage the business. See Note 22 of our 2013 Form 10-K for a brief description of these segments and Other Operations.

Segment operating revenues and income (loss) from operations are internal measures used by our management and Board of Directors to evaluate and assess the results of our segments. Income (loss) from operations is GAAP net income excluding the after-tax effects of the following items, as applicable:

- Realized gains and losses associated with the following (“excluded realized gain (loss)”):
 - § Sales or disposals of securities;
 - § Impairments of securities;
 - § Changes in the fair value of derivatives, embedded derivatives within certain reinsurance arrangements and trading securities;
 - § Changes in the fair value of the derivatives we own to hedge our GDB riders within our variable annuities;
 - § Changes in the fair value of the embedded derivatives of our GLB riders accounted for at fair value, net of the change in the fair value of the derivatives we own to hedge them; and
 - § Changes in the fair value of the embedded derivative liabilities related to index call options we may purchase in the future to hedge contract holder index allocations applicable to future reset periods for our indexed annuity products accounted for at fair value;
- Changes in reserves resulting from benefit ratio unlocking on our GDB and GLB riders;
- Income (loss) from reserve changes, net of related amortization, on business sold through reinsurance;
- Gains (losses) on early extinguishment of debt;
- Losses from the impairment of intangible assets;
- Income (loss) from discontinued operations; and
- Income (loss) from the initial adoption of new accounting standards.

Operating revenues represent GAAP revenues excluding the pre-tax effects of the following items, as applicable:

- Excluded realized gain (loss);
- Revenue adjustments from the initial adoption of new accounting standards;
- Amortization of DFEL arising from changes in GDB and GLB benefit ratio unlocking; and
- Amortization of deferred gains arising from reserve changes on business sold through reinsurance.

We use our prevailing corporate federal income tax rate of 35% while taking into account any permanent differences for events recognized differently in our financial statements and federal income tax returns when reconciling our non-GAAP measures to the most comparable GAAP measure. Operating revenues and income (loss) from operations do not replace revenues and net income as the GAAP measures of our consolidated results of operations.

Segment information (in millions) was as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014	
	2013		2013	
Revenues				
Operating revenues:				
Annuities	\$ 944	\$ 842	\$ 2,779	\$ 2,436
Retirement Plan Services	272	269	813	800
Life Insurance	1,446	1,301	4,146	3,827
Group Protection	598	561	1,829	1,685
Other Operations	103	100	315	304
Excluded realized gain (loss), pre-tax	47	(65)	(15)	(208)
Amortization of deferred gain arising from reserve changes on business sold through reinsurance, pre-tax	1	1	2	2
Amortization of DFEL associated with benefit ratio unlocking, pre-tax	-	-	-	1
Total revenues	\$ 3,411	\$ 3,009	\$ 9,869	\$ 8,847

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014	
	2013		2013	
Net Income (Loss)				
Income (loss) from operations:				
Annuities	\$ 245	\$ 198	\$ 688	\$ 551
Retirement Plan Services	40	33	118	108
Life Insurance	150	140	418	387
Group Protection	8	23	29	60
Other Operations	(29)	(27)	(80)	(104)
Excluded realized gain (loss), after-tax	31	(43)	(10)	(135)
Income (loss) from reserve changes (net of related amortization) on business sold through reinsurance, after-tax	-	-	1	1
Benefit ratio unlocking, after-tax	(6)	13	2	25
Net income (loss)	\$ 439	\$ 337	\$ 1,166	\$ 893

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

The following Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") is intended to help the reader understand the financial condition as of September 30, 2014, compared with December 31, 2013, and the results of operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, compared with the corresponding periods in 2013 of Lincoln National Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries. Unless otherwise stated or the context otherwise requires, "LNC," "Company," "we," "our" or "us" refers to Lincoln National Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries. The MD&A is provided as a supplement to, and should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements ("Notes") presented in "Part I – Item 1. Financial Statements"; our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 ("2013 Form 10-K"), including the sections entitled "Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors," "Part II – Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Part II – Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data"; our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q filed in 2014; and our current reports on Form 8-K filed in 2014.

In this report, in addition to providing consolidated revenues and net income (loss), we also provide segment operating revenues and income (loss) from operations because we believe they are meaningful measures of revenues and the profitability of our operating segments. Financial information that follows is presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"), unless otherwise indicated. See Note 1 in our 2013 Form 10-K for a discussion of GAAP.

Operating revenues and income (loss) from operations are the financial performance measures we use to evaluate and assess the results of our segments. Accordingly, we define and report operating revenues and income (loss) from operations by segment in Note 13. Our management believes that operating revenues and income (loss) from operations explain the results of our ongoing businesses in a manner that allows for a better understanding of the underlying trends in our current businesses because the excluded items are unpredictable and not necessarily indicative of current operating fundamentals or future performance of the business segments, and, in many instances, decisions regarding these items do not necessarily relate to the operations of the individual segments. In addition, we believe that our definitions of operating revenues and income (loss) from operations will provide investors with a more valuable measure of our performance because it better reveals trends in our business.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS – CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE

Certain statements made in this report and in other written or oral statements made by us or on our behalf are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 ("PSLRA"). A forward-looking statement is a statement that is not a historical fact and, without limitation, includes any statement that may predict, forecast, indicate or imply future results, performance or achievements, and may contain words like: "believe," "anticipate," "expect," "estimate," "project," "will," "shall" and other words or phrases with similar meaning in connection with a discussion of future operating or financial performance. In particular, these include statements relating to future actions, trends in our businesses, prospective services or products, future performance or financial

results and the outcome of contingencies, such as legal proceedings. We claim the protection afforded by the safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided by the PSLRA.

Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from the results contained in the forward-looking statements. Risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to vary materially, some of which are described within the forward-looking statements, include, among others:

- Deterioration in general economic and business conditions that may affect account values, investment results, guaranteed benefit liabilities, premium levels, claims experience and the level of pension benefit costs, funding and investment results;
- Adverse global capital and credit market conditions could affect our ability to raise capital, if necessary, and may cause us to realize impairments on investments and certain intangible assets, including goodwill and the valuation allowance against deferred tax assets, which may reduce future earnings and/or affect our financial condition and ability to raise additional capital or refinance existing debt as it matures;
- Because of our holding company structure, the inability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends to the holding company in sufficient amounts could harm the holding company's ability to meet its obligations;
- Legislative, regulatory or tax changes, both domestic and foreign, that affect the cost of, or demand for, our subsidiaries' products, the required amount of reserves and/or surplus, or otherwise affect our ability to conduct business, including changes to statutory reserve requirements related to secondary guarantee universal life and annuities; regulations regarding captive reinsurance arrangements; restrictions on revenue sharing and 12b-1 payments; and the potential for U.S. federal tax reform;
- Actions taken by reinsurers to raise rates on in-force business;
- Declines in or sustained low interest rates causing a reduction in investment income, the interest margins of our businesses, estimated gross profits ("EGPs") and demand for our products;
- Rapidly increasing interest rates causing contract holders to surrender life insurance and annuity policies, thereby causing realized investment losses, and reduced hedge performance related to variable annuities;
- Uncertainty about the effect of rules and regulations to be promulgated under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ("Dodd-Frank Act") on us and the economy and financial services sector in particular;
- The initiation of legal or regulatory proceedings against us, and the outcome of any legal or regulatory proceedings, such as: adverse actions related to present or past business practices common in businesses in which we compete; adverse decisions in significant actions including, but not limited to, actions brought by federal and state authorities and class action cases; new decisions that result in changes in law; and unexpected trial court rulings;

- A decline in the equity markets causing a reduction in the sales of our subsidiaries' products, a reduction of asset-based fees that our subsidiaries charge on various investment and insurance products, an acceleration of the net amortization of deferred acquisition costs ("DAC"), value of business acquired ("VOBA"), deferred sales inducements ("DSI") and deferred front-end loads ("DFEL") and an increase in liabilities related to guaranteed benefit features of our subsidiaries' variable annuity products;
- Ineffectiveness of our risk management policies and procedures, including various hedging strategies used to offset the effect of changes in the value of liabilities due to changes in the level and volatility of the equity markets and interest rates;
- A deviation in actual experience regarding future persistency, mortality, morbidity, interest rates or equity market returns from the assumptions used in pricing our subsidiaries' products, in establishing related insurance reserves and in the net amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL, which may reduce future earnings;
- Changes in GAAP, including convergence with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"), that may result in unanticipated changes to our net income;
- Lowering of one or more of our debt ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations and the adverse effect such action may have on our ability to raise capital and on our liquidity and financial condition;
- Lowering of one or more of the insurer financial strength ratings of our insurance subsidiaries and the adverse effect such action may have on the premium writings, policy retention, profitability of our insurance subsidiaries and liquidity;
- Significant credit, accounting, fraud, corporate governance or other issues that may adversely affect the value of certain investments in our portfolios, as well as counterparties to which we are exposed to credit risk, requiring that we realize losses on investments;
- Inability to protect our intellectual property rights or claims of infringement of the intellectual property rights of others;
- Interruption in telecommunication, information technology or other operational systems or failure to safeguard the confidentiality or privacy of sensitive data on such systems from cyberattacks or other breaches of our data security systems;
- The effect of acquisitions and divestitures, restructurings, product withdrawals and other unusual items;
- The adequacy and collectability of reinsurance that we have purchased;
- Acts of terrorism, a pandemic, war or other man-made and natural catastrophes that may adversely affect our businesses and the cost and availability of reinsurance;
- Competitive conditions, including pricing pressures, new product offerings and the emergence of new competitors, that may affect the level of premiums and fees that our subsidiaries can charge for their products;
- The unknown effect on our subsidiaries' businesses resulting from changes in the demographics of their client base, as aging baby-boomers move from the asset-accumulation stage to the asset-distribution stage of life; and
- Loss of key management, financial planners or wholesalers.

The risks included here are not exhaustive. Our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and other documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") include additional factors that could affect our businesses and financial performance. Moreover, we operate in a rapidly changing and competitive environment. New risk factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for management to predict all such risk factors.

Further, it is not possible to assess the effect of all risk factors on our businesses or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. Given these risks and uncertainties, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements as a prediction of actual results. In addition, we disclaim any obligation to update any forward-looking

statements to reflect events or circumstances that occur after the date of this report.

INTRODUCTION

Executive Summary

We are a holding company that operates multiple insurance and retirement businesses through subsidiary companies. Through our business segments, we sell a wide range of wealth protection, accumulation and retirement income products and solutions. These products include fixed and indexed annuities, variable annuities, universal life insurance (“UL”), variable universal life insurance (“VUL”), linked-benefit UL, indexed UL, term life insurance, employer-sponsored retirement plans and services, and group life, disability and dental.

We provide products and services and report results through our Annuities, Retirement Plan Services, Life Insurance and Group Protection segments. We also have Other Operations. These segments and Other Operations are described in “Part I – Item 1. Business” of our 2013 Form 10-K.

For information on how we derive our revenues, see the discussion in results of operations by segment below.

Our current market conditions, significant operational matters, industry trends, issues and outlook are described in “Introduction – Executive Summary” of our 2013 Form 10-K.

For factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in this section, see “Forward-Looking Statements – Cautionary Language” above and “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The MD&A included in our 2013 Form 10-K contains a detailed discussion of our critical accounting policies and estimates. The following information updates the “Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates” provided in our 2013 Form 10-K and, accordingly, should be read in conjunction with the “Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates” discussed in our 2013 Form 10-K.

DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL

Unlocking

As discussed in our 2013 Form 10-K, we conduct our annual comprehensive review of the assumptions and projection models underlying the amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI, DFEL, embedded derivatives and reserves for life insurance and annuity products with living benefit and death benefit guarantees in the third quarter of each year. As a result of this review, we recorded unlocking on an annual basis that resulted in increases or decreases to the carrying values of these items. See “DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL” in Note 1 of our 2013 Form 10-K for a detailed discussion of our unlocking process.

Details underlying the effect to income (loss) from continuing operations from our unlocking as a result of our annual comprehensive review (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change
Income (loss) from operations:			
Annuities	\$ 12	\$ 2	NM
Retirement Plan Services	1	(4)	125%
Life Insurance	(16)	17	NM
Excluded realized gain (loss)	25	(7)	NM
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 22	\$ 8	175%

Unlocking was driven primarily by the following:

2014

- For Annuities, we modified our long-term volatility and policyholder behavior assumptions, partially offset by modifying our separate account fees and interest margin assumptions;
- For Retirement Plan Services, we modified our separate account fees, maintenance expenses and policyholder behavior assumptions, substantially offset by lowering our interest margin assumption;
- For Life Insurance, we modified our mortality/morbidity and premium persistency assumptions and other items, partially offset by modifying our assumptions related to interest margin, policyholder behavior and maintenance expenses; and
- For excluded realized gain (loss), we modified our long-term volatility and policyholder behavior assumptions for GLB riders.

2013

- For Annuities, we modified our policyholder behavior and variable annuity mortality assumptions, partially offset by modifying our interest margin assumptions and other items;
- For Retirement Plan Services, we modified our interest margin assumptions;
- For Life Insurance, we modified our amortization period and mortality assumptions, partially offset by lowering our early duration portfolio yield assumptions; and
- For excluded realized gain (loss), we modified our policyholder behavior assumptions for GLB riders.

Reversion to the Mean (“RTM”)

As variable fund returns do not move in a systematic manner, we reset the baseline of account values from which EGPs are projected, which we refer to as our RTM process, as discussed in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Our long-term variable fund growth rate assumption, which is used in the determination of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL amortization for the variable component of our variable annuity and VUL products, is an immediate drop of approximately 14% followed by growth going forward of 7% to 9% depending on the block of business and reflecting differences in contract holder fund allocations between fixed-income and equity-type investments. If we had unlocked our RTM assumption as of September 30, 2014, we would have recorded a favorable unlocking of approximately \$280 million, pre-tax, for Annuities, approximately \$25 million, pre-tax, for Retirement Plan Services, and approximately \$40 million, pre-tax, for Life Insurance.

Investments

Investment Valuation

The following summarizes our available-for-sale (“AFS”) and trading securities and derivative investments carried at fair value by pricing source and fair value hierarchy level (in millions) as of September 30, 2014:

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Fair Value
Priced by third-party pricing services	\$ 496	\$ 72,548	\$ -	\$ 73,044
Priced by independent broker quotations	-	-	2,246	2,246
Priced by matrices	-	12,978	-	12,978
Priced by other methods (1)	-	-	1,420	1,420
Total	\$ 496	\$ 85,526	\$ 3,666	\$ 89,688
Percent of total	1%	95%	4%	100%

(1) Represents primarily securities for which pricing models were used to compute fair value.

For more information about the valuation of our financial instruments carried at fair value, see “Part II – Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Introduction – Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates – Investments – Investment Valuation” in our 2013 Form 10-K and Note 12 herein.

As of September 30, 2014, we evaluated the markets that our securities trade in and concluded that none were inactive. We will continue to re-evaluate this conclusion, as needed, based on market conditions. We use unobservable inputs to measure the fair value of securities trading in less liquid or illiquid markets with limited or no pricing information. We obtain broker quotes for securities such as synthetic convertibles, index-linked certificates of deposit and collateralized debt obligations (“CDOs”) when sufficient security structure or other market information is

not available to produce an evaluation. For broker-quoted only securities, non-binding quotes from market makers or broker-dealers are obtained from sources recognized as market participants. Broker-quoted securities are based solely on receipt of updated quotes from a single market maker or a broker-dealer recognized as a market participant. Our broker-quoted only securities are generally classified as Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. As of September 30, 2014, we used broker quotes for 66 securities as our final price source, representing approximately 1% of total securities owned.

Derivatives

Our accounting policies for derivatives and the potential effect on interest spreads in a falling rate environment are discussed in Note 5 of this report and “Part II – Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

GLB

Within our individual annuity business, approximately 71% of our variable annuity account values contained GLB features as of September 30, 2014. Declines in the equity markets increase our exposure to potential benefits with the GLB features, leading to an increase in our existing liability for those benefits. For example, a contract with a GLB feature is “in the money” if the contract holder’s account balance falls below the present value of guaranteed withdrawal or income benefits, assuming no lapses. As of September 30, 2014 and 2013, 4% and 5%, respectively, of all in-force contracts with a GLB feature were “in the money,” and our exposure, after reinsurance, as of September 30, 2014 and 2013, was \$291 million and \$387 million, respectively. However, the only way the contract holder can realize the excess of the present value of benefits over the account value of the contract is through a series of withdrawals or income payments that do not exceed a maximum amount. If, after the series of withdrawals or income payments, the account value is exhausted, the contract holder will continue to receive a series of annuity payments. The account value can also fluctuate with equity market returns on a daily basis resulting in increases or decreases in the excess of the present value of benefits over account value.

For information on our variable annuity hedge program performance, see our discussion in “Realized Gain (Loss) and Benefit Ratio Unlocking – Variable Annuity Net Derivatives Results” below.

For information on our estimates of the potential instantaneous effect to net income, which could result from sudden changes that may occur in equity markets, interest rates and implied market volatilities, see our discussion in “Part I – Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates – Derivatives – Guaranteed Living Benefits (“GLB”)” in our Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014.

