

HSBC HOLDINGS PLC  
Form 6-K  
November 05, 2010

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a - 16 or 15d - 16 of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of November

HSBC Holdings plc

42nd Floor, 8 Canada Square, London E14 5HQ, England

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F).

Form 20-F  Form 40-F

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934).

Yes.....  No

(If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-.....).

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

Form 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2010

OR

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 1-8198

HSBC FINANCE CORPORATION  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State of Incorporation)  
26525 North Riverwoods Boulevard, Mettawa,  
Illinois  
(Address of principal executive offices)

86-1052062  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)  
60045  
(Zip Code)

(224) 544-2000  
Registrant's telephone number, including area code

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

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

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

As of October 31, 2010, there were 66 shares of the registrant’s common stock outstanding, all of which are owned by HSBC Investments (North America) Inc.

## HSBC FINANCE CORPORATION

## FORM 10-Q

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part/Item No.		Page
Part I.		
Item 1.	Financial Statements (Unaudited)	
	Consolidated Statement of Income (Loss)	3
	Consolidated Balance Sheet	4
	Consolidated Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity	5
	Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows	6
	Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	8
Item 2.	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	
	Forward-Looking Statements	56
	Executive Overview	56
	Basis of Reporting	66
	Receivables Review	70
	Real Estate Owned	72
	Results of Operations	73
	Segment Results – IFRS Management Basis	83
	Credit Quality	91
	Liquidity and Capital Resources	108
	Fair Value	113
	Risk Management	115
	Reconciliations to U.S. GAAP Financial Measures	119
Item 3.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk	120
Item 4.	Controls and Procedures	120
PART II		
Item 1.	Legal Proceedings	120
Item 6.	Exhibits	122
Index		123
Signature		125

## Part I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1. Financial Statements

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME (LOSS) (UNAUDITED)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,	September 30,	September 30,	September 30,
	2010	2009	2010	2009
	(in millions)			
Finance and other interest income	\$1,749	\$2,269	\$5,493	\$7,292
Interest expense on debt held by:				
HSBC affiliates	33	51	107	205
Non-affiliates	656	861	2,208	2,759
Net interest income	1,060	1,357	3,178	4,328
Provision for credit losses	1,509	2,117	4,970	7,166
Net interest income (loss) after provision for credit losses	(449)	(760)	(1,792)	(2,838)
Other revenues:				
Insurance revenue	69	83	213	261
Investment income	24	31	75	83
Net other-than-temporary impairment losses	—	—	—	(20)
Derivative related income (expense)	(374)	(179)	(972)	67
Gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives	(1)	(1,247)	602	(1,904)
Fee income	47	159	156	510
Enhancement services revenue	99	115	303	374
Taxpayer financial services revenue	—	2	29	95
Gain on bulk receivable sales to HSBC affiliates	—	—	—	50
Gain on receivable sales to HSBC affiliates	143	101	401	319
Servicing and other fees from HSBC affiliates	167	182	560	564
Lower of cost or fair value adjustment on receivables held for sale	—	(4)	2	(337)
Other income	25	18	45	80
Total other revenues	199	(739)	1,414	142
Operating expenses:				
Salaries and employee benefits	149	249	476	911
Occupancy and equipment expenses, net	25	22	67	158
Other marketing expenses	73	50	208	127
Real estate owned expenses	75	29	154	175
Other servicing and administrative expenses	163	194	563	620
Support services from HSBC affiliates	296	220	840	717
Amortization of intangibles	35	39	108	119
Policyholders' benefits	36	50	116	153
Goodwill and other intangible asset impairment charges	—	—	—	2,308
Total operating expenses	852	853	2,532	5,288
Loss before income tax benefit	(1,102)	(2,352)	(2,910)	(7,984)
Income tax benefit	393	1,118	1,062	1,392
Loss from continuing operations	(709)	(1,234)	(1,848)	(6,592)

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Discontinued Operations (Note 2):

Income (loss) from discontinued auto finance operations	(65)	43	(42)	(72)
Income tax benefit	23	10	15	21
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	(42)	53	(27)	(51)
Net loss	\$(751)	\$(1,181)	\$(1,875)	\$(6,643)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

---

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (UNAUDITED)

	September 30, December 31, 2010 2009 (in millions, except share data)	
Assets		
Cash	\$174	\$289
Interest bearing deposits with banks	15	17
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	4,795	2,850
Securities available-for-sale	3,422	3,187
Receivables, net (including \$6.7 billion and \$6.8 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively, collateralizing long-term debt)	63,860	74,308
Receivables held for sale	4	3
Intangible assets, net	640	748
Properties and equipment, net	188	201
Real estate owned	908	592
Derivative financial assets	61	—
Deferred income taxes, net	2,789	2,891
Other assets	1,861	4,639
Assets of discontinued operations	141	4,828
Total assets	\$78,858	\$94,553
Liabilities		
Debt:		
Due to affiliates	\$8,308	\$9,043
Commercial paper	3,057	4,291
Long-term debt (including \$23.0 billion and \$26.7 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 carried at fair value and \$4.4 billion and \$4.7 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively, collateralized by receivables)	57,907	68,880
Total debt	69,272	82,214
Insurance policy and claim reserves	984	996
Derivative related liabilities	—	60
Liability for postretirement benefits	260	268
Other liabilities	1,689	1,829
Liabilities of discontinued operations	7	807
Total liabilities	72,212	86,174
Shareholders' equity		
Redeemable preferred stock, 1,501,100 shares authorized, Series B, \$0.01 par value, 575,000 shares issued	575	575
Common shareholder's equity:		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 100 shares authorized, 66 shares and 65 shares issued at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively	—	—
Additional paid-in capital	23,322	23,119
Accumulated deficit	(16,634)	(14,732)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(617)	(583)
Total common shareholder's equity	6,071	7,804
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$78,858	\$94,553

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

---



## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY (UNAUDITED)

Nine Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009
	(in millions)	
Preferred stock		
Balance at beginning and end of period	\$575	\$575
Common shareholder's equity		
Additional paid-in capital		
Balance at beginning of period	\$23,119	\$21,485
Capital contribution from parent company	200	2,685
Return of capital to parent company		— (1,043)
Employee benefit plans, including transfers and other	3	(8)
Balance at end of period	\$23,322	\$23,119
Accumulated deficit		
Balance at beginning of period	\$(14,732)	\$(7,245)
Net loss	(1,875)	(6,643)
Dividends:		
Preferred stock	(27)	(27)
Balance at end of period	\$(16,634)	\$(13,915)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		
Balance at beginning of period	\$(583)	\$(1,378)
Net change in unrealized gains (losses), net of tax, on:		
Derivatives classified as cash flow hedges	(115)	540
Securities available-for-sale, not other-than-temporarily impaired	89	95
Other-than-temporarily impaired debt securities available-for-sale(1)	2	—
Postretirement benefit plan adjustment, net of tax	(8)	15
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(2)	13
Other comprehensive income, net of tax	(34)	663
Balance at end of period	\$(617)	\$(715)
Total common shareholder's equity	\$6,071	\$8,489
Comprehensive income (loss)		
Net loss	\$(1,875)	\$(6,643)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	(34)	663
Comprehensive loss	\$(1,909)	\$(5,980)

(1) During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, gross other-than-temporary impairment ("OTTI") recoveries on available-for-sale securities totaled \$2 million, all relating to the non-credit component of OTTI previously recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income ("AOCI").

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)

Nine Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009
	(in millions)	
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net loss	\$(1,875)	\$(6,643)
Loss from discontinued operations	(27)	(51)
Loss from continuing operations	(1,848)	(6,592)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Provision for credit losses	4,970	7,166
Gain on bulk sale of receivables to HSBC Bank USA, National Association (“HSBC Bank USA”)	—	(50)
Gain on receivable sales to HSBC affiliates	(401)	(319)
Goodwill and other intangible impairment	—	2,308
Loss on sale of real estate owned, including lower of cost or market adjustments	50	101
Insurance policy and claim reserves	(44)	(2)
Depreciation and amortization	134	149
Mark-to-market on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives	5	2,358
Originations of loans held for sale	(25,298)	(27,674)
Sales and collections on loans held for sale	25,702	28,190
Foreign exchange and derivative movements on long-term debt and net change in non-FVO related derivative assets and liabilities	(316)	(145)
Other-than-temporary impairment on securities	—	20
Lower of cost or fair value on receivables held for sale	(2)	337
Net change in other assets	2,819	117
Net change in other liabilities	(147)	(498)
Other, net	412	151
Cash provided by operating activities – continuing operations	6,036	5,617
Cash provided by operating activities – discontinued operations	571	406
Net cash provided by operating activities	6,607	6,023
Cash flows from investing activities		
Securities:		
Purchased	(694)	(353)
Matured	302	294
Sold	137	135
Net change in short-term securities available-for-sale	163	31
Net change in securities purchased under agreements to resell	(1,945)	(3,741)
Net change in interest bearing deposits with banks	2	(1)
Proceeds from sale of affiliate preferred stock shares to HSBC plc	—	242
Proceeds from sale of Low Income Housing Tax Credit Investment Funds to HSBC Bank USA	—	106
Receivables:		
Net (originations) collections	3,844	4,899
Purchases and related premiums	(33)	(32)
Proceeds from sales of real estate owned	964	1,165
Cash received from bulk sales of receivables to HSBC Bank USA	—	6,043
Purchases of properties and equipment	(21)	(47)
Cash provided by investing activities – continuing operations	2,719	8,741
Cash provided by investing activities – discontinued operations	3,613	4,702

Net cash provided by investing activities

6,332 13,443

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

---

Cash flows from financing activities		
Debt:		
Net change in short-term debt	(1,234)	(5,018)
Net change in due to affiliates	(735)	(3,717)
Long-term debt issued	654	3,118
Repayments of long-term debt	(11,577)	(14,155)
Insurance:		
Policyholders' benefits paid	(60)	(62)
Cash received from policyholders	49	26
Capital contribution from parent	200	2,410
Return of capital to parent		—(1,043)
Shareholder's dividends	(27)	(27)
Cash used in financing activities – continuing operations	(12,730)	(18,468)
Cash used in financings activities – discontinued operations	(346)	(998)
Net cash used in financing activities	(13,076)	(19,466)
Net change in cash	(137)	—
Cash at beginning of period(1)	311	255
Cash at end of period(2)	\$174	\$255
Supplemental Noncash Investing and Capital Activities:		
Fair value of properties added to real estate owned	\$1,330	\$963
Transfer of receivables to held for sale	2,910	611
Transfer of receivables to held for investment	—	806
Extinguishment of indebtedness related to receivable sales	\$(431)	\$(6,077)
Redemption of the junior subordinated notes underlying the mandatorily redeemable preferred securities of the Household Capital Trust VIII for common stock	\$—	\$275

(1) Cash at beginning of period includes \$22 million and \$17 million for discontinued operations at January 1, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

(2) Cash at end of period includes \$15 million for discontinued operations at September 30, 2009.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note	Page
1 Organization and Basis of Presentation	8
2 Discontinued Operations	9
3 Strategic Initiatives	10
4 Securities	14
5 Receivables	18
6 Credit Loss Reserves	21
7 Receivables Held for Sale	21
8 Intangible Assets	23
9 Goodwill	23
10 Derivative Financial Instruments	24
11 Fair Value Option	29
12 Income Taxes	31
13 Pension and Other Postretirement Benefits	33
14 Related Party Transactions	35
15 Business Segments	40
16 Variable Interest Entities	45
17 Fair Value Measurements	46
18 Contingent Liabilities	54
19 New and Proposed Accounting Pronouncements	54

## 1. Organization and Basis of Presentation

HSBC Finance Corporation is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of HSBC North America Holdings Inc. (“HSBC North America”), which is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc (“HSBC”). The accompanying unaudited interim consolidated financial statements of HSBC Finance Corporation and its subsidiaries have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“U.S. GAAP”) for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all normal and recurring adjustments considered necessary for a fair presentation of financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the interim periods have been made. HSBC Finance Corporation and its subsidiaries may also be referred to in this Form 10-Q as “we,” “us” or “our.” These unaudited interim consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 (the “2009 Form 10-K”). Certain reclassifications have been made to prior period amounts to conform to the current period presentation. Unless otherwise indicated, information included in these notes to consolidated financial statements relates to continuing operations for all periods presented. In August 2010, we sold the remainder of our auto finance receivable portfolio and as a result our auto finance business is now reported as discontinued operations. See Note 2, “Discontinued Operations,” for further details.

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the basis that we will continue as a going concern. Such assertion contemplates the significant losses recognized in recent years and the challenges we anticipate with respect to a sustainable return to profitability under prevailing economic conditions. HSBC continues to be fully committed and has the capacity and willingness to continue to provide the necessary capital and liquidity to fund our operations.

As previously disclosed in the 2009 Form 10-K, subsequent to the filing of the Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2009 certain tax return filing adjustments were identified which resulted in an increase in the required valuation allowance against deferred tax assets at September 30, 2009 and a decrease in our income tax benefit for the

three and nine months ended September 30, 2009. Although we concluded that the impact of these items was not material individually or in the aggregate to the consolidated financial statements for the second or third quarters of 2009 as originally reported, we nonetheless decided to revise the consolidated statement of income (loss) for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 previously reported in our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2009 presented in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q to reflect these changes. This resulted in a decrease to our income tax benefit and an increase in our net loss during the three and

---

nine months ended September 30, 2009 of \$52 million and \$427 million, respectively, as compared to what was previously reported.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts and disclosures. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Interim results should not be considered indicative of results in future periods.

During the first quarter of 2010, we adopted new accounting guidance on the consolidation of variable interest entities (“VIEs”) and new disclosure requirements relating to fair value measurements. See Note 19, “New Accounting Pronouncements” for further details and related impacts.

## 2. Discontinued Operations

In March 2010, we sold our auto finance receivable servicing operations as well as auto finance receivables with a carrying value of \$927 million, of which \$379 million was purchased at estimated fair value from HSBC Bank USA immediately prior to the sale, to Santander Consumer USA Inc. (“SC USA”) for \$930 million in cash. Under the terms of the agreement, our auto finance servicing facilities in San Diego, California and Lewisville, Texas were assigned to SC USA at the time of close and the majority of the employees from those locations were offered the opportunity to transfer to SC USA. SC USA agreed to service the remainder of our auto finance receivable portfolio. As the receivables sold were previously classified as held for sale and written down to fair value, we recorded a gain of \$5 million (\$3 million after-tax) during the first quarter of 2010 which primarily related to the sale of the auto servicing platform and reversal of certain accruals related to leases assumed by SC USA.

In August 2010, we sold the remainder of our auto finance receivable portfolio with an outstanding principal balance of \$2.6 billion at the time of sale and other related assets to SC USA. The aggregate sales price for the auto finance receivables and other related assets was \$2.5 billion which included the transfer of \$431 million of indebtedness secured by auto finance receivables, resulting in net cash proceeds of \$2.1 billion. We recorded a net loss as a result of this transaction of \$43 million (\$28 million after-tax) during the third quarter of 2010. This net loss is included as a component of loss from discontinued operations. Severance costs recorded as a result of this transaction were less than \$1 million and are included as a component of loss from discontinued operations. As a result of this transaction, our Auto Finance business is now reported as discontinued operations for all periods presented.

The following summarizes the total revenues and income (loss) before income tax benefit for our Auto Finance business for the periods presented:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,	September 30,	September 30,	September 30,
	2010(1)	2009	2010(1)	2009
	(in millions)			
Net interest income and other revenues(2)	\$45	\$137	\$218	\$436
Income (loss) before income tax benefit	(65)	43	(42)	(72)

(1) Amounts shown for 2010 represent totals from the beginning of the period through August 27, 2010, the date of the sale.

(2) Interest expense, which is included as a component of net interest income, has been allocated to discontinued operations in accordance with our existing internal transfer pricing policy. This policy uses match funding based on the expected lives of the assets and liabilities of the business at the time of

origination, subject to periodic review, as demonstrated by the expected cash flows and re-pricing characteristics of the underlying asset.

---



The following summarizes the assets and liabilities of our Auto Finance business at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 which are now reported as Assets of discontinued operations and Liabilities of discontinued operations in our consolidated balance sheet. Other assets of discontinued operations at September 30, 2010 reflects current income taxes receivable on our Auto Finance business for the 2010 tax year.

	September 30, December 31,	
	2010	2009
	(in millions)	
Cash	\$—	\$22
Receivables, net of credit loss reserves of \$172 million at December 31, 2009	—	3,823
Receivables held for sale	—	533
Deferred income taxes, net	(3)	123
Other assets	144	327
Assets of discontinued operations	\$141	\$4,828
Long-term debt	\$—	\$778
Other liabilities	7	29
Liabilities of discontinued operations	\$7	\$807

### 3. Strategic Initiatives

As discussed in prior filings, in prior years we performed several comprehensive evaluations of the strategies and opportunities of our operations. As a result of these various evaluations, we have discontinued all new customer account originations except in our credit card business. Summarized below are a number of strategic actions which have been undertaken beginning in mid-2007 as part of these evaluations:

2009 Strategic Initiatives During 2009, we undertook a number of actions including the following:

> Throughout 2009, we decided to exit certain lease arrangements and consolidate a variety of locations across the United States. As a result, we have or will exit certain facilities and/or significantly reduce our occupancy space in the following locations: Bridgewater, New Jersey; Minnetonka, Minnesota; Wood Dale, Illinois; Elmhurst, Illinois; Sioux Falls, South Dakota and Tampa, Florida. Additionally, we have consolidated our operations in Virginia Beach, Virginia into our Chesapeake, Virginia facility and consolidated certain servicing functions currently performed in Brandon, Florida to facilities in Buffalo, New York and Elmhurst, Illinois. The process of closing and consolidating these facilities, which began during the second quarter of 2009, will be completed during the fourth quarter of 2010.

> In late February 2009, we decided to discontinue new customer account originations for all products by our Consumer Lending business and close all branch offices.

Summary of Restructuring Liability Related to 2009 Strategic Initiatives The following summarizes the changes in the restructure liability during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, relating to actions implemented during 2009:

	One-Time Termination and Other Employee Benefits	Lease Termination and Associated Costs (in millions)	Other	Total
Three months ended September 30, 2010:				
Restructuring liability at July 1, 2010	\$5	\$8	\$—	\$13
Restructuring costs paid during the period	—	(1)	—	(1)
Restructure liability at September 30, 2010	\$5	\$7	\$—	\$12
Three months ended September 30, 2009:				
Restructuring liability at July 1, 2009	\$23	\$31	\$8	\$62
Restructuring costs recorded during the period	—	3	—	3
Restructuring costs paid during the period	(11)	(16)	(2)	(29)
Adjustments to the restructure liability during the period	(4)	—	—	(4)
Restructure liability at September 30, 2009	\$8	\$18	\$6	\$32
Nine months ended September 30, 2010:				
Restructuring liability at January 1, 2010	\$10	\$12	\$2	\$24
Restructuring costs recorded during the period	1	4	—	5
Restructuring costs paid during the period	(6)	(8)	—	(14)
Adjustments to the restructure liability during the period	—	(1)	(2)	(3)
Restructure liability at September 30, 2010	\$5	\$7	\$—	\$12
Nine months ended September 30, 2009:				
Restructuring liability at January 1, 2009	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—
Restructuring costs recorded during the period	89	57	14	160
Restructuring costs paid during the period	(64)	(39)	(8)	(111)
Adjustments to the restructure liability during the period	(17)	—	—	(17)
Restructure liability at September 30, 2009	\$8	\$18	\$6	\$32

2008 Strategic Initiatives During 2008, we undertook a number of actions including the following:

> During the third quarter of 2008, closed servicing facilities located in Jacksonville, Florida and White Marsh, Maryland in our Card and Retail Services business and redeployed these activities to other facilities in our Card and Retail Services business.

> Reduced headcount in our Card and Retail Services business during the fourth quarter of 2008; and

> Ceased operations of Solstice Capital Group, Inc, a subsidiary of our Consumer Lending business which originated real estate secured receivables for resale.

Summary of Restructuring Liability Related to 2008 Strategic Initiatives The following summarizes the changes in the restructure liability during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 relating to the actions implemented during 2008:

	One-Time Termination and Other Employee Benefits	Lease Termination and Associated Costs	Total
	(in millions)		
Three months ended September 30, 2010:			
Restructure liability at July 1, 2010	\$—	\$1	\$1
Restructuring costs paid during the period	—	—	—
Restructure liability at September 30, 2010	\$—	\$1	\$1
Three months ended September 30, 2009:			
Restructure liability at July 1, 2009	\$—	\$4	\$4
Restructuring costs paid during the period	—	(1)	(1)
Adjustments to the restructure liability during the period	—	—	—
Restructure liability at September 30, 2009	\$—	\$3	\$3
Nine months ended September 30, 2010:			
Restructure liability at January 1, 2010	\$—	\$1	\$1
Restructuring costs paid during the period	—	—	—
Restructure liability at September 30, 2010	\$—	\$1	\$1
Nine months ended September 30, 2009:			
Restructure liability at January 1, 2009	\$10	\$4	\$14
Restructuring costs recorded during the period	1	—	1
Restructuring costs paid during the period	(10)	(1)	(11)
Adjustments to the restructure liability during the period	(1)	—	(1)
Restructure liability at September 30, 2009	\$—	\$3	\$3

2007 Actions Beginning in mid-2007 we undertook a number of actions including the following:

- > Discontinued correspondent channel acquisitions of our Mortgage Services business;
- > Ceased operations of Decision One Mortgage Company;
- > Reduced the Consumer Lending branch network to approximately 1,000 branches at December 31, 2007; and
- > Closed our loan underwriting, processing and collections center in Carmel, Indiana.

There were no changes in the restructuring liability during the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, relating to the actions implemented during 2007. The following summarizes the changes in the restructure liability during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, relating to the actions implemented during 2007:

	One-Time Termination and Other Employee Benefits	Lease Termination and Associated Costs	Total
	(in millions)		
Nine months ended September 30, 2010:			
Restructure liability at January 1, 2010	\$—	\$14	\$14
Adjustments to the restructure liability during the period	—	(14)	(14)
Restructure liability at September 30, 2010	\$—	\$—	\$—
Nine months ended September 30, 2009:			
Restructure liability at January 1, 2009	\$1	\$17	\$18
Restructuring costs paid during the period	(1)	(2)	(3)
Restructure liability at September 30, 2009	\$—	\$15	\$15

Summary of Restructuring Activities During the three months ended September 30, 2010, we did not record any expense or expense release related to restructuring activities. The following table summarizes the net cash and non-cash expenses recorded for all restructuring activities during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and three and nine months ended September 30, 2009:

	One-Time Termination and Other Employee Benefits(1)	Lease Termination and Associated Costs(2)	Other(3)	Fixed Assets and Other Non-Cash Adjustments(4)	Total
	(in millions)				
Three months ended September 30, 2009:					
2009 Facility Closures	\$—	\$3	\$—	\$—	\$3
2009 Consumer Lending Closure(5)	(4)	—	—	—	(4)
Total expense (expense release)	\$(4)	\$3	\$—	\$—	\$(1)
Nine months ended September 30, 2010:					
2009 Facility Closure	\$—	\$4	\$—	\$—	\$4
2009 Consumer Lending Closure	1	(1)	(2)	—	(2)
2007 Mortgage Services initiatives	—	(14)	—	—	(14)
Total expense (expense release)	\$1	\$(11)	\$(2)	\$—	\$(12)
Nine months ended September 30, 2009:					
2009 Facility Closure	\$2	\$3	\$—	\$3	\$8
2009 Consumer Lending Closure(5)	70	54	14	14	152
Total expense	\$72	\$57	\$14	\$17	\$160

(1)



Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Obligations of U.S. states and political subdivisions	31	—	1	—	32
Asset-backed securities(2)	94	(11)	2	(2)	83
U.S. corporate debt securities(3)	1,684	—	60	(20)	1,724
Foreign debt securities	351	—	15	—	366
Equity securities	12	—	—	—	12
Money market funds	627	—	—	—	627
Subtotal	3,110	(11)	83	(24)	3,158
Accrued investment income	29	—	—	—	29
Total securities available-for-sale	\$3,139	\$(11)	\$83	\$(24)	\$3,187

(1) Includes \$40 million and \$65 million of mortgage-backed securities issued by the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.

