METLIFE INC
Form ARS
April 26, 2016

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover image:
MetLife’s principal executive
offices, 200 Park Avenue in
New York City.

Table of Contents

As used in this Annual Report, "MetLife," the "Company," "we," "our" and "us" refer to MetLife, Inc., a Delaware corporatio incorporated in 1999, its subsidiaries and affiliates.

Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

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

Any or all forward-looking statements may turn out to be wrong. They can be affected by inaccurate assumptions or by known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Many such factors will be important in determining the actual future results of MetLife, Inc., its subsidiaries and affiliates. These statements are based on current expectations and the current economic environment. They involve a number of risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. These statements are not guarantees of future performance. Actual results could differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. Risks, uncertainties, and other factors that might cause such differences include the risks, uncertainties and other factors identified in MetLife, Inc.'s filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. These factors include: (1) difficult conditions in the global capital markets; (2) increased volatility and disruption of the global capital and credit markets, which may affect our ability to meet liquidity needs and access capital, including through our credit facilities, generate fee income and market-related revenue and finance statutory reserve requirements and may require us to pledge collateral or make payments related to declines in value of specified assets, including assets supporting risks ceded to certain of our captive reinsurers or hedging arrangements associated with those risks; (3) exposure to global financial and capital market risks, including as a result of the disruption in Europe and possible withdrawal of one or more countries from the Euro zone; (4) impact on us of comprehensive financial services regulation reform, including potential regulation of MetLife, Inc. as a non-bank systemically important financial institution, or otherwise; (5) numerous rulemaking initiatives required or permitted by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act which may impact how we conduct our business, including those compelling the liquidation of certain financial institutions; (6) regulatory, legislative or tax changes relating to our insurance, international, or other operations that may affect the cost of, or demand for, our products or services, or increase the cost or administrative burdens of providing benefits to employees; (7) adverse results or other consequences from litigation, arbitration or regulatory investigations; (8) our ability to address difficulties, unforeseen liabilities, asset impairments, or rating agency actions arising from (a) business acquisitions and integrating and managing the growth of such acquired businesses, (b) dispositions of businesses via sale, initial public offering, spin-off or otherwise, (c) entry into joint ventures, or (d) legal entity reorganizations; (9) potential liquidity and other risks resulting from our participation in a securities lending program and other transactions; (10) investment losses and defaults, and changes to investment valuations; (11) changes in assumptions related to investment valuations, deferred policy acquisition costs, deferred sales inducements, value of business acquired or goodwill; (12) impairments of goodwill and realized losses or market value impairments to illiquid assets; (13) defaults on our mortgage loans; (14) the defaults or deteriorating credit of other financial institutions that could adversely affect us; (15) economic, political, legal, currency and other risks relating to our international operations, including with respect to fluctuations of exchange rates; (16) downgrades in our claims paying ability, financial strength or credit ratings; (17) a deterioration in the experience of the "closed block" established in connection with the reorganization of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company; (18) availability and effectiveness of reinsurance or indemnification arrangements, as well as any default or failure of counterparties to perform; (19) differences between actual claims experience and underwriting and reserving assumptions; (20) ineffectiveness of risk management policies and procedures; (21) catastrophe losses; (22) increasing cost and limited market capacity for statutory life insurance reserve financings; (23) heightened competition, including with respect to pricing, entry of new competitors, consolidation of distributors, the development of new products by new and existing competitors, and for personnel; (24) exposure to losses related to variable annuity guarantee benefits, including from significant and sustained downturns or extreme volatility in equity markets, reduced interest rates, unanticipated policyholder behavior, mortality or longevity, and the adjustment for nonperformance risk; (25) regulatory and other restrictions affecting MetLife, Inc.'s ability to pay dividends and repurchase common stock; (26) MetLife, Inc.'s primary reliance, as a holding company, on dividends from its subsidiaries to meet its free cash flow targets and debt payment obligations and the applicable regulatory restrictions on the ability of the subsidiaries to pay such dividends; (27) the possibility that MetLife, Inc.'s Board of Directors may influence the outcome of stockholder votes through the voting provisions of the MetLife Policyholder Trust; (28) changes in accounting standards, practices and/or policies; (29) increased expenses relating to pension and postretirement benefit plans, as well as health care and other employee benefits; (30) inability to protect our intellectual property rights or claims of infringement of the intellectual property rights of others; (31) inability to attract and retain sales representatives; (32) provisions of laws and our incorporation documents may delay, deter or prevent takeovers and corporate combinations involving MetLife; (33) the effects of business disruption or economic contraction due to disasters such as terrorist attacks, cyberattacks, other hostilities, or natural catastrophes, including any related impact on the value of our investment portfolio, our disaster recovery systems, cyber- or other information security systems and management continuity planning; (34) the effectiveness of our programs and practices in avoiding giving our associates incentives to take excessive risks; and (35) other risks and uncertainties described from time to time in MetLife, Inc.'s filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

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

Table of Contents

Selected Financial Data

The following selected financial data has been derived from the Company's audited consolidated financial statements. The statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, and the balance sheet data at December 31, 2015 and 2014 have been derived from the Company's audited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere herein. The statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the balance sheet data at December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 have been derived from the Company's audited consolidated financial statements not included herein. The selected financial data set forth below should be read in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the audited consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere herein.

	Years Ended December 31,				
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
	(In millions, except per share data)				
Statement of Operations Data					
Revenues					
Premiums	$38,545	$39,067	$37,674	$37,975	$36,361
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	9,507	9,946	9,451	8,556	7,806
Net investment income	19,281	21,153	22,232	21,984	19,585
Other revenues	1,983	2,030	1,920	1,906	2,532
Net investment gains (losses)	597	(197)	161	(352)	(867)
Net derivative gains (losses)	38	1,317	(3,239)	(1,919)	4,824
Total revenues	69,951	73,316	68,199	68,150	70,241
Expenses					
Policyholder benefits and claims	38,714	39,102	38,107	37,987	35,471
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	5,610	6,943	8,179	7,729	5,603
Policyholder dividends	1,388	1,376	1,259	1,369	1,446
Goodwill impairment	—	—	—	1,868	—
Other expenses	16,769	17,091	16,602	17,755	18,537
Total expenses	62,481	64,512	64,147	66,708	61,057
Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax	7,470	8,804	4,052	1,442	9,184
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	2,148	2,465	661	128	2,793
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	5,322	6,339	3,391	1,314	6,391
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	—	(3)	2	48	24
Net income (loss)	5,322	6,336	3,393	1,362	6,415
Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	12	27	25	38	(8)
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	5,310	6,309	3,368	1,324	6,423
Less: Preferred stock dividends	116	122	122	122	122
Preferred stock repurchase premium	42	—	—	—	146
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	$5,152	$6,187	$3,246	$1,202	$6,155

Table of Contents

EPS Data (1)					
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders per common share:					
Basic	$4.61	$5.48	$2.94	$1.08	$5.79
Diluted	$4.57	$5.42	$2.91	$1.08	$5.74
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax, per common share:					
Basic	$—	$—	$—	$0.04	$0.02
Diluted	$—	$—	$—	$0.04	$0.02
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders per common share:					
Basic	$4.61	$5.48	$2.94	$1.12	$5.81
Diluted	$4.57	$5.42	$2.91	$1.12	$5.76
Cash dividends declared per common share	$1.475	$1.325	$1.010	$0.740	$0.740

	December 31,				
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
	(In millions)				
Balance Sheet Data					
Separate account assets	$301,598	$316,994	$317,201	$235,393	$203,023
Total assets	$877,933	$902,337	$885,296	$836,781	$796,226
Policyholder liabilities and other policy-related balances (2)	$411,359	$417,141	$418,487	$438,191	$421,267
Short-term debt	$100	$100	$175	$100	$686
Long-term debt	$18,023	$16,286	$18,653	$19,062	$23,692
Collateral financing arrangements	$4,139	$4,196	$4,196	$4,196	$4,647
Junior subordinated debt securities	$3,194	$3,193	$3,193	$3,192	$3,192
Separate account liabilities	$301,598	$316,994	$317,201	$235,393	$203,023
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	$4,771	$10,649	$5,104	$11,397	$6,083
Total MetLife, Inc.'s stockholders' equity	$67,949	$72,053	$61,553	$64,453	$57,519
Noncontrolling interests	$470	$507	$543	$384	$370

	Years Ended December 31,				
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Other Data (3)					
Return on MetLife, Inc.'s common stockholders' equity	7.5%	9.4%	5.4%	2.0%	12.2%

---

(1) For the year ended December 31, 2012, all shares related to the assumed issuance of shares in settlement of the applicable stock purchase contracts relating to previously issued common equity units have been excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per common share, as these assumed shares are anti-dilutive.

(2) Policyholder liabilities and other policy-related balances include future policy benefits, policyholder account balances, other policy-related balances, policyholder dividends payable and the policyholder dividend obligation.

(3) Return on MetLife, Inc.'s common stockholders' equity is defined as net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders divided by MetLife, Inc.'s average common stockholders' equity.

Business

We have grown to become a global provider of life insurance, annuities, employee benefits and asset management. Through our subsidiaries and affiliates, we hold leading market positions in the United States, Japan, Latin America, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Over the past several years, we have grown our core businesses, as well as successfully executed on our growth strategy. This has included completing a number of transactions that have resulted in the acquisition and, in some cases, divestiture of certain businesses while also further strengthening our balance sheet to position MetLife for continued growth.

We are also one of the largest institutional investors in the U.S. with a $508.2 billion general account portfolio invested primarily in investment grade corporate bonds, structured finance securities, mortgage loans and U.S. Treasury and agency securities, as well as real estate and corporate equity, at December 31, 2015. Over the past several years, we have further diversified and strengthened our general account portfolio.

Table of Contents

MetLife is organized into six segments, reflecting three broad geographic regions: Retail; Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits; Corporate Benefit Funding; and Latin America (collectively, the "Americas"); Asia; and Europe, the Middle East and Africa ("EMEA"). In addition, the Company reports certain of its results of operations in Corporate & Other. See "Business — Segments and Corporate & Other" in MetLife's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 (the "2015 Form 10-K") and Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information on the Company's segments and Corporate & Other. See also "— Other Key Information" for information on the Company's announcement of its plan to pursue the separation of a substantial portion of its Retail segment, which is organized into two U.S. businesses, Life & Other and Annuities, as well as certain portions of its Corporate Benefit Funding segment and Corporate & Other (the "Separation"). Management continues to evaluate the Company's segment performance and allocated resources and may adjust related measurements in the future to better reflect segment profitability.

In the U.S., we provide a variety of insurance and financial services products, including life, dental, disability, property & casualty, guaranteed interest, stable value and annuities, through both proprietary and independent retail distribution channels, as well as at the workplace.

Outside the U.S., we provide life, medical, dental, credit and other accident & health insurance, as well as annuities, endowment and retirement & savings products to both individuals and groups. We believe these businesses will continue to grow more quickly than our U.S. businesses.

In the Americas, excluding Latin America, we market our products and services through various distribution channels. Our retail life, disability and annuities products targeted to individuals are sold via sales forces, comprised of MetLife employees, as well as third-party organizations. Our group and corporate benefit funding products are sold via sales forces primarily comprised of MetLife employees. Personal lines property & casualty insurance products are directly marketed to employees at their employer's worksite. Personal lines property & casualty insurance products are also marketed and sold to individuals by independent agents, property & casualty specialists through a direct marketing channel, and via sales forces comprised of MetLife employees. MetLife sales employees work with all distribution channels to better reach and service customers, brokers, consultants and other intermediaries. See "— Recent Developments" for information on the Company's entry into an agreement with Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company ("MassMutual") for the acquisition by MassMutual of MetLife's U.S. Retail advisor force.

In Latin America, we market our products and services through a multi-distribution strategy which varies by geographic region and stage of market development. Latin America's distribution channels include captive agents, direct marketing ("sponsored and direct to customer"), large multinational brokers and small and medium-sized brokers, direct and group sales forces (mostly for group policies without broker intermediation), and worksite marketing. The region has an exclusive and captive agency distribution network also selling a variety of individual life, accident & health, and pension products. In the direct marketing channel, we work with sponsors and telesales representatives selling mainly accident & health and individual life products directly to consumers. We currently work with active brokers with registered sales of group and individual life, accident & health, group medical, dental and pension products.

Our Asia operations are geographically diverse with developed and emerging markets. We market our products and services through a multi-channel distribution strategy including career agency, bancassurance, direct marketing, brokerage, other third-party distribution and e-commerce. Japan's multi-channel distribution strategy consists of captive agents, independent agents, bancassurance, direct marketing and brokers. Outside of Japan, our distribution strategies differ by country but generally utilize a combination of captive agents, bancassurance relationships and direct marketing.

Our EMEA operations are geographically diverse with a mix of developed and emerging markets. Our businesses in EMEA employ a multi-channel distribution strategy, including captive and independent agency, bancassurance and direct-to-consumer.

Revenues derived from any customer did not exceed 10% of consolidated premiums, universal life and investment-type product policy fees and other revenues for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013. Financial information, including revenues, expenses, operating earnings, and total assets by segment, as well as premiums, universal life and investment-type product policy fees and other revenues by major product groups, is provided in Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Operating revenues and operating earnings are performance measures that are not based on accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”). See “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Non-GAAP and Other Financial Disclosures” for definitions of such measures.

For financial information related to revenues, total assets, and goodwill balances by geographic region, see Notes 2 and 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Other Key Information

On January 12, 2016, the Company announced its plan to pursue the Separation. The Company is currently evaluating structural alternatives for the proposed Separation, including a public offering of shares in an independent, publicly traded company, a spin-off, or a sale. The completion of a public offering would depend on, among other things, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) filing and review process, as well as market conditions. Any Separation that might occur will be subject to the satisfaction of various conditions and approvals, including approval of any transaction by the MetLife, Inc. Board of Directors, satisfaction of any applicable requirements of the SEC, and receipt of insurance and other regulatory approvals and other anticipated conditions.

In November 2014, MetLife Insurance Company of Connecticut (“MICC”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of MetLife, Inc., re-domesticated from Connecticut to Delaware, changed its name to MetLife Insurance Company USA and merged with its subsidiary, MetLife Investors USA Insurance Company (“MLI-USA”), and its affiliate, MetLife Investors Insurance Company (“MLIIC”), each a U.S. insurance company that issued variable annuity products in addition to other products, and Exeter Reassurance Company, Ltd. (“Exeter”), a former offshore, captive reinsurance subsidiary of MetLife, Inc. and affiliate of MICC that mainly reinsured guarantees associated with variable annuity products (the “Mergers”). The surviving entity of the Mergers was MetLife Insurance Company USA (“MetLife USA”). See “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Executive Summary — Other Key Information — Significant Events” for further information on the Mergers.

In October 2013, MetLife, Inc. completed its acquisition of Administradora de Fondos de Pensiones Provida S.A. (“ProVida”), the largest private pension fund administrator in Chile based on assets under management and number of pension fund contributors. The acquisition of ProVida supports the Company's growth strategy in emerging markets and further strengthens the Company's overall position in Chile. See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

Certain international subsidiaries have a fiscal year cutoff of November 30th. Accordingly, the Company's consolidated financial statements reflect the assets and liabilities of such subsidiaries as of November 30, 2015 and 2014 and the operating results of such subsidiaries for the years ended November 30, 2015, 2014 and 2013. The Company is in the process of converting to calendar year reporting for these subsidiaries. These conversions are expected to be substantially complete in the first quarter of 2016. The impact of the conversions on our financial statements to date has been de minimis and, therefore, has been reported in net income in the quarter of conversion.

Recent Developments

On March 30, 2016, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia (the "D.C. District Court") ordered that the designation of MetLife, Inc. as a non-bank systemically important financial institution ("non-bank SIFI") by the Financial Stability Oversight Council ("FSOC") be rescinded. On April 8, 2016, the FSOC filed a notice of appeal of the D.C. District Circuit Court's order. On December 18, 2014, the FSOC had designated MetLife, Inc. as a non-bank SIFI subject to regulation by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the "Federal Reserve Board") and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (collectively, with the Federal Reserve Board, the "Federal Reserve") and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC"), as well as to enhanced supervision and prudential standards. On January 13, 2015, MetLife, Inc. had filed an action in the D.C. District Court asking the Court to review and rescind the FSOC's designation. If the FSOC prevails on appeal or designates MetLife, Inc. as systemically important as part of its ongoing review of nonbank financial companies, MetLife, Inc. could once again be subject to regulation as a non-bank SIFI. See "Business — Regulation — U.S. Regulation — Regulation as a Non-Bank SIFI" in the 2015 Form 10-K and Note 21 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

On February 28, 2016, MetLife, Inc. entered into a purchase agreement with MassMutual pursuant to which MassMutual will acquire MetLife's U.S. Retail advisor force and certain assets associated with the MetLife Premier Client Group, including MetLife's affiliated broker-dealer, MetLife Securities, Inc. As part of the transaction, MetLife, Inc. and MassMutual have also agreed to enter into a product development agreement under which MetLife's U.S. Retail business will be the exclusive developer of certain annuity products to be issued by MassMutual. The transaction is subject to certain closing conditions, including regulatory approval.

Table of Contents

Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Index to Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Table of Contents

The Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ("MD&A") set forth below is derived from the MD&A included in the 2015 Form 10-K, which was filed on February 25, 2016, and sets forth information as of that filing date. Important updates to the information provided in the 2015 Form 10-K may be found in "Business — Recent Developments."

Forward-Looking Statements and Other Financial Information

For purposes of this discussion, "MetLife," the "Company," "we," "our" and "us" refer to MetLife, Inc., a Delaware corporatio incorporated in 1999, its subsidiaries and affiliates. Following this summary is a discussion addressing the consolidated results of operations and financial condition of the Company for the periods indicated. This discussion should be read in conjunction with "Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements," "Selected Financial Data," "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk" and the Company's consolidated financial statements included elsewhere herein, and "Risk Factors" included in the 2015 Form 10-K.

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

This Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations includes references to our performance measures, operating earnings and operating earnings available to common shareholders, that are not based on GAAP. Operating earnings is the measure of segment profit or loss we use to evaluate segment performance and allocate resources. Consistent with GAAP guidance for segment reporting, operating earnings is our measure of segment performance. Operating earnings is also a measure by which senior management's and many other employees' performance is evaluated for the purposes of determining their compensation under applicable compensation plans. See "— Non-GAAP and Other Financial Disclosures" for definitions of these and other measures.

Executive Summary

Overview

MetLife is a global provider of life insurance, annuities, employee benefits and asset management. MetLife is organized into six segments, reflecting three broad geographic regions: Retail; Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits; Corporate Benefit Funding; and Latin America (collectively, the "Americas"); Asia; and EMEA. In addition, the Company reports certain of its results of operations in Corporate & Other. See "Business — Segments and Corporate & Other" in the 2015 Form 10-K and Note 2 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information on the Company's segments and Corporate & Other. See also "— Other Key Information — Significant Events" for information on the Company's announcement of its plan to pursue the Separation. Management continues to evaluate the Company's segment performance and allocated resources and may adjust related measurements in the future to better reflect segment profitability.

Current Year Highlights

Overall sales growth declined from 2014 levels; however, we experienced sales growth across various products within our regions during the year ended December 31, 2015, as compared to 2014. In particular, we had higher sales of retail annuity and accident & health products. A number of factors in 2015, however, offset the benefits of such sales growth, including (i) a tax charge and a related charge for interest on uncertain tax positions recorded under accounting guidance for the recognition of tax uncertainties, (ii) a decline in investment yields as a result of the sustained low interest rate environment and lower returns on other limited partnership interests, (iii) less favorable underwriting results driven by unfavorable claims experience in our property & casualty business, and (iv) a decrease in earnings as a result of our annual review of actuarial assumptions.

Table of Contents

The following represents the segments' contributions to total income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, and total operating earnings for the year ended December 31, 2015:

---

(1) Excludes Corporate & Other.
(2) See "— Results of Operations — Consolidated Results" and "— Non-GAAP and Other Financial Disclosures" for reconciliations and definitions of non-GAAP financial measures.

Table of Contents

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014

Consolidated Results - Highlights

Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, down $1.0 billion:

Operating earnings available to common shareholders down $1.1 billion

Net derivative gains (losses) unfavorable by $1.3 billion ($831 million, net of income tax) driven by unfavorable changes in market and other risks in embedded derivatives, as well as changes in interest rates

Net investment gains (losses) favorable by $794 million ($516 million, net of income tax) primarily driven by a 2014 loss on the disposition of MetLife Assurance Limited ("MAL")

Includes a one-time tax benefit in Japan of $174 million in 2015

(1) See "— Results of Operations — Consolidated Results" and "— Non-GAAP and Other Financial Disclosures" for reconciliations and definitions of non-GAAP financial measures.

Consolidated Results - Operating Highlights

Operating earnings available to common shareholders down $1.1 billion:

Results of operations impacted by: (i) lower investment yields; (ii) less favorable underwriting; (iii) unfavorable impact from annual reviews of assumptions; (iv) higher net investment income from portfolio growth; and (v) additional items described below.

Our 2015 results also included the following:

- $557 million tax charge and a $362 million ($235 million, net of income tax) charge for interest on uncertain tax positions recorded under accounting guidance for the recognition of tax uncertainties related to the U.S. tax treatment of taxes paid by a wholly-owned United Kingdom ("U.K.") investment subsidiary of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MLIC")
- $183 million of tax benefits related to (i) restructuring in Chile; (ii) a change in tax rate in Japan; (iii) the repatriation of earnings from Japan; and (iv) the devaluation of the peso in Argentina

Our 2014 results also included the following:

- $104 million, net of income tax, of favorable reserve adjustments related to disability premium waivers in the retail life business
- $117 million, net of income tax, increase in the litigation reserve related to asbestos
- Charge of $57 million, net of income tax, related to delayed settlement interest on unclaimed funds held by state governments in the retail life business
- Charges totaling $57 million, net of income tax, related to a settlement of a licensing matter with the New York State Department of Financial Services (the "Department of Financial Services") and the District Attorney, New York County
- Net tax charge of $9 million related to: (i) charge related to a tax reform bill in Chile; and (ii) benefit related to the filing of the Company's U.S. federal tax return

For a more in-depth discussion of our consolidated results, see "— Results of Operations — Consolidated Results" and "— Results of Operations — Consolidated Results — Operating."

Table of Contents

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013

Consolidated Results Highlights

Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, up $2.9 billion:

Net derivative gains (losses) favorable by $4.6 billion ($3.0 billion, net of income tax) driven by changes in interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates

Annual assumption reviews related to reserves and deferred policy acquisition costs ("DAC") favorable by $262 million ($174 million, net of income tax)

Net investment gains (losses) unfavorable by $358 million ($233 million, net of income tax) primarily driven by a loss on the disposition of MAL

(1) See "— Results of Operations — Consolidated Results" and "— Non-GAAP and Other Financial Disclosures" for reconciliations and definitions of non-GAAP financial measures.

Consolidated Results - Operating Highlights

Operating earnings available to common shareholders up $299 million:

Results of operations impacted by: (i) higher net investment income from portfolio growth; (ii) higher asset-based fee income; (iii) lower interest credited expense; (iv) unfavorable mortality, morbidity and claims experience; (v) lower investment yields; and (vi) additional items described below.

Fourth quarter 2013 acquisition of ProVida favorable by $166 million, net of income tax (excluding impact of tax reform charge in Chile)

Our 2014 results also included the following:

- A $58 million non-tax deductible charge related to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("PPACA")
- Additional items presented in "—Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014 — Consolidated Results — Operating Highlights" above

Our 2013 results also included the following:

- A $101 million, net of income tax, increase in the litigation reserve related to asbestos
- A $57 million, net of income tax, reserve strengthening in Australia

For a more in-depth discussion of our consolidated results, see "— Results of Operations — Consolidated Results" and "— Results of Operations — Consolidated Results — Operating."

Consolidated Company Outlook

As part of an enterprise-wide strategic initiative, we announced that, by 2016, we expected to increase our operating return on common stockholders' equity ("operating ROE"), excluding accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) ("AOCI"), other than foreign currency translation adjustments ("FCTA"), driven by higher operating earnings. In 2016, we expect our operating ROE, excluding AOCI other than FCTA, to be approximately 11%.

When making projections, we must rely on the accuracy of our assumptions about future economic and business conditions, which can be affected by known and unknown risks and other uncertainties. Our assumptions have been and will continue to be impacted by (i) MetLife, Inc.'s plan to pursue the Separation, (ii) regulatory uncertainty regarding capital requirements applicable to us as a non-bank SIFI which, among other things, impacted the level of our share repurchases, (iii) lower investment margins (primarily in the U.S.) as a result of the sustained low interest rate environment, (iv) lower than anticipated merger and acquisition activity, and (v) the impact on our foreign operations of the strengthening of the U.S. dollar.

We will need to take the above-referenced factors into account when formulating further assumptions. Due to the fact that the Separation is a significant restructuring of our business, we will not be able to further expand our outlook until we have further clarity on the nature of the Separation. The Separation is consistent with our "Accelerating Value" strategic initiative, giving greater weight to our commitments to maximize shareholder value and, subject to Board approval, regulatory constraints and acquisition opportunities, pay out our free cash flow to shareholders.

Table of Contents

Other Key Information

Basis of Presentation

Certain international subsidiaries have a fiscal year cutoff of November 30th. Accordingly, the Company's consolidated financial statements reflect the assets and liabilities of such subsidiaries as of November 30, 2015 and 2014 and the operating results of such subsidiaries for the years ended November 30, 2015, 2014 and 2013. The Company is in the process of converting to calendar year reporting for these subsidiaries. These conversions are expected to be substantially complete in the first quarter of 2016. The impact of the conversions on our financial statements to date has been de minimis and, therefore, has been reported in net income in the quarter of conversion.

Significant Events

On January 12, 2016, the Company announced its plan to pursue the Separation. The Company is currently evaluating structural alternatives for the proposed Separation, including a public offering of shares in an independent, publicly traded company, a spin-off, or a sale. The completion of a public offering would depend on, among other things, the SEC filing and review process, as well as market conditions. Any Separation that might occur will be subject to the satisfaction of various conditions and approvals, including approval of any transaction by the MetLife, Inc. Board of Directors, satisfaction of any applicable requirements of the SEC, and receipt of insurance and other regulatory approvals and other anticipated conditions.

In November 2014, MICC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of MetLife, Inc., re-domesticated from Connecticut to Delaware, changed its name to MetLife Insurance Company USA and merged with its subsidiary, MLI-USA, and its affiliate, MLIIC, each a U.S. insurance company that issued variable annuity products in addition to other products, and Exeter, a former offshore, captive reinsurance subsidiary of MetLife, Inc. and affiliate of MICC that mainly reinsured guarantees associated with variable annuity products. The surviving entity of the Mergers was MetLife USA. The Mergers have provided increased transparency relative to our capital allocation and variable annuity risk management. See "Business — Regulation — U.S. Regulation — Insurance Regulation — Insurance Regulatory Examinations and Other Activities" in the 2015 Form 10-K and "— Liquidity and Capital Resources — The Company — Capital — Affiliate Captive Reinsurance Transactions" for information on our use of captive reinsurers.

In October 2013, MetLife, Inc. completed its acquisition of ProVida, the largest private pension fund administrator in Chile based on assets under management and number of pension fund contributors. The acquisition of ProVida supports the Company's growth strategy in emerging markets and further strengthens the Company's overall position in Chile. See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Industry Trends

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

Financial and Economic Environment

Our business and results of operations are materially affected by conditions in the global capital markets and the economy generally. Stressed conditions, volatility and disruptions in global capital markets, particular markets, or financial asset classes can have an adverse effect on us, in part because we have a large investment portfolio and our insurance liabilities are sensitive to changing market factors. Global market factors, including interest rates, credit spreads, equity, oil and commodity prices, real estate markets, foreign currency exchange rates, consumer spending, business investment, government spending, the volatility and strength of the capital markets, deflation and inflation, all affect the business and economic environment and, ultimately, the amount and profitability of our business. Disruptions in one market or asset class can also spread to other markets or asset classes. Upheavals in the financial markets can also affect our business through their effects on general levels of economic activity, employment and customer behavior. See "Risk Factors — Economic Environment and Capital Markets-Related Risks — We Are Exposed to Significant Global Financial and Capital Markets Risks Which May Adversely Affect Our Results of Operations, Financial Condition and Liquidity, and May Cause Our Net Investment Income to Vary from Period to Period," and "Risk Factors — Economic Environment and Capital Markets-Related Risks — If Difficult Conditions in the Global Capital Markets and the Economy Generally Persist, They May Materially Adversely Affect Our Business and Results of Operations" in the 2015 Form 10-K.

Weakness in the energy and metals and mining sectors and concerns about the political and/or economic stability of countries in regions outside the European Union (the “EU”), including China, Ukraine, Russia, Argentina, Brazil, Japan and the Middle East, as well as Puerto Rico, have contributed to global market volatility. See “— Investments — Current Environment — Selected Country and Sector Investments.” Concerns about global economic conditions, capital markets and the solvency of certain EU member states, including Portugal, Ireland, Greece and Spain (“Europe’s perimeter region”), their banking systems and the financial institutions that have significant direct or indirect exposure to debt issued by these countries or their respective banking systems, have also been a cause of elevated levels of market volatility. See “— Investments — Current Environment” for information regarding our exposure to obligations of European governments, European private obligors and Europe’s perimeter region. Contributing to such volatility are concerns that such countries could default on their obligations, have to restructure their outstanding debt, or that financial institutions with significant holdings of sovereign or private debt of such countries, including Europe’s perimeter region, could experience financial stress, any of which could have significant adverse effects on the European and global economies and on financial markets, generally. While economic conditions in certain of these countries, including Europe’s perimeter region seem to be stabilizing or improving, there is still concern that any support measures could affect the Euro exchange rate and have uncertain impacts on interest rates and risk markets.

In an effort to further stabilize the European financial crisis, in December 2015, the European Central Bank (“ECB”) extended its quantitative easing program until at least March 2017. These measures have included cutting interest rates to negative levels, providing inexpensive financing facilities designed to incentivize banks to extend loans, buying private sector asset-backed securities and covered bonds and extending its asset purchase program to include €60 billion per month of ECB purchases of local and regional debt, as well as sovereign debt on secondary markets. Such actions are intended to lessen the risk of deflation, lower borrowing costs in the Euro zone and encourage corporations to issue more asset-backed securities.

Table of Contents

We face substantial exposure to the Japanese economy given our operations there. Structural weaknesses and debt sustainability have yet to be addressed effectively. Going forward, Japan's structural and demographic challenges may continue to limit its potential growth unless reforms that boost productivity are put into place. Japan's high public sector debt levels are mitigated by low refinancing risks and its nominal yields on government debt have remained at a lower level than that of any other developed country. However, frequent changes in government have prevented policy makers from implementing fiscal reform measures to put public finances on a sustainable path. To avert deflation and to achieve sustainable economic growth, the government and the Bank of Japan have implemented a coordinated strategy which includes the imposition of a negative rate on commercial bank deposits, increased government bond purchases at longer maturities and tax reform, including the lowering of the Japanese corporate tax rate by approximately 2% and the delay until 2017 of an increase in the consumption tax to 10%. As a result of the decrease in the corporate tax rate, the Company recorded a one-time benefit of $174 million in the second quarter of 2015, which included an increase in Asia's operating earnings of $61 million. This tax law change favorably affected our annual effective tax rate for 2015 by approximately 0.3% as compared to 2014.

Impact of a Sustained Low Interest Rate Environment

As a global insurance company, we are affected by the monetary policy of central banks around the world, as well as the monetary policy of the Federal Reserve Board in the United States. The Federal Reserve Board has taken a number of actions in recent years to spur economic activity, including asset purchases and keeping interest rates low. However, in October 2014, the Federal Reserve Board's Federal Open Market Committee ("FOMC"), citing strength in the economy and substantial improvement in the outlook for labor market conditions, decided to conclude the asset purchase program. In December 2015, the FOMC increased the federal funds rate for the first time in 10 years and held it steady at its January 2016 meeting. Further increases in the federal funds rate in the future may affect interest rates and risk markets in the U.S. and other developed and emerging economies. See "— Financial and Economic Environment" for information regarding accommodative and other policy measures pursued by the ECB and the Bank of Japan. However, we cannot predict with certainty the effect of these programs and policies on interest rates or the impact on the pricing levels of risk-bearing investments at this time. See "— Investments — Current Environment."

In periods of declining interest rates, we may have to invest insurance cash flows and reinvest the cash flows we received as interest or return of principal on our investments in lower yielding instruments. Moreover, borrowers may prepay or redeem the fixed income securities, commercial, agricultural or residential mortgage loans and mortgage-backed securities in our investment portfolio with greater frequency in order to borrow at lower market rates. Therefore, some of our products expose us to the risk that a reduction in interest rates will reduce the difference between the amounts that we are required to credit on contracts in our general account and the rate of return we are able to earn on investments intended to support obligations under these contracts. This difference between interest earned and interest credited, or margin, is a key metric for the management of, and reporting for, many of our businesses.

Our expectations regarding future margins are an important component impacting the amortization of certain intangible assets such as DAC and value of business acquired ("VOBA"). Significantly lower margins may cause us to accelerate the amortization, thereby reducing net income in the affected reporting period. Additionally, lower margins may also impact the recoverability of intangible assets such as goodwill, require the establishment of additional liabilities or trigger loss recognition events on certain policyholder liabilities. We review this long-term margin assumption, along with other assumptions, as part of our annual assumption review.

Mitigating Actions

The Company continues to be proactive in its investment and interest crediting rate strategies, as well as its product design and product mix. To mitigate the risk of unfavorable consequences from the low interest rate environment in the U.S., the Company applies disciplined asset/liability management ("ALM") strategies, including the use of derivatives, primarily interest rate swaps, floors and swaptions. A significant portion of these derivatives were entered into prior to the onset of the current low U.S. interest rate environment. In some cases, the Company has entered into offsetting positions as part of its overall ALM strategy and to reduce volatility in net income. Lowering interest crediting rates on some products, or adjusting the dividend scale on traditional products, can help offset decreases in investment margins on some products. Our ability to lower interest crediting rates could be limited by competition, requirements to obtain regulatory approval, or contractual guarantees of minimum rates and may not match the timing or magnitude of changes in asset yields. As a result, our margins could decrease or potentially become negative. We are able to limit or close certain products to new sales in order to manage exposures. Business actions, such as shifting the sales focus to less interest rate sensitive products, can also mitigate this risk. In addition, the Company is well diversified across product, distribution, and geography. Certain of our non-U.S. businesses, reported within our Latin America and EMEA segments, which accounted for approximately 15% of our operating earnings in 2015, are not significantly interest rate or market sensitive; in particular, they do not have any direct sensitivity to U.S. interest rates. The Company's primary exposure within these segments is insurance risk. We expect our non-U.S. businesses to grow faster than our U.S. businesses and, over time, to become a larger percentage of our total business. As a result of the foregoing, the Company expects to be able to substantially mitigate the negative impact of a sustained low interest rate environment in the U.S. on the Company's profitability. Based on a near to intermediate term analysis of a sustained lower interest rate environment in the U.S., the Company anticipates operating earnings will continue to increase, although at a slower growth rate.

Low Interest Rate Scenario

In formulating its insurance contract assumptions, the Company uses projections that it makes regarding interest rates. Included in these assumptions is the projection that the 10-year Treasury rate will rise from 2.27% at December 31, 2015 to 4.50% in 11 years, by 2026 and that 10-year yields will reach 2.78%, 3.07% and 3.21% by December 31, 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively. Also included is the projection that the three-month London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") rate will move from 0.61% at December 31, 2015 to 1.32%, 1.81% and 1.76% by December 31, 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively. However, due to the significant decline in the 10-year U.S. Treasury rate below 2.00% subsequent to December 2015, we have revised the hypothetical low interest rate scenario on our 2016, 2017 and 2018 operating earnings for the total Company, as well as each segment and Corporate & Other, that would be significantly affected by changes in LIBOR and U.S. interest rates, but without the effect of the proposed Separation (described in further detail in Note 23 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements). The revised low interest rate scenario reflects a decrease in the assumed constant 10-Year U.S. Treasury rate from 2.00% to 1.50% with the corresponding consensus of interest rate views and credit spreads (the "Low Interest Rate Scenario").

The following summarizes the impact of the Low Interest Rate Scenario. In addition, we have included disclosure on the potential impact on 2016, 2017 and 2018 net income using the same Low Interest Rate Scenario on the mark-to-market of derivative positions that do not qualify as accounting hedges.

Table of Contents

Below is a summary of the rates we used for the Low Interest Rate Scenario versus our business plan through 2018. These rates represent the most relevant short-term and long-term rates for our business plan.

	Years Ended December 31,							
	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Low Interest Rate Scenario	Business Plan	Low Interest Rate Scenario	Business Plan	Low Interest Rate Scenario	Business Plan	Low Interest Rate Scenario	Business Plan
Three-month LIBOR	0.24%	0.61%	0.24%	1.32%	0.24%	1.81%	0.24%	1.76%
10-year U.S. Treasury	1.50%	2.27%	1.50%	2.78%	1.50%	3.07%	1.50%	3.21%

The Low Interest Rate Scenario assumes three-month LIBOR to be 0.24% and the 10-year U.S. Treasury rate to be 1.50% at December 31, 2015 and remain constant at those levels until December 31, 2018. We make similar assumptions for interest rates at other maturities, and hold this interest rate curve constant through December 31, 2018. In addition, in the Interest Rate Scenario, we assume credit spreads remain constant from December 2015 through the end of 2018 as compared to our business plan which assumes rising credit spreads through 2016 and thereafter remaining constant through the end of 2018. Further, we also include the impact of low interest rates on our pension and postretirement plan expenses. We allocate this impact across our segments and it is included in the segment discussion below. The discount rate used to value these plans is tied to high quality corporate bond yields. Accordingly, an extended low interest rate environment will result in increased pension and other postretirement benefit liabilities. However, these liabilities are offset by corresponding returns on the fixed income portfolio of pension and other postretirement benefit plan assets resulting in an overall decrease in expense.

Hypothetical Impact to Operating Earnings

Based on the above assumptions, we estimate an unfavorable combined long-term and short-term interest rate impact on our consolidated operating earnings from the Low Interest Rate Scenario of approximately $65 million in 2016, $210 million 2017 and $375 million in 2018. Under the Low Interest Rate Scenario, our long-term businesses are negatively impacted by the larger gap between new money yields and the yield on assets rolling off the portfolio. However, there are positive offsets under the Low Interest Rate Scenario as short-term rates are much lower than the business plan rates and the yield curve is steeper than that of the business plan. For example, our securities lending business performs better than our business plan because it is driven by the slope of the yield curve rather than by the level of interest rates. In addition, derivative income is higher primarily due to our receiver swaps where we receive a fixed rate and pay a floating rate.

In addition to its impact on operating earnings, we estimated the effect of the Low Interest Rate Scenario on the mark-to-market of our derivative positions that do not qualify as accounting hedges. We applied the Low Interest Rate Scenario to these derivatives and compared the impact to that from interest rates in our business plan. We hold a significant position in long duration receive-fixed interest rate swaps to hedge reinvestment risk. These swaps are most sensitive to the 30-year and 10-year swap rates and we recognize gains as rates drop and recognize losses as rates rise. This estimated impact on the derivative mark-to-market does not include that of our VA program derivatives as the impact of low interest rates in the freestanding derivatives would be largely offset by the mark-to-market in net derivative gains (losses) for the related embedded derivative.

Hypothetical Impact to Our Mark-to-Market Derivative Positions

Based on these additional assumptions, we estimate the combined long-term and short-term interest rate impact of the Low Interest Rate Scenario on the mark-to-market of our derivative positions that do not qualify as accounting hedges to be an increase in net income of $530 million and $40 million in 2016 and 2017, respectively, and a decrease in net income of $90 million in 2018. See "— Results of Operations — Consolidated Results" for information regarding our actual gains and losses on the Company's non-VA program derivatives due to interest rate changes (U.S. dollar and non-U.S. dollar denominated instruments) which are included in net income.

Segments and Corporate & Other

The following discussion summarizes the impact of the above Low Interest Rate Scenario on the operating earnings of our segments, as well as Corporate & Other. See also "— Policyholder Liabilities — Policyholder Account Balances" for information regarding the account values subject to minimum guaranteed crediting rates.

Retail

Life & Other – Our interest rate sensitive products include traditional life, universal life, and retained asset accounts. Because the majority of our traditional life insurance business is participating, we can largely offset lower investment returns on assets backing our traditional life products through adjustments to the applicable dividend scale. In our universal life products, we manage interest rate risk through a combination of product design features and ALM strategies, including the use of hedges such as interest rate swaps and floors. While we have the ability to lower crediting rates on certain in-force universal life policies to mitigate margin compression, such actions would be partially offset by increases in our liabilities related to policies with secondary guarantees. Our retained asset accounts have minimum interest crediting rate guarantees which range from 0.5% to 4.0%, all of which are currently at their respective minimum interest crediting rates. While we expect to experience margin compression as we reinvest at lower rates, the interest rate derivatives held in this portfolio will partially mitigate this risk.

Annuities – The impact on operating earnings from margin compression is concentrated in our deferred annuities where there are minimum interest rate guarantees. Under the Low Interest Rate Scenario, we assume that a larger percentage of customers will maintain their funds with us to take advantage of the attractive minimum guaranteed crediting rates and we expect to experience margin compression as we reinvest cash flows at lower interest rates. Partially offsetting this margin compression, we assume we will lower crediting rates on contractual reset dates for the portion of business that is not currently at minimum crediting rates. Additionally, we have various derivative positions, primarily interest rate floors, to partially mitigate this risk.

Reinvestment risk is defined for this purpose as the amount of reinvestment in 2016, 2017 and 2018 that would impact operating earnings due to reinvesting cash flows in the Low Interest Rate Scenario. For the deferred annuities business, $2.1 billion, $2.1 billion, and $0.4 billion in 2016, 2017, and 2018, respectively, of the asset base will be subject to reinvestment risk on an average asset base of $36.7 billion, $37.5 billion and $38.2 billion in 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively.

We estimate an unfavorable combined long-term and short-term interest rate impact on the operating earnings of our Retail segment from the Low Interest Rate Scenario of $10 million, $65 million and $165 million in 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively.

Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits

Group – In general, most of our group life insurance products in this segment are renewable term insurance and, therefore, have significant repricing flexibility. Interest rate risk arises mainly from minimum interest rate guarantees on retained asset accounts. These accounts have minimum interest crediting rate guarantees which range from 0.5% to 3.0%. All of these account balances are currently at their respective minimum interest crediting rates and we would expect to experience margin compression as we reinvest at lower interest rates. We have used interest rate floors to partially mitigate the risks of a sustained U.S. low interest rate environment. We also have exposure to interest rate risk in this business arising from our group disability policy claim reserves. For these products, lower reinvestment rates cannot be offset by a reduction in liability crediting rates for established claim reserves. Group disability policies are generally renewable term policies. Rates may be adjusted on in-force policies at renewal based on the retrospective experience rating and current interest rate assumptions. We review the discount rate assumptions and other assumptions associated with our long-term disability claim reserves no less frequently than annually. Our most recent review at the end of 2015 resulted in no change to the applicable discount rates.

Voluntary & Worksite – We have exposure to interest rate risk in this business arising mainly from our long-term care policy reserves. For these products, lower reinvestment rates cannot be offset by a reduction in liability crediting rates for established claim reserves. Long-term care policies are guaranteed renewable, and rates may be adjusted on a class basis with regulatory approval to reflect emerging experience. Our long-term care block is closed to new business.

The Company makes use of derivative instruments to more closely match asset and liability duration and immunize the portfolio against changes in interest rates. Reinvestment risk is defined for this purpose as the amount of reinvestment in 2016, 2017 and 2018 that would impact operating earnings due to reinvesting cash flows in the Low Interest Rate Scenario. For the long-term care portfolio, $1.8 billion, $1.7 billion and $1.5 billion of the asset base in 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively, will be subject to reinvestment risk on an average asset base of $10.5 billion, $11.2 billion and $11.8 billion in 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively.

We estimate a favorable combined long-term and short-term interest rate impact on the operating earnings of our Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits segment from the Low Interest Rate Scenario of $5 million in 2016 and an unfavorable impact of $10 million and $45 million 2017 and 2018, respectively.

Corporate Benefit Funding

This segment contains both short and long duration products consisting of capital market products, pension risk transfers, structured settlements, and other benefit funding products. The majority of short duration products are managed on a floating rate basis, which mitigates the impact of the low interest rate environment in the U.S. The long duration products have very predictable cash flows and we have matched these cash flows through our ALM strategies. We also use interest rate swaps to help protect income in this segment against a low interest rate environment in the U.S. Based on the cash flow estimates, only a small component is subject to reinvestment risk.

Reinvestment risk is defined for this purpose as the amount of reinvestment in 2016, 2017 and 2018 that would impact operating earnings due to reinvesting cash flows in the Low Interest Rate Scenario. For the long duration business, $0.6 billion of the asset base in 2016 will be subject to reinvestment risk on an average asset base of $60.6 billion. In 2017 and 2018, none of the asset base will be subject to reinvestment risk on an average asset base of $63.9 billion and $66.5 billion, respectively.

We estimate an unfavorable combined long-term and short-term interest rate impact on operating earnings on our Corporate Benefit Funding segment from the Low Interest Rate Scenario of $5 million, $30 million and $45 million in 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively.

Asia

Our Asia segment has a portion of its investments in U.S. dollar denominated assets.

Life & Other – Our Japan business offers traditional life insurance and accident & health products. To the extent the Japan life insurance portfolio is U.S. interest rate and LIBOR sensitive and we are unable to lower crediting rates to the customer, operating earnings will decline. We manage interest rate risk on our life products through a combination of product design features and ALM strategies.

Annuities – We sell annuities in Asia which are predominantly single premium products with crediting rates set at the time of issue. This allows us to tightly manage product ALM, cash flows and net spreads, thus maintaining profitability.

We estimate an unfavorable combined long-term and short-term interest rate impact on the operating earnings of our Asia segment from the Low Interest Rate Scenario of $25 million, $50 million and $60 million in 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively.

Corporate & Other

Corporate & Other contains the surplus portfolios for the enterprise, the portfolios used to fund the capital needs of the Company and various reinsurance agreements. The surplus portfolios are subject to reinvestment risk; however, lower net investment income is significantly offset by lower interest expense on both fixed and variable rate debt. Under a lower interest rate environment, fixed rate debt is assumed to be either paid off when it matures or refinanced at a lower interest rate resulting in lower overall interest expense. Variable rate debt is indexed to the three-month LIBOR, which results in lower interest expense incurred.

We estimate an unfavorable combined long-term and short-term interest rate impact on the operating earnings of Corporate & Other from the Low Interest Rate Scenario of $30 million, $55 million and $60 million in 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively.

Competitive Pressures

The life insurance industry remains highly competitive. The product development and product life cycles have shortened in many product segments, leading to more intense competition with respect to product features. Larger companies have the ability to invest in brand equity, product development, technology and risk management, which are among the fundamentals for sustained profitable growth in the life insurance industry. In addition, several of the industry's products can be quite homogeneous and subject to intense price competition. Sufficient scale, financial strength and financial flexibility are becoming prerequisites for sustainable growth in the life insurance industry. Larger market participants tend to have the capacity to invest in additional distribution capability and the information technology needed to offer the superior customer service demanded by an increasingly sophisticated industry client base. We believe that the continued volatility of the financial markets, its impact on the capital position of many competitors, and subsequent actions by regulators and rating agencies have altered the competitive environment. In particular, we believe that these factors have highlighted financial strength as the most significant differentiator from the perspective of some customers and certain distributors. We believe the Company is well positioned to compete in this environment.

Regulatory Developments

In the U.S., our life insurance companies are regulated primarily at the state level, with some products and services also subject to federal regulation. As life insurers introduce new and often more complex products, regulators refine capital requirements and introduce new reserving standards for the life insurance industry. Regulations recently adopted or currently under review can potentially impact the statutory reserve and capital requirements of the industry. In addition, regulators have undertaken market and sales practices reviews of several markets or products, including equity-indexed annuities, variable annuities and group products, as well as reviews of the utilization of affiliated captive reinsurers and offshore entities to reinsure insurance risks.

The regulation of the global financial services industry has received renewed scrutiny as a result of the disruptions in the financial markets. Significant regulatory reforms have been adopted and additional reforms proposed, and these or other reforms could be implemented. See "Business — Regulation," "Risk Factors — Regulatory and Legal Risks — Our Insurance and Brokerage Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth," "Risk Factors — Risks Related to Our Business — Our Statutory Life Insurance Reserve Financings May Be Subject to Cost Increases and New Financings May Be Subject to Limited Market Capacity," and "Risk Factors — Regulatory and Legal Risks — Changes in U.S. Federal, State Securities and State Insurance Laws and Regulations May Affect Our Operations and Our Profitability" in the 2015 Form 10-K. For example, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ("Dodd-Frank"), which was signed by President Obama in July 2010, effected the most far-reaching overhaul of financial regulation in the U.S. in decades. The full impact of Dodd-Frank on us will depend on the numerous rulemaking initiatives required or permitted by Dodd-Frank which are in various stages of implementation, many of which are not likely to be completed for some time.

Mortgage and Foreclosure-Related Exposures

MetLife no longer engages in the origination, sale and servicing of forward and reverse residential mortgage loans. See Note 21 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information regarding our mortgage and foreclosure-related exposures.

Notwithstanding the exit of MetLife Bank, National Association ("MetLife Bank") from the origination and servicing businesses, MetLife Home Loans, LLC ("MLHL") remains obligated to repurchase loans or compensate for losses upon demand due to alleged defects by MetLife Bank or its predecessor servicers in past servicing of the loans and material representations made in connection with MetLife Bank's sale of the loans. Reserves for representation and warranty repurchases and indemnifications were $72 million and $85 million at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Reserves for estimated future losses due to alleged deficiencies on loans originated and sold, as well as servicing of the loans including servicing acquired, are estimated based on unresolved claims and projected losses under investor servicing contracts where MetLife Bank's past actions or inactions are likely to result in missing certain stipulated investor timelines. Reserves for servicing defects were $31 million and $38 million at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Management is satisfied that adequate provision has been made in the Company's consolidated financial

statements for those representation and warranty obligations that are currently probable and reasonably estimable.
Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates
The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to adopt accounting policies and make estimates and assumptions that affect amounts reported in the Consolidated Financial Statements. For a discussion of our significant accounting policies, see Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The most critical estimates include those used in determining:

(i) liabilities for future policy benefits and the accounting for reinsurance;
(ii) capitalization and amortization of DAC and the establishment and amortization of VOBA;
(iii) estimated fair values of investments in the absence of quoted market values;
(iv) investment impairments;
(v) estimated fair values of freestanding derivatives and the recognition and estimated fair value of embedded derivatives requiring bifurcation;
(vi) measurement of goodwill and related impairment;
(vii) measurement of employee benefit plan liabilities;
(viii) measurement of income taxes and the valuation of deferred tax assets; and
(xi) liabilities for litigation and regulatory matters.

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

Table of Contents

Liability for Future Policy Benefits

Generally, future policy benefits are payable over an extended period of time and related liabilities are calculated as the present value of future expected benefits to be paid, reduced by the present value of future expected premiums. Such liabilities are established based on methods and underlying assumptions in accordance with GAAP and applicable actuarial standards. Principal assumptions used in the establishment of liabilities for future policy benefits are mortality, morbidity, policy lapse, renewal, retirement, disability incidence, disability terminations, investment returns, inflation, expenses and other contingent events as appropriate to the respective product type and geographical area. These assumptions are established at the time the policy is issued and are intended to estimate the experience for the period the policy benefits are payable. Utilizing these assumptions, liabilities are established on a block of business basis. If experience is less favorable than assumed, additional liabilities may be established, resulting in a charge to policyholder benefits and claims.

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

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

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

We regularly review our estimates of liabilities for future policy benefits and compare them with our actual experience. Differences between actual experience and the assumptions used in pricing these policies and guarantees, as well as in the establishment of the related liabilities, result in variances in profit and could result in losses.

See Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on our liability for future policy benefits.

Reinsurance

Accounting for reinsurance requires extensive use of assumptions and estimates, particularly related to the future performance of the underlying business and the potential impact of counterparty credit risks. We periodically review actual and anticipated experience compared to the aforementioned assumptions used to establish assets and liabilities relating to ceded and assumed reinsurance and evaluate the financial strength of counterparties to our reinsurance agreements using criteria similar to that evaluated in our security impairment process. See “— Investment Impairments.”

Additionally, for each of our reinsurance agreements, we determine whether the agreement provides indemnification against loss or liability relating to insurance risk, in accordance with applicable accounting standards. We review all contractual features, including those that may limit the amount of insurance risk to which the reinsurer is subject or features that delay the timely reimbursement of claims. If we determine that a reinsurance agreement does not expose the reinsurer to a reasonable possibility of a significant loss from insurance risk, we record the agreement using the deposit method of accounting.

See Note 6 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on our reinsurance programs.

Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs and Value of Business Acquired

We incur significant costs in connection with acquiring new and renewal insurance business. Costs that relate directly to the successful acquisition or renewal of insurance contracts are deferred as DAC. In addition to commissions, certain direct-response advertising expenses and other direct costs, deferrable costs include the portion of an employee’s total compensation and benefits related to time spent selling, underwriting or processing the issuance of new and renewal insurance business only with respect to actual policies acquired or renewed. We utilize various techniques to estimate the portion of an employee's time spent on qualifying acquisition activities that result in actual sales, including surveys, interviews, representative time studies and other methods. These estimates include assumptions that are reviewed and updated on a periodic basis or more frequently to reflect significant changes in processes or distribution methods.

VOBA represents the excess of book value over the estimated fair value of acquired insurance, annuity, and investment-type contracts in force at the acquisition date. For certain acquired blocks of business, the estimated fair value of the in-force contract obligations exceeded the book value of assumed in-force insurance policy liabilities, resulting in negative VOBA, which is presented separately from VOBA as an additional insurance liability included in other policy-related balances. The estimated fair value of the acquired liabilities is based on projections, by each block of business, of future policy and contract charges, premiums, mortality and morbidity, separate account performance, surrenders, operating expenses, investment returns, nonperformance risk adjustment and other factors. Actual experience on the purchased business may vary from these projections. The recovery of DAC and VOBA is dependent upon the future profitability of the related business.

Separate account rates of return on variable universal life contracts and variable deferred annuity contracts affect in-force account balances on such contracts each reporting period, which can result in significant fluctuations in amortization of DAC and VOBA. Our practice to determine the impact of gross profits resulting from returns on separate accounts assumes that long-term appreciation in equity markets is not changed by short-term market fluctuations, but is only changed when sustained interim deviations are expected. We monitor these events and only change the assumption when our long-term expectation changes. The effect of an increase (decrease) by 100 basis points in the assumed future rate of return is reasonably likely to result in a decrease (increase) in the DAC and VOBA amortization with an offset to our unearned revenue liability which nets to approximately $200 million. We use a mean reversion approach to separate account returns where the mean reversion period is five years with a long-term separate account return after the five-year reversion period is over. The current long-term rate of return assumption for the variable universal life contracts and variable deferred annuity contracts is 7.25%.

We also periodically review other long-term assumptions underlying the projections of estimated gross margins and profits. These assumptions primarily relate to investment returns, policyholder dividend scales, interest crediting rates, mortality, persistency, and expenses to administer business.

Table of Contents

Assumptions used in the calculation of estimated gross margins and profits which may have significantly changed are updated annually. If the update of assumptions causes expected future gross margins and profits to increase, DAC and VOBA amortization will decrease, resulting in a current period increase to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the assumption update causes expected future gross margins and profits to decrease.

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

At December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, DAC and VOBA for the Company was $24.1 billion, $24.4 billion and $26.7 billion, respectively. Amortization of DAC and VOBA associated with the variable and universal life and the annuity contracts was significantly impacted by movements in equity markets. The following illustrates the effect on DAC and VOBA of changing each of the respective assumptions, as well as updating estimated gross margins or profits with actual gross margins or profits during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013. Increases (decreases) in DAC and VOBA balances, as presented below, resulted in a corresponding decrease (increase) in amortization.

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
General account investment return	$(72)	$(45)	$(66)
Separate account investment return	(31)	43	157
Net investment gains (losses)/Net derivative gains (losses)	(9)	(42)	195
Guaranteed minimum income benefits	(125)	(63)	337
Expense	(93)	24	36
In-force/Persistency	220	94	72
Policyholder dividends and other	(39)	(74)	8
Total	$(149)	$(63)	$739

The following represent significant items contributing to the changes to DAC and VOBA amortization in 2015:

- Changes in net investment and net derivative gains (losses) resulted in the following changes in DAC and VOBA amortization:
  - Actual gross profits decreased as a result of an increase in liabilities associated with guarantee obligations on variable annuities, resulting in a decrease of DAC and VOBA amortization of $338 million, excluding the impact from our nonperformance risk and risk margins, which are described below. Mark-to-market changes on the freestanding derivatives hedging such guarantee obligations resulted in an increase in DAC and VOBA amortization of $114 million.
  - The Company's nonperformance risk adjustment decreased the valuation of guaranteed liabilities, increased actual gross profits and increased DAC and VOBA amortization by $17 million. This was partially offset by the lower risk margins, which increased the guarantee liability valuations, decreased actual gross profits and decreased DAC and VOBA amortization by $10 million.
  - The remainder of the impact increased DAC and VOBA amortization by $226 million and was attributable to 2015 investment activities, methodology refinement, and assumption updates.
- The change in guaranteed minimum income benefits ("GMIBs") resulted in an increase to DAC amortization of $125 million mostly attributable to hedge gains.
- Better than expected persistency and updates in persistency assumptions caused an increase in actual and expected future gross profits resulting in a net decrease in DAC and VOBA amortization of $220 million.

The following represent significant items contributing to the changes to DAC and VOBA amortization in 2014:

-

- The increase in equity markets during the year increased separate account balances, which led to higher actual and expected future gross profits on variable universal life contracts and variable deferred annuity contracts resulting in a decrease of $43 million in DAC and VOBA amortization.

- Changes in net investment gains (losses) resulted in the following changes in DAC and VOBA amortization.
  - Actual gross profits decreased as a result of an increase in liabilities associated with guarantee obligations on variable annuities, resulting in a decrease of DAC and VOBA amortization of $118 million, excluding the impact from our nonperformance risk and risk margins, which are described below. This decrease in actual gross profits was more than offset by freestanding net derivative gains associated with the hedging of such guarantee obligations, which resulted in an increase in DAC and VOBA amortization of $219 million.
  - The widening of the Company's nonperformance risk adjustment decreased the valuation of guaranteed liabilities, increased actual gross profits and increased DAC and VOBA amortization by $44 million. This was more than offset by the higher risk margins, which increased the guarantee liability valuations, decreased actual gross profits and decreased DAC and VOBA amortization by $53 million.
  - The remainder of the impact of net investment gains (losses), which decreased DAC and VOBA amortization by $50 million, was primarily attributable to 2014 investment activities.

- The change in current and future projected GMIBs liability resulted in an increase to DAC amortization of $63 million.

Table of Contents

- Better than expected persistency and changes in assumptions regarding persistency caused an increase in actual and expected future gross profits resulting in a net decrease in DAC and VOBA amortization of $94 million.

The following represent significant items contributing to the changes to DAC and VOBA amortization in 2013:

- The increase in equity markets during the year increased separate account balances, which led to higher actual and expected future gross profits on variable universal life contracts and variable deferred annuity contracts resulting in a decrease of $157 million in DAC and VOBA amortization.
- Changes in net investment gains (losses) resulted in the following changes in DAC and VOBA amortization:
  - Actual gross profits increased as a result of a decrease in liabilities associated with guarantee obligations on variable annuities, resulting in an increase of DAC and VOBA amortization of $1.1 billion, excluding the impact from our nonperformance risk and risk margins, which are described below. This increase in actual gross profits was more than offset by freestanding derivative losses associated with the hedging of such guarantee obligations, which resulted in a decrease in DAC and VOBA amortization of $1.2 billion.
  - The tightening of our nonperformance risk adjustment increased the valuation of guarantee liabilities, decreased actual gross profits and decreased DAC and VOBA amortization by $94 million. This was partially offset by lower risk margins, which decreased the guarantee liability valuations, increased actual gross profits and increased DAC and VOBA amortization by $60 million.
  - The remainder of the impact of net investment gains (losses), which decreased DAC and VOBA amortization by $72 million, was primarily attributable to 2013 investment activities.
- The hedging and reinsurance losses associated with the insurance liabilities of the GMIBs decreased actual gross profits and decreased DAC and VOBA amortization by $349 million.

Our DAC and VOBA balance is also impacted by unrealized investment gains (losses) and the amount of amortization which would have been recognized if such gains and losses had been realized. The decrease in unrealized investment gains (losses) increased the DAC and VOBA balance by $638 million in 2015, while the change in unrealized investment gains decreased the DAC and VOBA balance by $702 million and increased the DAC and VOBA balance by $1.3 billion in 2014 and 2013, respectively. See Notes 5 and 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the DAC and VOBA offset to unrealized investment losses.

Estimated Fair Value of Investments

In determining the estimated fair value of our investments, fair values are based on unadjusted quoted prices for identical investments in active markets that are readily and regularly obtainable. When such quoted prices are not available, fair values are based on quoted prices in markets that are not active, quoted prices for similar but not identical investments, or other observable inputs. If these inputs are not available, or observable inputs are not determinable, unobservable inputs and/or adjustments to observable inputs requiring management judgment are used to determine the estimated fair value of investments.

The methodologies, assumptions and inputs utilized are described in Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

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

Investment Impairments

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

Additionally, we consider a wide range of factors about the security issuer and use our best judgment in evaluating the cause of the decline in the estimated fair value of the security and in assessing the prospects for near-term recovery. Inherent in our evaluation of the security are assumptions and estimates about the operations of the issuer and its future earnings potential. Factors we consider in the OTTI evaluation process are described in Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

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

See Notes 1 and 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information relating to our determination of the amount of allowances and impairments.

Derivatives

The determination of the estimated fair value of freestanding derivatives, when quoted market values are not available, is based on market standard valuation methodologies and inputs that management believes are consistent with what other market participants would use when pricing the instruments. Derivative valuations can be affected by changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, financial indices, credit spreads, default risk, nonperformance risk, volatility, liquidity and changes in estimates and assumptions used in the pricing models. See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional details on significant inputs into the over-the-counter (“OTC”) derivative pricing models and credit risk adjustment.

Table of Contents

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

The table below illustrates the impact that a range of reasonably likely variances in credit spreads would have on our consolidated balance sheet, excluding the effect of income tax, related to the embedded derivative valuation on certain variable annuity products measured at estimated fair value. However, these estimated effects do not take into account potential changes in other variables, such as equity price levels and market volatility, which can also contribute significantly to changes in carrying values. Therefore, the table does not necessarily reflect the ultimate impact on the consolidated financial statement under the credit spread variance scenarios presented below.

In determining the ranges, we have considered current market conditions, as well as the market level of spreads that can reasonably be anticipated over the near term. The ranges do not reflect extreme market conditions such as those experienced during the 2008-2009 financial crisis as we do not consider those to be reasonably likely events in the near future.

	Changes in Balance Sheet Carrying Value At December 31, 2015	
	Policyholder Account Balances	DAC and VOBA
	(In millions)	
100% increase in our credit spread	$ 549	$ (111)
As reported	$ 946	$ (64)
50% decrease in our credit spread	$ 1,165	$ (37)

The accounting for derivatives is complex and interpretations of accounting standards continue to evolve in practice. If it is determined that hedge accounting designations were not appropriately applied, reported net income could be materially affected. Assessments of hedge effectiveness and measurements of ineffectiveness of hedging relationships are also subject to interpretations and estimations and different interpretations or estimates may have a material effect on the amount reported in net income.