Acquisitions and Dispositions

For information about acquisitions and divestitures, see Note 3 in our 2013 Form 10-K.

RESULTS OF CONSOLIDATED OPERATIONS

Details underlying the consolidated results, deposits, net flows and account values (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		
	2013	Change		2013	Change	
Net Income (Loss)						
Income (loss) from operations:						
Annuities	\$ 245	\$ 198	24%	\$ 688	\$ 551	25%
Retirement Plan Services	40	33	21%	118	108	9%
Life Insurance	150	140	7%	418	387	8%
Group Protection	8	23	-65%	29	60	-52%
Other Operations	(29)	(27)	-7%	(80)	(104)	23%
Excluded realized gain (loss), after-tax	31	(43)	172%	(10)	(135)	93%
Income (expense) from reserve changes (net of related amortization) on business sold through reinsurance, after-tax	-	-	NM	1	1	0%
Benefit ratio unlocking, after-tax	(6)	13	NM	2	25	-92%
Net income (loss)	\$ 439	\$ 337	30%	\$ 1,166	\$ 893	31%

For the Three

For the Nine

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

	Months Ended September 30, 2014			Months Ended September 30, 2013		
			Change			Change
Deposits						
Annuities	\$ 3,453	\$ 3,640	-5%	\$ 10,398	\$ 11,040	-6%
Retirement Plan Services	1,611	1,860	-13%	5,183	5,144	1%
Life Insurance	1,285	1,230	4%	3,859	3,723	4%
Total deposits	\$ 6,349	\$ 6,730	-6%	\$ 19,440	\$ 19,907	-2%
Net Flows						
Annuities	\$ 565	\$ 1,235	-54%	\$ 2,091	\$ 3,822	-45%
Retirement Plan Services	50	219	-77%	55	901	-94%
Life Insurance	934	862	8%	2,682	2,598	3%
Total net flows	\$ 1,549	\$ 2,316	-33%	\$ 4,828	\$ 7,321	-34%

	As of September 30, 2014		
			Change
Account Values			
Annuities	\$ 120,270	\$ 108,699	11%
Retirement Plan Services	53,362	49,309	8%
Life Insurance	41,504	39,157	6%
Total account values	\$ 215,136	\$ 197,165	9%

Comparison of the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 to 2013

Net income increased due primarily to the following:

- Growth in account values and insurance in force.
- Realized gains during 2014 as compared to realized losses during 2013.
- More favorable investment income on alternative investments.
- The effect of more favorable unlocking in 2014.

The increase in net income was partially offset primarily by the following:

- A decline in long-term disability recoveries in our Group Protection segment and higher death claims attributable to growth in business in force in our Life Insurance segment.
- Spread compression due to new money rates averaging below our current portfolio yields, partially offset by actions implemented to reduce interest crediting rates.

RESULTS OF ANNUITIES

Income (Loss) from Operations

Details underlying the results for Annuities (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Operating Revenues						
Insurance premiums (1)	\$ 39	\$ 30	30%	\$ 126	\$ 87	45%
Fee income	503	417	21%	1,452	1,178	23%
Net investment income	257	254	1%	774	784	-1%
Operating realized gain (loss) (2)	42	36	17%	119	100	19%
Other revenues (3)	103	105	-2%	308	287	7%
Total operating revenues	944	842	12%	2,779	2,436	14%
Operating Expenses						
Interest credited	152	153	-1%	460	463	-1%
Benefits	101	78	29%	267	206	30%
Commissions and other expenses	376	372	1%	1,186	1,092	9%
Total operating expenses	629	603	4%	1,913	1,761	9%
Income (loss) from operations before taxes	315	239	32%	866	675	28%
Federal income tax expense (benefit)	70	41	71%	178	124	44%
Income (loss) from operations	\$ 245	\$ 198	24%	\$ 688	\$ 551	25%

(1) Includes primarily our income annuities, which have a corresponding offset in benefits for changes in reserves.

(2) See “Realized Gain (Loss) and Benefit Ratio Unlocking” below.

(3) Consists primarily of revenues attributable to broker-dealer services that are subject to market volatility.

Comparison of the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 to 2013

Income from operations for this segment increased due primarily to higher fee income driven by higher average daily variable account values.

The increase in income from operations was partially offset primarily by the following:

- Higher commissions and other expenses due to higher account values, resulting in higher trail commissions. This increase was partially offset by the effect of unlocking and higher average equity markets than our model projections assumed, both resulting in a lower amortization rate.
- Higher benefits attributable to an increase in the growth in benefit reserves due to higher guaranteed amounts covered by GLB riders and the effect of unlocking.

We provide information about this segment's operating revenue and operating expense line items, the period in which amounts are recognized, key drivers of changes and historical details underlying the line items and their associated drivers below.

See the Variable Account Value Information table within "Fee Income" below for drivers of changes in our variable account values.

See "Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates – DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL – Unlocking" for more information about unlocking.

Additional Information

New deposits are an important component of net flows and key to our efforts to grow our business. Although deposits do not significantly affect current period income from operations, they are an important indicator of future profitability. We continue to monitor the marketplace and economic environment and make changes to our product offerings as needed to sustain the future profitability of our segment. We are continuing to focus on shifting the balance of variable annuity deposits to products without GLB

riders during 2014. Variable annuity deposits on products without GLB riders were 24% and 22% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, compared to 13% and 11% for the corresponding periods in 2013. In July 2014, our primary insurance subsidiary, The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company (“LNL”), amended and restated its reinsurance treaty covering new sales of its variable annuity GLB product. The treaty provides an additional \$4 billion of reinsurance capacity through December 31, 2015. LNL will retain 100% of the product cash flows, excluding the living benefit guarantee.

The other component of net flows relates to the retention of the business. An important measure of retention is the lapse rate, which compares the amount of withdrawals to the average account values. The overall lapse rate for our annuity products was 7% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014 and 2013.

Our fixed annuity business includes products with discretionary crediting rates that are reset on an annual basis and are not subject to surrender charges. Our ability to retain annual reset annuities will be subject to current competitive conditions at the time interest rates for these products reset. We expect to manage the effects of spreads on near-term income from operations through portfolio management and, to a lesser extent, crediting rate actions, which assumes no significant changes in net flows into or out of our fixed accounts or other changes that may cause interest rate spreads to differ from our expectations. For information on interest rate spreads and interest rate risk, see “Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk – Interest Rate Risk” herein and “Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk – Interest Rate Risk – Interest Rate Risk on Fixed Insurance Businesses – Falling Rates” and “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors – Market Conditions – Changes in interest rates and sustained low interest rates may cause interest rate spreads to decrease and changes in interest rates may also result in increased contract withdrawals” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

For factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in this section, see “Forward-Looking Statements – Cautionary Language” above and “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Fee Income

Details underlying fee income, account values and net flows (in millions) were as follows:

For the Three Months Ended	For the Nine Months Ended
----------------------------------	------------------------------

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

	September 30,			September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Fee Income						
Mortality, expense and other assessments	\$ 500	\$ 412	21%	\$ 1,434	\$ 1,166	23%
Surrender charges	6	7	-14%	21	17	24%
DFEL:						
Deferrals	(9)	(7)	-29%	(25)	(19)	-32%
Amortization, net of interest:						
Amortization, net of interest, excluding unlocking	8	6	33%	24	15	60%
Unlocking	(2)	(1)	-100%	(2)	(1)	-100%
Total fee income	\$ 503	\$ 417	21%	\$ 1,452	\$ 1,178	23%

	As of or For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			As of or For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		
	2013	Change		2013	Change	
Variable Account Value Information						
Variable annuity deposits (1)	\$ 2,521	\$ 2,479	2%	\$ 7,307	\$ 7,448	-2%
Increases (decreases) in variable annuity account values:						
Net flows (1)	175	603	-71%	565	1,801	-69%
Change in market value (1)	(1,642)	4,134	NM	2,469	7,626	-68%
Transfers to the variable portion of variable annuity products from the fixed portion of variable annuity products						
Variable annuity account values (1)	663	912	-27%	2,140	2,480	-14%
Average daily variable annuity account values (1)	98,997	87,415	13%	98,997	87,415	13%
Average daily S&P 500	99,892	85,151	17%	96,976	82,005	18%
	1,977	1,674	18%	1,904	1,600	19%

(1) Excludes the fixed portion of variable.

We charge contract holders mortality and expense assessments on variable annuity accounts to cover insurance and administrative expenses. These assessments are a function of the rates priced into the product and the average daily variable account values. Average daily account values are driven by net flows and the equity markets. Charges on GLB riders are assessed based on a contractual rate that is applied either to the account value or the guaranteed amount. In addition, for our fixed annuity contracts and for some variable contracts, we collect surrender charges when contract holders surrender their contracts during their surrender charge periods to protect us from premature withdrawals. Fee income includes charges on both our variable and fixed annuity products, but excludes the attributed fees on our GLB products; see “Part II – Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Realized Gain (Loss) and Benefit Ratio Unlocking – Operating Realized Gain (Loss)” in our 2013 Form 10-K for discussion of these attributed fees.

Net Investment Income and Interest Credited

Details underlying net investment income, interest credited (in millions) and our interest rate spread were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 2013 Change			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 2013 Change		
Net Investment Income						
Fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans on real estate and other, net of investment expenses	\$ 213	\$ 219	-3%	\$ 645	\$ 668	-3%
Commercial mortgage loan prepayment and bond make-whole premiums (1)	5	5	0%	14	27	-48%
Surplus investments (2)	39	30	30%	115	89	29%
Total net investment income	\$ 257	\$ 254	1%	\$ 774	\$ 784	-1%
Interest Credited						
Amount provided to contract holders	\$ 146	\$ 150	-3%	\$ 438	\$ 444	-1%
DSI deferrals	(1)	(2)	50%	(4)	(7)	43%
Interest credited before DSI amortization	145	148	-2%	434	437	-1%
DSI amortization:						
Amortization, excluding unlocking	9	11	-18%	28	32	-13%
Unlocking	(2)	(6)	67%	(2)	(6)	67%
Total interest credited	\$ 152	\$ 153	-1%	\$ 460	\$ 463	-1%

(1) See “Consolidated Investments – Commercial Mortgage Loan Prepayment and Bond Make-Whole Premiums” below for additional information.

(2) Represents net investment income on the required statutory surplus for this segment and includes the effect of investment income on alternative investments for such assets that are held in the portfolios supporting statutory surplus versus the portfolios supporting product liabilities.

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 2013 Change			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 2013 Change		
Interest Rate Spread						

Fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans on real estate and other, net of investment expenses	4.43%	4.54%	(11	)	4.49%	4.66%	(17)
Commercial mortgage loan prepayment and bond make-whole premiums	0.11%	0.10%	1		0.10%	0.19%	(9)
Net investment income yield on reserves	4.54%	4.64%	(10	)	4.59%	4.85%	(26)
Interest rate credited to contract holders	2.81%	2.86%	(5	)	2.80%	2.83%	(3)
Interest rate spread	1.73%	1.78%	(5	)	1.79%	2.02%	(23)

	As of or For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			As of or For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		
	2013	Change		2013	Change	
Fixed Account Value Information						
Fixed annuity deposits (1)	\$ 932	\$ 1,161	-20%	\$ 3,091	\$ 3,592	-14%
Increases (decreases) in fixed annuity account values:						
Net flows (1)	390	632	-38%	1,526	2,021	-24%
Transfers from the fixed portion of variable annuity products to the variable portion of variable annuity products	(663)	(912)	27%	(2,140)	(2,480)	14%
Reinvested interest credited (1)	142	218	-35%	569	673	-15%
Fixed annuity account values (1)	21,273	21,284	0%	21,273	21,284	0%
Average fixed account values (1)	21,368	21,339	0%	21,320	21,217	0%
Average invested assets on reserves	19,185	19,321	-1%	19,152	19,119	0%

(1) Includes the fixed portion of variable.

A portion of our investment income earned is credited to the contract holders of our fixed annuity products, including the fixed portion of variable annuity contracts. We expect to earn a spread between what we earn on the underlying general account investments supporting the fixed annuity product line, including the fixed portion of variable annuity contracts, and what we credit to our fixed annuity contract holders' accounts, including the fixed portion of variable annuity contracts. Changes in commercial mortgage loan prepayments and bond make-whole premiums, investment income on alternative investments and surplus investment income can vary significantly from period to period due to a number of factors and, therefore, may contribute to investment income results that are not indicative of the underlying trends.

Benefits

Details underlying benefits (in millions) were as follows:

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		
	2013	Change		2013	Change	
Benefits						
Net death and other benefits, excluding unlocking	\$ 84	\$ 69	22%	\$ 253	\$ 195	30%
Unlocking	17	9	89%	14	11	27%
Total benefits	\$ 101	\$ 78	29%	\$ 267	\$ 206	30%

Benefits for this segment include changes in income annuity reserves driven by premiums, changes in benefit reserves and our expected costs associated with purchases of derivatives used to hedge our benefit ratio unlocking on benefit reserves associated with our guaranteed death benefit riders.

Commissions and Other Expenses

Details underlying commissions and other expenses (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Commissions and Other Expenses						
Commissions:						
Deferrable	\$ 155	\$ 159	-3%	\$ 458	\$ 490	-7%
Non-deferrable	115	91	26%	333	264	26%
General and administrative expenses	104	105	-1%	315	305	3%
Inter-segment reimbursement associated with reserve financing and LOC expenses (1)	1	-	NM	2	1	100%
Taxes, licenses and fees	9	8	13%	27	24	13%
Total expenses incurred, excluding broker-dealer	384	363	6%	1,135	1,084	5%
DAC deferrals	(175)	(181)	3%	(514)	(558)	8%
Total pre-broker-dealer expenses incurred, excluding amortization, net of interest	209	182	15%	621	526	18%
DAC and VOBA amortization, net of interest:						
Amortization, net of interest, excluding unlocking	101	97	4%	303	291	4%
Unlocking	(35)	(7)	NM	(36)	(5)	NM
Broker-dealer expenses incurred	101	100	1%	298	280	6%
Total commissions and other expenses	\$ 376	\$ 372	1%	\$ 1,186	\$ 1,092	9%
DAC Deferrals						
As a percentage of sales/deposits	5.1%	5.0%		4.9%	5.1%	

(1) Includes reimbursements to Annuities from the Life Insurance segment for reserve financing, net of expenses incurred by Annuities for its use of letters of credit ("LOCs"). The inter-segment amounts are not reported on our Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss).

Commissions and other costs that result directly from and are essential to the successful acquisition of new or renewal business are deferred to the extent recoverable and are amortized over the lives of the contracts in relation to

EGPs. Certain types of commissions, such as trail commissions that are based on account values, are expensed as incurred rather than deferred and amortized.

Broker-dealer expenses that vary with and are related to sales are expensed as incurred and not deferred and amortized. Fluctuations in these expenses correspond with fluctuations in other revenues.

RESULTS OF RETIREMENT PLAN SERVICES

Income (Loss) from Operations

Details underlying the results for Retirement Plan Services (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Operating Revenues						
Fee income	\$ 62	\$ 59	5%	\$ 184	\$ 172	7%
Net investment income	207	207	0%	618	620	0%
Other revenues (1)	3	3	0%	11	8	38%
Total operating revenues	272	269	1%	813	800	2%
Operating Expenses						
Interest credited	118	118	0%	354	351	1%
Benefits	-	-	NM	-	1	-100%
Commissions and other expenses	99	107	-7%	298	302	-1%
Total operating expenses	217	225	-4%	652	654	0%
Income (loss) from operations before taxes	55	44	25%	161	146	10%
Federal income tax expense (benefit)	15	11	36%	43	38	13%
Income (loss) from operations	\$ 40	\$ 33	21%	\$ 118	\$ 108	9%

(1) Consists primarily of mutual fund account program revenues for mid to large employers.

Comparison of the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 to 2013

Income from operations for this segment increased due primarily to the following:

- Lower commissions and other expenses due to the effect of unlocking.
- Higher fee income driven by higher average daily account values.

Comparison of the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 to 2013

Income from operations for this segment increased due primarily to the following:

- Higher fee income driven by higher average daily account values.
- Lower commissions and other expenses due to the effect of unlocking.

The increase in income from operations was partially offset by lower net investment income, net of interest credited, driven by spread compression due to new money rates averaging below our current portfolio yields and lower prepayment and bond make-whole premiums.

We provide information about this segment's operating revenue and operating expense line items, the period in which amounts are recognized, key drivers of changes and historical details underlying the line items and their associated drivers below.

See the Variable Account Value Information table within "Fee Income" below for drivers of changes in our variable account values and the Fixed Account Value Information table within "Net Investment Income and Interest Credited" below for drivers of changes in our fixed account values.

See "Consolidated Investments – Commercial Mortgage Loan Prepayment and Bond Make-Whole Premiums" below for more information on prepayment and bond make-whole premiums.

See "Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates – DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL – Unlocking" for more information about unlocking.

Additional Information

We expect to continue making strategic investments during the remainder of 2014 to improve our infrastructure and expand distribution that will result in higher expenses.

Net flows in this business fluctuate based on the timing of larger plans being implemented on our platform and terminating over the course of the year.