(2) The majority of our asset-backed securities are residential mortgage-backed securities at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009.

(3) At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, the majority of our U.S. corporate debt securities represent investments in the financial services, consumer products, healthcare and industrials sectors.

(4) For available-for-sale debt securities which are other-than-temporarily impaired, the non-credit loss component of other-than-temporary impairment (“OTTI”) is recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income.

A summary of gross unrealized losses and related fair values as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, classified as to the length of time the losses have existed follows:

	Less Than One Year			Greater Than One Year		
	Number of Securities	Gross Unrealized Losses(1)	Aggregate Fair Value of Investments	Number of Securities	Gross Unrealized Losses(1)	Aggregate Fair Value of Investments
September 30, 2010			(dollars are in millions)			
U.S. Treasury	—	\$—	\$—	—	\$—	\$—
U.S. government sponsored enterprises	2	—	4	—	—	—
U.S. government agency issued or guaranteed	—	—	—	—	—	—
Obligations of U.S. states and political subdivisions	3	—	—	—	—	—
Asset-backed securities	—	—	—	9	(9)	19
U.S. corporate debt securities	12	(1)	39	14	(1)	43
Foreign debt securities	—	—	—	—	—	—
	17	\$(1)	\$43	23	\$(10)	\$62
December 31, 2009			(dollars are in millions)			

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

U.S. Treasury	17	\$(1)	\$97	—	\$—	\$—
U.S. government sponsored enterprises	1	—	5	1	(1)	4
U.S. government agency issued or guaranteed	—	—	—	—	—	—
Obligations of U.S. states and political subdivisions	—	—	—	1	—	—
Asset-backed securities	7	(1)	10	18	(12)	34
U.S. corporate debt securities	59	(3)	170	50	(17)	150
Foreign debt securities	12	—	33	—	—	—
	96	\$(5)	\$315	70	\$(30)	\$188

---

(1) Includes gross unrealized losses as well as the non-credit loss component of OTTI securities which is recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income.

Gross unrealized losses decreased during the first nine months of 2010 primarily due to the impact of lower interest rates. We have reviewed our securities for which there is an unrealized loss in accordance with our accounting policies for other-than-temporary impairment (“OTTI”). As a result of this review, other-than-temporary impairment of less than \$1 million was recognized in earnings on certain debt securities in both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010. In addition, we recognized a recovery in accumulated other comprehensive income

---

relating to the non-credit component of other-than-temporary impairment previously recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income totaling \$2 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2010.

Our decision in the first quarter of 2009 to discontinue new customer account originations in our Consumer Lending business adversely impacted certain insurance subsidiaries that held preferred securities. Therefore, during the first quarter of 2009 we determined it was more-likely-than-not that we would be required to sell our entire portfolio of preferred securities prior to recovery of amortized cost and we determined that all of our perpetual preferred securities were deemed to be other-than-temporarily impaired. We subsequently sold our entire portfolio of preferred securities during the second quarter of 2009. During the nine months ended September 2009, we recorded \$20 million of impairment losses related to these perpetual preferred securities as a component of investment income. The entire unrealized loss was recorded in earnings in accordance with new accounting guidance which we early adopted effective January 1, 2009 related to the recognition of other-than-temporary impairment and is described more fully below, as we determined it was more-likely-than-not that we would be required to sell our perpetual preferred securities prior to recovery of amortized cost.

**On-Going Assessment for Other-Than-Temporary Impairment** On a quarterly basis, we perform an assessment to determine whether there have been any events or economic circumstances to indicate that a security with an unrealized loss has suffered other-than-temporary impairment. A debt security is considered impaired if the fair value is less than its amortized cost basis at the reporting date. If impaired, we then assess whether the unrealized loss is other-than-temporary.

An unrealized loss is generally deemed to be other-than-temporary and a credit loss is deemed to exist if the present value of the expected future cash flows is less than the amortized cost basis of the debt security. As a result, the credit loss component of an other-than-temporary impairment write-down for debt securities is recorded in earnings while the remaining portion of the impairment loss is recognized net of tax in other comprehensive income (loss) provided we do not intend to sell the underlying debt security and it is more-likely-than-not that we would not have to sell the debt security prior to recovery.

For all our debt securities, as of the reporting date we do not have the intention to sell these securities and believe we will not be required to sell these securities for contractual, regulatory or liquidity reasons.

We consider the following factors in determining whether a credit loss exists and the period over which the debt security is expected to recover:

- The length of time and the extent to which the fair value has been less than the amortized cost basis;
- The level of credit enhancement provided by the structure which includes, but is not limited to, credit subordination positions, overcollateralization, protective triggers and financial guarantees provided by monoline wraps;
- Changes in the near term prospects of the issuer or underlying collateral of a security, such as changes in default rates, loss severities given default and significant changes in prepayment assumptions;
- The level of excess cash flows generated from the underlying collateral supporting the principal and interest payments of the debt securities; and
- Any adverse change to the credit conditions of the issuer or the security such as credit downgrades by the rating agencies.



At September 30, 2010, approximately 91 percent of our corporate debt securities are rated A- or better and approximately 68 percent of our asset-backed securities, which totaled \$67 million are rated “AAA.” Although other-than-temporary impairments of less than \$1 million were recorded in earnings during the nine months ended September 30, 2010, without a sustained economic recovery, additional other-than-temporary impairments may occur in future periods.

Proceeds from the sale or call of available-for-sale investments totaled \$25 million and \$137 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to \$79 million and \$138 million during

---

the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively. We realized gross gains of \$1 million and \$5 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to gross gains of \$7 million and \$11 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively. We realized no gross losses and losses of less than \$1 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to no gross losses and losses of \$3 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively.

Contractual maturities and yields on investments in debt securities for those with set maturities were as follows:

	At September 30, 2010				Total
	Due Within 1 Year	After 1 but Within 5 Years	After 5 but Within 10 Years	After 10 Years	
	(dollars are in millions)				
U.S. Treasury:					
Amortized cost	\$28	\$286	\$1	\$—	\$315
Fair value	28	298	1	—	327
Yield(1)	.37%	2.02%	4.96%	—	1.89%
U.S. government sponsored enterprises:					
Amortized cost	\$185	\$64	\$32	\$33	\$314
Fair value	185	65	35	36	321
Yield(1)	.24%	1.52%	4.70%	4.88%	1.44%
U.S. government agency issued or guaranteed:					
Amortized cost	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$13	\$13
Fair value	—	—	—	13	13
Yield(1)	—	—	—	5.03%	5.03%
Obligations of U.S. states and political subdivisions:					
Amortized cost	\$—	\$—	\$11	\$18	\$29
Fair value	—	—	12	19	31
Yield(1)	—	—	4.08%	4.05%	4.07%
Asset-backed securities:					
Amortized cost	\$—	\$20	\$13	\$40	\$73
Fair value	—	21	14	32	67
Yield(1)	—	4.93%	5.29%	2.59%	3.72%
U.S. corporate debt securities:					
Amortized cost	\$131	\$787	\$215	\$552	\$1,685
Fair value	133	845	238	615	1,831
Yield(1)	4.43%	4.47%	4.66%	5.37%	4.79%
Foreign debt securities:					
Amortized cost	\$15	\$263	\$46	\$37	\$361
Fair value	16	279	49	43	387
Yield(1)	2.98%	4.12%	3.71%	6.36%	4.25%

(1) Computed by dividing annualized interest by the amortized cost of respective investment securities.



## 5. Receivables

Receivables consisted of the following:

	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(in millions)	
Real estate secured	\$51,628	\$59,535
Credit card	9,888	11,626
Personal non-credit card	7,816	10,486
Commercial and other	45	50
Total receivables	69,377	81,697
HSBC acquisition purchase accounting fair value adjustments	(7)	(11)
Accrued finance charges	1,596	1,895
Credit loss reserve for receivables	(6,971)	(9,091)
Unearned credit insurance premiums and claims reserves	(135)	(182)
Total receivables, net	\$63,860	\$74,308

HSBC acquisition purchase accounting fair value adjustments represent adjustments which have been “pushed down” to record our receivables at fair value on March 28, 2003, the date we were acquired by HSBC.

Purchased Receivable Portfolios In November 2006, we acquired \$2.5 billion of real estate secured receivables from Champion Mortgage (“Champion”) a division of KeyBank, N.A. Receivables purchased for which at the time of acquisition there was evidence of deterioration in credit quality since origination and for which it was probable that all contractually required payments would not be collected and that the associated line of credit had been closed, if applicable, were recorded at an amount dependent upon the cash flows expected to be collected at the time of acquisition (“Purchased Credit-Impaired Receivables”). The difference between these expected cash flows and the purchase price represents an accretable yield which is amortized to interest income over the life of the receivable. The carrying amount of Champion real estate secured receivables subject to these accounting requirements was \$41 million and \$36 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively, and is included in the real estate secured receivables in the table above. The outstanding contractual balance of these receivables was \$58 million and \$66 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. Credit loss reserves of \$16 million and \$31 million as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively, were held for the acquired Champion receivables subject to accounting requirements for Purchased Credit-Impaired Receivables due to a decrease in the expected future cash flows since the acquisition.

As part of our acquisition of Metris Companies Inc. (“Metris”) on December 1, 2005, we acquired \$5.3 billion of credit card receivables some of which were also subject to the accounting requirements for Purchased Credit-Impaired Receivables as described above. During the fourth quarter of 2009, the accretable yield was fully amortized to interest income and there was no remaining difference between the carrying value and the outstanding contractual balances of these Purchased Credit-Impaired Receivables. At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, we no longer have any receivables acquired from Metris which are subject to these accounting requirements.

The following summarizes the accretable yield on Champion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and for the Champion and Metris receivables during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2010(1)		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009(1)(2)	
	(in millions)			
Accretable yield at beginning of period	\$(15)	\$(22)	\$(13)	\$(28)
Accretable yield amortized to interest income during the period	1	8	3	23
Reclassification of non-accretable difference(3)	(3)	—	(7)	(9)
Accretable yield at end of period(4)	\$(17)	\$(14)	\$(17)	\$(14)

(1) For the Champion portfolio, there was a reclassification of non-accretable difference of \$3 million and \$7 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010. There was a reclassification to non-accretable difference of \$1 million during both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009.

(2) For the Metris portfolio, there was a reclassification of accretable difference of \$1 and \$10 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009.

(3) Reclassification of non-accretable difference represents an increase to the estimated cash flows to be collected on the underlying portfolio.

(4) At September 30, 2010, the entire remaining accretable yield is related to the Champion portfolio. The accretable yield related to the Metris portfolio was fully amortized to interest income during the fourth quarter of 2009.

**Collateralized funding transactions** We currently have secured conduit credit facilities with commercial banks which provide for secured financings of receivables on a revolving basis totaling \$650 million and \$400 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, \$455 million and \$400 million, respectively, were available under these facilities. These facilities will mature in the second quarter of 2011 and are renewable at the banks' option. The amount available under these facilities will vary based on the timing and volume of secured financing transactions and as part of our ongoing liquidity management plans.

Secured financings issued under our current conduit credit facilities as well as secured financings previously issued under public trusts of \$4.4 billion at September 30, 2010 are secured by \$6.7 billion of closed-end real estate secured and credit card receivables. Secured financings of \$4.7 billion at December 31, 2009 are secured by \$6.8 billion of closed-end real estate secured receivables.

**Troubled Debt Restructurings** The following table presents information about receivables for which we have modified the terms of the loan as part of a troubled debt restructuring ("TDR Loans"):

	September 30, December 31, 2010                      2009	
	(in millions)	
TDR Loans:		

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Real estate secured(1):		
Mortgage Services	\$4,242	\$4,350
Consumer Lending	5,232	4,776
Total real estate secured	9,474	9,126
Credit card	462	473
Personal non-credit card	729	726
Total TDR Loans(2)	\$10,665	\$10,325

---

	September 30, December 31, 2010 2009 (in millions)	
Credit loss reserves for TDR Loans:		
Real estate secured:		
Mortgage Services	\$1,033	\$1,137
Consumer Lending	1,102	1,002
Total real estate secured	2,135	2,139
Credit card	166	158
Personal non-credit card	426	353
Total credit loss reserves for TDR Loans(1)(3)	\$2,727	\$2,650

(1) The balances at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, include TDR Loans totaling \$1.3 billion and \$773 million, respectively, are recorded at net realizable value less cost to sell and, therefore, have no credit loss reserve associated with them.

(2) Includes \$1.9 billion and \$1.7 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively, which are classified as nonaccrual receivables.

(3) Included in credit loss reserves.

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2010 2009		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2010 2009	
	(in millions)			
Average balance of TDR Loans(1)	\$10,758	\$5,745	\$10,810	\$5,479
Interest income recognized on TDR Loans	133	96	413	275

(1) During the third and fourth quarters of 2009, we developed enhanced tracking capabilities to identify and report TDR Loans which impacts the comparability between the periods reported above. See Note 7, "Receivables," in our 2009 Form 10-K for further discussion of these enhanced tracking capabilities.

**Concentrations of Credit Risk** We have historically served non-conforming and non-prime consumers. Such customers are individuals who have limited credit histories, modest incomes, high debt-to-income ratios or have experienced credit problems caused by occasional delinquencies, prior charge-offs, bankruptcy or other credit related actions. The majority of our secured receivables and receivables held for sale have high loan-to-value ratios. Our receivables and receivables held for sale portfolios include the following types of loans:

- Interest-only loans – A loan which allows a customer to pay the interest-only portion of the monthly payment for a period of time which results in lower payments during the initial loan period. However, subsequent events affecting a customer's financial position could affect their ability to repay the loan in the future when the principal payments are required.
- ARM loans – A loan which allows the lender to adjust pricing on the loan in line with interest rate movements. A customer's financial situation and the general interest rate environment at the time of the interest rate reset could

affect the customer's ability to repay or refinance the loan after adjustment.

- Stated income loans – Loans underwritten based upon the loan applicant's representation of annual income, which is not verified by receipt of supporting documentation.
-



The following table summarizes the outstanding balances of interest-only loans, ARM loans and stated income loans in our receivable portfolios at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009:

	September 30, December 31, 2010 2009 (in billions)	
Interest-only loans	\$1.4	\$1.8
ARM loans(1)(2)	8.0	9.8
Stated income loans	2.9	3.7

(1) Receivable classification as ARM loans is based on the classification at the time of receivable origination and does not reflect any changes in the classification that may have occurred as a result of any loan modification.

(2) We do not have any option ARM loans in our portfolio.

At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, interest-only, ARM and stated income loans comprise 18 percent and 20 percent of real estate secured receivables, including receivables held for sale, respectively.

#### 6. Credit Loss Reserves

An analysis of credit loss reserves is as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2010 2009		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2010 2009	
	(in millions)			
Credit loss reserves at beginning of period	\$7,398	\$12,522	\$9,091	\$12,030
Provision for credit losses	1,509	2,117	4,970	7,166
Charge-offs	(2,117)	(2,420)	(7,622)	(7,216)
Recoveries	181	131	532	370
Credit loss reserves at end of period	\$6,971	\$12,350	\$6,971	\$12,350

Credit loss reserves since September 30, 2009 were significantly impacted by changes in our charge-off policies for real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivables which impacts comparability between periods. See Note 8, "Changes in Charge-off Policies," in our 2009 Form 10-K for further discussion.

#### 7. Receivables Held for Sale

Receivables held for sale, which are carried at the lower of cost or fair value, consisted of the following:

	September 30, December 31, 2010 2009 (in millions)	
Real estate secured receivables held for sale, net(1)	\$4	\$3

(1)

Consists of real estate secured receivables in our Mortgage Services business which were originated with the intent to sell.

---

The following table shows the activity in receivables held for sale during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009
	(in millions)			
Receivables held for sale, beginning of period	\$5	\$650	\$3	\$14,196
Receivable sales	—	(32)	—	—(12,384)
Lower of cost or fair value adjustment subsequent to transfer to receivables held for sale	—	(4)	2	(337)
Transfer into receivables held for investment at the lower of cost or fair value:				
Real estate secured	—	(2)	—	(216)
Credit card	—	—	—	(590)
Net change in receivable balance	(1)	(50)	(1)	(107)
Receivables held for sale, end of period	\$4	\$562	\$4	\$562

In January 2009, we sold our GM and UP Portfolios to HSBC Bank USA. See Note 4, “Receivable Portfolio Sales to HSBC Bank USA,” in our 2009 Form 10-K for details of these transactions.

In March 2009 and September 2009, we transferred real estate secured receivables previously classified as receivables held for sale to receivables held for investment as we now intend to hold these receivables for the foreseeable future, generally twelve months for real estate secured receivables. These receivables were transferred at the fair market value on the date of transfer of \$216 million.

In June 2009, we transferred credit card receivables previously classified as receivables held for sale to receivables held for investment as we now intend to hold these receivables for the foreseeable future. These receivables were transferred at their current fair market value of \$590 million.

The valuation allowance on receivables held for sale was \$3 million and \$7 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.

As it relates to our discontinued auto finance operations, in July 2010, we transferred auto finance receivables to held for sale with an outstanding principal balance of \$2.9 billion at the time of transfer and recorded a lower of cost or fair value adjustment of \$87 million attributable to credit which was included as a component of loss from discontinued operations. These receivables were sold to SC USA in August 2010. See Note 2, “Discontinued Operations,” for additional information.

## 8. Intangible Assets

Intangible assets consisted of the following:

	Gross	Cumulative Impairment Charges	Accumulated Amortization	Carrying Value
	(in millions)			
September 30, 2010				
Purchased credit card relationships and related programs(1)	\$1,736	\$—	\$1,096	\$640
Consumer loan related relationships	333	163	170	—
Technology, customer lists and other contracts	261	9	252	—
Total	\$2,330	\$172	\$1,518	\$640
December 31, 2009				
Purchased credit card relationships and related programs(1)	\$1,736	\$—	\$992	\$744
Consumer loan related relationships	333	163	170	—
Technology, customer lists and other contracts	261	9	248	4
Total	\$2,330	\$172	\$1,410	\$748

(1) Purchased credit card relationships are being amortized to their estimated residual value of \$162 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009.

Estimated amortization expense associated with our intangible assets for each of the following years is as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	( i n millions)
2010	\$142
2011	138
2012	135
2013	99
2014	72

During the first quarter of 2010, our intangible assets related to technology, customer lists and other contracts became fully amortized.

## 9. Goodwill

Changes in the carrying amount of goodwill are as follows:

	2010	2009
	(in millions)	
Balance at January 1,	\$—	\$2,294
Goodwill impairment related to our Insurance Services business	—	(260)
Goodwill impairment related to our Card and Retail Services business	—	(2,034)
Balance at September 30,(1)	\$—	\$—

(1)

At both September 30, 2010 and 2009, accumulated impairment losses on goodwill totaled \$6.0 billion.

As a result of the continuing deterioration of economic conditions throughout 2008 and into 2009 as well as the adverse impact to our Insurance Services business which resulted from the closure of all of our Consumer Lending branches, we wrote off all of our remaining goodwill balance during 2009, of which \$2.3 billion was written off

---

during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. See Note 14, "Goodwill," in our 2009 Form 10-K for additional information.

#### 10. Derivative Financial Instruments

Our business activities involve analysis, evaluation, acceptance and management of some degree of risk or combination of risks. Accordingly, we have comprehensive risk management policies to address potential financial risks, which include credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk, and operational risks. Our risk management policy is designed to identify and analyze these risks, to set appropriate limits and controls, and to monitor the risks and limits continually by means of reliable and up-to-date administrative and information systems. Our risk management policies are primarily carried out in accordance with practice and limits set by the HSBC Group Management Board. The HSBC Finance Corporation Asset Liability Committee ("ALCO") meets regularly to review risks and approve appropriate risk management strategies within the limits established by the HSBC Group Management Board. Additionally, our Audit Committee receives regular reports on our interest rate and liquidity risk positions in relation to the established limits. In accordance with the policies and strategies established by ALCO, in the normal course of business, we enter into various transactions involving derivative financial instruments. These derivative financial instruments primarily are used as economic hedges to manage risk.

Objectives for Holding Derivative Financial Instruments Market risk (which includes interest rate and foreign currency exchange risks) is the possibility that a change in interest rates or foreign exchange rates will cause a financial instrument to decrease in value or become more costly to settle. Historically, customer demand for our loan products shifted between fixed rate and floating rate products, based on market conditions and preferences. These shifts in loan products resulted in different funding strategies and produced different interest rate risk exposures. Additionally, the mix of receivables on our balance sheet and the corresponding market risk is changing as we manage the liquidation of several of our receivable portfolios. We maintain an overall risk management strategy that utilizes interest rate and currency derivative financial instruments to mitigate our exposure to fluctuations caused by changes in interest rates and currency exchange rates related to our debt liabilities. We manage our exposure to interest rate risk primarily through the use of interest rate swaps with the main objective of better matching the duration of our liabilities to the duration of our assets. We manage our exposure to foreign currency exchange risk primarily through the use of cross currency interest rate swaps. We do not use leveraged derivative financial instruments.

Interest rate swaps are contractual agreements between two counterparties for the exchange of periodic interest payments generally based on a notional principal amount and agreed-upon fixed or floating rates. The majority of our interest rate swaps are used to manage our exposure to changes in interest rates by converting floating rate debt to fixed rate or by converting fixed rate debt to floating rate. We have also entered into currency swaps to convert both principal and interest payments on debt issued from one currency to the appropriate functional currency.

We do not manage credit risk or the changes in fair value due to the changes in credit risk by entering into derivative financial instruments such as credit derivatives or credit default swaps.

Control Over Valuation Process and Procedures A control framework has been established which is designed to ensure that fair values are either determined or validated by a function independent of the risk-taker. To that end, the ultimate responsibility for the determination of fair values rests with the HSBC Finance Valuation Committee. The HSBC Finance Valuation Committee establishes policies and procedures to ensure appropriate valuations. Fair values for derivatives are determined by management using valuation techniques, valuation models and inputs that are developed, reviewed, validated and approved by the Quantitative Risk and Valuation Group of an affiliate, HSBC Bank USA. These valuation models utilize discounted cash flows or an option pricing model adjusted for counterparty credit risk and market liquidity. The models used apply appropriate control processes and procedures to ensure that the derived inputs are used to value only those instruments that share similar risk to the relevant benchmark indexes

and therefore demonstrate a similar response to market factors. In addition, a validation process is followed which includes participation in peer group consensus pricing surveys, to ensure that valuation inputs incorporate market participants' risk expectations and risk premium.