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

Additionally, we ceded the risk associated with certain of the variable annuities with guaranteed minimum benefits described in the preceding paragraphs. The value of the embedded derivatives on the ceded risk is determined using a methodology consistent with that described previously for the guarantees directly written by us with the exception of the input for nonperformance risk that reflects the credit of the reinsurer. Because certain of the direct guarantees do not meet the definition of an embedded derivative and, thus are not accounted for at fair value, significant fluctuations in net income may occur since the change in fair value of the embedded derivative on the ceded risk is being recorded in net income without a corresponding and offsetting change in fair value of the direct guarantee.

See Note 9 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on our derivatives and hedging programs.

Goodwill

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

For purposes of goodwill impairment testing, if the carrying value of a reporting unit exceeds its estimated fair value, the implied fair value of the reporting unit goodwill is compared to the carrying value of that goodwill to measure the amount of impairment loss, if any. In such instances, the implied fair value of the goodwill is determined in the same manner as the amount of goodwill that would be determined in a business acquisition. The Company tests goodwill for impairment by either performing a qualitative assessment or a two-step quantitative test. The qualitative assessment is an assessment of historical information and relevant events and circumstances to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, including goodwill. The Company may elect not to perform the qualitative assessment for some or all of its reporting units and instead perform a two-step quantitative impairment test. In performing the two-step quantitative impairment test, the Company may use a market multiple valuation approach and a discounted cash flow valuation approach. For reporting units which are particularly sensitive to market assumptions, the Company may use additional valuation methodologies to estimate the reporting units' fair values. The key inputs, judgments and assumptions necessary in determining estimated fair value of the reporting units include projected operating earnings, current book value, the level of economic capital required to support the mix of business, long-term growth rates, comparative market multiples, control premium, the account value of in-force business, projections of new and renewal business, as well as margins on such business, the level of interest rates, credit spreads, equity market levels, and the discount rate that we believe is appropriate for the respective reporting unit.

During the 2015, 2014 and 2013 annual goodwill impairment tests, we concluded that the fair values of all reporting units were in excess of their carrying values and, therefore, goodwill was not impaired.

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

See Note 11 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on our goodwill.

Employee Benefit Plans

Certain subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. sponsor and/or administer various plans that provide defined benefit pension and other postretirement benefits covering eligible employees and sales representatives. The calculation of the obligations and expenses associated with these plans requires an extensive use of assumptions such as the discount rate, expected rate of return on plan assets, rate of future compensation increases and healthcare cost trend rates, as well as assumptions regarding participant demographics such as rate and age of retirements, withdrawal rates and mortality. In consultation with external actuarial firms, we determine these assumptions based upon a variety of factors such as historical experience of the plan and its assets, currently available market and industry data, and expected benefit payout streams.

We determine the expected rate of return on plan assets based upon an approach that considers inflation, real return, term premium, credit spreads, equity risk premium and capital appreciation, as well as expenses, expected asset manager performance, asset weights and the effect of rebalancing. Given the amount of plan assets as of December 31, 2014 the beginning of the measurement year, if we had assumed an expected rate of return for both our pension and other postretirement benefit plans that was 100 basis points higher or 100 basis points lower than the rates we assumed, the change in our net periodic benefit costs would have been a decrease of $103 million and an increase of $103 million, respectively, in 2015. This considers only changes in our assumed long-term rate of return given the level and mix of invested assets at the beginning of the year, without consideration of possible changes in any of the other assumptions described above that could ultimately accompany any changes in our assumed long-term rate of return.

We determine the discount rates used to value the pension and postretirement obligations, based upon rates commensurate with current yields on high quality corporate bonds. Given our pension and postretirement obligations as of December 31, 2014, the beginning of the measurement year, if we had assumed a discount rate for both our pension and postretirement benefit plans that was 100 basis points higher or 100 basis points lower than the rates we assumed, the change in our net periodic benefit costs would have been a decrease of $133 million and an increase of $155 million, respectively, in 2015. This considers only changes in our assumed discount rates without consideration of possible changes in any of the other assumptions described above that could ultimately accompany any changes in our assumed discount rate. The assumptions used may differ materially from actual results due to, among other factors, changing market and economic conditions and changes in participant demographics. These differences may have a significant effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements and liquidity.

See Note 18 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional discussion of assumptions used in measuring liabilities relating to our employee benefit plans.

Income Taxes

We provide for federal, state and foreign income taxes currently payable, as well as those deferred due to temporary differences between the financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities. Our accounting for income taxes represents our best estimate of various events and transactions. Tax laws are often complex and may be subject to differing interpretations by the taxpayer and the relevant governmental taxing authorities. In establishing a provision for income tax expense, we must make judgments and interpretations about the application of inherently complex tax laws. We must also make estimates about when in the future certain items will affect taxable income in the various tax jurisdictions, both domestic and foreign.

In establishing a liability for unrecognized tax benefits, assumptions may be made in determining whether, and to what extent, a tax position may be sustained. Once established, unrecognized tax benefits are adjusted when there is more information available or when events occur requiring a change.

Valuation allowances are established against deferred tax assets when management determines, based on available information, that it is more likely than not that deferred income tax assets will not be realized. Significant judgment is required in determining whether valuation allowances should be established, as well as the amount of such allowances. See Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information relating to our determination of such valuation allowances.

We may be required to change our provision for income taxes when estimates used in determining valuation allowances on deferred tax assets significantly change, or when receipt of new information indicates the need for adjustment in valuation allowances. Additionally, future events, such as changes in tax laws, tax regulations, or interpretations of such laws or regulations, could have an impact on the provision for income tax and the effective tax rate. Any such changes could significantly affect the amounts reported in the financial statements in the year these changes occur.

See Notes 1 and 19 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information on our income taxes.

Litigation Contingencies

We are a party to a number of legal actions and are involved in a number of regulatory investigations. Given the inherent unpredictability of these matters, it is difficult to estimate the impact on our financial position. Liabilities are established when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities related to certain lawsuits, including our asbestos-related liability, are especially difficult to estimate due to the limitation of available data and uncertainty regarding numerous variables that can affect liability estimates. The data and variables that impact the assumptions used to estimate our asbestos-related liability include the number of future claims, the cost to resolve claims, the disease

Table of Contents

mix and severity of disease in pending and future claims, the impact of the number of new claims filed in a particular jurisdiction and variations in the law in the jurisdictions in which claims are filed, the possible impact of tort reform efforts, the willingness of courts to allow plaintiffs to pursue claims against us when exposure to asbestos took place after the dangers of asbestos exposure were well known, and the impact of any possible future adverse verdicts and their amounts. On a quarterly and annual basis, we review relevant information with respect to liabilities for litigation, regulatory investigations and litigation-related contingencies to be reflected in our consolidated financial statements. It is possible that an adverse outcome in certain of our litigation and regulatory investigations, including asbestos-related cases, or the use of different assumptions in the determination of amounts recorded could have a material effect upon our consolidated net income or cash flows in particular quarterly or annual periods.

See Note 21 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information regarding our assessment of litigation contingencies.

Economic Capital

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

Our economic capital model, coupled with considerations of local capital requirements, aligns segment allocated equity with emerging standards and consistent risk principles. The model applies statistics-based risk evaluation principles to the material risks to which the Company is exposed. These consistent risk principles include calibrating required economic capital shock factors to a specific confidence level and time horizon while applying an industry standard method for the inclusion of diversification benefits among risk types. Economic capital-based risk estimation is an evolving science and industry best practices have emerged and continue to evolve. Areas of evolving industry best practices include stochastic liability valuation techniques, alternative methodologies for the calculation of diversification benefits, and the quantification of appropriate shock levels. MetLife's management is responsible for the ongoing production and enhancement of the economic capital model and reviews its approach periodically to ensure that it remains consistent with emerging industry practice standards.

Segment net investment income is credited or charged based on the level of allocated equity; however, changes in allocated equity do not impact our consolidated net investment income, operating earnings or income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax.

Net investment income is based upon the actual results of each segment's specifically identifiable investment portfolios adjusted for allocated equity. Other costs are allocated to each of the segments based upon: (i) a review of the nature of such costs; (ii) time studies analyzing the amount of employee compensation costs incurred by each segment; and (iii) cost estimates included in the Company's product pricing.

Acquisitions and Dispositions

In 2014, the life insurance joint venture in Vietnam among MetLife, Inc. (through MetLife Limited), Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Investment & Development of Vietnam and Bank for Investment & Development of Vietnam Insurance Joint Stock Corporation was established. Operations of the joint venture (BIDV MetLife Life Insurance Limited Liability Company) commenced in 2014.

In 2014, MetLife, Inc. and Malaysia's AMMB Holdings Bhd ("AMMB") completed the formation of their strategic partnership, in which each holds approximately 50% of both AmMetLife Insurance Berhad and AmMetTakaful Berhad, each of which became parties to exclusive 20-year distribution agreements with AMMB bank affiliates.

See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the Company's acquisitions and dispositions.

Table of Contents

Results of Operations

Consolidated Results

Business Overview. Overall sales declined from 2014 levels; however, sales experience was positive across various products within our regions for the year ended December 31, 2015 as compared to 2014. The introduction of new variable annuity products in late 2014 and early 2015, as well as pricing actions and our continued focus on our enhanced underwriting programs, all contributed to higher sales in our Retail segment. For our Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits segment, 2015 sales were slightly higher, as improved sales of voluntary products were largely offset by lower sales of our core group products as a result of increased competition. Despite the decline in funding ratios for defined benefit pension plans of S&P 500 companies, we experienced an increase in sales of pension risk transfers. However, more competitive pricing in the market drove a decrease in structured settlement annuity sales. Total sales for our Latin America segment decreased primarily due to the impact of a large contract in Mexico in 2014. Excluding this contract, sales for the region increased due to organic growth in several countries. Sales in our EMEA segment improved, while sales in our Asia segment declined slightly.

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Revenues			
Premiums	$38,545	$39,067	$37,674
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	9,507	9,946	9,451
Net investment income	19,281	21,153	22,232
Other revenues	1,983	2,030	1,920
Net investment gains (losses)	597	(197)	161
Net derivative gains (losses)	38	1,317	(3,239)
Total revenues	69,951	73,316	68,199
Expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	40,102	40,478	39,366
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	5,610	6,943	8,179
Capitalization of DAC	(3,837)	(4,183)	(4,786)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	3,936	4,132	3,550
Amortization of negative VOBA	(361)	(442)	(579)
Interest expense on debt	1,208	1,216	1,282
Other expenses	15,823	16,368	17,135
Total expenses	62,481	64,512	64,147
Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax	7,470	8,804	4,052
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	2,148	2,465	661
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	5,322	6,339	3,391
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	—	(3)	2
Net income (loss)	5,322	6,336	3,393
Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	12	27	25
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	5,310	6,309	3,368
Less: Preferred stock dividends	116	122	122
Preferred stock repurchase premium	42	—	—
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	$5,152	$6,187	$3,246

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014

During the year ended December 31, 2015, income (loss) from continuing operations, before provision for income tax, decreased $1.3 billion ($1.0 billion, net of income tax) from 2014 primarily due to an unfavorable change in operating earnings, driven by the aforementioned tax charge and related charge for interest on uncertain tax positions, and an unfavorable change in net derivative gains (losses), partially offset by a favorable change in net investment gains (losses).

Management of Investment Portfolio and Hedging Market Risks with Derivatives. We manage our investment portfolio using disciplined ALM principles, focusing on cash flow and duration to support our current and future liabilities. Our intent is to match the timing and amount of liability cash outflows with invested assets that have cash inflows of comparable timing and amount, while optimizing risk-adjusted net investment income and risk-adjusted total return. Our investment portfolio is heavily weighted toward fixed income investments, with over 80% of our portfolio invested in fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans. These securities and loans have varying maturities and other characteristics which cause them to be generally well suited for matching the cash flow and duration of insurance liabilities. We also use derivatives as an integral part of our management of the investment portfolio to hedge certain risks, including changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, credit spreads and equity market levels. In addition, our general account investment portfolio includes, within fair value option ("FVO") and trading securities, contractholder-directed unit-linked investments supporting unit-linked variable annuity type liabilities, which do not qualify as separate account assets. The returns

Table of Contents

on these contractholder-directed unit-linked investments, which can vary significantly from period to period, include changes in estimated fair value subsequent to purchase, inure to contractholders and are offset in earnings by a corresponding change in policyholder account balances through interest credited to policyholder account balances.

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

We use freestanding interest rate, equity, credit and currency derivatives to hedge certain invested assets and insurance liabilities. Certain of these hedges are designated and qualify as accounting hedges, which reduce volatility in earnings. For those hedges not designated as accounting hedges, changes in market factors lead to the recognition of fair value changes in net derivative gains (losses) generally without an offsetting gain or loss recognized in earnings for the item being hedged, which creates volatility in earnings.

Certain variable annuity products with guaranteed minimum benefits contain embedded derivatives that are measured at estimated fair value separately from the host variable annuity contract, with changes in estimated fair value recorded in net derivative gains (losses). We use freestanding derivatives to hedge the market risks inherent in these variable annuity guarantees. The valuation of these embedded derivatives includes a nonperformance risk adjustment, which is unhedged, and can be a significant driver of net derivative gains (losses) and volatility in earnings, but does not have an economic impact on us.

Net Derivative Gains (Losses). The variable annuity embedded derivatives and associated freestanding derivative hedges are collectively referred to as “VA program derivatives” in the following table. All other derivatives that are economic hedges of certain invested assets and insurance liabilities are referred to as “non-VA program derivatives” in the following table. The table below presents the impact on net derivative gains (losses) from non-VA program derivatives and VA program derivatives:

	Years Ended December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Non-VA program derivatives		
Interest rate	$171	$927
Foreign currency exchange rate	397	(25)
Credit	10	89
Equity	(172)	(62)
Non-VA embedded derivatives	38	(99)
Total non-VA program derivatives	444	830
VA program derivatives		
Market risks in embedded derivatives	511	31
Nonperformance risk on embedded derivatives	163	13
Other risks in embedded derivatives	(951)	(266)
Total embedded derivatives	(277)	(222)
Freestanding derivatives hedging embedded derivatives	(129)	709
Total VA program derivatives	(406)	487
Net derivative gains (losses)	$38	$1,317

The unfavorable change in net derivative gains (losses) on non-VA program derivatives was $386 million ($251 million, net of income tax). This was primarily due to long-term interest rates decreasing less in 2015 than in 2014, unfavorably impacting receive-fixed interest rate swaptions and interest rate swaps primarily hedging long duration liability portfolios.

These unfavorable changes were partially offset by the strengthening of the U.S. dollar relative to other key currencies favorably impacting foreign currency forwards and futures that primarily hedge foreign denominated fixed maturity securities. In addition, a change in the value of the underlying assets favorably impacted non-VA embedded derivatives related to funds withheld on a certain reinsurance agreement. Because certain of these hedging strategies are not designated or do not qualify as accounting hedges, the changes in the estimated fair value of these freestanding derivatives are recognized in net derivative gains (losses) without an offsetting gain or loss recognized in earnings for the item being hedged.

The unfavorable change in net derivative gains (losses) on VA program derivatives was $893 million ($580 million, net of income tax). This was due to an unfavorable change of $685 million ($445 million, net of income tax) in other risks in embedded derivatives and an unfavorable change of $358 million ($233 million, net of income tax) in market risks in embedded derivatives, net of the impact of freestanding derivatives hedging those risks, partially offset by a favorable change of $150 million ($98 million, net of income tax) related to the change in the nonperformance risk adjustment on embedded derivatives. Other risks relate primarily to the impact of policyholder behavior and other non-market risks that generally cannot be hedged.

The foregoing $685 million ($445 million, net of income tax) unfavorable change in other risks in embedded derivatives reflected:

- Refinements in the valuation model, which resulted in an unfavorable year over year change in the valuation of the embedded derivatives.

Table of Contents

- The cross effect of capital markets changes, which resulted in an unfavorable year over year change in the valuation of the embedded derivatives.
- A combination of other factors, including reserve changes influenced by benefit features and policyholder behavior, as well as FCTA, which resulted in an unfavorable year over year change in the valuation of embedded derivatives.

The foregoing $358 million ($233 million, net of income tax) unfavorable change was comprised of an $838 million ($545 million, net of income tax) unfavorable change in freestanding derivatives hedging market risks in embedded derivatives, which was partially offset by a $480 million ($312 million, net of income tax) favorable change in market risks in embedded derivatives.

The primary changes in market factors are summarized as follows:

- Long-term interest rates decreased less in 2015 than in 2014, contributing to an unfavorable change in our freestanding derivatives and a favorable change in our embedded derivatives. For example, the 30-year U.S. swap rate decreased by 3% in 2015 and 31% in 2014.
- Key equity index levels decreased in 2015 and increased in 2014, contributing to a favorable change in our freestanding derivatives and an unfavorable change in our embedded derivatives. For example, the S&P 500 Index decreased by 1% in 2015 and increased by 11% in 2014.
- Changes in foreign currency exchange rates contributed to a favorable change in our freestanding derivatives and an unfavorable change in our embedded derivatives related to the assumed reinsurance of certain variable annuity products from the Company's former operating joint venture in Japan. For example, the Japanese yen strengthened against the euro by 10% in 2015 as compared with a weakening of less than 1% against the euro in 2014.

The aforementioned $150 million ($98 million, net of income tax) favorable change in the nonperformance risk adjustment on embedded derivatives was due to a favorable change of $148 million, before income tax, related to changes in our own credit spread and a favorable change of $2 million, before income tax, as a result of changes in capital market inputs, such as long-term interest rates and key equity index levels, on the variable annuity guarantees.

When equity index levels decrease in isolation, the variable annuity guarantees become more valuable to policyholders, which results in an increase in the undiscounted embedded derivative liability. Discounting this unfavorable change by the risk adjusted rate yields a smaller loss than by discounting at the risk-free rate, thus creating a gain from including an adjustment for nonperformance risk.

When the risk-free interest rate decreases in isolation, discounting the embedded derivative liability produces a higher valuation of the liability than if the risk-free interest rate had remained constant. Discounting this unfavorable change by the risk adjusted rate yields a smaller loss than by discounting at the risk-free interest rate, thus creating a gain from including an adjustment for nonperformance risk.

When our own credit spread increases in isolation, discounting the embedded derivative liability produces a lower valuation of the liability than if our own credit spread had remained constant. As a result, a gain is created from including an adjustment for nonperformance risk. For each of these primary market drivers, the opposite effect occurs when they move in the opposite direction.

Net Investment Gains (Losses). The favorable change in net investment gains (losses) of $794 million ($516 million, net of income tax) primarily reflects a loss in 2014 on the disposition of MAL and higher net gains on sales of real estate in 2015, partially offset by lower net gains on sales and disposals of fixed maturity securities in 2015. For further information on MAL, see Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Actuarial Assumption Review. Results for 2015 include a $313 million ($203 million, net of income tax) charge associated with our annual assumption review related to reserves and DAC, of which a $3 million loss ($2 million, net of income tax) was recognized in net derivative gains (losses). Of the $313 million charge, $60 million ($39 million, net of income tax) was related to DAC and $253 million ($164 million, net of income tax) was associated with reserves.

The $3 million loss recognized in net derivative gains (losses) associated with our annual assumption review was included within the other risks in embedded derivatives caption in the table above.

As a result of our annual assumption review, changes were made to economic, policyholder behavior, mortality and other assumptions. The most significant impacts were in the Retail Life and Annuity blocks of business and are summarized as follows:

- Changes in economic assumptions resulted in an increase of DAC and reserves, resulting in a net charge of $122 million ($79 million, net of income tax).
- Changes in policyholder behavior and mortality assumptions resulted in reserve increases, offset by favorable DAC, resulting in a net charge of $91 million ($59 million, net of income tax).
- The remaining updates resulted in an increase in reserves, coupled with unfavorable DAC, resulting in a charge of $100 million ($65 million, net of income tax). The most notable update was related to our projection of closed block results.

Results for 2014 include a $161 million ($105 million, net of income tax) benefit associated with our annual assumption review related to reserves and DAC, of which $137 million ($89 million, net of income tax) was recognized in net derivative gains (losses). Of the $161 million benefit, $82 million ($53 million, net of income tax) was related to DAC and $79 million ($52 million, net of income tax) was associated with reserves.

Taxes. Income tax expense for the year ended December 31, 2015 was $2.1 billion, or 29% of income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax, compared with $2.5 billion, or 28% of income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax, for the year ended December 31, 2014. The Company's 2015 effective tax rate differs from the U.S. statutory rate of 35% primarily due to non-taxable investment income, tax credits for low income housing, and foreign earnings taxed at lower rates than the U.S. statutory rate. Our 2015 results include one-time tax charges of $681 million, of which $557 million was recorded under accounting guidance for the recognition of tax uncertainties, $88 million was related to foreign exchange-related gains on investments in Argentina and $36 million was the result of a deferred tax liability true-up in Japan. These charges were partially offset by one-time tax benefits of $174 million in Japan related to a change in tax rate, $61 million related to restructuring in Chile, $57 million related to the repatriation of earnings from Japan and $31 million related to the devaluation of the peso in Argentina. The Company's 2014 effective tax rate was different from the U.S. statutory rate of 35% primarily due to non-taxable investment income,

Table of Contents

tax credits for low income housing, foreign earnings taxed at lower rates than the U.S. statutory rate, and the tax effects of the MAL divestiture. The 2014 period also includes a $54 million tax charge related to tax reform in Chile, a $45 million tax charge related to the repatriation of earnings from Japan and an $18 million tax charge related to a portion of the aforementioned settlement of a licensing matter which was not deductible for income tax purposes, partially offset by a $32 million one-time tax benefit related to the filing of the Company's U.S. federal tax return.

Operating Earnings. As more fully described in "— Non-GAAP and Other Financial Disclosures," we use operating earnings, which does not equate to income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, as determined in accordance with GAAP, to analyze our performance, evaluate segment performance, and allocate resources. We believe that the presentation of operating earnings and operating earnings available to common shareholders, as we measure it for management purposes, enhances the understanding of our performance by highlighting the results of operations and the underlying profitability drivers of the business. Operating earnings and operating earnings available to common shareholders should not be viewed as substitutes for income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, and net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders, respectively. Operating earnings available to common shareholders decreased $1.1 billion, net of income tax, to $5.5 billion, net of income tax, for the year ended December 31, 2015 from $6.6 billion, net of income tax, for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013

During the year ended December 31, 2014, income (loss) from continuing operations, before provision for income tax, increased $4.8 billion ($2.9 billion, net of income tax) from 2013 primarily driven by a favorable change in net derivative gains (losses), partially offset by an unfavorable change in net investment gains (losses). Income (loss) from continuing operations, before provision for income tax also reflects a $262 million ($174 million, net of income tax) favorable change as a result of our annual assumption reviews related to reserves and DAC.

Net Derivative Gains (Losses). The variable annuity embedded derivatives and associated freestanding derivative hedges are collectively referred to as "VA program derivatives" in the following table. All other derivatives that are economic hedges of certain invested assets and insurance liabilities are referred to as "non-VA program derivatives" in the following table. The table below presents the impact on net derivative gains (losses) from non-VA program derivatives and VA program derivatives:

	Years Ended December 31,	
	2014	2013
	(In millions)	
Non-VA program derivatives		
Interest rate	$927	$(1,609)
Foreign currency exchange rate	(25)	(1,225)
Credit	89	187
Equity	(62)	(61)
Non-VA embedded derivatives	(99)	123
Total non-VA program derivatives	830	(2,585)
VA program derivatives		
Market risks in embedded derivatives	31	6,101
Nonperformance risk on embedded derivatives	13	(952)
Other risks in embedded derivatives	(266)	(169)
Total embedded derivatives	(222)	4,980
Freestanding derivatives hedging embedded derivatives	709	(5,634)
Total VA program derivatives	487	(654)
Net derivative gains (losses)	$1,317	$(3,239)

The favorable change in net derivative gains (losses) on non-VA program derivatives was $3.4 billion ($2.2 billion, net of income tax). This was primarily due to long-term interest rates decreasing in 2014 and increasing in 2013, favorably impacting receive-fixed interest rate swaps and interest rate swaptions. These freestanding derivatives were primarily hedging long duration liability portfolios. The strengthening of the U.S. dollar relative to other key currencies, as well as the Japanese yen weakening less against the U.S. dollar in 2014 versus 2013, favorably impacted foreign currency swaps and forwards that primarily hedge foreign denominated fixed maturity securities. Because certain of these hedging strategies are not designated or do not qualify as accounting hedges, the changes in the estimated fair value of these freestanding derivatives are recognized in net derivative gains (losses) without an offsetting gain or loss recognized in earnings for the item being hedged.

The favorable change in net derivative gains (losses) on VA program derivatives was $1.1 billion ($742 million, net of income tax). This was due to a favorable change of $965 million ($627 million, net of income tax) related to the change in the nonperformance risk adjustment on embedded derivatives and a favorable change of $273 million ($178 million, net of income tax) on market risks in embedded derivatives, net of the impact of freestanding derivatives hedging those risks, partially offset by an unfavorable change of $97 million ($63 million, net of income tax) on other risks in embedded derivatives. Other risks relate primarily to the impact of policyholder behavior and other non-market risks that generally cannot be hedged.

The aforementioned $965 million ($627 million, net of income tax) favorable change in the nonperformance risk adjustment was due to a favorable change of $629 million, before income tax, as a result of changes in capital market inputs, such as long-term interest rates and key equity index levels, on the variable annuity guarantees, as well as a favorable change of $336 million, before income tax, related to changes in our own credit spread.

Table of Contents

The foregoing $273 million ($178 million, net of income tax) favorable change was comprised of a $6.3 billion ($4.1 billion, net of income tax) favorable change in freestanding derivatives hedging market risks in embedded derivatives, which was largely offset by a $6.1 billion ($3.9 billion, net of income tax) unfavorable change in market risks in embedded derivatives.

The primary changes in market factors are summarized as follows:

- Long-term interest rates decreased in 2014 and increased in 2013, contributing to a favorable change in our freestanding derivatives and an unfavorable change in our embedded derivatives. For example, the 30-year U.S. swap rate decreased by 31% in 2014 and increased by 40% in 2013.
- Key equity index levels increased less in 2014 than in 2013, contributing to a favorable change in our freestanding derivatives and an unfavorable change in our embedded derivatives. For example, the S&P 500 increased by 11% in 2014 and increased by 30% in 2013.
- Changes in foreign currency exchange rates contributed to a favorable change in our freestanding derivatives and an unfavorable change in our embedded derivatives. For example, the U.S. dollar strengthened against the Japanese yen by 14% in 2014 as compared with 22% in 2013.

The foregoing $97 million ($63 million, net of income tax) unfavorable change in other risks in embedded derivatives was primarily due to an increase in the risk margin adjustment caused by higher policyholder behavior risks, along with updates to the actuarial assumptions, partially offset by favorable changes in all other risk factors.

Net Investment Gains (Losses). The unfavorable change in net investment gains (losses) of $358 million ($233 million, net of income tax) primarily reflects a 2014 loss on the disposition of MAL, partially offset by 2014 gains on sales of real estate and real estate joint ventures.

Actuarial Assumption Review. Our 2014 results include a $161 million ($105 million, net of income tax) benefit associated with our annual assumption review related to reserves and DAC, of which $137 million ($89 million, net of income tax) was recognized in net derivative gains (losses). Of the $161 million benefit, $82 million ($53 million, net of income tax) was related to DAC and $79 million ($52 million, net of income tax) was associated with reserves. The $137 million gain recognized in net derivative gains (losses) associated with our annual assumption review was included within the other risks in embedded derivatives caption in the table above.

As a result of our annual assumption review, changes were made to economic, policyholder behavior, mortality and other assumptions. The most significant impacts were in the Retail Life and Annuity blocks of businesses and are summarized as follows:

- Changes in economic assumptions resulted in a decrease in reserves, offset by unfavorable DAC, resulting in a net benefit of $229 million ($149 million, net of income tax).
- Changes to policyholder behavior and mortality assumptions resulted in reserve increases, offset by favorable DAC, resulting in a net loss of $175 million ($114 million, net of income tax).
- The remaining updates resulted in a decrease in reserves, coupled with favorable DAC, resulting in a benefit of $107 million ($70 million, net of income tax). The most notable update was related to our projection of closed block results.

Our 2013 results include a $101 million ($69 million, net of income tax) charge associated with our annual assumption review related to reserves and DAC, of which $138 million ($90 million, net of income tax) was recognized in net derivative gains (losses). Of the $101 million charge, $228 million ($150 million, net of income tax) was related to reserves, offset by $127 million ($81 million, net of income tax) associated with DAC. The $138 million loss recorded in net derivative gains (losses) associated with our annual assumption review was included within the other risks in embedded derivatives caption in the table above.

Divested Businesses. Income (loss) from continuing operations, before provision for income tax, related to the divested businesses, excluding net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses), improved $156 million to a loss of $13 million in 2014 from a loss of $169 million in 2013. Included in this improvement was a decrease in total revenues of $142 million, before income tax, and a decrease in total expenses of $298 million, before income tax. The divested businesses include certain MetLife Bank businesses and MAL.

Taxes. Income tax expense for the year ended December 31, 2014 was $2.5 billion, or 28% of income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax, compared with $661 million, or 16% of income (loss) from

continuing operations before provision for income tax, for the year ended December 31, 2013. The Company's 2014 and 2013 effective tax rates differed from the U.S. statutory rate of 35% primarily due to non-taxable investment income, tax credits for low income housing, and foreign earnings taxed at lower rates than the U.S. statutory rate. The Company's 2013 effective tax rate also reflected tax benefits in Japan related to the 2012 branch restructuring and the estimated reversal of temporary differences. Our 2014 results include a $38 million tax charge related to a portion of the aforementioned settlement of a licensing matter, and the PPACA fee, both of which were not deductible for income tax purposes, as well as a $54 million tax charge related to tax reform in Chile and a $45 million tax charge related to the repatriation of earnings from Japan. These charges were partially offset by a $32 million one-time tax benefit related to the filing of the Company's U.S. federal tax return. In addition, in 2013, the Company received an income tax refund from the Japanese tax authority and recorded a $119 million reduction to income tax expense.
Operating Earnings. Operating earnings available to common shareholders increased $299 million, net of income tax, to $6.6 billion, net of income tax, for the year ended December 31, 2014 from $6.3 billion, net of income tax, in 2013.

Table of Contents

Reconciliation of income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, to operating earnings available to common shareholders

Year Ended December 31, 2015

	Retail	Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits	Corporate Benefit Funding	Latin America	Asia	EMEA	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	$1,972	$ 893	$ 1,544	$ 386	$1,807	$288	$(1,568)	$5,322
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	35	(33)	315	82	501	27	(330)	597
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	(159)	177	17	(135)	67	40	31	38
Less: Other adjustments to continuing operations (1)	(609)	(171)	(91)	(72)	(120)	3	(31)	(1,091)
Less: Provision for income tax (expense) benefit	257	9	(84)	(62)	(21)	(22)	101	178
Operating earnings	$2,448	$ 911	$ 1,387	$ 573	$1,380	$240	(1,339)	5,600
Less: Preferred stock dividends							116	116
Operating earnings available to common shareholders							$(1,455)	$5,484

Year Ended December 31, 2014

	Retail	Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits	Corporate Benefit Funding	Latin America	Asia	EMEA	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	$2,744	$ 1,086	$ 1,318	$ 344	$1,200	$330	$ (683)	$6,339
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	(7)	(39)	(432)	30	512	(17)	(244)	(197)
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	564	525	352	(60)	(532)	114	354	1,317
Less: Other adjustments to continuing operations (1)	(671)	(167)	(112)	(242)	(122)	36	(98)	(1,376)
Less: Provision for income tax (expense) benefit	42	(111)	52	48	35	(88)	(65)	(87)
Operating earnings	$2,816	$ 878	$ 1,458	$ 568	$1,307	$285	(630)	6,682
Less: Preferred stock dividends							122	122
Operating earnings available to common shareholders							$ (752)	$6,560

Year Ended December 31, 2013

	Retail	Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits	Corporate Benefit Funding	Latin America	Asia	EMEA	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	$1,586	$ 383	$ 1,129	$ 555	$597	$301	$(1,160)	$3,391
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	70	(21)	(8)	21	343	(16)	(228)	161
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	(724)	(676)	(235)	(24)	(1,057)	(6)	(517)	(3,239)
Less: Other adjustments to continuing operations (1)	(926)	(172)	87	166	(435)	75	(392)	(1,597)

Less: Provision for income tax (expense) benefit	554	304	53	(71)	487	(33)	389	1,683
Operating earnings	$2,612	$ 948	$ 1,232	$ 463	$1,259	$281	(412)	6,383
Less: Preferred stock dividends							122	122
Operating earnings available to common shareholders							$(534)	$6,261

---

(1) See definitions of operating revenues and operating expenses under "— Non-GAAP and Other Financial Disclosures" for the components of such adjustments.

Table of Contents

Reconciliation of GAAP revenues to operating revenues and GAAP expenses to operating expenses

Year Ended December 31, 2015

	Retail	Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits	Corporate Benefit Funding	Latin America	Asia	EMEA	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Total revenues	$20,765	$19,420	$9,501	$5,055	$11,986	$2,930	$294	$69,951
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	35	(33)	315	82	501	27	(330)	597
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	(159)	177	17	(135)	67	40	31	38
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	(2)	—	—	—	12	(5)	—	5
Less: Other adjustments to revenues (1)	(73)	(171)	(105)	12	147	21	10	(159)
Total operating revenues	$20,964	$19,447	$9,274	$5,096	$11,259	$2,847	$583	$69,470
Total expenses	$18,094	$18,037	$7,134	$4,600	$9,701	$2,599	$2,316	$62,481
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	11	—	—	—	9	(5)	—	15
Less: Other adjustments to expenses (1)	523	—	(14)	84	270	18	41	922
Total operating expenses	$17,560	$18,037	$7,148	$4,516	$9,422	$2,586	$2,275	$61,544

Year Ended December 31, 2014

	Retail	Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits	Corporate Benefit Funding	Latin America	Asia	EMEA	Corporate & Other	Total
	(In millions)							
Total revenues	$21,777	$19,295	$8,901	$5,554	$12,613	$4,227	$949	$73,316
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	(7)	(39)	(432)	30	512	(17)	(244)	(197)
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	564	525	352	(60)	(532)	114	354	1,317
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	(1)	—	—	—	11	10	—	20
Less: Other adjustments to revenues (1)	(79)	(167)	17	42	371	857	55	1,096
Total operating revenues	$21,300	$18,976	$8,964	$5,542	$12,251	$3,263	$784	$71,080
Total expenses	$17,945	$17,631	$6,864	$5,162	$10,866	$3,780	$2,264	$64,512
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	26	—	—	—	(3)	12	—	35
Less: Other adjustments to expenses (1)	565	—	129	284	507	819	153	2,457
Total operating expenses	$17,354	$17,631	$6,735	$4,878	$10,362	$2,949	$2,111	$62,020

Year Ended December 31, 2013

	Retail	Group,	Corporate	Latin	Asia	EMEA	Corporate	Total

		Voluntary & Worksite Benefits	Benefit Funding	America			& Other	
	(In millions)							
Total revenues	$19,472	$17,320	$8,852	$5,110	$13,232	$3,864	$349	$68,199
Less: Net investment gains (losses)	70	(21)	(8)	21	343	(16)	(228)	161
Less: Net derivative gains (losses)	(724)	(676)	(235)	(24)	(1,057)	(6)	(517)	(3,239)
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	(9)	—	—	—	2	14	—	7
Less: Other adjustments to revenues (1)	(119)	(172)	297	84	1,386	667	111	2,254
Total operating revenues	$20,254	$18,189	$8,798	$5,029	$12,558	$3,205	$983	$69,016
Total expenses	$17,333	$16,761	$7,109	$4,401	$12,557	$3,479	$2,507	$64,147
Less: Adjustments related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	(197)	—	—	—	(15)	16	—	(196)
Less: Other adjustments to expenses (1)	995	—	210	(82)	1,838	590	503	4,054
Total operating expenses	$16,535	$16,761	$6,899	$4,483	$10,734	$2,873	$2,004	$60,289

____

(1) See definitions of operating revenues and operating expenses under "— Non-GAAP and Other Financial Disclosures" for the components of such adjustments.

Table of Contents

Consolidated Results — Operating

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Operating revenues			
Premiums	$38,548	$39,022	$37,583
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	9,113	9,541	9,085
Net investment income	19,789	20,484	20,394
Other revenues	2,020	2,033	1,954
Total operating revenues	69,470	71,080	69,016
Operating expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	39,565	39,478	37,746
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	5,334	5,661	6,015
Capitalization of DAC	(3,837)	(4,182)	(4,786)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	3,802	4,027	4,083
Amortization of negative VOBA	(326)	(396)	(524)
Interest expense on debt	1,200	1,178	1,159
Other expenses	15,806	16,254	16,596
Total operating expenses	61,544	62,020	60,289
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	2,326	2,378	2,344
Operating earnings	5,600	6,682	6,383
Less: Preferred stock dividends	116	122	122
Operating earnings available to common shareholders	$5,484	$6,560	$6,261

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014

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

Overview. The primary drivers of the decrease in operating earnings were lower investment yields, a tax charge and a related charge for interest on uncertain tax positions in 2015, less favorable underwriting results and an unfavorable impact from our annual review of actuarial assumptions, partially offset by higher net investment income from portfolio growth.

Foreign Currency. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates had a $303 million negative impact on operating earnings compared to 2014.

Business Growth. We benefited from higher sales and business growth across many of our products. Growth in the investment portfolios of our domestic and Latin America segments generated higher net investment income, which was partially offset by higher surrenders of foreign currency-denominated fixed annuity products in Japan. The changes in business growth discussed above resulted in a $474 million increase in operating earnings.

Market Factors. Market factors, including the sustained low interest rate environment, continued to impact our investment yields. Excluding the impact of inflation-indexed investments in the Latin America segment, investment yields decreased. Investment yields were negatively impacted by the adverse impact of the sustained low interest rate environment on fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans, as well as by lower returns on other limited partnership interests and our securities lending program. These decreases were partially offset by higher income on currency and interest rate derivatives and higher returns on real estate and real estate joint ventures. The changes in market factors discussed above resulted in a $545 million decrease in operating earnings.

Underwriting, Actuarial Assumption Review and Other Insurance Adjustments. A $99 million decrease in underwriting results was primarily due to higher non-catastrophe related claim costs, as well as higher catastrophe-related losses in our property & casualty businesses. On an annual basis, we review and update our long-term assumptions used in our calculations of certain insurance-related liabilities and DAC. These annual updates, which occurred in both 2015 and 2014, resulted in a net operating earnings decrease of $98 million and were primarily related to unfavorable DAC unlockings in our Retail segment. Refinements to DAC and certain insurance-related liabilities that were recorded in both 2015 and 2014 resulted in a net decrease of $6 million in operating earnings. The

2014 refinements include favorable reserve adjustments related to disability premium waivers and a charge related to delayed settlement interest on unclaimed funds held by state governments, all in our retail life business.

Expenses. In 2015, other expenses include the aforementioned $235 million charge for interest on uncertain tax positions. An additional $101 million increase in expenses was primarily the result of higher employee-related costs and an increase in expenses associated with corporate initiatives and projects, primarily in Asia. These increases were partially offset by a $117 million accrual in 2014 to increase the litigation reserve related to asbestos, as well as 2014 charges totaling $57 million related to the aforementioned settlement of a licensing matter.

Taxes. The Company's 2015 and 2014 effective tax rates differed from the U.S. statutory rate of 35%, primarily due to non-taxable investment income, tax credits for low income housing, and foreign earnings taxed at lower rates than the U.S. statutory rate. Our results for 2015 include the aforementioned tax charge of $557 million recorded under accounting guidance for the recognition of tax uncertainties, partially offset by a $61 million benefit in Japan related to a tax rate change, a one-time tax benefit of $60 million related to restructuring in Chile, a $31 million tax benefit related to the repatriation of earnings from Japan and a $31 million one-time tax benefit related to the devaluation of the peso in Argentina. In 2014, the Company realized a $32 million one-time tax benefit related to the filing of the Company's U.S. federal tax return. However, this was more than offset by a $41 million one-time tax charge related to tax reform in Chile and an $18 million tax charge related to the aforementioned settlement of a licensing matter which was not deductible for income tax purposes.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013

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

Overview. The primary drivers of the increase in operating earnings were higher net investment income from portfolio growth, higher asset-based fee income and a decrease in interest credited expense, partially offset by unfavorable mortality, morbidity and claims experience and the impact of decreasing investment yields on net investment income. Excluding the impact of the aforementioned tax reform charge in Chile, the fourth quarter 2013 acquisition of ProVida increased operating earnings by $166 million.

Foreign Currency. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates had a $127 million negative impact on results compared to 2013.

Business Growth. We benefited from strong sales and business growth across many of our products as evidenced by higher asset-based fee income from growth in our businesses abroad. However, we continue to focus on pricing discipline and risk management which resulted in a decrease in sales of our variable annuity products. This decline in sales, in combination with surrenders and withdrawals, resulted in negative net flows, which caused lower average separate account assets and, consequently, lower asset-based fee income in our Retail segment. Excluding the impact of the divested businesses and the acquisition of ProVida, growth in our investment portfolios in the majority of our segments generated higher net investment income. Our property & casualty businesses benefited from an increase in average premium per policy. These positive results were partially offset by an associated increase in DAC amortization. The changes in business growth discussed above resulted in a $432 million increase in operating earnings.

Market Factors. Market factors, including the sustained low interest rate environment, continued to impact our investment yields, as well as our crediting rates. Excluding the results of the divested businesses, the acquisition of ProVida and the impact of inflation-indexed investments in the Latin America segment, investment yields decreased. Certain of our inflation-indexed products are backed by inflation-indexed investments. Changes in inflation cause fluctuations in net investment income with a corresponding fluctuation in policyholder benefits, resulting in a minimal impact to operating earnings. Investment yields were negatively impacted by the adverse impact of the sustained low interest rate environment on fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans yields, lower returns on our hedge funds, as well as increased holdings of lower yielding Japanese government securities in the Japan fixed annuity business. These decreases were partially offset by higher returns on interest rate derivatives, real estate joint ventures and private equity investments. Yields were also favorably impacted by increased sales of foreign currency-denominated fixed annuities in Japan, resulting in an increase in higher yielding foreign currency-denominated fixed maturity securities. The sustained low interest rate environment also resulted in lower interest credited expense as we set interest credited rates lower on both new business and certain in-force business with rate resets that are contractually tied to external indices or contain discretionary rate reset provisions. Our average separate account balances grew with the equity markets driving higher fee income in our annuity business. However, this was partially offset by higher DAC amortization due to the significant prior period equity market increase, as well as higher asset-based commissions and costs associated with our variable annuity guaranteed minimum death benefits ("GMDBs"). The changes in market factors discussed above resulted in a $170 million decrease in operating earnings.

Underwriting, Actuarial Assumption Review and Other Insurance Adjustments. Less favorable mortality and morbidity was driven by our Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits segment. In addition, in our property & casualty businesses, catastrophe-related losses increased due to severe storm activity in 2014. Non-catastrophe related claim costs also increased as a result of severe winter weather in 2014. Claims experience in our Latin America segment was also unfavorable. The combined impact of mortality, morbidity and claims experience decreased operating earnings by $146 million. The combined impact of the 2014 and 2013 annual assumption updates resulted in a $12 million decrease in operating earnings in 2014 as compared to 2013. In addition to our annual updates, refinements to DAC and certain insurance-related liabilities that were recorded in both years increased operating earnings by $75 million. Such refinements include favorable reserve adjustments in 2014 related to disability premium waivers and a 2014 charge related to delayed settlement interest on unclaimed funds held by state governments, both in our life business within our Retail segment, as well as a write-down of DAC and VOBA in 2013 related to pension reform in Poland within our EMEA segment. Also, our 2013 results include a reserve strengthening in Australia within our Asia segment of $57 million, net of reinsurance.

Expenses. A $112 million decrease in expenses was primarily driven by lower employee-related costs. In addition, our 2014 results include charges totaling $57 million related to the aforementioned settlement of a licensing matter with the Department of Financial Services and the District Attorney, New York County. The PPACA fee reduced operating earnings by $58 million in 2014. We increased our litigation reserves related to asbestos more in 2014 than in 2013 resulting in a $16 million decline in operating earnings.

Taxes. In 2014, the Company realized a $32 million tax benefit related to the filing of the Company’s U.S. federal tax return, as well as additional tax benefits of $36 million related to the separate account dividends received deduction and $58 million primarily related to foreign earnings taxed at rates lower than the U.S. and other tax preference items. However, this was partially offset by a $38 million tax charge related to a portion of the aforementioned settlement of a licensing matter and the PPACA fee, both of which were not deductible for income tax purposes.

Segment Results and Corporate & Other

Retail

Business Overview. Retail annuity sales increased 15% as a result of new variable annuity products introduced in late 2014 and early 2015 and higher indexed annuity sales. Life sales increased 17% driven by increases in our term life products (due to pricing actions) and whole life products (as a result of several large cases, as well as a continued focus on our enhanced underwriting programs). A significant portion of our operating earnings is driven by separate account balances. Most directly, these balances determine asset-based fee income but they also impact DAC amortization and asset-based commissions. Separate account balances are driven by sales, movements in the market, surrenders, withdrawals, benefit payments, transfers and policy charges. Separate account balances have declined due to market performance along with the impact of negative net flows, as benefits, surrenders and withdrawals exceeded sales.

Table of Contents

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Operating revenues			
Premiums	$7,228	$7,280	$6,528
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	4,933	5,074	4,912
Net investment income	7,814	7,887	7,796
Other revenues	989	1,059	1,018
Total operating revenues	20,964	21,300	20,254
Operating expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	9,995	9,851	9,028
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	2,198	2,245	2,331
Capitalization of DAC	(1,048)	(969)	(1,309)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	1,561	1,515	1,384
Interest expense on debt	(1)	1	—
Other expenses	4,855	4,711	5,101
Total operating expenses	17,560	17,354	16,535
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	956	1,130	1,107
Operating earnings	$2,448	$2,816	$2,612

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014

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

Business Growth. A $59 million increase in operating earnings was attributable to business growth. Our life businesses had positive net flows which resulted in higher net investment income. In addition, net investment income increased as a result of a larger invested asset base due to a higher amount of allocated equity as compared to 2014. This favorable impact was partially offset by a related increase in DAC amortization and an increase in interest credited expenses. Declines in broker-dealer revenue also decreased operating earnings. In our property & casualty business, an increase in average premium per policy in both the auto and homeowners businesses improved operating earnings, but was partially offset by a decrease in exposures. In our deferred annuities business, negative net flows decreased average separate account balances and, consequently, lower asset-based fee income, partially offset by lower DAC amortization due to the decrease in our in-force business.

Market Factors. A $177 million decrease in operating earnings was attributable to market factors, including equity markets and interest rates. The sustained low interest rate environment resulted in a decline in net investment income on our fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans as proceeds from maturing investments were reinvested at lower yields. This reduction in 2015 income from lower yields was partially offset by a decrease in DAC amortization, as well as lower interest credited expense in our deferred annuities business as a result of declines in average interest credited rates. Lower returns on other limited partnership interests were partially offset by increased prepayment fees and higher returns on real estate and real estate joint ventures. While separate account fund returns were down slightly on a full year basis, the positive returns in the first half of the year drove an increase in our average separate account balances which resulted in a small increase in asset-based fee income, partially offset by higher DAC amortization. In addition, costs associated with our variable annuity GMDBs were lower in 2015.

Underwriting, Actuarial Assumption Review and Other Insurance Adjustments. Less favorable mortality in our universal life business, partially offset by favorable mortality in our traditional life and income annuities businesses resulted in a net decrease of $12 million in operating earnings. In our property & casualty business, non-catastrophe claim costs increased by $24 million as a result of higher severities in our auto and homeowners businesses and higher frequencies in our auto business, partially offset by lower frequencies in our homeowners business.

Catastrophe-related losses increased $16 million mainly due to severe winter weather in 2015. Favorable morbidity experience in our individual disability income business resulted in a $5 million increase in operating earnings. On an annual basis, we review and update our long-term assumptions used in our calculations of certain insurance-related liabilities and DAC. These annual updates, which occurred in both 2015 and 2014, resulted in a net operating earnings decrease of $118 million and were primarily related to unfavorable DAC unlockings in the life businesses.

Refinements to DAC and certain insurance-related liabilities that were recorded in both 2015 and 2014 resulted in a decrease in operating earnings of $18 million, primarily driven by certain 2014 adjustments in our life business, as well as adjustments in our annuities business. The 2014 refinements include favorable reserve adjustments related to disability premium waivers and a charge related to delayed settlement interest on unclaimed funds held by state governments.

Expenses and Taxes. Operating earnings decreased due to an increase in expenses of $45 million, mainly the result of higher employee-related costs. In 2015, we realized lower tax benefits of $16 million primarily related to the separate account dividends received deduction.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013

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

Business Growth. A $156 million increase in operating earnings was attributable to business growth. Our life businesses had positive net flows, despite a decline in universal life sales, which resulted in higher net investment income. This favorable impact was partially offset by increases in DAC amortization and interest credited expenses, as well as lower fees, as 2013 benefited from the first year fees received on the now discontinued lifetime secondary guarantees on our universal life products. In our deferred annuities business, the impact of negative net flows contributed to a decrease in asset-based fee income, partially offset by a reduction in interest credited expenses in the general account.

Table of Contents

Additionally, costs associated with our variable annuity GMDBs were lower. In our property & casualty business, an increase in average premium per policy in both our auto and homeowners businesses contributed to the increase in operating earnings. In addition, we earned more income on a larger invested asset base, which resulted from a higher amount of allocated equity as compared to 2013.

Market Factors. A $58 million decrease in operating earnings was attributable to market factors, including equity markets and interest rates. Strong equity market performance led to higher asset-based commissions, which were, in part, driven by separate account balances, higher DAC amortization and costs associated with our GMDBs. The more favorable separate account returns in 2013 drove lower DAC amortization in 2013 as compared to 2014 where equity returns were much less favorable. These negative impacts were partially offset by higher asset-based fee income in 2014 due to increased average separate account balances. This positive equity market performance also drove higher net investment income from private equity investments. The sustained low interest rate environment resulted in a decline in net investment income on our fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans as proceeds from maturing investments were reinvested at lower yields. This negative interest rate impact was partially offset by lower interest credited expense as we reduced interest credited rates on contracts with discretionary rate reset provisions, and lower DAC amortization in our life business. Lower returns in our hedge funds also decreased operating earnings and were partially offset by higher income from real estate joint ventures and increased prepayment fees.

Underwriting, Actuarial Assumption Review and Other Insurance Adjustments. Less favorable mortality experience in our variable and universal life business, primarily driven by three large, unreinsured claims, partially offset by favorable experience in the traditional life and immediate annuities businesses, resulted in a $40 million decrease in operating earnings. In our property & casualty business, non-catastrophe claim costs increased by $8 million as a result of higher frequencies in our auto business offset by lower frequencies in our homeowners business. Catastrophe-related losses increased $5 million as compared to 2013. In addition, favorable morbidity experience in our individual disability income business resulted in a $6 million increase in operating earnings. The combined impact of the 2014 and 2013 annual assumption updates resulted in a net operating earnings decrease of $11 million and were primarily related to unfavorable DAC unlockings in the variable annuity business, partially offset by favorable DAC unlockings in our traditional and universal life businesses. Refinements to DAC and certain insurance-related liabilities that were recorded in 2014 and 2013 resulted in a $7 million increase in operating earnings, which included $104 million of favorable reserve adjustments in 2014 related to disability premium waivers and a 2014 charge of $57 million related to delayed settlement interest on unclaimed funds held by state governments, both in our life business.

Expenses and Taxes. Operating earnings increased due to a decline in expenses of $109 million, mainly the result of lower employee-related costs and the 2013 increase in litigation reserves. In 2014, we realized additional tax benefits of $37 million related to the separate account dividends received deduction and $22 million related to the filing of the Company’s U.S. federal tax return.

Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits

Business Overview. Premiums increased for most of our businesses as a result of gradual growth in the U.S. economy, a decrease in the U.S. unemployment rate and low inflation. Our term life, dental, disability and voluntary benefits businesses generated premium growth due to sales and rate actions. In addition, we had strong persistency levels. The dental business also benefited from pricing actions on existing business. Our 2015 sales were slightly higher, as improved sales of voluntary products were largely offset by lower sales of our core group products as a result of increased competition. Although we have discontinued selling our long-term care product, we continue to collect premiums and administer the existing block of business, which contributed to asset growth in the segment.

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Operating revenues			
Premiums	$16,358	$15,979	$15,250
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	740	716	688
Net investment income	1,898	1,861	1,833

Other revenues	451	420	418
Total operating revenues	19,447	18,976	18,189
Operating expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	15,170	14,897	14,227
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	151	156	155
Capitalization of DAC	(151)	(143)	(141)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	164	149	140
Interest expense on debt	—	1	1
Other expenses	2,703	2,571	2,379
Total operating expenses	18,037	17,631	16,761
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	499	467	480
Operating earnings	$911	$878	$948

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014

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

Business Growth. A $73 million increase in operating earnings was attributable to business growth. An increase in average premium per policy in both our auto and homeowners businesses improved operating earnings. Growth in premiums, as well as increases in allocated equity

Table of Contents

resulted in higher average invested assets, improving operating earnings. Consistent with the growth in average invested assets from increased premiums, primarily in our long-term care business, interest credited on long-duration contracts increased. An increase in the annual assessment of the PPACA fee increased other expenses in 2015; however, the impact of the assessment was significantly offset by a related increase in premiums from our dental business. The remaining increase in other operating expenses, mainly the result of growth across the segment, was more than offset by the remaining increase in premiums, fees and other revenues.

Market Factors. The sustained low interest rate environment drove lower investment yields on our fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans. In addition, yields were negatively impacted by a reduction in the size of our securities lending program, as well as lower returns on other limited partnership interests. This was partially offset by higher returns on alternative investments and currency derivatives. Unlike in the Retail and Corporate Benefit Funding segments, in the Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits segment, a change in investment yield does not necessarily drive a corresponding change in the rates credited on certain insurance liabilities. The decrease in investment yields was partially offset by the impact of lower crediting rates in 2015, which resulted in a net decrease in operating earnings of $14 million.

Underwriting and Other Insurance Adjustments. In our property & casualty business, catastrophe-related losses increased by $29 million, mainly due to severe winter weather in 2015. In addition, non-catastrophe claim costs increased $37 million, resulting from higher severities in both our auto and homeowners businesses, as well as higher frequencies in our auto business, partially offset by lower frequencies in our homeowners businesses. Further, less favorable development of prior year non-catastrophe losses resulted in a slight decrease to operating earnings. Our life and accidental death and dismemberment (“AD&D”) businesses experienced favorable mortality in 2015, mainly due to favorable claims experience, which resulted in a $46 million increase in operating earnings. Less favorable reserve development in our dental business was partially offset by favorable morbidity experience in our long-term care and disability businesses and resulted in a $16 million decrease in operating earnings. The favorable claims experience in our long-term care business was due to higher net closures and the impact of lapses on certain insurance liabilities. In our disability business, the favorable claims experience was primarily driven by fewer approvals, a reduction in the average size of claims and higher net closures. Refinements to certain insurance and other liabilities, which were recorded in both 2015 and 2014, resulted in a $17 million increase in operating earnings.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013

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

Business Growth. The increase in average premium per policy in both our auto and homeowners businesses improved operating earnings by $42 million. Growth in premiums and deposits in 2014, as well as an increase in allocated equity, partially offset by reductions in other liabilities and policyholder account balances, resulted in an increase in our average invested assets, increasing operating earnings by $51 million. Consistent with the growth in average invested assets from premiums and deposits, primarily in our long-term care business, interest credited on long-duration contracts and policyholder account balances increased by $24 million. The PPACA fee increased other expenses by $58 million in 2014; however, the impact of the assessment was significantly offset by a related increase in premiums in the dental business. The remaining increase in other operating expenses, including higher marketing and sales support costs in our property & casualty business, was partially offset by the remaining increase in premiums, fees and other revenues.

Market Factors. The impact of changes in market factors, including lower yields on our fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans, and decreased income on alternative investments, partially offset by higher returns on our real estate joint ventures and private equity investments, resulted in lower investment yields. The decrease in investment yields, slightly offset by lower crediting rates in 2014, reduced operating earnings by $29 million.

Underwriting and Other Insurance Adjustments. Our life business experienced less favorable mortality in 2014, mainly due to an increase in claims severity in the term life business and increased claims incidence in the group universal life business, which resulted in a $48 million decrease in operating earnings. Unfavorable claims experience in our disability business, driven by higher approvals, was partially offset by higher net closures. In addition, increased utilization of services across the channels of our dental business was partially offset by the impact of lapses on certain insurance liabilities, higher net closures in our long-term care business and favorable claims incidence in our AD&D business. Our overall net unfavorable claims experience resulted in a $14 million decrease in operating earnings. The impact of favorable refinements to certain insurance and other liabilities in 2014 resulted in an increase in operating earnings of $27 million. In our property & casualty business, catastrophe-related losses increased by $21 million as compared to 2013, mainly due to severe storm activity in 2014. In addition, severe winter weather in 2014 increased non-catastrophe claim costs by $18 million, which was the result of higher frequencies in both our auto and homeowners businesses, as well as higher severities in our homeowners business, partially offset by lower severities in our auto business. These unfavorable results were partially offset by additional favorable development of prior year non-catastrophe losses, which improved operating earnings by $15 million.

Corporate Benefit Funding

Business Overview. Funding ratios for defined benefit pension plans of S&P 500 companies continued to fall in 2015, limiting their ability to engage in full pension plan buyouts. However, we expect that customers may choose to close out portions of pension plans over time, with the largest volume of business generally occurring near the end of any year. Despite the decline in funding ratios for defined benefit pension plans of S&P 500 companies, higher pension risk transfers resulted in an increase in premiums. In addition, more competitive pricing in the market drove a decrease in structured settlement annuity sales. Changes in premiums for these businesses were almost entirely offset by the related changes in policyholder benefits and claims.

Table of Contents

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Operating revenues			
Premiums	$3,019	$2,768	$2,767
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	259	226	247
Net investment income	5,710	5,684	5,506
Other revenues	286	286	278
Total operating revenues	9,274	8,964	8,798
Operating expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	5,447	5,106	5,180
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	1,184	1,140	1,233
Capitalization of DAC	(19)	(31)	(27)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	21	19	23
Interest expense on debt	3	9	9
Other expenses	512	492	481
Total operating expenses	7,148	6,735	6,899
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	739	771	667
Operating earnings	$1,387	$1,458	$1,232

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014

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

Business Growth. The impact of 2015 deposits and funding agreement issuances resulted in higher invested assets, which drove an increase in net investment income, partially offset by the related increase in interest credited expense, and resulted in a $106 million increase in operating earnings. Net funding agreement issuances were higher in 2014 to take advantage of favorable market conditions in advance of scheduled contract maturities.

Market Factors. The sustained low interest rate environment drove lower investment yields on mortgage loans and fixed maturity securities, as well as from our securities lending program. In addition, weaker equity markets in 2015 resulted in lower returns on other limited partnership interests. These unfavorable changes were partially offset by higher income on interest rate and currency derivatives, real estate and real estate joint ventures, as well as the favorable impact of a conversion of the securities accounting system. An increase in interest credited expense, resulting from a higher average rate, was driven by the effect of divesting a lower yielding product in early 2014. The combined impact of lower investment returns and higher interest credited expense, resulted in a decrease in operating earnings of $144 million.

Underwriting and Other Insurance Adjustments. Less favorable mortality in our pension risk transfer and structured settlement businesses was partially offset by more favorable mortality from our income annuity and specialized life insurance products, and resulted in a $6 million decrease in operating earnings. The net impact of insurance liability refinements that were recorded in both 2015 and 2014 decreased operating earnings by $20 million.

Expenses. Slightly higher employee-related costs and annual premium tax adjustments were partially offset by lower non-deferrable commissions, driven by a decrease in structured settlement annuity sales in 2015, and decreased operating earnings by $4 million.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013

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

Business Growth. The impact of 2014 deposits and funding agreement issuances, as well as increases in allocated equity and other liabilities, resulted in higher invested assets, which drove an increase in net investment income that was partially offset by the related increase in interest credited expense and resulted in a $122 million increase in operating earnings. In addition, strong investment performance and large case sales for our separate account products drove higher average account balances which resulted in an increase in separate account fees of $8 million.

Market Factors. The sustained low interest rate environment impacted our interest credited rates, as well as our investment yields. Many of our funding agreements and guaranteed interest contract liabilities have interest credited rates that are contractually tied to external indices and, as a result, we set lower interest credited rates on new business, as well as on existing business with terms that can fluctuate. The sustained low interest rate environment drove lower investment yields on mortgage loans and fixed maturity securities. In addition, hedge fund income declined. These unfavorable changes were partially offset by the impact of changes in market factors that drove higher income on interest rate derivatives and improved returns on real estate joint ventures. The impact of lower interest credited expense offset by lower investment returns resulted in an increase in operating earnings of $34 million.

Underwriting and Other Insurance Adjustments. Favorable mortality in 2014, primarily in our structured settlements business, resulted in a $24 million increase in operating earnings. The net impact of insurance liability refinements that were recorded in 2014 and 2013 increased operating earnings by $28 million.

Taxes. In 2014, we realized additional tax benefits of $11 million primarily related to the filing of the Company’s U.S. federal tax return.

Table of Contents

Latin America

Business Overview. Total sales for the region decreased primarily due to the impact of a large contract in Mexico in 2014. Excluding this contract, sales for the region increased due to organic growth in several countries. Total sales of life, accident & health and credit products increased across several countries. Life and accident & health product sales also increased in our U.S. direct business. Sales of retirement products were down as lower sales in Mexico were only partially offset by higher sales in Brazil.

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Operating revenues			
Premiums	$2,891	$3,039	$2,870
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	1,116	1,239	991
Net investment income	1,047	1,229	1,145
Other revenues	42	35	23
Total operating revenues	5,096	5,542	5,029
Operating expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	2,625	2,786	2,487
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	349	394	417
Capitalization of DAC	(426)	(445)	(452)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	303	334	311
Amortization of negative VOBA	(1)	(1)	(2)
Other expenses	1,666	1,810	1,722
Total operating expenses	4,516	4,878	4,483
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	7	96	83
Operating earnings	$573	$568	$463

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014

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

Foreign Currency. The impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates decreased operating earnings by $111 million for 2015 compared to 2014 mainly due to the weakening of the peso against the U.S. dollar, which included the impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates related to the one-time tax charge resulting from tax reform in Chile, as discussed further below.

Business Growth. Total sales for the region decreased primarily due to the impact of a large contract in Mexico in 2014. Excluding this large contract, sales increased due to organic growth in several countries, as well as in our U.S. direct business but the resulting increase in premiums was partially offset by related changes in policyholder benefits. An increase in average invested assets, primarily in Chile and Mexico, generated higher net investment income. Growth in our businesses resulted in higher policy fee income, as well as increased marketing costs and commissions, which were partially offset by increased DAC capitalization. The items discussed above were the primary drivers of a $133 million increase in operating earnings.

Market Factors. The net impact of changes in market factors resulted in an $83 million decrease in operating earnings, driven by lower investment yields and higher interest credited expense. Investment yields decreased on fixed income securities in Chile and Mexico and we experienced lower investment returns on alternative investments in Chile.