New deposits are an important component of net flows and key to our efforts to grow our business. Although deposits do not significantly affect current period income from operations, they are an important indicator of future profitability. The other component of net flows relates to the retention of the business. An important measure of retention is the lapse rate, which compares the amount of withdrawals to the average account values. The overall lapse rate for our annuity and mutual fund products was 12% and 13% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively, compared to 14% and 12% for the corresponding periods in 2013.

Our lapse rate is negatively affected by the continued net outflows from our oldest blocks of annuities business (as presented on our Account Value Roll Forward table below as “Multi-Fund® and Other Variable Annuities”), which are also our higher margin product lines in this segment, due to the fact that they are mature blocks with much of the account values out of their surrender charge period. The proportion of these products to our total account values was 32% and 34% as of September 30, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Due to this expected overall shift in business mix toward products with lower returns, a significant increase in new deposit production continues to be necessary to maintain earnings at current levels.

Our fixed annuity business includes products with discretionary and index-based crediting rates that are reset on a quarterly basis. Our ability to retain quarterly reset annuities will be subject to current competitive conditions at the time interest rates for these products reset. We expect to manage the effects of spreads on near-term income from operations through portfolio management and, to a lesser extent, crediting rate actions, which assumes no significant changes in net flows into or out of our fixed accounts or other changes that may cause interest rate spreads to differ from our expectations. For information on interest rate spreads and interest rate risk, see “Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk – Interest Rate Risk” herein and “Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk – Interest Rate Risk – Interest Rate Risk on Fixed Insurance Businesses – Falling Rates” and “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors – Market Conditions – Changes in interest rates and sustained low interest rates may cause interest rate spreads to decrease and changes in interest rates may also result in increased contract withdrawals” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

For factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in this section, see “Forward-Looking Statements – Cautionary Language” above and “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Fee Income

Details underlying fee income, account values and net flows (in millions) were as follows:

For the Nine

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Fee Income						
Annuity expense assessments	\$ 49	\$ 47	4%	\$ 145	\$ 138	5%
Mutual fund fees	13	11	18%	38	33	15%
Total expense assessments	62	58	7%	183	171	7%
Surrender charges	-	1	-100%	1	1	0%
Total fee income	\$ 62	\$ 59	5%	\$ 184	\$ 172	7%

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Account Value Roll Forward (1)						
Small Market:						
Balance as of beginning-of-period	\$ 8,521	\$ 7,377	16%	\$ 8,203	\$ 7,001	17%
Gross deposits	449	362	24%	1,328	1,135	17%
Withdrawals and deaths	(376)	(375)	0%	(1,275)	(1,153)	-11%
Net flows	73	(13)	NM	53	(18)	NM
Transfers between fixed and variable accounts	1	-	NM	1	(13)	108%
Change in market value and reinvestment	(136)	331	NM	202	725	-72%
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ 8,459	\$ 7,695	10%	\$ 8,459	\$ 7,695	10%
Mid – Large Market:						
Balance as of beginning-of-period	\$ 28,107	\$ 23,486	20%	\$ 26,468	\$ 21,049	26%
Gross deposits	1,023	1,338	-24%	3,394	3,532	-4%
Withdrawals and deaths	(799)	(881)	9%	(2,709)	(1,956)	-38%
Net flows	224	457	-51%	685	1,576	-57%
Transfers between fixed and variable accounts	(13)	(14)	7%	3	5	-40%
Change in market value and reinvestment	(256)	1,130	NM	906	2,429	-63%
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ 28,062	\$ 25,059	12%	\$ 28,062	\$ 25,059	12%
Multi-Fund® and Other Variable Annuities:						
Balance as of beginning-of-period	\$ 17,120	\$ 16,234	5%	\$ 16,947	\$ 15,881	7%
Gross deposits	139	160	-13%	461	477	-3%
Withdrawals and deaths	(386)	(385)	0%	(1,144)	(1,134)	-1%
Net flows	(247)	(225)	-10%	(683)	(657)	-4%
Change in market value and reinvestment	(32)	546	NM	577	1,331	-57%
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ 16,841	\$ 16,555	2%	\$ 16,841	\$ 16,555	2%
Total Annuities and Mutual Funds:						
Balance as of beginning-of-period	\$ 53,748	\$ 47,097	14%	\$ 51,618	\$ 43,931	17%
Gross deposits	1,611	1,860	-13%	5,183	5,144	1%
Withdrawals and deaths	(1,561)	(1,641)	5%	(5,128)	(4,243)	-21%
Net flows	50	219	-77%	55	901	-94%
Transfers between fixed and variable accounts	(12)	(14)	14%	4	(8)	150%
Change in market value and reinvestment	(424)	2,007	NM	1,685	4,485	-62%
Balance as of end-of-period	\$ 53,362	\$ 49,309	8%	\$ 53,362	\$ 49,309	8%

(1)

Includes mutual fund account values and other third-party trustee-held assets. These items are not included in the separate accounts reported on our Consolidated Balance Sheets as we do not have any ownership interest in them.

	As of or For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			As of or For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		
	2013	Change		2013	Change	
Variable Account Value Information						
Variable annuity deposits (1)	\$ 321	\$ 315	2%	\$ 1,008	\$ 1,077	-6%
Increases (decreases) in variable annuity account values:						
Net flows (1)	(149)	(231)	35%	(499)	(474)	-5%
Change in market value (1)	(240)	781	NM	515	1,790	-71%
Transfers from the variable portion of variable annuity products to the fixed portion of variable annuity products						
Variable annuity account values (1)	15,178	14,556	4%	15,178	14,556	4%
Average daily variable annuity account values (1)	15,471	14,481	7%	15,273	14,256	7%
Average daily S&P 500	1,977	1,674	18%	1,904	1,600	19%

(1) Excludes the fixed portion of variable.

We charge expense assessments to cover insurance and administrative expenses. Expense assessments are generally equal to a percentage of the daily variable account values. Average daily account values are driven by net flows and the equity markets. Our expense assessments include fees we earn for the services that we provide to our mutual fund programs. In addition, for both our fixed and variable annuity contracts, we collect surrender charges when contract holders surrender their contracts during the surrender charge periods to protect us from premature withdrawals.

Net Investment Income and Interest Credited

Details underlying net investment income, interest credited (in millions) and our interest rate spread were as follows:

For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		
2013	Change		2013	Change	

Net Investment Income

Fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans
on real estate and other, net of

investment expenses	\$ 184	\$ 185	-1%	\$ 551	\$ 555	-1%
Commercial mortgage loan prepayment and bond make-whole premiums (1)	6	7	-14%	15	19	-21%
Surplus investments (2)	17	15	13%	52	46	13%
Total net investment income	\$ 207	\$ 207	0%	\$ 618	\$ 620	0%

Interest Credited	\$ 118	\$ 118	0%	\$ 354	\$ 351	1%
-------------------	--------	--------	----	--------	--------	----

- (1) See “Consolidated Investments – Commercial Mortgage Loan Prepayment and Bond Make-Whole Premiums” below for additional information.
- (2) Represents net investment income on the required statutory surplus for this segment and includes the effect of investment income on alternative investments for such assets that are held in the portfolios supporting statutory surplus versus the portfolios supporting product liabilities.

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			Basis Point Change	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014			Basis Point Change
Interest Rate Spread								
Fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans on real estate and other, net of investment expenses	4.77%	4.97%	(20	)	4.81%	5.00%	(19)
Commercial mortgage loan prepayment and bond make-whole premiums	0.15%	0.18%	(3	)	0.13%	0.17%	(4)
Net investment income yield on reserves	4.92%	5.15%	(23	)	4.94%	5.17%	(23)
Interest rate credited to contract holders	3.04%	3.12%	(8	)	3.05%	3.12%	(7)
Interest rate spread	1.88%	2.03%	(15	)	1.89%	2.05%	(16)

	As of or For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			Change	As of or For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014			Change
Fixed Account Value Information								
Fixed annuity deposits (1)	\$ 453	\$ 462	-2%		\$ 1,398	\$ 1,270	10%	
Increases (decreases) in fixed annuity account values:								
Net flows (1)	(96)	(61)	-57%		(252)	(172)	-47%	
Transfers to the fixed portion of variable annuity products from the variable portion of variable annuity products	44	79	-44%		148	226	-35%	
Reinvested interest credited (1)	120	120	0%		354	351	1%	
Fixed annuity account values (1)	15,644	15,219	3%		15,644	15,219	3%	
Average fixed account values (1)	15,565	15,122	3%		15,470	14,968	3%	
Average invested assets on reserves	15,380	14,881	3%		15,262	14,785	3%	

(1) Includes the fixed portion of variable.

A portion of our investment income earned is credited to the contract holders of our fixed annuity products, including the fixed portion of variable annuity contracts. We expect to earn a spread between what we earn on the underlying

general account investments supporting the fixed annuity product line, including the fixed portion of variable annuity contracts, and what we credit to our fixed annuity contract holders' accounts, including the fixed portion of variable annuity contracts. Commercial mortgage loan prepayments and bond make-whole premiums, investment income on alternative investments and surplus investment income can vary significantly from period to period due to a number of factors and, therefore, may contribute to investment income results that are not indicative of the underlying trends.

Benefits

Benefits for this segment include changes in benefit reserves and our expected costs associated with purchases of derivatives used to hedge our benefit ratio unlocking.

Commissions and Other Expenses

Details underlying commissions and other expenses (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Commissions and Other Expenses						
Commissions:						
Deferrable	\$ 3	\$ 3	0%	\$ 11	\$ 11	0%
Non-deferrable	14	15	-7%	43	43	0%
General and administrative expenses	77	74	4%	222	220	1%
Taxes, licenses and fees	4	4	0%	14	14	0%
Total expenses incurred	98	96	2%	290	288	1%
DAC deferrals	(8)	(7)	-14%	(21)	(23)	9%
Total expenses recognized before amortization	90	89	1%	269	265	2%
DAC and VOBA amortization, net of interest:						
Amortization, net of interest, excluding unlocking	10	11	-9%	30	30	0%
Unlocking	(1)	7	NM	(1)	7	NM
Total commissions and other expenses	\$ 99	\$ 107	-7%	\$ 298	\$ 302	-1%
DAC Deferrals						
As a percentage of annuity sales/deposits	1.0%	0.9%		0.9%	1.0%	

Commissions and other costs that result directly from and are essential to the successful acquisition of new or renewal business are deferred to the extent recoverable and are amortized over the lives of the contracts in relation to EGPs. Certain types of commissions, such as trail commissions that are based on account values, are expensed as incurred rather than deferred and amortized. Distribution expenses associated with the sale of mutual fund products are expensed as incurred.

RESULTS OF LIFE INSURANCE

Income (Loss) from Operations

Details underlying the results for Life Insurance (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Operating Revenues						
Insurance premiums (1)	\$ 153	\$ 125	22%	\$ 424	\$ 357	19%
Fee income	651	556	17%	1,810	1,622	12%
Net investment income	636	615	3%	1,892	1,825	4%
Operating realized gain (loss) (2)	-	1	-100%	2	3	-33%
Other revenues	6	4	50%	18	20	-10%
Total operating revenues	1,446	1,301	11%	4,146	3,827	8%
Operating Expenses						
Interest credited	337	329	2%	1,008	973	4%
Benefits	550	476	16%	1,610	1,482	9%
Commissions and other expenses	333	286	16%	902	794	14%
Total operating expenses	1,220	1,091	12%	3,520	3,249	8%
Income (loss) from operations before taxes	226	210	8%	626	578	8%
Federal income tax expense (benefit)	76	70	9%	208	191	9%
Income (loss) from operations	\$ 150	\$ 140	7%	\$ 418	\$ 387	8%

(1) Includes term insurance premiums, which have a corresponding partial offset in benefits for changes in reserves.

(2) See "Realized Gain (Loss) and Benefit Ratio Unlocking" below.

Comparison of the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 to 2013

Income from operations for this segment increased due primarily to the following:

- Higher fee income attributable to growth in business in force and the effect of unlocking.

Higher net investment income, net of interest credited, driven by more favorable investment income on alternative investments and growth in business in force. These increases were partially offset by spread compression due to new money rates averaging below our current portfolio yields.

The increase in income from operations was partially offset primarily by the following:

- Higher benefits due to higher death claims attributable to growth in business in force, and the effect of unlocking.
- Higher commissions and other expenses due to higher margins than our model projections assumed and the effect of unlocking.

We provide information about this segment's operating revenue and operating expense line items, the period in which amounts are recognized, key drivers of changes and historical details underlying the line items and their associated drivers below.

See "Consolidated Investments – Alternative Investments" below for more information on alternative investments.

See "Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates – DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL – Unlocking" for more information about unlocking.

Strategies to Address Statutory Reserve Strain

Our insurance subsidiaries have statutory surplus and risk-based capital ("RBC") levels above current regulatory required levels. Term products and UL products containing secondary guarantees require reserves calculated pursuant to the Valuation of Life Insurance Policies Model Regulation ("XXX") and Actuarial Guideline 38 ("AG38"), respectively. For more discussion of our strategies to lessen the burden of increased XXX and AG38 statutory reserves associated with term products and UL products containing secondary guarantees on our insurance subsidiaries, see "Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors – Legislative, Regulatory and Tax – Attempts to mitigate the impact of Regulation XXX and Actuarial Guideline 38 may fail in whole or in part resulting in an adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations" and "Part II – Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Results of Life Insurance – Income (Loss) from Operations – Strategies to Address Statutory Reserve Strain" in our 2013 Form 10-K, "Part I – Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Results of Life Insurance – Income (Loss) from Operations – Strategies to Address Statutory Reserve Strain" in our Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014, and "Review of Consolidated Financial Condition – Liquidity and Capital Resources – Sources of Liquidity and Cash Flow – Subsidiaries Statutory Reserving and Surplus" herein.

Our insurance subsidiaries employ strategies to reduce the strain caused by XXX and AG38 by using long-dated LOCs as well as other financing transactions. Included in the LOCs issued as of September 30, 2014, was approximately \$3.1 billion of long-dated LOCs issued to support inter-company reinsurance arrangements. Approximately \$2.0 billion of such LOCs were issued for UL products containing secondary guarantees (approximately \$1.8 billion will expire in 2031, and approximately \$175 million will expire in 2018). Approximately \$1.1 billion of such LOCs were issued for term business solutions (approximately \$905 million will expire in 2023, and approximately \$150 million is automatically renewable until 2023). We have also used the proceeds from senior note issuances of approximately \$875 million to execute long-term structured solutions supporting UL products containing secondary guarantees. LOCs and related capital market alternatives lower the capital effect of term products and UL products containing secondary guarantees. An inability to obtain the necessary LOC capacity or other capital market alternatives could affect our returns on our in-force term products and UL products containing secondary guarantees. However, we believe that our insurance subsidiaries have sufficient capital to support the increase in statutory reserves, based on our current reserve projections, if such structures were no longer available. See the table in “Commissions and Other Expenses” below for the presentation of our expenses associated with reserve financing.

Additional Information

We expect to manage the effects of spreads on near-term income from operations through portfolio management, which assumes no significant changes in net flows into or out of our fixed accounts or other changes that may cause interest rate spreads to differ from our expectations.

For information on interest rate spreads and interest rate risk, see “Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk – Interest Rate Risk” herein and “Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk – Interest Rate Risk – Interest Rate Risk on Fixed Insurance Businesses – Falling Rates” and “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors – Market Conditions – Changes in interest rates and sustained low interest rates may cause interest rate spreads to decrease and changes in interest rates may also result in increased contract withdrawals” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

For factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in this section, see “Forward-Looking Statements – Cautionary Language” above and “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Insurance Premiums

Insurance premiums relate to traditional products and are a function of the rates priced into the product and the level of insurance in force. Insurance in force, in turn, is driven by sales, persistency and mortality experience.

Fee Income

Details underlying fee income, sales, net flows, account values and in-force face amount (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Fee Income						
Mortality assessments	\$ 357	\$ 333	7%	\$ 1,049	\$ 1,000	5%
Expense assessments	264	213	24%	736	644	14%
Surrender charges	11	15	-27%	39	46	-15%
DFEL:						
Deferrals	(100)	(68)	-47%	(255)	(220)	-16%
Amortization, net of interest:						
Amortization, net of interest, excluding unlocking	67	48	40%	189	137	38%
Unlocking	52	15	247%	52	15	247%
Total fee income	\$ 651	\$ 556	17%	\$ 1,810	\$ 1,622	12%

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		
	2013	Change		2013	Change	
Sales by Product						
UL:						
Excluding MoneyGuard® and indexed UL	\$ 27	\$ 32	-16%	\$ 72	\$ 92	-22%
MoneyGuard®	43	44	-2%	116	143	-19%
Indexed UL	18	17	6%	52	37	41%
Total UL	88	93	-5%	240	272	-12%
VUL	44	36	22%	145	91	59%
COLI and BOLI	5	15	-67%	23	80	-71%
Term	23	24	-4%	69	63	10%
Total sales	\$ 160	\$ 168	-5%	\$ 477	\$ 506	-6%
Net Flows						
Deposits	\$ 1,285	\$ 1,230	4%	\$ 3,859	\$ 3,723	4%
Withdrawals and deaths	(351)	(368)	5%	(1,177)	(1,125)	-5%
Net flows	\$ 934	\$ 862	8%	\$ 2,682	\$ 2,598	3%
Contract Holder Assessments	\$ 910	\$ 856	6%	\$ 2,645	\$ 2,545	4%

	As of September 30, 2014			Change
	2013			
Account Values				
UL	\$ 31,245	\$ 30,284	3%	
VUL	7,982	6,604	21%	
Interest-sensitive whole life	2,277	2,269	0%	
Total account values	\$ 41,504	\$ 39,157	6%	
In-Force Face Amount				
UL and other	\$ 322,416	\$ 315,763	2%	
Term insurance	312,584	292,375	7%	
Total in-force face amount	\$ 635,000	\$ 608,138	4%	

Fee income relates only to interest-sensitive products and includes mortality assessments, expense assessments (net of deferrals and amortization related to DFEL) and surrender charges. Mortality and expense assessments are deducted

from our contract holders' account values. These amounts are a function of the rates priced into the product and premiums received, face amount in force and account values. Insurance in force, in turn, is driven by sales, persistency and mortality experience.