---

**Credit Risk** By utilizing derivative financial instruments, we are exposed to counterparty credit risk. Counterparty credit risk is our primary exposure on our interest rate swap portfolio. Counterparty credit risk is the risk that the counterparty to a transaction fails to perform according to the terms of the contract. We manage the counterparty credit (or repayment) risk in derivative instruments through established credit approvals, risk control limits, collateral, and ongoing monitoring procedures. We utilize an affiliate, HSBC Bank USA, as the primary provider of domestic derivative products. We have never suffered a loss due to counterparty failure.

At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, substantially all of our existing derivative contracts are with HSBC subsidiaries, making them our primary counterparty in derivative transactions. Most swap agreements require that payments be made to, or received from, the counterparty when the fair value of the agreement reaches a certain level. Generally, third-party swap counterparties provide collateral in the form of cash which is recorded in our balance sheet as derivative related liabilities. At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, we provided third party swap counterparties with \$19 million and \$46 million of collateral, respectively, in the form of cash. When the fair value of our agreements with affiliate counterparties requires the posting of collateral, it is provided in either the form of cash and recorded on the balance sheet, consistent with third party arrangements, or in the form of securities which are not recorded on our balance sheet. At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, the fair value of our agreements with affiliate counterparties required the affiliate to provide collateral of \$2.1 billion and \$3.4 billion, respectively, all of which was provided in cash. These amounts are offset against the fair value amount recognized for derivative instruments that have been offset under the same master netting arrangement and recorded in our balance sheet as a component of derivative financial asset or derivative related liabilities. At September 30, 2010, we had derivative contracts with a notional value of \$52.9 billion, including \$52.3 billion outstanding with HSBC Bank USA. At December 31, 2009, we had derivative contracts with a notional value of approximately \$59.7 billion, including \$58.6 billion outstanding with HSBC Bank USA. Derivative financial instruments are generally expressed in terms of notional principal or contract amounts which are much larger than the amounts potentially at risk for nonpayment by counterparties.

To manage our exposure to changes in interest rates, we entered into interest rate swap agreements and currency swaps which have been designated as fair value or cash flow hedges under derivative accounting principles. We currently utilize the long-haul method to assess effectiveness of all derivatives designated as hedges. In the tables that follow below, the fair value disclosed does not include swap collateral that we either receive or deposit with our interest rate swap counterparties. Such swap collateral is recorded on our balance sheet at an amount which approximates fair value and is netted on the balance sheet with the fair value amount recognized for derivative instruments.

**Fair Value Hedges** Fair value hedges include interest rate swaps to convert our fixed rate debt to variable rate debt and currency swaps to convert debt issued from one currency into U.S. dollar variable debt. All of our fair value hedges are associated with debt. We recorded fair value adjustments for fair value hedges which increased the carrying value of our debt by \$93 million and \$85 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. The following table provides information related to the location of derivative fair values in the consolidated balance sheet for our fair value hedges.

Balance Sheet Location	Asset Derivatives		Balance Sheet Location	Liability Derivatives	
	Fair Value as of September 30, 2010	Fair Value as of December 31, 2009		Fair Value as of September 30, 2010	Fair Value as of December 31, 2009
	(in millions)		(in millions)		



Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Interest rate swaps	Derivative financial assets	\$13	\$—Derivative related liabilities	\$2	\$39
Currency swaps	Derivative financial assets	157	312Derivative related liabilities	—	—
Total fair value hedges		\$170	\$312	\$2	\$39

---

The following table presents fair value hedging information, including the gain (loss) recorded on the derivative and where that gain (loss) is recorded in the consolidated statement of income (loss) as well as the offsetting gain (loss) on the hedged item that is recognized in current earnings, the net of which represents hedge ineffectiveness.

Hedged Item	Location of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Income on Hedged Item and Derivative	Amount of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Income On the Derivative Three Months Ended September 30,			Amount of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Income On the Derivative Nine Months Ended		Amount of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Income On Hedged Items September 30,		
		2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009
Interest rate swaps	Fixed rate borrowings	\$9	\$1	Derivative related income \$(3)	\$—	\$49	Derivative related income \$(7)	Derivative related income \$(26)	\$15
Currency swaps	Fixed rate borrowings	(6)	11	Derivative related income 4	(10)	(7)	Derivative related income 44	Derivative related income 4	(42)
Total		\$3	\$12	Derivative related income \$1	Derivative related income \$(10)	Derivative related income \$42	Derivative related income \$37	Derivative related income \$(22)	Derivative related income \$(27)

Cash Flow Hedges Cash flow hedges include interest rate swaps to convert our variable rate debt to fixed rate debt and currency swaps to convert debt issued from one currency into U.S. dollar fixed rate debt. Gains and (losses) on unexpired derivative instruments designated as cash flow hedges are reported in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) (“OCI”) net of tax and totaled a loss of \$652 million and \$490 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. We expect \$444 million (\$286 million after-tax) of currently unrealized net losses will be reclassified to earnings within one year. However, these reclassified unrealized losses will be offset by decreased interest expense associated with the variable cash flows of the hedged items and will result in no significant net economic impact to our earnings. The following table provides information related to the location of derivative fair values in the consolidated balance sheet for our cash flow hedges.

	Balance Sheet Location	Asset Derivatives Fair Value as of		Liability Derivatives Fair Value as of	
		September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
Interest rate swaps	Derivative financial assets	Derivative financial assets \$(591)	Derivative related liabilities \$(358)	Derivative related liabilities \$—	Derivative related liabilities \$—
Currency swaps	Derivative financial assets	Derivative financial assets 904	Derivative related liabilities 1,362	Derivative related liabilities —	Derivative related liabilities —
Total cash flow hedges		Derivative financial assets \$313	Derivative related liabilities \$1,004	Derivative related liabilities \$—	Derivative related liabilities \$—

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

The following table provides the gain or loss recorded on our cash flow hedging relationships.

	Gain (Loss) Recognized in OCI		Location of Gain (Loss) Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income (Effective Portion)		Gain (Loss) Reclassified from OCI into Income (Effective Portion)		Location of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Income on the Derivative (Ineffective Portion)		Gain (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivative (Ineffective Portion)	
	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009
Three Months Ended September 30,	(in millions)		(in millions)		(in millions)		(in millions)		(in millions)	
Interest rate swaps	\$(84)	\$(13)	Interest expense		\$(14)	\$(2)	Derivative related Income		\$—	\$—
Currency swaps	(18)	(29)	Interest expense		(9)	(9)	Derivative related Income		(8)	(1)
Total	\$(102)	\$(42)			\$(23)	\$(11)			\$(8)	\$(1)
Nine Months Ended September 30,	(in millions)		(in millions)		(in millions)		(in millions)		(in millions)	
Interest rate swaps	\$(211)	\$359	Interest expense		\$(51)	\$(9)	Derivative related Income		\$—	\$9
Interest rate swaps	—	—	Gain on bulk receivable sale to HSBC affiliates		—	(80)			—	—
Currency swaps	(35)	354	Interest expense		(26)	(41)	Derivative related Income		(34)	61
Total	\$(246)	\$713			\$(77)	\$(130)			\$(34)	\$70

**Non-Qualifying Hedging Activities** We may enter into interest rate and currency swaps which are not designated as hedges under derivative accounting principles. These financial instruments are economic hedges but do not qualify for hedge accounting and are primarily used to minimize our exposure to changes in interest rates and currency exchange rates through more closely matching both the structure and duration of our liabilities to the structure and duration of our assets. The following table provides information related to the location and derivative fair values in the consolidated balance sheet for our non-qualifying hedges:

	Asset Derivatives			Liability Derivatives		
	Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value as of September 30, 2010	Fair Value as of December 31, 2009	Balance Sheet Location	Fair Value as of September 30, 2010	Fair Value as of December 31, 2009
Interest rate contracts	Derivative financial assets	\$(616)	\$188	Derivative related liabilities	\$1	\$12
Currency contracts	Derivative financial assets	126	72	Derivative related liabilities	—	9

Total non-qualifying hedges	\$(490)	\$260	\$1	\$21
-----------------------------	---------	-------	-----	------

---

The following table provides detail of the realized and unrealized gains and losses recorded on our non-qualifying hedges:

	Location of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivative	Amount of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivative			
		Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
		September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009
		(in millions)			
Interest rate contracts	Derivative related income	\$(369)	\$(183)	\$(957)	\$(11)
Currency contracts	Derivative related income	(1)	3	(1)	(2)
Total		\$(370)	\$(180)	\$(958)	\$(13)

We have elected the fair value option for certain issuances of our fixed rate debt and have entered into interest rate and currency swaps related to debt carried at fair value. The interest rate and currency swaps associated with this debt are non-qualifying hedges but are considered economic hedges and realized gains and losses are reported as "Gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives" within other revenues. The derivatives related to fair value option debt are included in the tables below. See Note 11, "Fair Value Option," for further discussion.

	Balance Sheet Location	Asset Derivatives		Liability Derivatives	
		Fair Value as of		Fair Value as of	
		September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
		(in millions)			
Interest rate swaps	D e r i v a t i v e financial assets	\$1,335	\$1,034	Derivative related liabilities	\$—
Currency swaps	D e r i v a t i v e financial assets	855	752	Derivative related liabilities	—
Total non-qualifying hedges		\$2,190	\$1,786		\$—

The following table provides the gain or loss recorded on the derivatives related to fair value option debt, primarily due to changes in interest rates:

	Location of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivative	Amount of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Income On Derivative			
		Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
		September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009
		(in millions)			
Interest rate contracts	Gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives	\$279	\$292	\$825	\$(17)
Currency contracts	Gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives	86	85	242	180

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Total	\$365	\$377	\$1,067	\$(163)
-------	-------	-------	---------	---------

---

Notional Value of Derivative Contracts The following table summarizes the notional values of derivative contracts:

	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(in millions)	
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments:		
Interest rate swaps	\$8,392	\$11,585
Currency swaps	11,962	15,373
	20,354	26,958
Non-qualifying economic hedges:		
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:		
Interest rate:		
Swaps	11,246	7,081
Purchased caps	221	682
Foreign exchange:		
Swaps	1,228	1,291
Forwards	140	349
	12,835	9,403
Derivatives associated with debt carried at fair value:		
Interest rate swaps	16,356	19,169
Currency swaps	3,376	4,122
	19,732	23,291
Total	\$52,921	\$59,652

## 11. Fair Value Option

Long-term debt at September 30, 2010 of \$57.9 billion includes \$23.0 billion of fixed rate debt carried at fair value. At September 30, 2010, we did not elect fair value option (“FVO”) for \$16.2 billion of fixed rate long-term debt or any of the variable rate debt currently carried on our balance sheet. Fixed rate debt accounted for under FVO at September 30, 2010 had an aggregate unpaid principal balance of \$21.7 billion which includes a foreign currency translation adjustment relating to our foreign denominated FVO debt which decreased the debt balance by \$431 million. Long-term debt at December 31, 2009 includes \$26.7 billion of fixed rate debt accounted for under FVO. At December 31, 2009, we did not elect FVO for \$19.0 billion of fixed rate long-term debt currently carried on our balance sheet. Fixed rate debt accounted for under FVO at December 31, 2009 had an aggregate unpaid principal balance of \$25.9 billion which includes a foreign currency translation adjustment relating to our foreign denominated FVO debt which increased the debt balance by \$488 million.

We determine the fair value of the fixed rate debt accounted for under FVO through the use of a third party pricing service. Such fair value represents the full market price (credit and interest rate impact) based on observable market data for the same or similar debt instruments. See Note 17, “Fair Value Measurements,” for a description of the methods and significant assumptions used to estimate the fair value of our fixed rate debt accounted for under FVO.

The components of “Gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives” are as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2010	2009	September 30 2010	2009
Mark-to-market on debt designated at fair value(1):				
Interest rate component	\$(176)	\$(156)	\$(665)	\$732
Credit risk component	(190)	(1,468)	200	(2,799)
Total mark-to-market on debt designated at fair value	(366)	(1,624)	(465)	(2,067)
Mark-to-market on the related derivatives(1)	175	194	460	(291)
Net realized gains on the related derivatives	190	183	607	454
Gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives	\$(1)	\$(1,247)	\$602	\$(1,904)

(1) Mark-to-market on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives excludes market value changes due to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. Foreign currency translation gains (losses) recorded in derivative related income associated with debt designated at fair value was a loss of \$434 million and gain of \$57 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to a loss of \$160 million and a gain of \$152 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively. Offsetting gains (losses) recorded in derivative related income associated with the related derivatives was a gain of \$434 million and loss of \$57 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to a gain of \$160 million and loss of \$152 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively.

The movement in the fair value reflected in gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives includes the effect of credit spread changes and interest rate changes, including any economic ineffectiveness in the relationship between the related swaps and our debt and any realized gains or losses on those swaps. With respect to the credit component, as credit spreads widen accounting gains are booked and the reverse is true if credit spreads narrow. Differences arise between the movement in the fair value of our debt and the fair value of the related swap due to the different credit characteristics and differences in the calculation of fair value for debt and derivatives. The size and direction of the accounting consequences of such changes can be volatile from period to period but do not alter the cash flows intended as part of the documented interest rate management strategy. On a cumulative basis, we have recorded fair value option adjustments which increased the value of our debt by \$1.3 billion and \$842 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.

The change in the fair value of the debt and the change in value of the related derivatives reflect the following:

- Interest rate curve – Interest rates in the U.S. decreased during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010. These decreasing interest rates resulted in a loss in the interest rate component on the mark-to-market of the debt and a gain on the mark-to-market of the related derivative in both periods. During the three months ended September 30, 2009, the U.S. LIBOR curve shifted down resulting in losses in the interest rate component of the mark-to-market on debt designated at fair value and gains in the mark-to-market on the related derivative. During the nine months ended September 30, 2009, the U.S. LIBOR curve steepened reflecting decreases in interest rates for instruments with terms of two years or less while interest rates for instruments with terms of three years or more increased resulting in gains on the mark-to-market of the debt designated at fair value and losses on the mark-to-market of the related derivative. Changes in the value of the interest rate component of the debt as compared to the related derivative are also affected by differences in cash flows and valuation methodologies for the debt and the derivatives. Cash flows on debt are discounted using a single discount rate from the bond yield curve for each bond’s applicable maturity while derivative cash flows are discounted using rates at multiple points along the U.S. LIBOR yield curve. The impacts of these



differences vary as short-term and long-term interest rates shift and time passes. Furthermore, certain derivatives have been called by the counterparty resulting in certain FVO debt having no related derivatives. As a result, approximately 7 percent of our FVO debt does not have a corresponding derivative at September 30, 2010. Income from net realized gains increased due to reduced short term U.S. interest rates.

---

• Credit – Our secondary market credit spreads tightened during the third quarter of 2010 as market place liquidity improved throughout the U.S. during the quarter. This tightening during the third quarter of 2010 partially reversed the widening of our credit spreads which occurred during the first half of 2010. During the second and third quarters of 2009, our credit spreads tightened due to an increase in market confidence and an improvement in marketplace liquidity which reversed a substantial widening of our credit spreads during the first quarter of 2009.

Net income volatility, whether based on changes in the interest rate or credit risk components of the mark-to-market on debt designated at fair value and the related derivatives, impacts the comparability of our reported results between periods. Accordingly, gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 should not be considered indicative of the results for any future periods.

## 12. Income Taxes

Effective tax rates are analyzed as follows.

Three Months Ended September 30,	2010		2009	
	(dollars are in millions)			
Tax expense (benefit) at the U.S. Federal statutory income tax rate	\$(386)	(35.0)%	\$(823)	(35.0)%
Increase (decrease) in rate resulting from:				
Valuation allowance	(1)	(.1)	(307)	(13.1)
State and local taxes, net of Federal benefit	(8)	(.8)	(13)	(.5)
Other	2	.2	25	1.1
Total income tax expense (benefit)	\$(393)	(35.7)%	\$(1,118)	(47.5)%
Nine Months Ended September 30,	2010		2009	
	(dollars are in millions)			
Tax expense (benefit) at the U.S. Federal statutory income tax rate	\$(1,019)	(35.0)%	\$(2,794)	(35.0)%
Increase (decrease) in rate resulting from:				
Valuation allowance	(9)	(.3)	590	7.4
Non-deductible goodwill	—	—	798	10.0
Bulk sale of receivable portfolios to an HSBC affiliate	—	—	(47)	(.6)
State and local taxes, net of Federal benefit	(26)	(.9)	(8)	(.1)
State rate change effect on net deferred taxes	—	—	30	.4
Other	(8)	(.3)	39	.5
Total income tax expense (benefit)	\$(1,062)	(36.5)%	\$(1,392)	(17.4)%

The effective tax rate for three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 was impacted by state taxes, including states where we file combined unitary state tax returns with other HSBC affiliates.

The effective tax rate for three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 was significantly impacted by the incremental valuation allowance on deferred tax assets recorded in 2009 and, in the year-to-date period, the non-tax deductible impairment of goodwill related to our Card and Retail Services and Insurance Services businesses as well as by state taxes, including states where we file combined unitary state tax returns with other HSBC affiliates. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was also impacted by a change in estimate in the state tax rate for jurisdictions where we file combined unitary state tax returns with other HSBC affiliates and the sale of receivable portfolios to an HSBC affiliate.

HSBC North America Consolidated Income Taxes We are included in HSBC North America's consolidated Federal income tax return and in various combined state income tax returns. As such, we have entered into a tax



allocation agreement with HSBC North America and its subsidiary entities (“the HNAH Group”) included in the consolidated returns which govern the current amount of taxes to be paid or received by the various entities included in the consolidated return filings. As a result, we have looked at the HNAH Group’s consolidated deferred tax assets and various sources of taxable income, including the impact of HSBC and HNAH Group tax planning strategies, in reaching conclusions on recoverability of deferred tax assets. Where a valuation allowance is determined to be necessary at the HSBC North America consolidated level, such allowance is allocated to principal subsidiaries within the HNAH Group as described below in a manner that is systematic, rational and consistent with the broad principles of accounting for income taxes.

The HNAH Group evaluates deferred tax assets for recoverability using a consistent approach which considers the relative impact of negative and positive evidence, including historical financial performance, projections of future taxable income, future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences, tax planning strategies and any available carryback capacity.

In evaluating the need for a valuation allowance, the HNAH Group estimates future taxable income based on management approved business plans, future capital requirements and ongoing tax planning strategies, including capital support from HSBC necessary as part of such plans and strategies. The HNAH Group has continued to consider the impact of the economic environment on the North American businesses and the expected growth of the deferred tax assets. This evaluation process involves significant management judgment about assumptions that are subject to change from period to period.

In conjunction with the HNAH Group deferred tax evaluation process, based on our forecasts of future taxable income, which include assumptions about the depth and severity of home price depreciation and the U.S. economic downturn, including unemployment levels and their related impact on credit losses, we currently anticipate that our results of future operations will generate sufficient taxable income to allow us to realize our deferred tax assets. However, since these market conditions have created losses in the HNAH Group in recent periods and volatility on our pre-tax book income, our analysis of the realizability of the deferred tax assets significantly discounts any future taxable income expected from continuing operations and relies to a greater extent on continued capital support from our parent, HSBC, including tax planning strategies implemented in relation to such support. HSBC has indicated they remain fully committed and have the capacity and willingness to provide capital as needed to run operations, maintain sufficient regulatory capital, and fund certain tax planning strategies.

Only those tax planning strategies that are both prudent and feasible, and which management has the ability and intent to implement, are incorporated into our analysis and assessment. The primary and most significant strategy is HSBC’s commitment to reinvest excess HNAH Group capital to reduce debt funding or otherwise invest in assets to ensure that it is more likely than not that the deferred tax assets will be utilized.

Currently, it has been determined that the HNAH Group’s primary tax planning strategy, in combination with other tax planning strategies, provides support for the realization of the net deferred tax assets recorded for the HNAH Group. Such determination is based on HSBC’s business forecasts and assessment as to the most efficient and effective deployment of HSBC capital, most importantly including the length of time such capital will need to be maintained in the U.S. for purposes of the tax planning strategy.

Notwithstanding the above, the HNAH Group has valuation allowances against certain specific tax attributes such as foreign tax credits, certain state related deferred tax assets and certain tax loss carryforwards for which the aforementioned tax planning strategies do not provide appropriate support.

HNAH Group valuation allowances are allocated to the principal subsidiaries, including us. The methodology allocates the valuation allowance to the principal subsidiaries based primarily on the entity’s relative contribution to

the growth of the HSBC North America consolidated deferred tax asset against which the valuation allowance is being recorded.

If future results differ from the HNAH Group's current forecasts or the primary tax planning strategy were to change, a valuation allowance against the remaining net deferred tax assets may need to be established which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and capital position. The HNAH

---

Group will continue to update its assumptions and forecasts of future taxable income, including relevant tax planning strategies, and assess the need for such incremental valuation allowances.

Absent the capital support from HSBC and implementation of the related tax planning strategies, the HNAH Group, including us, would be required to record a valuation allowance against the remaining deferred tax assets.

**HSBC Finance Corporation Income Taxes** We recognize deferred tax assets and liabilities for the future tax consequences related to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases, and for tax credits and net operating and other losses. Our net deferred tax assets, including deferred tax liabilities and valuation allowances, totaled \$2.8 billion and \$2.9 billion as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.

We are currently under audit by the Internal Revenue Service as well as various state and local tax jurisdictions. Although one or more of these audits may be concluded within the next 12 months, it is not possible to reasonably estimate the impact of the results from these audits on our uncertain tax positions at this time.

### 13. Pension and Other Postretirement Benefits

The components of pension expense for the defined benefit pension plan reflected in our consolidated statement of income (loss) are shown in the table below and reflect the portion of the pension expense of the combined HSBC North America Pension Plan (either the “HSBC North America Pension Plan” or the “Plan”) which has been allocated to HSBC Finance Corporation:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2010	2009	2010	2009
	(in millions)			
Service cost – benefits earned during the period	\$6	\$9	\$17	\$26
Interest cost on projected benefit obligation	15	17	45	50
Expected return on assets	(13)	(12)	(41)	(35)
Partial plan termination(1)	—	9	—	9
Recognized losses	9	8	26	25
Amortization of prior service cost	(1)	—	(2)	—
Net periodic pension cost	\$16	\$31	\$45	\$75

(1) Effective September 30, 2009, HSBC North America voluntarily chose to allow all plan participants whose employment was either terminated as a result of the strategic restructuring of its businesses between 2007 and 2009 to become fully vested in their accrued pension benefit, resulting in a partial termination of the plan. In accordance with interpretations of the Internal Revenue Service relating to partial plan terminations, plan participants who voluntarily left the employment of HSBC North America or its subsidiaries during this period were also deemed to have vested in their accrued pension benefit through the date their employment ended. As a result, incremental pension expense of \$9 million, representing our share of the partial plan termination cost, was recognized during the three months ended September 30, 2009.