Underwriting and Other Insurance Adjustments. Unfavorable claims experience in several countries decreased operating earnings by $16 million. Refinements to DAC and other adjustments recorded in both 2015 and 2014 resulted in a $14 million increase in operating earnings.

Expenses and Taxes. Effective September 1, 2015, ProVida was merged into MetLife Chile Acquisition Company resulting in a one-time income tax benefit of $60 million in 2015. In the third quarter of 2014, our Chilean businesses, including ProVida, incurred a one-time tax charge of $41 million ($33 million after adjusting for foreign currency fluctuations) as a result of tax reform in Chile. Other tax-related adjustments in both 2015 and 2014 decreased operating earnings by $18 million. These tax-related adjustments include tax charges related to inflation in Chile and Mexico, as well as a 2014 refund claim in Argentina, partially offset by a benefit resulting from the devaluation of the peso in Argentina in both 2015 and 2014. In addition, employee-related costs, which include inflation, were higher across several countries, resulting in an $8 million decrease in operating earnings.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013

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

A tax reform bill was enacted in Chile on September 29, 2014 which includes, among other things, a gradual increase in the corporate tax rate. Our Chilean businesses, including ProVida, incurred a one-time tax charge of $41 million as a result of this legislation. Excluding the aforementioned tax reform, our operating earnings increased by $166 million in 2014 due to the fourth quarter 2013 acquisition of ProVida.

Foreign Currency. The impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates decreased operating earnings by $57 million compared to 2013.

Table of Contents

Business Growth. Latin America experienced organic growth and increased sales of life products in several countries, as well as in our U.S. sponsored direct business. This was partially offset by decreased pension and accident & health sales in Mexico and Brazil. The resulting increase in premiums was partially offset by related changes in policyholder benefits. Growth in our businesses and the impact of inflation drove an increase in average invested assets, which generated higher net investment income and higher policy fee income, partially offset by a corresponding increase in interest credited on certain insurance liabilities and the impact of changes in allocated equity. Increases in marketing costs and commissions resulted in higher operating expenses. Business growth also drove an increase in DAC amortization. The items discussed above were the primary drivers of a $94 million increase in operating earnings.

Market Factors. The net impact of changes in market factors resulted in a $25 million decrease in operating earnings. This decrease was primarily driven by higher interest credited expense, the unfavorable impact of inflation, and lower yields from alternative investments and mortgage loans in Chile, partially offset by higher investment yields on fixed income securities in Chile and Brazil.

Underwriting, Actuarial Assumption Review and Other Insurance Adjustments. Unfavorable claims experience, primarily due to increased claims severity and frequency in Mexico, Chile and Brazil, decreased operating earnings by $32 million. The impact of the 2013 annual assumption review resulted in an operating earnings decrease of $7 million. In addition to our annual updates, other refinements to DAC and other adjustments recorded in both 2014 and 2013 resulted in a $13 million decrease in operating earnings.

Expenses and Taxes. Tax-related adjustments in both 2014 and 2013 increased operating earnings by $45 million, excluding the aforementioned tax reform. These tax-related adjustments include 2014 tax benefits related to the devaluation of the peso in Argentina, inflation in Argentina and Chile, and a 2013 tax rate change in Mexico. These increases were partially offset by higher expenses, primarily generated by employee- and information technology-related costs across several countries, which decreased operating earnings by $23 million.

Asia

Business Overview. Sales decreased slightly compared to 2014 due to lower group sales in Australia. This was partially offset by growth in our ordinary life and accident & health businesses in Japan.

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Operating revenues			
Premiums	$6,937	$7,566	$7,801
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	1,542	1,693	1,722
Net investment income	2,675	2,886	2,943
Other revenues	105	106	92
Total operating revenues	11,259	12,251	12,558
Operating expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	5,275	5,724	5,755
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	1,309	1,544	1,690
Capitalization of DAC	(1,720)	(1,914)	(2,143)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	1,256	1,397	1,542
Amortization of negative VOBA	(309)	(364)	(427)
Other expenses	3,611	3,975	4,317
Total operating expenses	9,422	10,362	10,734
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	457	582	565
Operating earnings	$1,380	$1,307	$1,259

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014

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

Foreign Currency. The impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates reduced operating earnings by $126 million for 2015 compared to 2014 as a result of the weakening of the yen against the U.S. dollar. This resulted in significant variances in the financial statement line items.

Business Growth. Asia's premiums, fees and other revenues increased over the prior year driven by broad based in-force growth across the region, including growth in our ordinary life and accident & health businesses in Japan and Korea, as well as our group insurance business in Australia. Changes in premiums for these businesses were partially offset by related changes in policyholder benefits. During the period, surrenders of foreign currency-denominated fixed annuity products in Japan also contributed to higher fee income. The impact of these surrenders, partially offset by positive net flows in Korea, Bangladesh and India, resulted in lower average invested assets and a decrease in net investment income. In addition, a decrease in interest credited expenses was partially offset by increases in amortization of DAC and VOBA, commissions and variable expenses (net of DAC capitalization), primarily related to the establishment of an agency channel in Hong Kong. The combined impact of the items discussed above improved operating earnings by $61 million.

Market Factors. Investment returns were positively impacted by higher net investment income resulting from the recovery of a previously impaired mortgage loan in Japan, improved operating results from our China joint venture and higher interest rates on fixed maturity securities in Bangladesh. These improved investment returns were partially offset by the impact of lower interest rates on fixed maturity securities in Korea and the impact in Japan of continued growth of lower yielding Japanese government securities. The decrease in returns from Japanese government

Table of Contents

securities was offset by the favorable impact of increased foreign currency-denominated fixed annuities in Japan driving an increase in higher yielding foreign currency-denominated fixed maturity securities. Higher investment yields, combined with the impact of foreign currency hedges, increased operating earnings by $38 million.

Underwriting and Actuarial Assumption Review. Favorable claims experience, primarily in Japan resulted in a $15 million increase in operating earnings. In addition, on an annual basis, we review and update our long-term assumptions used in our calculations of certain insurance-related liabilities and DAC. This annual update resulted in a net operating earnings increase of $22 million.

Expenses and Taxes. Higher expenses, primarily driven by costs associated with corporate initiatives and projects, reduced operating earnings by $32 million. Our 2015 results include one-time tax benefits of $61 million related to a change in tax rates, $12 million for the settlement of an audit and $15 million related to the U.S. taxation of dividends, each related to Japan. In addition, in 2015, Korea received a tax refund of $6 million related to unclaimed surrender value. Our 2014 results include one-time tax benefits of $9 million related to the U.S. taxation of dividends and $4 million resulting from a tax rate change, each related to Japan.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013

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

Foreign Currency. The impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates reduced operating earnings by $52 million for 2014 as compared with 2013 and resulted in significant variances in the financial statement line items. For example, while premiums, fees and other revenues decreased 3% on a reported basis, they increased 3% on a constant currency basis.

Business Growth. Asia’s premiums, fees and other revenues increased over 2013 primarily driven by broad based in-force growth across the region, including in our ordinary life business in Japan and our group insurance business in Australia. Positive net flows in Korea and Japan, combined with growth in our life business in India and Bangladesh, resulted in higher average invested assets and generated an increase in net investment income. Changes in premiums for these businesses were offset by related changes in policyholder benefits. The combined impact of the items discussed above improved operating earnings by $90 million.

Market Factors. Investment returns were negatively affected by the adverse impact of the sustained low interest rate environment on mortgage loans and an increase in lower yielding Japanese government securities, combined with lower returns on our other limited partnership interests and decreased prepayment fee income. These declines in yields were partially offset by the favorable impact of increased sales of foreign currency-denominated fixed annuities resulting in an increase in higher yielding foreign currency-denominated fixed maturity securities in Japan. Declines in yields, combined with the impact of foreign currency hedges, resulted in a $46 million decrease in operating earnings.

Underwriting and Other Insurance Adjustments. Our 2013 results include a strengthening of group and permanent disability claim reserves of $57 million, net of reinsurance, in Australia. In addition, refinements to DAC and certain insurance-related liabilities that were recorded in 2014 and 2013 resulted in a $14 million increase in operating earnings. Our 2014 results for Korea decreased $5 million as a result of unfavorable claims experience, primarily in our life business, and regulatory changes.

Taxes. Our 2014 results include a $9 million tax benefit related to U.S. taxation of dividends from Japan and a $4 million tax benefit resulting from a tax rate change in Japan. Our 2013 results include a $17 million tax benefit in Japan related to the estimated reversal of temporary differences and a one-time tax benefit of $10 million related to the disposal of our interest in a Korean asset management company at the beginning of 2013.

Table of Contents

EMEA

Business Overview. Sales have increased slightly as 2015 sales growth in Turkey, Italy and Poland was offset by strong 2014 sales in the Gulf.

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Operating revenues			
Premiums	$2,036	$2,309	$2,297
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	424	466	386
Net investment income	326	428	425
Other revenues	61	60	97
Total operating revenues	2,847	3,263	3,205
Operating expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	988	1,053	1,039
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	120	148	147
Capitalization of DAC	(472)	(680)	(714)
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	497	613	683
Amortization of negative VOBA	(16)	(31)	(95)
Interest expense on debt	—	—	1
Other expenses	1,469	1,846	1,812
Total operating expenses	2,586	2,949	2,873
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	21	29	51
Operating earnings	$240	$285	$281

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014

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

Foreign Currency. The impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates reduced operating earnings by $66 million for 2015 as compared to 2014, primarily driven by the strengthening of the U.S. dollar against the euro, Russian ruble and Polish zloty.

Business Growth. Operating earnings benefited from growth in the Middle East, primarily in the Gulf and Turkey, as well as growth in the U.K., increasing operating earnings by $30 million.

Actuarial Assumption Review. On an annual basis, we review and update our long-term assumptions used in our calculations of certain insurance-related liabilities and DAC. These annual updates, which occurred in both 2015 and 2014, resulted in a net operating earnings decrease of $4 million. In addition, operating earnings increased by $5 million due to a 2014 refinement of DAC in the U.K.

Taxes and Other. The Company had a number of one-time items in both 2015 and 2014, including tax benefits, the conversion of certain of our subsidiaries to calendar year reporting, as well as re-branding and legal expenses. The combined impact of these items decreased operating earnings by $3 million. In addition, our 2014 results included a $7 million one-time benefit related to pension reform in Poland.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013

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

Foreign Currency. The impact of changes in foreign currency exchange rates reduced operating earnings by $18 million for 2014 as compared to 2013.

Business Growth. An increase in sales over 2013, primarily in the Middle East and central, eastern and southern Europe, was partially offset by the impact of regulatory changes in the U.K. Net investment income increased, driven by an increase in average invested assets from business growth in Egypt, the Persian Gulf and Russia, in addition to a slight increase in yields from the lengthening of the Ireland and Greece shorter-term portfolios into higher yielding longer duration fixed maturity securities. This was partially offset by the impact of changes in allocated equity. Our 2014 results also included certain legal and re-branding expenses, as well as higher corporate overhead expenses,

while operating earnings benefited as a result of a review of certain tax liabilities. The combined impact of the items discussed above decreased operating earnings by $16 million.
Actuarial Assumption Review and Other Insurance Adjustments. The combined impact of the 2014 and 2013 annual assumption updates resulted in a net operating earnings increase of $6 million for 2014 as compared to 2013. The amortization, or release, of negative VOBA associated with the conversion of certain policies generally results in an increase in operating earnings. In 2014, the number of policies converted declined and so, relative to 2013, this reduced operating earnings by $11 million. A refinement in DAC in the U.K. resulted in a $5 million decrease to operating earnings and liability refinements in 2013 in Greece decreased operating earnings by $4 million.
Taxes and Other. Our 2013 results were negatively impacted as a result of a $30 million tax charge related to the write-off of a U.K. tax loss carryforward and by a $26 million write-down of DAC and VOBA related to pension reform in Poland. The Company received tax benefits in both years following its decision to permanently reinvest certain foreign earnings outside of the U.S., however, since the 2013 benefit was larger,

Table of Contents

operating earnings decreased by $18 million. In addition, our 2013 results benefited by $4 million due to a change in the local corporate tax rate in Greece. In 2014, we converted to calendar year reporting for certain of our subsidiaries, which resulted in a $17 million increase to operating earnings.

Corporate & Other

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Operating revenues			
Premiums	$79	$81	$70
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	99	127	139
Net investment income	319	509	746
Other revenues	86	67	28
Total operating revenues	583	784	983
Operating expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	65	61	30
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	23	34	42
Capitalization of DAC	(1)	—	—
Interest expense on debt	1,198	1,167	1,148
Other expenses	990	849	784
Total operating expenses	2,275	2,111	2,004
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	(353)	(697)	(609)
Operating earnings	(1,339)	(630)	(412)
Less: Preferred stock dividends	116	122	122
Operating earnings available to common shareholders	$(1,455)	$(752)	$(534)

The table below presents operating earnings available to common shareholders by source net of income tax:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Other business activities	$39	$80	$102
Other net investment income	215	337	485
Interest expense on debt	(779)	(759)	(747)
Preferred stock dividends	(116)	(122)	(122)
Acquisition costs	—	(5)	(18)
Corporate initiatives and projects	(194)	(183)	(134)
Incremental tax benefit (expense)	(239)	232	251
Other	(381)	(332)	(351)
Operating earnings available to common shareholders	$(1,455)	$(752)	$(534)

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014

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

Other Business Activities. Operating earnings from other business activities decreased $41 million. This was primarily due to lower operating earnings from start-up operations and from the assumed reinsurance from our former operating joint venture in Japan, reflecting lower fund returns, a reduction in in-force due to surrenders and unfavorable foreign currency impacts.

Other Net Investment Income. A $122 million decrease in other net investment income was driven by an increase in the amount credited to the segments due to growth in the economic capital managed by Corporate & Other on their behalf. This decrease was also impacted by the sustained low interest rate environment, which drove lower investment yields on fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans, as well as lower returns on alternative investments. This was partially offset by increased income from higher average invested assets and improved returns on real estate investments.

Interest Expense on Debt. Interest expense on debt increased by $20 million, mainly due to the issuance of $1.5 billion of senior notes in March 2015 and $1.25 billion of senior notes in November 2015.

Table of Contents

Corporate Initiatives and Projects. Expenses associated with corporate initiatives and projects increased by $11 million, primarily due to increased costs associated with enterprise-wide initiatives taken by the Company.
Incremental Tax Benefit (Expense). Corporate & Other benefits from the impact of certain permanent tax differences, including non-taxable investment income and tax credits for investments in low income housing. As a result, our effective tax rate differs from the U.S. statutory rate of 35%. Our 2015 results include the aforementioned tax charge of $557 million, which was recorded under accounting guidance for the recognition of tax uncertainties. Our 2014 results include an $18 million tax charge related to a portion of the settlement of a licensing matter that was not deductible for income tax purposes. In addition, in 2015, we had higher utilization of tax preferenced investments, a benefit related to the timing of certain tax credits and other tax benefits which increased our operating earnings by $68 million over 2014.
Other. Our 2015 results include the aforementioned charge of $235 million for interest on uncertain tax positions, as well as a $20 million charge associated with company use real estate. These increases in expenses were partially offset by a $21 million one-time tax refund received for a favorable outcome on prior year tax audits and a decrease in employee-related costs of $28 million from 2014. Our results for 2014 include a $117 million accrual to increase the litigation reserve related to asbestos and charges totaling $57 million related to the settlement of a licensing matter with the Department of Financial Services and the District Attorney, New York County. This was partially offset by an $18 million increase in operating earnings in 2014 resulting from net adjustments to certain reinsurance assets and liabilities.
Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013
Unless otherwise stated, all amounts discussed below are net of income tax.
Other Business Activities. Operating earnings from other business activities decreased by $22 million. Lower operating earnings from the assumed reinsurance from our former operating joint venture in Japan, primarily due to lower returns in 2014, were partially offset by higher operating earnings from start-up operations.
Other Net Investment Income. Other net investment income decreased by $148 million. This decrease was driven by an increase in the amount credited to the segments on economic capital managed by Corporate & Other on their behalf, the adverse impact of the sustained low interest rate environment on yields from our fixed maturity securities and lower returns on real estate investments. These decreases were partially offset by improved returns on other limited partnership interests and higher mark-to-market income on residential mortgage loans carried at fair value.
Interest Expense on Debt. Interest expense on debt increased by $12 million, mainly due to the issuance of $1.0 billion of senior notes in April 2014 and the recognition of issuance costs related to the early redemption of senior notes in May 2014.
Acquisition Costs. Acquisition costs decreased by $13 million due to lower internal resource costs for associates committed to certain acquisition activities.
Corporate Initiatives and Projects. Expenses related to corporate initiatives and projects increased by $49 million, primarily due to higher relocation costs, severance and consulting expenses. These expenses include a $16 million decrease in restructuring charges, the majority of which related to severance.
Incremental Tax Benefit. The tax benefit in 2014 included a tax benefit of $16 million related to the timing of certain tax credits. In addition, we incurred a tax charge of $6 million in 2014 and received a tax benefit of $10 million in 2013 related to the filing of the Company’s U.S. federal tax returns. Our results for 2014 also included an $18 million tax charge related to a portion of the aforementioned settlement of a licensing matter that was not deductible for income tax purposes.
Other. Our results for 2014 include charges totaling $57 million related to the settlement of a licensing matter with the Department of Financial Services and the District Attorney, New York County. In addition, we increased our litigation reserves related to asbestos more in 2014 than in 2013 resulting in a $16 million decline in operating earnings. This was partially offset by a $53 million decline in expenses which included decreases in interest on uncertain tax positions, lower corporate overhead expenses and an adjustment on certain reinsurance assets and liabilities. In addition, declines in employee-related costs and lower software amortization totaling $15 million, improved operating earnings.
Effects of Inflation

Management believes that inflation has not had a material effect on the Company’s consolidated results of operations, except insofar as inflation may affect interest rates.

An increase in inflation could affect our business in several ways. During inflationary periods, the value of fixed income investments falls which could increase realized and unrealized losses. Inflation also increases expenses for labor and other materials, potentially putting pressure on profitability if such costs cannot be passed through in our product prices. Inflation could also lead to increased costs for losses and loss adjustment expenses in certain of our businesses, which could require us to adjust our pricing to reflect our expectations for future inflation. Prolonged and elevated inflation could adversely affect the financial markets and the economy generally, and dispelling it may require governments to pursue a restrictive fiscal and monetary policy, which could constrain overall economic activity, inhibit revenue growth and reduce the number of attractive investment opportunities.

Investments

Investment Risks

Our primary investment objective is to optimize, net of income tax, risk-adjusted investment income and risk-adjusted total return while ensuring that assets and liabilities are managed on a cash flow and duration basis. The Investments Department, led by the Chief Investment Officer, manages investment risks using a risk control framework comprised of policies, procedures and limits, as discussed further below. The Investments Risk Committee, chaired by the Global Risk Management Department (“GRM”), reviews and monitors investment risk limits and tolerances. We are exposed to the following primary sources of investment risks:

- credit risk, relating to the uncertainty associated with the continued ability of a given obligor to make timely payments of principal and interest;

Table of Contents

- interest rate risk, relating to the market price and cash flow variability associated with changes in market interest rates. Changes in market interest rates will impact the net unrealized gain or loss position of our fixed income investment portfolio and the rates of return we receive on both new funds invested and reinvestment of existing funds;
- liquidity risk, relating to the diminished ability to sell certain investments, in times of strained market conditions;
- market valuation risk, relating to the variability in the estimated fair value of investments associated with changes in market factors such as credit spreads. A widening of credit spreads will adversely impact the net unrealized gain (loss) position of the fixed income investment portfolio, will increase losses associated with credit-based non-qualifying derivatives where we assume credit exposure, and, if credit spreads widen significantly or for an extended period of time, will likely result in higher OTTI. Credit spread tightening will reduce net investment income associated with purchases of fixed maturity securities and will favorably impact the net unrealized gain (loss) position of the fixed income investment portfolio;
- currency risk, relating to the variability in currency exchange rates for foreign denominated investments. This risk relates to potential decreases in estimated fair value and net investment income resulting from changes in currency exchange rates versus the U.S. dollar. In general, the weakening of foreign currencies versus the U.S. dollar will adversely affect the estimated fair value of our foreign denominated investments; and
- real estate risk, relating to commercial, agricultural and residential real estate, and stemming from factors, which include, but are not limited to, market conditions, including the demand and supply of leasable commercial space, creditworthiness of tenants and partners, capital markets volatility and the inherent interest rate movement.

We manage investment risk through in-house fundamental credit analysis of the underlying obligors, issuers, transaction structures and real estate properties. We also manage credit risk, market valuation risk and liquidity risk through industry and issuer diversification and asset allocation. Risk limits to promote diversification by asset sector, avoid concentrations in any single issuer and limit overall aggregate credit exposure as measured by our economic capital framework are approved annually by a committee of directors that oversees our investment portfolio. For real estate assets, we manage credit risk and market valuation risk through geographic, property type and product type diversification and asset allocation. We manage interest rate risk as part of our ALM strategies. These strategies include maintaining an investment portfolio with diversified maturities that has a weighted average duration that is approximately equal to the duration of our estimated liability cash flow profile, and utilizing product design, such as the use of market value adjustment features and surrender charges, to manage interest rate risk. We also manage interest rate risk through proactive monitoring and management of certain non-guaranteed elements of our products, such as the resetting of credited interest and dividend rates for policies that permit such adjustments. In addition to hedging with foreign currency derivatives, we manage currency risk by matching much of our foreign currency liabilities in our foreign subsidiaries with their respective foreign currency assets, thereby reducing our risk to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuation. We also use certain derivatives in the management of credit, interest rate, and equity market risks.

We use purchased credit default swaps to mitigate credit risk in our investment portfolio. Generally, we purchase credit protection by entering into credit default swaps referencing the issuers of specific assets we own. In certain cases, basis risk exists between these credit default swaps and the specific assets we own. For example, we may purchase credit protection on a macro basis to reduce exposure to specific industries or other portfolio concentrations. In such instances, the referenced entities and obligations under the credit default swaps may not be identical to the individual obligors or securities in our investment portfolio. In addition, our purchased credit default swaps may have shorter tenors than the underlying investments they are hedging. However, we dynamically hedge this risk through the rebalancing and rollover of our credit default swaps at their most liquid tenors. We believe that our purchased credit default swaps serve as effective economic hedges of our credit exposure.

We generally enter into market standard purchased and written credit default swap contracts. Payout under such contracts is triggered by certain credit events experienced by the referenced entities. For credit default swaps covering North American corporate issuers, credit events typically include bankruptcy and failure to pay on borrowed money. For European corporate issuers, credit events typically also include involuntary restructuring. With respect to credit default contracts on Western European sovereign debt, credit events typically include failure to pay debt obligations, repudiation, moratorium, or involuntary restructuring. In each case, payout on a credit default swap is triggered only after the Credit Derivatives Determinations Committee of the International Swaps and Derivatives Association deems that a credit event has occurred.

Current Environment

The global economy and markets continue to be affected by stress and volatility, which has adversely affected the financial services sector, in particular, and global capital markets. Recently, weakness in the energy and metals and mining sectors and political and/or economic instability of countries and regions outside the EU, including China, Ukraine, Russia, Argentina, Brazil, Japan, the Middle East and Puerto Rico, as well as Europe's perimeter region and Cyprus, have contributed to global market volatility. As a global insurance company, we are affected by the monetary policy of central banks around the world. See "— Industry Trends — Financial and Economic Environment" for information on actions taken by the ECB and Bank of Japan in recent years to support economic recovery. See also "— Industry Trends — Impact of a Sustained Low Interest Rate Environment" for information regarding the December 2015 action taken by the FOMC to raise the federal funds rate and its January 2016 determination to maintain it. The Federal Reserve may take further actions to influence interest rates in the future, which may have an impact on the pricing levels of risk-bearing investments and may adversely impact the level of product sales.

European Region Investments

Excluding Europe's perimeter region and Cyprus which are discussed below, our holdings of sovereign debt, corporate debt and perpetual hybrid securities in certain EU member states and other countries in the region that are not members of the EU (collectively, the "European Region") were concentrated in the U.K., Germany, France, the Netherlands, Poland, Norway and Sweden. The sovereign debt of these countries continues to maintain investment grade credit ratings from all major rating agencies. We maintain general account investments in the European Region to support our insurance operations and related policyholder liabilities in these countries and certain of our non-European Region operations invest in the region for diversification. In the European Region, we have proactively mitigated risk in both direct and indirect exposures by investing in a diversified portfolio of high quality investments with a focus on the higher-rated countries. Sovereign debt issued by countries outside of Europe's perimeter region and Cyprus comprised $6.8 billion, or 98%, of our European Region sovereign fixed maturity securities, at estimated fair value, at December 31, 2015. The European Region corporate securities (fixed maturity and perpetual hybrid securities classified as non-redeemable preferred stock) are invested in a diversified portfolio of primarily non-financial services securities, which comprised $20.8 billion, or 70%, of European Region total corporate securities, at estimated fair value, at December 31, 2015. Of these European Region sovereign fixed maturity and corporate

Table of Contents

securities, 92% were investment grade and, for the 8% that were below investment grade, the majority were non-financial services corporate securities at December 31, 2015. European Region financial services corporate securities, at estimated fair value, were $9.0 billion (including $6.4 billion within the banking sector) with 95% invested in investment grade rated corporate securities, at December 31, 2015.

Selected Country and Sector Investments

In recent years, elevated levels of market volatility have affected the performance of various asset classes. Contributing factors include concerns about global economic conditions and capital markets; lower oil prices impacting the energy sector; lower commodity prices impacting the metals and mining sector; country specific volatility due to local economic and/or political concerns, including concerns over the solvency of the EU member states included in Europe's perimeter region and Cyprus, their banking systems and the financial institutions that have significant direct or indirect exposure to debt issued by these countries or their respective banking systems. While economic conditions in certain of these countries, including Europe's perimeter region, seem to be stabilizing or improving, greater ECB and International Monetary Fund support, stronger liquidity facilities and gradually improving macroeconomic conditions at the country level have reduced the risk of default on sovereign debt and/or the risk of possible withdrawal of such countries from the Euro zone. See "— Industry Trends — Financial and Economic Environment."

The following table presents, by country, a summary of fixed maturity securities in selected countries. We maintain general account investments in the selected countries to support our insurance operations and related policyholder liabilities in these countries or we have exposure through our global portfolio diversification. The Company has written credit default swaps where the underlying is an index comprised of companies across various sectors in the European Region. At December 31, 2015, the written credit default swaps exposure to Europe's perimeter region and Cyprus was $209 million in notional amount and $2 million in estimated fair value. The information below is presented on a country of risk basis (e.g. the country where the issuer primarily conducts business).

	Selected Country Fixed Maturity Securities at December 31, 2015			
	Sovereign	Financial Services	Non-Financial Services	Total (1)
	(In millions)			
Europe's perimeter region:				
Spain	$55	$ 225	$ 467	$747
Italy	52	177	431	660
Ireland	6	27	85	118
Greece	—	2	—	2
Portugal	—	—	1	1
Total Europe's perimeter region	113	431	984	1,528
Brazil	315	87	619	1,021
Argentina	367	1	107	475
Russia	345	6	31	382
Puerto Rico (2)	14	—	114	128
Cyprus	35	4	—	39
Ukraine	2	—	—	2
Total	$1,191	$ 529	$ 1,855	$3,575
Investment grade %	45 %	89 %	61 %	60 %

____

(1) The par value and amortized cost of the fixed maturity securities were $3.4 billion and $3.5 billion, respectively, at December 31, 2015.

(2) Our exposure to Puerto Rico sovereigns is in the form of political subdivision fixed maturities and is composed completely of revenue bonds. We have no Puerto Rico general obligation bonds.

There has been an increased focus on energy sector investments and metals and mining sector investments as a result of lower energy, oil and commodity prices. Our net exposure to energy sector fixed maturity securities was $12.0 billion (comprised of fixed maturity securities of $11.9 billion at estimated fair value and related net written credit default swaps of $60 million at notional value), of which 86% were investment grade, with unrealized losses of $222 million at December 31, 2015. Our net exposure to metals and mining sector fixed maturity securities was $2.1 billion (comprised of fixed maturity securities of $2.1 billion at estimated fair value and related net written credit default swaps of $13 million at notional value), of which 82% were investment grade, with unrealized losses of $206 million at December 31, 2015.

We manage direct and indirect investment exposure in the selected countries, the energy sector and the metals and mining sector through fundamental credit analysis and we continually monitor and adjust our level of investment exposure. We do not expect that our general account investments in these countries, the energy sector or the metals and mining sector will have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

Current Environment Summary

All of these factors have had and could continue to have an adverse effect on the financial results of companies in the financial services industry, including MetLife. Such global economic conditions, as well as the global financial markets, continue to impact our net investment income, net investment gains (losses), net derivative gains (losses), level of unrealized gains (losses) within the various asset classes in our investment portfolio, and our level of investment in lower yielding cash equivalents, short-term investments and government securities. See "— Industry Trends"

Table of Contents

included elsewhere herein and “Risk Factors — Economic Environment and Capital Markets-Related Risks — We Are Exposed to Significant Global Financial and Capital Markets Risks Which May Adversely Affect Our Results of Operations, Financial Condition and Liquidity, and May Cause Our Net Investment Income to Vary from Period to Period” in the 2015 Form 10-K.

Investment Portfolio Results

The following yield table presents the yield and investment income (loss) for our investment portfolio for the periods indicated. As described in the footnotes below, this table reflects certain differences from the presentation of net investment income presented in the GAAP consolidated statements of operations. This yield table presentation is consistent with how we measure our investment performance for management purposes, and we believe it enhances understanding of our investment portfolio results.

	For the Years Ended December 31,					
	2015		2014		2013	
	Yield% (1)	Amount (In millions)	Yield% (1)	Amount (In millions)	Yield% (1)	Amount (In millions)
Fixed maturity securities (2) (3)	4.63 %	$14,201	4.81 %	$14,946	4.84 %	$15,098
Mortgage loans (3)	4.97 %	3,135	5.15 %	2,928	5.58 %	3,020
Real estate and real estate joint ventures	4.89 %	488	3.67 %	376	3.44 %	347
Policy loans	5.23 %	603	5.36 %	629	5.26 %	620
Equity securities	4.71 %	144	4.30 %	133	4.44 %	127
Other limited partnerships	8.45 %	669	13.01 %	1,033	13.35 %	955
Cash and short-term investments	1.04 %	129	1.07 %	161	0.98 %	168
Other invested assets		1,053		906		819
Total before investment fees and expenses	4.85 %	20,422	5.01 %	21,112	5.03 %	21,154
Investment fees and expenses	(0.15)	(633)	(0.13)	(556)	(0.13)	(563)
Net investment income including divested businesses (4)	4.70 %	19,789	4.88 %	20,556	4.90 %	20,591
Less: net investment income from divested businesses (4)		—		(72)		(197)
Net investment income (5)		$19,789		$20,484		$20,394

(1) Yields are calculated as investment income as a percent of average quarterly asset carrying values. Investment income excludes recognized gains and losses and reflects GAAP adjustments presented in footnote (5) below. Asset carrying values exclude unrealized gains (losses), collateral received in connection with our securities lending program, freestanding derivative assets, collateral received from derivative counterparties, the effects of consolidating certain variable interest entities (“VIEs”) under GAAP that are treated as consolidated securitization entities (“CSEs”) and contractholder-directed unit-linked investments. A yield is not presented for other invested assets as it is not considered a meaningful measure of performance for this asset class.

(2) Investment income (loss) includes amounts for FVO and trading securities of $21 million, $103 million and $65 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

(3) Investment income from fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans includes prepayment fees.

(4) Yield calculations include the net investment income and ending carrying values of the divested businesses. The net investment income adjustment for divested businesses for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 was $72 million and $197 million, respectively. Net investment income included in yield calculations include earned income on derivatives and amortization of premium on derivatives that are hedges of investments or that are used to replicate certain investments, but do not qualify for hedge accounting (“investment hedge adjustments”). Investment hedge adjustments are a reclassification adjustment to net investment income presented in the yield table to the most directly comparable GAAP measure as presented below. The investment hedge adjustments presented below exclude cash settlements of $1 million and $10 million for the years ended December 31, 2014, and 2013, respectively. There were no net investment income adjustments for divested businesses or excluded scheduled periodic settlement payments on derivatives for the year ended December 31, 2015.

(5) Net investment income presented in the yield table varies from the most directly comparable GAAP measure due to certain reclassifications and adjustments and excludes the effects of consolidating certain VIEs under GAAP that are treated as CSEs and contractholder-directed unit-linked investments. Such reclassifications and adjustments are presented in the table below.

Table of Contents

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Net investment income — in the above yield table	$19,789	$20,484	$20,394
Real estate discontinued operations	—	(1)	(9)
Investment hedge adjustments	(776)	(705)	(643)
Operating joint venture adjustments	(4)	(1)	(2)
Contractholder-directed unit-linked investments	264	1,266	2,172
Divested businesses	—	72	197
Incremental net investment income from CSEs	8	38	123
Net investment income — GAAP consolidated statements of operations	$19,281	$21,153	$22,232

See "— Results of Operations — Consolidated Results — Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014" and "— Results of Operations — Consolidated Results —Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013," for an analysis of the year over year changes in net investment income.

Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities AFS

The following table presents fixed maturity and equity securities AFS by type (public or private) and information about perpetual and redeemable securities held at:

	December 31, 2015		December 31, 2014	
	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total	Estimated Fair Value (In millions)	% of Total
Fixed maturity securities				
Publicly-traded	$302,400	86.1 %	$315,167	86.2 %
Privately-placed	49,002	13.9	50,258	13.8
Total fixed maturity securities	$351,402	100.0 %	$365,425	100.0 %
Percentage of cash and invested assets	69.1 %		70.7 %	
Equity securities				
Publicly-traded	$2,184	65.8 %	$2,569	70.8 %
Privately-held	1,137	34.2	1,062	29.2
Total equity securities	$3,321	100.0 %	$3,631	100.0 %
Percentage of cash and invested assets	0.7 %		0.7 %	
Perpetual securities included within fixed maturity and equity securities AFS	$819		$1,009	
Redeemable preferred stock with a stated maturity included within fixed maturity securities AFS	$1,216		$1,265	

Perpetual securities are included within fixed maturity and equity securities. Upon acquisition, we classify perpetual securities that have attributes of both debt and equity as fixed maturity securities if the securities have an interest rate step-up feature which, when combined with other qualitative factors, indicates that the securities have more debt-like characteristics; while those with more equity-like characteristics are classified as equity securities. Many of such securities, commonly referred to as "perpetual hybrid securities," have been issued by non-U.S. financial institutions that are accorded the highest two capital treatment categories by their respective regulatory bodies (i.e. core capital, or "Tier 1 capital" and perpetual deferrable securities, or "Upper Tier 2 capital").

Redeemable preferred stock with a stated maturity is included within fixed maturity securities. These securities, which are commonly referred to as "capital securities," primarily have cumulative interest deferral features and are primarily issued by U.S. financial institutions.

In connection with our investment management business, we manage privately-placed and infrastructure fixed maturity securities on behalf of institutional clients, which are unaffiliated investors. These privately-placed and infrastructure fixed maturity securities had an estimated fair value of $6.1 billion and $4.1 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. These assets are not included in our consolidated financial statements.

Also in connection with our investment management business, we manage index investment portfolios that track the return of standard industry fixed income and equity market indices such as the Barclay's U.S. Aggregate Bond Index and S&P 500® Index. These assets had an estimated fair value of $26.0 billion and $27.7 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, and are included within separate account assets in our consolidated financial statements.

Valuation of Securities. We are responsible for the determination of the estimated fair value of our investments. We determine the estimated fair value of publicly-traded securities after considering one of three primary sources of information: quoted market prices in active markets, independent pricing services, or independent broker quotations. We determine the estimated fair value of privately-placed securities after considering one of three primary sources of information: market standard internal matrix pricing, market standard internal discounted cash flow techniques, or independent

Table of Contents

pricing services (after we determine the independent pricing services' use of available observable market data). For publicly-traded securities, the number of quotations obtained varies by instrument and depends on the liquidity of the particular instrument. Generally, we obtain prices from multiple pricing services to cover all asset classes and obtain multiple prices for certain securities, but ultimately utilize the price with the highest placement in the fair value hierarchy. Independent pricing services that value these instruments use market standard valuation methodologies based on data about market transactions and inputs from multiple pricing sources that are market observable or can be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a discussion of the types of market standard valuation methodologies utilized and key assumptions and observable inputs used in applying these standard valuation methodologies. When a price is not available in the active market or through an independent pricing service, management values the security primarily using market standard internal matrix pricing or discounted cash flow techniques, and non-binding quotations from independent brokers who are knowledgeable about these securities. Independent non-binding broker quotations utilize inputs that may be difficult to corroborate with observable market data. As shown in the following section, less than 1% of our fixed maturity securities were valued using non-binding quotations from independent brokers at December 31, 2015.

Senior management, independent of the trading and investing functions, is responsible for the oversight of control systems and valuation policies, including reviewing and approving new transaction types and markets, for ensuring that observable market prices and market-based parameters are used for valuation, wherever possible, and for determining that valuation adjustments, when applied, are based upon established policies and are applied consistently over time. See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information on our valuation controls and procedures including our formal process to challenge any prices received from independent pricing services that are not considered representative of estimated fair value.

We have reviewed the significance and observability of inputs used in the valuation methodologies to determine the appropriate fair value hierarchy level for each of our securities. Based on the results of this review and investment class analysis, each instrument is categorized as Level 1, 2 or 3 based on the lowest level significant input to its valuation. See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the valuation techniques and inputs by level within the three level fair value hierarchy by major classes of invested assets.

Fair Value of Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities – AFS

Fixed maturity and equity securities AFS measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis and their corresponding fair value pricing sources are as follows:

	December 31, 2015			
	Fixed Maturity Securities (In millions)		Equity Securities (In millions)	
Level 1				
Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets	$37,660	10.7 %	$1,274	38.3 %
Level 2				
Independent pricing sources	258,271	73.5	1,470	44.3
Internal matrix pricing or discounted cash flow techniques	34,657	9.9	145	4.4
Significant other observable inputs	292,928	83.4	1,615	48.7
Level 3				
Independent pricing sources	7,122	2.0	308	9.3
Internal matrix pricing or discounted cash flow techniques	12,273	3.5	109	3.3
Independent broker quotations	1,419	0.4	15	0.4
Significant unobservable inputs	20,814	5.9	432	13.0
Total estimated fair value	$351,402	100.0%	$3,321	100.0%

See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the fixed maturity securities and equity securities AFS fair value hierarchy.

The composition of fair value pricing sources for and significant changes in Level 3 securities at December 31, 2015 are as follows:

- The majority of the Level 3 fixed maturity and equity securities AFS were concentrated in four sectors: U.S. and foreign corporate securities, residential mortgage-backed securities ("RMBS"), and asset-backed securities ("ABS").
- Level 3 fixed maturity securities are priced principally through market standard valuation methodologies, independent pricing services and, to a much lesser extent, independent non-binding broker quotations using inputs that are not market observable or cannot be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data. Level 3 fixed maturity securities consist of less liquid securities with very limited trading activity or where less price transparency exists around the inputs to the valuation methodologies. Level 3 fixed maturity securities include: sub-prime RMBS; certain below investment grade private securities and less liquid investment grade corporate securities (included in U.S. and foreign corporate securities); less liquid ABS and foreign government securities.
- During the year ended December 31, 2015, Level 3 fixed maturity securities decreased by $1.3 billion, or 6%. The decrease was driven by net transfers out of Level 3, partially offset by purchases in excess of sales and a decrease in estimated fair value recognized in other comprehensive income (loss).

See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a rollforward of the fair value measurements for fixed maturity securities and equity securities AFS measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable (Level 3) inputs; transfers into and/or out of Level 3; and further information about the valuation techniques and inputs by level by major classes of invested assets that affect the amounts reported above.

Table of Contents

Fixed Maturity Securities AFS

See Notes 1 and 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information about fixed maturity securities AFS by sector, contractual maturities and continuous gross unrealized losses.

Fixed Maturity Securities Credit Quality — Ratings

The Securities Valuation Office of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners ("NAIC") evaluates the fixed maturity security investments of insurers for regulatory reporting and capital assessment purposes and assigns securities to one of six credit quality categories called "NAIC designations." If no designation is available from the NAIC, then, as permitted by the NAIC, an internally developed designation is used. The NAIC designations are generally similar to the credit quality ratings of the Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations ("NRSROs") for fixed maturity securities, except for certain structured securities as described below. Rating agency ratings are based on availability of applicable ratings from rating agencies on the NAIC credit rating provider list, including Moody's Investors Services ("Moody's"), Standard & Poor's Rating Services ("S&P"), Fitch Ratings ("Fitch"), Dominion Bond Rating Service, A.M. Best Company, Kroll Bond Rating Agency, Egan Jones Ratings Company and Morningstar, Inc. ("Morningstar"). If no rating is available from a rating agency, then an internally developed rating is used.

The NAIC has adopted revised methodologies for certain structured securities comprised of non-agency RMBS, commercial mortgage-backed securities ("CMBS") and ABS. The NAIC's objective with the revised methodologies for these structured securities was to increase the accuracy in assessing expected losses, and to use the improved assessment to determine a more appropriate capital requirement for such structured securities. The revised methodologies reduce regulatory reliance on rating agencies and allow for greater regulatory input into the assumptions used to estimate expected losses from structured securities. We apply the revised NAIC methodologies to structured securities held by MetLife, Inc.'s insurance subsidiaries that maintain the NAIC statutory basis of accounting. The NAIC's present methodology is to evaluate structured securities held by insurers using the revised NAIC methodologies on an annual basis. If MetLife, Inc.'s insurance subsidiaries acquire structured securities that have not been previously evaluated by the NAIC, but are expected to be evaluated by the NAIC in the upcoming annual review, an internally developed designation is used until a final designation becomes available.

The following table presents total fixed maturity securities by NRSRO rating and the equivalent designations of the NAIC, except for certain structured securities, which are presented using the revised NAIC methodologies as described above, as well as the percentage, based on estimated fair value that each designation is comprised of at:

		December 31,							
		2015				2014			
NAIC Designation	NRSRO Rating	Amortized Cost	Unrealized Gain (Loss)	Estimated Fair Value	% of Total	Amortized Cost	Unrealized Gain (Loss)	Estimated Fair Value	% of Total
			(In millions)				(In millions)		
1	Aaa/Aa/A	$234,176	$ 16,627	$250,803	71.4 %	$233,246	$ 23,837	$257,083	70.4 %
2	Baa	77,313	2,210	79,523	22.6	76,754	6,654	83,408	22.8
	Subtotal investment grade	311,489	18,837	330,326	94.0	310,000	30,491	340,491	93.2
3	Ba	15,314	(172)	15,142	4.3	14,967	178	15,145	4.1
4	B	5,083	(244)	4,839	1.4	8,481	(96)	8,385	2.3
5	Caa and lower	1,036	5	1,041	0.3	1,296	44	1,340	0.4
6	In or near default	42	12	54	—	36	28	64	—
	Subtotal below investment grade	21,475	(399)	21,076	6.0	24,780	154	24,934	6.8
	Total fixed maturity securities	$332,964	$ 18,438	$351,402	100.0%	$334,780	$ 30,645	$365,425	100.0%

Table of Contents

The following tables present total fixed maturity securities, based on estimated fair value, by sector classification and by NRSRO rating and the equivalent designations of the NAIC, except for certain structured securities, which are presented using the NAIC methodologies as described above:

	Fixed Maturity Securities — by Sector & Credit Quality Rating						
NAIC Designation:	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
NRSRO Rating:	Aaa/Aa/A	Baa	Ba	B	Caa and Lower	In or Near Default	Estimated Fair Value
	(In millions)						
December 31, 2015							
U.S. corporate	$43,448	$44,158	$9,163	$3,532	$493	$ —	$100,794
U.S. Treasury and agency	61,646	—	—	—	—	—	61,646
Foreign corporate	23,368	29,362	3,621	732	114	1	57,198
Foreign government	43,911	4,098	1,730	395	326	39	50,499
RMBS	37,394	560	579	177	78	9	38,797
State and political subdivision	14,818	599	10	—	14	—	15,441
ABS	13,646	702	24	3	14	5	14,394
CMBS	12,572	44	15	—	2	—	12,633
Total fixed maturity securities	$250,803	$79,523	$15,142	$4,839	$1,041	$ 54	$351,402
Percentage of total	71.4 %	22.6 %	4.3 %	1.4 %	0.3 %	— %	100.0 %
December 31, 2014							
U.S. corporate	$46,043	$44,174	$9,627	$5,602	$497	$ 11	$105,954
U.S. Treasury and agency	61,516	—	—	—	—	—	61,516
Foreign corporate	25,368	31,084	3,775	1,358	89	1	61,675
Foreign government	44,837	5,763	744	863	418	41	52,666
RMBS	37,156	1,049	766	551	318	6	39,846
State and political subdivision	14,656	501	30	—	—	—	15,187
ABS	13,383	807	37	2	15	5	14,249
CMBS	14,124	30	166	9	3	—	14,332
Total fixed maturity securities	$257,083	$83,408	$15,145	$8,385	$1,340	$ 64	$365,425
Percentage of total	70.4 %	22.8 %	4.1 %	2.3 %	0.4 %	— %	100.0 %

Table of Contents

U.S. and Foreign Corporate Fixed Maturity Securities

We maintain a diversified portfolio of corporate fixed maturity securities across industries and issuers. This portfolio does not have any exposure to any single issuer in excess of 1% of total investments and the top ten holdings comprise 2% of total investments at both December 31, 2015 and 2014. The tables below present our U.S. and foreign corporate securities holdings at:

	December 31,			
	2015		2014	
	Estimated Fair Value	% of Total	Estimated Fair Value	% of Total
	(In millions)		(In millions)	
Corporate fixed maturity securities — by sector:				
Foreign corporate (1)	$57,198	36.2 %	$61,675	36.8 %
U.S. corporate fixed maturity securities — by industry:				
Consumer	27,715	17.5	27,808	16.6
Industrial	25,861	16.4	27,221	16.2
Utility	18,591	11.8	20,029	12.0
Finance	18,239	11.5	18,688	11.1
Communications	6,802	4.3	8,071	4.8
Other	3,586	2.3	4,137	2.5
Total	$157,992	100.0%	$167,629	100.0%

____

(1) Includes both U.S. dollar and foreign denominated securities.

Structured Securities

We held $65.8 billion and $68.4 billion of structured securities, at estimated fair value, at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, as presented in the RMBS, ABS and CMBS sections below.

RMBS

The table below presents our RMBS holdings at:

	December 31,					
	2015			2014		
	Estimated Fair Value	% of Total	Net Unrealized Gains (Losses)	Estimated Fair Value	% of Total	Net Unrealized Gains (Losses)
	(In millions)		(In millions)	(In millions)		(In millions)
By security type:						
Collateralized mortgage obligations	$20,604	53.1 %	$ 578	$20,269	50.9 %	$ 1,083
Pass-through securities	18,193	46.9	305	19,577	49.1	699
Total RMBS	$38,797	100.0%	$ 883	$39,846	100.0%	$ 1,782
By risk profile:						
Agency	$26,214	67.6 %	$ 763	$26,818	67.3 %	$ 1,469
Prime	1,960	5.1	41	2,648	6.6	68
Alt-A	5,990	15.4	(18)	5,540	13.9	85
Sub-prime	4,633	11.9	97	4,840	12.2	160
Total RMBS	$38,797	100.0%	$ 883	$39,846	100.0%	$ 1,782
Ratings profile:						
Rated Aaa/AAA	$26,809	69.1 %		$27,362	68.7 %	
Designated NAIC 1	$37,394	96.4 %		$37,156	93.2 %	

Collateralized mortgage obligations are structured by dividing the cash flows of mortgages into separate pools or tranches of risk that create multiple classes of bonds with varying maturities and priority of payments. Pass-through mortgage-backed securities are secured by a mortgage or collection of mortgages. The monthly mortgage payments from homeowners pass from the originating bank through an intermediary, such as a government agency or investment bank, which collects the payments and, for a fee, remits or passes these payments through to the holders of the pass-through securities.

Table of Contents

The majority of our RMBS holdings were rated Aaa/AAA by Moody's, S&P or Fitch; and were designated NAIC 1 by the NAIC at December 31, 2015 and 2014. Agency RMBS were guaranteed or otherwise supported by Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation or Government National Mortgage Association. Non-agency RMBS include prime, alternative residential mortgage loans ("Alt-A") and sub-prime RMBS. Prime residential mortgage lending includes the origination of residential mortgage loans to the most creditworthy borrowers with high quality credit profiles. Alt-A is a classification of mortgage loans where the risk profile of the borrower falls between prime and sub-prime. Sub-prime mortgage lending is the origination of residential mortgage loans to borrowers with weak credit profiles.

Included within prime and Alt-A RMBS are re-securitization of real estate mortgage investment conduit ("Re-REMIC") securities. Re-REMIC RMBS involve the pooling of previous issues of prime and Alt-A RMBS and restructuring the combined pools to create new senior and subordinated securities. The credit enhancement on the senior tranches is improved through the re-securitization.

Historically, we have managed our exposure to sub-prime RMBS holdings by: acquiring older vintage year securities that benefit from better underwriting, improved credit enhancement and higher levels of residential property price appreciation; reducing our overall exposure; stress testing the portfolio with severe loss assumptions; and closely monitoring the performance of the portfolio. Since 2012, we have increased our exposure by purchasing sub-prime RMBS at significant discounts to the expected principal recovery value of these securities. The estimated fair value of our sub-prime RMBS holdings purchased since 2012 was $4.0 billion and $3.9 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, with unrealized gains (losses) of $74 million and $130 million at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

ABS

Our ABS are diversified both by collateral type and by issuer. The following table presents our ABS holdings at:

	December 31, 2015			2014		
	Estimated Fair Value	% of Total	Net Unrealized Gains (Losses)	Estimated Fair Value	% of Total	Net Unrealized Gains (Losses)
	(In millions)		(In millions)	(In millions)		(In millions)
By collateral type:						
Collateralized obligations	$7,698	53.5 %	$ (144)	$5,262	36.9 %	$ (46)
Foreign residential loans	1,365	9.5	32	2,146	15.1	63
Student loans	1,284	8.9	(30)	1,997	14.0	42
Automobile loans	1,153	8.0	—	1,625	11.4	10
Credit card loans	831	5.8	27	1,195	8.4	44
Other loans	2,063	14.3	11	2,024	14.2	15
Total	$14,394	100.0%	$ (104)	$14,249	100.0%	$ 128
Ratings profile:						
Rated Aaa/AAA	$7,510	52.2 %		$7,950	55.8 %	
Designated NAIC 1	$13,646	94.8 %		$13,383	93.9 %	

Table of Contents

CMBS

Our CMBS holdings are diversified by vintage year. The following tables present our CMBS holdings by rating agency rating and by vintage year at:

	December 31, 2015											
	Aaa		Aa		A		Baa		Below Investment Grade		Total	
	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value
	(In millions)											
2003 - 2005	$187	$198	$95	$101	$33	$35	$47	$48	$10	$10	$372	$392
2006	1,061	1,070	79	79	76	77	50	56	—	—	1,266	1,282
2007	477	486	144	145	84	87	—	—	123	125	828	843
2008 - 2010	5	5	—	—	13	13	—	—	—	—	18	18
2011	560	593	23	24	63	64	—	—	—	—	646	681
2012	506	534	368	376	500	513	8	9	1	1	1,383	1,433
2013	989	1,036	696	735	893	925	12	10	—	—	2,590	2,706
2014	854	859	939	937	453	459	1	1	—	—	2,247	2,256
2015	2,258	2,227	445	436	325	327	32	32	—	—	3,060	3,022
Total	$6,897	$7,008	$2,789	$2,833	$2,440	$2,500	$150	$156	$134	$136	$12,410	$12,633
Ratings Distribution		55.5 %		22.4 %		19.8 %		1.2 %		1.1 %		100.0 %

	December 31, 2014											
	Aaa		Aa		A		Baa		Below Investment Grade		Total	
	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value
	(In millions)											
2003 - 2004	$251	$258	$25	$27	$54	$56	$40	$40	$17	$17	$387	$398
2005	2,278	2,300	412	426	243	253	111	115	9	13	3,053	3,107
2006	1,983	2,056	103	106	107	110	66	73	—	—	2,259	2,345
2007	694	720	64	67	195	205	41	43	129	131	1,123	1,166
2008 - 2010	5	5	—	—	25	25	—	—	—	—	30	30
2011	561	603	23	24	63	65	—	—	4	4	651	696
2012	467	559	245	255	842	866	—	—	3	3	1,557	1,683
2013	802	854	467	505	1,330	1,393	13	11	—	—	2,612	2,763
2014	466	480	883	900	652	677	13	14	76	73	2,090	2,144
Total	$7,507	$7,835	$2,222	$2,310	$3,511	$3,650	$284	$296	$238	$241	$13,762	$14,332
Ratings Distribution		54.7 %		16.1 %		25.5 %		2.0 %		1.7 %		100.0 %

The tables above reflect rating agency ratings assigned by NRSROs, including Moody's, S&P, Fitch and Morningstar. CMBS designated NAIC 1 were 99.5% and 98.5% of total CMBS at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Evaluation of AFS Securities for OTTI and Evaluating Temporarily Impaired AFS Securities

See Notes 1 and 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information about the evaluation of fixed maturity securities and equity securities AFS for OTTI and evaluation of temporarily impaired AFS securities.

OTTI Losses on Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities AFS Recognized in Earnings

See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information about OTTI losses and gross gains and gross losses on AFS securities sold.

Table of Contents

Overview of Fixed Maturity and Equity Security OTTI Losses Recognized in Earnings

Impairments of fixed maturity and equity securities were $130 million, $96 million and $192 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Impairments of fixed maturity securities were $90 million, $60 million and $166 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Impairments of equity securities were $40 million, $36 million and $26 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Credit-related impairments of fixed maturity securities were $90 million, $60 million and $147 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Explanations of changes in fixed maturity and equity securities impairments are as follows:

Year Ended December 31, 2015 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2014

Overall OTTI losses recognized in earnings on fixed maturity and equity securities were $130 million for the year ended December 31, 2015 as compared to $96 million for the year ended December 31, 2014. The most significant increases were in U.S. and foreign corporate securities, which comprised $54 million for the year ended December 31, 2015, as compared to $9 million for the year ended December 31, 2014. An increase of $45 million in OTTI losses on U.S. and foreign corporate securities reflected the impact of weakening foreign currencies on non-functional currency denominated fixed maturity securities and lower oil prices impacting the energy sector. The $45 million increase in OTTI losses on U.S. and foreign corporate securities was concentrated in the utility and consumer services industries.

Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2013

Overall OTTI losses recognized in earnings on fixed maturity and equity securities were $96 million for the year ended December 31, 2014 as compared to $192 million for the year ended December 31, 2013. The most significant decreases were in U.S. and foreign corporate securities and RMBS, which comprised $40 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, as compared to $154 million for the year ended December 31, 2013. A decrease of $65 million in OTTI losses on U.S. and foreign corporate securities and a $49 million decrease in OTTI losses on RMBS reflected improving economic fundamentals. The $65 million decrease in OTTI losses on U.S. and foreign corporate securities was concentrated in the utility and financial services industries.

Future Impairments

Future OTTI will depend primarily on economic fundamentals, issuer performance (including changes in the present value of future cash flows expected to be collected), and changes in credit ratings, collateral valuation, interest rates and credit spreads. If economic fundamentals deteriorate or if there are adverse changes in the above factors, OTTI may be incurred in upcoming periods.

FVO and Trading Securities

FVO and trading securities are primarily comprised of securities for which the FVO has been elected (“FVO Securities”). FVO Securities include certain fixed maturity and equity securities held-for-investment by the general account to support ALM strategies for certain insurance products and investments in certain separate accounts; securities held by CSEs; and trading securities, as further described in Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. FVO and trading securities were $15.0 billion and $16.7 billion at estimated fair value, or 3.0% and 3.2% of total cash and invested assets, at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the FVO and trading securities fair value hierarchy and a rollforward of the fair value measurements for FVO and trading securities measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable (Level 3) inputs.

Securities Lending

We participate in a securities lending program whereby securities are loaned to third parties, primarily brokerage firms and commercial banks. We obtain collateral, usually cash, in an amount generally equal to 102% of the estimated fair value of the securities loaned, which is obtained at the inception of a loan and maintained at a level greater than or equal to 100% for the duration of the loan. We monitor the estimated fair value of the securities loaned on a daily basis with additional collateral obtained as necessary throughout the duration of the loan. Securities loaned under such transactions may be sold or re-pledged by the transferee. We are liable to return to our counterparties the cash collateral under our control. Security collateral on deposit from counterparties may not be sold or re-pledged, unless the counterparty is in default, and is not reflected in the consolidated financial statements. These transactions are treated as financing arrangements and the associated cash collateral liability is recorded at the amount of the cash received.

See "— Liquidity and Capital Resources — The Company — Liquidity and Capital Uses — Securities Lending" and Note 8 of Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding our securities lending program.

Table of Contents

Mortgage Loans

Our mortgage loans are principally collateralized by commercial, agricultural and residential properties. Mortgage loans and the related valuation allowances are summarized as follows at:

	December 31, 2015				2014			
	Recorded Investment	% of Total	Valuation Allowance	% of Recorded Investment	Recorded Investment	% of Total	Valuation Allowance	% of Recorded Investment
	(Dollars in millions)				(Dollars in millions)			
Commercial	$44,012	65.8 %	$ 217	0.5 %	$41,088	68.7 %	$ 224	0.5 %
Agricultural	13,188	19.7	42	0.3 %	12,378	20.7	39	0.3 %
Residential	9,734	14.5	59	0.6 %	6,369	10.6	42	0.7 %
Total	$66,934	100.0%	$ 318	0.5 %	$59,835	100.0%	$ 305	0.5 %

The information presented in the tables herein exclude mortgage loans where we elected the FVO. Such amounts are presented in Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

We originated $12.8 billion and $11.1 billion of commercial mortgage loans during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. We originated $3.2 billion and $3.5 billion of agricultural mortgage loans during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. While we originate some residential mortgage loans, we purchased a substantial amount of our residential mortgage loans on the secondary market during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014. See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information on mortgage loan purchases.

We diversify our mortgage loan portfolio by both geographic region and property type to reduce the risk of concentration. Of our commercial and agricultural mortgage loan portfolios, 85% are collateralized by properties located in the U.S., with the remaining 15% collateralized by properties located outside the U.S., at December 31, 2015. The carrying value of our commercial and agricultural mortgage loans located in California, New York and Texas were 19%, 12% and 8%, respectively, of total mortgage loans at December 31, 2015. Additionally, we manage risk when originating commercial and agricultural mortgage loans by generally lending up to 75% of the estimated fair value of the underlying real estate collateral.

We manage our residential mortgage loan portfolio in a similar manner to reduce risk of concentration, with 91% collateralized by properties located in the U.S., and the remaining 9% collateralized by properties located outside the U.S., at December 31, 2015. The carrying value of our residential mortgage loans located in California, Florida, and New York were 35%, 7%, and 6%, respectively.

In connection with our investment management business, we manage commercial mortgage loans on behalf of institutional clients, which are unaffiliated investors. These commercial mortgage loans had an estimated fair value of $2.0 billion and $1.2 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. These assets are not included in our consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

Commercial Mortgage Loans by Geographic Region and Property Type. Commercial mortgage loans are the largest component of the mortgage loan invested asset class, as such loans represented over 65% of total mortgage loans at both December 31, 2015 and 2014. The tables below present the diversification across geographic regions and property types of commercial mortgage loans:

	December 31, 2015		2014	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
	(In millions)		(In millions)	
Region				
Pacific	$9,583	21.8 %	$8,620	21.0 %
Middle Atlantic	8,154	18.5	7,689	18.7
International	7,889	17.9	7,251	17.7
South Atlantic	6,127	13.9	6,384	15.5
West South Central	4,311	9.8	3,990	9.7
East North Central	2,346	5.3	2,430	5.9
New England	1,367	3.1	1,155	2.8
Mountain	1,117	2.5	932	2.3
West North Central	520	1.2	140	0.3
East South Central	512	1.2	424	1.0
Multi-Region and Other	2,086	4.8	2,073	5.1
Total recorded investment	44,012	100.0%	41,088	100.0%
Less: valuation allowances	217		224	
Carrying value, net of valuation allowances	$43,795		$40,864	
Property Type				
Office	$21,525	48.9 %	$21,400	52.1 %
Retail	10,466	23.8	9,389	22.9
Apartment	5,171	11.7	3,786	9.2
Hotel	4,396	10.0	4,196	10.2
Industrial	2,334	5.3	2,133	5.2
Other	120	0.3	184	0.4
Total recorded investment	44,012	100.0%	41,088	100.0%
Less: valuation allowances	217		224	
Carrying value, net of valuation allowances	$43,795		$40,864	

____

Mortgage Loan Credit Quality - Monitoring Process. We monitor our mortgage loan investments on an ongoing basis, including a review of loans that are current, past due, restructured and under foreclosure. See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for tables that present mortgage loans by credit quality indicator, past due and nonaccrual mortgage loans, as well as impaired mortgage loans. See "— Real Estate and Real Estate Joint Ventures" for real estate acquired through foreclosure.

We review our commercial mortgage loans on an ongoing basis. These reviews may include an analysis of the property financial statements and rent roll, lease rollover analysis, property inspections, market analysis, estimated valuations of the underlying collateral, loan-to-value ratios, debt service coverage ratios, and tenant creditworthiness. The monitoring process focuses on higher risk loans, which include those that are classified as restructured, delinquent or in foreclosure, as well as loans with higher loan-to-value ratios and lower debt service coverage ratios. The monitoring process for agricultural mortgage loans is generally similar, with a focus on higher risk loans, such as loans with higher loan-to-value ratios, including reviews on a geographic and sector basis. We review our residential mortgage loans on an ongoing basis. See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information on our evaluation of residential mortgage loans and related valuation allowance methodology.

Loan-to-value ratios and debt service coverage ratios are common measures in the assessment of the quality of commercial mortgage loans. Loan-to-value ratios are a common measure in the assessment of the quality of agricultural mortgage loans. Loan-to-value ratios compare the amount of the loan to the estimated fair value of the underlying collateral. A loan-to-value ratio greater than 100% indicates that the loan amount is greater than the collateral value. A loan-to-value ratio of less than 100% indicates an excess of collateral value over the loan amount. Generally, the higher the loan-to-value ratio, the higher the risk of experiencing a credit loss. The debt service coverage ratio compares a property’s net operating income to amounts needed to service the principal and interest due under the loan. Generally, the lower the debt service coverage ratio, the higher the risk of experiencing a credit loss. For our commercial mortgage loans, our average loan-to-value ratio was 52% at both December 31, 2015 and 2014, and our average debt service coverage ratio was 2.6x at both December 31, 2015 and 2014. The debt service coverage ratio, as well as the values utilized in calculating the ratio, is updated annually on a rolling basis, with a portion of the portfolio updated each quarter. In addition, the loan-to-value ratio is routinely updated for all but the lowest risk loans as part of our ongoing review of our commercial mortgage loan portfolio. For our agricultural mortgage loans, our average loan-to-value ratio was 43% and 44% at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The values utilized in calculating

Table of Contents

the agricultural mortgage loan loan-to-value ratio are developed in connection with the ongoing review of the agricultural loan portfolio and are routinely updated.