Sales are not recorded as a component of revenues (other than for traditional products) and do not have a significant effect on current quarter income from operations but are indicators of future profitability. Generally, we have higher sales during the second half of the year with the fourth quarter being our strongest.

Sales in the table above and as discussed above were reported as follows:

- MoneyGuard®, our linked-benefit product – 15% of total expected premium deposits;
- Single premium bank-owned UL and VUL (“BOLI”) – 15% of single premium deposits;
- UL, VUL, and corporate-owned UL and VUL (“COLI”) – first year commissionable premiums plus 5% of excess premiums received, including an adjustment for internal replacements of approximately 50% of commissionable premiums; and
- Term – 100% of annualized first year premiums.

Changes in the marketplace and continuing efforts to increase sales of higher return products in a low interest rate environment have resulted in a shift in our business mix.

Net Investment Income and Interest Credited

Details underlying net investment income, interest credited (in millions) and our interest rate spread were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Net Investment Income						
Fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans on real estate and other, net of investment expenses	\$ 563	\$ 562	0%	\$ 1,690	\$ 1,672	1%
Commercial mortgage loan prepayment and bond make-whole premiums (1)	8	8	0%	33	26	27%
Alternative investments (2)	27	12	125%	56	28	100%
Surplus investments (3)	38	33	15%	113	99	14%
Total net investment income	\$ 636	\$ 615	3%	\$ 1,892	\$ 1,825	4%
Interest Credited	\$ 337	\$ 329	2%	\$ 1,008	\$ 973	4%

- (1) See “Consolidated Investments – Commercial Mortgage Loan Prepayment and Bond Make-Whole Premiums” below for additional information.
- (2) See “Consolidated Investments – Alternative Investments” below for additional information.
- (3) Represents net investment income on the required statutory surplus for this segment and includes the effect of investment income on alternative investments for such assets that are held in the portfolios supporting statutory surplus versus the portfolios supporting product liabilities.

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Interest Rate Yields and Spread						
Attributable to interest-sensitive products:						
Fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans on real estate and other, net of investment expenses	5.39%	5.54%	(15)	5.43%	5.58%	(15)
Commercial mortgage loan prepayment and bond make-whole premiums	0.07%	0.08%	(1)	0.09%	0.09%	-
Alternative investments	0.28%	0.14%	14	0.20%	0.10%	10
Net investment income yield on reserves	5.74%	5.76%	(2)	5.72%	5.77%	(5)

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Interest rate credited to contract holders	3.94%	3.93%	1		3.95%	3.92%	3	
Interest rate spread	1.80%	1.83%	(3	)	1.77%	1.85%	(8)

Attributable to traditional products:

Fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans
on real estate and other, net of

investment expenses	5.23%	5.57%	(34)	5.53%	5.63%	(10)
---------------------	-------	-------	-----	---	-------	-------	-----	---

Commercial mortgage loan prepayment
and bond make-whole premiums

0.18%	0.03%	15		0.25%	0.07%	18	
-------	-------	----	--	-------	-------	----	--

Net investment income yield
on reserves

5.41%	5.60%	(19)	5.78%	5.70%	8	
-------	-------	-----	---	-------	-------	---	--

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Averages						
Attributable to interest-sensitive products:						
Invested assets on reserves	\$ 37,649	\$ 36,062	4%	\$ 37,241	\$ 35,611	5%
Account values - universal and whole life	33,947	33,021	3%	33,749	32,717	3%
Attributable to traditional products:						
Invested assets on reserves	4,275	4,453	-4%	4,227	4,401	-4%

A portion of the investment income earned for this segment is credited to contract holder accounts. Statutory reserves will typically grow at a faster rate than account values because of the AG38 reserve requirements. Invested assets are based upon the statutory reserve liabilities and are affected by various reserve adjustments, including financing transactions providing relief from AG38 reserve requirements. These financing transactions lead to a transfer of invested assets from this segment to Other Operations. We expect to earn a spread between what we earn on the underlying general account investments and what we credit to our contract holders' accounts. We use our investment income to offset the earnings effect of the associated growth of our policy reserves for traditional products. Commercial mortgage loan prepayments and bond make-whole premiums and investment income on alternative investments can vary significantly from period to period due to a number of factors, and, therefore, may contribute to investment income results that are not indicative of the underlying trends.

Benefits

Details underlying benefits (dollars in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Benefits						
Death claims direct and assumed	\$ 796	\$ 939	-15%	\$ 2,597	\$ 2,574	1%
Death claims ceded	(369)	(518)	29%	(1,232)	(1,270)	3%
Reserves released on death	(118)	(119)	1%	(402)	(387)	-4%
Net death benefits	309	302	2%	963	917	5%
Change in secondary guarantee life						

insurance product reserves:

Change in reserves, excluding

unlocking	122	111	10%	372	358	4%
-----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Unlocking	12	(18)	167%	12	(18)	167%
-----------	----	-------	------	----	-------	------

Change in linked-benefit product

reserves:

Change in reserves, excluding

unlocking	25	16	56%	65	51	27%
-----------	----	----	-----	----	----	-----

Unlocking	23	3	NM	23	3	NM
-----------	----	---	----	----	---	----

Other benefits (1)	59	62	-5%	175	171	2%
--------------------	----	----	-----	-----	-----	----

Total benefits	\$ 550	\$ 476	16%	\$ 1,610	\$ 1,482	9%
----------------	--------	--------	-----	----------	----------	----

Death claims per \$1,000 of in-force	1.96	2.00	-2%	2.05	2.04	0%
--------------------------------------	------	------	-----	------	------	----

(1) Includes primarily changes in reserves and dividends on traditional and other products.

Benefits for this segment include claims incurred during the period in excess of the associated reserves for its interest-sensitive and traditional products. In addition, benefits include the change in secondary guarantee and linked-benefit life insurance product reserves. These reserves are affected by changes in expected future trends of expense assessments causing unlocking adjustments to these liabilities similar to DAC, VOBA and DFEL. See "Future Contract Benefits and Other Contract Holder Funds" in Note 1 of our 2013 Form 10-K for additional information.

Commissions and Other Expenses

Details underlying commissions and other expenses (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Commissions and Other Expenses						
Commissions	\$ 171	\$ 157	9%	\$ 508	\$ 442	15%
General and administrative expenses	116	122	-5%	358	354	1%
Expenses associated with reserve financing	20	19	5%	59	55	7%
Taxes, licenses and fees	36	41	-12%	112	109	3%
Total expenses incurred	343	339	1%	1,037	960	8%
DAC and VOBA deferrals	(189)	(175)	-8%	(554)	(498)	-11%
Total expenses recognized before amortization	154	164	-6%	483	462	5%
DAC and VOBA amortization, net of interest:						
Amortization, net of interest, excluding unlocking	135	113	19%	374	322	16%
Unlocking	42	8	NM	42	7	NM
Other intangible amortization	2	1	100%	3	3	0%
Total commissions and other expenses	\$ 333	\$ 286	16%	\$ 902	\$ 794	14%
DAC and VOBA Deferrals						
As a percentage of sales	118.1%	104.2%		116.1%	98.4%	

Commissions and costs that result directly from and are essential to successful acquisition of new or renewal business are deferred to the extent recoverable and for our interest-sensitive products are generally amortized over the life of the contracts in relation to EGPs. For our traditional products, DAC and VOBA are amortized on either a straight-line basis or as a level percent of premium of the related contracts, depending on the block of business. When comparing DAC and VOBA deferrals as a percentage of sales for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, to the corresponding periods in 2013, the increase was primarily a result of changes in sales mix to products with higher commission rates.

RESULTS OF GROUP PROTECTION

Income (Loss) from Operations

Details underlying the results for Group Protection (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Operating Revenues						
Insurance premiums	\$ 550	\$ 516	7%	\$ 1,685	\$ 1,555	8%
Net investment income	45	41	10%	134	122	10%
Other revenues	3	4	-25%	10	8	25%
Total operating revenues	598	561	7%	1,829	1,685	9%
Operating Expenses						
Interest credited	1	1	0%	4	2	100%
Benefits	428	382	12%	1,314	1,163	13%
Commissions and other expenses	157	142	11%	466	427	9%
Total operating expenses	586	525	12%	1,784	1,592	12%
Income (loss) from operations before taxes	12	36	-67%	45	93	-52%
Federal income tax expense (benefit)	4	13	-69%	16	33	-52%
Income (loss) from operations	\$ 8	\$ 23	-65%	\$ 29	\$ 60	-52%

For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change

Income (Loss) from Operations by
Product Line

Life	\$ 6	\$ 10	-40%	\$ 13	\$ 16	-19%
Disability	2	11	-82%	12	41	-71%
Dental	-	1	-100%	2	-	NM
Total non-medical	8	22	-64%	27	57	-53%
Medical	-	1	-100%	2	3	-33%
Income (loss) from operations	\$ 8	\$ 23	-65%	\$ 29	\$ 60	-52%

Comparison of the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 to 2013

Income from operations for this segment decreased due primarily to unfavorable total non-medical loss ratio experience attributable to a decline in long-term disability recoveries in 2014 and favorable reserve adjustments related to our long-term disability business in 2013.

We provide information about this segment's operating revenue and operating expense line items, the period in which amounts are recognized, key drivers of changes and historical details underlying the line items and their associated drivers below.

Additional Information

Management compares trends in actual loss ratios to pricing expectations because group-underwriting risks change over time. We expect normal fluctuations in our composite non-medical loss ratios of this segment, as claims experience is inherently uncertain. During the third quarter of 2014, our total non-medical loss ratio of 77.6% was above our long-term expectation of 71% to 74% due primarily to a decline in long-term disability recovery experience. We expect the loss ratios to be at or above the high end of our target range during the remainder of the year. For every one percent increase in the loss ratio, we would expect an approximate annual \$13 million to \$15 million decrease to income from operations.

For information on the effects of current interest rates on our long-term disability claim reserves, see "Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk – Interest Rate Risk."

For factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in this section, see "Forward-Looking Statements – Cautionary Language" above and "Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Insurance Premiums

Details underlying insurance premiums (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Insurance Premiums by Product Line						
Life	\$ 230	\$ 214	7%	\$ 696	\$ 628	11%
Disability	241	228	6%	722	670	8%
Dental	57	52	10%	170	153	11%
Total non-medical	528	494	7%	1,588	1,451	9%
Medical	22	22	0%	97	104	-7%
Total insurance premiums	\$ 550	\$ 516	7%	\$ 1,685	\$ 1,555	8%
Sales	\$ 94	\$ 107	-12%	\$ 229	\$ 273	-16%

Our cost of insurance and policy administration charges are embedded in the premiums charged to our customers. The premiums are a function of the rates priced into the product and our business in force. Business in force, in turn, is driven by sales and persistency experience.

Sales relate to new contract holders and new programs sold to existing contract holders. We believe that the trend in sales is an important indicator of development of business in force over time. Sales in the table above are the combined annualized premiums for our life, disability and dental products. When comparing sales for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, to the corresponding periods in 2013, the decrease was partly the result of pricing actions primarily on our employer-paid life and disability business. Through the first half of 2014, we also observed a slowing of industry sales. We continue to shift the business mix to employee-paid blocks of business, which we expect will improve the overall profitability of the business. The proportion of employee-paid sales to our total sales was 45% and 49% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, compared to 43% and 46% for the corresponding periods in 2013.

Net Investment Income

We use our investment income to offset the earnings effect of the associated build of our policy reserves, which are a function of our insurance premiums and the yields on our invested assets.

68

Benefits and Interest Credited

Details underlying benefits and interest credited (in millions) and loss ratios by product line were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Benefits and Interest Credited by Product Line						
Life	\$ 174	\$ 159	9%	\$ 539	\$ 484	11%
Disability	195	167	17%	571	474	20%
Dental	40	37	8%	122	114	7%
Total non-medical	409	363	13%	1,232	1,072	15%
Medical	20	20	0%	86	93	-8%
Total benefits and interest credited	\$ 429	\$ 383	12%	\$ 1,318	\$ 1,165	13%
Loss Ratios by Product Line						
Life	75.9%	74.2%		77.3%	77.1%	
Disability	80.8%	73.2%		79.0%	70.8%	
Dental	70.8%	71.5%		72.0%	74.3%	
Total non-medical	77.6%	73.4%		77.5%	73.9%	
Medical	90.6%	88.3%		88.9%	88.8%	

Commissions and Other Expenses

Details underlying commissions and other expenses (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Commissions and Other Expenses

Commissions	\$ 68	\$ 62	10%	\$ 202	\$ 187	8%
General and administrative expenses	73	76	-4%	223	220	1%
Taxes, licenses and fees	14	14	0%	43	39	10%
Total expenses incurred	155	152	2%	468	446	5%
DAC deferrals	(11)	(20)	45%	(45)	(53)	15%
Total expenses recognized before amortization	144	132	9%	423	393	8%
DAC and VOBA amortization, net of interest	13	10	30%	43	34	26%
Total commissions and other expenses	\$ 157	\$ 142	11%	\$ 466	\$ 427	9%

DAC Deferrals

As a percentage of insurance premiums	2.0%	3.9%	2.7%	3.4%
---------------------------------------	------	------	------	------

Commissions and other costs that result directly from and are essential to the successful acquisition of new or renewal business are deferred to the extent recoverable and are amortized in relation to the revenues of the related contracts. Certain broker commissions that vary with and are related to paid premiums are expensed as incurred. The level of expenses is an important driver of profitability for this segment as group insurance contracts are offered within an environment that competes on the basis of price and service.

RESULTS OF OTHER OPERATIONS

Income (Loss) from Operations

Details underlying the results for Other Operations (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		
	2013	Change		2013	Change	
Operating Revenues						
Insurance premiums	\$ -	\$ -	NM	\$ -	\$ 1	-100%
Net investment income	68	63	8%	211	192	10%
Amortization of deferred gain on business sold through reinsurance	18	18	0%	54	54	0%
Media revenues (net)	17	18	-6%	49	53	-8%
Other revenues	-	1	-100%	1	4	-75%
Total operating revenues	103	100	3%	315	304	4%
Operating Expenses						
Interest credited	22	26	-15%	74	82	-10%
Benefits	28	29	-3%	87	85	2%
Media expenses	15	15	0%	44	45	-2%
Other expenses	16	5	220%	33	56	-41%
Interest and debt expense	67	67	0%	201	196	3%
Total operating expenses	148	142	4%	439	464	-5%
Income (loss) from operations before taxes	(45)	(42)	-7%	(124)	(160)	23%
Federal income tax expense (benefit)	(16)	(15)	-7%	(44)	(56)	21%
Income (loss) from operations	\$ (29)	\$ (27)	-7%	\$ (80)	\$ (104)	23%

Comparison of the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 to 2013

Loss from operations for Other Operations increased due primarily to lower other expenses in 2013 driven by the release of incentive compensation accruals. The increase was partially offset by higher net investment income, net of interest credited, driven by higher distributable earnings received from our segments, partially offset by repurchases of common stock and lower average invested assets.

Comparison of the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 to 2013

Loss from operations for Other Operations decreased due primarily to the following:

- Lower other expenses attributable to the effect of changes in our stock price on our deferred compensations plans, as our stock price remained relatively flat during 2014 compared to significantly increasing during 2013 (see “Other Expenses” below for more information); and
- Higher net investment income, net of interest credited, related to higher average invested assets driven by distributable earnings received from our segments, partially offset by repurchases of common stock.

We provide information about Other Operations’ operating revenue and operating expense line items, the period in which amounts are recognized, key drivers of changes and historical details underlying the line items and their associated drivers below.

Additional Information

For factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in this section, see “Forward-Looking Statements – Cautionary Language” above and “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Net Investment Income and Interest Credited

We utilize an internal formula to determine the amount of capital that is allocated to our segments. Investment income on capital in excess of the calculated amounts is reported in Other Operations. If our segments require increases in statutory reserves, surplus or investments, the amount of excess capital that is retained by Other Operations would decrease and net investment income would be negatively affected.