Pension expense decreased during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 due to lower service and interest costs as a result of reduced headcount from our previously discussed strategic decisions. Also contributing to lower pension expense was the realization of higher returns on plan assets solely due to higher asset levels.

During the third quarter of 2010, HSBC North America made a contribution to the Plan of \$187 million.

During the first quarter of 2010, we announced that the Board of Directors of HSBC North America had approved a plan to cease all future benefit accruals for legacy participants under the final average pay formula components of the HSBC North America Pension Plan effective January 1, 2011. Future accruals to legacy participants under the Plan will thereafter be provided under the cash balance based formula which is now used to calculate benefits for employees hired after December 31, 1996. Furthermore, all future benefit accruals under the Supplemental

---

Retirement Income Plan will also cease effective January 1, 2011. The aforementioned changes to the Plan have been accounted for as a negative plan amendment and, therefore, the reduction in our share of HSBC North America's projected benefit obligation as a result of this decision will be amortized to net periodic pension cost over future service periods of the affected employees. The changes to the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan have been accounted for as a plan curtailment, which resulted in no significant immediate recognition of income or expense.

Components of the net periodic benefit cost for our postretirement medical plan benefits other than pensions are as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009
	(in millions)			
Service cost – benefits earned during the period	\$—	\$1	\$1	\$2
Interest cost	3	3	7	9
Gain on curtailment	—	—	—	(16)
Recognized gains	—	(1)	—	(3)
Net periodic postretirement benefit cost (income)	\$3	\$3	\$8	\$(8)

During the first quarter of 2009, we recorded a curtailment gain of \$16 million as a result of the decision in late February 2009 to discontinue new customer account originations for all products by our Consumer Lending business and close all branch offices.

On March 23, 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was enacted and subsequently amended on March 30, 2010 by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (collectively referred to as the "Act"). The Act is intended to ensure that more Americans have access to quality, affordable health care insurance with the provisions of the Act being phased in beginning in 2010 and continuing for a number of years. Based on an analysis of the Act, there has been no impact on our consolidated financial statements for the period ended September 30, 2010 as it relates to either our ongoing active employee benefit plans or our postretirement retiree-only medical plans. We have also performed an analysis related to the provisions to be implemented in future periods and based on the Act as currently written, we currently do not believe there will be a material impact to our financial position or results of operations in future periods. Should the provisions of the Act be amended in future periods, the estimated impact to our financial position or results of operations in future periods could change.



## 14. Related Party Transactions

In the normal course of business, we conduct transactions with HSBC and its subsidiaries. These transactions occur at prevailing market rates and terms and include funding arrangements, derivative execution, purchases and sales of receivables, servicing arrangements, information technology and some centralized support services, item and statement processing services, banking and other miscellaneous services. The following tables present related party balances and the income and (expense) generated by related party transactions:

	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009		
	(in millions)			
<b>Assets:</b>				
Cash	\$170	\$272		
Interest bearing deposits with banks	7	5		
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	2,920	1,550		
Derivative related assets	45	—		
Other assets	137	123		
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$3,279</b>	<b>\$1,950</b>		
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Due to affiliates	\$8,308	\$9,043		
Derivative related liability	—	56		
Other liabilities	47	186		
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$8,355</b>	<b>\$9,285</b>		
<b>Three Months Ended September 30, 2010</b>				
<b>Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009</b>				
	2010	2009	2010	2009
	(in millions)			
<b>Income/(Expense):</b>				
Interest income from HSBC affiliates	\$2	\$2	\$5	\$6
Interest expense paid to HSBC affiliates(1)	(179)	(271)	(601)	(859)
Net interest income (loss)	(177)	(269)	(596)	(853)
Net gain on bulk sale of receivables to HSBC Bank USA	—	—	—	50
<b>HSBC affiliate income:</b>				
<b>Gain on receivable sales to HSBC affiliates:</b>				
Daily sales of private label receivable originations	50	7	138	31
Daily sales of credit card receivables	93	94	263	286
Sales of real estate secured receivables	—	—	—	2
<b>Total gain on receivable sales to HSBC affiliates</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>319</b>
Gain (Loss) on sale of other assets to HSBC Affiliates	—	20	—	20
Loss on sale of affiliate preferred stock	—	—	—	(6)
<b>Servicing and other fees from HSBC affiliates:</b>				
<b>HSBC Bank USA:</b>				
Real estate secured servicing and related fees	4	1	9	4
Private label and card receivable servicing and related fees	158	155	469	482
Taxpayer financial services loan servicing and other fees	—	—	58	—
Other servicing, processing, origination and support revenues from HSBC Bank USA and other HSBC affiliates	4	11	13	33
	1	15	11	45

## HSBC Technology and Services (USA) Inc. (“HTSU”)

administrative fees and rental revenue(2)

Total servicing and other fees from HSBC affiliates	167	182	560	564
Taxpayer financial services loan origination and other fees	—	—	(4)	(11)
Support services from HSBC affiliates	(296)	(220)	(840)	(717)
Stock based compensation expense with HSBC	(2)	(8)	(10)	(25)
Insurance commission paid to HSBC Bank Canada	(4)	(4)	(18)	(14)

(1) Includes interest expense paid to HSBC affiliates for debt held by HSBC affiliates as well as net interest paid to or received from HSBC affiliates on risk management positions related to non-affiliated debt.

(2) During the second quarter of 2010, changes were made in the methodology to allocate rental expense between us and HTSU and an adjustment was made to rental revenue to conform to this methodology for all of 2010. Rental revenue from HTSU totaled \$5 million during year-to-date period, compared to \$11 million and \$36 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively.

## Transactions with HSBC Bank USA:

- In January 2009, we sold our GM and UP Portfolios to HSBC Bank USA with an outstanding principal balance of \$12.4 billion at the time of sale and recorded a gain on the bulk sale of these receivables of \$130 million. This gain was partially offset by a loss of \$80 million recorded on the termination of cash flow hedges associated with the \$6.1 billion of indebtedness transferred to HSBC Bank USA as part of these transactions. We retained the customer account relationships and by agreement sell on a daily basis all new credit card receivable originations for the GM and UP Portfolios to HSBC Bank USA. We continue to service the GM and UP receivables for HSBC Bank USA for a fee. Information regarding these receivables is summarized in the table below.

- In July 2004 we purchased the account relationships associated with \$970 million of credit card receivables from HSBC Bank USA and on a daily basis, we sell new receivable originations on these credit card accounts to HSBC Bank USA. We continue to service these loans for a fee. Information regarding these receivables is summarized in the table below.

- In December 2004, we sold to HSBC Bank USA our private label receivable portfolio (excluding retail sales contracts at our Consumer Lending business). We continue to service the sold private label and credit card receivables and receive servicing and related fee income from HSBC Bank USA. We retained the customer account relationships and by agreement sell on a daily basis all new private label receivable originations and new receivable originations on these credit card accounts to HSBC Bank USA. Information regarding these receivables is summarized in the table below.

- In 2003 and 2004, we sold approximately \$3.7 billion of real estate secured receivables to HSBC Bank USA. We continue to service these receivables for a fee. Information regarding these receivables is summarized in the table below.

The following table summarizes the private label, credit card (including the GM and UP Portfolios and real estate secured receivables we are servicing for HSBC Bank USA at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 as well as the receivables sold on a daily basis during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009:

	Credit Cards				Real Estate Secured	Total
	Private Label	General Motors	Union Privilege	Other		
	(in billions)					
Receivables serviced for HSBC Bank USA:						
September 30, 2010	\$12.8	\$4.3	\$4.3	\$1.9	\$1.6	\$24.9
December 31, 2009	15.6	5.4	5.3	2.1	1.8	30.2
Total of receivables sold on a daily basis to HSBC Bank USA during:						
Three months ended September 30, 2010	\$3.5	\$3.4	\$ .8	\$1.1	\$—	\$8.8
Three months ended September 30, 2009	3.6	3.7	.9	1.1		9.3
Nine months ended September 30, 2010	\$9.9	\$10.0	\$2.3	\$3.1	\$—	\$25.3
Nine months ended September 30, 2009	11.0	10.8	2.7	3.2	—	27.7

Fees received for servicing these loan portfolios totaled \$160 million and \$474 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to \$156 million and \$486 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively.

- The GM and UP credit card receivables as well as the private label receivables are sold to HSBC Bank USA on a daily basis at a sales price for each type of portfolio determined using a fair value calculated semi-annually in April and October by an independent third party based on the projected future cash flows of the receivables. The projected future cash flows are developed using various assumptions reflecting the historical performance of the receivables and adjusted for key factors such as the anticipated economic and regulatory environment. The independent third party uses these projected future cash flows and a discount rate to determine a range of fair values. We use the mid-point of this range as the sales price.
- In the second quarter of 2008, our Consumer Lending business launched a new program with HSBC Bank USA to sell real estate secured receivables to the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”). Our Consumer Lending business originated the loans in accordance with Freddie Mac’s underwriting criteria. The loans were then sold to HSBC Bank USA, generally within 30 days. HSBC Bank USA repackaged the loans and sold them to Freddie Mac under their existing Freddie Mac program. During the three months ended March 31, 2009, we sold \$51 million of real estate secured loans to HSBC Bank USA for a gain on sale of \$2 million. This program was discontinued in late February 2009 as a result of our decision to discontinue new customer account originations in our Consumer Lending business.
- HSBC Bank USA services a portfolio of real estate secured receivables for us with an outstanding principal balance of \$1.2 billion and \$1.5 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. Fees paid relating to the servicing of this portfolio totaled less than \$1 million during both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to \$1 million and \$6 million during the year-ago periods. These fees are reported in Support services from HSBC affiliates. The decrease during the first nine months of 2010 reflects a renegotiation of servicing fees for this portfolio.
- In the third quarter of 2009, we sold \$86 million of Low Income Housing Tax Credit Investment Funds to HSBC Bank USA for a loss on sale of \$15 million (after-tax).

- Under multiple service level agreements, we also provide various services to HSBC Bank USA, including real estate and credit card servicing and processing activities and other operational and administrative support. Fees received for these services are reported as Servicing and other fees from HSBC affiliates. Fees received for auto finance loan servicing are included as a component of Loss from discontinued Auto operations.
-

- In the fourth quarter of 2009, an initiative was begun to streamline the servicing of real estate secured receivables across North America. As a result, certain functions that we had previously performed for our mortgage customers are now being performed by HSBC Bank USA for all North America mortgage customers, including our mortgage customers. Additionally, we are currently performing certain functions for all North America mortgage customers where these functions had been previously provided separately by each entity. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, we paid \$2 million and \$6 million, respectively, for services we received from HSBC Bank USA and received \$2 million and \$4 million for services we had provided.
- In July 2010, we transferred certain employees in our real estate secured receivable servicing department to a subsidiary of HSBC Bank USA. These employees continue to service our real estate secured receivable portfolio and we pay a fee to HSBC Bank USA for these services.
- HSBC Bank USA and HSBC Trust Company (Delaware) (“HTCD”) originate loans on behalf of our Taxpayer Financial Services business for clients of a single third party tax preparer. We historically purchased the loans originated by HSBC Bank USA and HTCD daily for a fee. During the first quarter of 2010, we began purchasing a smaller portion of these loans. The loans which we previously purchased are retained by HSBC Bank USA’s balance sheet. In the event any of the loans which HSBC Bank USA continues to hold on its balance sheet reach a defined delinquency status, we purchase the delinquent loans at par value as we have assumed all credit risk associated with this program. We receive a fee from HSBC Bank USA for both servicing the loans and assuming the credit risk associated with these loans which totaled \$0 million and \$58 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively. In the table above, these fees are shown as taxpayer financial services loan servicing and other fees. For the loans which we continue to purchase from HTCD, we receive taxpayer financial services revenue and pay an origination fee to HTCD. Fees paid for originations totaled less than \$1 million and \$4 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, and are included as an offset to taxpayer financial services revenue. Fees paid for originations totaled \$11 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. In the table above, these origination fees are shown as taxpayer financial services loan origination and other fees.
- We have extended revolving lines of credit to subsidiaries of HSBC Bank USA for an aggregate total of \$1.0 billion. No balances were outstanding under any of these lines of credit at either September 30, 2010 or December 31, 2009.
- HSBC Bank USA extended a secured \$1.5 billion uncommitted credit facility to certain of our subsidiaries in December 2008. This is a 364 day credit facility which was renewed in November 2009. There were no balances outstanding at September 30, 2010 or December 31, 2009.
- HSBC Bank USA extended a \$1.0 billion committed unsecured credit facility to HSBC Bank Nevada (“HOBN”), a subsidiary of HSBC Finance Corporation, in December 2008. This 364 day credit facility was renewed in December 2009. There were no balances outstanding at September 30, 2010 or December 31, 2009.
- As it relates to our discontinued operations, in January 2009, we sold certain auto finance receivables with an outstanding principal balance of \$3.0 billion at the time of sale to HSBC Bank USA and recorded a gain on the bulk sale of these receivables of \$7 million which is included as a component of Loss from discontinued auto operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. In March 2010, we repurchased \$379 million of these auto finance receivables from HSBC Bank USA and immediately sold them to SC USA. Prior to the sale of our receivable servicing operations to SC USA in March 2010, we serviced these auto finance receivables for HSBC Bank USA for a fee, which is included as a component of Loss from discontinued auto operations. In August 2010, we sold the remainder of our auto finance receivable portfolio to SC USA.

Transactions with HSBC Holdings plc:

- A commercial paper back-stop credit facility of \$2.0 billion and \$2.5 billion from HSBC at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively, supported our domestic issuances of commercial paper. No balances were outstanding under this credit facility at September 30, 2010 or December 31, 2009. The annual commitment fee
-

requirement to support availability of this line is included as a component of Interest expense — HSBC affiliates in the consolidated statement of income (loss).

- In late February 2009, we effectively converted \$275 million of mandatorily redeemable preferred securities of the Household Capital Trust VIII which had been issued during 2003 to common stock by redeeming the junior subordinated notes underlying the preferred securities and then issuing common stock to HSBC Investments (North America) Inc. (“HINO”). Interest expense recorded on the underlying junior subordinated notes totaled \$3 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. This interest expense is included in Interest expense — HSBC affiliates in the consolidated statement of income (loss).
- Employees of HSBC Finance Corporation participate in one or more stock compensation plans sponsored by HSBC. These expenses are recorded in Salary and employee benefits and are reflected in the above table as Stock based compensation expense with HSBC.

Transactions with other HSBC affiliates:

- HSBC North America’s technology and certain centralized support services including human resources, corporate affairs, risk management and other shared services and beginning in January 2010, legal, compliance, tax and finance are centralized within HTSU. Technology related assets are generally capitalized and recorded on our consolidated balance sheet. HTSU also provides certain item processing and statement processing activities to us. The fees we pay HTSU for the centralized support services and processing activities are included in support services from HSBC affiliates. We also receive fees from HTSU for providing them certain administrative services, such as internal audit, as well as receiving rental revenue from HTSU for certain office space. The fees and rental revenue we receive from HTSU are recorded as a component of servicing and other fees from HSBC affiliates.
- We use HSBC Global Resourcing (UK) Ltd., an HSBC affiliate located outside of the United States, to provide various support services to our operations including among other areas, customer service, systems, collection and accounting functions. The expenses related to these services of \$31 million and \$95 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, are included as a component of Support services from HSBC affiliates in the table above. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, expenses related to these services totaled \$38 million and \$121 million, respectively. Beginning in 2010, the expenses for these services for all HSBC North America operations are billed directly to HTSU who is providing oversight and review of the majority of all of our intercompany transactions and then bills these services to the appropriate HSBC affiliate who benefited from the services.
- The notional value of derivative contracts outstanding with HSBC subsidiaries totaled \$52.3 billion and \$58.6 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. When the fair value of our agreements with affiliate counterparties requires the posting of collateral, it is provided in either the form of cash and recorded on the balance sheet or in the form of securities which are not recorded on our balance sheet. The fair value of our agreements with affiliate counterparties required the affiliate to provide collateral of \$2.1 million and \$3.4 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively, all of which was received in cash. These amounts are offset against the fair value amount recognized for derivative instruments that have been offset under the same master netting arrangement.
- Due to affiliates includes amounts owed to subsidiaries of HSBC as a result of direct debt issuances (other than preferred stock).
- During the third quarter of 2010, we executed a \$1.0 billion 364-day uncommitted revolving credit agreement with HSBC North America. At September 30, 2010, \$750 million was outstanding under this agreement.

- In September 2008, we borrowed \$1.0 billion from an existing uncommitted credit facility with HSBC Bank plc (“HBEU”). The borrowing was for 60 days and matured in November 2008. We renewed this borrowing for an additional 95 days. The borrowing matured in February 2009 and we chose not to renew it at that time. Interest expense on this borrowing totaled \$5 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2009.
-



- In October 2008, we borrowed \$1.2 billion from an uncommitted money market facility with a subsidiary of HSBC Asia Pacific (“HBAP”). The borrowing was for six months, matured in April 2009 and we chose not to renew it at that time. Interest expense on this borrowing totaled \$19 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2009.
- We purchase securities from HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. (“HSI”) under an agreement to resell. Interest income recognized on these securities totaled \$2 million and \$5 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and \$2 million and \$6 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively, and is reflected as interest income paid to HSBC affiliates in the table above.
- Support services from HSBC affiliates also include banking services and other miscellaneous services provided by other subsidiaries of HSBC, including HSBC Bank USA.
- Employees of HSBC Finance Corporation participate in a defined benefit pension plan and other postretirement benefit plans sponsored by HSBC North America. See Note 13, “Pension and Other Postretirement Benefits,” for additional information on this pension plan.
  - Historically, we have utilized HSBC Markets (USA) Inc., (“HMUS”) to lead manage the underwriting of term debt issuances. There were no fees paid to the affiliate for such services during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 or 2009. For debt not accounted for under the fair value option, these fees are amortized over the life of the related debt and included as a component of interest expense.
- We continue to guarantee the long-term and medium-term notes issued by our Canadian business prior to its sale to HSBC Bank Canada. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, we recorded fees of \$1 million and \$4 million, respectively, for providing this guarantee, compared to \$2 million and \$5 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively. As of September 30, 2010, the outstanding balance of the guaranteed notes was \$1.5 billion and the latest scheduled maturity of the notes is May 2012. The sale agreement with HSBC Bank Canada allows us to continue to distribute various insurance products through the branch network for a fee. Fees paid to HSBC Bank Canada for distributing insurance products through this network during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 were \$4 million and \$18 million, respectively, and are included in insurance commission paid to HSBC Bank Canada in the table above. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, fees paid for the distribution of insurance products totaled \$4 million and \$14 million, respectively.

## 15. Business Segments

We have two reportable segments: Card and Retail Services and Consumer. Our segments are managed separately and are characterized by different middle-market consumer lending products, origination processes, and locations. Our segment results are reported on a continuing operations basis.

Our Card and Retail Services segment comprises our core operations and includes our MasterCard, Visa, private label and other credit card operations. The Card and Retail Services segment offers these products throughout the United States primarily via strategic affinity and co-branding relationships, merchant relationships and direct mail. We also offer products and provide customer service through the Internet.

Our Consumer segment consists of our run-off Consumer Lending and Mortgage Services businesses which are no longer considered central to our core operations. The Consumer segment provided real estate secured and personal non-credit card loans with both revolving and closed-end terms and with fixed or variable interest rates. Loans were originated through branch locations and direct mail. Products were also offered and customers serviced through the

Internet. Prior to the first quarter of 2007, we acquired loans from correspondent lenders and prior to September 2007 we also originated loans sourced through mortgage brokers. While these businesses are operating in run-off mode, they have not been reported as discontinued operations because we continue to generate cash flow from the ongoing collections of the receivables, including interest and fees.

---

The All Other caption includes our Insurance business. It also includes our Taxpayer Financial Services and Commercial businesses which are no longer considered core to our operations. Each of these businesses falls below the quantitative threshold tests under segment reporting accounting principles for determining reportable segments. The “All Other” caption also includes our corporate and treasury activities, which includes the impact of FVO debt. Certain fair value adjustments related to purchase accounting resulting from our acquisition by HSBC and related amortization have been allocated to corporate, which is included in the “All Other” caption within our segment disclosure including goodwill arising from our acquisition by HSBC.

As discussed in Note 2, “Discontinued Operations,” in the accompanying consolidated financial statements, our Auto Finance business, which was previously reported in the Consumer segment, is now reported as discontinued operations and is no longer included in our segment presentation.

In the second quarter of 2010, we revised the methodology used to allocate interest expense between our reportable segments. The new methodology recognizes that non-receivable assets and liabilities in each of our business segments have a shorter life than previously assumed and incorporates transfer pricing consistent with this revised forecasted life. There have been no other changes in our measurement of segment profit (loss) and, except as noted above, there have been no changes in the basis of segmentation as compared with the presentation in our 2009 Form 10-K.

We report results to our parent, HSBC, in accordance with its reporting basis, International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRSs”). Our segment results are presented on an IFRS Management Basis (a non-U.S. GAAP financial measure) as operating results are monitored and reviewed, trends are evaluated and decisions about allocating resources such as employees are made almost exclusively on an IFRS Management Basis. IFRS Management Basis results are IFRSs results which assume that the GM and UP credit card, private label and real estate secured receivables transferred to HSBC Bank USA have not been sold and remain on our balance sheet and the revenues and expenses related to these receivables remain on our income statement. IFRS Management Basis also assumes that the purchase accounting fair value adjustments relating to our acquisition by HSBC have been “pushed down” to HSBC Finance Corporation. Operations are monitored and trends are evaluated on an IFRS Management Basis because the receivable sales to HSBC Bank USA were conducted primarily to fund prime customer loans more efficiently through bank deposits and such receivables continue to be managed and serviced by us without regard to ownership. However, we continue to monitor capital adequacy, establish dividend policy and report to regulatory agencies on a U.S. GAAP legal entity basis.

For segment reporting purposes, intersegment transactions have not been eliminated. We generally account for transactions between segments as if they were with third parties.