Mortgage Loan Valuation Allowances. Our valuation allowances are established both on a loan specific basis for those loans considered impaired where a property specific or market specific risk has been identified that could likely result in a future loss, as well as for pools of loans with similar risk characteristics where a property specific or market specific risk has not been identified, but for which we expect to incur a loss. Accordingly, a valuation allowance is provided to absorb these estimated probable credit losses.

The determination of the amount of valuation allowances is based upon our periodic evaluation and assessment of known and inherent risks associated with our loan portfolios. Such evaluations and assessments are based upon several factors, including our experience for loan losses, defaults and loss severity, and loss expectations for loans with similar risk characteristics. These evaluations and assessments are revised as conditions change and new information becomes available, which can cause the valuation allowances to increase or decrease over time as such evaluations are revised. Negative credit migration, including an actual or expected increase in the level of problem loans, will result in an increase in the valuation allowance. Positive credit migration, including an actual or expected decrease in the level of problem loans, will result in a decrease in the valuation allowance.

See Notes 1, 8 and 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information about how valuation allowances are established and monitored, activity in and balances of the valuation allowance, and the estimated fair value of impaired mortgage loans and related impairments included within net investment gains (losses) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013.

Real Estate and Real Estate Joint Ventures

We diversify our real estate investments by both geographic region and property type to reduce risk of concentration. Of our real estate investments, 77% were located in the United States, with the remaining 23% located outside the United States, at December 31, 2015. The carrying value of our real estate investments located in Japan, California and the District of Columbia were 19%, 17% and 8%, respectively, of total real estate investments at December 31, 2015.

Real estate investments by type consisted of the following at:

	December 31,			
	2015		2014	
	Carrying Value	% of Total	Carrying Value	% of Total
	(In millions)		(In millions)	
Traditional	$7,859	93.2 %	$9,386	89.2 %
Real estate joint ventures and funds	482	5.7	647	6.2
Subtotal	8,341	98.9	10,033	95.4
Foreclosed (commercial, agricultural and residential)	45	0.5	320	3.0
Real estate held-for-investment	8,386	99.4	10,353	98.4
Real estate held-for-sale	47	0.6	172	1.6
Total real estate and real estate joint ventures	$8,433	100.0%	$10,525	100.0%

We classify within traditional real estate our investment in income-producing real estate, which is comprised of wholly-owned real estate and joint ventures with interests in single property income-producing real estate. The estimated fair value of the traditional and held-for-sale real estate investment portfolios was $12.4 billion and $13.3 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. We classify within real estate joint ventures and funds, our investments in joint ventures with interests in multi-property projects with varying strategies ranging from the development of properties to the operation of income-producing properties, as well as our investments in real estate private equity funds. From time to time, if we intend to retain an interest in the property, we transfer investments from these joint ventures to traditional real estate after the completed property commences operations.

In connection with our investment management business, we manage real estate investments on behalf of institutional clients, which are unaffiliated investors. These real estate investments had an estimated fair value of $3.8 billion and

$2.8 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. These assets are not included in our consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

Real estate and real estate joint venture investments by property type are categorized by sector as follows at:

	December 31, 2015		2014	
	Carrying Value	% of Total	Carrying Value	% of Total
	(In millions)		(In millions)	
Office	$3,265	38.7 %	$5,574	53.0 %
Apartment	1,662	19.7	1,684	16.0
Retail	1,032	12.2	782	7.4
Real estate investment funds	683	8.1	351	3.3
Hotel	544	6.5	554	5.3
Industrial	483	5.7	614	5.8
Land	348	4.1	432	4.1
Agriculture	32	0.4	37	0.4
Other	384	4.6	497	4.7
Total real estate and real estate joint ventures	$8,433	100.0%	$10,525	100.0%

The Company's authorized equity investment in real estate property was $1.0 billion and $1.7 billion for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Impairments recognized on real estate and real estate joint ventures were $93 million, $20 million and $10 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Depreciation expense on real estate investments was $162 million, $199 million and $179 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Real estate investments are net of accumulated depreciation of $1.2 billion at both December 31, 2015 and 2014.

Other Limited Partnership Interests

Other limited partnership interests are comprised of private equity funds and hedge funds. The carrying value of other limited partnership interests was $7.1 billion and $8.1 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, which included $1.9 billion and $2.4 billion of hedge funds, at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Other Invested Assets

The following table presents the carrying value of our other invested assets by type:

	December 31, 2015		2014	
	Carrying Value	% of Total	Carrying Value	% of Total
	(In millions)		(In millions)	
Freestanding derivatives with positive estimated fair values	$14,406	64.0 %	$13,452	63.2 %
Tax credit and renewable energy partnerships	3,145	13.9	2,752	12.9
Leveraged leases, net of non-recourse debt	1,712	7.6	1,785	8.4
Direct financing leases	1,076	4.8	1,119	5.3
Funds withheld	771	3.4	763	3.6
Operating joint ventures	605	2.7	513	2.4
Other	809	3.6	899	4.2
Total	$22,524	100.0%	$21,283	100.0%

Leveraged lease impairments were $41 million, $80 million and $26 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

See Notes 8 and 9 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding tax credit partnerships, leveraged and direct financing leases and freestanding derivatives with positive estimated fair values, respectively. See Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information about tax credit and renewable energy partnerships, funds withheld and operating joint ventures.

Our private placement unit originated $9.7 billion and $8.3 billion of private investments, comprised primarily of certain privately placed fixed maturity securities and tax credit and renewable energy partnerships, during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The carrying value of such private investments included within our consolidated balance sheets was $49.8 billion at both December 31, 2015 and 2014. In addition, we originated $0 and $94 million of private lease investments during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The carrying value of such private lease investments included within our consolidated balance sheets was $2.0 billion and $2.1 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Table of Contents

Short-term Investments and Cash Equivalents

The carrying value of short-term investments, which approximates estimated fair value, was $9.3 billion and $8.6 billion, or 1.8% and 1.7% of total cash and invested assets, at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The carrying value of cash equivalents, which approximates estimated fair value, was $7.5 billion and $4.5 billion, or 1.5% and 0.9% of total cash and invested assets, at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Derivatives

Derivative Risks

We are exposed to various risks relating to our ongoing business operations, including interest rate, foreign currency exchange rate, credit and equity market. We use a variety of strategies to manage these risks, including the use of derivatives. See Note 9 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for:

- A comprehensive description of the nature of our derivatives, including the strategies for which derivatives are used in managing various risks.
- Information about the gross notional amount, estimated fair value, and primary underlying risk exposure of our derivatives by type of hedge designation, excluding embedded derivatives held at December 31, 2015 and 2014.
- The statement of operations effects of derivatives in net investments in foreign operations, cash flow, fair value, or nonqualifying hedge relationships for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013.

See “Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk — Management of Market Risk Exposures — Hedging Activities” for more information about our use of derivatives by major hedge program.

Fair Value Hierarchy

See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for derivatives measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis and their corresponding fair value hierarchy.

The valuation of Level 3 derivatives involves the use of significant unobservable inputs and generally requires a higher degree of management judgment or estimation than the valuations of Level 1 and Level 2 derivatives. Although Level 3 inputs are unobservable, management believes they are consistent with what other market participants would use when pricing such instruments and are considered appropriate given the circumstances. The use of different inputs or methodologies could have a material effect on the estimated fair value of Level 3 derivatives and could materially affect net income.

Derivatives categorized as Level 3 at December 31, 2015 include: interest rate forwards with maturities which extend beyond the observable portion of the yield curve; foreign currency swaps and forwards with certain unobservable inputs, including the unobservable portion of the yield curve; credit default swaps priced using unobservable credit spreads, or that are priced through independent broker quotations; equity variance swaps with unobservable volatility inputs; and equity index options with unobservable correlation inputs. At December 31, 2015, less than 1% of the estimated fair value of our derivatives was priced through independent broker quotations.

See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a rollforward of the fair value measurements for derivatives measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable (Level 3) inputs.

The gain (loss) on Level 3 derivatives primarily relates to certain purchased equity index options that are valued using models dependent on an unobservable market correlation input, equity variance swaps that are valued using observable equity volatility data plus an unobservable equity variance spread and foreign currency swaps and forwards that are valued using an unobservable portion of the swap yield curve. Other significant inputs, which are observable, include equity index levels, equity volatility and the swap yield curve. We validate the reasonableness of these inputs by valuing the positions using internal models and comparing the results to broker quotations.

The gain (loss) on Level 3 derivatives, percentage of gain (loss) attributable to observable and unobservable inputs, and the primary drivers of observable gain (loss) are summarized as follows:

	Year Ended December 31, 2015
Gain (loss) recognized in net income (loss)	($223) million
Percentage of gain (loss) attributable to observable inputs	26%

Primary drivers of observable gain (loss)	Strengthening of U.S. dollar versus foreign currencies on receive foreign, pay-U.S. dollar forwards and swaps; increases in equity index levels; and increases in short-term interest rates.
Percentage of gain (loss) attributable to unobservable inputs	74%

See "— Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates — Derivatives" for further information on the estimates and assumptions that affect derivatives.

Credit Risk

See Note 9 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information about how we manage credit risk related to derivatives and for the estimated fair value of our net derivative assets and net derivative liabilities after the application of master netting agreements and collateral.

Our policy is not to offset the fair value amounts recognized for derivatives executed with the same counterparty under the same master netting agreement. This policy applies to the recognition of derivatives in the consolidated balance sheets, and does not affect our legal right of offset.

Table of Contents

Credit Derivatives

The following table presents the gross notional amount and estimated fair value of credit default swaps at:

Credit Default Swaps	December 31, 2015 Gross Notional Amount	2015 Estimated Fair Value	2014 Gross Notional Amount	2014 Estimated Fair Value
	(In millions)			
Purchased (1)	$1,870	$ (6)	$2,830	$ (26)
Written (2)	10,311	65	10,527	175
Total	$12,181	$ 59	$13,357	$ 149

(1) The gross notional amount and estimated fair value for purchased credit default swaps in the trading portfolio were $175 million and ($2) million, respectively, at December 31, 2015 and $250 million and ($6) million, respectively, at December 31, 2014.

(2) The gross notional amount and estimated fair value for written credit default swaps in the trading portfolio were $20 million and ($2) million, respectively, at December 31, 2015 and $15 million and $1 million, respectively, at December 31, 2014.

The following table presents the gross gains, gross losses and net gain (losses) recognized in income for credit default swaps as follows:

Credit Default Swaps	Years Ended December 31, 2015 Gross Gains (1)	2015 Gross Losses (1)	2015 Net Gains (Losses)	2014 Gross Gains (1)	2014 Gross Losses (1)	2014 Net Gains (Losses)
	(In millions)					
Purchased (2), (4)	$32	$(28)	$ 4	$30	$ (42)	$ (12)
Written (3), (4)	29	(112)	(83)	65	(44)	21
Total	$61	$(140)	$ (79)	$95	$ (86)	$ 9

(1) Gains (losses) are reported in net derivative gains (losses), except for gains (losses) on the trading portfolio, which are reported in net investment income.

(2) The gross gains and gross (losses) for purchased credit default swaps in the trading portfolio were $8 million and ($11) million, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2015 and $5 million and ($5) million, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2014.

(3) The gross gains and gross (losses) for written credit default swaps in the trading portfolio were $3 million and ($3) million, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2015 and were not significant for the year ended December 31, 2014.

(4) Gains (losses) do not include earned income (expense) on credit default swaps.

The favorable change in net gains (losses) on purchased credit default swaps of $16 million was due to certain credit spreads widening in the current period compared to the prior period on credit default swaps hedging certain bonds. The unfavorable change in net gains (losses) on written credit default swaps of ($104) million was due to certain credit spreads widening in the current period compared to the prior on certain credit default swaps used as replications.

The maximum amount at risk related to our written credit default swaps is equal to the corresponding gross notional amount. In a replication transaction, we pair an asset on our balance sheet with a written credit default swap to synthetically replicate a corporate bond, a core asset holding of life insurance companies. Replications are entered into in accordance with the guidelines approved by insurance regulators and are an important tool in managing the overall corporate credit risk within the Company. In order to match our long-dated insurance liabilities, we will seek to buy long-dated corporate bonds. In some instances, these may not be readily available in the market, or they may be issued by corporations to which we already have significant corporate credit exposure. For example, by purchasing Treasury bonds (or other high-quality assets) and associating them with written credit default swaps on the desired corporate credit name, we, at times, can replicate the desired bond exposures and meet our ALM needs. In addition, given the shorter tenor of the credit default swaps (generally five-year tenors) versus a long-dated corporate bond, we have more flexibility in managing our credit exposures.

Embedded Derivatives

See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information about embedded derivatives measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis and their corresponding fair value hierarchy.

See Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a rollforward of the fair value measurements for net embedded derivatives measured at estimated fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable (Level 3) inputs.

See Note 9 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information about the nonperformance risk adjustment included in the valuation of guaranteed minimum benefits accounted for as embedded derivatives.

Table of Contents

See "— Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates — Derivatives" for further information on the estimates and assumptions that affect embedded derivatives.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Credit and Committed Facilities

We maintain an unsecured credit facility, as well as committed facilities with various financial institutions. See "— Liquidity and Capital Resources — The Company — Liquidity and Capital Sources — Global Funding Sources — Credit and Committed Facilities" for further descriptions of such arrangements. For the classification of expenses on such credit and committed facilities and the nature of the associated liability for letters of credit issued and drawdowns on these credit and committed facilities, see Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Collateral for Securities Lending, Repurchase Programs and Derivatives

We participate in a securities lending program in the normal course of business for the purpose of enhancing the total return on our investment portfolio. Periodically we receive non-cash collateral for securities lending from counterparties on deposit from customers, which cannot be sold or re-pledged, and which has not been recorded on our consolidated balance sheets. The amount of this collateral was $50 million and $83 million at estimated fair value at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. See Notes 1 and 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, as well as "— Investments — Securities Lending" for discussion of our securities lending program, the classification of revenues and expenses, and the nature of the secured financing arrangement and associated liability.

We also participate in third-party custodian administered repurchase programs for the purpose of enhancing the total return on our investment portfolio. We loan certain of our fixed maturity securities to financial institutions and, in exchange, non-cash collateral is put on deposit by the financial institutions on our behalf with third-party custodians. The estimated fair value of securities loaned in connection with these transactions was $738 million and $642 million at December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively. Non-cash collateral on deposit with third-party custodians on our behalf was $781 million and $682 million at December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively, which cannot be sold or re-pledged, and which has not been recorded on our consolidated balance sheets.

We enter into derivatives to manage various risks relating to our ongoing business operations. We have non-cash collateral from counterparties for derivatives, which can be sold or re-pledged subject to certain constraints, and which has not been recorded on our consolidated balance sheets. The amount of this non-cash collateral was $2.2 billion and $4.2 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. In certain instances, cash collateral pledged to the Company as initial margin for derivatives that are contracts between two parties traded over-the-counter ("OTC-bilateral") is held in separate custodial accounts and is not recorded on the Company's balance sheet because the account title is in the name of the counterparty (but segregated for the benefit of the Company). The amount of this cash collateral was $0 million and $263 million at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. See "— Liquidity and Capital Resources — The Company — Liquidity and Capital Uses — Pledged Collateral" and "Derivatives" in Note 9 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the earned income on and the gross notional amount, estimated fair value of assets and liabilities and primary underlying risk exposure of our derivatives.

Lease Commitments

As lessee, we have entered into various lease and sublease agreements for office space, information technology and other equipment. Our commitments under such lease agreements are included within the contractual obligations table. See "— Liquidity and Capital Resources — The Company — Contractual Obligations" and Note 21 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Guarantees

See "Guarantees" in Note 21 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Other

Additionally, we enter into commitments in the normal course of business for the purpose of enhancing the total return on our investment portfolio: mortgage loan commitments and commitments to fund partnerships, bank credit facilities, bridge loans and private corporate bond investments. See "Net Investment Income" and "Net Investment Gains (Losses)" in Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information on the investment income, investment expense, gains and losses from such investments. See also "— Investments — Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities AFS" and "— Investments — Mortgage Loans" for information on our investments in fixed maturity securities and mortgage loans.

See "— Investments — Real Estate and Real Estate Joint Ventures" and "— Investments — Other Limited Partnership Interest information on our partnership investments.

Other than the commitments disclosed in Note 21 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, there are no other material obligations or liabilities arising from the commitments to fund mortgage loans, partnerships, bank credit facilities, bridge loans, and private corporate bond investments. For further information on commitments to fund partnership investments, mortgage loans, bank credit facilities, bridge loans and private corporate bond investments. See "— Liquidity and Capital Resources — The Company — Contractual Obligations."

Insolvency Assessments

See Note 21 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Policyholder Liabilities

We establish, and carry as liabilities, actuarially determined amounts that are calculated to meet policy obligations or to provide for future annuity payments. Amounts for actuarial liabilities are computed and reported in the consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP. For more details on Policyholder Liabilities, see "— Summary of Critical Accounting Estimates."

Due to the nature of the underlying risks and the uncertainty associated with the determination of actuarial liabilities, we cannot precisely determine the amounts that will ultimately be paid with respect to these actuarial liabilities, and the ultimate amounts may vary from the estimated amounts, particularly when payments may not occur until well into the future.

Table of Contents

We periodically review our estimates of actuarial liabilities for future benefits and compare them with our actual experience. We revise estimates, to the extent permitted or required under GAAP, if we determine that future expected experience differs from assumptions used in the development of actuarial liabilities. We charge or credit changes in our liabilities to expenses in the period the liabilities are established or re-estimated. If the liabilities originally established for future benefit payments prove inadequate, we must increase them. Such an increase could adversely affect our earnings and have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We have experienced, and will likely in the future experience, catastrophe losses and possibly acts of terrorism, as well as turbulent financial markets that may have an adverse impact on our business, results of operations, and financial condition. Due to their nature, we cannot predict the incidence, timing, severity or amount of losses from catastrophes and acts of terrorism, but we make broad use of catastrophic and non-catastrophic reinsurance to manage risk from these perils.

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

See "Business — Regulation — U.S. Regulation — Insurance Regulation — Policy and Contract Reserve Adequacy Analysis" and "Business — Regulation — International Regulation" in the 2015 Form 10-K for further information.

Future Policy Benefits

We establish liabilities for amounts payable under insurance policies. See Notes 1 and 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, "— Industry Trends — Impact of a Sustained Low Interest Rate Environment — Low Interest Rate Scenario" and "— Variable Annuity Guarantees." A discussion of future policy benefits by segment (as well as Corporate & Other) follows.

Retail

Future policy benefits for the life business are comprised mainly of liabilities for traditional life and for universal and variable life insurance contracts. In order to manage risk, we have often reinsured a portion of the mortality risk on life insurance policies. The reinsurance programs are routinely evaluated and this may result in increases or decreases to existing coverage. We have entered into various derivative positions, primarily interest rate swaps and swaptions, to mitigate the risk that investment of premiums received and reinvestment of maturing assets over the life of the policy will be at rates below those assumed in the original pricing of these contracts. For our property & casualty business, future policy benefits include unearned premium reserves and liabilities for unpaid claims and claim expenses and represent the amount estimated for claims that have been reported but not settled and claims incurred but not reported. For the annuities business, future policy benefits are comprised mainly of liabilities for life-contingent income annuities, and liabilities for the variable annuity guaranteed minimum benefits accounted for as insurance.

Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits

With the exception of our property & casualty business, future policy benefits for our Group and Voluntary & Worksite businesses are comprised mainly of liabilities for disabled lives under disability waiver of premium policy provisions, liabilities for survivor income benefit insurance, long-term care policies, active life policies and premium stabilization and other contingency liabilities held under life insurance contracts. The components of future policy benefits for the property & casualty products offered by the Voluntary & Worksite and Retail property & casualty businesses are the same. Liabilities for unpaid claims are estimated based upon assumptions such as rates of claim frequencies, levels of severities, inflation, judicial trends, legislative changes or regulatory decisions. Assumptions are based upon our historical experience and analyses of historical development patterns of the relationship of loss adjustment expenses to losses for each line of business, and we consider the effects of current developments, anticipated trends and risk management programs, reduced for anticipated salvage and subrogation.

Corporate Benefit Funding

Liabilities for this segment are primarily related to payout annuities, including pension risk transfers, structured settlement annuities and institutional income annuities. There is no interest rate crediting flexibility on these liabilities. As a result, a sustained low interest rate environment could negatively impact earnings; however, we mitigate our risks by applying various ALM strategies, including the use of various derivative positions, primarily interest rate floors and interest rate swaps, to mitigate the risks associated with such a scenario.

Latin America

Future policy benefits for this segment are held primarily for immediate annuities in Chile, Argentina and Mexico and traditional life contracts mainly in Brazil and Mexico. There are also liabilities held for total return pass-through provisions included in certain universal life and savings products in Mexico. Factors impacting these liabilities include sustained periods of lower yields than rates established at policy issuance, lower than expected asset reinvestment rates, and mortality and lapses different than expected. We mitigate our risks by applying various ALM strategies.

Asia

Future policy benefits for this segment are held primarily for traditional life, endowment, annuity and accident & health contracts. They are also held for total return pass-through provisions included in certain universal life and savings products. They include certain liabilities for variable annuity and variable life guarantees of minimum death benefits, and longevity guarantees. Factors impacting these liabilities include sustained periods of lower yields than rates established at policy issuance, lower than expected asset reinvestment rates, market volatility, actual lapses resulting in lower than expected income, and actual mortality or morbidity resulting in higher than expected benefit payments. We mitigate our risks by applying various ALM strategies.

EMEA

Future policy benefits for this segment include unearned premium reserves for group life and credit insurance contracts. Future policy benefits are also held for traditional life, endowment and annuity contracts with significant mortality risk and accident & health contracts. Factors impacting these liabilities include lower than expected asset reinvestment rates, market volatility, actual lapses resulting in lower than expected income, and actual mortality or morbidity resulting in higher than expected benefit payments. We mitigate our risks by having premiums which are adjustable or cancellable in some cases, and by applying various ALM strategies.

Table of Contents

Corporate & Other

Future policy benefits primarily include liabilities for certain run-off long-term care and workers' compensation business written by MetLife USA. Additionally, future policy benefits include liabilities for variable annuity guaranteed minimum benefits assumed from a former operating joint venture in Japan that are accounted for as insurance.

Policyholder Account Balances

Policyholder account balances are generally equal to the account value, which includes accrued interest credited, but excludes the impact of any applicable charge that may be incurred upon surrender. See "— Industry Trends — Impact of a Sustained Low Interest Rate Environment — Low Interest Rate Scenario" and "— Variable Annuity Guarantees." See also Notes 1 and 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information. A discussion of policyholder account balances by segment (as well as Corporate & Other) follows.

Retail

Life & Other policyholder account balances are held for retained asset accounts, universal life policies and the fixed account of variable life insurance policies. For Annuities, policyholder account balances are held for fixed deferred annuities, the fixed account portion of variable annuities, and non-life contingent income annuities. Interest is credited to the policyholder's account at interest rates we determine which are influenced by current market rates, subject to specified minimums. A sustained low interest rate environment could negatively impact earnings as a result of the minimum credited rate guarantees present in most of these policyholder account balances. We have various derivative positions, primarily interest rate floors, to partially mitigate the risks associated with such a scenario. Additionally, policyholder account balances are held for variable annuity guaranteed minimum living benefits that are accounted for as embedded derivatives.

The table below presents the breakdown of account value subject to minimum guaranteed crediting rates for Retail:

	December 31, 2015	
Guaranteed Minimum Crediting Rate	Account Value (1)	Account Value at Guarantee (1)
	(In millions)	
Life & Other		
Greater than 0% but less than 2%	$94	$ 94
Equal to 2% but less than 4%	$12,471	$ 5,298
Equal to or greater than 4%	$10,551	$ 6,251
Annuities		
Greater than 0% but less than 2%	$3,429	$ 2,932
Equal to 2% but less than 4%	$30,786	$ 27,047
Equal to or greater than 4%	$2,342	$ 2,302

(1) These amounts are not adjusted for policy loans.

As a result of acquisitions, we establish additional liabilities known as excess interest reserves for policies with credited rates in excess of market rates as of the applicable acquisition dates. At December 31, 2015, excess interest reserves were $110 million and $328 million for Life & Other and Annuities, respectively.

Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits

Policyholder account balances in this segment are held for retained asset accounts, universal life policies, the fixed account of variable life insurance policies and specialized life insurance products for benefit programs. Policyholder account balances are credited interest at a rate we determine, which are influenced by current market rates. A sustained low interest rate environment could negatively impact earnings as a result of the minimum credited rate guarantees present in most of these policyholder account balances. We have various derivative positions, primarily interest rate floors, to partially mitigate the risks associated with such a scenario.

The table below presents the breakdown of account value subject to minimum guaranteed crediting rates for Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits:

Guaranteed Minimum Crediting Rate	December 31, 2015	
	Account Value (1)	Account Value at Guarantee (1)
	(In millions)	
Greater than 0% but less than 2%	$4,845	$ 4,841
Equal to 2% but less than 4%	$2,018	$ 1,987
Equal to or greater than 4%	$683	$ 656

(1) These amounts are not adjusted for policy loans.

Table of Contents

Corporate Benefit Funding

Policyholder account balances in this segment are comprised of funding agreements. Interest crediting rates vary by type of contract, and can be fixed or variable. Variable interest crediting rates are generally tied to an external index, most commonly (1-month or 3-month) LIBOR. We are exposed to interest rate risks, as well as foreign currency exchange rate risk, when guaranteeing payment of interest and return of principal at the contractual maturity date. We may invest in floating rate assets or enter into receive-floating interest rate swaps, also tied to external indices, as well as caps, to mitigate the impact of changes in market interest rates. We also mitigate our risks by applying various ALM strategies and seek to hedge all foreign currency exchange rate risk through the use of foreign currency hedges, including cross currency swaps.

Latin America

Policyholder account balances in this segment are held largely for investment-type products and universal life products in Mexico and Chile, and deferred annuities in Brazil. Some of the deferred annuities in Brazil are unit-linked-type funds that do not meet the GAAP definition of separate accounts. The rest of the deferred annuities have minimum credited rate guarantees, and these liabilities and the universal life liabilities are generally impacted by sustained periods of low interest rates. Liabilities for unit-linked-type funds are impacted by changes in the fair value of the associated investments, as the return on assets is generally passed directly to the policyholder.

Asia

Policyholder account balances in this segment are held largely for fixed income retirement and savings plans, fixed deferred annuities, interest sensitive whole life products, universal life and, to a lesser degree, liability amounts for unit-linked-type funds that do not meet the GAAP definition of separate accounts. Also included are certain liabilities for retirement and savings products sold in certain countries in Asia that generally are sold with minimum credited rate guarantees. Liabilities for guarantees on certain variable annuities in Asia are accounted for as embedded derivatives and recorded at estimated fair value and are also included within policyholder account balances. These liabilities are generally impacted by sustained periods of low interest rates, where there are interest rate guarantees. We mitigate our risks by applying various ALM strategies and with reinsurance. Liabilities for unit-linked-type funds are impacted by changes in the fair value of the associated underlying investments, as the return on assets is generally passed directly to the policyholder.

The table below presents the breakdown of account value subject to minimum guaranteed crediting rates for Asia:

Guaranteed Minimum Crediting Rate (1)	December 31, 2015 Account Value (2)	 Account Value at Guarantee (2)
	(In millions)	
Annuities		
Greater than 0% but less than 2%	$19,059	$ 3,093
Equal to 2% but less than 4%	$1,043	$ 224
Equal to or greater than 4%	$1	$ 1
Life & Other		
Greater than 0% but less than 2%	$6,296	$ 5,960
Equal to 2% but less than 4%	$17,972	$ 8,039
Equal to or greater than 4%	$268	$ —

(1) Excludes negative VOBA liabilities of $1.2 billion at December 31, 2015, primarily held in Japan. These liabilities were established in instances where the estimated fair value of contract obligations exceeded the book value of assumed insurance policy liabilities associated with the acquisition of American Life Insurance Company (“American Life”) and Delaware American Life Insurance Company (“DelAm” and, together with American Life, “ALICO”). These negative liabilities were established primarily for decreased market interest rates subsequent to the issuance of the policy contracts.

(2) These amounts are not adjusted for policy loans.

EMEA

Policyholder account balances in this segment are held mostly for universal life, deferred annuity, pension products, and unit-linked-type funds that do not meet the GAAP definition of separate accounts. They are also held for endowment products without significant mortality risk. Where there are interest rate guarantees, these liabilities are generally impacted by sustained periods of low interest rates. We mitigate our risks by applying various ALM strategies. Liabilities for unit-linked-type funds are impacted by changes in the fair value of the associated investments, as the return on assets is generally passed directly to the policyholder.

Corporate & Other

Policyholder account balances in Corporate & Other are held for variable annuity guaranteed minimum benefits assumed from a former operating joint venture in Japan that are accounted for as embedded derivatives.

Variable Annuity Guarantees

We issue, directly and through assumed business, certain variable annuity products with guaranteed minimum benefits that provide the policyholder a minimum return based on their initial deposit (i.e., the benefit base) less withdrawals. In some cases, the benefit base may be increased

Table of Contents

by additional deposits, bonus amounts, accruals or optional market value resets. See Notes 1 and 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

Certain guarantees, including portions thereof, have insurance liabilities established that are included in future policy benefits. Guarantees accounted for in this manner include GMDBs, the life-contingent portion of certain guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits (“GMWBs”), and the non-life contingent portions of both GMWBs and GMIBs that require annuitization. These liabilities are accrued over the life of the contract in proportion to actual and future expected policy assessments based on the level of guaranteed minimum benefits generated using multiple scenarios of separate account returns. The scenarios are based on best estimate assumptions consistent with those used to amortize DAC. When current estimates of future benefits exceed those previously projected or when current estimates of future assessments are lower than those previously projected, liabilities will increase, resulting in a current period charge to net income. The opposite result occurs when the current estimates of future benefits are lower than those previously projected or when current estimates of future assessments exceed those previously projected. At each reporting period, we update the actual amount of business remaining in-force, which impacts expected future assessments and the projection of estimated future benefits resulting in a current period charge or increase to earnings.

Certain guarantees, including portions thereof, accounted for as embedded derivatives, are recorded at estimated fair value and included in policyholder account balances. Guarantees accounted for as embedded derivatives include guaranteed minimum accumulation benefits (“GMABs”), and the non-life contingent portions of both GMWBs and GMIBs that do not require annuitization. The estimated fair values of guarantees accounted for as embedded derivatives are determined based on the present value of projected future benefits minus the present value of projected future fees. The projections of future benefits and future fees require capital market and actuarial assumptions including expectations concerning policyholder behavior. A risk neutral valuation methodology is used to project the cash flows from the guarantees under multiple capital market scenarios to determine an economic liability. The reported estimated fair value is then determined by taking the present value of these risk-free generated cash flows using a discount rate that incorporates a spread over the risk-free rate to reflect our nonperformance risk and adding a risk margin. For more information on the determination of estimated fair value, see Note 10 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

The table below contains the carrying value for guarantees at:

	Future Policy Benefits		Policyholder Account Balances	
	December 31,		December 31,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	(In millions)			
Americas				
GMDB	$937	$710	$—	$—
GMIB	2,410	1,993	(507)	(1,278)
GMAB	—	—	9	2
GMWB	127	104	338	38
Asia				
GMDB	25	29	—	—
GMAB	—	—	37	22
GMWB	89	91	151	129
EMEA				
GMDB	2	2	—	—
GMAB	—	—	16	23
GMWB	8	26	(63)	(61)
Corporate & Other				
GMDB	13	17	—	—

GMAB	—	—	13	23
GMWB	104	74	951	949
Total	$3,715	$3,046	$945	$(153)

The carrying amounts for guarantees included in policyholder account balances above include nonperformance risk adjustments of $462 million and $299 million at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. These nonperformance risk adjustments represent the impact of including a credit spread when discounting the underlying risk neutral cash flows to determine the estimated fair values. The nonperformance risk adjustment does not have an economic impact on us as it cannot be monetized given the nature of these policyholder liabilities. The change in valuation arising from the nonperformance risk adjustment is not hedged.

The carrying values of these guarantees can change significantly during periods of sizable and sustained shifts in equity market performance, equity volatility, interest rates or foreign currency exchange rates. Carrying values are also impacted by our assumptions around mortality, separate account returns and policyholder behavior, including lapse rates.

As discussed below, we use a combination of product design, hedging strategies, reinsurance, and other risk management actions to mitigate the risks related to these benefits. Within each type of guarantee, there is a range of product offerings reflecting the changing nature of these products over time. Changes in product features and terms are in part driven by customer demand but, more importantly, reflect our risk management practices

Table of Contents

of continuously evaluating the guaranteed benefits and their associated asset-liability matching. Recently, we have been diversifying the concentration of income benefits in the portfolio of the Company's Retail Annuities business by focusing on withdrawal benefits, variable annuities without living benefits and index-linked annuities. To this end, the GMIBs will not be available for new purchases after February 19, 2016.

The sections below provide further detail by total account value for certain of our most popular guarantees. Total account values include amounts not reported in the consolidated balance sheets from assumed business, contractholder-directed investments which do not qualify for presentation as separate account assets, and amounts included in our general account. The total account values and the net amounts at risk include direct and assumed business, but exclude offsets from hedging or ceded reinsurance, if any.

GMDBs

We offer a range of GMDBs to our contractholders. The table below presents GMDBs, by benefit type, at December 31, 2015:

	Total Account Value (1)		
	Americas	Asia & EMEA	Corporate & Other
	(In millions)		
Return of premium or five to seven year step-up	$100,518	$9,916	$ 10,715
Annual step-up	27,796	—	—
Roll-up and step-up combination	36,539	—	—
Total	$164,853	$9,916	$ 10,715

(1) Total account value excludes $2.1billion for contracts with no GMDBs. Further, many of our annuity contracts offer more than one type of guarantee such that GMDB amounts listed above are not mutually exclusive to the amounts in the living benefit guarantees table below.

Based on total account value, less than 39% of our GMDBs included enhanced death benefits such as the annual step-up or roll-up and step-up combination products. We expect the above GMDB risk profile to be relatively consistent for the foreseeable future.

Living Benefit Guarantees

The table below presents our living benefit guarantees based on total account values at December 31, 2015:

	Total Account Value (1)		
	Americas	Asia & EMEA	Corporate & Other
	(In millions)		
GMIB	$90,292	$—	$ —
GMWB - non-life contingent (2)	5,704	2,647	2,319
GMWB - life-contingent	22,144	4,524	7,416
GMAB	675	1,376	980
	$118,815	$8,547	$ 10,715

(1) Total account value excludes $48.1 billion for contracts with no living benefit guarantees. Further, many of our annuity contracts offer more than one type of guarantee such that living benefit guarantee amounts listed above are not mutually exclusive of the amounts in the GMDBs table above.

(2) The Asia and EMEA segments include the non-life contingent portion of the GMWB total account value of $948 million with a guarantee at annuitization.

In terms of total account value, GMIBs are our most significant living benefit guarantee. Our primary risk management strategy for our GMIB products is our derivatives hedging program as discussed below. Additionally, we have engaged in certain reinsurance agreements covering some of our GMIB business. As part of our overall risk management approach for living benefit guarantees, we continually monitor the reinsurance markets for the right opportunity to purchase additional coverage for our GMIB business.

Table of Contents

The table below presents our GMIB associated total account values, by their guaranteed payout basis, at December 31, 2015:

	Total Account Value (In millions)
7-year setback, 2.5% interest rate	$ 32,382
7-year setback, 1.5% interest rate	5,632
10-year setback, 1.5% interest rate	18,340
10-year mortality projection, 10-year setback, 1.0% interest rate	29,751
10-year mortality projection, 10-year setback, 0.5% interest rate	4,187
	$ 90,292

The annuitization interest rates on GMIBs have been decreased from 2.5% to 0.5% over time, partially in response to the low interest rate environment, accompanied by an increase in the setback period from seven years to 10 years and the more recent introduction of a 10-year mortality projection.

Additionally, 33% of the $90.3 billion of GMIB total account value has been invested in managed volatility funds as of December 31, 2015. These funds seek to manage volatility by adjusting the fund holdings within certain guidelines based on capital market movements. Such activity reduces the overall risk of the underlying funds while maintaining their growth opportunities. These risk mitigation techniques translate to a reduction or elimination of the need for us to manage the funds' volatility through hedging or reinsurance.

Our GMIB products typically have a waiting period of 10 years to be eligible for annuitization. As of December 31, 2015, only 15% of our contracts with GMIBs were eligible for annuitization. The remaining contracts are not eligible for annuitization for an average of six years.

Once eligible for annuitization, contractholders would only be expected to annuitize if their contracts were in-the-money. We calculate in-the-moneyness with respect to GMIBs consistent with net amount at risk as discussed in Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, by comparing the contractholders' income benefits based on total account values and current annuity rates versus the guaranteed income benefits. The net amount at risk was $2,762 million at December 31, 2015, of which $2,619 million was related to GMIB guarantees. For those contracts with GMIB, the table below presents details of contracts that are in-the-money and out-of-the money at December 31, 2015:

	In-the-Moneyness	Total Account Value (In millions)	% of Total	
In-the-money	30% +	$ 2,460	3	%
	20% to 30%	1,970	2	%
	10% to 20%	3,722	4	%
	0% to 10%	6,180	7	%
		14,332		
Out-of-the-money	-10% to 0%	12,662	14	%
	-20% to 10%	11,540	13	%
	-20% +	51,758	57	%
		75,960		
Total GMIBs		$ 90,292		

Table of Contents

Derivatives Hedging Variable Annuity Guarantees

Our risk mitigating hedging strategy uses various OTC and exchange traded derivatives. The table below presents the gross notional amount, estimated fair value and primary underlying risk exposure of the derivatives hedging our variable annuity guarantees:

		December 31,					
		2015			2014		
Primary Underlying Risk Exposure	Instrument Type	Gross Notional Amount	Estimated Fair Value Assets	Liabilities	Gross Notional Amount	Estimated Fair Value Assets	Liabilities
		(In millions)					
Interest rate	Interest rate swaps	$23,430	$ 2,056	$ 966	$22,794	$ 1,881	$ 834
	Interest rate futures	3,915	4	5	2,707	3	9
	Interest rate options	24,923	994	7	36,510	908	26
Foreign currency exchange rate	Foreign currency forwards	2,305	29	7	2,241	1	137
	Foreign currency futures	135	—	—	522	2	—
Equity market	Equity futures	7,104	61	18	6,065	65	2
	Equity options	54,113	1,541	1,041	37,427	1,422	1,035
	Variance swaps	23,437	195	636	24,598	196	639
	Total rate of return swaps	3,803	47	58	3,297	22	101
	Total	$143,165	$ 4,927	$ 2,738	$136,161	$ 4,500	$ 2,783

The change in estimated fair values of our derivatives is recorded in policyholder benefits and claims if they are hedging guarantees included in future policy benefits, and in net derivative gains (losses) if they are hedging guarantees included in policyholder account balances.

Our hedging strategy involves the significant use of static longer-term derivative instruments to avoid the need to execute transactions during periods of market disruption or higher volatility. We continually monitor the capital markets for opportunities to adjust our liability coverage, as appropriate. Futures are also used to dynamically adjust the daily coverage levels as markets and liability exposures fluctuate.

We remain liable for the guaranteed benefits in the event that reinsurers or derivative counterparties are unable or unwilling to pay. Certain of our reinsurance agreements and most derivative positions are collateralized and derivatives positions are subject to master netting agreements, both of which significantly reduce the exposure to counterparty risk. In addition, we are subject to the risk that hedging and other risk management actions prove ineffective or that unanticipated policyholder behavior or mortality, combined with adverse market events, produces economic losses beyond the scope of the risk management techniques employed.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Overview

Our business and results of operations are materially affected by conditions in the global capital markets and the economy generally. Stressed conditions, volatility and disruptions in global capital markets, particular markets, or financial asset classes can have an adverse effect on us, in part because we have a large investment portfolio and our insurance liabilities are sensitive to changing market factors. The global markets and economy continue to experience volatility that may affect our financing costs and market interest for our debt or equity securities. For further information regarding market factors that could affect our ability to meet liquidity and capital needs, see "— Industry Trends" and "— Investments — Current Environment."

Liquidity Management

Based upon the strength of our franchise, diversification of our businesses, strong financial fundamentals and the substantial funding sources available to us as described herein, we continue to believe we have access to ample liquidity to meet business requirements under current market conditions and reasonably possible stress scenarios. We continuously monitor and adjust our liquidity and capital plans for MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries in light of market conditions, as well as changing needs and opportunities.

Short-term Liquidity

We maintain a substantial short-term liquidity position, which was $11.1 billion and $14.0 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Short-term liquidity includes cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments, excluding assets that are pledged or otherwise committed including: (i) amounts related to cash collateral received under our securities lending program; (ii) amounts related to cash collateral received from counterparties in connection with derivatives; and (iii) cash held in the closed block.

Liquid Assets

An integral part of our liquidity management includes managing our level of liquid assets, which was $229.4 billion and $237.4 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Liquid assets include cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and publicly-traded securities, excluding assets that are pledged or otherwise committed. Assets pledged or otherwise committed include: (i) amounts related to cash collateral received under our securities lending program; (ii) amounts related to cash collateral received from counterparties in connection with derivatives; (iii) cash and investments held in the closed block, in regulatory custodial accounts or on deposit with regulatory agencies; (iv) investments held in trust in support of collateral financing arrangements; and (v) investments pledged in support of funding agreements, derivatives and short sale agreements.

Table of Contents

Capital Management

We have established several senior management committees as part of our capital management process. These committees, including the Capital Management Committee and the Enterprise Risk Committee (“ERC”), regularly review actual and projected capital levels (under a variety of scenarios including stress scenarios) and our annual capital plan in accordance with our capital policy. The Capital Management Committee is comprised of members of senior management, including MetLife, Inc.’s Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Chief Risk Officer (“CRO”). The ERC is also comprised of members of senior management, including MetLife, Inc.’s Chief Financial Officer, CRO and Chief Investment Officer.

Our Board and senior management are directly involved in the development and maintenance of our capital policy. The capital policy sets forth, among other things, minimum and target capital levels and the governance of the capital management process. All capital actions, including proposed changes to the annual capital plan, capital targets or capital policy, are reviewed by the Finance and Risk Committee of the Board prior to obtaining full Board approval. The Board approves the capital policy and the annual capital plan and authorizes capital actions, as required.

See “Risk Factors — Capital-Related Risks — Regulatory Restrictions and Uncertainty and Restrictions Under the Terms of Certain of Our Securities May Prevent Us from Repurchasing Our Stock and Paying Dividends at the Level We Wish” in the 2015 Form 10-K and Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding restrictions on payment of dividends and stock repurchases. See also “— The Company — Liquidity and Capital Uses — Common Stock Repurchases” for information regarding MetLife, Inc.’s common stock repurchase authorizations.

The Company

Liquidity

Liquidity refers to a company’s ability to generate adequate amounts of cash to meet its needs. We determine our liquidity needs based on a rolling 12-month forecast by portfolio of invested assets which we monitor daily. We adjust the asset mix and asset maturities based on this rolling 12-month forecast. To support this forecast, we conduct cash flow and stress testing, which include various scenarios of the potential risk of early contractholder and policyholder withdrawal. We include provisions limiting withdrawal rights on many of our products, including general account pension products sold to employee benefit plan sponsors. Certain of these provisions prevent the customer from making withdrawals prior to the maturity date of the product. In the event of significant cash requirements beyond anticipated liquidity needs, we have various alternatives available depending on market conditions and the amount and timing of the liquidity need. These available alternatives include cash flows from operations, sales of liquid assets, global funding sources and various credit facilities.

Under certain stressful market and economic conditions, our access to liquidity may deteriorate, or the cost to access liquidity may increase. If we require significant amounts of cash on short notice in excess of anticipated cash requirements or if we are required to post or return cash collateral in connection with derivatives or our securities lending program, we may have difficulty selling investments in a timely manner, be forced to sell them for less than we otherwise would have been able to realize, or both. In addition, in the event of such forced sale, accounting guidance requires the recognition of a loss for certain securities in an unrealized loss position and may require the impairment of other securities if there is a need to sell such securities, which may negatively impact our financial condition. See “Risk Factors — Investment-Related Risks — Should the Need Arise, We May Have Difficulty Selling Certain Holdings in Our Investment Portfolio or in Our Securities Lending Program in a Timely Manner and Realizing Full Value Given Their Illiquid Nature” in the 2015 Form 10-K.

In extreme circumstances, all general account assets within a particular legal entity — other than those which may have been pledged to a specific purpose — are available to fund obligations of the general account of that legal entity.

Capital

We manage our capital position to maintain our financial strength and credit ratings. Our capital position is supported by our ability to generate strong cash flows within our operating companies and borrow funds at competitive rates, as well as by our demonstrated ability to raise additional capital to meet operating and growth needs despite adverse market and economic conditions.

Rating Agencies

Rating agencies assign insurer financial strength ratings to MetLife, Inc.'s domestic life insurance subsidiaries and credit ratings to MetLife, Inc. and certain of its subsidiaries. Financial strength ratings represent the opinion of rating agencies regarding the ability of an insurance company to pay obligations under insurance policies and contracts in accordance with their terms. Credit ratings indicate the rating agency's opinion regarding a debt issuer's ability to meet the terms of debt obligations in a timely manner. They are important factors in our overall funding profile and ability to access certain types of liquidity. The level and composition of regulatory capital at the subsidiary level and our equity capital are among the many factors considered in determining our insurer financial strength ratings and credit ratings. Each agency has its own capital adequacy evaluation methodology, and assessments are generally based on a combination of factors. In addition to heightening the level of scrutiny that they apply to insurance companies, rating agencies have increased and may continue to increase the frequency and scope of their credit reviews, may request additional information from the companies that they rate and may adjust upward the capital and other requirements employed in the rating agency models for maintenance of certain ratings levels. See "Business — Company Ratings" in the 2015 Form 10-K for further information on our insurer financial strength ratings.

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

- reducing new sales of insurance products, annuities and investment products;
- adversely affecting our relationships with our sales force and independent sales intermediaries;
- materially increasing the number or amount of policy surrenders and withdrawals by contractholders and policyholders;
- requiring us to post additional collateral under certain of our financing and derivative transactions;
- requiring us to reduce prices for our products and services to remain competitive; and
- adversely affecting our ability to obtain reinsurance at reasonable prices or at all.

Table of Contents

A downgrade in the credit ratings or insurer financial strength ratings of MetLife, Inc. or its subsidiaries would likely impact us in the following ways, including:

- impact our ability to generate cash flows from the sale of funding agreements and other capital market products offered by our Corporate Benefit Funding segment;
- impact the cost and availability of financing for MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries; and
- result in additional collateral requirements or other required payments under certain agreements, which are eligible to be satisfied in cash or by posting investments held by the subsidiaries subject to the agreements. See "— Liquidity and Capital Uses — Pledged Collateral."

Statutory Capital and Dividends

Our U.S. insurance subsidiaries have statutory surplus well above levels to meet current regulatory requirements. Risk-based capital ("RBC") requirements are used as minimum capital requirements by the NAIC and the state insurance departments to identify companies that merit regulatory action. RBC is based on a formula calculated by applying factors to various asset, premium, claim, expense and statutory reserve items. The formula takes into account the risk characteristics of the insurer, including asset risk, insurance risk, interest rate risk, market risk and business risk and is calculated on an annual basis. The formula is used as an early warning regulatory tool to identify possible inadequately capitalized insurers for purposes of initiating regulatory action, and not as a means to rank insurers generally. These rules apply to most of our U.S. insurance subsidiaries. State insurance laws provide insurance regulators the authority to require various actions by, or take various actions against, insurers whose total adjusted capital does not meet or exceed certain RBC levels. At the date of the most recent annual statutory financial statements filed with insurance regulators, the total adjusted capital of each of these subsidiaries subject to these requirements was in excess of each of those RBC levels.

As a Delaware corporation, American Life is subject to Delaware law; however, because it does not conduct insurance business in Delaware or any other domestic state, it is exempt from RBC requirements under Delaware law. American Life's operations are also regulated by applicable authorities of the countries in which it operates and is subject to capital and solvency requirements in those countries.

The amount of dividends that our insurance subsidiaries can pay to MetLife, Inc. or to other parent entities is constrained by the amount of surplus we hold to maintain our ratings and provides an additional margin for risk protection and investment in our businesses. We proactively take actions to maintain capital consistent with these ratings objectives, which may include adjusting dividend amounts and deploying financial resources from internal or external sources of capital. Certain of these activities may require regulatory approval. Furthermore, the payment of dividends and other distributions to MetLife, Inc. and other parent entities by their respective insurance subsidiaries is governed by insurance laws and regulations. See "Business — Regulation — U.S. Regulation — Insurance Regulation" and "Business — Regulation — International Regulation" in the 2015 Form 10-K, "— MetLife, Inc. — Liquidity and Capital Sour Dividends from Subsidiaries" and Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Affiliated Captive Reinsurance Transactions

Various subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. cede specific policy classes, including term and universal life insurance, participating whole life insurance, long-term disability insurance, group life insurance and other business to various wholly-owned captive reinsurers. The reinsurance activities among these affiliated companies are eliminated within our consolidated results of operations. The statutory reserves of such affiliated captive reinsurers are supported by a combination of funds withheld assets, investment assets and letters of credit issued by unaffiliated financial institutions. MetLife, Inc. has committed to maintain the surplus of several of the domestic affiliated captive reinsurers, as well as provided guarantees of the reinsurers' and other affiliated international insurance entities' repayment obligations on the letters of credit. MetLife, Inc. has also provided guarantees of these reinsurers' repayment obligations on derivative and certain reinsurance agreements entered into by these reinsurers. See "— MetLife, Inc. — Liquidity and Capital Uses — Support Agreements" for further details on certain of these guarantees. Various subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. enter into reinsurance agreements with affiliated captive reinsurers for risk and capital management purposes, as well as to manage statutory reserve requirements related to universal life and term life insurance policies and other business.

The NAIC continues to review insurance companies' use of affiliated captive reinsurers and off-shore entities. The New York Department of Financial Services continues to have a moratorium on new reserve financing transactions involving captive insurers. We are not aware of any states other than New York and California implementing such a moratorium. While such a moratorium would not impact our existing reinsurance agreements with captive reinsurers, a moratorium placed on the use of captives for new reserve financing transactions could impact our ability to write certain products and/or impact our RBC ratios and ability to deploy excess capital in the future. This could result in our need to increase prices, modify product features or limit the availability of those products to our customers. While this affects insurers across the industry, it could adversely impact our competitive position and our results of operations in the future. We continue to evaluate product modifications, pricing structure and alternative means of managing risks, capital and statutory reserves and we expect the discontinued use of captive reinsurance on new reserve financing transactions would not have a material impact on our future consolidated financial results.

Our variable annuity guaranteed minimum benefit risk and certain other risks were previously ceded to an affiliated captive reinsurer. In November 2014, this captive reinsurer merged with and into MetLife USA as part of the Mergers, further reducing the Company's exposure to and use of captive reinsurers. See "— Executive Summary — Other Key Information — Significant Events" for further information on the Mergers. See also "Risk Factors — Regulatory and Legal Risks — Our Insurance and Brokerage Businesses Are Highly Regulated, and Changes in Regulation and in Supervisory and Enforcement Policies May Reduce Our Profitability and Limit Our Growth — U.S. Regulation — Insurance Regulation" in the 2015 Form 10-K and Note 6 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information on our reinsurance activities.

Table of Contents

Summary of the Company’s Primary Sources and Uses of Liquidity and Capital

Our primary sources and uses of liquidity and capital are summarized as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Sources:			
Operating activities, net	$ 14,129	$ 16,376	$ 16,131
Changes in policyholder account balances, net	—	1,483	—
Changes in payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions, net	1,544	5,031	—
Short-term debt issuances, net	—	—	75
Long-term debt issued	3,893	1,000	1,372
Cash received in connection with redeemable noncontrolling interests	—	—	774
Common stock issued, net of issuance costs	—	1,000	1,000
Preferred stock issued, net of issuance costs	1,483	—	—
Other, net	198	—	—
Total sources	21,247	24,890	19,352
Uses:			
Investing activities, net	10,398	15,055	15,165
Changes in policyholder account balances, net	1,717	—	5,681
Changes in payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions, net	—	—	3,276
Short-term debt repayments, net	—	75	—
Long-term debt repaid	1,438	2,862	1,746
	57	—	—

Collateral financing arrangements repaid			
Treasury stock acquired in connection with share repurchases	1,930	1,000	—
Repurchase of preferred stock	1,460	—	—
Preferred stock repurchase premium	42	—	—
Dividends on preferred stock	116	122	122
Dividends on common stock	1,653	1,499	1,119
Other, net	—	700	184
Effect of change in foreign currency exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents	492	354	212
Total uses	19,303	21,667	27,505
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	$ 1,944	$ 3,223	$ (8,153)

Cash Flows from Operations

The principal cash inflows from our insurance activities come from insurance premiums, net investment income, annuity considerations and deposit funds. The principal cash outflows relate to various life insurance, property & casualty, annuity and pension products, operating expenses and income tax, as well as interest expense. A primary liquidity concern with respect to these cash flows is the risk of early contractholder and policyholder withdrawal.

Cash Flows from Investments

The principal cash inflows from our investment activities come from repayments of principal, proceeds from maturities and sales of investments and settlements of freestanding derivatives. The principal cash outflows relate to purchases of investments, issuances of policy loans and settlements of freestanding derivatives. Additional cash outflows relate to purchases of businesses. We typically have a net cash outflow from investing activities because cash inflows from insurance operations are reinvested in accordance with our ALM discipline to fund insurance liabilities. We closely monitor and manage these risks through our comprehensive investment risk management process. The primary liquidity concerns with respect to these cash flows are the risk of default by debtors and market disruption.

Cash Flows from Financing

The principal cash inflows from our financing activities come from issuances of debt and other securities, deposits of funds associated with policyholder account balances and lending of securities. The principal cash outflows come from repayments of debt, payments of dividends on and repurchases of MetLife, Inc.'s securities, withdrawals associated with policyholder account balances and the return of securities on loan. The primary liquidity concerns with respect to these cash flows are market disruption and the risk of early contractholder and policyholder withdrawal.

Table of Contents

Liquidity and Capital Sources

In addition to the general description of liquidity and capital sources in "— Summary of the Company's Primary Sources and Uses of Liquidity and Capital," the following additional information is provided regarding our primary sources of liquidity and capital:

Global Funding Sources

Liquidity is provided by a variety of global funding sources, including funding agreements, credit facilities and commercial paper. Capital is provided by a variety of global funding sources, including short-term and long-term debt, collateral financing arrangements, junior subordinated debt securities, preferred securities, equity securities and equity-linked securities. The diversity of our global funding sources enhances our funding flexibility, limits dependence on any one market or source of funds and generally lowers the cost of funds. Our primary global funding sources include:

Preferred Stock

In June 2015, MetLife, Inc. issued 1,500,000 shares of 5.25% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series C (the "Series C preferred stock"), with a $0.01 par value per share and a liquidation preference of $1,000 per share, for aggregate proceeds of $1.5 billion. See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

Common Stock

In October 2014 and September 2013, MetLife, Inc. issued 22,907,960 new shares and 22,679,955 new shares, respectively, of its common stock, each for $1.0 billion, in connection with the remarketing of senior debt securities and settlement of stock purchase contracts. See "— Remarketing of Senior Debt Securities and Settlement of Stock Purchase Contracts."

Commercial Paper, Reported in Short-term Debt

MetLife, Inc. and MetLife Funding, Inc. ("MetLife Funding") each have a commercial paper program that is supported by the $4.0 billion general corporate credit facility (see "— Credit and Committed Facilities"). MetLife Funding raises cash from its commercial paper program and uses the proceeds to extend loans through MetLife Credit Corp., another subsidiary of MLIC, to affiliates in order to enhance the financial flexibility and liquidity of these companies.

Federal Home Loan Bank Funding Agreements, Reported in Policyholder Account Balances

Certain of our domestic insurance subsidiaries are members of a regional Federal Home Loan Bank ("FHLB"). During the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, we issued $21.6 billion, $13.9 billion and $11.5 billion, respectively, and repaid $21.1 billion, $14.0 billion and $11.8 billion, respectively, under funding agreements with certain regional FHLBs. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, total obligations outstanding under these funding agreements were $15.5 billion and $15.0 billion, respectively. See Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Special Purpose Entity Funding Agreements, Reported in Policyholder Account Balances

We issue fixed and floating rate funding agreements which are denominated in either U.S. dollars or foreign currencies, to certain special purpose entities ("SPEs") that have issued either debt securities or commercial paper for which payment of interest and principal is secured by such funding agreements. During the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, we issued $48.1 billion, $48.9 billion and $37.7 billion, respectively, and repaid $49.9 billion, $45.6 billion and $36.8 billion, respectively, under such funding agreements. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, total obligations outstanding under these funding agreements were $31.6 billion and $33.9 billion, respectively. See Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation Funding Agreements, Reported in Policyholder Account Balances

We have issued funding agreements to the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation ("Farmer Mac"), as well as to certain SPEs that have issued debt securities for which payment of interest and principal is secured by such funding agreements, and such debt securities are also guaranteed as to payment of interest and principal by Farmer Mac. The obligations under all such funding agreements are secured by a pledge of certain eligible agricultural real estate mortgage loans. During the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, we issued $50 million and $200 million, respectively, and repaid $250 million and $200 million, respectively, under such funding agreements. During the year ended December 31, 2013, there were no issuances or repayments under such funding agreements. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, total obligations outstanding under these funding agreements were $2.6 billion and $2.8 billion, respectively. See Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Debt Issuances and Other Borrowings

See Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information on the following issuances of debt and other borrowings:

- In December 2015, MetLife Private Equity Holdings, LLC ("MPEH"), a wholly-owned indirect investment subsidiary of MLIC, borrowed $350 million under term loans that mature in December 2020 (see "Other Notes" in Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information);
- In November 2015, MetLife, Inc. issued $1.3 billion of senior notes for general corporate purposes, which include repayment of certain senior notes upon their maturity in 2016;
- In March 2015, MetLife, Inc. issued $1.5 billion of senior notes for general corporate purposes, which included repayment of certain senior notes upon their maturity in 2015;
- In April 2014, MetLife, Inc. issued $1.0 billion of senior notes for general corporate purposes, which included repayment of certain senior notes upon their maturity in 2014 and the redemption of certain senior notes due in 2033; and

Table of Contents

- In November 2013, MetLife, Inc. issued $1.0 billion of senior notes for general corporate purposes, which included repayment of certain senior notes upon their maturity in 2014.

Remarketing of Senior Debt Securities and Settlement of Stock Purchase Contracts

In each of October 2014 and September 2013, MetLife, Inc. closed the successful remarketings of $1.0 billion of senior debt securities underlying common equity units issued in November 2010 in connection with the acquisition of ALICO. MetLife, Inc. did not receive any proceeds from the remarketings. Most common equity unit holders used the remarketing proceeds to settle their payment obligations under the applicable stock purchase contracts. The subsequent settlement of the stock purchase contracts provided proceeds to MetLife, Inc. of $1.0 billion in each of October 2014 and September 2013 in exchange for newly issued shares of MetLife, Inc.'s common stock as described in "— Common Stock" above.

See Note 15 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Credit and Committed Facilities

At December 31, 2015, we maintained a $4.0 billion unsecured credit facility and certain committed facilities aggregating $11.9 billion. When drawn upon, these facilities bear interest at varying rates in accordance with the respective agreements.

The unsecured credit facility is used for general corporate purposes, to support the borrowers' commercial paper programs and for the issuance of letters of credit. At December 31, 2015, we had outstanding $484 million in letters of credit and no drawdowns against this facility. Remaining availability was $3.5 billion at December 31, 2015.

The committed facilities are used for collateral for certain of our affiliated reinsurance liabilities. At December 31, 2015, $6.6 billion in letters of credit and $2.8 billion in aggregate drawdowns under collateral financing arrangements were outstanding. Remaining availability was $2.4 billion at December 31, 2015.

See Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information about these facilities.

We have no reason to believe that our lending counterparties will be unable to fulfill their respective contractual obligations under these facilities. As commitments associated with letters of credit and financing arrangements may expire unused, these amounts do not necessarily reflect our actual future cash funding requirements.

Outstanding Debt Under Global Funding Sources

The following table summarizes our outstanding debt at:

	December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Short-term debt	$100	$100
Long-term debt (1), (2)	$17,963	$16,135
Collateral financing arrangements (3)	$4,139	$4,196
Junior subordinated debt securities (3)	$3,194	$3,193

---

(1) Excludes $60 million and $151 million at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, of long-term debt relating to CSEs — FVO (see Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements). For more information regarding long-term debt, see Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

(2) Includes $408 million and $59 million of non-recourse debt at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, for which creditors have no access, subject to customary exceptions, to the general assets of the Company other than recourse to certain investment subsidiaries.

(3) For information regarding collateral financing arrangements and junior subordinated debt securities, see Notes 13 and 14 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, respectively.

Debt and Facility Covenants

Certain of our debt instruments and committed facilities, as well as our unsecured credit facility, contain various administrative, reporting, legal and financial covenants. We believe we were in compliance with all such covenants at December 31, 2015.

Dispositions

Cash proceeds from dispositions during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013 were $0, $759 million and $407 million, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2013, the sale of MetLife Bank's depository business resulted in cash outflows of $6.4 billion as a result of the buyer's assumption of the bank deposits liability in exchange for our cash payment.

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

Liquidity and Capital Uses

In addition to the general description of liquidity and capital uses in "— Summary of the Company's Primary Sources and Uses of Liquidity and Capital" and "— Contractual Obligations," the following additional information is provided regarding our primary uses of liquidity and capital:

Table of Contents

Preferred Stock Repurchase

In June 2015, MetLife, Inc. conducted a tender offer for up to 59,850,000 of its 60,000,000 shares of the 6.50% Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series B (“Series B preferred stock”), at a purchase price of $25 per share, plus an amount equal to accrued, unpaid and undeclared dividends from, and including, June 15, 2015 to, but excluding, June 29, 2015, the settlement date of the tender offer. In June 2015, MetLife, Inc. also delivered a notice of redemption to the holders of the Series B preferred stock, pursuant to which it would redeem any Series B preferred stock not purchased by it in the tender offer at a redemption price of $25 per share, without any payment for accrued, unpaid and undeclared dividends on the Series B preferred stock from, and including, June 15, 2015 to, but excluding July 1, 2015, the redemption date. On June 29, 2015, MetLife, Inc. repurchased and canceled 37,192,413 shares of Series B preferred stock in the tender offer for $932 million in cash. On July 1, 2015, MetLife, Inc. redeemed and canceled the remaining 22,807,587 shares of Series B preferred stock not tendered in the tender offer for an aggregate redemption price of $570 million in cash. In connection with the tender offer and redemption, MetLife, Inc. recognized a preferred stock repurchase premium of $42 million (calculated as the difference between the carrying value of the Series B preferred stock and the total amount paid by MetLife, Inc. to the holders of the Series B preferred stock in connection with the tender offer and redemption), which was reflected as a reduction to retained earnings on the consolidated balance sheet. See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Common Stock Repurchases

In August 2014, MetLife, Inc. completed the remaining $261 million in common stock repurchases under a $1.0 billion authorization by the Board of Directors announced on January 15, 2008. In January 2015, MetLife, Inc. completed $1.0 billion of common stock repurchases pursuant to a Board of Directors authorization announced on April 22, 2008. On December 12, 2014, MetLife, Inc. announced that its Board of Directors authorized $1.0 billion of common stock repurchases in addition to previously authorized purchases, and on September 22, 2015, MetLife, Inc. announced that its Board of Directors authorized additional repurchases of $739 million of its common stock, bringing MetLife, Inc.’s remaining available repurchase authorizations to $1.0 billion as of September 22, 2015. In October 2015, MetLife, Inc. completed all remaining repurchases under the $1.0 billion authorization announced by the Board of Directors on December 12, 2014. At December 31, 2015, MetLife, Inc. had $70 million remaining under the September 2015 common stock repurchase authorization. MetLife, Inc. subsequently completed all repurchases under this authorization in January 2016. Under these authorizations, MetLife, Inc. may purchase its common stock from the MetLife Policyholder Trust, in the open market (including pursuant to the terms of a pre-set trading plan meeting the requirements of Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) and in privately negotiated transactions. During the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, MetLife, Inc. repurchased 39,491,991 and 18,876,363 shares of common stock in the open market for $1.9 billion and $1.0 billion, respectively. MetLife, Inc. did not repurchase any shares of common stock during the year ended December 31, 2013. In 2016, through January 7, 2016, MetLife, Inc. repurchased 1,445,864 shares of its common stock in the open market for $70 million completing the September 2015 authorization.