The majority of our interest credited relates to our reinsurance operations sold to Swiss Re in 2001. A substantial amount of the business was sold through indemnity reinsurance transactions, which is still recorded in our consolidated financial statements. The interest credited corresponds to investment income earnings on the assets we continue to hold for this business. There is no effect to income or

loss in Other Operations or on a consolidated basis for these amounts because interest earned on the blocks that continue to be reinsured is passed through to Swiss Re in the form of interest credited.

Benefits

Benefits are recognized when incurred for Institutional Pension products and disability income business.

Other Expenses

Details underlying other expenses (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
General and administrative expenses:						
Legal	\$ -	\$ -	NM	\$ (1)	\$ 1	NM
Branding	7	6	17%	19	19	0%
Other (1)	11	1	NM	30	46	-35%
Total general and administrative expenses	18	7	157%	48	66	-27%
Taxes, licenses and fees	1	1	0%	(7)	(2)	NM
Inter-segment reimbursement associated with reserve financing and LOC expenses (2)	(3)	(3)	0%	(8)	(8)	0%
Total other expenses	\$ 16	\$ 5	220%	\$ 33	\$ 56	-41%

(1) Includes expenses that are corporate in nature including charitable contributions, the portion of our deferred compensation plan expense attributable to participants' selection of LNC stock as the measure for their investment

return and other expenses not allocated to our business segments.

- (2) Consists of reimbursements to Other Operations from the Life Insurance segment for the use of proceeds from certain issuances of senior notes that were used as long-term structured solutions, net of expenses incurred by Other Operations for its use of LOCs.

Interest and Debt Expense

Our current level of interest expense may not be indicative of the future due to, among other things, the timing of the use of cash, the availability of funds from our inter-company cash management program and the future cost of capital. For additional information on our financing activities, see “Review of Consolidated Financial Condition – Liquidity and Capital Resources – Sources of Liquidity and Cash Flow – Financing Activities” below.

REALIZED GAIN (LOSS) AND BENEFIT RATIO UNLOCKING

Details underlying realized gain (loss), after-DAC (1) and benefit ratio unlocking (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Components of Realized Gain (Loss), Pre-Tax						
Total operating realized gain (loss)	\$ 42	\$ 37	14%	\$ 121	\$ 103	17%
Total excluded realized gain (loss)	47	(65)	172%	(15)	(208)	93%
Total realized gain (loss), pre-tax	\$ 89	\$ (28)	NM	\$ 106	\$ (105)	201%
Reconciliation of Excluded Realized Gain (Loss) Net of Benefit Ratio Unlocking, After-Tax						
Total excluded realized gain (loss)	\$ 31	\$ (43)	172%	\$ (10)	\$ (135)	93%
Benefit ratio unlocking	(6)	13	NM	2	25	-92%
Excluded realized gain (loss) net of benefit ratio unlocking, after-tax	\$ 25	\$ (30)	183%	\$ (8)	\$ (110)	93%
Components of Excluded Realized Gain (Loss) Net of Benefit Ratio Unlocking, After-Tax						
Realized gain (loss) related to certain investments	\$ (4)	\$ (21)	81%	\$ (8)	\$ (48)	83%
Gain (loss) on the mark-to-market on certain instruments	(12)	14	NM	(19)	14	NM
Variable annuity net derivatives results:						
Hedge program performance, including unlocking for GLB reserves hedged	26	6	NM	26	13	100%
GLB NPR component	6	(22)	127%	4	(73)	105%
Total variable annuity net derivatives results	32	(16)	300%	30	(60)	150%
Indexed annuity forward-starting option	9	(7)	229%	(11)	(16)	31%
Excluded realized gain (loss) net of benefit ratio unlocking, after-tax	\$ 25	\$ (30)	183%	\$ (8)	\$ (110)	93%

- (1) DAC refers to the associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL and changes in other contract holder funds and funds withheld reinsurance assets and liabilities.

For factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in this section, see “Forward-Looking Statements – Cautionary Language” above and “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

For information on our counterparty exposure, see “Part I – Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.”

Comparison of the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 to 2013

We had realized gains during 2014 as compared to losses during 2013 driven primarily by the following components of excluded realized gain (loss), which we have described net of benefit ratio unlocking, after-tax:

- Gains on variable annuity net derivatives results during 2014 attributable to the effect of unlocking and a favorable GLB NPR component due to widening of our credit spreads, partially offset by less favorable equity market growth and more volatile capital markets during 2014 resulting in unfavorable hedge program performance.
- General improvements in the credit markets during 2014 leading to a decline in OTTI.

The realized gains were partially offset by losses on the mark-to-market on certain instruments during 2014 as compared to gains during 2013 attributable primarily to a decrease in interest rates leading to losses on derivative investments (not including those associated with our variable annuity net derivatives results).

Comparison of the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 to 2013

We had realized gains during 2014 as compared to losses during 2013 driven primarily by the following components of excluded realized gain (loss), which we have described net of benefit ratio unlocking, after-tax:

- Gains on variable annuity net derivatives results during 2014 attributable to the effect of unlocking and a favorable GLB NPR component due to less narrowing of credit spreads, partially offset by less favorable equity market growth and more volatile capital markets during 2014 resulting in more unfavorable hedge program performance.
- General improvements in the credit markets during 2014 leading to a decline in OTTI.
- Higher gross realized gains related to certain investments during 2014 originating from asset sales to reposition the investment portfolio.

The realized gains were partially offset by losses on the mark-to-market on certain instruments during 2014 as compared to gains during 2013 attributable primarily to a decrease in interest rates leading to losses on derivative investments (not including those associated with our variable annuity net derivatives results).

See “Realized Gain (Loss) and Benefit Ratio Unlocking – Variable Annuity Net Derivatives Results” in our 2013 Form 10-K for a discussion of how our NPR adjustment is determined.

Operating Realized Gain (Loss)

See “Realized Gain (Loss) and Benefit Ratio Unlocking – Operating Realized Gain (Loss)” in our 2013 Form 10-K for a discussion of our operating realized gain (loss).

Realized Gain (Loss) Related to Certain Investments

See “Consolidated Investments – Realized Gain (Loss) Related to Certain Investments” below.

Gain (Loss) on the Mark-to-Market on Certain Instruments

See “Realized Gain (Loss) and Benefit Ratio Unlocking – Gain (Loss) on the Mark-to-Market on Certain Instruments” in our 2013 Form 10-K for a discussion of the mark-to-market on certain instruments and Note 3 for information about consolidated variable interest entities (“VIEs”).

Variable Annuity Net Derivatives Results

See “Realized Gain (Loss) and Benefit Ratio Unlocking – Variable Annuity Net Derivatives Results” in our 2013 Form 10-K for a discussion of our variable annuity net derivatives results.

Details underlying our variable annuity hedging program (dollars in millions) were as follows:

	As of September 30, 2014	As of June 30, 2014	As of March 31, 2014	As of December 31, 2013	As of September 30, 2013
Variable annuity hedge program assets (liabilities)	\$ 1,039	\$ 502	\$ 335	\$ (49)	\$ 445
Variable annuity reserves – asset (liability):					
Embedded derivative reserves, pre-NPR (1)	\$ 694	\$ 1,043	\$ 1,067	\$ 1,345	\$ 780
NPR	(102)	(111)	(88)	(101)	(69)
Embedded derivative reserves	592	932	979	1,244	711
Insurance benefit reserves	(319)	(265)	(258)	(236)	(233)
Total variable annuity reserves – asset (liability)	\$ 273	\$ 667	\$ 721	\$ 1,008	\$ 478
10-year credit default swap ("CDS") spread	1.26%	1.15%	1.27%	1.46%	1.74%
NPR factor related to 10-year CDS spread	0.19%	0.08%	0.13%	0.15%	0.18%

⁽¹⁾ Embedded derivative reserves in an asset (liability) position indicate that we estimate the present value of future benefits to be less (greater) than the present value of future net valuation premiums.

The following shows the approximate hypothetical effect to net income, pre-DAC ⁽¹⁾, pre-tax (in millions) for changes in the NPR factor along all points on the spread curve as of September 30, 2014:

	Hypothetical Effect
NPR factor:	
Down 19 basis points to zero	\$ (105)
Up 20 basis points	55

⁽¹⁾ DAC refers to the associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL and changes in other contract holder funds and funds withheld reinsurance assets and liabilities.

See “Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates – Derivatives – Guaranteed Living Benefits” above for additional information about our guaranteed benefits.

Indexed Annuity Forward-Starting Option

See “Realized Gain (Loss) and Benefit Ratio Unlocking – Indexed Annuity Forward-Starting Option” in our 2013 Form 10-K for a discussion of our indexed annuity forward-starting option.

CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENTS

Details underlying our consolidated investment balances (in millions) were as follows:

		Percentage of Total Investments	
As of September 30,	As of December 31,	As of September 30,	As of December 31,

	2014	2013	2014	2013
Investments				
AFS securities:				
Fixed maturity	\$ 85,348	\$ 80,078	84.3%	84.0%
VIEs' fixed maturity	598	697	0.6%	0.7%
Total fixed maturity	85,946	80,775	84.9%	84.7%
Equity	234	201	0.2%	0.2%
Trading securities	2,134	2,282	2.1%	2.4%
Mortgage loans on real estate	7,466	7,210	7.4%	7.6%
Real estate	20	47	0.0%	0.0%
Policy loans	2,677	2,677	2.6%	2.8%
Derivative investments	1,439	881	1.4%	0.9%
Alternative investments	1,151	1,002	1.1%	1.1%
Other investments	318	216	0.3%	0.3%
Total investments	\$ 101,385	\$ 95,291	100.0%	100.0%

Investment Objective

Invested assets are an integral part of our operations. We follow a balanced approach to investing for both current income and prudent risk management, with an emphasis on generating sufficient current income, net of income tax, to meet our obligations to customers, as well as other general liabilities. This balanced approach requires the evaluation of expected return and risk of each asset class utilized, while still meeting our income objectives. This approach is important to our asset-liability management because decisions can be made based upon both the economic and current investment income considerations affecting assets and liabilities. For a discussion of our risk management process, see “Part II – Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Investment Portfolio Composition and Diversification

Fundamental to our investment policy is diversification across asset classes. Our investment portfolio, excluding cash and invested cash, is composed of fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans on real estate, real estate (either wholly-owned or in joint ventures) and other long-term investments. We purchase investments for our segmented portfolios that have yield, duration and other characteristics that take into account the liabilities of the products being supported.

We have the ability to maintain our investment holdings throughout credit cycles because of our capital position, the long-term nature of our liabilities and the matching of our portfolios of investment assets with the liabilities of our various products.

Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities Portfolios

Fixed maturity securities and equity securities consist of portfolios classified as AFS and trading. Mortgage-backed and private securities are included in both of the AFS and trading portfolios.

Details underlying our fixed maturity and equity securities portfolios by industry classification (in millions) are presented in the tables below. These tables agree in total with the presentation of AFS securities in Note 4; however, the categories below represent a more detailed breakout of the AFS portfolio. Therefore, the investment classifications listed below do not agree to the investment categories provided in Note 4.

	As of September 30, 2014				
	Amortized	Gross Unrealized		Fair	%
	Cost	Gains	Losses and OTTI	Value	Fair Value
Fixed Maturity AFS Securities					
Industry corporate bonds:					
Financial services	\$ 9,803	\$ 902	\$ 49	\$ 10,656	12.4%
Basic industry	4,989	318	63	5,244	6.1%
Capital goods	4,651	403	17	5,037	5.9%
Communications	4,071	426	21	4,476	5.2%
Consumer cyclical	4,622	367	65	4,924	5.7%
Consumer non-cyclical	10,225	967	54	11,138	13.0%
Energy	6,861	644	42	7,463	8.7%
Technology	2,896	170	29	3,037	3.5%
Transportation	2,022	168	3	2,187	2.5%
Industrial other	757	63	1	819	1.0%
Utilities	13,654	1,419	55	15,018	17.5%
Collateralized mortgage and other obligations ("CMOs"):					
Agency backed	1,399	138	-	1,537	1.8%
Non-agency backed	1,236	48	16	1,268	1.5%
Mortgage pass through securities ("MPTS"):					
Agency backed	1,428	81	5	1,504	1.7%
Commercial mortgage-backed securities ("CMBS"):					
Agency backed	24	-	-	24	0.0%
Non-agency backed	583	29	14	598	0.7%
Asset-backed securities ("ABS"):					
Collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs")	269	-	1	268	0.3%
Commercial real estate ("CRE") CDOs	18	-	-	18	0.0%
Credit card	675	33	-	708	0.8%
Equipment receivables	65	-	-	65	0.1%

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

Home equity	619	38	43	614	0.7%
Manufactured housing	55	4	-	59	0.1%
Stranded utility costs	53	3	-	56	0.1%
Other	174	15	1	188	0.2%
Municipals:					
Taxable	3,606	710	5	4,311	5.0%
Tax-exempt	103	6	-	109	0.1%
Government and government agencies:					
United States	1,401	147	4	1,544	1.8%
Foreign	1,924	200	8	2,116	2.5%
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	887	110	37	960	1.1%
Total fixed maturity AFS securities	79,070	7,409	533	85,946	100.0%
Equity AFS Securities	217	17	-	234	
Total AFS securities	79,287	7,426	533	86,180	
Trading Securities (1)	1,840	302	8	2,134	
Total AFS and trading securities	\$ 81,127	\$ 7,728	\$ 541	\$ 88,314	

	As of December 31, 2013				
	Gross Unrealized				%
	Amortized		Losses and	Fair	Fair
	Cost	Gains	OTTI	Value	Value
Fixed Maturity AFS Securities					
Industry corporate bonds:					
Financial services	\$ 9,542	\$ 695	\$ 112	\$ 10,125	12.5%
Basic industry	4,771	216	141	4,846	6.0%
Capital goods	4,720	283	73	4,930	6.1%
Communications	3,933	291	79	4,145	5.1%
Consumer cyclical	4,401	271	121	4,551	5.6%
Consumer non-cyclical	9,938	719	145	10,512	13.0%
Energy	6,503	485	124	6,864	8.5%
Technology	2,634	117	72	2,679	3.3%
Transportation	1,925	107	12	2,020	2.5%
Industrial other	938	57	10	985	1.2%
Utilities	12,997	903	247	13,653	16.9%
CMOs:					
Agency backed	1,671	151	-	1,822	2.3%
Non-agency backed	988	36	27	997	1.2%
MPTS:					
Agency backed	1,475	69	14	1,530	1.9%
Non-agency backed	1	-	-	1	0.0%
CMBS:					
Non-agency backed	713	36	21	728	0.9%
ABS:					
CLOs	209	-	4	205	0.3%
CRE CDOs	23	-	3	20	0.0%
Credit card	672	24	-	696	0.9%
Equipment receivables	66	1	1	66	0.1%
Home equity	690	25	74	641	0.8%
Manufactured housing	59	5	-	64	0.1%
Stranded utility costs	74	6	-	80	0.1%
Other	238	14	5	247	0.3%
Municipals:					
Taxable	3,587	308	25	3,870	4.8%
Tax-exempt	51	-	2	49	0.1%
Government and government agencies:					
United States	1,426	113	23	1,516	1.9%
Foreign	1,823	128	23	1,928	2.4%
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	967	89	51	1,005	1.2%
Total fixed maturity AFS securities	77,035	5,149	1,409	80,775	100.0%
Equity AFS Securities	182	19	-	201	
Total AFS securities	77,217	5,168	1,409	80,976	

Trading Securities (1)	2,027	270	15	2,282
Total AFS and trading securities	\$ 79,244	\$ 5,438	\$ 1,424	\$ 83,258

⁽¹⁾ Certain trading securities support our modified coinsurance arrangements (“Modco”), and the investment results are passed directly to the reinsurers. Refer to “Part II – Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Consolidated Investments – Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities Portfolios – Trading Securities” in our 2013 Form 10-K for further details.

AFS Securities

In accordance with the AFS accounting guidance, we reflect stockholders’ equity as if unrealized gains and losses were actually recognized, and consider all related accounting adjustments that would occur upon such a hypothetical recognition of unrealized gains and losses. Such related balance sheet effects include adjustments to the balances of DAC, VOBA, DFEL, future contract benefits, other contract holder funds and deferred income taxes. Adjustments to each of these balances are charged or credited to accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) (“AOCI”). For instance, DAC is adjusted upon the recognition of unrealized gains or losses because the

amortization of DAC is based upon an assumed emergence of gross profits on certain insurance business. Deferred income tax balances are also adjusted because unrealized gains or losses do not affect actual taxes currently paid.