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Reconciliation of our IFRS Management Basis segment results to the U.S. GAAP consolidated totals are as follows:

	Card and Retail Services	Consumer	All Other	Adjustments/ Reconciling Items	IFRS Management Basis Consolidated Totals	Management Basis Adjustments(3)	IFRS Adjustments(4)	IFRS Reclass- ifications(5)	U.S. GAAP Consolidated Totals
	(in millions)								
Three months ended September 30, 2010									
Net interest income	\$1,156	\$599	\$217	\$—	\$1,972	\$(628)	\$(76)	\$(208)	\$1,060
Other operating income (Total other revenues)	340	(4)	(544)	(6)(1)	(214)	108	(1)	306	199
Total operating income (loss)	1,496	595	(327)	(6)	1,758	(520)	(77)	98	1,255
Loan impairment charges (Provision for credit losses)	487 1,009	1,402 (807)	(2) (325)	— (6)	1,887 (129)	(264) (256)	(114) 37	— 98	1,509 (250)
Operating expenses	487	222	36	(6)	739	(7)	22	98	852
Profit (loss) before tax	\$522	\$(1,029)	\$(361)	\$—	\$(868)	\$(249)	\$15	\$—	\$(1,102)
Intersegment revenues	2	16	(12)	(6)(1)	—	—	—	—	—
Balances at end of period:									
Customer loans (Receivables)	32,224	61,258	1,917	—	95,399	(23,650)	(497)	(1,875)	69,377
Assets	30,791	61,471	13,463	—(2)	105,725	(23,024)	(4,092)	108	78,711
Three months ended September 30, 2009									
Net interest income	\$1,302	\$727	\$270	\$—	\$2,299	\$(685)	\$(53)	\$(204)	\$1,357
Other operating	582	30	(1,575)	(8)(1)	(971)	(46)	(1)	279	(739)

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

income (Total other revenues)										
Total operating income (loss)	1,884	757	(1,305)	(8)	1,328	(731)	(54)	75	61	
Loan impairment charges (Provision for credit losses)	1,172	1,753	1	—	2,926	(561)	(248)	—	2,11	
	712	(996)	(1,306)	(8)	(1,598)	(170)	194	75	(1,499)	
Operating expenses	460	230	51	(8)	733	6	39	75	85	
Profit (loss) before tax	\$252	\$(1,226)	\$(1,357)	\$—	\$(2,331)	\$(176)	\$155	\$—	\$(2,352)	
Intersegment revenues	1	34	\$(27)	(8)(1)	—	—	—	—	—	
Balances at end of period:										
Customer loans (Receivables)	39,323	78,811	1,099	—	119,233	(28,623)	(400)	(1,606)	88,60	
Assets	37,192	76,001	13,959	(2)(2)	127,150	(27,466)	(4,267)	(163)	95.25	
Nine months ended September 30, 2010										
Net interest income	\$3,611	\$1,763	\$686	\$—	\$6,060	\$(1,954)	\$(270)	\$(658)	\$3,17	
Other operating income (Total other revenues)	1,086	24	(807)	(19)(1)	284	252	(21)	899	1,41	
Total operating income (loss)	4,697	1,787	(121)	(19)	6,344	(1,702)	(291)	241	4,59	
Loan impairment charges (Provision for credit losses)	1,808	4,484	(3)	—	6,289	(995)	(324)	—	4,97	
	2,889	(2,697)	(118)	(19)	55	(707)	33	241	(378)	
Operating expenses	1,427	655	137	(19)	2,200	(21)	112	241	2,53	
Profit (loss) before tax	\$1,462	\$(3,352)	\$(255)	\$—	\$(2,145)	\$(686)	\$(79)	\$—	\$(2,910)	
Intersegment revenues	7	50	(38)	(19)(1)	—	—	—	—	—	

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Nine months ended September 30, 2009										
Net interest income	\$3,940	\$2,360	\$763	\$1	\$7,064	\$(1,994)	\$(221)	\$(521)	\$4,320	
Other operating income (Total other revenues)	1,810	22	(2,155)	(20)	(343)	263	(624)	846	14	
Total operating income (loss)	5,750	2,382	(1,392)	(19)	6,721	(1,731)	(845)	325	4,470	
Loan impairment charges (Provision for credit losses)	3,891	6,004	—	—	9,895	(2,061)	(668)	—	7,160	
	1,859	(3,622)	(1,392)	(19)	(3,174)	330	(177)	325	(2,696)	
Operating expenses	1,934	957	2,575	(21)	5,445	11	(493)	325	5,280	
Profit (loss) before tax	\$(75)	\$(4,579)	\$(3,967)	\$2	\$(8,619)	\$319	\$316	\$—	\$7,980	
Intersegment revenues	4	100	(84)	(20)(1)	—	—	—	—	—	

---

- 
- (1) Eliminates intersegment revenues.
  - (2) Eliminates investments in subsidiaries and intercompany borrowings.
  - (3) Management Basis Adjustments represent the GM and UP credit card Portfolios and the auto finance, private label and real estate secured receivables transferred to HSBC Bank USA.
  - (4) IFRS Adjustments consist of the accounting differences between U.S. GAAP and IFRSs which have been described more fully below.
  - (5) Represents differences in balance sheet and income statement presentation between IFRSs and U.S. GAAP.

A summary of the significant differences between U.S. GAAP and IFRSs as they impact our results are presented below:

#### Net interest income

Effective interest rate – The calculation of effective interest rates under IFRS 39, “Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement (“IAS 39”), requires an estimate of “all fees and points paid or recovered between parties to the contract” that are an integral part of the effective interest rate be included. U.S. GAAP generally prohibits recognition of interest income to the extent the net interest in the loan would increase to an amount greater than the amount at which the borrower could settle the obligation. Under U.S. GAAP, prepayment penalties are generally recognized as received. U.S. GAAP also includes interest income on loans originated as held for sale which is included in other revenues for IFRSs.

Deferred loan origination costs and fees – Loan origination cost deferrals under IFRSs are more stringent and result in lower costs being deferred than permitted under U.S. GAAP. In addition, all deferred loan origination fees, costs and loan premiums must be recognized based on the expected life of the receivables under IFRSs as part of the effective interest calculation while under U.S. GAAP they may be recognized on either a contractual or expected life basis.

Derivative interest expense – Under IFRSs, net interest income includes the interest element for derivatives which correspond to debt designated at fair value. For U.S. GAAP, this is included in Gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives which is a component of other revenues. Additionally, under IFRSs, insurance investment income is included in net interest income instead of as a component of other revenues under U.S. GAAP.

#### Other operating income (Total other revenues)

Present value of long-term insurance contracts – Under IFRSs, the present value of an in-force (“PVIF”) long-term insurance contract is determined by discounting future cash flows expected to emerge from business currently in force using appropriate assumptions plus a margin in assessing factors such as future mortality, lapse rates and levels of expenses, and a discount rate that reflects the risk free rate plus a margin for operational risk. Movements in the PVIF of long-term insurance contracts are included in other operating income. Under U.S. GAAP, revenue is recognized over the life insurance policy term.

Policyholder benefits – Other revenues under IFRSs include policyholder benefits expense which is classified as other expense under U.S. GAAP.

Loans held for sale – IFRSs requires loans designated as held for resale at the time of origination to be treated as trading assets and recorded at their fair market value. Under U.S. GAAP, loans designated as held for resale are reflected as loans and recorded at the lower of amortized cost or fair value. Under IFRSs, the income and expenses related to receivables held for sale are reported in other operating income. Under U.S. GAAP, the income and expenses related to receivables held for sale are reported similarly to loans held for investment.

For receivables transferred to held for sale subsequent to origination, IFRSs requires these receivables to be reported separately on the balance sheet but does not change the recognition and measurement criteria. Accordingly, for IFRSs purposes such loans continue to be accounted for in accordance with IAS 39 with any gain or loss recorded at the time of sale. U.S. GAAP requires loans that management intends to sell to be transferred to a held for sale category at the lower of cost or fair value. Under U.S. GAAP, the component of the lower of cost or fair value adjustment related to credit risk is recorded in the statement of income (loss) as provision for credit losses while the component related to interest rates and liquidity factors is reported in the statement of income (loss) in other revenues.

Certain receivables that were previously classified as held for sale under U.S. GAAP have now been transferred to held for investment as we now intend to hold for the foreseeable future. Under U.S. GAAP, these receivables were subject to lower of cost or fair value adjustments while held for sale and have been transferred to held for investment at their current carrying value. Under IFRSs, these receivables were always reported within loans and the measurement criteria did not change. As a result, loan impairment charges are now being recorded under IFRSs which were essentially included as a component of the lower of cost or fair value adjustments under U.S. GAAP.

Securities – Under IFRSs, securities include HSBC shares held for stock plans at fair value. These shares are recorded at fair value through other comprehensive income. If it is determined these shares have become impaired, the fair value loss is recognized in profit and loss and any fair value loss recorded in other comprehensive income is reversed. There is no similar requirement under U.S. GAAP.

During the second quarter of 2009, under IFRSs we recorded income for the value of additional shares attributed to HSBC shares held for stock plans as a result of HSBC's rights offering earlier in 2009. The additional shares are not recorded under U.S. GAAP.

Other-than-temporary impairments – Under U.S. GAAP we are allowed to evaluate perpetual preferred securities for potential other-than-temporary impairment similar to a debt security provided there has been no evidence of deterioration in the credit of the issuer and record the unrealized losses as a component of other comprehensive income. There are no similar provisions under IFRSs as all perpetual preferred securities are evaluated for other-than-temporary impairment as equity securities.

Under U.S. GAAP, the credit loss component of an other-than-temporary impairment of a debt security is recognized in earnings while the remaining portion of the impairment loss is recognized in other comprehensive income provided a company concludes it neither intends to sell the security nor concludes that it is more-likely-than-not that it will have to sell the security prior to recovery. Under IFRSs, there is no bifurcation of other-than-temporary impairment and the entire decline in value is recognized in earnings.

REO Expense – Other revenues under IFRSs includes losses on sale and the lower of cost or fair value adjustments on REO properties which are classified as other expense under U.S. GAAP.

Loan impairment charges (Provision for credit losses)

IFRSs requires a discounted cash flow methodology for estimating impairment on pools of homogeneous customer loans which requires the incorporation of the time value of money relating to recovery estimates. Also under IFRSs, future recoveries on charged-off loans are accrued for on a discounted basis and a recovery asset is recorded.



Subsequent recoveries are recorded to earnings under U.S. GAAP, but are adjusted against the recovery asset under IFRSs. Interest is recorded based on collectibility under IFRSs.

As discussed above, under U.S. GAAP the credit risk component of the lower of cost or fair value adjustment related to the transfer of receivables to held for sale is recorded in the statement of income (loss) as provision for credit losses. There is no similar requirement under IFRSs.

#### Operating expenses

Goodwill impairments – Goodwill impairment under IFRSs was higher than that under U.S. GAAP due to higher levels of goodwill established under IFRSs as well as differences in how impairment is measured as U.S. GAAP requires a two-step impairment test which requires the fair value of goodwill to be determined in the same manner as the amount of goodwill recognized in a business combination.

Policyholder benefits – Operating expenses under IFRSs are lower as policyholder benefits expenses are reported as an offset to other revenues as discussed above.

---

Pension costs – Net income under U.S. GAAP is lower than under IFRSs as a result of the amortization of the amount by which actuarial losses exceed gains beyond the 10 percent “corridor”. Furthermore, in 2010 changes to future accruals for legacy participants under the HSBC North America Pension Plan were accounted for as a plan curtailment under IFRSs, which resulted in immediate income recognition. Under U.S. GAAP, these changes were considered to be a negative plan amendment which resulted in no immediate income recognition.

#### Assets

Customer loans (Receivables) – On an IFRSs basis loans designated as held for sale at the time of origination and accrued interest are classified as trading assets. However, the accounting requirements governing when receivables previously held for investment are transferred to a held for sale category are more stringent under IFRSs than under U.S. GAAP. Unearned insurance premiums are reported as a reduction to receivables on a U.S. GAAP basis but are reported as insurance reserves for IFRSs.

Other – In addition to the differences discussed above, derivative financial assets are higher under IFRSs than under U.S. GAAP as U.S. GAAP permits the netting of certain items. No similar requirement exists under IFRSs.

#### 16. Variable Interest Entities

On January 1, 2010, we adopted the new guidance which amends the accounting for the consolidation of variable interest entities. The new guidance changed the approach for determining the primary beneficiary of a VIE from a quantitative approach focusing on risk and reward to a qualitative approach focusing on the power to direct the activities of the VIE and the obligation to absorb losses and/or the right to receive benefits of the VIE. The adoption of the new guidance has not resulted in any changes to consolidated entities for us.

Variable Interest Entities We consolidate VIEs in which we are deemed to be the primary beneficiary through our holding of a variable interest which is determined as a controlling financial interest. The controlling financial interest is evidenced by the power to direct the activities of a VIE that most significantly impact its economic performance and obligations to absorb losses of, or the right to receive benefits from, the VIE that could be potentially significant to the VIE. We take into account all of our involvements in a VIE in identifying (explicit or implicit) variable interests that individually or in the aggregate could be significant enough to warrant our designation as the primary beneficiary and hence require us to consolidate the VIE or otherwise require us to make appropriate disclosures. We consider our involvement to be significant where we, among other things, (i) provide liquidity facilities to support the VIE’s debt issuances, (ii) enter into derivative contracts to absorb the risks and benefits from the VIE or from the assets held by the VIE, (iii) provide a financial guarantee that covers assets held or liabilities issued, (iv) design, organize and structure the transaction and (v) retain a financial or servicing interest in the VIE.

We are required to evaluate whether to consolidate a VIE when we first become involved and on an ongoing basis. In almost all cases, a qualitative analysis of our involvement in the entity provides sufficient evidence to determine whether we are the primary beneficiary. In rare cases, a more detailed analysis to quantify the extent of variability to be absorbed by each variable interest holder is required to determine the primary beneficiary.

Consolidated VIEs In the ordinary course of business, we have organized special purpose entities (“SPEs”) primarily to meet our own funding needs through collateralized funding transactions. We transfer certain receivables to these trusts which in turn issue debt instruments collateralized by the transferred receivables. The entities used in these transactions are VIEs and we are deemed to be their primary beneficiary because we hold beneficial interests that expose us to the majority of their expected losses. Accordingly, we consolidate these entities and report the debt securities issued by them as secured financings in long-term debt. This has not changed as a result of the new accounting guidance effective January 1, 2010. As a result, all receivables transferred in these secured financings have

remained and continue to remain on our balance sheet and the debt securities issued by them have remained and continue to be included in long-term debt.

---

The following table summarizes the assets and liabilities of these consolidated secured financing VIEs as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009:

	September 30, 2010		December 31, 2009	
	Consolidated Assets	Consolidated Liabilities	Consolidated Assets	Consolidated Liabilities
	(in millions)			
Real estate collateralized funding vehicles:				
Receivables, net	\$5,700	\$—	\$6,404	\$—
Available-for-sale investments	8	—	13	—
Long-term debt	—	4,166	—	4,678
Subtotal	5,708	4,166	6,417	4,678
Credit card collateralized funding vehicles:				
Receivables, net	2,018	—	1,821	—
Long-term debt	—	195	—	—
Subtotal	2,018	195	1,821	—
Total	\$7,726	\$4,361	\$8,238	\$4,678

The assets of the consolidated VIEs serve as collateral for the obligations of the VIEs. The holders of the debt securities issued by these vehicles have no recourse to our general assets.

**Unconsolidated VIEs** We are involved with VIEs related to low income housing partnerships, leveraged leases and investments in community partnerships that were not consolidated at September 30, 2010 or December 31, 2009 because we are not the primary beneficiary. At September 30, 2010, we have assets totaling \$31 million on our consolidated balance sheet which represents our maximum exposure to loss for these VIEs.

Additionally, we are involved with other VIEs which currently provide funding to HSBC Bank USA through collateralized funding transactions. We have not consolidated these VIEs at September 30, 2010 or December 31, 2009 because we are not the primary beneficiary as our relationship with these VIEs is limited to servicing certain credit card and private label receivables of the related trusts.

## 17. Fair Value Measurements

Accounting principles related to fair value measurements provide a framework for measuring fair value and focuses on an exit price in the principal (or alternatively, the most advantageous) market accessible in an orderly transaction between willing market participants (the “Fair Value Framework”). The Fair Value Framework establishes a three-tiered fair value hierarchy with Level 1 representing quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Fair values determined by Level 2 inputs are inputs that are observable for the identical asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are inactive, and inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, such as interest rates and yield curves that are observable at commonly quoted intervals. Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability and include situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability. Transfers between leveling categories are recognized at the end of each reporting period.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments The fair value estimates, methods and assumptions set forth below for our financial instruments, including those financial instruments carried at cost, are made solely to comply with disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles in the United States and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes included in this quarterly report. The following table summarizes the carrying values and estimated fair value of our financial instruments at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009.

	September 30, 2010		December 31, 2009	
	Carrying Value	Estimated Fair Value	Carrying Value	Estimated Fair Value
	(in millions)			
Financial assets:				
Cash	\$174	\$174	\$289	\$289
Interest bearing deposits with banks	15	15	17	17
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	4,795	4,795	2,850	2,850
Securities	3,422	3,422	3,187	3,187
Consumer receivables:				
Mortgage Services:				
First lien	13,130	9,053	15,244	8,824
Second lien	1,913	501	2,331	672
Total Mortgage Services	15,043	9,554	17,575	9,496
Consumer Lending:				
First lien	29,199	21,235	32,751	20,918
Second lien	3,064	741	3,791	1,149
Total Consumer Lending real estate secured receivables	32,263	21,976	36,542	22,067
Non-real estate secured receivables	6,237	4,333	8,543	5,620
Total Consumer Lending	38,500	26,309	45,085	27,687
Credit card	8,827	8,748	9,905	9,358
Total consumer receivables	62,370	44,611	72,565	46,541
Receivables held for sale	4	4	3	3
Due from affiliates	137	137	123	123
Derivative financial assets	61	61	—	—
Financial liabilities:				
Commercial paper	3,057	3,057	4,291	4,291
Due to affiliates	8,308	8,065	9,043	9,259
Long-term debt carried at fair value	22,962	22,962	26,745	26,745
Long-term debt not carried at fair value	34,945	34,056	42,135	40,346
Insurance policy and claim reserves	984	1,248	996	1,092
Derivative financial liabilities	—	—	60	60

Receivable values presented in the table above were determined using the Fair Value Framework for measuring fair value, which is based on our best estimate of the amount within a range of values we believe would be received in a sale as of the balance sheet date (i.e. exit price). The secondary market demand and estimated value for our receivables has been heavily influenced by the deteriorating economic conditions during the past few years, including house price depreciation, rising unemployment, changes in consumer behavior, changes in discount rates and the lack of financing options available to support the purchase of receivables. Many investors are non-bank financial institutions or hedge funds with high equity levels and a high cost of debt. For certain consumer receivables, investors incorporate numerous assumptions in predicting cash flows, such as higher charge-off levels and/or slower voluntary prepayment speeds than we, as the servicer of these receivables, believe will ultimately be the case. The investor discount rates reflect this



difference in overall cost of capital as well as the potential volatility in the underlying cash flow assumptions, the combination of which may yield a significant pricing discount from our intrinsic value. The estimated fair values at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 reflect these market conditions.

Assets and Liabilities Recorded at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis The following table presents information about our assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, and indicates the fair value hierarchy of the valuation techniques utilized to determine such fair value.

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Netting(1)	Total of Assets (Liabilities) Measured at Fair Value
(in millions)					
September 30, 2010:					
Derivative financial assets(1):					
Interest rate swaps	\$—	\$1,501	\$—	\$	\$1,501
Currency swaps	—	2,179	—		2,179
Foreign exchange forward	—	6	—		6
Derivative netting	—	—	—	(3,625)	(3,625)
Total derivative financial assets	—	3,686	—	(3,625)	61
Available-for-sale securities:					
U.S. Treasury	328	—	—	—	328
U.S. government sponsored enterprises	—	319	2	—	321
U.S. government agency issued or guaranteed	—	13	—	—	13
Obligations of U.S. states and political subdivisions	—	31	—	—	31
Asset-backed securities	—	46	21	—	67
U.S. corporate debt securities	—	1,828	3	—	1,831
Foreign debt securities:					
Government	7	84	—	—	91
Corporate	—	295	—	—	295
Equity securities	9	—	—	—	9
Money market funds	404	—	—	—	404
Accrued interest	1	31	—	—	32
Total available-for-sale securities	749	2,647	26	—	3,422
Total assets	\$749	\$6,333	\$26	\$(3,625)	\$3,483
Long-term debt carried at fair value	\$—	\$(22,962)	\$—	\$—	\$(22,962)
Derivative related liabilities(1):					
Interest rate swaps	—	(1,364)	—	—	(1,364)
Currency swaps	—	(142)	—	—	(142)
Derivative netting	—	—	—	1,506	1,506
Total derivative related liabilities	—	(1,506)	—	1,506	—
Total liabilities	\$—	\$(24,468)	\$—	\$1,506	\$(22,962)

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

December 31, 2009:

Derivative financial assets					
Interest rate swaps	\$—	\$1,288	\$—	\$—	\$1,288
Currency swaps	—	2,616	—	—	2,616
Foreign exchange forward	—	—	—	—	—
Derivative netting	—	—	—	(3,904)	(3,904)
Total derivative financial assets	—	3,904	—	(3,904)	—
Available-for-sale securities:					
U.S. Treasury	196	—	—	—	196
U.S. government sponsored enterprises	21	74	2	—	97
U.S. government agency issued or guaranteed	—	21	—	—	21
Obligations of U.S. states and political subdivisions	—	31	1	—	32
Asset-backed securities	—	57	26	—	83
U.S. corporate debt securities	—	1,704	20	—	1,724
Foreign debt securities					
Government	10	67	—	—	77
Corporate	—	289	—	—	289
Equity securities	—	12	—	—	12
Money market funds	627	—	—	—	627
Accrued interest	1	28	—	—	29
Total available-for-sale securities	855	2,283	49	—	3,187
Total assets	\$855	\$6,187	\$49	\$(3,904)	\$3,187
Long-term debt carried at fair value	\$—	\$(26,745)	\$—	\$—	\$(26,745)
Derivative related liabilities					
Interest rate swaps	—	(473)	—	—	(473)
Currency swaps	—	(117)	—	—	(117)
Foreign Exchange Forward	—	(10)	—	—	(10)
Derivative netting	—	—	—	540	540
Total derivative related liabilities	—	(600)	—	540	(60)
Total liabilities	\$—	\$(27,345)	\$—	\$540	\$(26,805)

(1) Represents counter party and swap collateral netting which allow the offsetting of amounts relating to certain contracts when certain conditions are met.

The following table provides additional detail regarding the rating of our U.S. corporate debt securities at September 30, 2010:

	Level 2	Level 3	Total
			(in millions)
AAA to AA(1)	\$386	\$—	\$386
A+ to A-(1)	1,273	—	1,273
BBB+ to Unrated(1)	169	3	172

(1) We obtain ratings on our U.S. corporate debt securities from both Moody's Investor Services and Standard and Poor's Corporation. In the event the ratings we obtain from these agencies differ, we utilize the lower of the two ratings.



Significant Transfers Into/Out of Level 1 and Level 2 Transfers from Level 1 (quoted unadjusted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities) to Level 2 (using inputs that are observable for the identical asset or liability, either directly or indirectly) totaled \$59 million during the three months ended September 30, 2010 and transfers from Level 2 to Level 1 totaled \$9 million during the three months ended September 30, 2010 as a result of reclassifications in certain product groupings. There were no transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 during the three or nine months ended September 30, 2009.

Information on Level 3 Assets and Liabilities The table below reconciles the beginning and ending balances for assets recorded at fair value using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009.