Common stock repurchases are dependent upon several factors, including our capital position, liquidity, financial strength and credit ratings, general market conditions, the market price of MetLife, Inc.’s common stock compared to management’s assessment of the stock’s underlying value and applicable regulatory approvals, as well as other legal and accounting factors. See “Business — Regulation — U.S. Regulation — Regulation as a Non-Bank SIFI,” “Business — Regulation — International Regulation — Global Systemically Important Insurers” and “Risk Factors — Capital-Related Risks Regulatory Restrictions and Uncertainty and Restrictions Under the Terms of Certain of Our Securities May Prevent Us from Repurchasing Our Stock and Paying Dividends at the Level We Wish” in the 2015 Form 10-K. See also “Business — Recent Developments” and Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Dividends

During the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, MetLife, Inc. paid dividends on its common stock of $1.7 billion, $1.5 billion and $1.1 billion, respectively. During the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, MetLife, Inc. paid dividends on its preferred stock of $116 million, $122 million, and $122 million, respectively. See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the calculation and timing of these dividend payments.

The declaration and payment of common stock dividends is subject to the discretion of our Board of Directors, and will depend on MetLife, Inc.'s financial condition, results of operations, cash requirements, future prospects, regulatory restrictions on the payment of dividends by MetLife, Inc.'s insurance subsidiaries and other factors deemed relevant by the Board. On January 6, 2016, the MetLife, Inc. Board of Directors declared a first quarter 2016 common stock dividend of $0.375 per share payable on March 14, 2016 to shareholders of record as of February 5, 2016. The Company estimates the aggregate dividend payment will be $413 million.

Preferred stock dividends are paid quarterly in accordance with the terms of MetLife, Inc.'s Floating Rate Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series A and, ending with the June 15, 2015 payment date for the Series B preferred stock. Dividends are paid semi-annually on MetLife, Inc.'s Series C preferred stock commencing December 15, 2015 and ending on June 15, 2020, and thereafter are paid quarterly.

The payment of dividends and other distributions by MetLife, Inc. to its security holders may be subject to regulation by the Federal Reserve as a result of MetLife, Inc.'s designation as a non-bank SIFI. See "Business — Regulation — U.S. Regulation — Regulation as a Non-Bank SIFI" in the 2015 Form 10-K. In addition, if additional capital requirements are imposed on MetLife, Inc. as a global systemically important insurer ("G-SII"), its ability to pay dividends could be reduced by any such additional capital requirements that might be imposed. See "Business — Regulation — International Regulation — Global Systemically Important Insurers" in the 2015 Form 10-K. The payment of dividends is also subject to restrictions under the terms of our preferred stock and junior subordinated debentures in situations where we may be experiencing financial stress. See "Risk Factors — Capital-Related Risks — Regulatory Restrictions and Uncertainty and Restrictions Under the Terms of Certain of Our Securities May Prevent Us from Repurchasing Our Stock and Paying Dividends at the Level We Wish" in the 2015 Form 10-K, and Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

Debt Repayments

See Notes 12 and 13 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information on long-term and short-term debt and collateral financing arrangements, respectively, including:

- In June 2015, MetLife, Inc. repaid at maturity its $1.0 billion 5.0% senior notes;
- In 2015, following regulatory approval, MetLife Reinsurance Company of Charleston ("MRC"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of MetLife, Inc., repurchased and canceled $57 million in aggregate principal amount of its surplus notes;
- In June and February 2014, MetLife, Inc. repaid at maturity its $350 million and $1.0 billion senior notes, respectively;
- In May 2014, MetLife, Inc. redeemed $200 million aggregate principal amount of its 5.875% senior notes due in November 2033 at par; and
- In November and August 2013, MetLife, Inc. repaid at maturity its $500 million and $250 million senior notes, respectively.

Debt Repurchases

We may from time to time seek to retire or purchase our outstanding debt through cash purchases and/or exchanges for other securities, in open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions or otherwise. Any such repurchases or exchanges will be dependent upon several factors, including our liquidity requirements, contractual restrictions, general market conditions, and applicable regulatory, legal and accounting factors. Whether or not to repurchase any debt and the size and timing of any such repurchases will be determined at our discretion.

Support Agreements

MetLife, Inc. and several of its subsidiaries (each, an "Obligor") are parties to various capital support commitments and guarantees with subsidiaries. Under these arrangements, each Obligor, with respect to the applicable entity, has agreed to cause such entity to meet specified capital and surplus levels or has guaranteed certain contractual obligations. We anticipate that in the event that these arrangements place demands upon us, there will be sufficient liquidity and capital to enable us to meet anticipated demands. See "— MetLife, Inc. — Liquidity and Capital Uses — Support Agreements.

Insurance Liabilities

Liabilities arising from our insurance activities primarily relate to benefit payments under various life insurance, property & casualty, annuity and group pension products, as well as payments for policy surrenders, withdrawals and loans. For annuity or deposit type products, surrender or lapse behavior differs somewhat by segment. In the Retail segment, which includes individual annuities, lapses and surrenders tend to occur in the normal course of business. During the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, general account surrenders and withdrawals from annuity products were $3.8 billion and $4.5 billion, respectively. In the Corporate Benefit Funding segment, which includes pension risk transfers, bank-owned life insurance and other fixed annuity contracts, as well as funding agreements and other capital market products, most of the products offered have fixed maturities or fairly predictable surrenders or withdrawals. With regard to the Corporate Benefit Funding segment liabilities that provide customers with limited rights to accelerate payments, as of December 31, 2015, there were no funding agreements and other capital market products that could be put back to the Company.

Pledged Collateral

We pledge collateral to, and have collateral pledged to us by, counterparties in connection with our derivatives. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, we were obligated to return cash collateral pledged to the Company of $6.6 billion and $4.6 billion, respectively. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, we had pledged cash collateral of $241 million and $391 million, respectively. With respect to OTC-bilateral derivatives in a net liability position that have credit contingent provisions, a one-notch downgrade in the Company's credit rating would have required $1 million of additional collateral be provided to our counterparties as of December 31, 2015. See Note 9 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information about collateral pledged to us, collateral we pledge and derivatives subject to credit contingent provisions.

We pledged collateral and have had collateral pledged to us, and may be required from time to time to pledge additional collateral or be entitled to have additional collateral pledged to us, in connection with collateral financing arrangements related to the reinsurance of closed block and ULSG liabilities. See Note 13 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

We pledged collateral from time to time in connection with funding agreements. See Note 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Securities Lending

We participate in a securities lending program whereby securities are loaned to third parties, primarily brokerage firms and commercial banks. We obtain collateral, usually cash, from the borrower, which must be returned to the borrower when the loaned securities are returned to us. Under our securities lending program, we were liable for cash collateral under our control of $30.2 billion and $30.8 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Of these amounts, $10.1 billion and $10.7 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, were on open, meaning that the related loaned security could be returned to us on the next business day requiring the immediate return of cash collateral we hold. The estimated fair value of the securities on loan related to the cash collateral on open at December 31, 2015 was $9.9 billion, over 99% of which were U.S. Treasury and agency securities which, if put to us, could be immediately sold to satisfy the cash requirements to immediately return the cash collateral. See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Litigation

Putative or certified class action litigation and other litigation, and claims and assessments against us, in addition to those discussed elsewhere herein and those otherwise provided for in the consolidated financial statements, have arisen in the course of our business, including, but not limited to, in connection with our activities as an insurer, employer, investor, investment advisor, taxpayer and, formerly, a mortgage lending bank. Further, state insurance regulatory authorities and other federal and state authorities regularly make inquiries and conduct

Table of Contents

investigations concerning our compliance with applicable insurance and other laws and regulations. See Note 21 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

We establish liabilities for litigation and regulatory loss contingencies when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. For material matters where a loss is believed to be reasonably possible but not probable, no accrual is made but we disclose the nature of the contingency and an aggregate estimate of the reasonably possible range of loss in excess of amounts accrued, when such an estimate can be made. It is not possible to predict or determine the ultimate outcome of all pending investigations and legal proceedings. In some of the matters referred to herein, very large and/or indeterminate amounts, including punitive and treble damages, are sought. Although in light of these considerations, it is possible that an adverse outcome in certain cases could have a material adverse effect upon our financial position, based on information currently known by us, in our opinion, the outcome of such pending investigations and legal proceedings are not likely to have such an effect. However, given the large and/or indeterminate amounts sought in certain of these matters and the inherent unpredictability of litigation, it is possible that an adverse outcome in certain matters could, from time to time, have a material adverse effect on our consolidated net income or cash flows in particular quarterly or annual periods.

Acquisitions

Cash outflows for acquisitions and investments in strategic partnerships during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013 were $0, $277 million and $1.9 billion, respectively. See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information regarding acquisitions.

Contractual Obligations

The following table summarizes our major contractual obligations at December 31, 2015:

	Total	One Year or Less	More than One Year to Three Years	More than Three Years to Five Years	More than Five Years
	(In millions)				
Insurance liabilities	$376,995	$23,088	$ 20,349	$ 20,203	$ 313,355
Policyholder account balances	286,125	28,278	33,094	21,612	203,141
Payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions	36,871	36,871	—	—	—
Debt	43,768	2,604	4,384	4,019	32,761
Investment commitments	11,444	11,231	100	113	—
Operating leases	2,027	321	475	357	874
Other	18,281	17,810	22	11	438
Total	$775,511	$120,203	$ 58,424	$ 46,315	$ 550,569

Insurance Liabilities

Insurance liabilities include future policy benefits, other policy-related balances, policyholder dividends payable and the policyholder dividend obligation, which are all reported on the consolidated balance sheet and are more fully described in Notes 1 and 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The amounts presented reflect future estimated cash payments and (i) are based on mortality, morbidity, lapse and other assumptions comparable with our experience and expectations of future payment patterns; and (ii) consider future premium receipts on current policies in-force. All estimated cash payments presented are undiscounted as to interest, net of estimated future premiums on in-force policies and gross of any reinsurance recoverable. Payment of amounts related to policyholder dividends left on deposit are projected based on assumptions of policyholder withdrawal activity. Because the exact timing and amount of the ultimate policyholder dividend obligation is subject to significant uncertainty and the amount of the policyholder dividend obligation is based upon a long-term projection of the performance of the closed block, we have reflected the obligation at the amount of the liability, if any, presented in the consolidated balance sheet in the more than five years category. Additionally, the more than five years category includes estimated payments due for periods extending for more than 100 years.

The sum of the estimated cash flows shown for all years of $377.0 billion exceeds the liability amounts of $208.6 billion included on the consolidated balance sheet principally due to (i) the time value of money, which accounts for a substantial portion of the difference; and (ii) differences in assumptions, most significantly mortality, between the date the liabilities were initially established and the current date; and are partially offset by liabilities related to accounting conventions, or which are not contractually due, which are excluded.

Actual cash payments may differ significantly from the liabilities as presented in the consolidated balance sheets and the estimated cash payments as presented due to differences between actual experience and the assumptions used in the establishment of these liabilities and the estimation of these cash payments.

For the majority of our insurance operations, estimated contractual obligations for future policy benefits and policyholder account balances, as presented, are derived from the annual asset adequacy analysis used to develop actuarial opinions of statutory reserve adequacy for state regulatory purposes. These cash flows are materially representative of the cash flows under GAAP. See "— Policyholder Account Balances."

Policyholder Account Balances

See Notes 1 and 4 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of the components of policyholder account balances. See "— Insurance Liabilities" regarding the source and uncertainties associated with the estimation of the contractual obligations related to future policy benefits and policyholder account balances.

Table of Contents

Amounts presented represent the estimated cash payments undiscounted as to interest and including assumptions related to the receipt of future premiums and deposits; withdrawals, including unscheduled or partial withdrawals; policy lapses; surrender charges; annuitization; mortality; future interest credited; policy loans and other contingent events as appropriate for the respective product type. Such estimated cash payments are also presented net of estimated future premiums on policies currently in-force and gross of any reinsurance recoverable. For obligations denominated in foreign currencies, cash payments have been estimated using current spot foreign currency rates. The sum of the estimated cash flows shown for all years of $286.1 billion exceeds the liability amount of $202.7 billion included on the consolidated balance sheets principally due to (i) the time value of money, which accounts for a substantial portion of the difference; (ii) differences in assumptions, between the date the liabilities were initially established and the current date; and (iii) liabilities related to accounting conventions, or which are not contractually due, which are excluded.

Payables for Collateral Under Securities Loaned and Other Transactions

We have accepted cash collateral in connection with securities lending and derivatives. As the securities lending transactions expire within the next year and the timing of the return of the derivatives collateral is uncertain, the return of the collateral has been included in the one year or less category in the table. We also held non-cash collateral, which is not reflected as a liability in the consolidated balance sheet of $2.2 billion at December 31, 2015.

Debt

Amounts presented for debt include short-term debt, long-term debt, collateral financing arrangements and junior subordinated debt securities, the total of which differs from the total of the corresponding amounts presented on the consolidated balance sheet due to the following: (i) the amounts presented herein do not include premiums or discounts upon issuance or purchase accounting fair value adjustments; (ii) the amounts presented herein include future interest on such obligations for the period from January 1, 2016 through maturity; and (iii) the amounts presented herein do not include $60 million at December 31, 2015 of long-term debt relating to CSEs — FVO as such debt does not represent our contractual obligation. Future interest on variable rate debt was computed using prevailing rates at December 31, 2015 and, as such, does not consider the impact of future rate movements. Future interest on fixed rate debt was computed using the stated rate on the obligations for the period from January 1, 2016 through maturity, except with respect to junior subordinated debt which was computed using the stated rates through the scheduled redemption dates as it is our expectation that such obligations will be redeemed at that time. Inclusion of interest payments on junior subordinated debt securities through the final maturity dates would increase the contractual obligation by $7.7 billion. Pursuant to collateral financing arrangements, MetLife, Inc. may be required to deliver cash or pledge collateral to the respective unaffiliated financial institutions. See Note 13 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Investment Commitments

To enhance the return on our investment portfolio, we commit to lend funds under mortgage loans, bank credit facilities, bridge loans and private corporate bond investments and we commit to fund partnership investments. In the table, the timing of the funding of mortgage loans and private corporate bond investments is based on the expiration dates of the corresponding commitments. As it relates to commitments to fund partnerships and bank credit facilities, we anticipate that these amounts could be invested any time over the next five years; however, as the timing of the fulfillment of the obligation cannot be predicted, such obligations are generally presented in the one year or less category. Commitments to fund bridge loans are short-term obligations and, as a result, are presented in the one year or less category. See Note 21 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements and "— Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements."

Operating Leases

As a lessee, we have various operating leases, primarily for office space. Contractual provisions exist that could increase or accelerate those lease obligations presented, including various leases with early buyouts and/or escalation clauses. However, the impact of any such transactions would not be material to our financial position or results of operations. See Note 21 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Other

Other obligations presented are principally comprised of amounts due under reinsurance agreements, payables related to securities purchased but not yet settled, securities sold short, accrued interest on debt obligations, estimated fair value of derivative obligations, deferred compensation arrangements, guaranty liabilities, and accruals and accounts payable due under contractual obligations, which are all reported in other liabilities on the consolidated balance sheets. If the timing of any of these other obligations is sufficiently uncertain, the amounts are included within the one year or less category. Items reported in other liabilities on the consolidated balance sheets that were excluded from the table represent accounting conventions or are not liabilities due under contractual obligations. Unrecognized tax benefits and related accrued interest totaling $2.0 billion was excluded as the timing of payment cannot be reliably determined.

Separate account liabilities are excluded as they are fully funded by cash flows from the corresponding separate account assets and are set equal to the estimated fair value of separate account assets.

We also enter into agreements to purchase goods and services in the normal course of business; however, such amounts are excluded as these purchase obligations were not material to our consolidated results of operations or financial position at December 31, 2015.

Additionally, we have agreements in place for services we conduct, generally at cost, between subsidiaries relating to insurance, reinsurance, loans and capitalization. Intercompany transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Intercompany transactions among insurance subsidiaries and affiliates have been approved by the appropriate insurance regulators as required.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Liquidity and Capital Management

Liquidity and capital are managed to preserve stable, reliable and cost-effective sources of cash to meet all current and future financial obligations and are provided by a variety of sources, including a portfolio of liquid assets, a diversified mix of short- and long-term funding sources from the wholesale financial markets and the ability to borrow through credit and committed facilities. Liquidity is monitored through the use of internal liquidity risk metrics, including the composition and level of the liquid asset portfolio, timing differences in short-term cash flow obligations, access to the financial markets for capital and debt transactions and exposure to contingent draws on MetLife, Inc.'s liquidity. MetLife, Inc. is an active participant in the global financial markets through which it obtains a significant amount of funding. These markets, which serve as cost-effective sources of funds, are critical components of MetLife, Inc.'s liquidity and capital management. Decisions to access these markets are based upon relative costs, prospective views of balance sheet growth and a targeted liquidity profile and capital structure. A disruption in the financial markets could limit MetLife, Inc.'s access to liquidity.

MetLife, Inc.'s ability to maintain regular access to competitively priced wholesale funds is fostered by its current credit ratings from the major credit rating agencies. We view our capital ratios, credit quality, stable and diverse earnings streams, diversity of liquidity sources and our liquidity monitoring procedures as critical to retaining such credit ratings. See "— The Company — Capital — Rating Agencies."

Liquidity

For a summary of MetLife, Inc.'s liquidity, see "— The Company — Liquidity."

Capital

For a summary of MetLife, Inc.'s capital, see "— The Company — Capital." For further information regarding potential capital restrictions and limitations on MetLife, Inc. as a non-bank SIFI and G-SII, see "Business — Regulation — U.S. Regulation — Regulation as a Non-Bank SIFI" and "Business — Regulation — International Regulation — Global Systemical Important Insurers" in the 2015 Form 10-K. See also "— The Company — Liquidity and Capital Uses — Common Stock Repurchases" and "— The Company — Liquidity and Capital Uses — Preferred Stock Repurchase" for information regarding MetLife, Inc.'s common and preferred stock repurchases, respectively.

Liquid Assets

At December 31, 2015 and 2014, MetLife, Inc. and other MetLife holding companies had \$6.4 billion and \$6.1 billion, respectively, in liquid assets. Of these amounts, \$5.3 billion and \$5.4 billion were held by MetLife, Inc. and \$1.1 billion and \$681 million were held by other MetLife holding companies at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Liquid assets include cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and publicly-traded securities excluding assets that are pledged or otherwise committed. Assets pledged or otherwise committed include: (i) amounts related to cash collateral received from counterparties in connection with derivatives; (ii) investments held in trust in support of collateral financing arrangements; and (iii) investments pledged in support of derivatives.

Liquid assets held in non-U.S. holding companies are generated in part through dividends from non-U.S. insurance operations. Such dividends are subject to local insurance regulatory requirements, as discussed in "— Liquidity and Capital Sources — Dividends from Subsidiaries." The cumulative earnings of certain active non-U.S. operations have been reinvested indefinitely in such non-U.S. operations, as described in Note 19 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Under current tax laws, should we repatriate such earnings, we may be subject to additional U.S. income taxes and foreign withholding taxes.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc. and Other MetLife Holding Companies Sources and Uses of Liquid Assets and Sources and Uses of Liquid Assets included in Free Cash Flow

MetLife, Inc.'s sources and uses of liquid assets, as well as sources and uses of liquid assets included in free cash flow are summarized as follows.

	Year Ended December 31, 2015		Year Ended December 31, 2014		Year Ended December 31, 2013	
	Sources and Uses of Liquid Assets	Sources and Uses of Liquid Assets Included in Free Cash Flow	Sources and Uses of Liquid Assets	Sources and Uses of Liquid Assets Included in Free Cash Flow	Sources and Uses of Liquid Assets	Sources and Uses of Liquid Assets Included in Free Cash Flow
	(In millions)					
MetLife, Inc. (Parent Company Only)						
Sources:						
Dividends and returns of capital from subsidiaries (1)	$2,340	$ 2,340	$2,388	$ 2,388	$3,301	$ 3,301
Long-term debt issued (2)	2,739	1,750	1,000	445	994	—
Common stock issued, net of issuance costs	—	—	1,000	—	1,000	—
Repayments on and (issuances of) loans to subsidiaries and related interest, net (3)	383	383	597	597	—	—
Proceeds from stock-based compensation and exercise of stock options	122	122	156	156	202	202
Other, net (4)	652	673	1,177	1,177	—	—
Total sources	6,236	5,268	6,318	4,763	5,497	3,503
Uses:						
Capital contributions to subsidiaries (5)	667	667	1,262	1,011	748	598
Long-term debt repaid - unaffiliated	1,000	—	1,550	—	750	—
Interest paid on debt and financing arrangements - unaffiliated	965	965	968	968	946	946
Dividends on common stock	1,653	—	1,499	—	1,119	—
Treasury stock acquired in connection with share repurchases	1,930	—	1,000	—	—	—
Purchase of preferred stock and preferred stock repurchase premium, net of proceeds from preferred stock issuance	19	—	—	—	—	—
Dividends on preferred stock	116	116	122	122	122	122
Issuances of and (repayments on) loans to subsidiaries and related interest, net (3) (5)	—	—	—	—	1,223	(319)
Other, net (4)	—	—	—	—	79	54
Total uses	6,350	1,748	6,401	2,101	4,987	1,401
Net increase (decrease) in liquid assets, MetLife, Inc. (Parent Company Only)	(114)		(83)		510	
Liquid assets, beginning of year	5,403		5,486		4,976	
Liquid assets, end of year	$5,289		$5,403		$5,486	
Free Cash Flow, MetLife, Inc. (Parent Company Only) (6)		3,520		2,662		2,102
	$1,606		$2,615		$1,865	

Net cash provided by operating activities, MetLife, Inc. (Parent Company Only) (6)						
Other MetLife Holding Companies						
Sources:						
Dividends and returns of capital from subsidiaries	$1,354	$ 1,354	$1,339	$ 1,339	$822	$ 822
Capital contributions from MetLife, Inc.	150	150	—	—	403	403
Total sources	1,504	1,504	1,339	1,339	1,225	1,225
Uses:						
Capital contributions to subsidiaries	27	27	48	48	201	201
Repayments on and (issuance of) loans to subsidiaries and affiliates and related interest, net	510	510	458	458	705	305
Other, net	506	506	605	605	585	585
Total uses	1,043	1,043	1,111	1,111	1,491	1,091
Net increase (decrease) in liquid assets, Other MetLife Holding Companies	461		228		(266)	
Liquid assets, beginning of year	681		453		719	
Liquid assets, end of year	$1,142		$681		$453	
Free Cash Flow, Other MetLife Holding Companies (6)		461		228		134
Net increase (decrease) in liquid assets, All Holding Companies	$347		$145		$244	
Free Cash Flow, All Holding Companies (6)		$ 3,981		$ 2,890		$ 2,236

---

(1) All dividends and returns of capital to MetLife, Inc. were from operating subsidiaries and none were from other MetLife holding companies during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013.

Table of Contents

(2) Included in free cash flow is the portion of long-term debt issued that represents incremental debt to be at or below target leverage ratios.

(3) See MetLife, Inc. (Parent Company Only) Condensed Statements of Cash Flows included in Schedule II of the Financial Statement Schedules included in the 2015 Form 10-K for the source of liquid assets from receipts on loans to subsidiaries (excluding interest) and for the use of liquid assets for the issuances of loans to subsidiaries (excluding interest).

(4) Other, net includes $171 million, $862 million and $69 million of net receipts by MetLife, Inc. to and from subsidiaries under a tax sharing agreement and tax payments to tax agencies during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

(5) Amounts to fund business acquisitions and strategic insurance partnerships were $0, $251 million and $150 million (included in capital contributions to subsidiaries) and $0, $0 and $1.5 billion (included in issuances of and (repayments on) loans to subsidiaries and related interest, net) during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

(6) See "— Non-GAAP and Other Financial Disclosures" for the reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities of MetLife, Inc. to free cash flow of all holding companies.

The primary sources of MetLife, Inc.'s liquid assets are dividends and returns of capital from subsidiaries, long-term debt issued, common stock issued, and net receipts from subsidiaries under a tax sharing agreement. MetLife, Inc.'s insurance subsidiaries are subject to regulatory restrictions on the payment of dividends imposed by the regulators of their respective domiciles. See "— Liquidity and Capital Sources — Dividends from Subsidiaries."

The primary uses of MetLife, Inc.'s liquid assets are principal and interest payments on long-term debt, dividends on or repurchases of common and preferred stock, capital contributions to subsidiaries, funding of business acquisitions, income taxes and operating expenses. MetLife, Inc. is party to various capital support commitments and guarantees with certain of its subsidiaries. See "— Liquidity and Capital Uses — Support Agreements."

In addition, MetLife, Inc. issues loans to subsidiaries or subsidiaries issue loans to MetLife, Inc. Accordingly, changes in MetLife, Inc. liquid assets include issuances of loans to subsidiaries, proceeds of loans from subsidiaries and the related repayment of principal and payment of interest on such loans. See "— Liquidity and Capital Sources — Debt Issuances and Other Borrowings — Issuances of Affiliated Long-term Debt" and "— Liquidity and Capital Uses — Affiliated Capital Transactions."

Sources and Uses of Liquid Assets of Other MetLife Holding Companies

The primary sources of liquid assets of other MetLife holding companies are dividends, returns of capital and remittances from their subsidiaries and branches, principally non-U.S. insurance companies; capital contributions received; receipts of principal and interest on loans to subsidiaries and affiliates and borrowings from subsidiaries and affiliates. MetLife, Inc.'s non-U.S. operations are subject to regulatory restrictions on the payment of dividends imposed by local regulators. See "— Liquidity and Capital Sources — Dividends from Subsidiaries."

The primary uses of liquid assets of other MetLife holding companies are capital contributions paid to their subsidiaries and branches, principally non-U.S. insurance companies; loans to subsidiaries and affiliates; principal and interest paid on loans from subsidiaries and affiliates; and the following items, which are reported within other, net: dividends and returns of capital; business acquisitions; and operating expenses. Uses of liquid assets of other MetLife holding companies included $0, $0 and $400 million to fund business acquisitions during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively.

Liquidity and Capital Sources

In addition to the description of liquidity and capital sources in "— The Company — Summary of the Company's Primary Sources and Uses of Liquidity and Capital" and "— The Company — Liquidity and Capital Sources," the following additional information is provided regarding MetLife, Inc.'s primary sources of liquidity and capital.

Dividends from Subsidiaries

MetLife, Inc. relies, in part, on dividends from its subsidiaries to meet its cash requirements. MetLife, Inc.'s insurance subsidiaries are subject to regulatory restrictions on the payment of dividends imposed by the regulators of their respective domiciles. The dividend limitation for U.S. insurance subsidiaries is generally based on the surplus to policyholders at the end of the immediately preceding calendar year and statutory net gain from operations for the immediately preceding calendar year. Statutory accounting practices, as prescribed by insurance regulators of various states in which we conduct business, differ in certain respects from accounting principles used in financial statements prepared in conformity with GAAP. The significant differences relate to the treatment of DAC, certain deferred income tax, required investment liabilities, statutory reserve calculation assumptions, goodwill and surplus notes.

Table of Contents

The table below sets forth the dividends permitted to be paid by MetLife, Inc.'s primary insurance subsidiaries without insurance regulatory approval and the respective dividends paid:

Company	2016	2015		2014		2013	
	Permitted without Approval (1)	Paid (2)	Permitted without Approval (3)	Paid (2)	Permitted without Approval (3)	Paid (2)	Permitted without Approval (3)
	(In millions)						
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (4)	$3,753	$1,489	$ 1,200	$821 (5)	$ 1,163	$1,428	$ 1,428
American Life Insurance Company	$—	$—	$ —	$—	$ —	$—	$ 523
MetLife Insurance Company USA	$586	$500	$ 3,056	$155 (6)	$ 1,013	$1,000 (7)	$ 1,330
Metropolitan Property and Casualty Insurance Company	$130	$235	$ 239	$200	$ 218	$100	$ 74
Metropolitan Tower Life Insurance Company	$70	$102	$ 102	$73	$ 73	$109 (8)	$ 77
MetLife Investors Insurance Company (6)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	$ 120	$129	$ 129

____

(1) Reflects dividend amounts that may be paid during 2016 without prior regulatory approval. However, because dividend tests may be based on dividends previously paid over rolling 12-month periods, if paid before a specified date during 2016, some or all of such dividends may require regulatory approval.

(2) Reflects all amounts paid, including those requiring regulatory approval.

(3) Reflects dividend amounts that could have been paid during the relevant year without prior regulatory approval.

(4) The New York Insurance Law was amended, permitting MLIC to pay dividends without prior regulatory approval under one of two alternative formulations beginning in 2016. See Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The dividend amount that MLIC may pay during 2016 under the new formulation is reflected in the table above.

(5) During December 2014, MLIC distributed shares of an affiliate to MetLife, Inc. as an in-kind dividend of $113 million.

(6) See "Business — Other Key Information" for discussion of the Mergers. MetLife Investors Insurance Company was one of the companies that was merged into MetLife USA in connection with the Mergers. Prior to the Mergers, Exeter paid dividends of $155 million on its preferred stock. In August 2014, MICC redeemed for $1.4 billion and retired 4,595,317 shares of its common stock owned by MetLife Investors Group, LLC ("MLIG"). Following the redemption, in August 2014, MLIG paid a dividend of $1.4 billion to MetLife, Inc. See "— Liquidity and Capital Uses — Affiliated Capital Transactions." MetLife USA did not pay dividends in 2014.

(7) During the year ended December 31, 2013, MICC paid dividends of $1.0 billion.

(8) During October 2013, Metropolitan Tower Life Insurance Company ("MTL") distributed shares of an affiliate to MetLife, Inc. as an in-kind dividend of $32 million. Also during October 2013, MTL paid a dividend to MetLife, Inc. in the amount of $77 million in cash, which represented its dividend capacity without regulatory approval at December 31, 2013. Regulatory approval for these dividends was obtained due to the amount and timing of the payments.

In addition to the amounts presented in the table above, for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, cash dividends in the aggregate amount of $9 million, $17 million and $0, respectively, were paid to MetLife, Inc. by certain of its other subsidiaries. Additionally, for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, MetLife, Inc. received cash of $5 million, $0 and $267 million, respectively, representing returns of capital from certain subsidiaries.

The dividend capacity of our non-U.S. operations is subject to similar restrictions established by the local regulators. The non-U.S. regulatory regimes also commonly limit the dividend payments to the parent to a portion of the prior year's statutory income, as determined by the local accounting principles. The regulators of our non-U.S. operations, including the Japan Financial Services Agency, may also limit or not permit profit repatriations or other transfers of funds to the U.S. if such transfers are deemed to be detrimental to the solvency or financial strength of the non-U.S. operations, or for other reasons. Most of the non-U.S. subsidiaries are second tier subsidiaries which are owned by various non-U.S. holding companies. The capital and rating considerations applicable to the first tier subsidiaries may also impact the dividend flow into MetLife, Inc.

We actively manage target and excess capital levels and dividend flows on a proactive basis and forecast local capital positions as part of the financial planning cycle. The dividend capacity of certain U.S. and non-U.S. subsidiaries is also subject to business targets in excess of the minimum capital necessary to maintain the desired rating or level of financial strength in the relevant market. We cannot provide assurance that MetLife, Inc.'s subsidiaries will have statutory earnings to support payment of dividends to MetLife, Inc. in an amount sufficient to fund its cash requirements and pay cash dividends and that the applicable regulators will not disapprove any dividends that such subsidiaries must submit for approval. See "Risk Factors — Capital-Related Risks — As a Holding Company, MetLife, Inc. Depends on the Ability of Its Subsidiaries to Pay Dividends, a Major Component of Holding Company Free Cash Flow" in the 2015 Form 10-K and Note 16 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

Short-term Debt

MetLife, Inc. maintains a commercial paper program, the proceeds of which can be used to finance the general liquidity needs of MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries. MetLife, Inc. had no short-term debt outstanding at both December 31, 2015 and 2014.

Preferred Stock

For information on MetLife, Inc.'s preferred stock, see "— The Company — Liquidity and Capital Sources — Global Funding Sources — Preferred Stock."

Debt Issuances and Other Borrowings

For information on MetLife, Inc.'s unaffiliated debt issuances and other borrowings, see "— The Company — Liquidity and Capital Sources — Global Funding Sources — Debt Issuances and Other Borrowings."

Issuances of Affiliated Long-term Debt

In June 2014, a $500 million senior note payable to MLIC matured and, subsequently, MetLife, Inc. issued a new $500 million senior note to MLIC. The note matures in June 2019 and bears interest at a fixed rate of 3.54%, payable semi-annually.

In December 2013, MetLife, Inc. issued a $350 million senior note to MetLife Reinsurance Company of Delaware ("MRD") due December 2033. The senior note bears interest at a fixed rate of 5.10%, payable semi-annually. MRD issued a $350 million surplus note to MetLife, Inc. in exchange for the senior note.

Collateral Financing Arrangements and Junior Subordinated Debt Securities

For information on MetLife, Inc.'s collateral financing arrangements and junior subordinated debt securities, see Notes 13 and 14 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, respectively.

Credit and Committed Facilities

See "— The Company — Liquidity and Capital Sources — Global Funding Sources — Credit and Committed Facilities" for information about MetLife, Inc.'s unsecured credit facility.

MetLife, Inc. maintains a committed facility with a capacity of $425 million. At December 31, 2015, MetLife, Inc. had outstanding $425 million in letters of credit and no drawdowns against this facility. Remaining availability was $0 at December 31, 2015. In addition, MetLife, Inc. is a party and/or guarantor to committed facilities of certain of its subsidiaries, which aggregated $11.4 billion at December 31, 2015. The committed facilities are used as collateral for certain of the Company's affiliated reinsurance liabilities.

See "— The Company — Liquidity and Capital Sources — Global Funding Sources — Credit and Committed Facilities," as w as Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, for further information regarding these facilities.

Long-term Debt Outstanding

The following table summarizes the outstanding long-term debt of MetLife, Inc. at:

	December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Long-term debt — unaffiliated	$16,994	$15,317
Long-term debt — affiliated	$3,314	$3,600
Collateral financing arrangements	$2,797	$2,797
Junior subordinated debt securities	$1,748	$1,748

Debt and Facility Covenants

Certain of MetLife, Inc.'s debt instruments and committed facilities, as well as its credit facility, contain various administrative, reporting, legal and financial covenants. MetLife, Inc. believes it was in compliance with all such covenants at December 31, 2015.

Dispositions

Cash proceeds from dispositions during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013 were $0, $7 million, and $17 million, respectively. See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Liquidity and Capital Uses

The primary uses of liquidity of MetLife, Inc. include debt service, cash dividends on common and preferred stock, capital contributions to subsidiaries, common and preferred stock repurchases, payment of general operating expenses and acquisitions. Based on our analysis and comparison of our current and future cash inflows from the dividends we receive from subsidiaries that are permitted to be paid without prior insurance regulatory approval, our investment portfolio and other cash flows and anticipated access to the capital markets, we believe there will be sufficient liquidity and capital to enable MetLife, Inc. to make payments on debt, pay cash dividends on its common and preferred stock, contribute capital to its subsidiaries, repurchase its common and preferred stock, pay all general operating expenses and meet its cash needs.

In addition to the description of liquidity and capital uses in "— The Company — Liquidity and Capital Uses" and "— The Company — Contractual Obligations," the following additional information is provided regarding MetLife, Inc.'s primary uses of liquidity and capital:

Table of Contents

Affiliated Capital Transactions

During the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, MetLife, Inc. invested an aggregate of $88 million, $1.8 billion and $934 million, respectively, in various subsidiaries.

MetLife, Inc. lends funds, as necessary, to its subsidiaries and affiliates, some of which are regulated, to meet their capital requirements. MetLife, Inc. had loans to subsidiaries outstanding of $1.2 billion and $1.7 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

In May 2015, American Life issued a $150 million short-term note to MetLife, Inc. which was repaid in June 2015. The short-term note bore interest at six-month LIBOR plus 1.00%.

In April 2015, American Life issued a $150 million short-term note to MetLife, Inc. which was repaid in May 2015. The short-term note bore interest at six-month LIBOR plus 0.875%.

In December 2014, MetLife, Inc. entered into a five-year agreement with MetLife Reinsurance Company of Bermuda, Ltd. (“MrB”), a Bermuda insurance affiliate and an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of MetLife, Inc., to lend up to $500 million to MrB on a revolving basis. There were no loans outstanding at December 31, 2015 and 2014.

In December 2014, American Life issued a $100 million surplus note to MetLife, Inc. The surplus note bears interest at a fixed rate of 3.17%, payable semi-annually and matures in June 2020.

In August 2014, MICC paid to MLIG $1.4 billion to redeem and retire its common stock owned by MLIG; as a result, all of the outstanding shares of common stock of MICC were directly held by MetLife, Inc. Following the redemption, in August 2014, MLIG paid a dividend of $1.4 billion to MetLife, Inc., and MetLife, Inc. made a capital contribution to MICC of $231 million.

In August 2014, American Life issued a $120 million short-term note to MetLife, Inc. which was repaid in December 2014. In February 2014, American Life issued a $150 million short-term note to MetLife, Inc. which was repaid in June 2014. Both short-term notes bore interest at six-month LIBOR plus 0.875%.

In December 2013, MRD issued a $350 million surplus note to MetLife, Inc. due December 2033. The surplus note bears interest at a fixed rate of 6.00%, payable semi-annually. MetLife, Inc. issued a $350 million senior note to MRD in exchange for the surplus note.

In July 2013, MetLife Ireland Treasury Limited (“MITL”) borrowed the Chilean peso equivalent of $1.5 billion from MetLife, Inc., which was due July 2023. The loan bore interest at a fixed rate of 8.5%, payable annually. In December, September and June 2015, MITL made loan payments of the Chilean peso equivalent of $77 million, $153 million and $231 million, respectively. In December 2014 and June 2014, MITL made loan payments of the Chilean peso equivalent of $493 million and $69 million, respectively. In December 2013, MITL made a loan payment of the Chilean peso equivalent of $245 million. At December 31, 2015, the loan was fully paid.

In April 2013, MetLife Bank’s Board of Directors, with prior approval of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, approved the reduction of its permanent capital by $550 million through a purchase of its $300 million of outstanding preferred stock held by MetLife, Inc. and a return of capital of $250 million to MetLife, Inc. In May 2013, MetLife, Inc. received $550 million in cash to settle these transactions.

In January 2013, MetLife Bank both drew down and repaid $400 million under an 18-month agreement with MetLife, Inc., which bore interest at a rate of three-month LIBOR plus 1.75%. On October 29, 2013, MetLife, Inc. and MLHL agreed to terminate the agreement. There were no loans outstanding at such date.

Debt Repayments

For information on MetLife, Inc.’s debt repayments, see “— The Company — Liquidity and Capital Uses — Debt Repayments MetLife, Inc. intends to repay or refinance, in whole or in part, all the debt that is due in 2016.

Repayments of Affiliated Long-term Debt

In December 2015, MetLife, Inc. repaid $286 million of affiliated long-term debt to MetLife Exchange Trust I, at maturity, in exchange for a return of capital. The long-term note bore interest at three-month LIBOR plus 0.7%.

Table of Contents

Maturities of Senior Notes

The following table summarizes MetLife, Inc.'s outstanding senior notes by year of maturity through 2020 and 2021 to 2046, excluding any premium or discount, at December 31, 2015:

Year of Maturity	Principal (In millions)	Interest Rate
2016	$ 1,250	6.75%
2016	$ 250	7.44%
2017	$ 500	1.76%
2017	$ 500	1.90%
2018	$ 1,035	6.82%
2019	$ 1,035	7.72%
2019	$ 500	3.54%
2019	$ 250	3.57%
2020	$ 590	5.25%
2021 - 2046	$ 14,215	Ranging from 3.00% - 6.50%

Support Agreements

MetLife, Inc. is party to various capital support commitments and guarantees with certain of its subsidiaries. Under these arrangements, MetLife, Inc. has agreed to cause each such entity to meet specified capital and surplus levels or has guaranteed certain contractual obligations. See "— The Company — Liquidity and Capital Uses — Support Agreements."

MetLife, Inc., in connection with MRD's reinsurance of certain universal life and term life risks, entered into capital maintenance agreements pursuant to which MetLife, Inc. agreed, without limitation as to amount, to cause the first and second protected cells of MRD to maintain total adjusted capital equal to or greater than 200% of each such protected cell's company action level RBC, as defined in state insurance statutes. In addition, MetLife, Inc. entered into an agreement with the Delaware Department of Insurance to increase such capital maintenance threshold to 300% of each such protected cell's company action level RBC, in the event of specified downgrades in the senior unsecured debt ratings of MetLife, Inc.

MetLife, Inc. guarantees the obligations of its subsidiary, DelAm, under a stop loss reinsurance agreement with RGA Reinsurance (Barbados) Inc. ("RGARe"), pursuant to which RGARe retrocedes to DelAm a portion of the whole life medical insurance business that RGARe assumed from American Life on behalf of its Japan operations. Also, MetLife, Inc. guarantees the obligations of its subsidiary, Missouri Reinsurance, Inc. ("MoRe"), under a retrocession agreement with RGARe, pursuant to which MoRe retrocedes certain group term life insurance liabilities (which retrocession was terminated effective as of January, 2016) and a portion of the closed block liabilities associated with industrial life and ordinary life insurance policies that it assumed from MLIC.

MetLife, Inc. guarantees the obligations of MrB, a Bermuda insurance affiliate and an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of MetLife, Inc. under a reinsurance agreement with Mitsui Sumitomo Primary Life Insurance Co., Ltd. ("Mitsui"), a former affiliate that is now an unaffiliated third party, under which MrB reinsures certain variable annuity business written by Mitsui.

MetLife, Inc. guarantees the obligations of MrB in an aggregate amount up to $1.0 billion, under a reinsurance agreement with MetLife Europe Limited ("MEL"), under which MrB reinsured the guaranteed living benefits and guaranteed death benefits associated with certain unit-linked annuity contracts issued by MEL.

MetLife, Inc., in connection with reinsurance by MetLife Reinsurance Company of Vermont ("MRV") of certain universal life and term life insurance risks, committed to the Vermont Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration to take necessary action to cause the three protected cells of MRV to maintain total adjusted capital in an amount that is equal to or greater than 200% of each such protected cell's authorized control level RBC, as defined in Vermont state insurance statutes. See Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

MetLife, Inc., in connection with the collateral financing arrangement associated with MRC's reinsurance of a portion of the liabilities associated with the closed block, committed to the South Carolina Department of Insurance to make capital contributions, if necessary, to MRC so that MRC may at all times maintain its total adjusted capital in an amount that is equal to or greater than 200% of the company action level RBC, as defined in South Carolina state insurance statutes as in effect on the date of determination or December 31, 2007, whichever calculation produces the greater capital requirement, or as otherwise required by the South Carolina Department of Insurance. See Note 13 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

MetLife, Inc., in connection with the collateral financing arrangement associated with MetLife Reinsurance Company of South Carolina's ("MRSC") reinsurance of ULSG, committed to the South Carolina Department of Insurance to take necessary action to cause MRSC to maintain the greater of capital and surplus of $250,000 or total adjusted capital in an amount that is equal to or greater than 100% of authorized control level RBC, as defined in South Carolina state insurance statutes. See Note 13 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

MetLife, Inc. has a net worth maintenance agreement with its insurance subsidiary, First MetLife Investors Insurance Company ("First MetLife"). Under this agreement, as amended, MetLife, Inc. agreed, without limitation as to the amount, to cause First MetLife to have capital and surplus of $10 million, total adjusted capital in an amount that is equal to or greater than 150% of the company action level RBC, as defined by applicable state insurance statutes, and liquidity necessary to enable it to meet its current obligations on a timely basis.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc. guarantees obligations arising from derivatives of the following subsidiaries: MrB, MetLife International Holdings, LLC and MetLife Worldwide Holdings, LLC. These subsidiaries are exposed to various risks relating to their ongoing business operations, including interest rate, foreign currency exchange rate, credit and equity market. These subsidiaries use a variety of strategies to manage these risks, including the use of derivatives. Further, all of the subsidiaries' derivatives are subject to industry standard netting agreements and collateral agreements that limit the unsecured portion of any open derivative position. On a net counterparty basis at December 31, 2015 and 2014, derivative transactions with positive mark-to-market values (in-the-money) were $583 million and $499 million, respectively, and derivative transactions with negative mark-to-market values (out-of-the-money) were $32 million and $102 million, respectively. To secure the obligations represented by the out of-the-money transactions, the subsidiaries had provided collateral to their counterparties with an estimated fair value of $32 million and $96 million at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Accordingly, unsecured derivative liabilities guaranteed by MetLife, Inc. were $0 and $6 million at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

MetLife, Inc. also guarantees the obligations of certain of its subsidiaries under committed facilities with third-party banks. See Note 12 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Acquisitions

During the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, there were no cash outflows from MetLife, Inc. for acquisitions. See Note 3 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding the Company's acquisitions.

Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Future Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 1 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Non-GAAP and Other Financial Disclosures

In this report, the Company presents certain measures of its performance that are not calculated in accordance with GAAP. We believe that these non-GAAP financial measures enhance the understanding of our performance by highlighting the results of operations and the underlying profitability drivers of our business. The following non-GAAP financial measures should not be viewed as substitutes for the most directly comparable financial measures calculated in accordance with GAAP:

Non-GAAP financial measures:	Comparable GAAP financial measures:
(i) operating revenues	(i) GAAP revenues
(ii) operating expenses	(ii) GAAP expenses
(iii) operating earnings	(iii) income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax
(iv) operating earnings available to common shareholders	(iv) net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders
(v) free cash flow of all holding companies	(v) MetLife, Inc.'s net cash provided by operating activities

Reconciliations of these measures to the most directly comparable GAAP measures are included below and in "— Results of Operations."

Our definitions of the various non-GAAP and other financial measures discussed in this report may differ from those used by other companies:

Operating earnings is the measure of segment profit or loss we use to evaluate segment performance and allocate resources. Consistent with GAAP accounting guidance for segment reporting, operating earnings is our measure of segment performance. Operating earnings is also a measure by which senior management's and many other employees' performance is evaluated for the purposes of determining their compensation under applicable compensation plans. Operating earnings is defined as operating revenues less operating expenses, both net of income tax. Operating earnings available to common shareholders is defined as operating earnings less preferred stock dividends.

Operating revenues and operating expenses exclude results of discontinued operations and other businesses that have been or will be sold or exited by MetLife and are referred to as divested businesses. Operating revenues also excludes net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses). Operating expenses also excludes goodwill impairments.

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

- Universal life and investment-type product policy fees excludes the amortization of unearned revenue related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses) and certain variable annuity GMIB fees (“GMIB Fees”);
- Net investment income: (i) includes amounts for investment hedge adjustments, (ii) includes income from discontinued real estate operations, (iii) excludes post-tax operating earnings adjustments relating to insurance joint ventures accounted for under the equity method, (iv) excludes certain amounts related to contractholder-directed unit-linked investments, and (v) excludes certain amounts related to securitization entities that are VIEs consolidated under GAAP; and
- Other revenues are adjusted for settlements of foreign currency earnings hedges.

Table of Contents

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

- Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends excludes: (i) changes in the policyholder dividend obligation related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses), (ii) inflation-indexed benefit adjustments associated with contracts backed by inflation-indexed investments and amounts associated with periodic crediting rate adjustments based on the total return of a contractually referenced pool of assets and other pass through adjustments (also known as asymmetrical and non-economic accounting for insurance contracts), (iii) benefits and hedging costs related to GMIBs ("GMIB Costs"), and (iv) market value adjustments associated with surrenders or terminations of contracts ("Market Value Adjustments");
- Interest credited to policyholder account balances includes adjustments for earned income on derivatives and amortization of premium on derivatives that are hedges of policyholder account balances but do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment and excludes amounts related to net investment income earned on contractholder-directed unit-linked investments;
- Amortization of DAC and VOBA excludes amounts related to: (i) net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses), (ii) GMIB Fees and GMIB Costs, and (iii) Market Value Adjustments;
- Amortization of negative VOBA excludes amounts related to Market Value Adjustments;
- Interest expense on debt excludes certain amounts related to securitization entities that are VIEs consolidated under GAAP; and
- Other expenses excludes costs related to: (i) noncontrolling interests, (ii) implementation of new insurance regulatory requirements, and (iii) acquisition and integration costs.

Operating earnings also excludes the recognition of certain contingent assets and liabilities that could not be recognized at acquisition or adjusted for during the measurement period under GAAP business combination accounting guidance. In addition to the tax impact of the adjustments mentioned above, provision for income tax expense (benefit) also includes the impact related to the timing of certain tax credits, as well as certain tax reforms.

The following additional information is relevant to an understanding of our performance results:

- We sometimes refer to sales activity for various products. These sales statistics do not correspond to revenues under GAAP, but are used as relevant measures of business activity.
- The impact of changes in our foreign currency exchange rates is calculated using the average foreign currency exchange rates for the current period and is applied to each of the comparable periods.
- Operating ROE is defined as operating earnings available to common shareholders, divided by average GAAP common stockholders' equity.
- Operating ROE, excluding AOCI other than FCTA, is defined as operating earnings available to common shareholders divided by average GAAP common stockholders' equity, excluding AOCI other than FCTA.
- Allocated equity is defined as the portion of MetLife, Inc.'s common stockholders' equity that management allocates to each of its segments and sub-segments based on local capital requirements and economic capital. See "— Economic Capital." Allocated equity excludes the impact of AOCI, other than FCTA.
- The Company uses a measure of free cash flow to facilitate an understanding of its ability to generate cash for reinvestment into its businesses or use in discretionary capital actions. The Company defines free cash flow as the sum of cash available at MetLife's holding companies from dividends from operating subsidiaries, expenses and other net flows of the holding companies, and net contributions from debt to be at or below target leverage ratios. This measure of free cash flow is prior to discretionary capital deployment, including common stock dividends and repurchases, debt reduction and mergers and acquisitions. Free cash flow should not be viewed as a substitute for net cash provided by (used in) operating activities calculated in accordance with GAAP. The free cash flow ratio is typically expressed as a percentage of annual operating earnings available to common shareholders. A reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities of MetLife, Inc. to free cash flow of all holding companies for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013 is provided below.

Table of Contents

Reconciliation of Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities of MetLife, Inc. to Free Cash Flow of All Holding Companies	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
MetLife, Inc. (parent company only) net cash provided by operating activities	$1,606	$2,615	$1,865
Adjustments from net cash provided by operating activities to free cash flow:			
Add: Incremental debt to be at or below target leverage ratios	1,750	445	—
Add: Capital contributions to subsidiaries	(667)	(1,011)	(598)
Add: Returns of capital from subsidiaries	5	—	567
Add: Repayments on and (issuances of) loans to subsidiaries, net	461	462	245
Add: Investment portfolio changes and other, net	365	151	23
MetLife, Inc. (parent company only) free cash flow	3,520	2,662	2,102
Other MetLife holding companies:			
Add: Dividends and returns of capital from subsidiaries	1,354	1,339	822
Add: Capital contributions from MetLife, Inc.	150	—	403
Add: Capital contributions to subsidiaries	(27)	(48)	(201)
Add: Repayments on and (issuances of) loans to subsidiaries, net	(510)	(458)	(305)
Add: Other expenses	(729)	(637)	(567)
Add: Investment portfolio changes and other, net	223	32	(18)
Total other MetLife holding companies free cash flow	461	228	134
Free cash flow of all holding companies	$3,981	$2,890	$2,236
Ratio of free cash flow to operating earnings available to common shareholders:			
Free cash flow of all holding companies	$3,981	$2,890	$2,236
Consolidated operating earnings available to common shareholders (1)	$5,484	$6,560	$6,261
Ratio of free cash flow of all holding companies to consolidated operating earnings available to common shareholders (1)	73 %	44 %	36 %
Ratio of net cash provided by operating activities to consolidated net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders:			
MetLife, Inc. (parent company only) net cash provided by operating activities	$1,606	$2,615	$1,865
Consolidated net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders (2)	$5,152	$6,187	$3,246
Ratio of net cash provided by operating activities (parent company only) to consolidated net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders (2) (3)	31 %	42 %	57 %

____

(1) Consolidated operating earnings available to common shareholders for 2015 includes a non-cash charge of $792 million, net of income tax, related to an uncertain tax position. Excluding this charge from the denominator of the ratio, the adjusted free cash flow ratio would be 63%. See “Risk Factors — Regulatory and Legal Risks — Changes in Tax Laws or Interpretations of Such Laws Could Reduce Our Earnings and Materially Impact Our Operations by Increasing Our Corporate Taxes and Making Some of Our Products Less Attractive to Consumers” in the 2015 Form 10-K for additional information on this non-cash charge.
(2) Consolidated net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders for 2015 includes a non-cash charge of $792 million, net of income tax, related to an uncertain tax position. Excluding this charge from the denominator of the ratio, this ratio, as adjusted, would be 27%.
(3) Including the free cash flow of other MetLife, Inc. holding companies of $461 million, $228 million and $134 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively, in the numerator of the ratio, this ratio, as adjusted, would be 40%, 46% and 62%, respectively.

Finally, in this discussion, we also provide forward-looking guidance on an operating, or non-GAAP, basis. A reconciliation of these non-GAAP measures to the most directly comparable GAAP measures is not accessible on a forward-looking basis because we believe it is not possible to provide other than a range of net investment gains and losses and net derivative gains and losses, which can fluctuate significantly within or outside the range and from period to period and may have a significant impact on GAAP net income.

Subsequent Events

See Note 23 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Risk Management

We have developed an integrated process for managing risk, which we conduct through multiple Board and senior management committees (financial and non-financial) within the GRM, ALM Unit, Treasury Department and Investments Department. The risk committee structure is designed to provide a consolidated enterprise-wide assessment and management of risk. The ERC is responsible for reviewing all material risks to the enterprise and deciding on actions, if necessary, in the event risks exceed desired tolerances, taking into consideration industry best practices and the current environment to resolve or mitigate those risks. Additional committees at the MetLife, Inc. and subsidiary insurance company level that manage capital and risk positions, approve ALM strategies and establish corporate business standards, report to the ERC.

Global Risk Management

Independent from the lines of business, the centralized GRM, led by the CRO, collaborates and coordinates across all committees to ensure that all material risks are properly identified, measured, aggregated and reported across the Company. The CRO reports to the CEO and is primarily responsible for maintaining and communicating the Company's enterprise risk policies and for monitoring and analyzing all material risks.

GRM considers and monitors a full range of risks against the Company's solvency, liquidity, earnings, business operations and reputation. GRM's primary responsibilities consist of:

- implementing a corporate risk framework, which outlines our enterprise approach for managing risk;
- developing policies and procedures for managing, measuring, monitoring and controlling those risks identified in the corporate risk framework;
- establishing appropriate corporate risk tolerance levels;
- deploying capital on an economic basis;
- recommending capital allocations on an economic capital basis; and
- reporting to (i) the Finance and Risk Committee of MetLife, Inc.'s Board of Directors; (ii) the Investment Committee of MetLife, Inc.'s Board of Directors; and (iii) the financial and non-financial senior management committees on various aspects of risk.

Asset/Liability Management

We actively manage our assets using an approach that balances quality, diversification, asset/liability matching, liquidity, concentration and investment return. The goals of the investment process are to optimize, net of income tax, risk-adjusted investment income and risk-adjusted total return while ensuring that the assets and liabilities are reasonably managed on a cash flow and duration basis. The ALM process is the shared responsibility of the ALM Unit, GRM, the Portfolio Management Unit, and the senior members of the business segments and is governed by the ALM Committees. The ALM Committees' duties include reviewing and approving target portfolios, establishing investment guidelines and limits and providing oversight of the ALM process on a periodic basis. The directives of the ALM Committees are carried out and monitored through ALM Working Groups which are set up to manage by product type. Generally, our ALM Steering Committee oversees the activities of the underlying ALM Committees. The ALM Steering Committee reports to the ERC.

We establish target asset portfolios for each major insurance product, which represent the investment strategies used to profitably fund our liabilities within acceptable levels of risk. The ALM Working Groups monitor these strategies through regular review of portfolio metrics, such as effective duration, yield curve sensitivity, convexity, liquidity, asset sector concentration and credit quality.

Market Risk Exposures

We regularly analyze our exposure to interest rate, equity market price and foreign currency exchange rate risks. As a result of that analysis, we have determined that the estimated fair values of certain assets and liabilities are materially exposed to changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates and changes in the equity markets. We have exposure to market risk through our insurance operations and investment activities. For purposes of this disclosure, "market risk" is defined as the risk of loss resulting from changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates and equity markets.

Interest Rates

Our exposure to interest rate changes results most significantly from our holdings of fixed maturity securities, as well as our interest rate sensitive liabilities. The fixed maturity securities include U.S. and foreign government bonds, securities issued by government agencies, corporate bonds, mortgage-backed securities and ABS, all of which are mainly exposed to changes in medium- and long-term interest rates. The interest rate sensitive liabilities for purposes of this disclosure include debt, policyholder account balances related to certain investment type contracts, and net embedded derivatives on variable annuities with guaranteed minimum benefits which have the same type of interest rate exposure (medium- and long-term interest rates) as fixed maturity securities. We employ product design, pricing and ALM strategies to reduce the potential effects of interest rate movements. Product design and pricing strategies include the use of surrender charges or restrictions on withdrawals in some products and the ability to reset crediting rates for certain products. ALM strategies include the use of derivatives and duration mismatch limits. See "Risk Factors — Economic Environment and Capital Markets-Related Risks — We Are Exposed to Significant Global Financial and Capital Markets Risks Which May Adversely Affect Our Results of Operations, Financial Condition and Liquidity, and May Cause Our Net Investment Income to Vary from Period to Period" in the 2015 Form 10-K.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rates

Our exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates against the U.S. dollar results from our holdings in non-U.S. dollar denominated fixed maturity and equity securities, mortgage loans, and certain liabilities, as well as through our investments in foreign subsidiaries. The principal currencies that create foreign currency exchange rate risk in our investment portfolios and liabilities are the Euro, the Japanese yen and the British pound. Selectively, we use U.S. dollar assets to support certain long duration foreign currency liabilities. Through our investments in foreign subsidiaries and joint ventures, we are primarily exposed to the Japanese yen, the Euro, the Polish zloty, the Australian dollar, the Mexican peso, the Chilean peso and the Korean won. In addition to hedging with foreign currency swaps, forwards and options, local surplus in some countries is held entirely or in part in U.S. dollar assets which further minimizes exposure to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuation risk. We have matched much of our foreign currency liabilities in our foreign subsidiaries with their respective foreign currency assets, thereby reducing our risk to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuation. See “Risk Factors — Risks Related to Our Business — Fluctuations in Foreign Currency Exchange Rates Could Negatively Affect Our Profitability” in the 2015 Form 10-K.

Equity Market

Along with investments in equity securities, we have exposure to equity market risk through certain liabilities that involve long-term guarantees on equity performance such as net embedded derivatives on variable annuities with guaranteed minimum benefits and certain policyholder account balances. We manage this risk on an integrated basis with other risks through our ALM strategies, including the dynamic hedging of certain variable annuity guarantee benefits, as well as reinsurance, in order to limit losses, minimize exposure to large risks, and provide additional capacity for future growth. We also manage equity market risk exposure in our investment portfolio through the use of derivatives. Equity exposures associated with other limited partnership interests are excluded from this discussion as they are not considered financial instruments under GAAP.

Management of Market Risk Exposures

We use a variety of strategies to manage interest rate, foreign currency exchange rate and equity market risk, including the use of derivatives.

Interest Rate Risk Management

To manage interest rate risk, we analyze interest rate risk using various models, including multi-scenario cash flow projection models that forecast cash flows of the liabilities and their supporting investments, including derivatives. These projections involve evaluating the potential gain or loss on most of our in-force business under various increasing and decreasing interest rate environments. The Department of Financial Services regulations require that we perform some of these analyses annually as part of our review of the sufficiency of our regulatory reserves. For several of our legal entities, we maintain segmented operating and surplus asset portfolios for the purpose of ALM and the allocation of investment income to product lines. For each segment, invested assets greater than or equal to the GAAP liabilities and any non-invested assets allocated to the segment are maintained, with any excess allocated to Corporate & Other. The business segments may reflect differences in legal entity, statutory line of business and any product market characteristic which may drive a distinct investment strategy with respect to duration, liquidity or credit quality of the invested assets. Certain smaller entities make use of unsegmented general accounts for which the investment strategy reflects the aggregate characteristics of liabilities in those entities. We measure relative sensitivities of the value of our assets and liabilities to changes in key assumptions utilizing internal models. These models reflect specific product characteristics and include assumptions based on current and anticipated experience regarding lapse, mortality and interest crediting rates. In addition, these models include asset cash flow projections reflecting interest payments, sinking fund payments, principal payments, bond calls, mortgage loan prepayments and defaults.

Common industry metrics, such as duration and convexity, are also used to measure the relative sensitivity of assets and liability values to changes in interest rates. In computing the duration of liabilities, consideration is given to all policyholder guarantees and to how we intend to set indeterminate policy elements such as interest credits or dividends. Each asset portfolio has a duration target based on the liability duration and the investment objectives of that portfolio. Where a liability cash flow may exceed the maturity of available assets, as is the case with certain retirement and group products, we may support such liabilities with equity investments, derivatives or interest rate curve mismatch strategies.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk Management

We assume foreign currency exchange rate risk primarily in three ways: investments in foreign subsidiaries, purchases of foreign currency denominated investments and the sale of certain insurance products.

- The GRM’s Foreign Exchange Committee, in coordination with the Treasury Department, is responsible for managing our exposure to investments in foreign subsidiaries. Exposure limits are established by the Treasury Department and monitored by GRM. The Investments Department manages such exposure.
- The Investments Department is responsible for managing the exposure to foreign currency denominated investments. Exposure limits to unhedged foreign currency investments are incorporated into the standing authorizations granted to

management by the Board of Directors and are reported to the Board of Directors on a periodic basis.

- Management of each of the Company’s segments, with oversight from the Foreign Exchange Committee, is responsible for establishing limits and managing any foreign currency exchange rate exposure caused by the sale or issuance of insurance products.

We use foreign currency swaps, forwards and options to mitigate the liability exposure, risk of loss and financial statement volatility associated with our investments in foreign subsidiaries, foreign currency denominated fixed income investments and the sale of certain insurance products.