The quality of our AFS fixed maturity securities portfolio, as measured at estimated fair value and by the percentage of fixed maturity AFS securities invested in various ratings categories, relative to the entire fixed maturity AFS security portfolio (in millions) was as follows:

NAIC Designation (1)	Rating Agency Equivalent Designation (1)	As of September 30, 2014			As of December 31, 2013		
		Amortized Cost	Fair Value	% of Total	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	% of Total
Investment Grade Securities							
1	Aaa / Aa / A	\$ 42,866	\$ 47,497	55.3%	\$ 41,483	\$ 44,129	54.6%
2	Baa	32,124	34,384	40.0%	31,897	33,060	41.0%
Total investment grade securities		74,990	81,881	95.3%	73,380	77,189	95.6%
Below Investment Grade Securities							
3	Ba	3,065	3,107	3.6%	2,603	2,627	3.3%
4	B	644	624	0.7%	701	668	0.8%
5	Caa and lower	336	305	0.4%	314	262	0.3%
6	In or near default	35	29	0.0%	37	29	0.0%
Total below investment grade securities		4,080	4,065	4.7%	3,655	3,586	4.4%
Total fixed maturity AFS securities		\$ 79,070	\$ 85,946	100.0%	\$ 77,035	\$ 80,775	100.0%
Total securities below investment grade as a percentage of total fixed maturity AFS securities							
		5.2%	4.7%		4.7%	4.4%	

(1) Based upon the rating designations determined and provided by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners ("NAIC") or the major credit rating agencies (Fitch Ratings ("Fitch"), Moody's Investors Service ("Moody's") and Standard & Poor's ("S&P")). For securities where the ratings assigned by the major credit agencies are not equivalent, the second highest rating assigned is used. For those securities where ratings by the major credit rating agencies are not available, which does not represent a significant amount of our total fixed maturity AFS securities, we base the ratings disclosed upon internal ratings. The average credit quality was A- as of September 30, 2014.

Comparisons between the NAIC ratings and rating agency designations are published by the NAIC. The NAIC assigns securities quality ratings and uniform valuations, which are used by insurers when preparing their annual statements. The NAIC ratings are similar to the rating agency designations of the Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations for marketable bonds. NAIC ratings 1 and 2 include bonds generally considered investment

grade (rated BBB- or higher by Fitch and S&P, or rated Baa3 or higher by Moody's), by such ratings organizations. However, securities rated NAIC 1 and NAIC 2 could be deemed below investment grade by the rating agencies as a result of the current RBC rules for residential mortgage-backed securities ("RMBS") and CMBS for statutory reporting. NAIC ratings 3 through 6 include bonds generally considered below investment grade (rated Ba1 or lower by Moody's, or rated BB+ or lower by S&P and Fitch).

As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, 88.8% and 92.9%, respectively, of the total publicly traded and private securities in an unrealized loss status were rated as investment grade. Our gross unrealized losses, including the portion of OTTI recognized in other comprehensive income (loss) ("OCI"), on AFS securities as of September 30, 2014, decreased by \$876 million. As more fully described in Note 1 in our 2013 Form 10-K, we regularly review our investment holdings for OTTI. We believe the unrealized loss position as of September 30, 2014, does not represent OTTI as: (i) we do not intend to sell the debt securities; (ii) it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell the debt securities before recovery of their amortized cost basis; (iii) the estimated future cash flows are equal to or greater than the amortized cost basis of the debt securities; and (iv) we have the ability and intent to hold the equity securities for a period of time sufficient for recovery. For further information on our unrealized losses on AFS securities, see "Composition by Industry Categories of our Unrealized Losses on AFS Securities" below.

Selected information for certain AFS securities in a gross unrealized loss position (dollars in millions) as of September 30, 2014, was as follows:

	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI	Estimated Years Until Call or Maturity	Estimated Average Years Until Recovery	Subordination Current	Level Origination
CMBS	\$ 122	\$ 14	1 to 39	14	3.5%	6.9%
Hybrid and redeemable preferred securities	207	37	1 to 52	21	N/A	N/A

As provided in the table above, many of the securities in these categories are long-dated with some of the preferred securities being perpetual. This is purposeful as it matches the long-term nature of our liabilities associated with our life insurance and annuity products. See “Part II – Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk” in our 2013 Form 10-K where we present information related to maturities of securities and the expected cash flows for rate sensitive liabilities and maturities of our holding company debt, which also demonstrates the long-term nature of the cash flows associated with these items. Because of this relationship, we do not believe it will be necessary to sell these securities before they recover or mature. For these securities, the estimated range and average period until recovery is the call or maturity period. It is difficult to predict or project when the securities will recover as it is dependent upon a number of factors including the overall economic climate. We do not believe it is necessary to impair these securities as long as the expected future cash flows are projected to be sufficient to recover the amortized cost of these securities.

The actual range and period until recovery could vary significantly depending on a variety of factors, many of which are out of our control. There are several items that could affect the length of the period until recovery, such as the pace of economic recovery, level of delinquencies, performance of the underlying collateral, changes in market interest rates, exposures to various industry or geographic conditions, market behavior and other market conditions.

We concluded that it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell the fixed maturity AFS securities before recovery of their amortized cost basis, that the estimated future cash flows are equal to or greater than the amortized cost basis of the debt securities, and that we have the ability to hold the equity AFS securities for a period of time sufficient for recovery. This conclusion is consistent with our asset-liability management process. Management considers the following as part of the evaluation:

- The current economic environment and market conditions;
- Our business strategy and current business plans;
- The nature and type of security, including expected maturities and exposure to general credit, liquidity, market and interest rate risk;
- Our analysis of data from financial models and other internal and industry sources to evaluate the current effectiveness of our hedging and overall risk management strategies;
- The current and expected timing of contractual maturities of our assets and liabilities, expectations of prepayments on investments and expectations for surrenders and withdrawals of life insurance policies and annuity contracts;
- The capital risk limits approved by management; and
- Our current financial condition and liquidity demands.

To determine the recoverability of a debt security, we consider the facts and circumstances surrounding the underlying issuer including, but not limited to, the following:

- Historical and implied volatility of the security;
- Length of time and extent to which the fair value has been less than amortized cost;
- Adverse conditions specifically related to the security or to specific conditions in an industry or geographic area;

- Failure, if any, of the issuer of the security to make scheduled payments; and
- Recoveries or additional declines in fair value subsequent to the balance sheet date.

As reported on our Consolidated Balance Sheets, we had \$103.2 billion of investments and cash, which exceeded the liabilities for our future obligations under insurance policies and contracts, net of amounts recoverable from reinsurers, which totaled \$88.6 billion as of September 30, 2014. If it were necessary to liquidate investments prior to maturity or call to meet cash flow needs, we would first look to AFS securities that are in an unrealized gain position, which had a fair value of \$73.3 billion, excluding consolidated VIEs in the amount of \$598 million, as of September 30, 2014, rather than selling securities in an unrealized loss position. The amount of cash that we have on hand takes into account our liquidity needs in the future, other sources of cash, such as the maturities of investments, interest and dividends we earn on our investments and the on-going cash flows from new and existing business.

See “AFS Securities – Evaluation for Recovery of Amortized Cost” in Note 1 in our 2013 Form 10-K and Note 4 for additional discussion.

As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, the estimated fair value for all private placement securities was \$14.1 billion and \$13.3 billion, respectively, representing 14% of total invested assets.

For information regarding our VIEs’ fixed maturity securities, see Note 3 in this report and Note 4 in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Mortgage-Backed Securities (“MBS”) (Included in AFS and Trading Securities)

See “Consolidated Investments – Mortgage-Backed Securities” in our 2013 Form 10-K for a discussion of our MBS.

Our ABS home equity and RMBS had a market value of \$5.1 billion and an unrealized gain of \$249 million, or 5%, as of September 30, 2014.

The market value of AFS securities and trading securities backed by subprime loans was \$473 million and represented less than 1% of our total investment portfolio as of September 30, 2014. AFS securities represented \$461 million, or 97%, and trading securities represented \$12 million, or 3%, of the subprime exposure as of September 30, 2014. The table below summarizes our investments in AFS securities backed by pools of residential mortgages (in millions) as of September 30, 2014:

	Agency		Prime		Alt-A		Subprime/ Option ARM (1)		Total	
Type	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost
RMBS	\$ 3,041	\$ 2,828	\$ 510	\$ 486	\$ 432	\$ 426	\$ 326	\$ 323	\$ 4,309	\$ 4,063
ABS home equity	3	3	-	-	183	184	428	432	614	619
Total by type (2)(3)	\$ 3,044	\$ 2,831	\$ 510	\$ 486	\$ 615	\$ 610	\$ 754	\$ 755	\$ 4,923	\$ 4,682
Rating										
AAA	\$ 3,006	\$ 2,796	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 3,025	\$ 2,815
AA	28	26	-	-	-	-	13	13	41	39
A	10	9	8	8	19	18	49	48	86	83
BBB	-	-	41	39	36	35	29	28	106	102
BB and below	-	-	460	438	560	557	645	648	1,665	1,643
Total by rating (2)(3)(4)	\$ 3,044	\$ 2,831	\$ 510	\$ 486	\$ 615	\$ 610	\$ 754	\$ 755	\$ 4,923	\$ 4,682
Origination Year										
2004 and prior	\$ 506	\$ 462	\$ 80	\$ 78	\$ 163	\$ 161	\$ 164	\$ 168	\$ 913	\$ 869
2005	436	394	102	101	197	191	249	250	984	936
2006	80	73	105	95	177	180	223	223	585	571
2007	429	387	223	212	78	78	115	112	845	789
2008	73	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	73	66
2009	493	456	-	-	-	-	3	2	496	458
2010	490	461	-	-	-	-	-	-	490	461
2011	233	224	-	-	-	-	-	-	233	224
2012	84	87	-	-	-	-	-	-	84	87
2013	187	188	-	-	-	-	-	-	187	188
2014	33	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	33
Total by origination year (2)(3)	\$ 3,044	\$ 2,831	\$ 510	\$ 486	\$ 615	\$ 610	\$ 754	\$ 755	\$ 4,923	\$ 4,682
Total AFS RMBS as a percentage of total AFS securities									5.7%	5.9%

Total prime

Alt-A and
subprime/option ARM
as a percentage of
total AFS securities

2.2% 2.3%

- (1) Includes the fair value and amortized cost of option adjustable rate mortgages ("ARM") within RMBS, totaling \$293 million and \$290 million, respectively.
- (2) Does not include the fair value of trading securities totaling \$157 million, which support our Modco reinsurance agreements because investment results for these agreements are passed directly to the reinsurers. The \$157 million in trading securities consisted of \$137 million prime, \$8 million Alt-A and \$12 million subprime.
 - (3) Does not include the amortized cost of trading securities totaling \$148 million, which support our Modco reinsurance agreements because investment results for these agreements are passed directly to the reinsurers. The \$148 million in trading securities consisted of \$128 million prime, \$8 million Alt-A and \$12 million subprime.
- (4) Based upon the rating designations determined and provided by the major credit rating agencies (Fitch, Moody's and S&P). For securities where the ratings assigned by the major credit agencies are not equivalent, the second highest rating assigned is used. For those securities where ratings by the major credit rating agencies are not available, which does not represent a significant amount of our total fixed maturity AFS securities, we base the ratings disclosed upon internal ratings.

None of these investments included any direct investments in subprime lenders or mortgages. We are not aware of material exposure to subprime loans in our alternative asset portfolio.

The following summarizes our investments in AFS securities backed by pools of commercial mortgages (in millions) as of September 30, 2014:

Type	Multiple Property		Single Property		CRE CDOs		Total	
	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost
CMBS	\$ 608	\$ 595	\$ 14	\$ 12	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 622	\$ 607
CRE CDOs	-	-	-	-	18	18	18	18
Total by type (1)(2)	\$ 608	\$ 595	\$ 14	\$ 12	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 640	\$ 625
Rating								
AAA	\$ 366	\$ 354	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 366	\$ 354
AA	34	33	-	-	-	-	34	33
A	87	80	14	12	-	-	101	92
BBB	62	61	-	-	5	5	67	66
BB and below	59	67	-	-	13	13	72	80
Total by rating (1)(2)(3)	\$ 608	\$ 595	\$ 14	\$ 12	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 640	\$ 625
Origination Year								
2004 and prior	\$ 54	\$ 53	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 55	\$ 54
2005	220	222	14	12	5	5	239	239
2006	102	97	-	-	12	12	114	109
2007	51	45	-	-	-	-	51	45
2010	59	54	-	-	-	-	59	54
2012	7	7	-	-	-	-	7	7
2013	115	117	-	-	-	-	115	117
Total by origination year (1)(2)	\$ 608	\$ 595	\$ 14	\$ 12	\$ 18	\$ 18	\$ 640	\$ 625
Total AFS securities backed by pools of commercial mortgages as a percentage of total AFS securities							0.7%	0.8%

- (1) Does not include the fair value of trading securities totaling \$5 million, which support our Modco reinsurance agreements because investment results for these agreements are passed directly to the reinsurers. The \$5 million in trading securities consisted of \$4 million CMBS and \$1 million CRE CDOs.
- (2) Does not include the amortized cost of trading securities totaling \$5 million, which support our Modco reinsurance agreements because investment results for these agreements are passed directly to the reinsurers. The \$5 million in trading securities consisted of \$4 million CMBS and \$1 million CRE CDOs.
- (3) Based upon the rating designations determined and provided by the major credit rating agencies (Fitch, Moody's and S&P). For securities where the ratings assigned by the major credit agencies are not equivalent, the second highest rating assigned is used. For those securities where ratings by the major credit rating agencies are not

available, which does not represent a significant amount of our total fixed maturity AFS securities, we base the ratings disclosed upon internal ratings.

As of September 30, 2014, the amortized cost and fair value of our AFS exposure to Monoline insurers was \$507 million and \$547 million, respectively.

Composition by Industry Categories of our Unrealized Losses on AFS Securities

When considering unrealized gain and loss information, it is important to recognize that the information relates to the status of securities at a particular point in time and may not be indicative of the status of our investment portfolios subsequent to the balance sheet date. Further, because the timing of the recognition of realized investment gains and losses through the selection of which securities are sold is largely at management's discretion, it is important to consider the information provided below within the context of the overall unrealized gain or loss position of our investment portfolios. These are important considerations that should be included in any evaluation of the potential effect of unrealized loss securities on our future earnings.

The composition by industry categories of all securities in unrealized loss status (in millions) as of September 30, 2014, was as follows:

	Fair Value	% Fair Value	Amortized Cost	% Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI	% Gross Unrealized Losses and OTTI
Banking	\$ 720	5.8%	\$ 781	6.1%	\$ 61	11.5%
ABS	517	4.2%	563	4.4%	46	8.6%
Metals and mining	556	4.5%	597	4.6%	42	7.9%
Electric	1,094	8.9%	1,130	8.8%	35	6.6%
Technology	844	6.8%	873	6.8%	29	5.4%
Retailers	247	2.0%	273	2.1%	26	4.9%
Food and beverage	590	4.8%	613	4.8%	24	4.5%
CMO	607	4.9%	628	4.9%	20	3.8%
Pharmaceuticals	419	3.4%	436	3.4%	16	3.0%
Independent	634	5.2%	650	5.1%	16	3.0%
Chemicals	529	4.3%	544	4.2%	15	2.8%
Property and casualty	238	1.9%	253	2.0%	15	2.8%
Oil field services	294	2.4%	309	2.4%	15	2.8%
CMBS	142	1.2%	156	1.2%	14	2.6%
Consumer cyclical services	206	1.7%	219	1.7%	13	2.4%
Media – entertainment	303	2.5%	314	2.4%	12	2.3%
Industries with unrealized losses less than \$10 million	4,367	35.5%	4,501	35.1%	134	25.1%
Total by industry	\$ 12,307	100.0%	\$ 12,840	100.0%	\$ 533	100.0%
Total by industry as a percentage of total AFS securities	14.3%		16.2%		100.0%	

As of September 30, 2014, the amortized cost and fair value of securities subject to enhanced analysis and monitoring for potential changes in unrealized loss status was \$342 million and \$272 million, respectively.

Mortgage Loans on Real Estate

The following tables summarize key information on mortgage loans on real estate (in millions):

	As of September 30, 2014		As of December 31, 2013	
	Carrying Value	%	Carrying Value	%
Credit Quality Indicator				
Current	\$ 7,458	99.9%	\$ 7,202	99.9%
Delinquent and/or in foreclosure (1)	8	0.1%	8	0.1%
Total mortgage loans on real estate	\$ 7,466	100.0%	\$ 7,210	100.0%

(1) As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, there were three mortgage loans on real estate that were in foreclosure.