	Total Gains and (Losses) Included in				Transfers		Transfers		Current	
	July 1, 2010	Other Comp.	Purchases	Issuances	Settlement	Into Level 3	Out of Level 3	September 30 2010	Period	Unrealized
	Income	Income								Gains (Losses)
	(in millions)									
Assets:										
Securities available-for-sale:										
U.S. Government sponsored enterprises	\$2	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$2	\$
Obligations of U.S. states and political subdivisions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asset-backed securities	24	—	(3)	—	—	—	—	21	1	1
U.S. corporate debt securities	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	3
Total assets	\$29	\$	\$(3)	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$26	\$26	\$1

	Total Gains and (Losses) Included in Other Comp.		Transfers Transfers Into Out of Level 3 Level 3		September 30 2009		Current Period Unrealized Gains (Losses)		
July 1, 2009	Income	Income	Purchases	Issuances	Settlement				
(in millions)									
Assets:									
Securities available-for-sale:									
U.S. Government sponsored enterprises	\$2	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$(2)	\$—
State and Municipal	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Asset-backed securities	36	—	(1)	—	—	—	3	(8)	30
U.S. corporate debt securities	45	—	1	—	—	—	32	(38)	40
Foreign debt securities	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	(6)	—
Equity Securities	5	—	—	—	—	(5)	—	—	—
Accrued interest	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total assets	\$95	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$(5)	\$36	\$(54)	\$72

	Total Gains and (Losses) Included in Other Comp.		Transfers Transfers Out of Out of Level 2 Level 3		September 30 2010		Current Period Unrealized Gains (Losses)		
Jan. 1, 2010	Income	Income	Purchases	Issuances	Settlement	and Into Level 3	and Into Level 2		
(in millions)									
Assets:									
Securities available-for-sale:									
U.S. Government sponsored enterprises	\$2	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$2	\$(2)	\$2
Obligations of U.S. states and political subdivisions	1	—	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	—
Asset-backed securities	26	—	(7)	—	—	—	2	—	21
U.S. corporate debt securities	20	—	—	—	—	—	8	(25)	3
Total assets	\$49	\$—	\$(7)	\$—	\$—	\$(1)	\$12	\$(27)	\$26

	Total Gains and (Losses) Included in Other Comp.		Transfers Transfers Into Out of Level 2 Level 3		September 30 2010		Current Period Unrealized Gains (Losses)	
Jan. 1, 2010	Income	Income	Purchases	Issuances	Settlement	and Into Level 3	and Into Level 2	

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

	2009	Income	Income	Purchases	Issuances	Settlement	Level 3	Level 3	2009	Unrealized
										Gains
										(Losses)
	(in millions)									
Assets:										
Securities available-for-sale:										
U.S. Government sponsored enterprises	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$2	\$(2)	\$—	\$—
State and municipal	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Asset-backed securities	38	—	(6)	—	—	—	26	(28)	30	4
U.S. corporate debt securities	84	—	1	5	—	—	86	(136)	40	2
Foreign debt securities	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	(6)	—	—
Equity Securities	51	(7)	—	5	—	(49)	—	—	—	—
Accrued interest	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1)	1	—
Total assets	\$175	\$(7)	\$(4)	\$10	\$—	\$(49)	\$120	\$(173)	\$72	\$6

Assets and Liabilities Recorded at Fair Value on a Non-recurring Basis The following table presents information about our assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis as of September 30, 2010 and 2009, and indicates the fair value hierarchy of the valuation techniques utilized to determine such fair value.

	Non-Recurring Fair Value Measurements as				Total Gains	Total Gains
	of September 30, 2010				(Losses) For	(Losses) For
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total	the	the
					Three Months	Nine Months
					Ended	Ended
					September 30,	September 30,
					2010	2010
	(in millions)					
Real estate secured						
receivables held for sale at fair						
value	\$—	\$—	\$4	\$4	\$—	\$2
Real estate owned(1)	\$—	\$994	\$—	\$994	\$(58)	\$(139)
	(in millions)					
	Non-Recurring Fair Value Measurements as				Total Gains	Total Gains
	of September 30, 2009				(Losses) For the	(Losses) For the
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total	Three Months	Nine Months
					Ended	Ended
					September 30,	September 30,
					2009	2009

(1) Real estate owned are required to be reported on the balance sheet net of transaction costs. The real estate owned amounts in the table above reflect the fair value of the underlying asset unadjusted for transaction costs.

(2) During the nine months ended September 30, 2009, goodwill with a carrying amount of \$260 million allocated to our Insurance Services business was written down to its implied fair value of \$0 million. Additionally, during the nine months ended September 30, 2009, goodwill with a carrying amount of \$2.0 billion allocated to our Card and Retail Services businesses was written down to its implied fair value of \$0 million. Additionally, technology, customer lists and customer loan related relationship intangible assets totaling \$34 million were written down to their implied fair value of \$20 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. No write-down of goodwill or intangible assets occurred during the three or nine months ended September 30, 2010.

Valuation Techniques The following summarizes the valuation methodologies used for assets and liabilities recorded at fair value and for estimating fair value for financial instruments not recorded at fair value but for which fair value disclosures are required.

Cash: Carrying value approximates fair value due to cash's liquid nature.

Interest bearing deposits with banks: Carrying value approximates fair value due to the asset's liquid nature.

Securities purchased under agreements to resell: The fair value of securities purchased under agreements to resell approximates carrying value due to the short-term maturity of the agreements.

Securities: Fair value for our available-for-sale securities is generally determined by a third party valuation source. The pricing services generally source fair value measurements from quoted market prices and if not available, the security is valued based on quotes from similar securities using broker quotes and other information obtained from dealers and market participants. For securities which do not trade in active markets, such as fixed income securities, the pricing services generally utilize various pricing applications, including models, to measure fair value. The pricing applications are based on market convention and use inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated

---

by observable market data by correlation or other means. The following summarizes the valuation methodology used for our major security types:

- U.S. Treasury, U.S. government agency issued or guaranteed and Obligations of U.S. States and political subdivisions – As these securities transact in an active market, the pricing services source fair value measurements from quoted prices for the identical security or quoted prices for similar securities with adjustments as necessary made using observable inputs which are market corroborated.
- U.S. government sponsored enterprises – For certain government sponsored mortgage-backed securities which transact in an active market, the pricing services source fair value measurements from quoted prices for the identical security or quoted prices for similar securities with adjustments as necessary made using observable inputs which are market corroborated. For government sponsored mortgage-backed securities which do not transact in an active market, fair value is determined using discounted cash flow models and inputs related to interest rates, prepayment speeds, loss curves and market discount rates that would be required by investors in the current market given the specific characteristics and inherent credit risk of the underlying collateral.
- Asset-backed securities – Fair value is determined using discounted cash flow models and inputs related to interest rates, prepayment speeds, loss curves and market discount rates that would be required by investors in the current market given the specific characteristics and inherent credit risk of the underlying collateral.
  - U.S. corporate and foreign debt securities – For non-callable corporate securities, a credit spread scale is created for each issuer. These spreads are then added to the equivalent maturity U.S. Treasury yield to determine current pricing. Credit spreads are obtained from the new issue market, secondary trading levels and dealer quotes. For securities with early redemption features, an option adjusted spread (“OAS”) model is incorporated to adjust the spreads determined above. Additionally, the pricing services will survey the broker/dealer community to obtain relevant trade data including benchmark quotes and updated spreads.
- Preferred equity securities – In general, for perpetual preferred securities, fair value is calculated using an appropriate spread over a comparable U.S. Treasury security for each issue. These spreads represent the additional yield required to account for risk including credit, refunding and liquidity. The inputs are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data.
  - Money market funds – Carrying value approximates fair value due to the asset’s liquid nature.

Significant inputs used in the valuation of our investment securities include selection of an appropriate risk-free rate, forward yield curve and credit spread which establish the ultimate discount rate used to determine the net present value of estimated cash flows. For asset-backed securities, selection of appropriate prepayment rates, default rates and loss severities also serve as significant inputs in determining fair value. We perform validations of the fair values sourced from the independent pricing services at least quarterly. Such validation principally includes sourcing security prices from other independent pricing services or broker quotes. The validation process provides us with information as to whether the volume and level of activity for a security has significantly decreased and assists in identifying transactions that are not orderly. Depending on the results of the validation, additional information may be gathered from other market participants to support the fair value measurements. A determination will be made as to whether adjustments to the observable inputs are necessary as a result of investigations and inquiries about the reasonableness of the inputs used and the methodologies employed by the independent pricing services.

Receivables and Receivables held for sale: The estimated fair value of our receivables was determined by developing an approximate range of value from a mix of various sources as appropriate for the respective pool of assets. These sources include, among other items, value estimates from an HSBC affiliate which reflect over-the-counter trading

activity; forward looking discounted cash flow models using assumptions we believe are consistent with those which would be used by market participants in valuing such receivables; trading input from other market participants which includes observed primary and secondary trades; where appropriate, the impact of current estimated rating agency credit tranching levels with the associated benchmark credit spreads; and general discussions held directly with potential investors.

---

Model inputs include estimates of future interest rates, prepayment speeds, default and loss curves, and market discount rates reflecting management's estimate of the rate of return that would be required by investors in the current market given the specific characteristics and inherent credit risk of the receivables. Some of these inputs are influenced by home price changes and unemployment rates. To the extent available, such inputs are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation and other means. We perform periodic validations of our valuation methodologies and assumptions based on the results of actual sales of such receivables. In addition, from time to time, we will engage a third party valuation specialist to measure the fair value of a pool of receivables. Portfolio risk management personnel provide further validation through discussions with third party brokers and other market participants. Since an active market for these receivables does not exist, the fair value measurement process uses unobservable significant inputs which are specific to the performance characteristics of the various receivable portfolios.

Real estate owned: Fair value is determined based on third party appraisals obtained at the time we take title to the property and, if less than the carrying value of the loan, the carrying value of the loan is adjusted to the fair value. The carrying value is further reduced, if necessary, on a quarterly basis to reflect observable local market data, including local area sales data.

Due from affiliates: Carrying value approximates fair value because the interest rates on these receivables adjust with changing market interest rates.

Commercial paper: The fair value of these instruments approximates existing carrying value because interest rates on these instruments adjust with changes in market interest rates due to their short-term maturity or repricing characteristics.

Due to affiliates: The estimated fair value of our fixed rate and floating rate debt due to affiliates was determined using discounted future expected cash flows at current interest rates and credit spreads offered for similar types of debt instruments.

Long-term debt: Fair value was primarily determined by a third party valuation source. The pricing services source fair value from quoted market prices and, if not available, expected cash flows are discounted using the appropriate interest rate for the applicable duration of the instrument adjusted for our own credit risk (spread). The credit spreads applied to these instruments were derived from the spreads recognized in the secondary market for similar debt as of the measurement date. Where available, relevant trade data is also considered as part of our validation process.

Insurance policy and claim reserves: The fair value of insurance reserves for periodic payment annuities was estimated by discounting future expected cash flows at estimated market interest rates.

Derivative financial assets and liabilities: Derivative values are defined as the amount we would receive or pay to extinguish the contract using a market participant as of the reporting date. The values are determined by management using a pricing system maintained by HSBC Bank USA. In determining these values, HSBC Bank USA uses quoted market prices, when available, principally for exchange-traded options. For non-exchange traded contracts, such as interest rate swaps, fair value is determined using discounted cash flow modeling techniques. Valuation models calculate the present value of expected future cash flows based on models that utilize independently-sourced market parameters, including interest rate yield curves, option volatilities, and currency rates. Valuations may be adjusted in order to ensure that those values represent appropriate estimates of fair value. These adjustments, which are applied consistently over time, are generally required to reflect factors such as market liquidity and counterparty credit risk that can affect prices in arms-length transactions with unrelated third parties. Finally, other transaction specific factors such as the variety of valuation models available, the range of unobservable model inputs and other model assumptions can affect estimates of fair value. Imprecision in estimating these factors can impact the amount of



revenue or loss recorded for a particular position.

Counterparty credit risk is considered in determining the fair value of a financial asset. The Fair Value Framework specifies that the fair value of a liability should reflect the entity's non-performance risk and accordingly, the effect of our own credit risk (spread) has been factored into the determination of the fair value of our financial liabilities, including derivative instruments. In estimating the credit risk adjustment to the derivative assets and liabilities, we take into account the impact of netting and/or collateral arrangements that are designed to mitigate counterparty credit risk.

---

## 18. Contingent Liabilities

Both we and certain of our subsidiaries are parties to various legal proceedings resulting from ordinary business activities relating to our current and/or former operations. Certain of these activities are or purport to be class actions seeking damages in very large amounts. These actions include assertions concerning violations of laws and/or unfair treatment of consumers.

We accrue for litigation-related liabilities when it is probable that such a liability has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. While the outcome of litigation is inherently uncertain, we believe, in light of all information known to us at September 30, 2010, that our litigation reserves are adequate at such date. We review litigation reserves at least quarterly, and the reserves may be increased or decreased in the future to reflect further relevant developments. We believe that our defenses to the claims asserted against us in our currently active litigation have merit and any adverse decision should not materially affect our consolidated financial condition. However, losses may be material to our results of operations for any particular future periods depending on our income level for that period.

On May 7, 2009, the jury in the class action *Jaffe v. Household International Inc., et. al* returned a verdict partially in favor of the plaintiffs with respect to Household International and three former officers for certain of the claims arising out of alleged false and misleading statements made in connection with certain activities of Household International, Inc. between July 30, 1999 and October 11, 2002. Despite the verdict at the District Court level, we continue to believe, after consultation with counsel, that neither Household nor its former officers committed any wrongdoing and that the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals will reverse the trial Court verdict upon appeal. As such, it is not probable a loss has been incurred as of September 30, 2010 as a result of this verdict. Therefore, no loss accrual was established as a result of the verdict.

## 19. New and Proposed Accounting Pronouncements

**Accounting for transfers of financial assets** In June 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued guidance which amends the accounting for transfers of financial assets by eliminating the concept of a qualifying special-purpose entity (“QSPE”) and provides additional guidance with regard to the accounting for transfers of financial assets. The guidance is effective for all interim and annual periods beginning after November 15, 2009. We adopted this guidance on January 1, 2010. The adoption of this guidance did not have any impact on our financial position or results of operations.

**Accounting for consolidation of variable interest entities** In June 2009, the FASB issued guidance which amends the accounting rules related to the consolidation of variable interest entities (“VIE”). The guidance changes the approach for determining the primary beneficiary of a VIE from a quantitative risk and reward model to a qualitative model, based on control and economics. Effective January 1, 2010, certain VIEs which were not consolidated currently will be required to be consolidated. The guidance became effective for all interim and annual periods beginning after November 15, 2009. The adoption of this guidance on January 1, 2010 did not have an impact on our financial position or results of operations. See Note 16, “Variable Interest Entities,” in these consolidated financial statements for additional information.

**Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements** In January 2010, the FASB issued guidance to improve disclosures about fair value measurements. The guidance requires entities to disclose separately the amounts of significant transfers in and out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair measurements and describe the reasons for those transfers. It also requires Level 3 reconciliation to be presented on a gross basis, while disclosing purchases, sales, issuances and settlements separately. The guidance is effective for interim and annual financial periods beginning after December 15, 2009 except for the requirement to present the Level 3 reconciliation on a gross basis, which is effective

for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2010. We adopted the new disclosure requirements in its entirety effective January 1, 2010. See Note 17, "Fair Value Measurements" in these consolidated financial statements.

---

**Subsequent Events** In February 2010, the FASB amended certain recognition and disclosure requirements for subsequent events. The guidance clarifies that an SEC filer is required to evaluate subsequent events through the date the financial statements are issued and in all other cases through the date the financial statements are available to be issued. The guidance eliminates the requirement to disclose the date through which subsequent events are evaluated for an SEC filer. The guidance was effective upon issuance. Adoption did not have an impact on our financial position or results of operations.

**Derivatives and Hedging** In March 2010, the FASB issued a clarification on the scope exception for embedded credit derivatives. The guidance eliminates the scope exception for bifurcation of credit derivatives embedded in interests in securitized financial assets, unless they are created solely by subordination of one financial debt instrument to another. The guidance is effective beginning in the first reporting period after June 15, 2010, with earlier adoption permitted for the quarter beginning after March 31, 2010. This clarification did not have a material impact to our financial position or results of operations.

**Loan Modification** In April 2010, the FASB issued an update affecting accounting for loan modifications for those loans that are acquired with deteriorated credit quality and are accounted for on a pool basis. It clarifies that the modifications of such loans do not result in the removal of those loans from the pool even if the modification of those loans would otherwise be considered a troubled debt restructuring. An entity will continue to be required to consider whether the pool of assets in which the loan is included is impaired if expected cash flows for the pool change. The new guidance is effective prospectively for loan modifications for those loans that are acquired with deteriorating credit quality and accounted for on a pool basis occurring in the first interim or annual period ending on or after July 15, 2010. Early application is permitted. This update did not have an impact on our financial position or results of operations.

**Credit Quality and Allowance for Credit losses Disclosures** In July 2010, the FASB issued an Accounting Standards Update to provide more transparency about an entity's allowance for credit losses and the credit quality of its financing receivables. The update amends the existing disclosure requirements by requiring an entity to provide a greater level of disaggregated information to assist financial statement users in assessing its credit risk exposures and evaluating the adequacy of its allowance for credit losses. Additionally, the update requires an entity to disclose credit quality indicators, past due information, and modification information of its financing receivables. The amendment is effective beginning in interim and annual reporting periods ending on or after December 15, 2010 with disclosures about activity that occurs during a reporting period effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning on or after December 15, 2010.

**Accounting for Costs Associated with Acquiring or Renewing Insurance Contracts** In October 2010, the FASB issued guidance which amends the accounting rules that define which costs associated with acquiring or renewing insurance contracts qualify as deferrable acquisition costs by insurance entities. The guidance is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2011. Early adoption is permitted, but must be applied as of the beginning of an entity's annual reporting period. The adoption of this guidance is not expected to have a material impact on our financial position or results of operations.

**Clarifications to Accounting for Troubled Debt Restructurings by Creditors** In October 2010, the FASB issued a Proposed Accounting Standards Update which provides additional guidance to assist creditors in determining whether a restructuring of a receivable meets the criteria to be considered a troubled debt restructuring, for purposes of the identification and disclosure of troubled debt restructurings, as well as for recording impairment. For purposes of identifying and disclosing troubled debt restructurings, the proposed clarifications would be effective for interim and annual reporting periods ending after June 15, 2011, and would be applied retrospectively to restructurings occurring on or after the beginning of the earliest period presented. For purposes of measuring impairment of a receivable restructured in a troubled debt restructuring, the proposed clarifications would be effective on a prospective basis for

interim and annual periods ending after June 15, 2011, with retrospective application permitted. If an entity applies the proposed clarifications prospectively for impairment measurement, it must disclose the total amount of receivables and the allowance for credit losses as of the end of the period of adoption related to those receivables that are newly considered to be impaired as a result of these clarifications. We are currently evaluating the potential impact of adopting this Proposed Accounting Standards Update in the event this proposal were to be approved.

---

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

### Forward-Looking Statements

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ("MD&A") should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements, notes and tables included elsewhere in this report and with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 (the "2009 Form 10-K"). MD&A may contain certain statements that may be forward-looking in nature within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. In addition, we may make or approve certain statements in future filings with the SEC, in press releases, or oral or written presentations by representatives of HSBC Finance Corporation that are not statements of historical fact and may also constitute forward-looking statements. Words such as "may," "will," "should," "would," "could," "appears," "believe," "intends," "expects," "estimates," "targeted," "plans," "anticipates," "goal" and similar expressions are used to identify forward-looking statements but should not be considered as the only means through which these statements may be made. These matters or statements will relate to our future financial condition, economic forecast, results of operations, plans, objectives, performance or business developments and will involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from that which was expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are based on our current views and assumptions and speak only as of the date they are made. HSBC Finance Corporation undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect subsequent circumstances or events.

### Executive Overview

HSBC Finance Corporation is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc ("HSBC"). HSBC Finance Corporation may also be referred to in MD&A as "we", "us", or "our".

**Current Environment** During the first nine months of 2010, economic conditions in the United States generally continued to improve, although the pace of improvement began to slow during the second quarter which continued into the third quarter. Liquidity has returned to the financial markets for most sources of funding except for mortgage securitization and companies are generally able to issue debt with credit spreads approaching levels historically seen prior to the financial crisis, despite the expiration of some of the U.S. government's support programs. European sovereign debt fears triggered by Greece in May 2010, which translated into increased borrowing costs in the U.S. during the second quarter of 2010, have now subsided. During the first half of 2010, housing prices stabilized in many markets and began to recover in others, particularly in the middle and lower price sectors, as the first-time homebuyer tax credit and low interest rates attributable to government monetary policy actions served as stabilizing forces in improving home sales. However, in the third quarter of 2010, we again began to see home price declines in many markets as the homebuyer tax credit has now ended and housing prices remain under pressure due to elevated foreclosure levels. It remains to be seen if the deterioration in home prices will continue through the remainder of 2010. If this occurs, we expect our loss severities to increase.

In October 2010, certain large mortgage servicers announced investigations into their internal servicing operations. As reported, these investigations centered around foreclosure processing and, shortly thereafter, these servicers also announced the temporary national suspension of foreclosure activity. The attorneys general of all states and various state and federal regulators and policymakers have since initiated inquiries concerning foreclosure procedures for single family mortgage loans. We, as well as many other servicers, are responding to applicable inquiries. In certain instances, the attorneys general and other regulators have requested that foreclosure proceedings be placed on hold pending review by each servicer of its practices. Based on our review to date, we have found no systemic concerns with our foreclosure processes, nor have we found instances of "robo-signing", and as a result, we have not suspended foreclosures. Certain courts have issued new rules relating to foreclosures and we anticipate that scrutiny of

foreclosure documentation will increase. Also, in some areas, officials are requiring additional verification of information filed prior to the foreclosure proceeding. If these trends continue, there could be an extended delay in the processing of foreclosures, which could have an adverse impact upon housing prices which may lead to higher loss severities and REO expenses.

---

Despite positive job creation in the first half of 2010, the economy began to lose jobs again in the third quarter as job creation in the private sector, while positive, slowed and was more than offset by reductions in temporary government related jobs which has again raised fears as to how pronounced any economic recovery may be. U.S. unemployment rates, which have been a major factor in the deterioration of credit quality in the U.S., remained high at 9.6 percent in September 2010, an increase of 10 basis points during the quarter and a decrease of 40 basis points since December 2009. However, a significant number of U.S. residents are no longer looking for work and, therefore, are not reflected in the U.S. unemployment rates. Unemployment rates in 14 states are greater than the U.S. national average. The increases in unemployment rates have generally been most pronounced in the markets which had previously experienced the highest appreciation in home values. Unemployment rates in 6 states are at or above 11 percent, including California and Florida, states where we have receivable portfolios in excess of 5 percent of our total outstanding receivables. Unemployment has continued to have an impact on the provision for credit losses in our loan portfolio and in loan portfolios across the industry.

Although we noted signs of improvement in mortgage lending industry trends during the first nine months of 2010, we continue to be affected by the following:

- > Overall levels of delinquencies remain elevated;
- > Mortgage loan originations from 2005 to 2008 continue to perform worse than originations from prior periods;
- > Real estate markets in a large portion of the United States continue to be affected by stagnation or declines in property values experienced over the last three years;
- > While home prices began to stabilize in most markets during the first half of 2010, we again began to see home price declines in many markets during the third quarter of 2010 as home prices continue to remain under pressure due to elevated foreclosure levels and the expiration of the homebuyer tax credit;
- > Lower secondary market demand for subprime loans resulting in reduced liquidity for subprime mortgages; and
- > Tighter lending standards by mortgage lenders which impacts the ability of borrowers to refinance existing mortgage loans.