Equity Market Risk Management

The issuance of variable annuities exposes us to market risk. This risk is managed by our ALM Unit in partnership with the Investments Department. Equity market risk is also assumed through our investment in equity securities and is managed by our Investments Department. We use derivatives to mitigate our equity exposure both in certain liability guarantees such as variable annuities with guaranteed minimum benefit and equity securities. These derivatives include exchange-traded equity futures, equity index options contracts and equity variance swaps. We also employ reinsurance to manage these exposures.

Hedging Activities

We use derivative contracts primarily to hedge a wide range of risks including interest rate risk, foreign currency exchange rate risk, and equity market risk. Derivative hedges are designed to reduce risk on an economic basis while considering their impact on accounting results and GAAP and statutory capital. Our derivative hedge programs vary depending on the type of risk being hedged. Some hedge programs are asset or liability specific while others are portfolio hedges that reduce risk related to a group of liabilities or assets. Our use of derivatives by major hedge programs is as follows:

- Risks Related to Living Guarantee Benefits — We use a wide range of derivative contracts to mitigate the risk associated with variable annuity living guarantee benefits. These derivatives include equity and interest rate futures, interest rate swaps, currency futures/forwards, equity indexed options and interest rate option contracts and equity variance swaps.

Table of Contents

- Minimum Interest Rate Guarantees — For certain liability contracts, we provide the contractholder a guaranteed minimum interest rate. These contracts include certain fixed annuities and other insurance liabilities. We purchase interest rate floors to reduce risk associated with these liability guarantees.
- Reinvestment Risk in Long Duration Liability Contracts — Derivatives are used to hedge interest rate risk related to certain long duration liability contracts. Hedges include interest rate swaps and swaptions.
- Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk — We use currency swaps, forwards and options to hedge foreign currency exchange rate risk. These hedges primarily swap foreign currency denominated bonds, investments in foreign subsidiaries or equity market exposures to U.S. dollars.
- General ALM Hedging Strategies — In the ordinary course of managing our asset/liability risks, we use interest rate futures, interest rate swaps, interest rate caps, interest rate floors and inflation swaps. These hedges are designed to reduce interest rate risk or inflation risk related to the existing assets or liabilities or related to expected future cash flows.

Risk Measurement: Sensitivity Analysis

We measure market risk related to our market sensitive assets and liabilities based on changes in interest rates, equity market prices and foreign currency exchange rates utilizing a sensitivity analysis. This analysis estimates the potential changes in estimated fair value based on a hypothetical 10% change (increase or decrease) in interest rates, equity market prices and foreign currency exchange rates. We believe that a 10% change (increase or decrease) in these market rates and prices is reasonably possible in the near term. In performing the analysis summarized below, we used market rates at December 31, 2015. The sensitivity analysis separately calculates each of our market risk exposures (interest rate, equity market and foreign currency exchange rate) relating to our trading and non-trading assets and liabilities. We modeled the impact of changes in market rates and prices on the estimated fair values of our market sensitive assets and liabilities as follows:

- the net present values of our interest rate sensitive exposures resulting from a 10% change (increase or decrease) in interest rates;
- the U.S. dollar equivalent estimated fair values of our foreign currency exposures due to a 10% change (increase or decrease) in foreign currency exchange rates; and
- the estimated fair value of our equity positions due to a 10% change (increase or decrease) in equity market prices.

The sensitivity analysis is an estimate and should not be viewed as predictive of our future financial performance. We cannot ensure that our actual losses in any particular period will not exceed the amounts indicated in the table below. Limitations related to this sensitivity analysis include:

- the market risk information is limited by the assumptions and parameters established in creating the related sensitivity analysis, including the impact of prepayment rates on mortgage loans;
- for the derivatives that qualify as hedges, the impact on reported earnings may be materially different from the change in market values;
- the analysis excludes liabilities pursuant to insurance contracts and real estate holdings; and
- the model assumes that the composition of assets and liabilities remains unchanged throughout the period.

Accordingly, we use such models as tools and not as substitutes for the experience and judgment of our management. Based on our analysis of the impact of a 10% change (increase or decrease) in market rates and prices, we have determined that such a change could have a material adverse effect on the estimated fair value of certain assets and liabilities from interest rate, foreign currency exchange rate and equity market exposures.

The table below illustrates the potential loss in estimated fair value for each market risk exposure of our market sensitive assets and liabilities at:

	December 31, 2015 (In millions)
Non-trading:	
Interest rate risk	$ 5,833
Foreign currency exchange rate risk	$ 5,663
Equity market risk	$ 19

Trading:	
Interest rate risk	$ 2

MetLife, Inc. 87

Table of Contents

The table below provides additional detail regarding the potential loss in estimated fair value of our trading and non-trading interest sensitive financial instruments by type of asset or liability at:

	December 31, 2015		
	Notional Amount	Estimated Fair Value (1)	Assuming a 10% Increase in the Yield Curve
	(In millions)		
Assets			
Fixed maturity securities		$351,402	$ (5,728)
Equity securities		$3,321	—
Fair value option and trading securities:			
Actively traded securities		$404	(5)
Fair value option general account securities		627	(5)
Total fair value option and trading securities		$1,031	(10)
Mortgage loans		$68,539	(476)
Policy loans		$13,351	(140)
Short-term investments		$9,299	(12)
Other invested assets		$699	—
Cash and cash equivalents		$12,752	—
Accrued investment income		$3,988	—
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables		$2,905	(161)
Other assets		$267	(4)
Net embedded derivatives within asset host contracts (2)		$391	(20)
Total assets			$ (6,551)
Liabilities (3)			
Policyholder account balances		$125,061	$ 547
Payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions		$36,871	—
Short-term debt		$100	—
Long-term debt		$19,360	389
Collateral financing arrangements		$3,899	—
Junior subordinated debt securities		$4,029	105
Other liabilities:			
Trading liabilities		$153	3
Other		$2,250	133
Net embedded derivatives within liability host contracts (2)		$935	470
Total liabilities			$ 1,647
Derivative Instruments			
Interest rate swaps	$97,054	$5,554	$ (637)
Interest rate floors	$23,837	$263	(24)
Interest rate caps	$68,928	$102	35
Interest rate futures	$5,808	$(3)	(14)
Interest rate options	$30,234	$1,147	(205)
Interest rate forwards	$148	$24	(7)
Synthetic GICs	$4,216	$—	—
Foreign currency swaps	$36,896	$(262)	(22)

Foreign currency forwards	$17,325	$(67)	(8)
Currency futures	$930	$—	—
Currency options	$17,159	$446	(14)
Credit default swaps	$12,181	$59	—
Equity futures	$7,206	$45	(1)
Equity index options	$55,682	$501	(36)
Equity variance swaps	$23,437	$(441)	2
Total rate of return swaps	$3,803	$(11)	—
Total derivative instruments			$ (931)
Net Change			$ (5,835)

Table of Contents

(1) Separate account assets and liabilities and contractholder-directed unit-linked investments and associated policyholder account balances, which are interest rate sensitive, are not included herein as any interest rate risk is borne by the contractholder. Mortgage loans, FVO and trading securities and long-term debt exclude $172 million, $12 million and $60 million, respectively, related to CSEs. See Note 8 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding CSEs.

(2) Embedded derivatives are recognized in the consolidated balance sheet in the same caption as the host contract.

(3) Excludes $206.1 billion of liabilities, at carrying value, pursuant to insurance contracts reported within future policy benefits and other policy-related balances. These liabilities would economically offset a significant portion of the net change in fair value of our financial instruments resulting from a 10% increase in the yield curve.

Interest rate risk increased by $601 million, or 11%, to $5.8 billion at December 31, 2015 from $5.2 billion at December 31, 2014. This change was primarily due to an increase of $809 million due to increases in interest rates across the U.S. Treasury curve coupled with changes in durations. This increase was partially offset by a decrease in the asset base of $232 million.

Table of Contents

The table below provides additional detail regarding the potential loss in estimated fair value of our portfolio due to a 10% change in foreign currency exchange rates by type of asset or liability at:

	December 31, 2015		
	Notional Amount	Estimated Fair Value (1)	Assuming a 10% Increase in the Foreign Exchange Rate
	(In millions)		
Assets			
Fixed maturity securities		$351,402	$ (7,879)
Equity securities		$3,321	(95)
Fair value option and trading securities:			
Actively traded securities		$404	—
Fair value option general account securities		627	(63)
Total fair value option and trading securities		$1,031	(63)
Mortgage loans		$68,539	(703)
Policy loans		$13,351	(144)
Short-term investments		$9,299	(95)
Other invested assets		$699	(75)
Cash and cash equivalents		$12,752	(441)
Accrued investment income		$3,988	(82)
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables		$2,905	(62)
Other assets		$267	(6)
Net embedded derivatives within asset host contracts (2)		$391	(12)
Total assets			$ (9,657)
Liabilities (3)			
Policyholder account balances		$125,061	$ 3,258
Payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions		$36,871	101
Long-term debt		$19,360	127
Other liabilities		$2,403	13
Net embedded derivatives within liability host contracts (2)		$935	111
Total liabilities			$ 3,610
Derivative Instruments			
Interest rate swaps	$97,054	$5,554	$ (35)
Interest rate floors	$23,837	$263	—
Interest rate caps	$68,928	$102	—
Interest rate futures	$5,808	$(3)	(1)
Interest rate options	$30,234	$1,147	(46)
Interest rate forwards	$148	$24	—
Synthetic GICs	$4,216	$—	—
Foreign currency swaps	$36,896	$(262)	362
Foreign currency forwards	$17,325	$(67)	(188)
Currency futures	$930	$—	(91)
Currency options	$17,159	$446	399
Credit default swaps	$12,181	$59	(2)

Equity futures	$7,206	$45	(1	)
Equity index options	$55,682	$501	(14	)
Equity variance swaps	$23,437	$(441)	1	
Total rate of return swaps	$3,803	$(11)	—	
Total derivative instruments			$ 384	
Net Change			$ (5,663	)

____

(1) Does not necessarily represent those financial instruments solely subject to foreign currency exchange rate risk. Separate account assets and liabilities and contractholder-directed unit-linked investments and associated policyholder account balances, which are foreign currency exchange rate sensitive, are not included herein as any foreign currency exchange rate risk is borne by the contractholder. Mortgage loans, FVO and trading securities and long-term debt exclude $172 million, $12 million and $60 million, respectively, related to CSEs. See Note 8 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding CSEs.

Table of Contents

(2) Embedded derivatives are recognized in the consolidated balance sheet in the same caption as the host contract.

(3) Excludes $206.1 billion of liabilities, at carrying value, pursuant to insurance contracts reported within future policy benefits and other policy-related balances. These liabilities would economically offset a significant portion of the net change in fair value of our financial instruments resulting from a 10% increase in foreign currency exchange rates.

Foreign currency exchange rate risk decreased by $93 million, or 2%, to $5.7 billion at December 31, 2015 from $5.8 billion at December 31, 2014. This change was primarily due to a net decrease in exchange risk relating to policyholder account balances, fixed maturity securities and the use of derivatives by the Company.

The table below provides additional detail regarding the potential loss in estimated fair value of our portfolio due to a 10% change in equity by type of asset or liability at:

	December 31, 2015		
	Notional Amount	Estimated Fair Value (1)	Assuming a 10% Increase in Equity Prices
	(In millions)		
Assets			
Equity securities		$3,321	$ 332
Net embedded derivatives within asset host contracts (2)		$391	(20)
Total assets			312
Liabilities			
Policyholder account balances		$125,061	—
Net embedded derivatives within liability host contracts (2)		$935	979
Total liabilities			$ 979
Derivative Instruments			
Interest rate swaps	$97,054	$5,554	$ —
Interest rate floors	$23,837	$263	—
Interest rate caps	$68,928	$102	—
Interest rate futures	$5,808	$(3)	—
Interest rate options	$30,234	$1,147	—
Interest rate forwards	$148	$24	—
Synthetic GICs	$4,216	$—	—
Foreign currency swaps	$36,896	$(262)	—
Foreign currency forwards	$17,325	$(67)	—
Currency futures	$930	$—	—
Currency options	$17,159	$446	—
Credit default swaps	$12,181	$59	—
Equity futures	$7,206	$45	(687)
Equity index options	$55,682	$501	(258)
Equity variance swaps	$23,437	$(441)	15
Total rate of return swaps	$3,803	$(11)	(380)
Total derivative instruments			$ (1,310)
Net Change			$ (19)

(1) Does not necessarily represent those financial instruments solely subject to equity price risk. Additionally, separate account assets and liabilities and contractholder-directed unit-linked investments and associated policyholder account balances, which are equity market sensitive, are not included herein as any equity market risk is borne by

the contractholder.

(2) Embedded derivatives are recognized in the consolidated balance sheet in the same caption as the host contract.

Equity price risk decreased by $59 million to $19 million at December 31, 2015 from $78 million at December 31, 2014. This decrease was primarily due to the impact of embedded derivatives offset by the use of derivatives by the Company.

Table of Contents

Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

None.

Management’s Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management of MetLife, Inc. and subsidiaries is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of control procedures. The objectives of internal control include providing management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management’s authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP.

Management has documented and evaluated the effectiveness of the internal control of the Company at December 31, 2015 pertaining to financial reporting in accordance with the criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

In the opinion of management, MetLife, Inc. maintained effective internal control over financial reporting at December 31, 2015.

Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, has audited the consolidated financial statements and consolidated financial statement schedules included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015. The Report of the Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on their audit of the consolidated financial statements and consolidated financial statement schedules is included in the 2015 Form 10-K.

Report of the Company’s Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Company’s independent registered public accounting firm, Deloitte & Touche LLP, has issued their report on their audit of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting which is set forth below.

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of
MetLife, Inc.
New York, New York

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of MetLife, Inc. and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2015, based on criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Company’s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management’s Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company’s internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the company’s principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the company’s board of directors, management, and other personnel to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company’s internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company’s assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, based on the criteria established in Internal Control — Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, of the Company and our report dated February 24, 2016 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP
New York, New York
February 24, 2016

Table of Contents

Financial Statements and Supplementary Data
Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes

Table of Contents

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of
MetLife, Inc.
New York, New York

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of MetLife, Inc. and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income (loss), equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of MetLife, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, based on the criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, and our report, dated February 24, 2016 expressed an unqualified opinion on the Company’s internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP
New York, New York
February 24, 2016

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.
Consolidated Balance Sheets
December 31, 2015 and 2014
(In millions, except share and per share data)

	2015	2014
Assets		
Investments:		
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale, at estimated fair value (amortized cost: $332,964 and $334,780, respectively; includes $4,277 and $4,266, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	$351,402	$365,425
Equity securities available-for-sale, at estimated fair value (cost: $2,997 and $3,076, respectively)	3,321	3,631
Fair value option and trading securities, at estimated fair value (includes $404 and $704, respectively, of actively traded securities; and $13 and $60, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	15,024	16,689
Mortgage loans (net of valuation allowances of $318 and $305, respectively; includes $172 and $280, respectively, at estimated fair value, relating to variable interest entities; includes $314 and $308, respectively, under the fair value option)	67,102	60,118
Policy loans (includes $4 and $3, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	11,258	11,618
Real estate and real estate joint ventures (includes $0 and $8, respectively, relating to variable interest entities; includes $47 and $172, respectively, of real estate held-for-sale)	8,433	10,525
Other limited partnership interests (includes $27 and $34, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	7,096	8,085
Short-term investments, principally at estimated fair value (includes $26 and $20, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	9,299	8,621
Other invested assets, principally at estimated fair value (includes $43 and $56, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	22,524	21,283
Total investments	495,459	505,995
Cash and cash equivalents, principally at estimated fair value (includes $85 and $57, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	12,752	10,808
Accrued investment income (includes $23 and $21, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	3,988	4,120
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables (includes $21 and $21, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	22,702	22,244
Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired (includes $240 and $235, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	24,130	24,442
Current income tax recoverable	161	—
Goodwill	9,477	9,872
Other assets (includes $148 and $134, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	7,666	7,862
Separate account assets (includes $1,022 and $1,128, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	301,598	316,994
Total assets	$877,933	$902,337
Liabilities and Equity		
Liabilities		
Future policy benefits (includes $716 and $579, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	$191,879	$189,586
Policyholder account balances (includes $21 and $33, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	202,722	209,294
	14,255	14,422

Other policy-related balances (includes $238 and $198, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)		
Policyholder dividends payable	720	684
Policyholder dividend obligation	1,783	3,155
Payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions	36,871	35,326
Short-term debt	100	100
Long-term debt (includes $63 and $151, respectively, at estimated fair value, relating to variable interest entities)	18,023	16,286
Collateral financing arrangements	4,139	4,196
Junior subordinated debt securities	3,194	3,193
Current income tax payable	—	184
Deferred income tax liability	10,592	11,821
Other liabilities (includes $81 and $80, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	23,561	24,437
Separate account liabilities (includes $1,022 and $1,128, respectively, relating to variable interest entities)	301,598	316,994
Total liabilities	809,437	829,678
Contingencies, Commitments and Guarantees (Note 21)		
Redeemable noncontrolling interests in partially owned consolidated subsidiaries	77	99
Equity		
MetLife, Inc.’s stockholders’ equity:		
Preferred stock, par value $0.01 per share; $2,100 aggregate liquidation preference	—	1
Common stock, par value $0.01 per share; 3,000,000,000 shares authorized; 1,159,590,766 and 1,153,998,144 shares issued, respectively; 1,098,028,525 and 1,131,927,894 shares outstanding, respectively	12	12
Additional paid-in capital	30,749	30,543
Retained earnings	35,519	32,020
Treasury stock, at cost; 61,562,241 and 22,070,250 shares, respectively	(3,102)	(1,172)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	4,771	10,649
Total MetLife, Inc.’s stockholders’ equity	67,949	72,053
Noncontrolling interests	470	507
Total equity	68,419	72,560
Total liabilities and equity	$877,933	$902,337

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Operations
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013
(In millions, except per share data)

	2015	2014	2013
Revenues			
Premiums	$38,545	$39,067	$37,674
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	9,507	9,946	9,451
Net investment income	19,281	21,153	22,232
Other revenues	1,983	2,030	1,920
Net investment gains (losses):			
Other-than-temporary impairments on fixed maturity securities	(84)	(43)	(106)
Other-than-temporary impairments on fixed maturity securities transferred to other comprehensive income (loss)	(6)	(17)	(60)
Other net investment gains (losses)	687	(137)	327
Total net investment gains (losses)	597	(197)	161
Net derivative gains (losses)	38	1,317	(3,239)
Total revenues	69,951	73,316	68,199
Expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims	38,714	39,102	38,107
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	5,610	6,943	8,179
Policyholder dividends	1,388	1,376	1,259
Other expenses	16,769	17,091	16,602
Total expenses	62,481	64,512	64,147
Income (loss) from continuing operations before provision for income tax	7,470	8,804	4,052
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	2,148	2,465	661
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax	5,322	6,339	3,391
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income tax	—	(3)	2
Net income (loss)	5,322	6,336	3,393
Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	12	27	25
Net income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	5,310	6,309	3,368
Less: Preferred stock dividends	116	122	122
Preferred stock repurchase premium	42	—	—
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders	$5,152	$6,187	$3,246
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax, available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders per common share:			
Basic	$4.61	$5.48	$2.94
Diluted	$4.57	$5.42	$2.91
Net income (loss) available to MetLife, Inc.'s common shareholders per common share:			
Basic	$4.61	$5.48	$2.94
Diluted	$4.57	$5.42	$2.91
Cash dividends declared per common share	$1.475	$1.325	$1.010

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss)
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013
(In millions)

	2015	2014	2013
Net income (loss) (1)	$5,322	$6,336	$3,393
Other comprehensive income (loss):			
Unrealized investment gains (losses), net of related offsets	(7,443)	10,103	(8,086)
Unrealized gains (losses) on derivatives	589	1,386	(899)
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(1,624)	(1,444)	(975)
Defined benefit plans adjustment	354	(970)	1,292
Other comprehensive income (loss), before income tax	(8,124)	9,075	(8,668)
Income tax (expense) benefit related to items of other comprehensive income (loss)	2,266	(3,528)	2,329
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of income tax	(5,858)	5,547	(6,339)
Comprehensive income (loss)	(536)	11,883	(2,946)
Less: Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest, net of income tax	32	29	(21)
Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	$(568)	$11,854	$(2,925)

(1) Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests excludes losses of redeemable noncontrolling interests of less than $1 million for the year ended December 31, 2015. Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests excludes gains of redeemable noncontrolling interests of less than $1 million for each of the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Equity
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013
(In millions)

	Preferred Stock	Common Stock	Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock at Cost	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total MetLife, Inc.'s Stockholders' Equity	Noncontrolling Interests (1)	Total Equity
Balance at December 31, 2012	$ 1	$ 11	$ 28,011	$ 25,205	$ (172)	$ 11,397	$ 64,453	$ 384	$ 64,837
Common stock issuance			1,000				1,000		1,000
Stock-based compensation			305				305		305
Dividends on preferred stock				(122)			(122)		(122)
Dividends on common stock				(1,119)			(1,119)		(1,119)
Change in equity of noncontrolling interests			(39)				(39)	180	141
Net income (loss)				3,368			3,368	25	3,393
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of income tax						(6,293)	(6,293)	(46)	(6,339)
Balance at December 31, 2013	1	11	29,277	27,332	(172)	5,104	61,553	543	62,096
Treasury stock acquired in connection with share repurchases					(1,000)		(1,000)		(1,000)
Common stock issuance		1	999				1,000		1,000
Stock-based compensation			267				267		267
Dividends on preferred stock				(122)			(122)		(122)
Dividends on common stock				(1,499)			(1,499)		(1,499)
Change in equity of noncontrolling interests							—	(65)	(65)
Net income (loss)				6,309			6,309	27	6,336
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of income tax						5,545	5,545	2	5,547
Balance at December 31, 2014	1	12	30,543	32,020	(1,172)	10,649	72,053	507	72,560
Repurchase of preferred stock	(1)		(1,459)				(1,460)		(1,460)
Preferred stock repurchase premium				(42)			(42)		(42)
Preferred stock issuance			1,483				1,483		1,483

Treasury stock acquired in connection with share repurchases					(1,930)		(1,930)		(1,930)
Stock-based compensation			182				182		182
Dividends on preferred stock				(116)			(116)		(116)
Dividends on common stock				(1,653)			(1,653)		(1,653)
Change in equity of noncontrolling interests							—	(69)	(69)
Net income (loss)				5,310			5,310	12	5,322
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of income tax						(5,878)	(5,878)	20	(5,858)
Balance at December 31, 2015	$ —	$ 12	$ 30,749	$ 35,519	$ (3,102)	$ 4,771	$ 67,949	$ 470	$ 68,419

____

(1) Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests excludes losses of redeemable noncontrolling interests of less than $1 million for the year ended December 31, 2015. Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests excludes gains of redeemable noncontrolling interests of less than $1 million for each of the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013
(In millions)

	2015	2014	2013
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net income (loss)	$5,322	$6,336	$3,393
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization expenses	693	713	714
Amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts associated with investments, net	(1,141)	(611)	(167)
(Gains) losses on investments and from sales of businesses, net	(597)	202	(155)
(Gains) losses on derivatives, net	1,451	(21)	5,122
(Income) loss from equity method investments, net of dividends or distributions	481	327	99
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	5,610	6,943	8,179
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	(9,507)	(9,946)	(9,451)
Change in fair value option and trading securities	784	(739)	(1,433)
Change in residential mortgage loans held-for-sale, net	—	—	373
Change in accrued investment income	138	207	293
Change in premiums, reinsurance and other receivables	(837)	(650)	(582)
Change in deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired, net	491	1,134	(920)
Change in income tax	825	2,075	871
Change in other assets	2,752	2,573	1,767
Change in insurance-related liabilities and policy-related balances	6,366	5,847	6,897
Change in other liabilities	1,134	1,885	1,008
Other, net	164	101	123
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	14,129	16,376	16,131
Cash flows from investing activities			
Sales, maturities and repayments of:			
Fixed maturity securities	146,732	118,526	117,523
Equity securities	1,117	490	725
Mortgage loans	12,647	14,128	12,881
Real estate and real estate joint ventures	3,256	1,012	356
Other limited partnership interests	1,827	823	807
Purchases of:			
Fixed maturity securities	(148,799)	(130,197)	(117,826)
Equity securities	(996)	(530)	(943)
Mortgage loans	(20,449)	(17,464)	(14,677)
Real estate and real estate joint ventures	(1,298)	(2,282)	(1,880)
Other limited partnership interests	(1,429)	(1,764)	(1,356)
Cash received in connection with freestanding derivatives	2,690	1,760	1,567
Cash paid in connection with freestanding derivatives	(4,211)	(4,003)	(6,710)
Cash received under repurchase agreements	199	—	—
Cash paid under repurchase agreements	(199)	—	—
Cash received under reverse repurchase agreements	199	—	—
Cash paid under reverse repurchase agreements	(199)	—	—
Sales of businesses, net of cash and cash equivalents disposed of $0, $323 and $14, respectively	—	436	393

Sale of bank deposits	—	—	(6,395)
Purchases of businesses, net of cash and cash equivalents acquired of $0, $0 and $20, respectively	—	—	(1,840)
Purchases of investments in insurance joint ventures	—	(277)	—
Net change in policy loans	287	(27)	(112)
Net change in short-term investments	(777)	5,167	2,955
Net change in other invested assets	(936)	(512)	(547)
Other, net	(59)	(341)	(86)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	$(10,398)	$(15,055)	$(15,165)

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows — (continued)
For the Years Ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013
(In millions)

	2015	2014	2013
Cash flows from financing activities			
Policyholder account balances:			
Deposits	$92,904	$89,520	$79,193
Withdrawals	(94,621)	(88,037)	(84,874)
Net change in payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions	1,544	5,031	(3,276)
Net change in short-term debt	—	(75)	75
Long-term debt issued	3,893	1,000	1,372
Long-term debt repaid	(1,438)	(2,862)	(1,746)
Collateral financing arrangements repaid	(57)	—	—
Cash received in connection with redeemable noncontrolling interests	—	—	774
Common stock issued, net of issuance costs	—	1,000	1,000
Treasury stock acquired in connection with share repurchases	(1,930)	(1,000)	—
Preferred stock issued, net of issuance costs	1,483	—	—
Repurchase of preferred stock	(1,460)	—	—
Preferred stock repurchase premium	(42)	—	—
Dividends on preferred stock	(116)	(122)	(122)
Dividends on common stock	(1,653)	(1,499)	(1,119)
Other, net	198	(700)	(184)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(1,295)	2,256	(8,907)
Effect of change in foreign currency exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents balances	(492)	(354)	(212)
Change in cash and cash equivalents	1,944	3,223	(8,153)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	10,808	7,585	15,738
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	$12,752	$10,808	$7,585
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:			
Net cash paid (received) for:			
Interest	$1,178	$1,213	$1,270
Income tax	$1,127	$748	$677
Non-cash transactions:			
Business acquisitions:			
Assets acquired	$—	$—	$2,988
Liabilities assumed	—	—	(972)
Noncontrolling interests assumed	—	—	(176)
Cash paid, excluding transaction costs of $0, $0 and $17, respectively	$—	$—	$1,840
Fixed maturity securities received in connection with pension risk transfer transactions	$903	$—	$—
Deconsolidation of real estate investment vehicles:			
Reduction of redeemable noncontrolling interests	$—	$774	$—
Reduction of long-term debt	$571	$413	$—
Reduction of real estate and real estate joint ventures	$688	$1,132	$—

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Business, Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies
Business
"MetLife" and the "Company" refer to MetLife, Inc., a Delaware corporation incorporated in 1999, its subsidiaries and affiliates. MetLife is a global provider of life insurance, annuities, employee benefits and asset management. MetLife is organized into six segments: Retail; Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits; Corporate Benefit Funding; and Latin America (collectively, the "Americas"); Asia; and Europe, the Middle East and Africa ("EMEA").
Basis of Presentation
The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") requires management to adopt accounting policies and make estimates and assumptions that affect amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements. In applying these policies and estimates, management makes subjective and complex judgments that frequently require assumptions about matters that are inherently uncertain. Many of these policies, estimates and related judgments are common in the insurance and financial services industries; others are specific to the Company's business and operations. Actual results could differ from estimates.
Consolidation
The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of MetLife, Inc. and its subsidiaries, as well as partnerships and joint ventures in which the Company has control, and variable interest entities ("VIEs") for which the Company is the primary beneficiary. Intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.
Certain international subsidiaries have a fiscal year cutoff of November 30th. Accordingly, the Company's consolidated financial statements reflect the assets and liabilities of such subsidiaries as of November 30, 2015 and 2014 and the operating results of such subsidiaries for the years ended November 30, 2015, 2014 and 2013.
Discontinued Operations
The results of operations of a component of the Company that has either been disposed of or is classified as held-for-sale are reported in discontinued operations if certain criteria are met. Effective January 1, 2014, the Company adopted new guidance regarding reporting of discontinued operations for disposals or classifications as held-for-sale that have not been previously reported in the consolidated financial statements. A disposal of a component is reported in discontinued operations if the disposal represents a strategic shift that has or will have a major effect on the Company's operations and financial results. See "— Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements."
Separate Accounts
Separate accounts are established in conformity with insurance laws. Generally, the assets of the separate accounts cannot be used to settle the liabilities that arise from any other business of the Company. Separate account assets are subject to general account claims only to the extent the value of such assets exceeds the separate account liabilities.
The Company reports separately, as assets and liabilities, investments held in separate accounts and liabilities of the separate accounts if:
- such separate accounts are legally recognized;
- assets supporting the contract liabilities are legally insulated from the Company's general account liabilities;
- investments are directed by the contractholder; and
- all investment performance, net of contract fees and assessments, is passed through to the contractholder.

The Company reports separate account assets at their fair value which is based on the estimated fair values of the underlying assets comprising the individual separate account portfolios. Investment performance (including investment income, net investment gains (losses) and changes in unrealized gains (losses)) and the corresponding amounts credited to contractholders of such separate accounts are offset within the same line in the statements of operations. Separate accounts credited with a contractual investment return are combined on a line-by-line basis with the Company's general account assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the accounting for these investments is consistent with the methodologies described herein for similar financial instruments held within the general account.
Unit-linked separate account investments that are directed by contractholders but do not meet one or more of the other

above criteria are included in fair value option ("FVO") and trading securities.

The Company's revenues reflect fees charged to the separate accounts, including mortality charges, risk charges, policy administration fees, investment management fees and surrender charges. Such fees are included in universal life and investment-type product policy fees in the statements of operations.

Reclassifications

Certain amounts in the prior years' consolidated financial statements and related footnotes thereto have been reclassified to conform with the current year presentation as discussed throughout the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The following are the Company's significant accounting policies with references to notes providing additional information on such policies and critical accounting estimates relating to such policies.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
1. Business, Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Accounting Policy	Note
Insurance	4
Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs, Value of Business Acquired and Other Intangibles	5
Reinsurance	6
Investments	8
Derivatives	9
Fair Value	10
Goodwill	11
Employee Benefit Plans	18
Income Tax	19
Litigation Contingencies	21

Insurance

Future Policy Benefit Liabilities and Policyholder Account Balances

The Company establishes liabilities for amounts payable under insurance policies. Generally, amounts are payable over an extended period of time and related liabilities are calculated as the present value of future expected benefits to be paid reduced by the present value of future expected premiums. Such liabilities are established based on methods and underlying assumptions in accordance with GAAP and applicable actuarial standards. Principal assumptions used in the establishment of liabilities for future policy benefits are mortality, morbidity, policy lapse, renewal, retirement, disability incidence, disability terminations, investment returns, inflation, expenses and other contingent events as appropriate to the respective product type and geographical area. These assumptions are established at the time the policy is issued and are intended to estimate the experience for the period the policy benefits are payable. Utilizing these assumptions, liabilities are established on a block of business basis. For long duration insurance contracts, assumptions such as mortality, morbidity and interest rates are "locked in" upon the issuance of new business. However, significant adverse changes in experience on such contracts may require the establishment of premium deficiency reserves. Such reserves are determined based on the then current assumptions and do not include a provision for adverse deviation.

Premium deficiency reserves may also be established for short duration contracts to provide for expected future losses. These reserves are based on actuarial estimates of the amount of loss inherent in that period, including losses incurred for which claims have not been reported. The provisions for unreported claims are calculated using studies that measure the historical length of time between the incurred date of a claim and its eventual reporting to the Company. Anticipated investment income is considered in the calculation of premium deficiency losses for short duration contracts.

Liabilities for universal and variable life policies with secondary guarantees ("ULSG") and paid-up guarantees are determined by estimating the expected value of death benefits payable when the account balance is projected to be zero and recognizing those benefits ratably over the accumulation period based on total expected assessments. The assumptions used in estimating the secondary and paid-up guarantee liabilities are consistent with those used for amortizing deferred policy acquisition costs ("DAC"), and are thus subject to the same variability and risk as further discussed herein. The assumptions of investment performance and volatility for variable products are consistent with historical experience of appropriate underlying equity indices, such as the Standard & Poor's Ratings Services ("S&P") 500 Index. The benefits used in calculating the liabilities are based on the average benefits payable over a range of scenarios.

The Company regularly reviews its estimates of liabilities for future policy benefits and compares them with its actual experience. Differences result in changes to the liability balances with related charges or credits to benefit expenses in the period in which the changes occur.

Policyholder account balances relate to contract or contract features where the Company has no significant insurance risk.

The Company issues directly and assumes through reinsurance certain variable annuity products with guaranteed minimum benefits that provide the policyholder a minimum return based on their initial deposit (i.e., the benefit base) less withdrawals. These guarantees are accounted for as insurance liabilities or as embedded derivatives depending on how and when the benefit is paid. Specifically, a guarantee is accounted for as an embedded derivative if a guarantee is paid without requiring (i) the occurrence of specific insurable event, or (ii) the policyholder to annuitize. Alternatively, a guarantee is accounted for as an insurance liability if the guarantee is paid only upon either (i) the occurrence of a specific insurable event, or (ii) annuitization. In certain cases, a guarantee may have elements of both an insurance liability and an embedded derivative and in such cases the guarantee is split and accounted for under both models.

Guarantees accounted for as insurance liabilities in future policy benefits include guaranteed minimum death benefits (“GMDBs”), the portion of guaranteed minimum income benefits (“GMIBs”) that require annuitization, and the life-contingent portion of guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits (“GMWBs”).

Guarantees accounted for as embedded derivatives in policyholder account balances include the non life-contingent portion of GMWBs, guaranteed minimum accumulation benefits (“GMABs”) and the portion of GMIBs that do not require annuitization. At inception, the Company attributes to the embedded derivative a portion of the projected future guarantee fees to be collected from the policyholder equal to the present value of projected future guaranteed benefits. Any additional fees represent “excess” fees and are reported in universal life and investment-type product policy fees.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
1. Business, Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Other Policy-Related Balances
Other policy-related balances include policy and contract claims, unearned revenue liabilities, premiums received in advance, policyholder dividends due and unpaid, policyholder dividends left on deposit and negative value of business acquired.
The liability for policy and contract claims generally relates to incurred but not reported death, disability, long-term care and dental claims, as well as claims which have been reported but not yet settled. The liability for these claims is based on the Company's estimated ultimate cost of settling all claims. The Company derives estimates for the development of incurred but not reported claims principally from analyses of historical patterns of claims by business line. The methods used to determine these estimates are continually reviewed. Adjustments resulting from this continuous review process and differences between estimates and payments for claims are recognized in policyholder benefits and claims expense in the period in which the estimates are changed or payments are made.
The unearned revenue liability relates to universal life-type and investment-type products and represents policy charges for services to be provided in future periods. The charges are deferred as unearned revenue and amortized using the product's estimated gross profits and margins, similar to DAC as discussed further herein. Such amortization is recorded in universal life and investment-type product policy fees.
The Company accounts for the prepayment of premiums on its individual life, group life and health contracts as premiums received in advance and applies the cash received to premiums when due.
See "— Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs, Value of Business Acquired and Other Intangibles" for a discussion of negative value of business acquired.
Recognition of Insurance Revenues and Deposits
Premiums related to traditional life, annuity contracts with life contingencies, long-duration accident & health, and credit insurance policies are recognized as revenues when due from policyholders. Policyholder benefits and expenses are provided to recognize profits over the estimated lives of the insurance policies. When premiums are due over a significantly shorter period than the period over which benefits are provided, any excess profit is deferred and recognized into earnings in a constant relationship to insurance in-force or, for annuities, the amount of expected future policy benefit payments.
Premiums related to short-duration non-medical health and disability, accident & health, and certain credit insurance contracts are recognized on a pro rata basis over the applicable contract term.
Deposits related to universal life-type and investment-type products are credited to policyholder account balances. Revenues from such contracts consist of fees for mortality, policy administration and surrender charges and are recorded in universal life and investment-type product policy fees in the period in which services are provided. Amounts that are charged to earnings include interest credited and benefit claims incurred in excess of related policyholder account balances.
Premiums related to property & casualty contracts are recognized as revenue on a pro rata basis over the applicable contract term. Unearned premiums, representing the portion of premium written related to the unexpired coverage, are also included in future policy benefits.
Premiums, policy fees, policyholder benefits and expenses are presented net of reinsurance.
Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs, Value of Business Acquired and Other Intangibles
The Company incurs significant costs in connection with acquiring new and renewal insurance business. Costs that are related directly to the successful acquisition or renewal of insurance contracts are capitalized as DAC. Such costs include:

- incremental direct costs of contract acquisition, such as commissions;
- the portion of an employee's total compensation and benefits related to time spent selling, underwriting or processing the issuance of new and renewal insurance business only with respect to actual policies acquired or renewed;
- other essential direct costs that would not have been incurred had a policy not been acquired or renewed; and
-

the costs of direct-response advertising, the primary purpose of which is to elicit sales to customers who could be shown to have responded specifically to the advertising and that results in probable future benefits.

All other acquisition-related costs, including those related to general advertising and solicitation, market research, agent training, product development, unsuccessful sales and underwriting efforts, as well as all indirect costs, are expensed as incurred.

Value of business acquired ("VOBA") is an intangible asset resulting from a business combination that represents the excess of book value over the estimated fair value of acquired insurance, annuity, and investment-type contracts in-force at the acquisition date. The estimated fair value of the acquired liabilities is based on projections, by each block of business, of future policy and contract charges, premiums, mortality and morbidity, separate account performance, surrenders, operating expenses, investment returns, nonperformance risk adjustment and other factors. Actual experience on the purchased business may vary from these projections.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
1. Business, Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

DAC and VOBA are amortized as follows:

Products:	In proportion to the following over estimated lives of the contracts:
• Nonparticipating and non-dividend-paying traditional contracts:	Actual and expected future gross premiums.
• Term insurance	
• Nonparticipating whole life insurance	
• Traditional group life insurance	
• Non-medical health insurance	
• Accident & health insurance	
• Participating, dividend-paying traditional contracts	Actual and expected future gross margins.
• Fixed and variable universal life contracts	Actual and expected future gross profits.
• Fixed and variable deferred annuity contracts	
• Credit insurance contracts	Actual and future earned premiums.
• Property & casualty insurance contracts	
• Other short-duration contracts	

See Note 5 for additional information on DAC and VOBA amortization. Amortization of DAC and VOBA is included in other expenses.
The recovery of DAC and VOBA is dependent upon the future profitability of the related business. DAC and VOBA are aggregated in the financial statements for reporting purposes.
The Company generally has two different types of sales inducements which are included in other assets: (i) the policyholder receives a bonus whereby the policyholder's initial account balance is increased by an amount equal to a specified percentage of the customer's deposit; and (ii) the policyholder receives a higher interest rate using a dollar cost averaging method than would have been received based on the normal general account interest rate credited. The Company defers sales inducements and amortizes them over the life of the policy using the same methodology and assumptions used to amortize DAC. The amortization of sales inducements is included in policyholder benefits and claims. Each year, or more frequently if circumstances indicate a potential recoverability issue exists, the Company reviews deferred sales inducements ("DSI") to determine the recoverability of the asset.
Value of distribution agreements acquired ("VODA") is reported in other assets and represents the present value of expected future profits associated with the expected future business derived from the distribution agreements acquired as part of a business combination. Value of customer relationships acquired ("VOCRA") is also reported in other assets and represents the present value of the expected future profits associated with the expected future business acquired through existing customers of the acquired company or business. The VODA and VOCRA associated with past business combinations are amortized over useful lives ranging from 10 to 40 years and such amortization is included in other expenses. Each year, or more frequently if circumstances indicate a possible impairment exists, the Company

reviews VODA and VOCRA to determine whether the asset is impaired.

For certain acquired blocks of business, the estimated fair value of the in-force contract obligations exceeded the book value of assumed in-force insurance policy liabilities, resulting in negative VOBA, which is presented separately from VOBA as an additional insurance liability. The fair value of the in-force contract obligations is based on projections by each block of business. Negative VOBA is amortized over the policy period in proportion to the approximate consumption of losses included in the liability usually expressed in terms of insurance in-force or account value. Such amortization is recorded as a contra-expense in other expenses.

Reinsurance

For each of its reinsurance agreements, the Company determines whether the agreement provides indemnification against loss or liability relating to insurance risk in accordance with applicable accounting standards. Cessions under reinsurance agreements do not discharge the Company's obligations as the primary insurer. The Company reviews all contractual features, including those that may limit the amount of insurance risk to which the reinsurer is subject or features that delay the timely reimbursement of claims.

For reinsurance of existing in-force blocks of long-duration contracts that transfer significant insurance risk, the difference, if any, between the amounts paid (received), and the liabilities ceded (assumed) related to the underlying contracts is considered the net cost of reinsurance at the inception of the reinsurance agreement. The net cost of reinsurance is recorded as an adjustment to DAC and recognized as a component of other expenses on a basis consistent with the way the acquisition costs on the underlying reinsured contracts would be recognized. Subsequent amounts paid (received) on the reinsurance of in-force blocks, as well as amounts paid (received) related to new business, are recorded as ceded (assumed) premiums; and ceded (assumed) premiums, reinsurance and other receivables (future policy benefits) are established.

For prospective reinsurance of short-duration contracts that meet the criteria for reinsurance accounting, amounts paid (received) are recorded as ceded (assumed) premiums and ceded (assumed) unearned premiums. Unearned premiums are reflected as a component of premiums, reinsurance and other receivables (future policy benefits). Such amounts are amortized through earned premiums over the remaining contract period in proportion to the amount of insurance protection provided. For retroactive reinsurance of short-duration contracts that meet the criteria of reinsurance accounting, amounts paid (received) in excess of the related insurance liabilities ceded (assumed) are recognized immediately as a loss and are reported in the appropriate line item within the statement of operations. Any gain on such retroactive agreement is deferred and is amortized as part of DAC, primarily using the recovery method.

Amounts currently recoverable under reinsurance agreements are included in premiums, reinsurance and other receivables and amounts currently payable are included in other liabilities. Assets and liabilities relating to reinsurance agreements with the same reinsurer may be recorded net on the balance sheet, if a right of offset exists within the reinsurance agreement. In the event that reinsurers do not meet their obligations to the Company under the terms of the reinsurance agreements, reinsurance recoverable balances could become uncollectible. In such instances, reinsurance recoverable balances are stated net of allowances for uncollectible reinsurance.

Premiums, fees and policyholder benefits and claims include amounts assumed under reinsurance agreements and are net of reinsurance ceded. Amounts received from reinsurers for policy administration are reported in other revenues. With respect to GMIBs, a portion of the directly written GMIBs are accounted for as insurance liabilities, but the associated reinsurance agreements contain embedded derivatives. These embedded derivatives are included in premiums, reinsurance and other receivables with changes in estimated fair value reported in policyholder benefits and claims.

If the Company determines that a reinsurance agreement does not expose the reinsurer to a reasonable possibility of a significant loss from insurance risk, the Company records the agreement using the deposit method of accounting. Deposits received are included in other liabilities and deposits made are included within premiums, reinsurance and other receivables. As amounts are paid or received, consistent with the underlying contracts, the deposit assets or liabilities are adjusted. Interest on such deposits is recorded as other revenues or other expenses, as appropriate. Periodically, the Company evaluates the adequacy of the expected payments or recoveries and adjusts the deposit asset or liability through other revenues or other expenses, as appropriate.

Investments

Net Investment Income and Net Investment Gains (Losses)

Income from investments is reported within net investment income, unless otherwise stated herein. Gains and losses on sales of investments, impairment losses and changes in valuation allowances are reported within net investment gains (losses), unless otherwise stated herein.

Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities

The majority of the Company’s fixed maturity and equity securities are classified as available-for-sale (“AFS”) and are reported at their estimated fair value. Unrealized investment gains and losses on these securities are recorded as a separate component of other comprehensive income (loss) (“OCI”), net of policy-related amounts and deferred income taxes. All security transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Investment gains and losses on sales are determined on a specific identification basis.

Interest income and prepayment fees are recognized when earned. Interest income is recognized using an effective yield method giving effect to amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts. Dividends on equity securities are recognized when declared.

The Company periodically evaluates fixed maturity and equity securities for impairment. The assessment of whether impairments have occurred is based on management’s case-by-case evaluation of the underlying reasons for the decline in estimated fair value, as well as an analysis of the gross unrealized losses by severity and/or age as described in Note 8 “— Evaluation of AFS Securities for OTTI and Evaluating Temporarily Impaired AFS Securities.”

For fixed maturity securities in an unrealized loss position, an other-than-temporary impairment (“OTTI”) is recognized in earnings when it is anticipated that the amortized cost will not be recovered. When either: (i) the Company has the intent to sell the security; or (ii) it is more likely than not that the Company will be required to sell the security before recovery, the OTTI recognized in earnings is the entire difference between the security’s amortized cost and estimated fair value. If neither of these conditions exists, the difference between the amortized cost of the security and the present value of projected future cash flows expected to be collected is recognized as an OTTI in earnings (“credit loss”). If the estimated fair value is less than the present value of projected future cash flows expected to be collected, this portion of OTTI related to other-than-credit factors (“noncredit loss”) is recorded in OCI.

With respect to equity securities, the Company considers in its OTTI analysis its intent and ability to hold a particular equity security for a period of time sufficient to allow for the recovery of its estimated fair value to an amount equal to or greater than cost. If a sale decision is made for an equity security and recovery to an amount at least equal to cost prior to the sale is not expected, the security will be deemed to be other-than-temporarily impaired in the period that the sale decision was made and an OTTI loss will be recorded in earnings. The OTTI loss recognized is the entire difference between the security's cost and its estimated fair value.

FVO and Trading Securities

FVO and trading securities are stated at estimated fair value and include investments for which the FVO has been elected ("FVO Securities") and investments that are actively purchased and sold ("Actively traded securities"). FVO Securities include:

- fixed maturity and equity securities held-for-investment by the general account to support asset and liability management strategies for certain insurance products and investments in certain separate accounts ("FVO general account securities"); and
- contractholder-directed investments supporting unit-linked variable annuity type liabilities which do not qualify for presentation and reporting as separate account summary total assets and liabilities. These investments are primarily mutual funds and, to a lesser extent, fixed maturity and equity securities, short-term investments and cash and cash equivalents. The investment returns on these investments inure to contractholders and are offset by a corresponding change in Policyholder account balances through interest credited to policyholder account balances ("FVO contractholder-directed unit-linked investments").

Actively traded securities principally include fixed maturity securities and short sale agreement liabilities, which are included in other liabilities.

Changes in estimated fair value of these securities are included in net investment income, except for certain securities included in FVO Securities where changes are included in net investment gains (losses).

Mortgage Loans

The Company disaggregates its mortgage loan investments into three portfolio segments: commercial, agricultural and residential. The accounting policies that are applicable to all portfolio segments are presented below and the accounting policies related to each of the portfolio segments are included in Note 8.

Mortgage Loans Held-For-Investment

Mortgage loans held-for-investment are stated at unpaid principal balance, adjusted for any unamortized premium or discount, deferred fees or expenses, and are net of valuation allowances. Interest income and prepayment fees are recognized when earned. Interest income is recognized using an effective yield method giving effect to amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts.

Also included in mortgage loans held-for-investment are commercial mortgage loans held by consolidated securitization entities (“CSEs”) and residential mortgage loans for which the FVO was elected, which are stated at estimated fair value. Changes in estimated fair value are recognized in net investment gains (losses) for commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs — FVO, and net investment income for residential mortgage loans — FVO.

Mortgage Loans Held-For-Sale

Mortgage loans held-for-sale that were previously designated as held-for-investment and mortgage loans originated with the intent to sell for which FVO was not elected, are stated at the lower of amortized cost or estimated fair value.

Policy Loans

Policy loans are stated at unpaid principal balances. Interest income is recorded as earned using the contractual interest rate. Generally, accrued interest is capitalized on the policy’s anniversary date. Valuation allowances are not established for policy loans, as they are fully collateralized by the cash surrender value of the underlying insurance policies. Any unpaid principal and accrued interest is deducted from the cash surrender value or the death benefit prior to settlement of the insurance policy.

Real Estate

Real estate held-for-investment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is recorded on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset (typically 20 to 55 years). Rental income is recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the respective leases. The Company periodically reviews its real estate held-for-investment for impairment and tests for recoverability whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable and exceeds its estimated fair value. Properties whose carrying values are greater than their undiscounted cash flows are written down to their estimated fair value, which is generally computed using the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at a rate commensurate with the underlying risks.

Real estate for which the Company commits to a plan to sell within one year and actively markets in its current condition for a reasonable price in comparison to its estimated fair value is classified as held-for-sale. Real estate held-for-sale is stated at the lower of depreciated cost or estimated fair value less expected disposition costs and is not depreciated.

Real Estate Joint Ventures and Other Limited Partnership Interests

The Company uses the equity method of accounting for equity securities when it has significant influence or at least 20% interest and for real estate joint ventures and other limited partnership interests (“investees”) when it has more than a minor ownership interest or more than a minor influence over the investee’s operations, but does not have a controlling financial interest. The Company generally recognizes its share of the investee’s earnings on a three-month lag in instances where the investee’s financial information is not sufficiently timely or when the investee’s reporting period differs from the Company’s reporting period.

The Company uses the cost method of accounting for investments in which it has virtually no influence over the investee’s operations. The Company recognizes distributions on cost method investments as earned or received. Because of the nature and structure of these cost method investments, they do not meet the characteristics of an equity security in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

The Company routinely evaluates its equity method and cost method investments for impairment. For equity method investees, the Company considers financial and other information provided by the investee, other known information and inherent risks in the underlying investments, as well as future capital commitments, in determining whether an impairment has occurred. The Company considers its cost method investments for impairment when the carrying value of such investments exceeds the net asset value ("NAV"). The Company takes into consideration the severity and duration of this excess when determining whether the cost method investment is impaired.

Short-term Investments

Short-term investments include securities and other investments with remaining maturities of one year or less, but greater than three months, at the time of purchase and are stated at estimated fair value or amortized cost, which approximates estimated fair value.

Other Invested Assets

Other invested assets consist principally of the following:

- Freestanding derivatives with positive estimated fair values which are described in "— Derivatives" below.
- Tax credit and renewable energy partnerships which derive a significant source of investment return in the form of income tax credits or other tax incentives. Where tax credits are guaranteed by a creditworthy third party, the investment is accounted for under the effective yield method. Otherwise, the investment is accounted for under the equity method.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
1. Business, Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

- Leveraged leases which are recorded net of non-recourse debt. Income is recognized by applying the leveraged lease's estimated rate of return to the net investment in the lease. The Company regularly reviews residual values for impairment.
- Direct financing leases gross investment is equal to the minimum lease payments plus the unguaranteed residual value. Income is recorded by applying the pre-tax internal rate of return to the investment balance. The Company regularly reviews lease receivables for impairment. Certain direct financing leases are linked to inflation.
- Funds withheld represent a receivable for amounts contractually withheld by ceding companies in accordance with reinsurance agreements. The Company recognizes interest on funds withheld at rates defined by the terms of the agreement which may be contractually specified or directly related to the underlying investments.
- Investments in operating joint ventures that engage in insurance underwriting activities are accounted for under the equity method.

Securities Lending Program
Securities lending transactions, whereby blocks of securities are loaned to third parties, primarily brokerage firms and commercial banks, are treated as financing arrangements and the associated liability is recorded at the amount of cash received. The Company obtains collateral at the inception of the loan, usually cash, in an amount generally equal to 102% of the estimated fair value of the securities loaned, and maintains it at a level greater than or equal to 100% for the duration of the loan. Securities loaned under such transactions may be sold or re-pledged by the transferee. The Company is liable to return to the counterparties the cash collateral received. Security collateral on deposit from counterparties in connection with securities lending transactions may not be sold or re-pledged, unless the counterparty is in default, and is not reflected in the Company's financial statements. The Company monitors the estimated fair value of the securities loaned on a daily basis and additional collateral is obtained as necessary throughout the duration of the loan. Income and expenses associated with securities lending transactions are reported as investment income and investment expense, respectively, within net investment income.
Derivatives
Freestanding Derivatives
Freestanding derivatives are carried on the Company's balance sheet either as assets within other invested assets or as liabilities within other liabilities at estimated fair value. The Company does not offset the estimated fair value amounts recognized for derivatives executed with the same counterparty under the same master netting agreement.
Accruals on derivatives are generally recorded in accrued investment income or within other liabilities. However, accruals that are not scheduled to settle within one year are included with the derivatives carrying value in other invested assets or other liabilities.
If a derivative is not designated as an accounting hedge or its use in managing risk does not qualify for hedge accounting, changes in the estimated fair value of the derivative are reported in net derivative gains (losses) except as follows:

Statement of Operations Presentation:	Derivative:
Policyholder benefits and claims	• Economic hedges of variable annuity guarantees included in future policy benefits
Net investment income	• Economic hedges of equity method investments in joint ventures
	• All derivatives held in relation to trading portfolios
	• Derivatives held within contractholder-directed unit-linked investments

Hedge Accounting
To qualify for hedge accounting, at the inception of the hedging relationship, the Company formally documents its risk management objective and strategy for undertaking the hedging transaction, as well as its designation of the hedge. Hedge designation and financial statement presentation of changes in estimated fair value of the hedging derivatives are as follows:

- Fair value hedge (a hedge of the estimated fair value of a recognized asset or liability) - in net derivative gains (losses), consistent with the change in estimated fair value of the hedged item attributable to the designated risk being hedged.
- Cash flow hedge (a hedge of a forecasted transaction or of the variability of cash flows to be received or paid related to a recognized asset or liability) - effectiveness in OCI (deferred gains or losses on the derivative are reclassified into the statement of operations when the Company's earnings are affected by the variability in cash flows of the hedged item); ineffectiveness in net derivative gains (losses).
- Net investment in a foreign operation hedge - effectiveness in OCI, consistent with the translation adjustment for the hedged net investment in the foreign operation; ineffectiveness in net derivative gains (losses).

The changes in estimated fair values of the hedging derivatives are exclusive of any accruals that are separately reported on the statement of operations within interest income or interest expense to match the location of the hedged item. Accruals on derivatives in net investment hedges are recognized in OCI.

In its hedge documentation, the Company sets forth how the hedging instrument is expected to hedge the designated risks related to the hedged item and sets forth the method that will be used to retrospectively and prospectively assess the hedging instrument's effectiveness and the method that will be used to measure ineffectiveness. A derivative designated as a hedging instrument must be assessed as being highly effective in offsetting the designated risk of the hedged item. Hedge effectiveness is formally assessed at inception and at least quarterly throughout

Table of Contents

the life of the designated hedging relationship. Assessments of hedge effectiveness and measurements of ineffectiveness are also subject to interpretation and estimation and different interpretations or estimates may have a material effect on the amount reported in net income.

The Company discontinues hedge accounting prospectively when: (i) it is determined that the derivative is no longer highly effective in offsetting changes in the estimated fair value or cash flows of a hedged item; (ii) the derivative expires, is sold, terminated, or exercised; (iii) it is no longer probable that the hedged forecasted transaction will occur; or (iv) the derivative is de-designated as a hedging instrument.

When hedge accounting is discontinued because it is determined that the derivative is not highly effective in offsetting changes in the estimated fair value or cash flows of a hedged item, the derivative continues to be carried on the balance sheet at its estimated fair value, with changes in estimated fair value recognized in net derivative gains (losses). The carrying value of the hedged recognized asset or liability under a fair value hedge is no longer adjusted for changes in its estimated fair value due to the hedged risk, and the cumulative adjustment to its carrying value is amortized into income over the remaining life of the hedged item. Provided the hedged forecasted transaction is still probable of occurrence, the changes in estimated fair value of derivatives recorded in OCI related to discontinued cash flow hedges are released into the statement of operations when the Company’s earnings are affected by the variability in cash flows of the hedged item.

When hedge accounting is discontinued because it is no longer probable that the forecasted transactions will occur on the anticipated date or within two months of that date, the derivative continues to be carried on the balance sheet at its estimated fair value, with changes in estimated fair value recognized currently in net derivative gains (losses). Deferred gains and losses of a derivative recorded in OCI pursuant to the discontinued cash flow hedge of a forecasted transaction that is no longer probable are recognized immediately in net derivative gains (losses).

In all other situations in which hedge accounting is discontinued, the derivative is carried at its estimated fair value on the balance sheet, with changes in its estimated fair value recognized in the current period as net derivative gains (losses).

Embedded Derivatives

The Company sells variable annuities and issues certain insurance products and investment contracts and is a party to certain reinsurance agreements that have embedded derivatives. The Company assesses each identified embedded derivative to determine whether it is required to be bifurcated. The embedded derivative is bifurcated from the host contract and accounted for as a freestanding derivative if:

- the combined instrument is not accounted for in its entirety at estimated fair value with changes in estimated fair value recorded in earnings;
- the terms of the embedded derivative are not clearly and closely related to the economic characteristics of the host contract; and
- a separate instrument with the same terms as the embedded derivative would qualify as a derivative instrument.

Such embedded derivatives are carried on the balance sheet at estimated fair value with the host contract and changes in their estimated fair value are generally reported in net derivative gains (losses), except for those in policyholder benefits and claims related to ceded reinsurance of GMIB. If the Company is unable to properly identify and measure an embedded derivative for separation from its host contract, the entire contract is carried on the balance sheet at estimated fair value, with changes in estimated fair value recognized in the current period in net investment gains (losses) or net investment income. Additionally, the Company may elect to carry an entire contract on the balance sheet at estimated fair value, with changes in estimated fair value recognized in the current period in net investment gains (losses) or net investment income if that contract contains an embedded derivative that requires bifurcation. At inception, the Company attributes to the embedded derivative a portion of the projected future guarantee fees to be collected from the policyholder equal to the present value of projected future guaranteed benefits. Any additional fees represent “excess” fees and are reported in universal life and investment-type product policy fees.

Fair Value

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. In most cases, the exit price and the transaction (or entry) price will be the same at initial recognition.

Subsequent to initial recognition, fair values are based on unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that are readily and regularly obtainable. When such quoted prices are not available, fair values are based on quoted prices in markets that are not active, quoted prices for similar but not identical assets or liabilities, or other observable inputs. If these inputs are not available, or observable inputs are not determinable, unobservable inputs and/or adjustments to observable inputs requiring management judgment are used to determine the estimated fair value of assets and liabilities.

Goodwill

Goodwill represents the future economic benefits arising from net assets acquired in a business combination that are not individually identified and recognized. Goodwill is calculated as the excess of cost over the estimated fair value of such net assets acquired, is not amortized, and is tested for impairment based on a fair value approach at least annually or more frequently if events or circumstances indicate that there may be justification for conducting an interim test. The Company performs its annual goodwill impairment testing during the third quarter of each year based upon data as of the close of the second quarter. Goodwill associated with a business acquisition is not tested for impairment during the year the business is acquired unless there is a significant identified impairment event.

The impairment test is performed at the reporting unit level, which is the operating segment or a business one level below the operating segment, if discrete financial information is prepared and regularly reviewed by management at that level. For purposes of goodwill impairment testing, if the carrying value of a reporting unit exceeds its estimated fair value, there may be an indication of impairment. In such instances, the implied fair value of the goodwill is determined in the same manner as the amount of goodwill that would be determined in a business combination. The excess of the carrying value of goodwill over the implied fair value of goodwill would be recognized as an impairment and recorded as a charge against net income.

On an ongoing basis, the Company evaluates potential triggering events that may affect the estimated fair value of the Company's reporting units to assess whether any goodwill impairment exists. Deteriorating or adverse market conditions for certain reporting units may have a significant impact on the estimated fair value of these reporting units and could result in future impairments of goodwill.

Employee Benefit Plans

Certain subsidiaries of MetLife, Inc. sponsor and/or administer various plans that provide defined benefit pension and other postretirement benefits covering eligible employees and sales representatives. Measurement dates used for all of the subsidiaries' defined benefit pension and other postretirement benefit plans correspond with the fiscal year ends of sponsoring subsidiaries, which are December 31 for U.S. and most non-U.S. subsidiaries and November 30 for certain non-U.S. subsidiaries.

The Company recognizes the funded status of each of its defined pension and postretirement benefit plans, measured as the difference between the fair value of plan assets and the benefit obligation, which is the projected benefit obligation ("PBO") for pension benefits and the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation ("APBO") for other postretirement benefits in other assets or other liabilities.

Actuarial gains and losses result from differences between the actual experience and the assumed experience on plan assets or PBO during a particular period and are recorded in accumulated OCI ("AOCI"). To the extent such gains and losses exceed 10% of the greater of the PBO or the estimated fair value of plan assets, the excess is amortized into net periodic benefit costs over the average projected future service years of the active employees. In addition, prior service costs (credit) are recognized in AOCI at the time of the amendment and then amortized to net periodic benefit costs over the average projected future service years of the active employees affected by the change.

Net periodic benefit costs are determined using management estimates and actuarial assumptions and are comprised of service cost, interest cost, settlement and curtailment costs, expected return on plan assets, amortization of net actuarial (gains) losses, and amortization of prior service costs (credit). Fair value is used to determine the expected return on plan assets.

The subsidiaries also sponsor defined contribution plans for substantially all U.S. employees under which a portion of employee contributions is matched. Applicable matching contributions are made each payroll period. Accordingly, the Company recognizes compensation cost for current matching contributions. As all contributions are transferred currently as earned to the defined contribution plans, no liability for matching contributions is recognized in the balance sheets.

Income Tax

MetLife, Inc. and its includable life insurance and non-life insurance subsidiaries file a consolidated U.S. federal income tax return in accordance with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Non-includable subsidiaries file either separate individual corporate tax returns or separate consolidated tax returns.

The Company's accounting for income taxes represents management's best estimate of various events and transactions.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities resulting from temporary differences between the financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities are measured at the balance sheet date using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years the temporary differences are expected to reverse.

The realization of deferred tax assets depends upon the existence of sufficient taxable income within the carryback or carryforward periods under the tax law in the applicable tax jurisdiction. Valuation allowances are established when management determines, based on available information, that it is more likely than not that deferred income tax assets will not be realized. Significant judgment is required in determining whether valuation allowances should be established, as well as the amount of such allowances. When making such determination the Company considers many factors, including:

- the nature, frequency, and amount of cumulative financial reporting income and losses in recent years;
- the jurisdiction in which the deferred tax asset was generated;
- the length of time that carryforward can be utilized in the various taxing jurisdiction;

- future taxable income exclusive of reversing temporary differences and carryforwards;
- future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences;
- taxable income in prior carryback years; and
- tax planning strategies.

The Company may be required to change its provision for income taxes when estimates used in determining valuation allowances on deferred tax assets significantly change or when receipt of new information indicates the need for adjustment in valuation allowances. Additionally, the effect of changes in tax laws, tax regulations, or interpretations of such laws or regulations, is recognized in net income tax expense (benefit) in the period of change.