	As of September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
By Segment		
Annuities	\$ 1,571	\$ 1,451
Retirement Plan Services	1,548	1,434
Life Insurance	3,767	3,731
Group Protection	273	278
Other Operations	307	316
Total mortgage loans on real estate	\$ 7,466	\$ 7,210

	As of September 30, 2014 Carrying			As of September 30, 2014 Carrying	
Property Type	Value	%	State Exposure	Value	%
Office building	\$ 1,983	26.5%	CA	\$ 1,703	22.8%
Apartment	1,894	25.4%	TX	675	9.0%
Industrial	1,669	22.3%	MD	426	5.7%
Retail	1,508	20.2%	NY	407	5.5%
Mixed use	222	3.0%	GA	338	4.5%
Other commercial	140	1.9%	NC	337	4.5%
Hotel/motel	50	0.7%	VA	324	4.3%
Total	\$ 7,466	100.0%	OH	273	3.7%
Geographic Region			FL	253	3.4%
Pacific	\$ 2,111	28.3%	WA	252	3.4%
South Atlantic	1,779	23.8%	PA	230	3.1%
East North Central	766	10.2%	TN	224	3.0%
Middle Atlantic	699	9.4%	MN	217	2.9%
West South Central	684	9.2%	AZ	201	2.7%
Mountain	543	7.3%	IN	180	2.4%
East South Central	407	5.4%	NV	167	2.2%
West North Central	394	5.3%	WI	157	2.1%

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP - Form 10-Q

New England	83	1.1%	OR	156	2.1%
Total	\$ 7,466	100.0%	Other states under 2%	946	12.7%
			Total	\$ 7,466	100.0%

Origination Year	As of September 30, 2014		Future Principal Payments	As of September 30, 2014	
	Principal Amount	%		Principal Amount	%
2004 and prior	\$ 953	12.8%	2014	\$ 27	0.4%
2005	558	7.4%	2015	347	4.6%
2006	478	6.4%	2016	409	5.5%
2007	737	9.9%	2017	633	8.5%
2008	691	9.3%	2018	723	9.7%
			2019 and thereafter	5,325	71.3%
2009	117	1.6%	Total	\$ 7,464	100.0%
2010	265	3.5%			
2011	819	11.0%			
2012	860	11.5%			
2013	1,084	14.5%			
2014	902	12.1%			
Total	\$ 7,464	100.0%			

The global financial markets and credit market conditions experienced a period of extreme volatility and disruption that began in the second half of 2007 and continued and substantially increased throughout 2008 that led to a decrease in the overall liquidity and availability of capital in the mortgage loan market, and in particular a decrease in activity by securitization lenders. These conditions and the overall economic downturn put pressure on the fundamentals of mortgage loans through rising vacancies, falling rents and falling property values.

See Note 4 for information regarding our loan-to-value and debt-service coverage ratios and our allowance for loan losses.

As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, there were three impaired mortgage loans on real estate, or less than 1% of the total dollar amount of mortgage loans on real estate. The carrying value of the mortgage loans on real estate that were two or more payments delinquent as of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, was \$8 million, or less than 1% of total mortgage loans on real estate. The total principal and interest past due on the mortgage loans on real estate that were two or more payments delinquent as of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, was \$5 million. See Note 1 in our 2013 Form 10-K for more information regarding our accounting policy relating to the impairment of mortgage loans on real estate.

Alternative Investments

Investment income (loss) on alternative investments by business segment (in millions) was as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Annuities	\$ 8	\$ 2	300%	\$ 23	\$ 9	156%
Retirement Plan Services	3	1	200%	10	5	100%
Life Insurance	32	14	129%	76	36	111%
Group Protection	3	1	200%	9	4	125%
Other Operations	-	-	NM	1	1	0%
Total (1)	\$ 46	\$ 18	156%	\$ 119	\$ 55	116%

(1) Includes net investment income on the alternative investments supporting the required statutory surplus of our insurance businesses.

As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, alternative investments included investments in 152 and 121 different partnerships, respectively, and the portfolio represented approximately 1% of our overall invested assets. The partnerships do not represent off-balance sheet financing and generally involve several third-party partners. Some of our partnerships contain capital calls, which require us to contribute capital upon notification by the general partner. These capital calls are contemplated during the initial investment decision and are planned for well in

advance of the call date. The capital calls are not material in size and are not material to our liquidity. Alternative investments are accounted for using the equity method of accounting and are included in Other investments on our Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Non-Income Producing Investments

As of September 30, 2014, and December 31, 2013, the carrying amount of fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans on real estate and real estate that were non-income producing was \$9 million.

Net Investment Income

Details underlying net investment income (in millions) and our investment yield were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Fixed maturity AFS securities	\$ 1,010	\$ 997	1%	\$ 3,027	\$ 2,977	2%
Equity AFS securities	2	1	100%	7	4	75%
Trading securities	31	34	-9%	97	103	-6%
Mortgage loans on real estate	94	96	-2%	282	291	-3%
Real estate	1	3	-67%	6	10	-40%
Policy loans	37	40	-8%	115	117	-2%
Invested cash	-	1	-100%	1	3	-67%
Commercial mortgage loan prepayment and bond make-whole premiums (1)	22	21	5%	69	79	-13%
Alternative investments (2)	46	18	156%	119	55	116%
Consent fees	-	2	-100%	1	3	-67%
Other investments	(4)	(3)	-33%	(12)	(9)	-33%
Investment income	1,239	1,210	2%	3,712	3,633	2%
Investment expense	(27)	(30)	10%	(85)	(90)	6%
Net investment income	\$ 1,212	\$ 1,180	3%	\$ 3,627	\$ 3,543	2%

(1) See “Commercial Mortgage Loan Prepayment and Bond Make-Whole Premiums” below for additional information.

(2) See “Alternative Investments” above for additional information.

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Basis Point Change	2014	2013	Basis Point Change
Interest Rate Yield						
Fixed maturity securities, mortgage loans on real estate and other, net of investment expenses	4.94%	5.08%	(14)	4.99%	5.12%	(13)
Commercial mortgage loan prepayment and bond make-whole premiums	0.09%	0.09%	-	0.10%	0.12%	(2)
Alternative investments	0.20%	0.08%	12	0.17%	0.08%	9
Net investment income yield on invested						

assets 5.23% 5.25% (2) 5.26% 5.32% (6)

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Average invested assets at amortized cost	\$ 92,704	\$ 89,910	3%	\$ 91,870	\$ 88,870	3%

We earn investment income on our general account assets supporting fixed annuity, term life, whole life, UL, interest-sensitive whole life and the fixed portion of retirement plan and VUL products. The profitability of our fixed annuity and life insurance products is affected by our ability to achieve target spreads, or margins, between the interest income earned on the general account assets and the interest credited to the contract holder on our average fixed account values, including the fixed portion of variable. Net investment income and the interest rate yield table each include commercial mortgage loan prepayments and bond make-whole premiums, alternative investments and contingent interest and standby real estate equity commitments. These items can vary significantly from period to period due to a number of factors and, therefore, can provide results that are not indicative of the underlying trends.

Commercial Mortgage Loan Prepayment and Bond Make-Whole Premiums

Prepayment and make-whole premiums are collected when borrowers elect to call or prepay their debt prior to the stated maturity. A prepayment or make-whole premium allows investors to attain the same yield as if the borrower made all scheduled interest payments until maturity. These premiums are designed to make investors indifferent to prepayment.

Realized Gain (Loss) Related to Certain Investments

Details of the realized gain (loss) related to certain investments (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Fixed maturity AFS securities:						
Gross gains	\$ 4	\$ 5	-20%	\$ 23	\$ 17	35%
Gross losses	(6)	(28)	79%	(18)	(73)	75%
Equity AFS securities:						
Gross gains	2	1	100%	5	7	-29%
Gross losses	-	(1)	100%	-	(2)	100%
Gain (loss) on other investments	-	(2)	100%	3	(3)	200%
Associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL and changes in other contract holder funds	(7)	(8)	13%	(24)	(19)	-26%
Total realized gain (loss) related to certain investments, pre-tax	\$ (7)	\$ (33)	79%	\$ (11)	\$ (73)	85%

Amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL and changes in other contract holder funds reflect an assumption for an expected level of credit-related investment losses. When actual credit-related investment losses are realized, we recognize a true-up to our DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL amortization and changes in other contract holder funds within realized loss reflecting the incremental effect of actual versus expected credit-related investment losses. These actual to expected amortization adjustments could create volatility in net realized gains and losses. The write-down for impairments includes both credit-related and interest rate-related impairments.

Realized gains and losses generally originate from asset sales to reposition the portfolio or to respond to product experience. During the first nine months of 2014 and 2013, we sold securities for gains and losses. In the process of evaluating whether a security with an unrealized loss reflects declines that are other-than-temporary, we consider our ability and intent to sell the security prior to a recovery of value. However, subsequent decisions on securities sales are made within the context of overall risk monitoring, assessing value relative to other comparable securities and overall portfolio maintenance. Although our portfolio managers may, at a given point in time, believe that the preferred course of action is to hold securities with unrealized losses that are considered temporary until such losses are recovered, the dynamic nature of portfolio management may result in a subsequent decision to sell. These subsequent decisions are consistent with the classification of our investment portfolio as AFS. We expect to continue

to manage all non-trading invested assets within our portfolios in a manner that is consistent with the AFS classification.

We consider economic factors and circumstances within countries and industries where recent write-downs have occurred in our assessment of the status of securities we own of similarly situated issuers. While it is possible for realized or unrealized losses on a particular investment to affect other investments, our risk management strategy has been designed to identify correlation risks and other risks inherent in managing an investment portfolio. Once identified, strategies and procedures are developed to effectively monitor and manage these risks. The areas of risk correlation that we pay particular attention to are risks that may be correlated within specific financial and business markets, risks within specific industries and risks associated with related parties.

When the detailed analysis by our external asset managers and investment portfolio managers leads us to the conclusion that a security's decline in fair value is other-than-temporary, the security is written down to estimated recovery value. In instances where declines are considered temporary, the security will continue to be carefully monitored. See "Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates – Investments – Write-downs for OTTI and Allowance for Losses" in our 2013 Form 10-K for additional information on our portfolio management strategy.

Details underlying write-downs taken as a result of OTTI (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2014			For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
OTTI Recognized in Net Income (Loss)						
Fixed maturity securities:						
Corporate bonds	\$ (2)	\$ (11)	82%	\$ (7)	\$ (21)	67%
RMBS	(1)	(10)	90%	(4)	(25)	84%
CMBS	-	(1)	100%	(1)	(15)	93%
CRE CDOs	(2)	-	NM	(2)	(1)	-100%
Total fixed maturity securities	(5)	(22)	77%	(14)	(62)	77%
Equity securities	-	(1)	100%	-	(1)	100%
Gross OTTI recognized in net income (loss)	(5)	(23)	78%	(14)	(63)	78%
Associated amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	1	4	-75%	3	11	-73%
Net OTTI recognized in net income (loss), pre-tax	\$ (4)	\$ (19)	79%	\$ (11)	\$ (52)	79%
Portion of OTTI Recognized in OCI						
Gross OTTI recognized in OCI	\$ 2	\$ 4	-50%	\$ 11	\$ 10	10%
Change in DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL	-	(1)	100%	(1)	(1)	0%
Net portion of OTTI recognized in OCI, pre-tax	\$ 2	\$ 3	-33%	\$ 10	\$ 9	11%

The decrease in write-downs for OTTI when comparing the first nine months of 2014 to the corresponding period in 2013 was attributable to declines in write-downs for OTTI on corporate bonds and structured holdings. The improvements of the write-downs for OTTI on our RMBS and CMBS holdings were primarily attributable to gradual recovery in both residential and commercial real estate markets.

The \$25 million of impairments taken during the first nine months of 2014 were split between \$14 million of credit-related impairments and \$11 million of noncredit-related impairments. The credit-related impairments were largely attributable to our ABS home equity and RMBS holdings primarily as a result of weakness within select residential real estate securities. The noncredit-related impairments were due to declines in values of securities for which we do not have an intent to sell or it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell the securities before recovery.

REINSURANCE

See “Part II – Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Reinsurance” in our 2013 Form 10-K and “Part I – Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Reinsurance” in our Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014, for a detailed discussion regarding our counterparty risk with our reinsurers, including collateral securing our reinsurance recoverable and rate increases sought by certain reinsurers, which information is incorporated herein by reference. For more information about reinsurance, see Note 9 in our 2013 Form 10-K.

REVIEW OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL CONDITION

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Sources of Liquidity and Cash Flow

Liquidity refers to the ability of an enterprise to generate adequate amounts of cash from its normal operations to meet cash requirements with a prudent margin of safety. Our principal sources of cash flow from operating activities are insurance premiums and fees and investment income, while sources of cash flows from investing activities result from maturities and sales of invested assets. Our operating activities provided cash of \$1.1 billion and \$504 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 and 2013, respectively. When considering our liquidity and cash flow, it is important to distinguish between the needs of our insurance subsidiaries and the needs of the holding company, LNC. As a holding company with no operations of its own, LNC derives its cash primarily from its operating subsidiaries.

The sources of liquidity of the holding company are principally comprised of dividends and interest payments from subsidiaries, augmented by holding company short-term investments, bank lines of credit and the ongoing availability of long-term public financing under an SEC-filed shelf registration statement. These sources of liquidity and cash flow support the general corporate needs of the

holding company, including its common stock dividends, interest and debt service, funding of callable securities, securities repurchases, acquisitions and investment in core businesses. Our cash flows associated with collateral received from and posted with counterparties change as the market value of the underlying derivative contract changes. As the value of a derivative asset declines (or increases), the collateral required to be posted by our counterparties would also decline (or increase). Likewise, when the value of a derivative liability declines (or increases), the collateral we are required to post to our counterparties would also decline (or increase). During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, our payables for collateral on derivative investments increased by \$638 million due primarily to falling interest rates that increased the fair values of our associated derivative investments. For additional information, see “Credit Risk” in Note 5.

Details underlying the primary sources of our holding company cash flows (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Dividends from Subsidiaries						
LNL	\$ 175	\$ 150	17%	\$ 515	\$ 450	14%
First Penn-Pacific	-	-	NM	20	40	-50%
Loan Repayments and Interest from Subsidiaries						
Interest on inter-company notes	34	52	-35%	99	95	4%
	\$ 209	\$ 202	3%	\$ 634	\$ 585	8%
Other Cash Flow and Liquidity Items						
Net capital received from (paid for taxes on) stock option exercises and restricted stock	\$ 23	\$ 1	NM	\$ 20	\$ (2)	NM

The table above focuses on significant and recurring cash flow items and excludes the effects of certain financing activities, namely the periodic issuance and retirement of debt and cash flows related to our inter-company cash management program (discussed below). Taxes have been eliminated from the analysis due to a tax sharing agreement among our primary subsidiaries resulting in a modest effect on net cash flows at the holding company. Also excluded from this analysis is the modest amount of investment income on short-term investments of the holding company.

Subsidiaries’ Statutory Reserving and Surplus

Like other life insurers, we utilize inter-company reinsurance arrangements with captives primarily to manage risk and statutory capital. Captive reinsurers are typically special purpose vehicles that either by statute or by restriction in their licensing orders are limited to reinsuring business from insurance affiliates. Specifically, captives help us mitigate the capital impact of XXX and AG38 reserving guidelines. XXX and AG38 require insurers to use reserving assumptions that result in statutory reserves for term life insurance policies and UL policies with secondary guarantees greater than what we expect to adequately support these policies. The captive reinsurance structures we use provide a mechanism for the financing of a portion of the excess reserve amounts in a more efficient manner. This, in turn, frees up capital that the insurance subsidiaries can use for any number of purposes, including for paying dividends to the holding company. Once transferred to the holding company, it can deploy this capital for a variety of corporate purposes, including potentially for stock repurchases.

Currently, insurance companies are using a wide variety of captive reinsurance structures to support their respective businesses. The NAIC through its various committees, task forces and working groups has been studying the use of captives and special purpose vehicles to transfer insurance risk and has been evaluating the adequacy of existing NAIC model laws and regulations applicable to captives. Recently, the NAIC directed its various committees, task forces and working groups to develop draft regulatory changes based upon recommendations of its retained consultant for further consideration by the NAIC. Certain of these recommendations are expected to be implemented effective January 1, 2015. We believe that, ultimately, if adopted by the NAIC and the states, those changes will allow for the continued use of captive structures, although certain types of captive structures may be limited or prohibited or the benefits of certain captive structures reduced. We also believe that existing captive structures, which have been approved by the insurance departments of both the ceding company's and captive's states of domicile, will not be affected materially by the NAIC's final actions.

There remains uncertainty to what extent the NAIC and the state regulators will require changes to future captive reinsurance structures. If we are unable to continue to implement such captive structures, or if changes make the use of future structures less capital efficient, we may have lower returns on such products sold than we currently anticipate and/or raise prices or reduce our sales of these products. As a result, our insurance subsidiaries may have lower capacity to provide dividends to the holding company.

For more discussion of our strategies to lessen the burden of increased XXX and AG38 statutory reserves associated with term products and UL products containing secondary guarantees on our insurance subsidiaries, see "Results of Life Insurance – Income (Loss) from Operations – Strategies to Address Statutory Reserve Strain."

Financing Activities

Although our subsidiaries currently generate adequate cash flow to meet the needs of our normal operations, periodically we may issue debt or equity securities to maintain ratings and increase liquidity, as well as to fund internal growth, acquisitions and the retirement of our debt and equity securities.

We currently have an effective shelf registration statement, which allows us to issue, in unlimited amounts, securities, including debt securities, preferred stock, common stock, warrants, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depository shares and trust preferred securities of our affiliated trusts.

Details underlying debt and financing activities (in millions) were as follows:

For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014						
	Beginning		Maturities, Repayments and	Change in Fair Value	Other Changes (1)	Ending
	Balance	Issuance	Refinancing	Hedges		Balance
Short-Term Debt						
Current maturities of long-term debt (2)	\$ 501	\$ -	\$ (500)	\$ -	\$ 249	\$ 250
Long-Term Debt						
Senior notes	\$ 3,609	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 116	\$ (250)	\$ 3,475
Bank borrowing	250	-	-	-	-	250
Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis advance	250	-	-	-	-	250
Capital securities	1,211	-	-	-	-	1,211
Total long-term debt	\$ 5,320	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 116	\$ (250)	\$ 5,186

(1) Includes the net increase (decrease) in commercial paper, non-cash reclassification of long-term debt to current maturities of long-term debt, accretion of discounts and (amortization) of premiums, as applicable.