Concerns about the future of the U.S. economy, including the pace and magnitude of recovery from the recent economic recession, consumer confidence, volatility in energy prices, credit market volatility and trends in corporate earnings will continue to influence the U.S. economic recovery and the capital markets. In particular, improvements in unemployment rates and a sustained recovery of the housing market remain critical components of a broader U.S. economic recovery. Further weakening in these components as well as in already low consumer confidence may result in additional deterioration in consumer payment patterns and credit quality. Although consumer confidence has improved from the levels seen early in 2009, it remains low on a historical basis with September levels consistent with that experienced early in 2010. Weak consumer fundamentals, including declines in wage income, reduced consumer spending, declines in wealth and a difficult job market, continue to depress consumer confidence. Additionally there is uncertainty as to the future course of monetary policy and uncertainty as to the impact on the economy and consumer confidence when the remaining actions taken by the government to restore faith in the capital markets and stimulate consumer spending end. These conditions in combination with general economic weakness and the impact of recent regulatory changes will continue to impact our results in 2010, the degree of which is largely dependent upon the nature and extent of the economic recovery.

As discussed in prior filings, on May 22, 2009, the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009 (the "CARD Act") was signed into law and became fully effective. For a discussion of the CARD Act as well as



the impact to our operations, see “Segment Results – IFRS Management Basis.”

Financial Regulatory Reform On July 21, 2010, the “Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act” was signed into law. This legislation is a sweeping overhaul of the financial regulatory system. The new law is comprehensive and includes many provisions specifically relevant to our business and the business of our affiliates.

---

For instance, over a transition period from 2013 to 2015, the Federal Reserve Board will apply more stringent capital and risk management requirements on bank holding companies such as HSBC North America Holdings Inc. (“HSBC North America”), which will require a minimum leverage ratio of five percent and a total risk-based capital ratio of ten percent.

In order to preserve financial stability in the industry, the legislation has created the Financial Stability Oversight Council which may take certain actions, including precluding mergers, restricting financial products offered, restricting or terminating activities or imposing conditions on activities or requiring the sale or transfer of assets, against any bank holding company with assets greater than \$50.0 billion that is found to pose a grave threat to financial stability. Large bank holding companies, such as HSBC North America, will also be required to file resolution plans and identify how insured bank subsidiaries are adequately protected from risk of other affiliates. The Federal Reserve Board will also adopt a series of increased supervisory standards to be followed by large bank holding companies. Additionally, activities of bank holding companies, such as the ability to acquire U.S. banks or to engage in non-banking activities, will be more directly tied to examination ratings of “well-managed” and “well capitalized.” There are also provisions in the Act which relate to governance of executive compensation, including disclosures evidencing the relationship between compensation and performance and a requirement that some executive incentive compensation is forfeitable in the event of an accounting restatement.

In relation to requirements for bank transactions with affiliates, the legislation extends current quantitative limits on credit transactions to now include credit exposure related to repurchase agreements, derivatives and securities lending transactions. This provision may limit the use of intercompany transactions between us and our affiliates which impacts our current funding strategies.

The legislation has numerous provisions addressing derivatives. There is the imposition of comprehensive regulation of over-the-counter (“OTC”) derivatives markets, including credit default swaps, as well as limits on FDIC-insured banks’ OTC derivatives activities. Most of the significant provisions are to be implemented within two to three years of the enactment of the legislation. There is also the requirement for the use of mandatory derivative clearing houses and exchanges, which will significantly change the overall derivatives industry.

The legislation has created the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (the “CFPB”). The CFPB will be a new independent bureau within the Federal Reserve Board and will act as a single primary Federal consumer protection supervisor to regulate credit, savings, payment and other consumer financial products and services and providers of those products and services. The CFPB has the authority to issue regulations to prevent unfair, deceptive or abusive practices in connection with consumer financial products or services and to ensure features of any consumer financial products or services are fully, accurately and effectively disclosed to consumers.

The legislation codifies the current standard of federal preemption with respect to national banks. However, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (“OCC”) is limited in the extent to which it can make preemption decisions with respect to state consumer financial laws. When subject to judicial review, such OCC’s preemptive decisions must be supported by “substantial evidence” that they comply with the preemptive standard. These limitations on federal preemption may elevate our costs of compliance, while increasing litigation expenses as a result of plaintiff challenges and the risk of courts not giving deference to the OCC, as well as increasing complexity due to the lack of uniformity in state regulations. It is too early to determine how far reaching and deeply the limitations on federal preemption will impact our business and our competitors’ businesses.

The legislation contains many other consumer related provisions including provisions addressing mortgage reform. In the area of mortgage origination, there is a requirement to apply a net tangible benefit test for all refinancing transactions. There are also numerous revised servicing requirements for mortgage loans.

The legislation will have a significant impact on the operations of many financial institutions in the U.S., including our affiliates. As the legislation calls for extensive regulations to be promulgated to interpret and implement the legislation, it is not possible to precisely determine the impact to operations and financial results at this time. We do not currently believe the impact will be material.

**Business Focus** HSBC Holdings plc acquired Household International, Inc. (“Household”), the predecessor to HSBC Finance Corporation, in March 2003. At the time of the acquisition, Household was the largest independent

---

consumer finance company in the U.S., the second largest third-party issuer of private label credit cards and the eighth largest issuer of MasterCard and Visa credit cards. A stated reason for the acquisition was to bring together HSBC, one of the world's most successful deposit gatherers, with Household, one of the world's largest generators of assets. In connection with the acquisition, HSBC also announced its expectation that funding costs for the Household businesses would be lower as a result of the financial strength and funding diversity of HSBC.

As discussed in this and prior filings, during the past few years we have made numerous strategic decisions regarding our operations, with the intent to lower the risk profile of our operations as well as reduce the capital and liquidity requirements of our operations by reducing the size of the balance sheet. As a result of these strategic decisions, our core lending operations currently consist of our credit card and retail services business. Our lending products currently include primarily MasterCard and Visa credit cards and private label credit cards. A portion of new credit card and all new private label receivable originations are sold on a daily basis to HSBC Bank USA, National Association ("HSBC Bank USA"). Our core credit card receivable portfolio totaled \$9.9 billion at September 30, 2010 reflecting a decrease of 15 percent since December 31, 2009. This decrease is a continuation of the decline that began during the fourth quarter of 2007 as the result of numerous actions we have taken to manage risk, including reduced marketing levels as well as during 2010, an increased focus by consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt.

Our Consumer Lending and Mortgage Services businesses are not considered central to our core operations. As a result, the real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios of these non-core businesses, which totaled \$59.5 billion at September 30, 2010, are currently running off. The timeframe in which these portfolios will liquidate is dependent upon the rate at which receivables pay off prior to their maturity, which fluctuates for a variety of reasons such as interest rates, availability of refinancing, home values and individual borrowers' credit profile all of which are outside of our control. In light of the current economic conditions and mortgage industry trends described above, our loan prepayment rates have slowed when compared to historical experience even though interest rates remain low. Additionally, our loan modification programs which are designed to maximize cash collections and avoid foreclosure if economically reasonable, are contributing to these slower loan prepayment rates.

While difficult to project both loan prepayment rates and default rates, based on current experience we expect the receivable portfolios of our non-core businesses to decline between 50 percent and 60 percent over the next five years and be comprised primarily of real estate secured receivables at the end of this period. Attrition will not be linear during this period. Over the near term, charge-off related receivable run-off is expected to remain elevated due to the economic environment. Run-off is expected to later slow as charge-offs decline and the remaining real estate secured receivables stay on the balance sheet longer due to the impact of modifications and/or the lack of re-financing alternatives.

In August 2010, we sold the remainder of our auto finance receivable portfolio and as a result, our non-core Auto Finance business is now reported as discontinued operations. See Note 2, "Discontinued Operations, in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for a full discussion of this transaction.

We continue to evaluate our operations as we seek to optimize our risk profile as well as our liquidity, capital and funding requirements and review opportunities in the credit card industry as the credit markets stabilize. This could result in further strategic actions that may include changes to our legal structure, asset levels and further alterations or refinement of product offerings as we work to reposition our active businesses for long-term success. Although nothing is currently contemplated, we continue to evaluate additional ways to identify strategic opportunities with HSBC Bank USA, within the regulatory framework.

Performance, Developments and Trends Our net loss was \$751 million and \$1.9 billion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to a net loss of \$1.2 billion and \$6.6 billion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009. As discussed above, in August 2010, we sold the remainder of our

auto finance receivable portfolio and as a result our Auto Finance business is now reported as discontinued operations and recorded a net loss of \$43 million as a result of this transaction. See Note 2, "Discontinued Operations, in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for a full presentation of the components of the

---

income (loss) from discontinued operations. The following discussion of our financial performance in this MD&A excludes the results of our discontinued operations unless otherwise noted.

Loss from continuing operations was \$709 million and \$1.8 billion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to a loss from continuing operations of \$1.2 billion and \$6.6 billion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009. With the exception of the three months ended September 30, 2010, our results in all periods were significantly impacted by the change in the fair value of debt and related derivatives for which we have elected fair value option. Additionally, during the nine months ended September 30, 2009, our results were significantly impacted by goodwill and other intangible asset impairment charges. The collective impact of these items should be excluded to understand the underlying performance trends of our business. The following table summarizes the collective impact of these items on our loss from continuing operations before income tax for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,	September 30,	September 30,	September 30,
	2010	2009	2010	2009
	(in millions)			
Loss from continuing operations before income tax, as reported	\$(1,102)	\$(2,352)	\$(2,910)	\$(7,984)
(Gain) loss in value of fair value option debt and related derivatives	1	1,247	(602)	1,904
Goodwill and other intangible asset impairment charges	—	—	—	2,308
Loss from continuing operations before income tax, excluding above items(1)	\$(1,101)	\$(1,105)	\$(3,512)	\$(3,772)

(1) Represents a non-U.S. GAAP financial measure.

Excluding the collective impact of the items in the above table, our results for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 improved \$260 million compared to the year-ago period as lower net interest income, lower other revenues including lower derivative related income were more than offset by a significantly lower provision for credit losses and lower operating expenses. Excluding the collective impact of the items in the above table, our loss from continuing operations before tax was essentially flat during the three months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the prior year quarter as the lower provision for credit losses was offset by lower net interest income and lower other revenues including lower derivative related income. Our results in both periods were impacted by significantly lower derivative related income reflecting the impact of decreasing interest rates on the mark-to-market on derivatives in our non-qualifying economic hedge portfolio which resulted in losses of \$343 million and \$795 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to a loss of \$141 million during the three months ended September 30, 2009 and a gain of \$79 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. We increased our portfolio of pay fixed/receive variable interest rate swaps by \$840 million and \$2.1 billion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as these positions acted as economic hedges by lowering our overall interest rate risk through more closely matching both the structure and duration of our liabilities to the structure and duration of our assets although they did not qualify as effective hedges under hedge accounting principles.

The underlying performance trends of our business have also been impacted by changes to our charge-off policies for our real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivables in December 2009 (the “December 2009 Charge-off Policy Changes”). Beginning in December 2009, we now write down real estate secured receivables to net realizable value less estimated cost to sell generally no later than the end of the month in which the account becomes 180 days contractually delinquent. For personal non-credit card receivables, charge-off now occurs generally no later than the

end of the month in which the account becomes 180 days contractually delinquent. As a result of these actions, delinquent real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivables charge-off earlier during the first nine months of 2010 than in the historical periods. See our 2009 Form 10-K for further discussion of these policy changes.

---

Net interest income decreased during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the year-ago periods primarily due to lower average receivables as a result of receivable liquidation, risk mitigation efforts, an increased focus by consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt and lower overall receivable yields due to lower yields in our real estate secured receivable portfolio partially offset by higher yields in our credit card and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios as discussed more fully below. Overall receivable yields were also negatively impacted by a shift in receivable mix to higher levels of lower yielding first lien real estate secured receivables as higher yielding second lien real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivables have run-off at a faster pace than first lien real estate secured receivables. We also experienced lower yields on our non-insurance investment portfolio held for liquidity management purposes. These investments are short term in nature and the lower yields reflect historically low interest rates consistent with the Federal Reserve Bank's monetary policy. These decreases were partially offset by lower interest expense in both periods due to lower average borrowings and, in the year-to-date period, lower average rates. During the current quarter, average interest rates on borrowings were slightly higher as a result of a change in mix in outstanding borrowings.

While overall yields on our receivable portfolio decreased, receivable yields vary between receivable products. Lower yields in our real estate secured receivable portfolio reflects the impact of an increase in the expected lives of receivables in payment incentive programs since September 30, 2009 and the impact of the December 2009 Charge-off Policy Changes as these receivables now charge-off earlier than in the historical periods which results in all of the underlying accrued interest being reversed against net interest income upon charge-off earlier as well. Lower yields in our real estate secured receivable portfolio were partially offset during the three month period by reduced levels of modified receivables due to charge-off as well as declines in new modification volumes. Yields on our credit card receivable portfolio increased during both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as a result of repricing initiatives during the fourth quarter of 2009 which were partially offset by the implementation of certain provisions of the new credit card legislation including restrictions impacting repricing of delinquent accounts. We anticipate credit card receivable yields in future periods may continue to be negatively impacted by various provisions of the new credit card legislation which require certain rate increases to be periodically re-evaluated. Yields in our personal non-credit card portfolio increased during both periods as a result of significantly lower levels of nonaccrual receivables, partially offset by the impact of the December 2009 Charge-off Policy Changes as discussed above.

Net interest margin was 5.37 percent and 5.17 percent during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to 5.60 percent and 5.68 percent during the year-ago periods. Net interest margin decreased in both periods due to lower overall yields on our receivable portfolio as discussed above, partially offset by lower overall funding costs as a percentage of average interest earning assets.

Other revenues during both periods were impacted by changes in the value of debt designated at fair value and related derivatives. Excluding the gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives from both periods, other revenues decreased during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 primarily driven by significantly lower derivative-related income as discussed above, lower fee income and to a lesser extent, lower enhancement services revenues and, in the year-to-date period, lower Taxpayer Financial Services ("TFS") revenue, partially offset in the year-to-date period by lower fair value write-downs on receivables held for sale. Lower fee income in both periods reflects lower late and overlimit fees due to lower volumes and lower delinquency levels, changes in customer behavior and the impact from the implementation of new credit card legislation which resulted in lower late and overlimit fees as well as restrictions on fees charged to process on-line and telephone payments. Lower enhancement services revenue reflects the impact of lower credit card receivable levels. Lower TFS revenues in the year-to-date period reflect changes in the way this program is jointly managed between us and HSBC Bank USA, as well as lower loan volumes in the 2010 tax season. Lower fair value markdowns during both periods reflect a smaller portfolio of held for sale receivables than during the year-ago periods. See "Results of Operations" for a more detailed discussion of other revenues.



Our provision for credit losses decreased significantly during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the year-ago periods as a result of a lower provision for credit losses in our core credit card

---

receivable portfolio as well as lower provision for credit losses in our non-core Mortgage Services and Consumer Lending businesses as discussed below.

- Provision for credit losses in our core credit card receivable portfolio decreased \$219 million and \$672 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, as compared to the year-ago periods. The decrease in both periods reflects lower receivable levels as a result of actions taken beginning in the fourth quarter of 2007 to manage risk as well as an increased focus by consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt. The decrease also reflects the impact of improvement in the underlying credit quality of the portfolio including continuing improvements in early stage delinquency roll rates and lower delinquency levels as customer payment rates continue to remain strong. The impact on credit card receivable losses from the current economic environment, including high unemployment rates, has not been as severe as originally expected due in part to improved customer payment behavior.
- The provision for credit losses in our Mortgage Services business decreased \$108 million and \$352 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, as compared to the year-ago periods. The decrease in both periods reflects lower receivable levels as the portfolio continues to liquidate, lower delinquency levels as compared to the year-ago periods, improvements in economic conditions since the year-ago periods and a higher percentage of charge-offs that were on first lien loans which generally have lower loss severities than second lien loans. The decreases in both periods also reflect lower loss estimates on troubled debt restructurings (“TDR Loans”), partially offset by the impact of elevated unemployment levels and lower receivable prepayments. Total loss severities have improved in both periods as compared to the year-ago periods as severities on foreclosed loans were lower as home prices stabilized in many markets and began to recover in others as compared to prior year levels. Improvements in total loss severities since the year-ago periods also reflect an increase in the number of properties for which we accepted a deed to the property in lieu of payment (also referred to as “deed-in-lieu”) and an increase in the number of properties for which we agreed to allow the borrower to sell the property for less than the current outstanding receivable balance (also referred to as a “short sale”), both of which result in lower losses compared to foreclosed loans.
- The provision for credit losses in our Consumer Lending business decreased \$281 million and \$1.2 billion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, as compared to the year-ago periods. The decrease in both periods reflects lower receivable levels as both the real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios continue to liquidate, lower delinquency levels as compared to the year-ago periods and improvements in economic conditions since the year-ago periods. The decrease in provision for real estate secured receivables also reflects a higher percentage of charge-offs on first lien loans which generally have lower loss severities than second lien loans. Total loss severities have improved in both periods as compared to the year-ago periods as severities on foreclosed loans were lower as home prices stabilized in many markets and began to recover in others as compared to prior year levels. Improvements in total loss severities since the year-ago periods also reflect an increase in the number of properties for which we accepted a deed-in-lieu and an increase in the number of short sales, both of which result in lower losses compared to foreclosed loans. The decreases in both periods also reflect lower loss estimates on TDR Loans, partially offset by lower receivable prepayments, portfolio seasoning and higher levels of unemployment. The decrease in the provision for credit losses for personal non-credit card receivables reflects lower receivable levels, lower delinquency levels and improvements in economic conditions as well as during the three months ended September 30, 2010 lower reserve requirements on TDR Loans.

In recent years, the impact of seasonal patterns in our provision for credit losses has been masked by the impact of a sustained deterioration in credit quality across all of our receivable portfolios. As the credit quality in our portfolios stabilizes, we anticipate that these seasonal patterns may re-emerge as a more significant component of our overall trend in loss provision.

See “Results of Operations” for a more detailed discussion of our provision for credit losses.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, the provision for credit losses was \$427 million and \$2.1 billion, respectively, lower than net charge-offs. Lower credit loss reserves at September 30, 2010 reflect lower

---

receivable levels, improved economic and credit conditions including lower delinquency levels as compared to the prior year periods and overall improvements in loss severities during the first nine months of 2010. These conditions resulted in an overall improved outlook on future loss estimates. Reserve levels for real estate secured receivables at our Mortgage Services and Consumer Lending businesses as well as for receivables in our credit card business can be further analyzed as follows:

	Real Estate Secured Receivables(1)				Credit Card	
	Consumer Lending		Mortgage Services		Receivables	
	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009
	(in millions)					
Credit loss reserves at July 1,	\$2,588	\$4,283	\$1,897	\$3,529	\$1,298	\$2,076
Provision for credit losses	600	467	444	552	205	424
Charge-offs	(718)	(487)	(505)	(587)	(419)	(586)
Recoveries	16	12	11	9	58	51
Credit loss reserves at September 30,	\$2,486	\$4,275	\$1,847	\$3,503	\$1,142	\$1,965

	Real Estate Secured Receivables(1)				Credit Card	
	Consumer Lending		Mortgage Services		Receivables	
	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009
	(in millions)					
Credit loss reserves at January 1,	\$3,047	\$3,392	\$2,384	\$3,726	\$1,824	\$2,258
Provision for credit losses	1,832	2,218	1,204	1,556	685	1,357
Charge-offs	(2,438)	(1,357)	(1,781)	(1,803)	(1,544)	(1,809)
Recoveries	45	22	40	24	177	159
Credit loss reserves at September 30,	\$2,486	\$4,275	\$1,847	\$3,503	\$1,142	\$1,965

(1) Credit loss reserves since September 30, 2009 were significantly impacted by changes in our charge-off policies for real estate secured receivables which impacts comparability between periods. See Note 8, "Changes in Charge-off Policies," in our 2009 Form 10-K for further discussion.

Total operating expenses during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 were significantly impacted by the following items which impact comparability between periods:

- Restructuring charges totaling \$152 million primarily recorded during the first nine months of 2009, related to the decision to discontinue all new customer account originations for our Consumer Lending business and to close the Consumer Lending branch offices. See Note 3, "Strategic Initiatives," in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for additional information related to this decision;
- Goodwill impairment charges of \$2.3 billion during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 related to our Card and Retail Services and Insurance Services businesses. Additionally, during the nine months ended September 30, 2009, impairment charges of \$14 million during the first quarter of 2009 relating to technology, customer lists and loan related relationships resulting from the discontinuation of originations for our Consumer Lending business.

Excluding these items in the prior year period, total operating expenses decreased \$296 million, or 10 percent during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 primarily due to lower salary expense reflecting reduced headcount reflecting the further reduced scope of our business operations since March 2009 and continued entity-wide initiatives

to reduce costs as well as lower occupancy and equipment expenses and lower real estate owned (“REO”) expenses. These decreases were partially offset by higher collection costs, higher marketing expenses for credit card receivables and higher support services from HSBC affiliates. Total operating expenses were essentially flat during the three months ended September 30, 2010, as the lower salary expense and the impact of initiatives to reduce costs as discussed above

---

were largely offset by higher REO expenses due to higher losses on REO sales as a result of lower home prices in the current quarter, and a significant increase in the number of REO properties held and, to a lesser extent, higher occupancy and equipment expenses. See “Results of Operations” for a more detailed discussion of operating expenses.

Our effective income tax rate from continuing operations was 35.7 percent and 36.5 percent for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to 47.5 percent and 17.4 percent in the year-ago periods. The effective tax rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 was impacted by state taxes, including states where we file combined unitary state tax returns with other HSBC affiliates. The effective tax rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 was significantly impacted by the incremental valuation allowance on deferred tax assets recorded in 2009 and, in the year-to-date period, the non-deductible impairment of goodwill related to the Card and Retail Services and Insurance Services businesses as well as by state taxes, including states where we file combined unitary state returns with other HSBC affiliates against deferred tax assets. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was also impacted by a change in estimate in the state tax rate for jurisdictions where we file combined unitary state tax returns with other HSBC affiliates.

The financial information set forth below summarizes selected financial highlights of HSBC Finance Corporation as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009.

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2010	2009	2010	2009
	(dollars are in millions)			
Loss from continuing operations	\$(709)	\$(1,234)	\$(1,848)	\$(6,592)
Return on average owned assets (“ROA”)	(3.41)%	(4.88)%	(2.81)%	(8.11)%
Return on average common shareholder’s equity (“ROE”)	(42.46)	(52.07)	(34.85)	(77.11)
Net interest margin	5.37	5.60	5.17	5.68
Consumer net charge-off ratio, annualized	10.88	10.09	12.57	9.65
Efficiency ratio(1)	66.72	141.37	53.98	118.95

	September 30, December 31,	
	2010	2009
	(dollars are in millions)	
Receivables:		
Core(2)	\$9,888	\$11,626
Non-core(3)	59,489	70,071
Total	\$69,377	\$81,697
Two-month-and-over contractual delinquency ratio for continuing operations	14.55%	14.74%

(1) Ratio of total costs and expenses less policyholders’ benefits to net interest income and other revenues less policyholders’ benefits.