The Company determines whether it is more likely than not that a tax position will be sustained upon examination by the appropriate taxing authorities before any part of the benefit can be recorded in the financial statements. A tax position is measured at the largest amount of benefit that is greater than 50% likely of being realized upon settlement. Unrecognized tax benefits due to tax uncertainties that do not meet the threshold are included within other liabilities and are charged to earnings in the period that such determination is made.

The Company classifies interest recognized as interest expense and penalties recognized as a component of income tax expense.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
1. Business, Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Litigation Contingencies
The Company is a party to a number of legal actions and is involved in a number of regulatory investigations. Given the inherent unpredictability of these matters, it is difficult to estimate the impact on the Company's financial position. Liabilities are established when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Except as otherwise disclosed in Note 21, legal costs are recognized as incurred. On a quarterly and annual basis, the Company reviews relevant information with respect to liabilities for litigation, regulatory investigations and litigation-related contingencies to be reflected in the Company's financial statements.
Other Accounting Policies
Stock-Based Compensation
The Company grants certain employees and directors stock-based compensation awards under various plans that are subject to specific vesting conditions. With the exception of performance shares granted in 2015, 2014 and 2013 which are re-measured quarterly, the cost of all stock-based transactions is measured at fair value at grant date and recognized over the period during which a grantee is required to provide services in exchange for the award. Although the terms of the Company's stock-based plans do not accelerate vesting upon retirement, or the attainment of retirement eligibility, the requisite service period subsequent to attaining such eligibility is considered non-substantive. Accordingly, the Company recognizes compensation expense related to stock-based awards over the shorter of the requisite service period or the period to attainment of retirement eligibility. An estimation of future forfeitures of stock-based awards is incorporated into the determination of compensation expense when recognizing expense over the requisite service period.
Cash and Cash Equivalents
The Company considers all highly liquid securities and other investments purchased with an original or remaining maturity of three months or less at the date of purchase to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are stated at amortized cost, which approximates estimated fair value.
Property, Equipment, Leasehold Improvements and Computer Software
Property, equipment and leasehold improvements, which are included in other assets, are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Depreciation is determined using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, as appropriate. The estimated life is generally 40 years for company occupied real estate property, from one to 25 years for leasehold improvements, and from three to seven years for all other property and equipment. The cost basis of the property, equipment and leasehold improvements was $2.0 billion at both December 31, 2015 and 2014. Accumulated depreciation and amortization of property, equipment and leasehold improvements was $1.1 billion and $1.0 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Related depreciation and amortization expense was $216 million, $182 million and $183 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.
Computer software, which is included in other assets, is stated at cost, less accumulated amortization. Purchased software costs, as well as certain internal and external costs incurred to develop internal-use computer software during the application development stage, are capitalized. Such costs are amortized generally over a four-year period using the straight-line method. The cost basis of computer software was $2.2 billion and $1.9 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Accumulated amortization of capitalized software was $1.5 billion and $1.3 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Related amortization expense was $212 million, $212 million and $216 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.
Other Revenues
Other revenues include, in addition to items described elsewhere herein, advisory fees, broker-dealer commissions and fees, administrative service fees, and changes in account value relating to corporate-owned life insurance ("COLI"). Such fees and commissions are recognized in the period in which services are performed. Under certain COLI contracts, if the Company reports certain unlikely adverse results in its financial statements, withdrawals would not be immediately available and would be subject to market value adjustment, which could result in a reduction of the

account value.

Policyholder Dividends

Policyholder dividends are approved annually by the insurance subsidiaries' boards of directors. The aggregate amount of policyholder dividends is related to actual interest, mortality, morbidity and expense experience for the year, as well as management's judgment as to the appropriate level of statutory surplus to be retained by the insurance subsidiaries.

Foreign Currency

Assets, liabilities and operations of foreign affiliates and subsidiaries are recorded based on the functional currency of each entity. The determination of the functional currency is made based on the appropriate economic and management indicators. For most of the Company's foreign operations, the local currency is the functional currency. For certain other foreign operations, such as Japan, the local currency and one or more other currencies qualify as functional currencies. Assets and liabilities of foreign affiliates and subsidiaries are translated from the functional currency to U.S. dollars at the exchange rates in effect at each year-end and revenues and expenses are translated at the average exchange rates during the year. The resulting translation adjustments are charged or credited directly to OCI, net of applicable taxes. Gains and losses from foreign currency transactions, including the effect of re-measurement of monetary assets and liabilities to the appropriate functional currency, are reported as part of net investment gains (losses) in the period in which they occur.

Earnings Per Common Share

Basic earnings per common share are computed based on the weighted average number of common shares, or their equivalent, outstanding during the period. The difference between the number of shares assumed issued and number of shares assumed purchased represents the dilutive shares. Diluted earnings per common share include the dilutive effect of the assumed: (i) exercise or issuance of stock-based awards

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
1. Business, Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

using the treasury stock method; (ii) settlement of stock purchase contracts underlying common equity units using the treasury stock method; and (iii) settlement of accelerated common stock repurchase contracts. Under the treasury stock method, exercise or issuance of stock-based awards and settlement of stock purchase contracts underlying common equity units is assumed to occur with the proceeds used to purchase common stock at the average market price for the period.

Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements

Effective November 18, 2014, the Company adopted new guidance on when, if ever, the cost of acquiring an entity should be used to establish a new accounting basis (“pushdown”) in the acquired entity’s separate financial statements. The guidance provides an acquired entity and its subsidiaries with an irrevocable option to apply pushdown accounting in its separate financial statements upon occurrence of an event in which an acquirer obtains control of the acquired entity. If a reporting entity elects to apply pushdown accounting, its stand-alone financial statements would reflect the acquirer’s new basis in the acquired entity’s assets and liabilities. The election to apply pushdown accounting should be determined by an acquired entity for each individual change-in-control event in which an acquirer obtains control of the acquired entity; however, an entity that does not elect to apply pushdown accounting in the period of a change-in-control can later elect to retrospectively apply pushdown accounting to the most recent change-in-control transaction as a change in accounting principle. The new guidance did not have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements upon adoption.

Effective January 1, 2014, the Company adopted new guidance regarding reporting of discontinued operations and disclosures of disposals of components of an entity. The guidance increases the threshold for a disposal to qualify as a discontinued operation, expands the disclosures for discontinued operations and requires new disclosures for certain disposals that do not meet the definition of a discontinued operation. Disposals must now represent a strategic shift that has or will have a major effect on the entity’s operations and financial results to qualify as discontinued operations.

Effective January 1, 2014, the Company adopted new guidance regarding the presentation of an unrecognized tax benefit. The new guidance requires that an unrecognized tax benefit, or a portion of an unrecognized tax benefit, be presented in the financial statements as a reduction to a deferred tax asset for a net operating loss carryforward, a similar tax loss, or a tax credit carryforward. However, when the carryforwards are not available at the reporting date to settle any additional income taxes that would result from the disallowance of a tax position or the applicable tax law does not require, and the entity does not intend to use, the deferred tax asset for such purpose, the unrecognized tax benefit will be presented in the financial statements as a liability and will not be combined with the related deferred tax asset. The adoption was prospectively applied and resulted in a reduction to other liabilities and a corresponding increase to deferred income tax liability in the amount of $277 million.

Effective January 1, 2014, the Company adopted new guidance on other expenses. The objective of this standard is to address how health insurers should recognize and classify in their income statements fees mandated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act. The amendments in this standard specify that the liability for the fee should be estimated and recorded in full once the entity provides qualifying health insurance in the applicable calendar year in which the fee is payable with a corresponding deferred cost that is amortized to expense using the straight-line method of allocation unless another method better allocates the fee over the calendar year that it is payable. In accordance with the adoption of the new accounting pronouncement on January 1, 2014, the Company recorded $57 million in other liabilities, and a corresponding deferred cost, in other assets.

Effective July 17, 2013, the Company adopted guidance regarding derivatives that permits the Fed Funds Effective Swap Rate (or Overnight Index Swap Rate) to be used as a U.S. benchmark interest rate for hedge accounting purposes, in addition to the United States Treasury and London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”). Also, this new guidance removes the restriction on using different benchmark rates for similar hedges. The new guidance did not have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements upon adoption.

Effective January 1, 2013, the Company adopted guidance regarding comprehensive income that requires an entity to provide information about the amounts reclassified out of AOCI by component. In addition, an entity is required to present, either on the face of the statement where net income is presented or in the notes, significant amounts reclassified out of AOCI by the respective line items of net income but only if the amount reclassified is required under GAAP to be reclassified to net income in its entirety in the same reporting period. For other amounts that are not required under GAAP to be reclassified in their entirety to net income, an entity is required to cross-reference to other disclosures required under GAAP that provide additional detail about those amounts. The adoption was prospectively applied and resulted in additional disclosures in Note 16.

Effective January 1, 2013, the Company adopted guidance regarding balance sheet offsetting disclosures which requires an entity to disclose information about offsetting and related arrangements for derivatives, including bifurcated embedded derivatives, repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements, and securities borrowing and lending transactions, to enable users of its financial statements to understand the effects of those arrangements on its financial position. Entities are required to disclose both gross information and net information about both instruments and transactions eligible for offset in the statement of financial position and instruments and transactions subject to an agreement similar to a master netting arrangement. The adoption was retrospectively applied and resulted in additional disclosures related to derivatives in Note 9.

Future Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements

In January 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued new guidance (Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2016-01, Financial Instruments-Overall: Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities) on the recognition and measurement of financial instruments. The new guidance is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017, including interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted for the instrument-specific credit risk provision. The new guidance changes the current accounting guidance related to (i) the classification and measurement of certain equity investments, (ii) the presentation of changes in the fair value of financial liabilities measured under the FVO that are due to instrument-specific credit risk, and (iii) certain disclosures associated with the fair value of financial instruments. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements.

In May 2015, the FASB issued new guidance on short-duration insurance contracts (ASU 2015-09, Financial Services - Insurance (Topic 944): Disclosures about Short-Duration Contracts). The amendments in this new guidance are effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016. The new guidance should be applied retrospectively by providing comparative disclosures for each period presented, except for those requirements that apply only to the current period. The new guidance requires insurance entities to provide users of financial statements with more transparent information about initial claim estimates and subsequent adjustments to these estimates, including information on: (i) reconciling from the claim development table to the balance sheet liability, (ii) methodologies and judgments in estimating claims, and (iii) the timing, and frequency of claims. The adoption will not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements other than expanded disclosures in Note 4.

In May 2015, the FASB issued new guidance on fair value measurement (ASU 2015 07, Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Disclosures for Investments in Certain Entities That Calculate Net Asset Value per Share (or Its Equivalent)), effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within those fiscal years and which should be applied retrospectively to all periods presented. Earlier application is permitted. The amendments in this ASU remove the requirement to categorize within the fair value hierarchy all investments for which fair value is measured using NAV per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient. In addition, the amendments remove the requirement to make certain disclosures for all investments that are eligible to be measured at fair value using the NAV per share practical expedient. The adoption of this new guidance will not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In April 2015, the FASB issued new guidance on accounting for fees paid in a cloud computing arrangement (ASU 2015-05, Intangibles - Goodwill and Other - Internal-Use Software (Subtopic 350-40): Customer's Accounting for Fees Paid in a Cloud Computing Arrangement), effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption of the new guidance is permitted and an entity can elect to adopt the guidance either: (1) prospectively to all arrangements entered into or materially modified after the effective date; or (2) retrospectively. The new guidance provides that all software licenses included in cloud computing arrangements be accounted for consistent with other licenses of intangible assets. However, if a cloud computing arrangement does not include a software license, the arrangement should be accounted for as a service contract, the accounting for which did not change. The adoption of this new guidance will not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In February 2015, the FASB issued certain amendments to the consolidation analysis to improve consolidation guidance for legal entities (ASU 2015-02, Consolidation (Topic 810): Amendments to the Consolidation Analysis), effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015 and interim periods within those years and early adoption is permitted. The new standard is intended to improve targeted areas of the consolidation guidance for legal entities such as limited partnerships, limited liability corporations, and securitization structures. The amendments in this ASU affect the consolidation evaluation for reporting organizations. In addition, the amendments in this ASU simplify and improve current GAAP by reducing the number of consolidation models. The adoption of this new guidance will not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In May 2014, the FASB issued a comprehensive new revenue recognition standard (ASU 2014 09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)), effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016 and interim periods within those years and should be applied retrospectively. In August 2015, the FASB amended the guidance to defer the effective date by one year, effective for the fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017, including interim periods within that reporting period. Earlier application is permitted only as of annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, including interim reporting periods within that reporting period. The new guidance will supersede nearly all existing revenue recognition guidance under GAAP; however, it will not impact the accounting for insurance contracts, leases, financial instruments and guarantees. For those contracts that are impacted by the new guidance, the guidance will require an entity to recognize revenue upon the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled, in exchange for those goods or services. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements.

2. Segment Information

MetLife is organized into six segments, reflecting three broad geographic regions: Retail; Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits; Corporate Benefit Funding; and Latin America (collectively, the "Americas"); Asia; and EMEA. In addition, the Company reports certain of its results of operations in Corporate & Other.

On January 12, 2016, the Company announced its plan to pursue the separation of a substantial portion of its Retail segment, which is organized into two U.S. businesses, Life & Other and Annuities, as well as certain portions of its Corporate Benefit Funding segment and Corporate & Other (the "Separation"). See Note 23.

Americas

The Americas consists of the following segments:

Retail

The Retail segment offers a broad range of protection products and services and a variety of annuities to individuals and employees of corporations and other institutions, and is organized into two U.S. businesses: Life & Other and Annuities. Life & Other insurance products and services include variable life, universal life, term life and whole life products. Additionally, through broker-dealer affiliates, the Company offers a full range of mutual funds and other securities products. Life & Other products and services also include individual disability income products and personal lines property & casualty insurance, including private passenger automobile, homeowners and personal excess liability insurance. Annuities includes a variety of variable and fixed annuities which provide for both asset accumulation and asset distribution needs.

Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits

The Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits segment offers a broad range of protection products and services to individuals and corporations, as well as other institutions and their respective employees. Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits insurance products and services include life, dental, group short- and long-term disability and accidental death and dismemberment ("AD&D") coverages. In addition, the Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits segment offers property & casualty insurance, including private passenger automobile, homeowners and personal excess liability, which is offered to employees on a voluntary basis, long-term care, critical illness, vision and accident & health coverages, as well as prepaid legal plans.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
2. Segment Information (continued)

Corporate Benefit Funding
The Corporate Benefit Funding segment offers a broad range of annuity and investment products, including guaranteed interest products and other stable value products, income annuities and separate account contracts for the investment management of defined benefit and defined contribution plan assets. This segment also includes structured settlements and certain products to fund postretirement benefits and company-, bank- or trust-owned life insurance used to finance nonqualified benefit programs for executives.
Latin America
The Latin America segment offers a broad range of products to both individuals and corporations, as well as other institutions and their respective employees, which include life insurance, accident & health insurance, group medical, dental, credit insurance, endowment and retirement & savings products written in Latin America. The Latin America segment also includes U.S. direct business, comprised of group and individual products sold through sponsoring organizations, affinity groups and direct to consumer. Products included are life, dental, group short- and long-term disability, AD&D coverages, property & casualty and other accident & health coverages, as well as non-insurance products such as identity protection.
Asia
The Asia segment offers a broad range of products to both individuals and corporations, as well as other institutions and their respective employees, which include whole life, term life, variable life, universal life, accident & health insurance, fixed and variable annuities, credit insurance and endowment products.
EMEA
The EMEA segment offers a broad range of products to both individuals and corporations, as well as other institutions and their respective employees, which include life insurance, accident & health insurance, credit insurance, annuities, endowment and retirement & savings products.
Corporate & Other
Corporate & Other contains the excess capital, as well as certain charges and activities, not allocated to the segments, including external integration costs, internal resource costs for associates committed to acquisitions, enterprise-wide strategic initiative restructuring charges, various start-up businesses (including expatriate benefits insurance and the investment management business through which the Company offers fee-based investment management services to institutional clients) and certain run-off businesses. Corporate & Other also includes assumed reinsurance of certain variable annuity products from the Company's former operating joint venture in Japan. Under this in-force reinsurance agreement, the Company reinsures living and death benefit guarantees issued in connection with variable annuity products. Additionally, Corporate & Other includes interest expense related to the majority of the Company's outstanding debt and expenses associated with certain legal proceedings and income tax audit issues. Corporate & Other also includes the elimination of intersegment amounts, which generally relate to intersegment loans, which bear interest rates commensurate with related borrowings.
Financial Measures and Segment Accounting Policies
Operating earnings is the measure of segment profit or loss the Company uses to evaluate segment performance and allocate resources. Consistent with GAAP guidance for segment reporting, operating earnings is the Company's measure of segment performance and is reported below. Operating earnings should not be viewed as a substitute for income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax. The Company believes the presentation of operating earnings as the Company measures it for management purposes enhances the understanding of its performance by highlighting the results of operations and the underlying profitability drivers of the business.
Operating earnings is defined as operating revenues less operating expenses, both net of income tax.
Operating revenues and operating expenses exclude results of discontinued operations and other businesses that have been or will be sold or exited by MetLife and are referred to as divested businesses. Operating revenues also excludes net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses). Operating expenses also excludes goodwill impairments.

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

- Universal life and investment-type product policy fees excludes the amortization of unearned revenue related to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses) and certain variable annuity GMIB fees ("GMIB Fees");
- Net investment income: (i) includes investment hedge adjustments which represent earned income on derivatives and amortization of premium on derivatives that are hedges of investments or that are used to replicate certain investments, but do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment, (ii) includes income from discontinued real estate operations, (iii) excludes post-tax operating earnings adjustments relating to insurance joint ventures accounted for under the equity method, (iv) excludes certain amounts related to contractholder-directed unit-linked investments and (v) excludes certain amounts related to securitization entities that are VIEs consolidated under GAAP; and
- Other revenues are adjusted for settlements of foreign currency earnings hedges.

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

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

- Interest credited to policyholder account balances includes adjustments for earned income on derivatives and amortization of premium on derivatives that are hedges of policyholder account balances but do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment and excludes amounts related to net investment income earned on contractholder-directed unit-linked investments;
- Amortization of DAC and VOBA excludes amounts related to: (i) net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses), (ii) GMIB Fees and GMIB Costs and (iii) Market Value Adjustments;
- Amortization of negative VOBA excludes amounts related to Market Value Adjustments;
- Interest expense on debt excludes certain amounts related to securitization entities that are VIEs consolidated under GAAP; and
- Other expenses excludes costs related to: (i) noncontrolling interests, (ii) implementation of new insurance regulatory requirements and (iii) acquisition and integration costs.

Operating earnings also excludes the recognition of certain contingent assets and liabilities that could not be recognized at acquisition or adjusted for during the measurement period under GAAP business combination accounting guidance. In addition to the tax impact of the adjustments mentioned above, provision for income tax expense (benefit) also includes the impact related to the timing of certain tax credits, as well as certain tax reforms.

Set forth in the tables below is certain financial information with respect to the Company’s segments, as well as Corporate & Other, for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013 and at December 31, 2015 and 2014. The segment accounting policies are the same as those used to prepare the Company’s consolidated financial statements, except for operating earnings adjustments as defined above. In addition, segment accounting policies include the method of capital allocation described below.

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

The Company’s economic capital model, coupled with considerations of local capital requirements, aligns segment allocated equity with emerging standards and consistent risk principles. The model applies statistics-based risk evaluation principles to the material risks to which the Company is exposed. These consistent risk principles include calibrating required economic capital shock factors to a specific confidence level and time horizon while applying an industry standard method for the inclusion of diversification benefits among risk types. The Company’s management is responsible for the ongoing production and enhancement of the economic capital model and reviews its approach periodically to ensure that it remains consistent with emerging industry practice standards.

Segment net investment income is credited or charged based on the level of allocated equity; however, changes in allocated equity do not impact the Company’s consolidated net investment income, operating earnings or income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax.

Net investment income is based upon the actual results of each segment’s specifically identifiable investment portfolios adjusted for allocated equity. Other costs are allocated to each of the segments based upon: (i) a review of the nature of such costs; (ii) time studies analyzing the amount of employee compensation costs incurred by each segment; and (iii) cost estimates included in the Company’s product pricing.

Table of Contents

MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)

2. Segment Information (continued)

Year Ended December 31, 2015	Operating Results Americas Retail	Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits	Corporate Benefit Funding	Latin America	Total	Asia	EMEA	Corporate & Other	Total	Adjustments	Total Consoli
	(In millions)										
Revenues											
Premiums	$7,228	$16,358	$3,019	$2,891	$29,496	$6,937	$2,036	$79	$38,548	$(3)	$38,545
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	4,933	740	259	1,116	7,048	1,542	424	99	9,113	394	9,507
Net investment income	7,814	1,898	5,710	1,047	16,469	2,675	326	319	19,789	(508)	19,281
Other revenues	989	451	286	42	1,768	105	61	86	2,020	(37)	1,983
Net investment gains (losses)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	597	597
Net derivative gains (losses)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38	38
Total revenues	20,964	19,447	9,274	5,096	54,781	11,259	2,847	583	69,470	481	69,951
Expenses											
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	9,995	15,170	5,447	2,625	33,237	5,275	988	65	39,565	537	40,102
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	2,198	151	1,184	349	3,882	1,309	120	23	5,334	276	5,610
Capitalization of DAC	(1,048)	(151)	(19)	(426)	(1,644)	(1,720)	(472)	(1)	(3,837)	—	(3,837
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	1,561	164	21	303	2,049	1,256	497	—	3,802	134	3,936
Amortization of negative VOBA	—	—	—	(1)	(1)	(309)	(16)	—	(326)	(35)	(361
Interest expense on debt	(1)	—	3	—	2	—	—	1,198	1,200	8	1,208
Other expenses	4,855	2,703	512	1,666	9,736	3,611	1,469	990	15,806	17	15,823
Total expenses	17,560	18,037	7,148	4,516	47,261	9,422	2,586	2,275	61,544	937	62,481
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	956	499	739	7	2,201	457	21	(353)	2,326	(178)	2,148
Operating earnings	$2,448	$911	$1,387	$573	$5,319	$1,380	$240	$(1,339)	5,600		
Adjustments to:											
Total revenues									481		
Total expenses									(937)		
Provision for income tax (expense) benefit									178		
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax									$5,322		$5,322

At December 31, 2015	Retail	Group, Voluntary & Worksite	Corporate Benefit Funding	Latin America	Asia (1)	EMEA	Corporate & Other	Total

	Benefits							
(In millions)								
Total assets	$347,257	$ 46,476	$225,015	$65,266	$113,895	$26,767	$ 53,257	$877,933
Separate account assets	$159,782	$ 638	$82,157	$46,061	$8,964	$3,996	$ —	$301,598
Separate account liabilities	$159,782	$ 638	$82,157	$46,061	$8,964	$3,996	$ —	$301,598

(1) Total assets includes $90.0 billion of assets from the Japan operations which represents 10% of total consolidated assets.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
2. Segment Information (continued)

Year Ended December 31, 2014	Operating Results Americas Retail	Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits	Corporate Benefit Funding	Latin America	Total	Asia	EMEA	Corporate & Other	Total	Adjustments	Total Consolid
	(In millions)										
Revenues											
Premiums	$7,280	$15,979	$2,768	$3,039	$29,066	$7,566	$2,309	$81	$39,022	$45	$39,067
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	5,074	716	226	1,239	7,255	1,693	466	127	9,541	405	9,946
Net investment income	7,887	1,861	5,684	1,229	16,661	2,886	428	509	20,484	669	21,153
Other revenues	1,059	420	286	35	1,800	106	60	67	2,033	(3)	2,030
Net investment gains (losses)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(197)	(197
Net derivative gains (losses)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,317	1,317
Total revenues	21,300	18,976	8,964	5,542	54,782	12,251	3,263	784	71,080	2,236	73,316
Expenses											
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	9,851	14,897	5,106	2,786	32,640	5,724	1,053	61	39,478	1,000	40,478
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	2,245	156	1,140	394	3,935	1,544	148	34	5,661	1,282	6,943
Capitalization of DAC	(969)	(143)	(31)	(445)	(1,588)	(1,914)	(680)	—	(4,182)	(1)	(4,183
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	1,515	149	19	334	2,017	1,397	613	—	4,027	105	4,132
Amortization of negative VOBA	—	—	—	(1)	(1)	(364)	(31)	—	(396)	(46)	(442
Interest expense on debt	1	1	9	—	11	—	—	1,167	1,178	38	1,216
Other expenses	4,711	2,571	492	1,810	9,584	3,975	1,846	849	16,254	114	16,368
Total expenses	17,354	17,631	6,735	4,878	46,598	10,362	2,949	2,111	62,020	2,492	64,512
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	1,130	467	771	96	2,464	582	29	(697)	2,378	87	2,465
Operating earnings	$2,816	$878	$1,458	$568	$5,720	$1,307	$285	$(630)	6,682		
Adjustments to:											
Total revenues									2,236		
Total expenses									(2,492)		
Provision for income tax (expense) benefit									(87)		
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax									$6,339		$6,339

At December 31, 2014	Retail	Group, Voluntary & Worksite	Corporate Benefit Funding	Latin America	Asia (1)	EMEA	Corporate & Other	Total

	Benefits							
	(In millions)							
Total assets	$359,188	$ 46,483	$228,543	$72,259	$117,894	$29,217	$ 48,753	$902,337
Separate account assets	$171,726	$ 669	$81,150	$50,301	$9,078	$4,070	$ —	$316,994
Separate account liabilities	$171,726	$ 669	$81,150	$50,301	$9,078	$4,070	$ —	$316,994

(1) Total assets includes $95.0 billion of assets from the Japan operations which represents 11% of total consolidated assets.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
2. Segment Information (continued)

Year Ended December 31, 2013	Operating Results Americas Retail	Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits	Corporate Benefit Funding	Latin America	Total	Asia	EMEA	Corporate & Other	Total	Adjustments	Total Consoli
	(In millions)										
Revenues											
Premiums	$6,528	$15,250	$2,767	$2,870	$27,415	$7,801	$2,297	$70	$37,583	$91	$37,674
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees	4,912	688	247	991	6,838	1,722	386	139	9,085	366	9,451
Net investment income	7,796	1,833	5,506	1,145	16,280	2,943	425	746	20,394	1,838	22,232
Other revenues	1,018	418	278	23	1,737	92	97	28	1,954	(34)	1,920
Net investment gains (losses)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	161	161
Net derivative gains (losses)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(3,239)	(3,239
Total revenues	20,254	18,189	8,798	5,029	52,270	12,558	3,205	983	69,016	(817)	68,199
Expenses											
Policyholder benefits and claims and policyholder dividends	9,028	14,227	5,180	2,487	30,922	5,755	1,039	30	37,746	1,620	39,366
Interest credited to policyholder account balances	2,331	155	1,233	417	4,136	1,690	147	42	6,015	2,164	8,179
Capitalization of DAC	(1,309)	(141)	(27)	(452)	(1,929)	(2,143)	(714)	—	(4,786)	—	(4,786
Amortization of DAC and VOBA	1,384	140	23	311	1,858	1,542	683	—	4,083	(533)	3,550
Amortization of negative VOBA	—	—	—	(2)	(2)	(427)	(95)	—	(524)	(55)	(579
Interest expense on debt	—	1	9	—	10	—	1	1,148	1,159	123	1,282
Other expenses	5,101	2,379	481	1,722	9,683	4,317	1,812	784	16,596	539	17,135
Total expenses	16,535	16,761	6,899	4,483	44,678	10,734	2,873	2,004	60,289	3,858	64,147
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	1,107	480	667	83	2,337	565	51	(609)	2,344	(1,683)	661
Operating earnings	$2,612	$948	$1,232	$463	$5,255	$1,259	$281	$(412)	6,383		
Adjustments to:											
Total revenues									(817)		
Total expenses									(3,858)		
Provision for income tax (expense) benefit									1,683		
Income (loss) from continuing operations, net of income tax									$3,391		$3,391

The following table presents total premiums, universal life and investment-type product policy fees and other revenues by major product groups of the Company’s segments, as well as Corporate & Other:

Years Ended December 31,

	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Life insurance	$23,037	$23,483	$23,189
Accident & health insurance	13,090	13,336	13,214
Annuities	9,653	9,984	8,987
Property & casualty insurance	3,504	3,524	3,270
Non-insurance	751	716	385
Total	$50,035	$51,043	$49,045

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
2. Segment Information (continued)

The following table presents total premiums, universal life and investment-type product policy fees and other revenues associated with the Company's U.S. and foreign operations:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
U.S.	$35,042	$34,536	$32,529
Foreign:			
Japan	6,264	6,917	7,373
Other	8,729	9,590	9,143
Total	$50,035	$51,043	$49,045

Revenues derived from any customer did not exceed 10% of consolidated premiums, universal life and investment-type product policy fees and other revenues for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013.

3. Acquisitions and Dispositions

2014 Disposition

In May 2014, the Company completed the sale of its wholly-owned subsidiary, MetLife Assurance Limited ("MAL"), for $702 million (£418 million) in net cash consideration. As a result of the sale, a loss of $633 million ($442 million, net of income tax), was recorded for the year ended December 31, 2014, which includes a reduction to goodwill of $60 million ($51 million, net of income tax), as well as $77 million ($50 million, net of income tax) related to net investments in foreign operation hedges. The loss is reflected within net investment gains (losses) on the consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income (loss). Compared to the expected loss at the time of the sales agreement, the actual loss on the sale was increased by net income from MAL of $77 million for the year ended December 31, 2014. MAL's results of operations are included in continuing operations. They were historically included in the Corporate Benefit Funding segment.

2013 Acquisition

In October 2013, MetLife completed the acquisition of Administradora de Fondos de Pensiones Provida S.A. ("ProVida"), the largest private pension fund administrator in Chile based on assets under management and number of pension fund contributors. The acquisition of ProVida supports the Company's growth strategy in emerging markets and further strengthens the Company's overall position in Chile. Revenues and net income of $100 million and $42 million, respectively, resulting from the acquisition of ProVida since the acquisition date, were included in the consolidated statement of operations within the Latin America segment for the year ended December 31, 2013.

4. Insurance

Insurance Liabilities

Insurance liabilities are comprised of future policy benefits, policyholder account balances and other policy-related balances. Information regarding insurance liabilities by segment, as well as Corporate & Other, was as follows at:

	December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Retail	$140,085	$136,778
Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits	31,245	30,328
Corporate Benefit Funding	112,208	115,440
Latin America	14,335	15,596
Asia	83,510	86,483
EMEA	19,009	20,520
Corporate & Other	8,464	8,157
Total	$408,856	$413,302

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
4. Insurance (continued)

Future policy benefits are measured as follows:

Product Type:	Measurement Assumptions:
Participating life	Aggregate of (i) net level premium reserves for death and endowment policy benefits (calculated based upon the non-forfeiture interest rate, ranging from 3% to 7% for domestic business and 1% to 11% for international business and mortality rates guaranteed in calculating the cash surrender values described in such contracts); and (ii) the liability for terminal dividends for domestic business.
Nonparticipating life	Aggregate of the present value of expected future benefit payments and related expenses less the present value of expected future net premiums. Assumptions as to mortality and persistency are based upon the Company’s experience when the basis of the liability is established. Interest rate assumptions for the aggregate future policy benefit liabilities range from 2% to 11% for domestic business and less than 1% to 13% for international business.
Individual and group traditional fixed annuities after annuitization	Present value of expected future payments. Interest rate assumptions used in establishing such liabilities range from 2% to 11% for domestic business and less than 1% to 12% for international business.
Non-medical health insurance	The net level premium method and assumptions as to future morbidity, withdrawals and interest, which provide a margin for adverse deviation. Interest rate assumptions used in establishing such liabilities range from 4% to 7% (primarily related to domestic business).
Disabled lives	Present value of benefits method and experience assumptions as to claim terminations, expenses and interest. Interest rate assumptions used in establishing such liabilities range from 2% to 8% for domestic business and 1% to 9% for international business.
Property & casualty insurance	The amount estimated for claims that have been reported but not settled and claims incurred but not reported are based upon the Company’s historical experience and other actuarial assumptions that consider the effects of current developments, anticipated trends and risk management programs, reduced for anticipated salvage and subrogation.

Participating business represented 4% and 5% of the Company’s life insurance in-force at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Participating policies represented 19%, 18% and 19% of gross traditional life insurance premiums for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Policyholder account balances are equal to: (i) policy account values, which consist of an accumulation of gross premium payments and investment performance; (ii) credited interest, ranging from less than 1% to 13% for domestic business and 0% to 15% for international business, less expenses, mortality charges and withdrawals; and (iii) fair value adjustments relating to business combinations.

Guarantees

The Company issues directly and assumes through reinsurance variable annuity products with guaranteed minimum benefits. GMABs and the portions of both non-life-contingent GMWBs and GMIBs that do not require annuitization are accounted for as embedded derivatives in policyholder account balances and are further discussed in Note 9.

Guarantees accounted for as insurance liabilities include:

Guarantee:		Measurement Assumptions:
GMDBs	• A return of purchase payment upon death even if the account value is reduced to zero.	• Present value of expected death benefits in excess of the projected account balance recognizing the excess ratably over the accumulation period based on the present value of total expected assessments.
	• An enhanced death benefit may be available for an additional fee.	• Assumptions are consistent with those used for amortizing DAC, and are thus subject to the same variability and risk.
		• Investment performance and volatility assumptions are consistent with the historical experience of the appropriate underlying equity index, such as the S&P 500 Index.
		• Benefit assumptions are based on the average benefits payable over a range of scenarios.
GMIBs	• After a specified period of time determined at the time of issuance of the variable annuity contract, a minimum accumulation of purchase payments, even if the account value is reduced to zero, that can be annuitized to receive a monthly income stream that is not less than a specified amount.	• Present value of expected income benefits in excess of the projected account balance at any future date of annuitization and recognizing the excess ratably over the accumulation period based on present value of total expected assessments.
	• Certain contracts also provide for a guaranteed lump sum return of purchase premium in lieu of the annuitization benefit.	• Assumptions are consistent with those used for estimating GMDB liabilities.
		• Calculation incorporates an assumption for the percentage of the potential annuitizations that may be elected by the contractholder.
GMWBs	• A return of purchase payment via partial withdrawals, even if the account value is reduced to zero, provided that cumulative withdrawals in a contract year do not exceed a certain limit.	• Expected value of the life contingent payments and expected assessments using assumptions consistent with those used for estimating the GMDB liabilities.
	• Certain contracts include guaranteed withdrawals that are life contingent.	

The Company also issues other annuity contracts that apply a lower rate on funds deposited if the contractholder elects to surrender the contract for cash and a higher rate if the contractholder elects to annuitize. These guarantees include benefits that are payable in the event of death, maturity or at annuitization. Certain other annuity contracts contain guaranteed annuitization benefits that may be above what would be provided by the current account value of the contract. Additionally, the Company issues universal and variable life contracts where the Company contractually guarantees to the contractholder a secondary guarantee or a guaranteed paid-up benefit.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
4. Insurance (continued)

Information regarding the liabilities for guarantees (excluding base policy liabilities and embedded derivatives) relating to annuity and universal and variable life contracts was as follows:

	Annuity Contracts		Universal and Variable Life Contracts		
	GMDBs	GMIBs	Secondary Guarantees	Paid-Up Guarantees	Total
	(In millions)				
Direct and Assumed					
Balance at January 1, 2013	$567	$1,635	$4,785	$ 246	$7,233
Incurred guaranteed benefits (1)	200	229	(64)	20	385
Paid guaranteed benefits	(82)	(13)	(23)	—	(118)
Balance at December 31, 2013	685	1,851	4,698	266	7,500
Incurred guaranteed benefits (1)	310	262	411	22	1,005
Paid guaranteed benefits	(59)	—	(17)	—	(76)
Balance at December 31, 2014	936	2,113	5,092	288	8,429
Incurred guaranteed benefits (1)	319	417	452	18	1,206
Paid guaranteed benefits	(48)	(1)	(28)	—	(77)
Balance at December 31, 2015	$1,207	$2,529	$5,516	$ 306	$9,558
Ceded					
Balance at January 1, 2013	$56	$9	$753	$ 173	$991
Incurred guaranteed benefits	(5)	—	175	14	184
Paid guaranteed benefits	(10)	(2)	—	—	(12)
Balance at December 31, 2013	41	7	928	187	1,163
Incurred guaranteed benefits	9	—	134	15	158
Paid guaranteed benefits	(12)	—	—	—	(12)
Balance at December 31, 2014	38	7	1,062	202	1,309
Incurred guaranteed benefits	32	—	195	13	240
Paid guaranteed benefits	(36)	—	—	—	(36)
Balance at December 31, 2015	$34	$7	$1,257	$ 215	$1,513
Net					
Balance at January 1, 2013	$511	$1,626	$4,032	$ 73	$6,242
Incurred guaranteed benefits	205	229	(239)	6	201
Paid guaranteed benefits	(72)	(11)	(23)	—	(106)
Balance at December 31, 2013	644	1,844	3,770	79	6,337
Incurred guaranteed benefits	301	262	277	7	847
Paid guaranteed benefits	(47)	—	(17)	—	(64)
Balance at December 31, 2014	898	2,106	4,030	86	7,120
Incurred guaranteed benefits	287	417	257	5	966
Paid guaranteed benefits	(12)	(1)	(28)	—	(41)
Balance at December 31, 2015	$1,173	$2,522	$4,259	$ 91	$8,045

(1) Secondary guarantees include the effects of foreign currency translation of ($80) million, ($343) million and ($597) million at December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
4. Insurance (continued)

Information regarding the Company’s guarantee exposure was as follows at:

	December 31,							
	2015				2014			
	In the Event of Death		At Annuitization		In the Event of Death		At Annuitization	
	(In millions)							
Annuity Contracts (1)								
Variable Annuity Guarantees								
Total account value (2), (3)	$181,413		$ 91,240		$196,595		$ 99,000	
Separate account value	$151,901		$ 87,841		$163,566		$ 95,963	
Net amount at risk (2)	$10,339	(4)	$ 2,762	(5)	$4,230	(4)	$ 1,770	(5)
Average attained age of contractholders	66 years		66 years		65 years		65 years	
Other Annuity Guarantees								
Total account value (3)	N/A		$ 1,560		N/A		$ 1,040	
Net amount at risk	N/A		$ 422	(6)	N/A		$ 340	(6)
Average attained age of contractholders	N/A		51 years		N/A		50 years	

	December 31,			
	2015		2014	
	Secondary Guarantees	Paid-Up Guarantees	Secondary Guarantees	Paid-Up Guarantees
	(In millions)			
Universal and Variable Life Contracts (1)				
Total account value (3)	$17,211	$ 3,461	$16,875	$ 3,587
Net amount at risk (7)	$175,958	$ 19,047	$180,069	$ 20,344
Average attained age of policyholders	57 years	62 years	56 years	61 years

____

(1) The Company’s annuity and life contracts with guarantees may offer more than one type of guarantee in each contract. Therefore, the amounts listed above may not be mutually exclusive.

(2) Includes amounts, which are not reported on the consolidated balance sheets, from assumed reinsurance of certain variable annuity products from the Company’s former operating joint venture in Japan.

(3) Includes the contractholder’s investments in the general account and separate account, if applicable.

(4) Defined as the death benefit less the total account value, as of the balance sheet date. It represents the amount of the claim that the Company would incur if death claims were filed on all contracts on the balance sheet date and includes any additional contractual claims associated with riders purchased to assist with covering income taxes payable upon death.

(5) Defined as the amount (if any) that would be required to be added to the total account value to purchase a lifetime income stream, based on current annuity rates, equal to the minimum amount provided under the guaranteed benefit. This amount represents the Company’s potential economic exposure to such guarantees in the event all contractholders were to annuitize on the balance sheet date, even though the contracts contain terms that allow annuitization of the guaranteed amount only after the 10th anniversary of the contract, which not all contractholders have achieved.

(6) Defined as either the excess of the upper tier, adjusted for a profit margin, less the lower tier, as of the balance sheet date or the amount (if any) that would be required to be added to the total account value to purchase a lifetime income stream, based on current annuity rates, equal to the minimum amount provided under the guaranteed benefit. These amounts represent the Company’s potential economic exposure to such guarantees in the event all contractholders were to annuitize on the balance sheet date.

(7) Defined as the guarantee amount less the account value, as of the balance sheet date. It represents the amount of the claim that the Company would incur if death claims were filed on all contracts on the balance sheet date.

Account balances of contracts with guarantees were invested in separate account asset classes as follows at:

	December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Fund Groupings:		
Balanced	$79,473	$87,667
Equity	69,973	71,742
Bond	11,783	11,416
Money Market	1,233	1,024
Total	$162,462	$171,849

Obligations Under Funding Agreements

The Company issues fixed and floating rate funding agreements, which are denominated in either U.S. dollars or foreign currencies, to certain special purpose entities ("SPEs") that have issued either debt securities or commercial paper for which payment of interest and principal is secured by such funding agreements. During the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, the Company issued $48.1 billion, $48.9 billion and $37.7 billion, respectively, and repaid $49.9 billion, $45.6 billion and $36.8 billion, respectively, of such funding agreements. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, liabilities for funding agreements outstanding, which are included in policyholder account balances, were $31.6 billion and $33.9 billion, respectively.

Certain of the Company's subsidiaries are members of regional banks in the Federal Home Loan Bank ("FHLB") system ("FHLBanks"). Holdings of common stock of FHLBanks, included in equity securities, were as follows at:

	December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
FHLB of NY	$ 666	$ 661
FHLB of Des Moines	$ 44	$ 66
FHLB of Boston	$ 36	$ 55
FHLB of Pittsburgh	$ 96	$ 35

Such subsidiaries have also entered into funding agreements with FHLBanks and the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, a federally chartered instrumentality of the U.S. ("Farmer Mac"). The liability for such funding agreements is included in policyholder account balances. Information related to such funding agreements was as follows at:

	Liability		Collateral			
	December 31,					
	2015	2014	2015		2014	
	(In millions)					
FHLB of NY (1)	$12,570	$12,570	$14,085	(2)	$15,255	(2)
Farmer Mac (3)	$2,550	$2,750	$2,643		$3,162	
FHLB of Des Moines (1)	$845	$1,405	$999	(2)	$1,688	(2)
FHLB of Boston (1)	$250	$575	$311	(2)	$666	(2)
FHLB of Pittsburgh (1)	$1,820	$435	$2,112	(2)	$1,367	(2)

---

(1) Represents funding agreements issued to the applicable FHLBank in exchange for cash and for which such FHLBank has been granted a lien on certain assets, some of which are in the custody of such FHLBank, including residential mortgage-backed securities ("RMBS"), to collateralize obligations under advances evidenced by funding agreements. The Company is permitted to withdraw any portion of the collateral in the custody of such FHLBank as long as there is no event of default and the remaining qualified collateral is sufficient to satisfy the collateral maintenance level. Upon any event of default by the Company, such FHLBank's recovery on the collateral is

limited to the amount of the Company’s liability to such FHLBank.

(2) Advances are collateralized by mortgage-backed securities. The amount of collateral presented is at estimated fair value.

(3) Represents funding agreements issued to certain SPEs that have issued debt securities for which payment of interest and principal is secured by such funding agreements, and such debt securities are also guaranteed as to payment of interest and principal by Farmer Mac. The

obligations under these funding agreements are secured by a pledge of certain eligible agricultural real estate mortgage loans and may, under certain circumstances, be secured by other qualified collateral. The amount of collateral presented is at carrying value.

Liabilities for Unpaid Claims and Claim Expenses

Information regarding the liabilities for unpaid claims and claim expenses relating to property & casualty, group accident and non-medical health policies and contracts, which are reported in future policy benefits and other policy-related balances, was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Balance at January 1,	$11,036	$10,630	$10,436
Less: Reinsurance recoverables	1,876	1,661	1,581
Net balance at January 1,	9,160	8,969	8,855
Incurred related to:			
Current year	9,639	9,358	8,660
Prior years (1)	(78)	(70)	(86)
Total incurred	9,561	9,288	8,574
Paid related to:			
Current year	(6,788)	(6,714)	(6,083)
Prior years	(2,587)	(2,383)	(2,377)
Total paid	(9,375)	(9,097)	(8,460)
Net balance at December 31,	9,346	9,160	8,969
Add: Reinsurance recoverables	2,042	1,876	1,661
Balance at December 31,	$11,388	$11,036	$10,630

____

(1) During 2015, 2014 and 2013, as a result of changes in estimates of insured events in the respective prior year, claims and claim adjustment expenses associated with prior years decreased due to a reduction in prior year automobile bodily injury and homeowners' severity. In addition, 2013 included improved loss ratios for non-medical health claim liabilities.

Separate Accounts

Separate account assets and liabilities include two categories of account types: pass-through separate accounts totaling $244.6 billion and $261.3 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, for which the policyholder assumes all investment risk, and separate accounts for which the Company contractually guarantees either a minimum return or account value to the policyholder which totaled $57.0 billion and $55.7 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The latter category consisted primarily of guaranteed interest contracts. The average interest rate credited on these contracts was 2.37% and 2.25% at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

For the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, there were no investment gains (losses) on transfers of assets from the general account to the separate accounts.

5. Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs, Value of Business Acquired and Other Intangibles

See Note 1 for a description of capitalized acquisition costs.

Nonparticipating and Non-Dividend-Paying Traditional Contracts

The Company amortizes DAC and VOBA related to these contracts (term insurance, nonparticipating whole life insurance, traditional group life insurance, non-medical health insurance, and accident & health insurance) over the appropriate premium paying period in proportion to the actual and expected future gross premiums that were set at contract issue. The expected premiums are based upon the premium requirement of each policy and assumptions for mortality, morbidity, persistency and investment returns at policy issuance, or policy acquisition (as it relates to

VOBA), include provisions for adverse deviation, and are consistent with the assumptions used to calculate future policyholder benefit liabilities. These assumptions are not revised after policy issuance or acquisition unless the DAC or VOBA balance is deemed to be unrecoverable from future expected profits. Absent a premium deficiency, variability in amortization after policy issuance or acquisition is caused only by variability in premium volumes.

Participating, Dividend-Paying Traditional Contracts

The Company amortizes DAC and VOBA related to these contracts over the estimated lives of the contracts in proportion to actual and expected future gross margins. The amortization includes interest based on rates in effect at inception or acquisition of the contracts. The future gross margins are dependent principally on investment returns, policyholder dividend scales, mortality, persistency, expenses to administer the business, creditworthiness of reinsurance counterparties and certain economic variables, such as inflation. For participating contracts within the closed block (dividend-paying traditional contracts) future gross margins are also dependent upon changes in the policyholder dividend obligation. See Note 7. Of these factors, the Company anticipates that investment returns, expenses, persistency and other factor changes, as well as policyholder dividend scales, are reasonably likely to impact significantly the rate of DAC and VOBA amortization. Each reporting period, the Company updates the estimated gross margins with the actual gross margins for that period. When the actual gross margins change from previously estimated gross margins, the cumulative DAC and VOBA amortization is re-estimated and adjusted by a cumulative charge or credit to current operations. When actual gross margins exceed those previously estimated, the DAC and VOBA amortization will increase, resulting in a current period charge to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the actual gross margins are below the previously estimated gross margins. Each reporting period, the Company also updates the actual amount of business in-force, which impacts expected future gross margins. When expected future gross margins are below those previously estimated, the DAC and VOBA amortization will increase, resulting in a current period charge to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the expected future gross margins are above the previously estimated expected future gross margins. Each period, the Company also reviews the estimated gross margins for each block of business to determine the recoverability of DAC and VOBA balances.

Fixed and Variable Universal Life Contracts and Fixed and Variable Deferred Annuity Contracts

The Company amortizes DAC and VOBA related to these contracts over the estimated lives of the contracts in proportion to actual and expected future gross profits. The amortization includes interest based on rates in effect at inception or acquisition of the contracts. The amount of future gross profits is dependent principally upon returns in excess of the amounts credited to policyholders, mortality, persistency, interest crediting rates, expenses to administer the business, creditworthiness of reinsurance counterparties, the effect of any hedges used and certain economic variables, such as inflation. Of these factors, the Company anticipates that investment returns, expenses and persistency are reasonably likely to impact significantly the rate of DAC and VOBA amortization. Each reporting period, the Company updates the estimated gross profits with the actual gross profits for that period. When the actual gross profits change from previously estimated gross profits, the cumulative DAC and VOBA amortization is re-estimated and adjusted by a cumulative charge or credit to current operations. When actual gross profits exceed those previously estimated, the DAC and VOBA amortization will increase, resulting in a current period charge to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the actual gross profits are below the previously estimated gross profits. Each reporting period, the Company also updates the actual amount of business remaining in-force, which impacts expected future gross profits. When expected future gross profits are below those previously estimated, the DAC and VOBA amortization will increase, resulting in a current period charge to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the expected future gross profits are above the previously estimated expected future gross profits. Each period, the Company also reviews the estimated gross profits for each block of business to determine the recoverability of DAC and VOBA balances.

Credit Insurance, Property & Casualty Insurance and Other Short-Duration Contracts

The Company amortizes DAC for these contracts, which is primarily composed of commissions and certain underwriting expenses, in proportion to actual and future earned premium over the applicable contract term.

Factors Impacting Amortization

Separate account rates of return on variable universal life contracts and variable deferred annuity contracts affect in-force account balances on such contracts each reporting period, which can result in significant fluctuations in amortization of DAC and VOBA. Returns that are higher than the Company’s long-term expectation produce higher account balances, which increases the Company’s future fee expectations and decreases future benefit payment expectations on minimum death and living benefit guarantees, resulting in higher expected future gross profits. The opposite result occurs when returns are lower than the Company’s long-term expectation. The Company’s practice to determine the impact of gross profits resulting from returns on separate accounts assumes that long-term appreciation in equity markets is not changed by short-term market fluctuations, but is only changed when sustained interim deviations are expected. The Company monitors these events and only changes the assumption when its long-term expectation changes.

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

Periodically, the Company modifies product benefits, features, rights or coverages that occur by the exchange of a contract for a new contract, or by amendment, endorsement, or rider to a contract, or by election or coverage within a contract. If such modification, referred to as an internal replacement, substantially changes the contract, the associated DAC or VOBA is written off immediately through income and any new deferrable costs associated with the replacement contract are deferred. If the modification does not substantially change the contract, the DAC or VOBA amortization on the original contract will continue and any acquisition costs associated with the related modification are expensed.

Amortization of DAC and VOBA is attributed to net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses), and to other expenses for the amount of gross margins or profits originating from transactions other than investment gains and losses. Unrealized investment gains and losses represent the amount of DAC and VOBA that would have been amortized if such gains and losses had been recognized.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
5. Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs, Value of Business Acquired and Other Intangibles (continued)

Information regarding DAC and VOBA was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
DAC			
Balance at January 1,	$18,984	$19,774	$17,150
Capitalizations	3,837	4,183	4,786
Amortization related to:			
Net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	11	(39)	192
Other expenses	(3,354)	(3,372)	(2,812)
Total amortization	(3,343)	(3,411)	(2,620)
Unrealized investment gains (losses)	539	(676)	924
Effect of foreign currency translation and other	(552)	(886)	(466)
Balance at December 31,	19,465	18,984	19,774
VOBA			
Balance at January 1,	5,458	6,932	7,611
Acquisitions (1)	—	—	947
Amortization related to:			
Net investment gains (losses) and net derivative gains (losses)	(20)	(1)	3
Other expenses	(573)	(720)	(933)
Total amortization	(593)	(721)	(930)
Unrealized investment gains (losses)	99	(26)	358
Effect of foreign currency translation and other	(299)	(727)	(1,054)
Balance at December 31,	4,665	5,458	6,932
Total DAC and VOBA			
Balance at December 31,	$24,130	$24,442	$26,706

____

(1) See Note 3 for a description of acquisitions.

Information regarding total DAC and VOBA by segment, as well as Corporate & Other, was as follows at:

	December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Retail	$11,850	$11,963
Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits	365	377
Corporate Benefit Funding	111	111
Latin America	1,880	2,063
Asia	8,374	8,217
EMEA	1,532	1,709
Corporate & Other	18	2
Total	$24,130	$24,442

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
5. Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs, Value of Business Acquired and Other Intangibles (continued)

Information regarding other intangibles was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
DSI			
Balance at January 1,	$810	$950	$930
Capitalization	31	56	58
Amortization	(106)	(130)	(36)
Unrealized investment gains (losses)	39	(64)	—
Effect of foreign currency translation	—	(2)	(2)
Balance at December 31,	$774	$810	$950
VODA and VOCRA			
Balance at January 1,	$847	$975	$1,108
Amortization	(75)	(82)	(84)
Effect of foreign currency translation	(53)	(46)	(49)
Balance at December 31,	$719	$847	$975
Accumulated amortization	$575	$500	$418
Negative VOBA			
Balance at January 1,	$1,596	$2,162	$2,916
Amortization	(361)	(442)	(579)
Effect of foreign currency translation and other	(42)	(124)	(175)
Balance at December 31,	$1,193	$1,596	$2,162
Accumulated amortization	$2,765	$2,404	$1,962

The estimated future amortization expense (credit) to be reported in other expenses for the next five years is as follows:

	VOBA	VODA and VOCRA	Negative VOBA
	(In millions)		
2016	$506	$ 65	$ (249)
2017	$429	$ 62	$ (139)
2018	$382	$ 58	$ (58)
2019	$341	$ 53	$ (38)
2020	$299	$ 49	$ (38)

6. Reinsurance

The Company enters into reinsurance agreements primarily as a purchaser of reinsurance for its various insurance products and also as a provider of reinsurance for some insurance products issued by third parties. The Company participates in reinsurance activities in order to limit losses, minimize exposure to significant risks and provide additional capacity for future growth.

Accounting for reinsurance requires extensive use of assumptions and estimates, particularly related to the future performance of the underlying business and the potential impact of counterparty credit risks. The Company periodically reviews actual and anticipated experience compared to the aforementioned assumptions used to establish assets and liabilities relating to ceded and assumed reinsurance and evaluates the financial strength of counterparties to its reinsurance agreements using criteria similar to that evaluated in the security impairment process discussed in Note 8.

Americas — Excluding Latin America

For its Retail Life & Other insurance products, the Company has historically reinsured the mortality risk primarily on an excess of retention basis or on a quota share basis. The Company currently reinsures 90% of the mortality risk in excess of $2 million for most products. In addition to reinsuring mortality risk as described above, the Company reinsures other risks, as well as specific coverages. Placement of reinsurance is done primarily on an automatic basis and also on a facultative basis for risks with specified characteristics. On a case by case basis, the Company may retain up to $20 million per life and reinsure 100% of amounts in excess of the amount the Company retains. The Company evaluates its reinsurance programs routinely and may increase or decrease its retention at any time.

The Company's Retail Annuities business reinsures a portion of the living and death benefit guarantees issued in connection with its variable annuities. Under these reinsurance agreements, the Company pays a reinsurance premium generally based on fees associated with the guarantees collected from policyholders, and receives reimbursement for benefits paid or accrued in excess of account values, subject to certain limitations. The value of the embedded derivatives on the ceded risk is determined using a methodology consistent with the guarantees directly written by the Company with the exception of the input for nonperformance risk that reflects the credit of the reinsurer.

For certain policies within the Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits segment, the Company generally retains most of the risk and only cedes particular risks on certain client arrangements. The majority of the Company's reinsurance activity within this segment relates to client agreements for employer sponsored captive programs, risk-sharing agreements and multinational pooling.

The Company, through its property & casualty business within the Retail and Group, Voluntary & Worksite Benefits segments, purchases reinsurance to manage its exposure to large losses (primarily catastrophe losses) and to protect statutory surplus. The Company cedes to reinsurers losses and premiums based upon the exposure of the policies subject to reinsurance. To manage exposure to large property & casualty losses, the Company purchases property catastrophe, casualty and property per risk excess of loss reinsurance protection.

The Company's Corporate Benefit Funding segment has periodically engaged in reinsurance activities, on an opportunistic basis. The impact of these activities on the financial results of this segment has not been significant and there were no additional transactions during the periods presented.

Latin America, Asia and EMEA

For certain life insurance products, the Company currently reinsures risks in excess of $5 million to external reinsurers on a yearly renewable term basis. The Company may also reinsure certain risks with external reinsurers depending upon the nature of the risk and local regulatory requirements. For selected large corporate clients, the Company reinsures group employee benefits or credit insurance business with various client-affiliated reinsurance companies, covering policies issued to the employees or customers of the clients. Additionally, the Company cedes and assumes risk with other insurance companies when either company requires a business partner with the appropriate local licensing to issue certain types of policies in certain countries. In these cases, the assuming company typically underwrites the risks, develops the products and assumes most or all of the risk. The Company also has reinsurance agreements in force that reinsure a portion of the living and death benefit guarantees issued in connection with variable annuity products. Under these agreements, the Company pays reinsurance fees associated with the guarantees collected from policyholders, and receives reimbursement for benefits paid or accrued in excess of account values, subject to certain limitations.

Corporate & Other

The Company also reinsures, through 100% quota share reinsurance agreements, certain run-off long-term care and workers' compensation business written by MetLife Insurance Company USA ("MetLife USA").

Corporate & Other also has a reinsurance agreement, whereby it assumes the living and death benefit guarantees issued in connection with certain variable annuity products. Under this agreement, the Company receives reinsurance fees associated with the guarantees collected from policyholders, and provides reimbursement for benefits paid or accrued in excess of account values, subject to certain limitations.

Catastrophe Coverage

The Company has exposure to catastrophes which could contribute to significant fluctuations in the Company's results of operations. In the Americas, excluding Latin America, the Company uses excess of retention and quota share reinsurance agreements to provide greater diversification of risk and minimize exposure to larger risks. Currently, for Latin America, Asia and EMEA, the Company purchases catastrophe coverage to insure risks within certain countries deemed by management to be exposed to the greatest catastrophic risks.

Reinsurance Recoverables

The Company reinsures its business through a diversified group of well-capitalized reinsurers. The Company analyzes recent trends in arbitration and litigation outcomes in disputes, if any, with its reinsurers. The Company monitors ratings and evaluates the financial strength of its reinsurers by analyzing their financial statements. In addition, the reinsurance recoverable balance due from each reinsurer is evaluated as part of the overall monitoring process.

Recoverability of reinsurance recoverable balances is evaluated based on these analyses. The Company generally secures large reinsurance recoverable balances with various forms of collateral, including secured trusts, funds withheld accounts and irrevocable letters of credit. These reinsurance recoverable balances are stated net of allowances for uncollectible reinsurance, which at December 31, 2015 and 2014, were not significant.

The Company has secured certain reinsurance recoverable balances with various forms of collateral, including secured trusts, funds withheld accounts and irrevocable letters of credit. The Company had $6.1 billion and $5.9 billion of unsecured reinsurance recoverable balances at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

At December 31, 2015, the Company had $15.3 billion of net ceded reinsurance recoverables. Of this total, $10.8 billion, or 71%, were with the Company’s five largest ceded reinsurers, including $2.3 billion of net ceded reinsurance recoverables which were unsecured. At December 31, 2014, the Company had $14.9 billion of net ceded reinsurance recoverables. Of this total, $10.8 billion, or 73%, were with the Company’s five largest ceded reinsurers, including $2.6 billion of net ceded reinsurance recoverables which were unsecured.

The Company has reinsured with an unaffiliated third-party reinsurer, 59.25% of the closed block through a modified coinsurance agreement. The Company accounts for this agreement under the deposit method of accounting. The Company, having the right of offset, has offset the modified coinsurance deposit with the deposit recoverable.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
6. Reinsurance (continued)

The amounts in the consolidated statements of operations include the impact of reinsurance. Information regarding the significant effects of reinsurance was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Premiums			
Direct premiums	$39,516	$40,049	$38,476
Reinsurance assumed	1,454	1,472	1,472
Reinsurance ceded	(2,425)	(2,454)	(2,274)
Net premiums	$38,545	$39,067	$37,674
Universal life and investment-type product policy fees			
Direct universal life and investment-type product policy fees	$10,424	$10,768	$10,197
Reinsurance assumed	105	126	139
Reinsurance ceded	(1,022)	(948)	(885)
Net universal life and investment-type product policy fees	$9,507	$9,946	$9,451
Policyholder benefits and claims			
Direct policyholder benefits and claims	$41,233	$41,573	$40,211
Reinsurance assumed	1,023	962	1,047
Reinsurance ceded	(3,542)	(3,433)	(3,151)
Net policyholder benefits and claims	$38,714	$39,102	$38,107
Other expenses			
Direct other expenses	$16,968	$17,334	$16,712
Reinsurance assumed	130	165	147
Reinsurance ceded	(329)	(408)	(257)
Net other expenses	$16,769	$17,091	$16,602

The amounts in the consolidated balance sheets include the impact of reinsurance. Information regarding the significant effects of reinsurance was as follows at:

	December 31,							
	2015				2014			
	Direct	Assumed	Ceded	Total Balance Sheet	Direct	Assumed	Ceded	Total Balance Sheet
	(In millions)							
Assets								
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables	$6,044	$ 555	$16,103	$22,702	$6,111	$ 491	$15,642	$22,244
Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	24,490	120	(480)	24,130	24,807	112	(477)	24,442
Total assets	$30,534	$ 675	$15,623	$46,832	$30,918	$ 603	$15,165	$46,686
Liabilities								
Future policy benefits	$189,817	$ 2,062	$—	$191,879	$187,562	$ 2,024	$—	$189,586
Policyholder account balances	201,748	975	(1)	202,722	208,307	989	(2)	209,294
Other policy-related balances	13,939	310	6	14,255	14,131	285	6	14,422
Other liabilities	19,800	472	3,289	23,561	20,752	481	3,204	24,437
Total liabilities	$425,304	$ 3,819	$3,294	$432,417	$430,752	$ 3,779	$3,208	$437,739

Reinsurance agreements that do not expose the Company to a reasonable possibility of a significant loss from insurance risk are recorded using the deposit method of accounting. The deposit assets on reinsurance were $2.3 billion at both December 31, 2015 and 2014. The deposit liabilities on reinsurance were $33 million and $35 million at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

7. Closed Block

On April 7, 2000 (the "Demutualization Date"), Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MLIC") converted from a mutual life insurance company to a stock life insurance company and became a wholly-owned subsidiary of MetLife, Inc. The conversion was pursuant to an order by the New York Superintendent of Insurance approving MLIC's plan of reorganization, as amended (the "Plan of Reorganization"). On the Demutualization Date, MLIC established a closed block for the benefit of holders of certain individual life insurance policies of MLIC. Assets have been allocated to the closed block in an amount that has been determined to produce cash flows which, together with anticipated revenues from the policies included in the closed block, are reasonably expected to be sufficient to support obligations and liabilities relating to these policies, including, but not limited to, provisions for the payment of claims and certain expenses and taxes, and to provide for the continuation of policyholder dividend scales in effect for 1999, if the experience underlying such dividend scales continues, and for appropriate adjustments in such scales if the experience changes. At least annually, the Company compares actual and projected experience against the experience assumed in the then-current dividend scales. Dividend scales are adjusted periodically to give effect to changes in experience.

The closed block assets, the cash flows generated by the closed block assets and the anticipated revenues from the policies in the closed block will benefit only the holders of the policies in the closed block. To the extent that, over time, cash flows from the assets allocated to the closed block and claims and other experience related to the closed block are, in the aggregate, more or less favorable than what was assumed when the closed block was established, total dividends paid to closed block policyholders in the future may be greater than or less than the total dividends that would have been paid to these policyholders if the policyholder dividend scales in effect for 1999 had been continued. Any cash flows in excess of amounts assumed will be available for distribution over time to closed block policyholders and will not be available to stockholders. If the closed block has insufficient funds to make guaranteed policy benefit payments, such payments will be made from assets outside of the closed block. The closed block will continue in effect as long as any policy in the closed block remains in-force. The expected life of the closed block is over 100 years.