(2) As of September 30, 2014, consisted of a \$250 million 4.30% fixed-rate senior note maturing on June 15, 2015.

During the first quarter of 2014, we repaid a \$300 million 4.75% fixed-rate senior note that matured on January 30, 2014, and a \$200 million 4.75% fixed-rate senior note that matured on February 15, 2014. The specific resources or combination of resources that we will use to meet the June 2015 maturity mentioned above will depend upon, among other things, the financial market conditions present at the time of maturity. As of September 30, 2014, the holding company had available liquidity of \$572 million. Available liquidity consists of cash and invested cash, excluding cash held as collateral, and certain short-term investments that can be readily converted into cash, net of commercial paper outstanding.

For more information about our short-term and long-term debt and our credit facilities and LOCs, see Note 12 in our 2013 Form 10-K.

We have not accounted for repurchase agreements, securities lending transactions, or other transactions involving the transfer of financial assets with an obligation to repurchase the transferred assets as sales and do not have any other transactions involving the transfer of financial assets with an obligation to repurchase the transferred assets. For information about our collateralized financing transactions on our investments, see “Payables for Collateral on Investments” in Note 4.

If current credit ratings and claims-paying ratings were downgraded in the future, terms in our derivative agreements may be triggered, which could negatively affect overall liquidity. For the majority of our counterparties, there is a termination event should the long-term senior debt ratings of LNC drop below BBB-/Baa3 (S&P/Moody’s). Our long-term senior debt held a rating of A-/Baa1 (S&P/Moody’s) as of September 30, 2014. In addition, contractual selling agreements with intermediaries could be negatively affected, which could have an adverse effect on overall sales of annuities, life insurance and investment products. See “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors – Liquidity and Capital Position – A decrease in the capital and surplus of our insurance subsidiaries may result in a downgrade to our credit and insurer financial strength ratings” and “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors – Covenants and Ratings – A downgrade in our financial strength or credit ratings could limit our ability to market products, increase the number or value of policies being surrendered and/or hurt our relationships with creditors” in our 2013 Form 10-K for more information. See “Part I – Item 1. Business – Financial Strength Ratings” in our 2013 Form 10-K for additional information on our current financial strength ratings.

See “Part II – Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Review of Consolidated Financial Condition – Liquidity and Capital Resources – Financing Activities” in our 2013 Form 10-K for information on our credit ratings.

Alternative Sources of Liquidity

In order to manage our capital more efficiently, we have an inter-company cash management program where certain subsidiaries can lend to or borrow from the holding company to meet short-term borrowing needs. The cash management program is essentially a series of demand loans between LNC and participating subsidiaries that reduces overall borrowing costs by allowing LNC and its subsidiaries to access internal resources instead of incurring third-party transaction costs. As of September 30, 2014, the holding company had a net outstanding receivable of \$212 million from certain subsidiaries resulting from funds borrowed by the subsidiaries in excess of amounts placed by those subsidiaries in the inter-company cash management account. Any change in holding company cash management program balances is offset by the immediate and equal change in holding company cash and invested cash. Loans under the cash management program are permitted under applicable insurance laws subject to certain restrictions. For our Indiana-domiciled insurance subsidiaries, the borrowing and lending limit is currently 3% of the insurance company's admitted assets as of its most recent year end. For our New York-domiciled insurance subsidiary, it may borrow from LNC less than 2% of its admitted assets as of the last year end but may not lend any amounts to LNC.

Our insurance subsidiaries, by virtue of their general account fixed-income investment holdings, can access liquidity through securities lending programs and repurchase agreements. As of September 30, 2014, our insurance subsidiaries had investments with a carrying value of \$2.6 billion out on loan or subject to repurchase agreements. The cash received in our securities lending programs and repurchase agreements is typically invested in cash equivalents, short-term investments or fixed maturity securities. For additional details, see "Payables for Collateral on Investments" in Note 4.

For factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in this section, see "Forward-Looking Statements – Cautionary Language" above and "Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Divestitures

For a discussion of our divestitures, see Note 3 in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Uses of Capital

Our principal uses of cash are to pay policy claims and benefits, operating expenses, commissions and taxes, to purchase new investments, to purchase reinsurance, to fund policy surrenders and withdrawals, to pay dividends to our stockholders and to repurchase our stock and debt securities.

Return of Capital to Common Stockholders

One of the Company's primary goals is to provide a return to our common stockholders through share price accretion, dividends and stock repurchases. In determining dividends, the Board of Directors takes into consideration items such as current and expected earnings, capital needs, rating agency considerations and requirements for financial flexibility. The amount and timing of share repurchase depends on key capital ratios, rating agency expectations, the generation of free cash flow and an evaluation of the costs and benefits associated with alternative uses of capital. Free cash flow for the holding company generally represents the amount of dividends and interest received from subsidiaries less interest paid on debt.

Details underlying this activity (in millions, except per share data), were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Common dividends to stockholders	\$ 42	\$ 32	31%	\$ 126	\$ 97	30%
Repurchase of common stock	150	100	50%	450	350	29%
Total cash returned to stockholders	\$ 192	\$ 132	45%	\$ 576	\$ 447	29%
Number of shares repurchased	2.846	2.314	23%	8.911	10.010	-11%
Average price per share	\$ 52.75	\$ 43.24	22%	\$ 50.53	\$ 34.99	44%

On November 14, 2013, our Board of Directors approved an increase of the quarterly dividend on our common stock from \$0.12 to \$0.16 per share. Additionally, we expect to repurchase additional shares of common stock during the remainder of 2014 depending on market conditions and alternative uses of capital. For more information regarding share repurchases, see "Part II – Item 2(c)" below.

Other Uses of Capital

In addition to the amounts in the table above in “Return of Capital to Common Stockholders,” other uses of holding company cash flow (in millions) were as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30,			For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
Debt service (interest paid)	\$ 64	\$ 63	2%	\$ 219	\$ 207	6%
Capital contribution to subsidiaries	5	-	NM	5	-	NM
Total	\$ 69	\$ 63	10%	\$ 224	\$ 207	8%

The above table focuses on significant and recurring cash flow items and excludes the effects of certain financing activities, namely the periodic retirement of debt and cash flows related to our inter-company cash management account. Taxes have been eliminated from the analysis due to a tax sharing agreement among our primary subsidiaries resulting in a modest effect on net cash flows at the holding company.

Significant Trends in Sources and Uses of Cash Flow

As stated above, LNC’s cash flow, as a holding company, is largely dependent upon the dividend capacity of its insurance company subsidiaries as well as their ability to advance funds to it through inter-company borrowing arrangements, which may be affected by factors influencing the insurance subsidiaries’ RBC and statutory earnings performance. We currently expect to be able to meet the holding company’s ongoing cash needs and to have sufficient capital to offer downside protection in the event that the capital and credit markets experience another period of extreme volatility and disruption. A decline in capital market conditions, which reduces our insurance subsidiaries’ statutory surplus and RBC, may require them to retain more capital and may pressure our subsidiaries’ dividends to the holding company, which may lead us to take steps to preserve or raise additional capital. For factors that could affect our expectations for liquidity and capital, see “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

OTHER MATTERS

Other Factors Affecting Our Business

In general, our businesses are subject to a changing social, economic, legal, legislative and regulatory environment. Some of the changes include initiatives to require more reserves to be carried by our insurance subsidiaries. Although the eventual effect on us of the changing environment in which we operate remains uncertain, these factors and others could have a material effect on our results of operations, liquidity and capital resources. For factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in this section, see “Part I – Item 1A. Risk Factors” in our 2013 Form 10-K and “Forward-Looking Statements – Cautionary Language” above.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 2 for a discussion of recent accounting pronouncements that have been implemented during the periods presented or that have been issued and are to be implemented in the future.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

We analyze and manage the risks arising from market exposures of financial instruments, as well as other risks, in an integrated asset-liability management process that considers diversification. By aggregating the potential effect of market and other risks on the entire enterprise, we estimate, review and in some cases manage the risk to our earnings and shareholder value. We have exposures to several market risks including interest rate risk, equity market risk, default risk, credit risk and, to a lesser extent, foreign currency exchange risk. The exposures of financial instruments to market risks, and the related risk management processes, are most important to our business where most of the invested assets support accumulation and investment-oriented insurance products. As an important element of our integrated asset-liability management processes, we use derivatives to minimize the effects of changes in interest levels, the shape of the yield curve, currency movements and volatility. In this context, derivatives serve to minimize interest rate risk by mitigating the effect of significant increases in interest rates on our earnings. Additional market exposures exist in our other general account insurance products and in our debt structure and derivatives positions. Our primary sources of market risk are substantial, relatively rapid and sustained increases or decreases in interest rates or a sharp drop in equity market values. These market risks are discussed in detail in the following pages and should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements (“Notes”) presented in “Item 1. Financial Statements,” as well as “Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” (“MD&A”).

Interest Rate Risk

Effect of Interest Rate Sensitivity

For information about the effect of interest rate sensitivity on our income (loss) from operations, see “Part II – Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk – Interest Rate Risk – Effect of Interest Rate Sensitivity” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Interest Rate Risk on Fixed Insurance Businesses

In periods of low interest rates, we have to reinvest the cash we receive as interest or return of principal on our investments in lower yielding instruments. Moreover, borrowers may prepay fixed-income securities, commercial mortgages and mortgage-backed securities in our general accounts in order to borrow at lower market rates, which exacerbates this risk. Because we are entitled to reset the interest rates on our fixed-rate annuities only at limited, pre-established intervals, and because many of our contracts have guaranteed minimum interest or crediting rates, our spreads could decrease and potentially become negative.

Prolonged historically low rates are not healthy for our business fundamentals. However, we have recognized this risk and have been proactive in our investment strategies, product designs, crediting rate strategies and overall asset-liability practices to mitigate the risk of unfavorable consequences in this type of environment. For some time now, new products have been sold with low minimum crediting floors, and we apply disciplined asset-liability management standards, such as locking in spreads on these products at the time of issue.

The following provides detail on the percentage differences between the September 30, 2014, interest rates being credited to contract holders based on the third quarter of 2014 declared rates and the respective minimum guaranteed policy rate (in millions), broken out by contract holder account values reported within our segments:

Account Values				% Account Values
Annuities	Retirement Plan Services	Life	Total	

Insurance
(1)

Excess of Crediting Rates over Contract Minimums

Discretionary rate setting products: (2)

Occurring within the next twelve months: (3)

No difference	\$ 8,618	\$ 9,777	\$ 31,452	\$ 49,847	71.1%
Up to 0.50%	1,639	461	452	2,552	3.6%
0.51% to 1.00%	1,188	151	34	1,373	2.0%
1.01% to 1.50%	856	15	-	871	1.2%
1.51% to 2.00%	593	-	458	1,051	1.5%
2.01% to 2.50%	777	-	-	777	1.1%
2.51% to 3.00%	246	-	-	246	0.4%
3.01% or greater	189	-	-	189	0.3%
Occurring after the next twelve months (4)	5,880	-	-	5,880	8.3%
Total discretionary rate setting products	19,986	10,404	32,396	62,786	89.5%
Other contracts (5)	2,131	5,240	-	7,371	10.5%
Total account values	\$ 22,117	\$ 15,644	\$ 32,396	\$ 70,157	100.0%

Percentage of discretionary rate setting product account values at minimum guaranteed rates

43.1% 94.0% 97.1% 79.4%

(1) Excludes policy loans.

(2) Contracts currently within new money rate bands are grouped according to the corresponding portfolio rate band in which they will fall upon their first anniversary.

(3) The average crediting rates were 46 basis points, 2 basis points and 4 basis points in excess of average minimum guaranteed rates for our Annuities, Retirement Plan Services and Life Insurance segments, respectively.

(4) The average crediting rates were 114 basis points in excess of average minimum guaranteed rates. Of our account values for these products, 27% are scheduled to reset in more than one year but not more than two years; 25% are scheduled to reset in more than two years but not more than three years; and 48% are scheduled to reset in more than three years.

(5) For Annuities, this amount relates primarily to income annuity and short-term dollar cost averaging business. For Retirement Plan Services, this amount relates primarily to indexed-based rate setting products in which the average crediting rates were 10 basis points in excess of average minimum guaranteed rates, and 81% of account values were already at their minimum guaranteed rates.

The maturity structure and call provisions of the related portfolios are structured to afford protection against erosion of investment portfolio yields during periods of declining interest rates. We devote extensive effort to evaluating the risks associated with falling interest rates by simulating asset and liability cash flows for a wide range of interest rate scenarios. We seek to manage these exposures by maintaining a suitable maturity structure and by limiting our exposure to call risk in each respective investment portfolio.

Derivatives

See Note 5 for information on our derivatives used to hedge our exposure to changes in interest rates.

Equity Market Risk

Our revenues, assets and liabilities are exposed to equity market risk that we often hedge with derivatives. Due to the use of our reversion to the mean (“RTM”) process and our hedging strategies, we expect that, in general, short-term fluctuations in the equity markets should not have a significant effect on our quarterly earnings from unlocking of assumptions for deferred acquisition costs, value of business acquired, deferred sales inducements and deferred front-end loads. However, earnings are affected by equity market movements on account values and assets under management and the related fees we earn on those assets. Refer to “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Introduction – Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates – DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL” in our 2013 Form 10-K for further discussion of the effects of equity markets on our RTM.

Effect of Equity Market Sensitivity

For information about the effect of equity market sensitivity on our income (loss) from operations, see “Part II – Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk – Equity Market Risk – Effect of Equity Market Sensitivity” in our 2013 Form 10-K.

Credit Risk

We may use credit-related derivatives to minimize our exposure to credit-related events, and we also sell credit default swaps to offer credit protection to our contract holders and investors. See Note 5 for additional information.

In addition to the information provided about our counterparty exposure in Note 5, the fair value of our exposure by rating (in millions) was as follows:

As of September 30,	As of December 31,
---------------------------	--------------------------

	2014	2013
AA	\$ 18	\$ (3)
A	19	62
BBB	5	10
Total	\$ 42	\$ 69

See Note 5 for additional information on our credit risk.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Conclusions Regarding Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures, which are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission’s rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to the Company’s management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. As of the end of the period required by this report, we, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) of the Exchange Act). Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective in timely alerting them to material information relating to us and our consolidated subsidiaries required to be disclosed in our periodic reports under the Exchange Act.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act) that occurred during the quarter ended September 30, 2014, that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

A control system, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance that the control system’s objectives will be met. Further, because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that misstatements due to error or fraud will not occur or that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the company have been detected. Projections of any evaluation of controls effectiveness to future periods are subject to risks. Over time, controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or deterioration in the degree of compliance with policies or procedures.

PART II – OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Information regarding reportable legal proceedings is contained in Note 8 in “Part I – Item 1.”

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

(c) The following table summarizes purchases of equity securities by the issuer during the quarter ended September 30, 2014 (dollars in millions, except per share data):

Period	(a) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased (1)	(b) Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)	(c) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs (2)	(d) Approximate Dollar Value of Shares (or Units) that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (2)(3)
7/1/14 – 7/31/14	234,000	\$ 53.28	-	\$ 953
8/1/14 – 8/31/14	1,955,330	51.88	1,955,330	864
9/1/14 – 9/30/14	890,900	54.65	890,900	815

(1)Includes the deemed surrender of 234,000 shares of common stock to pay the exercise price in connection with the exercise of stock options. For the quarter ended September 30, 2014, there were 2,846,230 shares purchased as part of publicly announced plans or programs.

(2)On May 22, 2014, our Board of Directors authorized an increase in our securities repurchase authorization, bringing the total aggregate repurchase authorization to \$1.0 billion. As of September 30, 2014, our

remaining security repurchase authorization was \$815 million. The security repurchase authorization does not have an expiration date. The amount and timing of share repurchase depends on key capital ratios, rating agency expectations, the generation of free cash flow and an evaluation of the costs and benefits associated with alternative uses of capital.

(3)As of the last day of the applicable month.

Item 6. Exhibits

The Exhibits included in this report are listed in the Exhibit Index beginning on page E-1, which is incorporated herein by reference.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

LINCOLN NATIONAL
CORPORATION

By: /s/ RANDAL
J. FREITAG

Randal J.
Freitag

Executive Vice
President and
Chief Financial
Officer

By: /s/ DOUGLAS
N. MILLER

Douglas N.
Miller

Senior Vice
President and
Chief
Accounting
Officer

Dated: October 30, 2014

LINCOLN NATIONAL CORPORATION

Exhibit Index for the Report on Form 10-Q

For the Quarter Ended September 30, 2014

- 12 Historical Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.
- 31.1 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 101.INS XBRL Instance Document.
- 101.SCH XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.
- 101.CAL XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document.
- 101.LAB XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document.
- 101.PRE XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document.
- 101.DEF XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.