The Company uses the same accounting principles to account for the participating policies included in the closed block as it used prior to the Demutualization Date. However, the Company establishes a policyholder dividend obligation for earnings that will be paid to policyholders as additional dividends as described below. The excess of closed block liabilities over closed block assets at the Demutualization Date (adjusted to eliminate the impact of related amounts in AOCI) represents the estimated maximum future earnings from the closed block expected to result from operations attributed to the closed block after income taxes. Earnings of the closed block are recognized in income over the period the policies and contracts in the closed block remain in-force. Management believes that over time the actual cumulative earnings of the closed block will approximately equal the expected cumulative earnings due to the effect of dividend changes. If, over the period the closed block remains in existence, the actual cumulative earnings of the closed block are greater than the expected cumulative earnings of the closed block, the Company will pay the excess of the actual cumulative earnings of the closed block over the expected cumulative earnings to closed block policyholders as additional policyholder dividends unless offset by future unfavorable experience of the closed block and, accordingly, will recognize only the expected cumulative earnings in income with the excess recorded as a policyholder dividend obligation. If over such period, the actual cumulative earnings of the closed block are less than the expected cumulative earnings of the closed block, the Company will recognize only the actual earnings in income. However, the Company may change policyholder dividend scales in the future, which would be intended to increase future actual earnings until the actual cumulative earnings equal the expected cumulative earnings.

Experience within the closed block, in particular mortality and investment yields, as well as realized and unrealized gains and losses, directly impact the policyholder dividend obligation. Amortization of the closed block DAC, which resides outside of the closed block, is based upon cumulative actual and expected earnings within the closed block. Accordingly, the Company's net income continues to be sensitive to the actual performance of the closed block.

Closed block assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses are combined on a line-by-line basis with the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses outside the closed block based on the nature of the particular item.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
7. Closed Block (continued)

Information regarding the closed block liabilities and assets designated to the closed block was as follows at:

	December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Closed Block Liabilities		
Future policy benefits	$41,278	$41,667
Other policy-related balances	249	265
Policyholder dividends payable	468	461
Policyholder dividend obligation	1,783	3,155
Current income tax payable	—	1
Other liabilities	380	646
Total closed block liabilities	44,158	46,195
Assets Designated to the Closed Block		
Investments:		
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale, at estimated fair value	27,556	29,199
Equity securities available-for-sale, at estimated fair value	111	91
Mortgage loans	6,022	6,076
Policy loans	4,642	4,646
Real estate and real estate joint ventures	462	666
Other invested assets	1,066	1,065
Total investments	39,859	41,743
Cash and cash equivalents	236	227
Accrued investment income	474	477
Premiums, reinsurance and other receivables	56	67
Current income tax recoverable	11	—
Deferred income tax assets	234	289
Total assets designated to the closed block	40,870	42,803
Excess of closed block liabilities over assets designated to the closed block	3,288	3,392
Amounts included in AOCI:		
Unrealized investment gains (losses), net of income tax	1,382	2,291
Unrealized gains (losses) on derivatives, net of income tax	76	28
Allocated to policyholder dividend obligation, net of income tax	(1,159)	(2,051)
Total amounts included in AOCI	299	268
Maximum future earnings to be recognized from closed block assets and liabilities	$3,587	$3,660

Information regarding the closed block policyholder dividend obligation was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Balance at January 1,	$3,155	$1,771	$3,828
Change in unrealized investment and derivative gains (losses)	(1,372)	1,384	(2,057)
Balance at December 31,	$1,783	$3,155	$1,771

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
7. Closed Block (continued)

Information regarding the closed block revenues and expenses was as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Revenues			
Premiums	$1,850	$1,918	$1,987
Net investment income	1,982	2,093	2,130
Net investment gains (losses)	(23)	7	25
Net derivative gains (losses)	27	20	(6)
Total revenues	3,836	4,038	4,136
Expenses			
Policyholder benefits and claims	2,564	2,598	2,702
Policyholder dividends	1,015	988	979
Other expenses	143	155	165
Total expenses	3,722	3,741	3,846
Revenues, net of expenses before provision for income tax expense (benefit)	114	297	290
Provision for income tax expense (benefit)	41	104	101
Revenues, net of expenses and provision for income tax expense (benefit)	$73	$193	$189

MLIC charges the closed block with federal income taxes, state and local premium taxes and other state or local taxes, as well as investment management expenses relating to the closed block as provided in the Plan of Reorganization. MLIC also charges the closed block for expenses of maintaining the policies included in the closed block.

8. Investments

See Note 10 for information about the fair value hierarchy for investments and the related valuation methodologies.

Investment Risks and Uncertainties

Investments are exposed to the following primary sources of risk: credit, interest rate, liquidity, market valuation, currency and real estate risk. The financial statement risks, stemming from such investment risks, are those associated with the determination of estimated fair values, the diminished ability to sell certain investments in times of strained market conditions, the recognition of impairments, the recognition of income on certain investments and the potential consolidation of VIEs. The use of different methodologies, assumptions and inputs relating to these financial statement risks may have a material effect on the amounts presented within the consolidated financial statements.

The determination of valuation allowances and impairments is highly subjective and is based upon periodic evaluations and assessments of known and inherent risks associated with the respective asset class. Such evaluations and assessments are revised as conditions change and new information becomes available.

The recognition of income on certain investments (e.g. structured securities, including mortgage-backed securities, asset-backed securities (“ABS”), certain structured investment transactions and FVO and trading securities) is dependent upon certain factors such as prepayments and defaults, and changes in such factors could result in changes in amounts to be earned.

Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities AFS

Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities AFS by Sector

The following table presents the fixed maturity and equity securities AFS by sector. Redeemable preferred stock is reported within U.S. corporate and foreign corporate fixed maturity securities and non-redeemable preferred stock is reported within equity securities. Included within fixed maturity securities are structured securities including RMBS, ABS and commercial mortgage-backed securities (“CMBS”).

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
8. Investments (continued)

	December 31, 2015					December 31, 2014				
	Cost or Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Temporary Losses	OTTI Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Cost or Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Temporary Losses	OTTI Losses	Estimated Fair Value
					(In millions)					
Fixed maturity securities										
U.S. corporate	$96,466	$6,583	$ 2,255	$—	$100,794	$96,235	$10,343	$ 624	$—	$105,954
U.S. Treasury and agency	56,499	5,373	226	—	61,646	54,654	6,892	30	—	61,516
Foreign corporate	56,003	3,019	1,822	2	57,198	57,695	4,651	664	7	61,675
Foreign government	45,451	5,269	221	—	50,499	47,327	5,500	161	—	52,666
RMBS	37,914	1,366	424	59	38,797	38,064	2,102	214	106	39,846
State and political subdivision	13,723	1,795	67	10	15,441	12,922	2,291	26	—	15,187
ABS	14,498	131	229	6	14,394	14,121	240	112	—	14,249
CMBS (1)	12,410	347	125	(1)	12,633	13,762	615	46	(1)	14,332
Total fixed maturity securities	$332,964	$23,883	$ 5,369	$ 76	$351,402	$334,780	$32,634	$ 1,877	$112	$365,425
Equity securities										
Common stock	$1,962	$397	$ 107	$—	$2,252	$1,990	$554	$ 28	$—	$2,516
Non-redeemable preferred stock	1,035	85	51	—	1,069	1,086	68	39	—	1,115
Total equity securities	$2,997	$482	$ 158	$—	$3,321	$3,076	$622	$ 67	$—	$3,631

____

(1) The noncredit loss component of OTTI losses for CMBS was in an unrealized gain position of $1 million at both December 31, 2015 and 2014, due to increases in estimated fair value subsequent to initial recognition of noncredit losses on such securities. See also "— Net Unrealized Investment Gains (Losses)."

The Company held non-income producing fixed maturity securities with an estimated fair value of $54 million and $64 million with unrealized gains (losses) of $12 million and $28 million at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Methodology for Amortization of Premium and Accretion of Discount on Structured Securities

Amortization of premium and accretion of discount on structured securities considers the estimated timing and amount of prepayments of the underlying loans. Actual prepayment experience is periodically reviewed and effective yields are recalculated when differences arise between the originally anticipated and the actual prepayments received and currently anticipated. Prepayment assumptions for single class and multi-class mortgage-backed and ABS are estimated using inputs obtained from third-party specialists and based on management's knowledge of the current market. For credit-sensitive mortgage-backed and ABS and certain prepayment-sensitive securities, the effective yield is recalculated on a prospective basis. For all other mortgage-backed and ABS, the effective yield is recalculated on a retrospective basis.

Maturities of Fixed Maturity Securities

The amortized cost and estimated fair value of fixed maturity securities, by contractual maturity date, were as follows at December 31, 2015:

	Due in One Year or	Due After One	Due After Five	Due After Ten Years	Structured Securities	Total Fixed Maturity

	Less	Year Through Five Years	Years Through Ten Years			Securities
	(In millions)					
Amortized cost	$ 13,109	$ 74,554	$ 71,590	$ 108,889	$ 64,822	$ 332,964
Estimated fair value	$ 13,130	$ 77,398	$ 74,364	$ 120,686	$ 65,824	$ 351,402

Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities due to the exercise of call or prepayment options. Fixed maturity securities not due at a single maturity date have been presented in the year of final contractual maturity. Structured securities (RMBS, ABS and CMBS) are shown separately, as they are not due at a single maturity.

Continuous Gross Unrealized Losses for Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities AFS by Sector

The following table presents the estimated fair value and gross unrealized losses of fixed maturity and equity securities AFS in an unrealized loss position, aggregated by sector and by length of time that the securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position.

	December 31, 2015				December 31, 2014			
	Less than 12 Months		Equal to or Greater than 12 Months		Less than 12 Months		Equal to or Greater than 12 Months	
	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses
	(In millions, except number of securities)							
Fixed maturity securities								
U.S. corporate	$27,526	$ 1,629	$3,762	$ 626	$11,389	$ 331	$4,658	$ 293
U.S. Treasury and agency	19,628	222	298	4	8,927	12	1,314	18
Foreign corporate	14,447	911	5,251	913	9,410	505	2,074	166
Foreign government	3,530	166	429	55	1,085	80	630	81
RMBS	13,467	287	2,431	196	4,180	92	2,534	228
State and political subdivision	1,618	55	168	22	83	1	297	25
ABS	7,329	124	2,823	111	4,456	57	1,440	55
CMBS	4,876	81	637	43	1,268	23	934	22
Total fixed maturity securities	$92,421	$ 3,475	$15,799	$ 1,970	$40,798	$ 1,101	$13,881	$ 888
Equity securities								
Common stock	$203	$ 105	$20	$ 2	$111	$ 28	$1	$ —
Non-redeemable preferred stock	79	2	200	49	67	2	192	37
Total equity securities	$282	$ 107	$220	$ 51	$178	$ 30	$193	$ 37
Total number of securities in an unrealized loss position	6,366		1,489		3,153		1,435	

Evaluation of AFS Securities for OTTI and Evaluating Temporarily Impaired AFS Securities

Evaluation and Measurement Methodologies

Management considers a wide range of factors about the security issuer and uses its best judgment in evaluating the cause of the decline in the estimated fair value of the security and in assessing the prospects for near-term recovery. Inherent in management’s evaluation of the security are assumptions and estimates about the operations of the issuer and its future earnings potential. Considerations used in the impairment evaluation process include, but are not limited to: (i) the length of time and the extent to which the estimated fair value has been below cost or amortized cost; (ii) the potential for impairments when the issuer is experiencing significant financial difficulties; (iii) the potential for impairments in an entire industry sector or sub-sector; (iv) the potential for impairments in certain economically depressed geographic locations; (v) the potential for impairments where the issuer, series of issuers or industry has suffered a catastrophic loss or has exhausted natural resources; (vi) with respect to fixed maturity securities, whether the Company has the intent to sell or will more likely than not be required to sell a particular security before the decline in estimated fair value below amortized cost recovers; (vii) with respect to structured securities, changes in forecasted cash flows after considering the quality of underlying collateral, expected prepayment speeds, current and forecasted loss severity, consideration of the payment terms of the underlying assets backing a particular security, and the payment priority within the tranche structure of the security; (viii) the potential for impairments due to weakening of foreign currencies on non-functional currency denominated fixed maturity securities that are near maturity; and (ix) other subjective factors, including concentrations and information obtained from regulators and rating agencies.

The methodology and significant inputs used to determine the amount of credit loss on fixed maturity securities are as follows:

- The Company calculates the recovery value by performing a discounted cash flow analysis based on the present value of future cash flows. The discount rate is generally the effective interest rate of the security prior to impairment.
- When determining collectability and the period over which value is expected to recover, the Company applies considerations utilized in its overall impairment evaluation process which incorporates information regarding the specific security, fundamentals of the industry and geographic area in which the security issuer operates, and overall macroeconomic conditions. Projected future cash flows are estimated using assumptions derived from management's best estimates of likely scenario-based outcomes after giving consideration to a variety of variables that include, but are not limited to: payment terms of the security; the likelihood that the issuer can service the interest and principal payments; the quality and amount of any credit enhancements; the security's position within the capital structure of the issuer; possible corporate restructurings or asset sales by the issuer; and changes to the rating of the security or the issuer by rating agencies.
- Additional considerations are made when assessing the unique features that apply to certain structured securities including, but not limited to: the quality of underlying collateral, expected prepayment speeds, current and forecasted loss severity, consideration of the payment terms of the underlying loans or assets backing a particular security, and the payment priority within the tranche structure of the security.

- When determining the amount of the credit loss for U.S. and foreign corporate securities, foreign government securities and state and political subdivision securities, the estimated fair value is considered the recovery value when available information does not indicate that another value is more appropriate. When information is identified that indicates a recovery value other than estimated fair value, management considers in the determination of recovery value the same considerations utilized in its overall impairment evaluation process as described above, as well as any private and public sector programs to restructure such securities.

With respect to securities that have attributes of debt and equity (perpetual hybrid securities), consideration is given in the OTTI analysis as to whether there has been any deterioration in the credit of the issuer and the likelihood of recovery in value of the securities that are in a severe and extended unrealized loss position. Consideration is also given as to whether any perpetual hybrid securities, with an unrealized loss, regardless of credit rating, have deferred any dividend payments. When an OTTI loss has occurred, the OTTI loss is the entire difference between the perpetual hybrid security's cost and its estimated fair value with a corresponding charge to earnings.

The cost or amortized cost of fixed maturity and equity securities is adjusted for OTTI in the period in which the determination is made. The Company does not change the revised cost basis for subsequent recoveries in value.

In periods subsequent to the recognition of OTTI on a fixed maturity security, the Company accounts for the impaired security as if it had been purchased on the measurement date of the impairment. Accordingly, the discount (or reduced premium) based on the new cost basis is accreted over the remaining term of the fixed maturity security in a prospective manner based on the amount and timing of estimated future cash flows.

Current Period Evaluation

Based on the Company's current evaluation of its AFS securities in an unrealized loss position in accordance with its impairment policy, and the Company's current intentions and assessments (as applicable to the type of security) about holding, selling and any requirements to sell these securities, the Company concluded that these securities were not other-than-temporarily impaired at December 31, 2015. Future OTTI will depend primarily on economic fundamentals, issuer performance (including changes in the present value of future cash flows expected to be collected), changes in credit ratings, collateral valuation, interest rates and credit spreads. If economic fundamentals deteriorate or if there are adverse changes in the above factors, OTTI may be incurred in upcoming periods.

Gross unrealized losses on fixed maturity securities increased $3.4 billion during the year ended December 31, 2015 to $5.4 billion. The increase in gross unrealized losses for the year ended December 31, 2015, was primarily attributable to widening credit spreads, an increase in interest rates and, to a lesser extent, the impact of weakening foreign currencies on non-functional currency denominated fixed maturity securities.

At December 31, 2015, $364 million of the total $5.4 billion of gross unrealized losses were from 69 fixed maturity securities with an unrealized loss position of 20% or more of amortized cost for six months or greater.

Investment Grade Fixed Maturity Securities

Of the $364 million of gross unrealized losses on fixed maturity securities with an unrealized loss of 20% or more of amortized cost for six months or greater, $242 million, or 66%, were related to gross unrealized losses on 36 investment grade fixed maturity securities. Unrealized losses on investment grade fixed maturity securities are principally related to widening credit spreads and, with respect to fixed-rate fixed maturity securities, rising interest rates since purchase.

Below Investment Grade Fixed Maturity Securities

Of the $364 million of gross unrealized losses on fixed maturity securities with an unrealized loss of 20% or more of amortized cost for six months or greater, $122 million, or 34%, were related to gross unrealized losses on 33 below investment grade fixed maturity securities. Unrealized losses on below investment grade fixed maturity securities are principally related to U.S. and foreign corporate securities (primarily utility and industrial securities) and non-agency RMBS (primarily alternative residential mortgage loans) and are the result of significantly wider credit spreads resulting from higher risk premiums since purchase, largely due to economic and market uncertainties including concerns over lower oil prices in the energy sector and valuations of residential real estate supporting non-agency

RMBS. Management evaluates U.S. and foreign corporate securities based on factors such as expected cash flows and the financial condition and near-term and long-term prospects of the issuers and evaluates non-agency RMBS based on actual and projected cash flows after considering the quality of underlying collateral, expected prepayment speeds, current and forecasted loss severity, consideration of the payment terms of the underlying assets backing a particular security and the payment priority within the tranche structure of the security.

Equity Securities

Gross unrealized losses on equity securities increased $91 million during the year ended December 31, 2015 to $158 million. Of the $158 million, $36 million were from 12 securities with gross unrealized losses of 20% or more of cost for 12 months or greater. Of the $36 million, 64% were rated A or better, and all were from financial services industry investment grade non-redeemable preferred stock securities.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
8. Investments (continued)

Mortgage Loans
Mortgage Loans by Portfolio Segment
Mortgage loans are summarized as follows at:

	December 31, 2015 Carrying Value (In millions)	2015 % of Total	2014 Carrying Value (In millions)	2014 % of Total
Mortgage loans				
Commercial	$44,012	65.6 %	$41,088	68.3 %
Agricultural	13,188	19.6	12,378	20.6
Residential	9,734	14.5	6,369	10.6
Subtotal (1)	66,934	99.7	59,835	99.5
Valuation allowances	(318)	(0.5)	(305)	(0.5)
Subtotal mortgage loans, net	66,616	99.2	59,530	99.0
Residential — FVO	314	0.5	308	0.5
Commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs — FVO	172	0.3	280	0.5
Total mortgage loans, net	$67,102	100.0 %	$60,118	100.0 %

(1) Purchases of mortgage loans were $4.2 billion and $4.7 billion for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

See "— Variable Interest Entities" for discussion of CSEs.
Information on commercial, agricultural and residential mortgage loans is presented in the tables below. Information on residential — FVO and commercial mortgage loans held by CSEs — FVO is presented in Note 10. The Company elects the FVO for certain mortgage loans and related long-term debt that are managed on a total return basis.
Mortgage Loans, Valuation Allowance and Impaired Loans by Portfolio Segment
Mortgage loans by portfolio segment, by method of evaluation of credit loss, impaired mortgage loans including those modified in a troubled debt restructuring, and the related valuation allowances, were as follows at and for the years ended:

	Evaluated Individually for Credit Losses					Evaluated Collectively for Credit Losses		Impaired Loans	
	Impaired Loans with a Valuation Allowance			Impaired Loans without a Valuation Allowance					
	Unpaid Principal Balance (In millions)	Recorded Investment	Valuation Allowances	Unpaid Principal Balance	Recorded Investment	Recorded Investment	Valuation Allowances	Carrying Value	Average Recorded Investment
December 31, 2015									
Commercial	$—	$ —	$ —	$57	$ 57	$43,955	$ 217	$57	$ 127
Agricultural	49	47	3	22	21	13,120	39	65	63
Residential	—	—	—	141	131	9,603	59	131	84
Total	$49	$ 47	$ 3	$220	$ 209	$66,678	$ 315	$253	$ 274

December 31, 2014									
Commercial	$75	$ 75	$ 24	$101	$ 100	$40,913	$ 200	$151	$ 359
Agricultural	51	48	2	14	13	12,317	37	59	80
Residential	—	—	—	40	37	6,332	42	37	19
Total	$126	$ 123	$ 26	$155	$ 150	$59,562	$ 279	$247	$ 458

The average recorded investment for impaired commercial, agricultural and residential mortgage loans was $526 million, $153 million and $14 million, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
8. Investments (continued)

Valuation Allowance Rollforward by Portfolio Segment
The changes in the valuation allowance, by portfolio segment, were as follows:

	Commercial	Agricultural	Residential	Total
	(In millions)			
Balance at January 1, 2013	$293	$ 52	$ 2	$347
Provision (release)	(35)	4	18	(13)
Charge-offs, net of recoveries	—	(12)	—	(12)
Balance at December 31, 2013	258	44	20	322
Provision (release)	(11)	(4)	27	12
Charge-offs, net of recoveries	(23)	(1)	(5)	(29)
Balance at December 31, 2014	224	39	42	305
Provision (release)	12	3	33	48
Charge-offs, net of recoveries	(19)	—	(16)	(35)
Balance at December 31, 2015	$217	$ 42	$ 59	$318

Valuation Allowance Methodology
Mortgage loans are considered to be impaired when it is probable that, based upon current information and events, the Company will be unable to collect all amounts due under the loan agreement. Specific valuation allowances are established using the same methodology for all three portfolio segments as the excess carrying value of a loan over either (i) the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan’s original effective interest rate, (ii) the estimated fair value of the loan’s underlying collateral if the loan is in the process of foreclosure or otherwise collateral dependent, or (iii) the loan’s observable market price. A common evaluation framework is used for establishing non-specific valuation allowances for all loan portfolio segments; however, a separate non-specific valuation allowance is calculated and maintained for each loan portfolio segment that is based on inputs unique to each loan portfolio segment. Non-specific valuation allowances are established for pools of loans with similar risk characteristics where a property-specific or market-specific risk has not been identified, but for which the Company expects to incur a credit loss. These evaluations are based upon several loan portfolio segment-specific factors, including the Company’s experience for loan losses, defaults and loss severity, and loss expectations for loans with similar risk characteristics. These evaluations are revised as conditions change and new information becomes available.
Commercial and Agricultural Mortgage Loan Portfolio Segments
The Company typically uses several years of historical experience in establishing non-specific valuation allowances which captures multiple economic cycles. For evaluations of commercial mortgage loans, in addition to historical experience, management considers factors that include the impact of a rapid change to the economy, which may not be reflected in the loan portfolio, and recent loss and recovery trend experience as compared to historical loss and recovery experience. For evaluations of agricultural mortgage loans, in addition to historical experience, management considers factors that include increased stress in certain sectors, which may be evidenced by higher delinquency rates, or a change in the number of higher risk loans. On a quarterly basis, management incorporates the impact of these current market events and conditions on historical experience in determining the non-specific valuation allowance established for commercial and agricultural mortgage loans.
All commercial mortgage loans are reviewed on an ongoing basis which may include an analysis of the property financial statements and rent roll, lease rollover analysis, property inspections, market analysis, estimated valuations of the underlying collateral, loan-to-value ratios, debt service coverage ratios, and tenant creditworthiness. The monitoring process focuses on higher risk loans, which include those that are classified as restructured, delinquent or in foreclosure, as well as loans with higher loan-to-value ratios and lower debt service coverage ratios. All agricultural mortgage loans are monitored on an ongoing basis. The monitoring process for agricultural mortgage loans is generally similar to the commercial mortgage loan monitoring process, with a focus on higher risk loans, including

reviews on a geographic and property-type basis. Higher risk loans are reviewed individually on an ongoing basis for potential credit loss and specific valuation allowances are established using the methodology described above. Quarterly, the remaining loans are reviewed on a pool basis by aggregating groups of loans that have similar risk characteristics for potential credit loss, and non-specific valuation allowances are established as described above using inputs that are unique to each segment of the loan portfolio.

For commercial mortgage loans, the primary credit quality indicator is the debt service coverage ratio, which compares a property's net operating income to amounts needed to service the principal and interest due under the loan. Generally, the lower the debt service coverage ratio, the higher the risk of experiencing a credit loss. The Company also reviews the loan-to-value ratio of its commercial mortgage loan portfolio. Loan-to-value ratios compare the unpaid principal balance of the loan to the estimated fair value of the underlying collateral. Generally, the higher the loan-to-value ratio, the higher the risk of experiencing a credit loss. The debt service coverage ratio and the values utilized in calculating the ratio are updated annually on a rolling basis, with a portion of the portfolio updated each quarter. In addition, the loan-to-value ratio is routinely updated for all but the lowest risk loans as part of the Company's ongoing review of its commercial mortgage loan portfolio.

For agricultural mortgage loans, the Company's primary credit quality indicator is the loan-to-value ratio. The values utilized in calculating this ratio are developed in connection with the ongoing review of the agricultural mortgage loan portfolio and are routinely updated.

Residential Mortgage Loan Portfolio Segment

The Company's residential mortgage loan portfolio is comprised primarily of closed end, amortizing residential mortgage loans. For evaluations of residential mortgage loans, the key inputs of expected frequency and expected loss reflect current market conditions, with expected frequency adjusted, when appropriate, for differences from market conditions and the Company's historical experience. In contrast to the commercial and agricultural mortgage loan portfolios, residential mortgage loans are smaller-balance homogeneous loans that are collectively evaluated for impairment. Non-specific valuation allowances are established using the evaluation framework described above for pools of loans with similar risk characteristics from inputs that are unique to the residential segment of the loan portfolio. Loan specific valuation allowances are only established on residential mortgage loans when they have been restructured and are established using the methodology described above for all loan portfolio segments.

For residential mortgage loans, the Company's primary credit quality indicator is whether the loan is performing or nonperforming. The Company generally defines nonperforming residential mortgage loans as those that are 60 or more days past due and/or in non-accrual status which is assessed monthly. Generally, nonperforming residential mortgage loans have a higher risk of experiencing a credit loss.

Credit Quality of Commercial Mortgage Loans

The credit quality of commercial mortgage loans was as follows at:

	Recorded Investment					Estimated Fair Value	% of Total
	Debt Service Coverage Ratios						
	> 1.20x	1.00x - 1.20x	< 1.00x	Total	% of Total		
	(In millions)					(In millions)	
December 31, 2015							
Loan-to-value ratios							
Less than 65%	$38,163	$ 1,063	$544	$39,770	90.4 %	$ 40,921	90.7 %
65% to 75%	3,270	138	76	3,484	7.9	3,451	7.7
76% to 80%	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater than 80%	381	140	237	758	1.7	732	1.6
Total	$41,814	$ 1,341	$857	$44,012	100.0%	$ 45,104	100.0%
December 31, 2014							
Loan-to-value ratios							
Less than 65%	$33,933	$ 1,105	$1,101	$36,139	88.0 %	$ 38,166	88.4 %
65% to 75%	3,306	405	87	3,798	9.2	3,873	9.0
76% to 80%	130	—	15	145	0.4	153	0.3
Greater than 80%	562	281	163	1,006	2.4	987	2.3
Total	$37,931	$ 1,791	$1,366	$41,088	100.0%	$ 43,179	100.0%

Credit Quality of Agricultural Mortgage Loans

The credit quality of agricultural mortgage loans was as follows at:

	December 31,			
	2015		2014	
	Recorded Investment	% of Total	Recorded Investment	% of Total
	(In millions)		(In millions)	
Loan-to-value ratios				
Less than 65%	$12,399	94.0 %	$11,743	94.9 %

65% to 75%	710	5.4	533	4.3
76% to 80%	21	0.2	17	0.1
Greater than 80%	58	0.4	85	0.7
Total	$13,188	100.0%	$12,378	100.0%

The estimated fair value of agricultural mortgage loans was $13.5 billion and $12.8 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
8. Investments (continued)

Credit Quality of Residential Mortgage Loans

The credit quality of residential mortgage loans was as follows at:

	December 31,			
	2015		2014	
	Recorded Investment	% of Total	Recorded Investment	% of Total
	(In millions)		(In millions)	
Performance indicators				
Performing	$9,408	96.7 %	$6,196	97.3 %
Nonperforming	326	3.3	173	2.7
Total	$9,734	100.0%	$6,369	100.0%

The estimated fair value of residential mortgage loans was $9.9 billion and $6.6 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Past Due and Interest Accrual Status of Mortgage Loans

The Company has a high quality, well performing mortgage loan portfolio, with 99% of all mortgage loans classified as performing at both December 31, 2015 and 2014. The Company defines delinquency consistent with industry practice, when mortgage loans are past due as follows: commercial and residential mortgage loans — 60 days and agricultural mortgage loans — 90 days. The past due and accrual status of mortgage loans at recorded investment, prior to valuation allowances, by portfolio segment, were as follows at:

	Past Due		Nonaccrual Status	
	December 31, 2015	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2015	December 31, 2014
	(In millions)			
Commercial	$2	$ 10	$—	$ 75
Agricultural	103	1	46	41
Residential	326	173	318	163
Total	$431	$ 184	$364	$ 279

Mortgage Loans Modified in a Troubled Debt Restructuring

For a small portion of the mortgage loan portfolio, classified as troubled debt restructurings, concessions are granted related to borrowers experiencing financial difficulties. Generally, the types of concessions include: reduction of the contractual interest rate, extension of the maturity date at an interest rate lower than current market interest rates, and/or a reduction of accrued interest. The amount, timing and extent of the concession granted is considered in determining any impairment or changes in the specific valuation allowance. During the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, the Company did not have a significant amount of mortgage loans modified in a troubled debt restructuring.

Other Invested Assets

Other invested assets is comprised primarily of freestanding derivatives with positive estimated fair values (see Note 9), tax credit and renewable energy partnerships, and leveraged and direct financing leases.

Tax Credit Partnerships

The carrying value of tax credit partnerships was $1.6 billion at both December 31, 2015 and 2014. Losses from tax credit partnerships included within net investment income were $164 million, $149 million, and $139 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Leveraged and Direct Financing Leases

Investment in leveraged and direct financing leases consisted of the following at:

	December 31,			
	2015		2014	
	Leveraged Leases	Direct Financing Leases	Leveraged Leases	Direct Financing Leases
	(In millions)			
Rental receivables, net	$1,329	$ 1,508	$1,414	$ 1,750
Estimated residual values	1,076	80	1,148	145
Subtotal	2,405	1,588	2,562	1,895
Unearned income	(693)	(512)	(777)	(776)
Investment in leases, net of non-recourse debt	$1,712	$ 1,076	$1,785	$ 1,119

Rental receivables are generally due in periodic installments. The payment periods for leveraged leases generally range from one to 15 years but in certain circumstances can be over 30 years, while the payment periods for direct financing leases range from one to 30 years. For rental receivables, the primary credit quality indicator is whether the rental receivable is performing or nonperforming, which is assessed monthly. The Company generally defines nonperforming rental receivables as those that are 90 days or more past due. At December 31, 2015 and 2014, all leveraged lease receivables were performing and over 99% of direct financing rental receivables were performing.

The deferred income tax liability related to leveraged leases was $1.5 billion at both December 31, 2015 and 2014.

The components of income from investments in leveraged and direct financing leases, excluding net investment gains (losses), were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,					
	2015		2014		2013	
	Leveraged Leases	Direct Financing Leases	Leveraged Leases	Direct Financing Leases	Leveraged Leases	Direct Financing Leases
	(In millions)					
Income from investment in leases	$62	$ 82	$66	$ 72	$82	$ 75
Less: Income tax expense on leases	22	29	23	25	29	26
Investment income after income tax	$40	$ 53	$43	$ 47	$53	$ 49

Cash Equivalents

The carrying value of cash equivalents, which includes securities and other investments with an original or remaining maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase, was $7.5 billion and $4.5 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Net Unrealized Investment Gains (Losses)

Unrealized investment gains (losses) on fixed maturity and equity securities AFS and the effect on DAC, VOBA, DSI, future policy benefits and the policyholder dividend obligation, that would result from the realization of the unrealized gains (losses), are included in net unrealized investment gains (losses) in AOCI.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
8. Investments (continued)

The components of net unrealized investment gains (losses), included in AOCI, were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Fixed maturity securities	$18,164	$30,367	$16,672
Fixed maturity securities with noncredit OTTI losses in AOCI	(76)	(112)	(218)
Total fixed maturity securities	18,088	30,255	16,454
Equity securities	422	608	390
Derivatives	2,350	1,761	375
Other	287	149	(73)
Subtotal	21,147	32,773	17,146
Amounts allocated from:			
Future policy benefits	(163)	(2,886)	(898)
DAC and VOBA related to noncredit OTTI losses recognized in AOCI	—	(4)	6
DAC, VOBA and DSI	(1,273)	(1,946)	(1,190)
Policyholder dividend obligation	(1,783)	(3,155)	(1,771)
Subtotal	(3,219)	(7,991)	(3,853)
Deferred income tax benefit (expense) related to noncredit OTTI losses recognized in AOCI	27	42	73
Deferred income tax benefit (expense)	(6,151)	(8,556)	(4,956)
Net unrealized investment gains (losses)	11,804	16,268	8,410
Net unrealized investment gains (losses) attributable to noncontrolling interests	(31)	(33)	4
Net unrealized investment gains (losses) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	$11,773	$16,235	$8,414

The changes in fixed maturity securities with noncredit OTTI losses included in AOCI were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Balance at January 1,	$(112)	$(218)
Noncredit OTTI losses and subsequent changes recognized	6	17
Securities sold with previous noncredit OTTI loss	125	53
Subsequent changes in estimated fair value	(95)	36
Balance at December 31,	$(76)	$(112)

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
8. Investments (continued)

The changes in net unrealized investment gains (losses) were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Balance at January 1,	$16,235	$8,414	$14,419
Fixed maturity securities on which noncredit OTTI losses have been recognized	36	106	143
Unrealized investment gains (losses) during the year	(11,662)	15,521	(17,618)
Unrealized investment gains (losses) relating to:			
Future policy benefits	2,723	(1,988)	5,151
DAC and VOBA related to noncredit OTTI losses recognized in AOCI	4	(10)	(13)
DAC, VOBA and DSI	673	(756)	1,295
Policyholder dividend obligation	1,372	(1,384)	2,057
Deferred income tax benefit (expense) related to noncredit OTTI losses recognized in AOCI	(15)	(31)	(46)
Deferred income tax benefit (expense)	2,405	(3,600)	3,017
Net unrealized investment gains (losses)	11,771	16,272	8,405
Net unrealized investment gains (losses) attributable to noncontrolling interests	2	(37)	9
Balance at December 31,	$11,773	$16,235	$8,414
Change in net unrealized investment gains (losses)	$(4,464)	$7,858	$(6,014)
Change in net unrealized investment gains (losses) attributable to noncontrolling interests	2	(37)	9
Change in net unrealized investment gains (losses) attributable to MetLife, Inc.	$(4,462)	$7,821	$(6,005)

Concentrations of Credit Risk

Investments in any counterparty that were greater than 10% of the Company's equity, other than the U.S. government and its agencies, were in fixed income securities of the Japanese government and its agencies with an estimated fair value of $20.9 billion and $20.3 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The Company's investment in fixed maturity and equity securities to counterparties that primarily conduct business in Japan, including Japan government and agency fixed maturity securities, was $25.4 billion and $25.5 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Securities Lending

Elements of the securities lending program are presented below at:

	December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Securities on loan: (1)		
Amortized cost	$27,223	$26,989
Estimated fair value	$29,646	$30,269
Cash collateral on deposit from counterparties (2)	$30,197	$30,826
Security collateral on deposit from counterparties (3)	$50	$83
Reinvestment portfolio — estimated fair value	$30,258	$31,314

(1) Included within fixed maturity securities and short-term investments.
(2) Included within payables for collateral under securities loaned and other transactions.
(3) Security collateral on deposit from counterparties may not be sold or re-pledged, unless the counterparty is in default, and is not reflected in the consolidated financial statements.

The cash collateral liability by loaned security type and remaining tenor of the agreements were as follows at:

	December 31, 2015				
	Remaining Tenor of Securities Lending Agreements				
	Open (1)	1 Month or Less	1 to 6 Months	Total	% of Total
	(In millions)				
Cash collateral liability by loaned security type					
U.S. Treasury and agency	$10,116	$11,157	$5,986	$27,259	90.3 %
Agency RMBS	—	951	600	1,551	5.1
Foreign government	2	510	486	998	3.3
U.S. corporate	9	380	—	389	1.3
Foreign corporate	—	—	—	—	—
Total	$10,127	$12,998	$7,072	$30,197	100.0%

	December 31, 2014				
	Remaining Tenor of Securities Lending Agreements				
	Open (1)	1 Month or Less	1 to 6 Months	Total	% of Total
	(In millions)				
Cash collateral liability by loaned security type					
U.S. Treasury and agency	$10,371	$10,423	$5,239	$26,033	84.5 %
Agency RMBS	—	482	2,572	3,054	9.9
Foreign government	30	1,034	81	1,145	3.7
U.S. corporate	125	182	—	307	1.0
Foreign corporate	175	112	—	287	0.9
Total	$10,701	$12,233	$7,892	$30,826	100.0%

---

(1) The related loaned security could be returned to the Company on the next business day which would require the Company to immediately return the cash collateral.

If the Company is required to return significant amounts of cash collateral on short notice and is forced to sell securities to meet the return obligation, it may have difficulty selling such collateral that is invested in securities in a timely manner, be forced to sell securities in a volatile or illiquid market for less than what otherwise would have been realized under normal market conditions, or both. The estimated fair value of the securities on loan related to the cash collateral on open at December 31, 2015 was $9.9 billion, over 99% of which were U.S. Treasury and agency securities which, if put back to the Company, could be immediately sold to satisfy the cash requirement.

The reinvestment portfolio acquired with the cash collateral consisted principally of fixed maturity securities (including U.S. Treasury and agency, agency RMBS, ABS, U.S. corporate securities, non-agency RMBS and foreign corporate securities) with 60% invested in U.S. Treasury and agency securities, agency RMBS, cash equivalents, short-term investments or held in cash. If the securities on loan or the reinvestment portfolio become less liquid, the Company has the liquidity resources of most of its general account available to meet any potential cash demands when securities on loan are put back to the Company.

Invested Assets on Deposit, Held in Trust and Pledged as Collateral

Invested assets on deposit, held in trust and pledged as collateral are presented below at estimated fair value for all asset classes, except mortgage loans, which are presented at carrying value at:

	December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Invested assets on deposit (regulatory deposits)	$9,089	$9,437
Invested assets held in trust (collateral financing arrangements and reinsurance agreements)	10,443	10,069
Invested assets pledged as collateral (1)	23,145	25,996
Total invested assets on deposit, held in trust and pledged as collateral	$42,677	$45,502

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
8. Investments (continued)

(1) The Company has pledged invested assets in connection with various agreements and transactions, including funding agreements (see Notes 4 and 12), collateral financing arrangements (see Note 13) and derivative transactions (see Note 9).

See "— Securities Lending" for information regarding securities on loan and Note 7 for information regarding investments designated to the closed block.

Purchased Credit Impaired Investments

Investments acquired with evidence of credit quality deterioration since origination and for which it is probable at the acquisition date that the Company will be unable to collect all contractually required payments are classified as purchased credit impaired ("PCI") investments. For each investment, the excess of the cash flows expected to be collected as of the acquisition date over its acquisition date fair value is referred to as the accretable yield and is recognized as net investment income on an effective yield basis. If, subsequently, based on current information and events, it is probable that there is a significant increase in cash flows previously expected to be collected or if actual cash flows are significantly greater than cash flows previously expected to be collected, the accretable yield is adjusted prospectively. The excess of the contractually required payments (including interest) as of the acquisition date over the cash flows expected to be collected as of the acquisition date is referred to as the nonaccretable difference, and this amount is not expected to be realized as net investment income. Decreases in cash flows expected to be collected can result in OTTI or the recognition of mortgage loan valuation allowances.

The Company's PCI investments, by invested asset class, were as follows at:

	December 31,			
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	Fixed Maturity Securities		Mortgage Loans	
	(In millions)			
Outstanding principal and interest balance (1)	$6,410	$5,287	$ 148	$ 239
Carrying value (2)	$4,883	$4,170	$ 129	$ 132

____

(1) Represents the contractually required payments, which is the sum of contractual principal, whether or not currently due, and accrued interest.

(2) Estimated fair value plus accrued interest for fixed maturity securities and amortized cost, plus accrued interest, less any valuation allowances, for mortgage loans.

The following table presents information about PCI investments acquired during the periods indicated:

	Years Ended December 31,			
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	Fixed Maturity Securities		Mortgage Loans	
	(In millions)			
Contractually required payments (including interest)	$ 2,220	$ 947	$ —	$ —
Cash flows expected to be collected (1)	$ 1,951	$ 745	$ —	$ —
Fair value of investments acquired	$ 1,439	$ 503	$ —	$ —

____

(1) Represents undiscounted principal and interest cash flow expectations, at the date of acquisition.

The following table presents activity for the accretable yield on PCI investments:

	Years Ended December 31,			
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	Fixed Maturity Securities		Mortgage Loans	
	(In millions)			

Accretable yield, January 1,	$2,143	$2,746	$48	$74
Investments purchased	512	242	—	—
Accretion recognized in earnings	(325)	(244)	(56)	(22)
Disposals	(56)	(60)	—	—
Reclassification (to) from nonaccretable difference	(74)	(541)	29	(4)
Accretable yield, December 31,	$2,200	$2,143	$21	$48

Collectively Significant Equity Method Investments

The Company holds investments in real estate joint ventures, real estate funds and other limited partnership interests consisting of leveraged buy-out funds, hedge funds, private equity funds, joint ventures and other funds. The portion of these investments accounted for under the equity method had a carrying value of $14.6 billion at December 31, 2015. The Company's maximum exposure to loss related to these equity method investments is limited to the carrying value of these investments plus unfunded commitments of $5.2 billion at December 31, 2015. Except for certain real estate joint ventures, the Company's investments in real estate funds and other limited partnership interests are generally of a passive nature in that the Company does not participate in the management of the entities.

As described in Note 1, the Company generally records its share of earnings in its equity method investments using a three-month lag methodology and within net investment income. Aggregate net investment income from these equity method investments exceeded 10% of the Company's consolidated pre-tax income (loss) from continuing operations for only one of the three most recent annual periods: 2013. The Company is providing the following aggregated summarized financial data for such equity method investments, for the most recent annual periods, in order to provide comparative information. This aggregated summarized financial data does not represent the Company's proportionate share of the assets, liabilities, or earnings of such entities.

The aggregated summarized financial data presented below reflects the latest available financial information and is as of, and for, the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013. Aggregate total assets of these entities totaled $447.5 billion and $385.7 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Aggregate total liabilities of these entities totaled $72.0 billion and $39.5 billion at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Aggregate net income (loss) of these entities totaled $25.8 billion, $34.9 billion and $26.3 billion for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Aggregate net income (loss) from the underlying entities in which the Company invests is primarily comprised of investment income, including recurring investment income and realized and unrealized investment gains (losses).

Variable Interest Entities

The Company has invested in certain structured transactions (including CSEs), formed trusts to invest proceeds from certain collateral financing arrangements and has insurance operations that are VIEs. In certain instances, the Company holds both the power to direct the most significant activities of the entity, as well as an economic interest in the entity and, as such, is deemed to be the primary beneficiary or consolidator of the entity.

The determination of the VIE's primary beneficiary requires an evaluation of the contractual and implied rights and obligations associated with each party's relationship with or involvement in the entity, an estimate of the entity's expected losses and expected residual returns and the allocation of such estimates to each party involved in the entity. The Company generally uses a qualitative approach to determine whether it is the primary beneficiary. However, for VIEs that are investment companies or apply measurement principles consistent with those utilized by investment companies, the primary beneficiary is based on a risks and rewards model and is defined as the entity that will absorb a majority of a VIE's expected losses, receive a majority of a VIE's expected residual returns if no single entity absorbs a majority of expected losses, or both. The Company reassesses its involvement with VIEs on a quarterly basis. The use of different methodologies, assumptions and inputs in the determination of the primary beneficiary could have a material effect on the amounts presented within the consolidated financial statements.

Consolidated VIEs

Creditors or beneficial interest holders of VIEs where the Company is the primary beneficiary have no recourse to the general credit of the Company, as the Company's obligation to the VIEs is limited to the amount of its committed investment.

The following table presents the total assets and total liabilities relating to VIEs for which the Company has concluded that it is the primary beneficiary and which are consolidated at December 31, 2015 and 2014.

	December 31,	
	2015	2014

	Total Assets	Total Liabilities	Total Assets	Total Liabilities
	(In millions)			
MRSC (collateral financing arrangement (primarily securities)) (1)	$3,374	$ —	$3,471	$ —
Operating joint venture (2)	2,465	2,079	2,405	1,999
CSEs (assets (primarily loans) and liabilities (primarily debt)) (3)	186	62	297	155
Other investments (4)	76	—	150	15
Total	$6,101	$ 2,141	$6,323	$ 2,169

---

(1) See Note 13 for a description of the MetLife Reinsurance Company of South Carolina ("MRSC") collateral financing arrangement.

(2) Assets of the operating joint venture are primarily fixed maturity securities and separate account assets. Liabilities of the operating joint venture are primarily future policy benefits, other policyholder funds and separate account liabilities.

(3) The Company consolidates entities that are structured as CMBS and as collateralized debt obligations. The assets of these entities can only be used to settle their respective liabilities, and under no circumstances is the Company liable for any principal or interest shortfalls should any arise. The Company's exposure was limited to that of its remaining investment in these entities of $105 million and $123 million at estimated fair value at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The long-term debt bears interest primarily at fixed rates ranging from 2.25% to

5.57%, payable primarily on a monthly basis. Interest expense related to these obligations, included in other expenses, was $8 million, $38 million and $122 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013 respectively.

(4) Other investments is comprised of other invested assets, other limited partnerships interests, FVO and trading securities, and real estate joint ventures.

Unconsolidated VIEs

The carrying amount and maximum exposure to loss relating to VIEs in which the Company holds a significant variable interest but is not the primary beneficiary and which have not been consolidated were as follows at:

	December 31,			
	2015		2014	
	Carrying Amount	Maximum Exposure to Loss (1)	Carrying Amount	Maximum Exposure to Loss (1)
	(In millions)			
Fixed maturity securities AFS:				
Structured securities (RMBS, ABS and CMBS) (2)	$65,824	$ 65,824	$68,427	$ 68,427
U.S. and foreign corporate	3,261	3,261	3,829	3,829
Other limited partnership interests	5,186	7,074	6,250	8,402
Other invested assets	1,604	2,161	1,720	2,050
FVO and trading securities	586	586	565	565
Real estate joint ventures	65	82	100	125
Other investments (3)	71	71	92	92
Total	$76,597	$ 79,059	$80,983	$ 83,490

____

(1) The maximum exposure to loss relating to fixed maturity securities AFS, FVO and trading securities and equity securities AFS is equal to their carrying amounts or the carrying amounts of retained interests. The maximum exposure to loss relating to other limited partnership interests, mortgage loans and real estate joint ventures is equal to the carrying amounts plus any unfunded commitments. For certain of its investments in other invested assets, the Company's return is in the form of income tax credits which are guaranteed by creditworthy third parties. For such investments, the maximum exposure to loss is equal to the carrying amounts plus any unfunded commitments, reduced by income tax credits guaranteed by third parties of $179 million and $212 million at December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Such a maximum loss would be expected to occur only upon bankruptcy of the issuer or investee.

(2) For these variable interests, the Company's involvement is limited to that of a passive investor in mortgage-backed or asset-backed securities issued by trusts that do not have substantial equity.

(3) Other investments is comprised of mortgage loans and non-redeemable preferred stock.

As described in Note 21, the Company makes commitments to fund partnership investments in the normal course of business. Excluding these commitments, the Company did not provide financial or other support to investees designated as VIEs during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
8. Investments (continued)

Net Investment Income
The components of net investment income were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Investment income:			
Fixed maturity securities	$14,235	$14,868	$15,071
Equity securities	144	133	127
FVO and trading securities — Actively traded and FVO general account securities (1)	21	103	65
Mortgage loans	3,136	2,928	3,020
Policy loans	603	629	620
Real estate and real estate joint ventures	981	951	909
Other limited partnership interests	669	1,033	955
Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments	148	168	181
Operating joint ventures	25	10	10
Other	248	192	165
Subtotal	20,210	21,015	21,123
Less: Investment expenses	1,209	1,178	1,198
Subtotal, net	19,001	19,837	19,925
FVO and trading securities — FVO contractholder-directed unit-linked investments (1)	264	1,266	2,172
FVO CSEs — interest income:			
Commercial mortgage loans	16	49	132
Securities	—	1	3
Subtotal	280	1,316	2,307
Net investment income	$19,281	$21,153	$22,232

____

(1) Changes in estimated fair value subsequent to purchase for securities still held as of the end of the respective years included in net investment income were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Actively traded and FVO general account securities	$(23)	$(3)	$18
FVO contractholder-directed unit-linked investments	$(433)	$645	$1,579

See "— Variable Interest Entities" for discussion of CSEs.

FVO Securities include certain fixed maturity and equity securities held-for-investment by the general account to support asset and liability management strategies for certain insurance products and investments in certain separate accounts; securities held by CSEs; and trading securities, as further described in Note 1.

MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
8. Investments (continued)

Net Investment Gains (Losses)
Components of Net Investment Gains (Losses)
The components of net investment gains (losses) were as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2015	2014	2013
	(In millions)		
Total gains (losses) on fixed maturity securities:			
Total OTTI losses recognized — by sector and industry:			
U.S. and foreign corporate securities — by industry:			
Consumer	$(28)	$(7)	$(11)
Utility	(21)	—	(48)
Industrial	(5)	—	—
Transportation	—	(2)	(3)
Finance	—	—	(10)
Communications	—	—	(2)
Total U.S. and foreign corporate securities	(54)	(9)	(74)
RMBS	(30)	(31)	(80)
CMBS	—	(13)	(12)
ABS	—	(7)	—
State and political subdivision	(6)	—	—
OTTI losses on fixed maturity securities recognized in earnings	(90)	(60)	(166)
Fixed maturity securities — net gains (losses) on sales and disposals	204	598	561
Total gains (losses) on fixed maturity securities	114	538	395
Total gains (losses) on equity securities:			
Total OTTI losses recognized — by sector:			
Common stock	(39)	(13)	(6)
Non-redeemable preferred stock	(1)	(23)	(20)
OTTI losses on equity securities recognized in earnings	(40)	(36)	(26)
Equity securities — net gains (losses) on sales and disposals	61	101	31
Total gains (losses) on equity securities	21	65	5
FVO and trading securities — FVO general account securities	—	9	15
Mortgage loans	(105)	(36)	22
Real estate and real estate joint ventures	531	222	(19)
Other limited partnership interests	(67)	(78)	(48)
Other	(6)	(110)	22
Subtotal	488	610	392
FVO CSEs:			
Commercial mortgage loans	(7)	(13)	(52)
Securities	—	—	2
Long-term debt — related to commercial mortgage loans	4	19	85
Long-term debt — related to securities	—	(1)	(2)
Non-investment portfolio gains (losses) (1)	112	(812)	(264)
Subtotal	109	(807)	(231)
Total net investment gains (losses)	$597	$(197)	$161

____

(1) Non-investment portfolio gains (losses) for the year ended December 31, 2014 includes a loss of $633 million related to the disposition of MAL as more fully described in Note 3.

See "— Variable Interest Entities" for discussion of CSEs.

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
8. Investments (continued)

Gains (losses) from foreign currency transactions included within net investment gains (losses) were $46 million, ($183) million and $171 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Sales or Disposals and Impairments of Fixed Maturity and Equity Securities

Investment gains and losses on sales of securities are determined on a specific identification basis. Proceeds from sales or disposals of fixed maturity and equity securities and the components of fixed maturity and equity securities net investment gains (losses) were as shown in the table below.

	Years Ended December 31,					
	2015	2014	2013	2015	2014	2013
	Fixed Maturity Securities			Equity Securities		
	(In millions)					
Proceeds	$115,395	$82,075	$76,070	$358	$544	$746
Gross investment gains	$1,262	$1,165	$1,326	$99	$112	$56
Gross investment losses	(1,058)	(567)	(765)	(38)	(11)	(25)
OTTI losses	(90)	(60)	(166)	(40)	(36)	(26)
Net investment gains (losses)	$114	$538	$395	$21	$65	$5

Credit Loss Rollforward

The table below presents a rollforward of the cumulative credit loss component of OTTI loss recognized in earnings on fixed maturity securities still held for which a portion of the OTTI loss was recognized in OCI:

	Years Ended December 31,	
	2015	2014
	(In millions)	
Balance at January 1,	$ 357	$ 378
Additions:		
Initial impairments — credit loss OTTI on securities not previously impaired	20	2
Additional impairments — credit loss OTTI on securities previously impaired	26	25
Reductions:		
Sales (maturities, pay downs or prepayments) of securities previously impaired as credit loss OTTI	(124)	(40)
Securities impaired to net present value of expected future cash flows	—	(7)
Increase in cash flows — accretion of previous credit loss OTTI	(2)	(1)
Balance at December 31,	$ 277	$ 357

Table of Contents
MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)

9. Derivatives

Accounting for Derivatives

See Note 1 for a description of the Company's accounting policies for derivatives and Note 10 for information about the fair value hierarchy for derivatives.

Derivative Strategies

The Company is exposed to various risks relating to its ongoing business operations, including interest rate, foreign currency exchange rate, credit and equity market. The Company uses a variety of strategies to manage these risks, including the use of derivatives.

Derivatives are financial instruments with values derived from interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, credit spreads and/or other financial indices. Derivatives may be exchange-traded or contracted in the over-the-counter ("OTC") market. Certain of the Company's OTC derivatives are cleared and settled through central clearing counterparties ("OTC-cleared"), while others are bilateral contracts between two counterparties ("OTC-bilateral"). The types of derivatives the Company uses include swaps, forwards, futures and option contracts. To a lesser extent, the Company uses credit default swaps and structured interest rate swaps to synthetically replicate investment risks and returns which are not readily available in the cash market.

Interest Rate Derivatives

The Company uses a variety of interest rate derivatives to reduce its exposure to changes in interest rates, including interest rate swaps, caps, floors, swaptions, futures and forwards.

Interest rate swaps are used by the Company primarily to reduce market risks from changes in interest rates and to alter interest rate exposure arising from mismatches between assets and liabilities (duration mismatches). In an interest rate swap, the Company agrees with another party to exchange, at specified intervals, the difference between fixed rate and floating rate interest amounts as calculated by reference to an agreed notional amount. The Company utilizes interest rate swaps in fair value, cash flow and nonqualifying hedging relationships.

The Company uses structured interest rate swaps to synthetically create investments that are either more expensive to acquire or otherwise unavailable in the cash markets. These transactions are a combination of a derivative and a cash instrument such as a U.S. Treasury, agency, or other fixed maturity security. Structured interest rate swaps are included in interest rate swaps and are not designated as hedging instruments.

The Company purchases interest rate caps and floors primarily to protect its floating rate liabilities against rises in interest rates above a specified level, and against interest rate exposure arising from mismatches between assets and liabilities, as well as to protect its minimum rate guarantee liabilities against declines in interest rates below a specified level, respectively. In certain instances, the Company locks in the economic impact of existing purchased caps and floors by entering into offsetting written caps and floors. The Company utilizes interest rate caps and floors in nonqualifying hedging relationships.

In exchange-traded interest rate (Treasury and swap) futures transactions, the Company agrees to purchase or sell a specified number of contracts, the value of which is determined by the different classes of interest rate securities, and to post variation margin on a daily basis in an amount equal to the difference in the daily market values of those contracts. The Company enters into exchange-traded futures with regulated futures commission merchants that are members of the exchange. Exchange-traded interest rate (Treasury and swap) futures are used primarily to hedge mismatches between the duration of assets in a portfolio and the duration of liabilities supported by those assets, to hedge against changes in value of securities the Company owns or anticipates acquiring, to hedge against changes in interest rates on anticipated liability issuances by replicating Treasury or swap curve performance, and to hedge minimum guarantees embedded in certain variable annuity products offered by the Company. The Company utilizes exchange-traded interest rate futures in nonqualifying hedging relationships.

Swaptions are used by the Company to hedge interest rate risk associated with the Company's long-term liabilities and invested assets. A swaption is an option to enter into a swap with a forward starting effective date. In certain instances, the Company locks in the economic impact of existing purchased swaptions by entering into offsetting written swaptions. The Company pays a premium for purchased swaptions and receives a premium for written swaptions. The

Company utilizes swaptions in nonqualifying hedging relationships. Swaptions are included in interest rate options.
The Company enters into interest rate forwards to buy and sell securities. The price is agreed upon at the time of the contract and payment for such a contract is made at a specified future date. The Company utilizes interest rate forwards in cash flow hedging relationships.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Derivatives

The Company uses foreign currency exchange rate derivatives, including foreign currency swaps, foreign currency forwards, currency options and exchange-traded currency futures, to reduce the risk from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates associated with its assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. The Company also uses foreign currency derivatives to hedge the foreign currency exchange rate risk associated with certain of its net investments in foreign operations.

In a foreign currency swap transaction, the Company agrees with another party to exchange, at specified intervals, the difference between one currency and another at a fixed exchange rate, generally set at inception, calculated by reference to an agreed upon notional amount. The notional amount of each currency is exchanged at the inception and termination of the currency swap by each party. The Company utilizes foreign currency swaps in fair value, cash flow and nonqualifying hedging relationships.

In a foreign currency forward transaction, the Company agrees with another party to deliver a specified amount of an identified currency at a specified future date. The price is agreed upon at the time of the contract and payment for such a contract is made at the specified future date. The Company utilizes foreign currency forwards in fair value, net investment in foreign operations and nonqualifying hedging relationships.

The Company enters into currency options that give it the right, but not the obligation, to sell the foreign currency amount in exchange for a functional currency amount within a limited time at a contracted price. The contracts may also be net settled in cash, based on differentials in the foreign currency exchange rate and the strike price. The Company uses currency options to hedge against the foreign currency exposure inherent in certain of its variable annuity products. The Company also uses currency options as an economic hedge of foreign currency exposure related to the Company's international subsidiaries. The Company utilizes currency options in net investment in foreign operations and nonqualifying hedging relationships.

To a lesser extent, the Company uses exchange-traded currency futures to hedge currency mismatches between assets and liabilities, and to hedge minimum guarantees embedded in certain variable annuity products offered by the Company. The Company utilizes exchange-traded currency futures in nonqualifying hedging relationships.

Credit Derivatives

The Company enters into purchased credit default swaps to hedge against credit-related changes in the value of its investments. In a credit default swap transaction, the Company agrees with another party to pay, at specified intervals, a premium to hedge credit risk. If a credit event occurs, as defined by the contract, the contract may be cash settled or it may be settled gross by the delivery of par quantities of the referenced investment equal to the specified swap notional amount in exchange for the payment of cash amounts by the counterparty equal to the par value of the investment surrendered. Credit events vary by type of issuer but typically include bankruptcy, failure to pay debt obligations, repudiation, moratorium, involuntary restructuring or governmental intervention. In each case, payout on a credit default swap is triggered only after the Credit Derivatives Determinations Committee of the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. ("ISDA") deems that a credit event has occurred. The Company utilizes credit default swaps in nonqualifying hedging relationships.

The Company enters into written credit default swaps to synthetically create credit investments that are either more expensive to acquire or otherwise unavailable in the cash markets. These transactions are a combination of a derivative and one or more cash instruments, such as U.S. Treasury securities, agency securities or other fixed maturity securities. These credit default swaps are not designated as hedging instruments.

The Company also enters into certain purchased and written credit default swaps held in relation to trading portfolios for the purpose of generating profits on short-term differences in price. These credit default swaps are not designated as hedging instruments.

The Company enters into forwards to lock in the price to be paid for forward purchases of certain securities. The price is agreed upon at the time of the contract and payment for the contract is made at a specified future date. When the primary purpose of entering into these transactions is to hedge against the risk of changes in purchase price due to changes in credit spreads, the Company designates these transactions as credit forwards. The Company utilizes credit forwards in cash flow hedging relationships.

Equity Derivatives

The Company uses a variety of equity derivatives to reduce its exposure to equity market risk, including equity index options, equity variance swaps, exchange-traded equity futures and total rate of return swaps ("TRRs").

Equity index options are used by the Company primarily to hedge minimum guarantees embedded in certain variable annuity products offered by the Company. To hedge against adverse changes in equity indices, the Company enters into contracts to sell the equity index within a limited time at a contracted price. The contracts will be net settled in cash based on differentials in the indices at the time of exercise and the strike price. Certain of these contracts may also contain settlement provisions linked to interest rates. In certain instances, the Company may enter into a combination of transactions to hedge adverse changes in equity indices within a pre-determined range through the purchase and sale of options. The Company utilizes equity index options in nonqualifying hedging relationships.

Equity variance swaps are used by the Company primarily to hedge minimum guarantees embedded in certain variable annuity products offered by the Company. In an equity variance swap, the Company agrees with another party to exchange amounts in the future, based on changes in equity volatility over a defined period. The Company utilizes equity variance swaps in nonqualifying hedging relationships.

In exchange-traded equity futures transactions, the Company agrees to purchase or sell a specified number of contracts, the value of which is determined by the different classes of equity securities, and to post variation margin on a daily basis in an amount equal to the difference in the daily market values of those contracts. The Company enters into exchange-traded futures with regulated futures commission merchants that are members of the exchange. Exchange-traded equity futures are used primarily to hedge minimum guarantees embedded in certain variable annuity products offered by the Company. The Company utilizes exchange-traded equity futures in nonqualifying hedging relationships.

TRRs are swaps whereby the Company agrees with another party to exchange, at specified intervals, the difference between the economic risk and reward of an asset or a market index and the LIBOR, calculated by reference to an agreed notional amount. No cash is exchanged at the outset of the contract. Cash is paid and received over the life of the contract based on the terms of the swap. The Company uses TRRs to hedge its equity market guarantees in certain of its insurance products. TRRs can be used as hedges or to synthetically create investments. The Company utilizes TRRs in nonqualifying hedging relationships.

MetLife, Inc.
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements — (continued)
9. Derivatives (continued)

Primary Risks Managed by Derivatives
The following table presents the gross notional amount, estimated fair value and primary underlying risk exposure of the Company's derivatives, excluding embedded derivatives, held at:

		December 31, 2015			2014		
	Primary Underlying Risk Exposure	Gross Notional Amount	Estimated Fair Value		Gross Notional Amount	Estimated Fair Value	
			Assets	Liabilities		Assets	Liabilities
		(In millions)					
Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments							
Fair value hedges:							
Interest rate swaps	Interest rate	$5,528	$ 2,215	$ 12	$6,044	$ 2,064	$ 21
Foreign currency swaps	Foreign currency exchange rate	2,154	62	159	2,708	65	100
Foreign currency forwards	Foreign currency exchange rate	1,685	—	52	2,335	—	291
Subtotal		9,367	2,277	223	11,087	2,129	412
Cash flow hedges:							
Interest rate swaps	Interest rate	2,190	487	—	2,560	528	—
Interest rate forwards	Interest rate	105	23	—	225	63	—
Foreign currency swaps	Foreign currency exchange rate	23,661	1,303	1,803	18,325	563	930
Subtotal		25,956	1,813	1,803	21,110	1,154	930
Foreign operations hedges:							
Foreign currency forwards	Foreign currency exchange rate						