(2) Core receivables consist of our credit card receivable portfolios.

(3) Non-core receivables consist primarily of the run-off receivable portfolios in our Consumer Lending and Mortgage Services businesses.

**Performance Ratios** Our efficiency ratio from continuing operations during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 was impacted by the change in the fair value of debt for which we have elected fair value option accounting. Additionally, the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was also significantly impacted by the goodwill and intangible asset impairment charges and Consumer Lending closure costs, as discussed above. Excluding these items from the periods presented, our efficiency ratio deteriorated significantly during both the quarter and year-to-date period. The deterioration in the year-to-date period reflects significantly lower net interest income and other revenues driven by receivable portfolio liquidation, declining overall yields on our real estate secured receivable portfolio, lower derivative-related income and lower fee income which outpaced the decrease in operating expenses. The deterioration was slightly higher during the current quarter as operating expenses were essentially flat as a result of higher REO expenses and marketing expenses during the quarter.

---

Our return on average common shareholder's equity ("ROE") was (42.46) percent and (34.85) percent for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to (52.07) percent and (77.11) percent in the year-ago periods. Our return on average owned assets ("ROA") was (3.41) percent and (2.81) percent for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to (4.88) percent and (8.11) percent in the year-ago periods. ROE and ROA were impacted by the change in the fair value of debt for which we have elected fair value option accounting. Additionally, the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was also significantly impacted by the goodwill and intangible asset impairment charges and Consumer Lending closure costs, as discussed above. Excluding these items, ROE decreased significantly during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the year-ago periods and ROA decreased 171 basis points and 145 points during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, as compared to the year-ago periods. The decrease in ROE and ROA in both periods was driven by lower average earning assets in both periods which outpaced the change in our net loss.

Receivables Receivables were \$69.4 billion, \$72.8 billion and \$81.7 billion at September 30, 2010, June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. The decrease in our core credit card receivable portfolio since June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 reflects the continuing impact of actions taken to mitigate risk and an increased focus of consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt. The decrease in our non-core receivable portfolios since December 31, 2009 reflects the continued liquidation of these portfolios which will continue going forward. As it relates to our real estate secured receivable portfolio, liquidation rates continue to be impacted by declines in loan prepayments as refinancing opportunities for our customers continue to decrease and the previously discussed trends impacting the mortgage lending industry. See "Receivables Review" for a more detailed discussion of the decreases in receivable balances.

Credit Quality Dollars of two-months-and-over contractual delinquency as a percentage of receivables and receivables held for sale for continuing operations ("delinquency ratio") increased to 14.55 percent at September 30, 2010 compared to 13.67 percent at June 30, 2010 and decreased from 14.74 percent at December 31, 2009. Higher dollars of delinquency as compared to the prior quarter reflects higher dollars of delinquency in our real estate secured receivable portfolio, partially offset by lower delinquency levels in our credit card and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios. Portfolio seasoning and seasonal trends for higher delinquency during the second half of the year contributed to the increase in delinquency levels for real estate secured receivables during the quarter. A significant portion of the increase in dollars of delinquency in our real estate secured receivable portfolio is associated with receivables carried at the lower of cost or net realizable value less cost to sell due to an increase in late-stage delinquency roll rates as well as lower subsequent charge-offs on accounts which have been carried at net realizable value less cost to sell for a period of time. Lower dollars of delinquency in our credit card and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios as compared to the prior quarter reflect lower receivable levels due to lower origination volumes in our credit card receivable portfolio and continued liquidation of our non-credit card receivable portfolio as well as improved early stage delinquency roll rates, partially offset by seasonal trends for higher delinquency during the second half of the year. As compared to December 31, 2009, lower overall dollars of delinquency also reflect seasonal paydowns earlier in the year. As compared to June 30, 2010, the delinquency ratio increased driven by higher real estate secured receivable delinquency levels and lower receivable levels. As compared to December 31, 2009, the delinquency ratio decreased as dollars of delinquency decreased at faster pace than receivable levels. See "Credit Quality-Delinquency" for a more detailed discussion of our delinquency ratios.

Dollars of net charge-offs of consumer receivables from continuing operations decreased as compared to the prior quarter and prior year quarter. Net charge-offs of consumer receivables as a percentage of average consumer receivables from continuing operations ("net charge-off ratio") decreased as compared to the prior quarter, but increased as compared to the prior year quarter. As compared to the prior quarter, lower dollars of net charge-offs reflect lower average receivable levels for all products and lower delinquency levels for our credit card and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios. As compared to the prior year quarter, the decrease in dollars of net charge-offs reflects lower average receivable levels and lower delinquency levels for all products. Real estate secured receivable net charge-off



dollars as compared to the prior year quarter also reflect a higher percentage of charge-offs on first lien loans which generally have lower loss severities than second lien loans. The net charge-off ratio decreased as compared to June 30, 2010 as dollars of net charge-off decreased at a faster pace than average receivable levels. The increase in the net charge-off ratio as compared to the prior year quarter reflects the impact of

---

the charge-off policy changes discussed above as well as the impact of lower average receivables. See “Credit Quality-Net Charge-offs of Consumer Receivables” for a more detailed discussion of our net charge-off ratios.

We anticipate delinquency and charge-off levels will remain elevated during the remainder of 2010. The extent to which delinquency and charge-off levels remain elevated will be determined by certain factors, including the pace and extent of recovery from the recent economic recession, unemployment levels, consumer confidence, volatility in energy and home prices and corporate earnings which will continue to influence the U.S. economic recovery and the capital markets.

Funding and Capital During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, HSBC Investments (North America) Inc. (“HINO”) made a capital contribution to us totaling \$200 million to support ongoing operations and to maintain capital at levels we believe are prudent in the current market environment. Until we return to profitability, HSBC’s continued support is required to properly manage our business operations and maintain appropriate levels of capital. HSBC has provided significant capital in support of our operations in the last few years and has indicated that it is fully committed and has the capacity and willingness to continue that support.

The tangible common equity to tangible assets ratio was 7.11 percent and 7.60 percent at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. This ratio represents a non-U.S. GAAP financial ratio that is used by HSBC Finance Corporation management, certain rating agencies and our credit providing banks to evaluate capital adequacy and may be different from similarly named measures presented by other companies. See “Basis of Reporting” and “Reconciliations to U.S. GAAP Financial Measures” for additional discussion and quantitative reconciliation to the equivalent U.S. GAAP basis financial measure.

#### Basis of Reporting

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (“U.S. GAAP”). Certain reclassifications have been made to prior year amounts to conform to the current year presentation.

In addition to the U.S. GAAP financial results reported in our consolidated financial statements, MD&A includes reference to the following information which is presented on a non-U.S. GAAP basis:

**Equity Ratios** Tangible common equity to tangible assets is a non-U.S. GAAP financial measure that is used by HSBC Finance Corporation management, certain rating agencies and our credit providing banks to evaluate capital adequacy. This ratio excludes from equity the impact of unrealized gains (losses) on cash flow hedging instruments, postretirement benefit plan adjustments, unrealized gains (losses) on investments, intangible assets as well as subsequent changes in fair value recognized in earnings associated with debt for which we elected the fair value option and the related derivatives. This ratio may differ from similarly named measures presented by other companies. The most directly comparable U.S. GAAP financial measure is the common and preferred equity to total assets ratio. For a quantitative reconciliation of these non-U.S. GAAP financial measures to our common and preferred equity to total assets ratio, see “Reconciliations to U.S. GAAP Financial Measures.”

**International Financial Reporting Standards** Because HSBC reports results in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRSs”) and IFRSs results are used in measuring and rewarding performance of employees, our management also separately monitors net income under IFRSs (a non-U.S. GAAP financial measure). All purchase accounting fair value adjustments relating to our acquisition by HSBC have been “pushed



down” to HSBC Finance Corporation for both U.S. GAAP and IFRSs consistent with our IFRS Management Basis presentation. The following table reconciles our net income on a U.S. GAAP basis to net income on an IFRSs basis:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009
	(in millions)			
Net loss – U.S. GAAP basis	\$ (751)	\$ (1,181)	\$ (1,875)	\$ (6,643)
Adjustments, net of tax:				
Derivatives and hedge accounting (including fair value adjustments)	(4)	(3)	(12)	6
Intangible assets	9	11	28	32
Loan origination	3	13	13	44
Loan impairment	(28)	(6)	(25)	21
Loans held for sale	(11)	(110)	(44)	(84)
Interest recognition	1	(4)	1	(7)
Other-than-temporary impairments on available-for-sale securities	1	—	2	9
Securities	—	3	15	(65)
Present value of long term insurance business	(5)	5	3	48
Goodwill and intangible asset impairment charges	—	—	—	(615)
Pension and other postretirement benefit costs	7	5	49	27
Loss on sale of auto finance receivables and other related assets	(13)	—	(47)	—
Other	10	(19)	17	(31)
Net loss – IFRSs basis	(781)	(1,286)	(1,875)	(7,258)
Tax benefit – IFRSs basis	431	1,185	1,077	1,336
Loss before tax – IFRSs basis	\$ (1,212)	\$ (2,471)	\$ (2,952)	\$ (8,594)

A summary of the significant differences between U.S. GAAP and IFRSs as they impact our results are presented below:

Derivatives and hedge accounting (including fair value adjustments) – The historical use of the “shortcut” and “long haul” hedge accounting methods for U.S. GAAP resulted in different cumulative adjustments to the hedged item for both fair value and cash flow hedges. These differences are recognized in earnings over the remaining term of the hedged items. All of the hedged relationships which previously qualified under the shortcut method provisions of derivative accounting principles have been redesignated and are now either hedges under the long-haul method of hedge accounting or included in the fair value option election.

Intangible assets – Intangible assets under IFRSs are significantly lower than those under U.S. GAAP as the newly created intangibles associated with our acquisition by HSBC were reflected in goodwill for IFRSs. As a result, amortization of intangible assets is lower under IFRSs.

Deferred loan origination costs and fees – Under IFRSs, loan origination cost deferrals are more stringent and result in lower costs being deferred than permitted under U.S. GAAP. In addition, all deferred loan origination fees, costs and loan premiums must be recognized based on the expected life of the receivables under IFRSs as part of the effective interest calculation while under U.S. GAAP they may be recognized on either a contractual or expected life basis. As a result, in years with lower levels of receivable originations, net income is lower under U.S. GAAP as the higher costs deferred in prior periods are amortized into income without the benefit of similar levels of cost deferrals for current period originations.



Loan impairment provisioning – IFRSs requires a discounted cash flow methodology for estimating impairment on pools of homogeneous customer loans which requires the incorporation of the time value of money relating to recovery estimates. Also under IFRSs, future recoveries on charged-off loans are accrued for on a discounted basis and a recovery asset is recorded. Subsequent recoveries are recorded to earnings under U.S. GAAP, but are adjusted against the recovery asset under IFRSs. Interest is recorded based on collectibility under IFRSs.

Loans held for sale – IFRSs requires loans designated as held for sale at the time of origination to be treated as trading assets and recorded at their fair market value. Under U.S. GAAP, loans designated as held for sale are reflected as loans and recorded at the lower of amortized cost or fair value. Under U.S. GAAP, the income and expenses related to receivables held for sale are reported similarly to loans held for investment. Under IFRSs, the income and expenses related to receivables held for sale are reported in other operating income.

For receivables transferred to held for sale subsequent to origination, IFRSs requires these receivables to be reported separately on the balance sheet but does not change the recognition and measurement criteria. Accordingly for IFRSs purposes, such loans continue to be accounted for in accordance with IFRS 39, “Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement” (“IAS 39”), with any gain or loss recorded at the time of sale. U.S. GAAP requires loans that management intends to sell to be transferred to a held for sale category at the lower of cost or fair value.

Certain receivables that were previously classified as held for sale under U.S. GAAP have now been transferred to held for investment as we now intend to hold for the foreseeable future. Under U.S. GAAP, these receivables were subject to lower of cost or fair value (“LOCOM”) adjustments while held for sale and have been transferred to held for investment at LOCOM. Under IFRSs, these receivables were always reported within loans and the measurement criteria did not change. As a result, loan impairment charges are now being recorded under IFRSs which were essentially included as a component of the lower of cost or fair value adjustments under U.S. GAAP.

Interest recognition – The calculation of effective interest rates under IAS 39 requires an estimate of “all fees and points paid or recovered between parties to the contract” that are an integral part of the effective interest rate be included. U.S. GAAP generally prohibits recognition of interest income to the extent the net interest in the loan would increase to an amount greater than the amount at which the borrower could settle the obligation. Also under U.S. GAAP, prepayment penalties are generally recognized as received.

Securities – Under IFRSs, securities include HSBC shares held for stock plans at fair value. These shares are recorded at fair value through other comprehensive income and subsequently recognized in profit and loss as the shares vest. If it is determined these shares have become impaired, the fair value loss is recognized in profit and loss and any fair value loss recorded in other comprehensive income is reversed. There is no similar requirement under U.S. GAAP.

During the second quarter of 2009, under IFRSs we recorded income for the value of additional shares attributed to HSBC shares held for stock plans as a result of HSBC’s rights offering earlier in 2009. The additional shares are not recorded under U.S. GAAP.

Other-than-temporary impairment on available-for-sale securities – Under U.S. GAAP we are allowed to evaluate perpetual preferred securities for potential other-than-temporary impairment similar to a debt security provided there has been no evidence of deterioration in the credit of the issuer and record the unrealized losses as a component of other comprehensive income. There are no similar provisions under IFRSs as all perpetual preferred securities are evaluated for other-than-temporary impairment as equity securities. Under IFRSs all impairments are reported in other operating income.

Under U.S. GAAP, the credit loss component of an other-than-temporary impairment of a debt security is recognized in earnings while the remaining portion of the impairment loss is recognized in other comprehensive income provided

a company concludes it neither intends to sell the security nor concludes that it is more-likely-than-not that it will have to sell the security prior to recovery. Under IFRSs, there is no bifurcation of other-than-temporary impairment and the entire decline in value is recognized in earnings.

Present value of long-term insurance contracts – Under IFRSs, the present value of an in-force (“PVIF”) long-term insurance contract is determined by discounting future cash flows expected to emerge from business currently in

---

force using appropriate assumptions plus a margin in assessing factors such as future mortality, lapse rates and levels of expenses, and a discount rate that reflects the risk free rate plus a margin for operational risk. Movements in the PVIF of long-term insurance contracts are included in other operating income. Under U.S. GAAP, revenue is recognized over the life insurance policy term.

Goodwill and other intangible asset impairment charges – Goodwill levels established as a result of our acquisition by HSBC were higher under IFRSs than U.S. GAAP as the HSBC purchase accounting adjustments reflected higher levels of intangibles under U.S. GAAP. Consequently, the amount of goodwill allocated to our Card and Retail Services and Insurance Services businesses and written off during 2009 was greater under IFRSs. Additionally, the intangible assets allocated to our Consumer Lending business and written off during the first quarter of 2009 were higher under U.S. GAAP. There are also differences in the valuation of assets and liabilities under IFRSs and U.S. GAAP resulting from the Metris acquisition in December 2005.

Pension and other postretirement benefit costs – Net income under U.S. GAAP is lower than under IFRSs as a result of the amortization of the amount by which actuarial losses exceed gains beyond the 10 percent “corridor.” Furthermore in 2010 changes to future accruals for legacy participants under the HSBC North America Pension Plan were accounted for as a plan curtailment under IFRSs, which resulted in immediate income recognition. Under US GAAP, these changes were considered to be a negative plan amendment which resulted in no immediate income recognition. During the first quarter of 2009, the curtailment gain related to postretirement benefits during the first quarter of 2009 also resulted in a lower net income under U.S. GAAP than IFRSs.

Loss on sale of auto finance receivables and other related assets – The differences in the loss on sale of the auto finance receivables between IFRSs and U.S. GAAP primarily reflect the differences in loan impairment provisioning between IFRSs and U.S. GAAP as discussed above. These differences resulted in a higher loss under IFRSs, as future recoveries are accrued for on a discounted basis.

Other – There are other differences between IFRSs and U.S. GAAP including purchase accounting and other miscellaneous items.

IFRS Management Basis Reporting As previously discussed, corporate goals and individual goals of executives are currently calculated in accordance with IFRSs under which HSBC prepares its consolidated financial statements. As a result, operating results are being monitored and reviewed, trends are being evaluated and decisions about allocating resources, such as employees, are being made almost exclusively on an IFRS Management Basis. IFRS Management Basis results are IFRSs results which assume that the GM and UP Portfolios and the private label and real estate secured receivables transferred to HSBC Bank USA have not been sold and remain on our balance sheet and the revenues and expenses related to these receivables remain on our income statement. Additionally, IFRS Management Basis assumes that all purchase accounting fair value adjustments relating to our acquisition by HSBC have been “pushed down” to HSBC Finance Corporation. Operations are monitored and trends are evaluated on an IFRS Management Basis because the receivable sales to HSBC Bank USA were conducted primarily to appropriately fund prime customer loans more efficiently through bank deposits and such receivables continue to be managed and serviced by us without regard to ownership. Accordingly, our segment reporting is on an IFRS Management Basis. However, we continue to monitor capital adequacy, establish dividend policy and report to regulatory agencies on an U.S. GAAP legal entity basis. A summary of the significant differences between U.S. GAAP and IFRSs as they impact our results are also summarized in Note 15, “Business Segments,” in the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

Quantitative Reconciliations of Non-U.S. GAAP Financial Measures to U.S. GAAP Financial Measures For quantitative reconciliations of non-U.S. GAAP financial measures presented herein to the equivalent GAAP basis financial measures, see “Reconciliations to U.S. GAAP Financial Measures.”





## Receivables Review

The following table summarizes receivables at September 30, 2010 and increases (decreases) over prior periods:

	September 30, 2010	Increases (Decreases) From			
		June 30, 2010		December 31, 2009	
		\$	%	\$	%
(dollars are in millions)					
Receivables:					
Core receivable portfolios:					
Credit card	\$9,888	\$(231)	(2.3)%	\$(1,738)	(14.9)%
Non-core receivable portfolios:					
Real estate secured(1)(2)	51,628	(2,455)	(4.5)	(7,907)	(13.3)
Personal non-credit card	7,816	(716)	(8.4)	(2,670)	(25.5)
Commercial and other	45	(3)	(6.3)	(5)	(10.0)
Total non-core receivable portfolios	59,489	(3,174)	(5.1)	(10,582)	(15.1)
Total receivables	\$69,377	\$(3,405)	(4.7)%	\$(12,320)	(15.1)%

(1) Real estate secured receivables are comprised of the following:

	September 30, 2010	Increases (Decreases) From			
		June 30, 2010		December 31, 2009	
		\$	%	\$	%
(dollars are in millions)					
Mortgage Services	\$16,875	\$(950)	(5.3)%	\$(3,066)	(15.4)%
Consumer Lending	34,746	(1,505)	(4.2)	(4,840)	(12.2)
All other	7	—	—	(1)	(12.5)
Total real estate secured	\$51,628	\$(2,455)	(4.5)%	\$(7,907)	(13.3)%

(2) At September 30, 2010, June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, real estate secured receivables includes \$4.9 billion, \$4.6 billion and \$3.4 billion, respectively, of receivables that have been written down to their net realizable value less cost to sell in accordance with our existing charge-off policy.

Core credit card receivables Credit card receivables have decreased since June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 as a result of actions taken beginning in the fourth quarter of 2007 to manage risk including tightening initial credit lines and sales authorization criteria, closing inactive accounts, decreasing credit lines, tightening underwriting criteria, tightening cash access and reducing marketing levels, as well as an increased focus and ability on the part of consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt. In 2008, we identified certain segments of our credit card portfolio which have been the most impacted by the housing and economic conditions and we stopped all new account originations in those market segments. Based on performance trends which began in the second half of 2009, we increased direct marketing mailings and new customer account originations for portions of our non-prime credit card receivable portfolio which will likely result in lower run-off of credit card receivables through the remainder of 2010. As compared to December 31, 2009, the lower credit card receivable balances also reflect seasonal paydowns earlier in the year.



Non-core receivable portfolios Real estate secured receivables in our non-core receivable portfolios can be further analyzed as follows:

	September 30, 2010	Increases (Decreases) From			
		June 30, 2010		December 31, 2009	
		\$	%	\$	%
		(dollars are in millions)			
Real estate secured:					
Closed-end:					
First lien	\$45,518	\$(1,993)	(4.2)%	\$(6,259)	(12.1)%
Second lien	4,544	(371)	(7.5)	(1,321)	(22.5)
Revolving:					
First lien	194	(5)	(2.5)	(17)	(8.1)
Second lien	1,372	(86)	(5.9)	(310)	(18.4)
Total real estate secured	\$51,628	\$(2,455)	(4.5)%	\$(7,907)	(13.3)%

As previously discussed, real estate markets in a large portion of the United States have been affected by stagnation or declines in property values. As such, the loan-to-value (“LTV”) ratios for our real estate secured receivable portfolios have generally deteriorated since origination. Receivables which have an LTV greater than 100 percent have historically had a greater likelihood of becoming delinquent, resulting in higher credit losses for us. Refreshed loan-to-value ratios for our real estate secured receivable portfolios are presented in the table below as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009. The relative lack of change since December 31, 2009 in these ratios reflects some element of stabilization in the housing markets.

	Refreshed LTVs(1)(2) at September 30, 2010				Refreshed LTVs(1)(2) at December 31, 2009			
	Consumer Lending(3)		Mortgage Services		Consumer Lending(3)		Mortgage Services	
	First Lien	Second Lien	First Lien	Second Lien	First Lien	Second Lien	First Lien	Second Lien
LTV<80%	37%	17%	32%	8%	35%	18%	30%	8%
80%<LTV<90%	17	11	17	10	18	12	18	12
90%<LTV<100%	17	20	21	18	19	22	23	20
LTV≥100%	29	52	30	64	28	48	29	60
Average LTV for portfolio	88%	101%	91%	110%	88%	100%	91%	109%

(1) Refreshed LTVs for first liens are calculated as the current estimated property value expressed as a percentage of the receivable balance as of the reporting date (including any charge-offs recorded to reduce receivables to their net realizable value less cost to sell in accordance with our existing charge-off policies). Refreshed LTVs for second liens are calculated as the current estimated property value expressed as a percentage of the receivable balance as of the reporting date plus the senior lien amount at origination. For purposes of this disclosure, current estimated property values are derived from the property’s appraised value at the time of receivable origination updated by the change in the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight’s house pricing index (“HPI”) at either a Core Based Statistical Area (“CBSA”) or state level. The estimated value of the homes could vary from actual fair values due to changes in condition of the underlying property, variations in housing price changes within metropolitan statistical areas and other factors. As a result, actual property values associated with loans which end in foreclosure may be significantly lower than the estimated values used for purposes

of this disclosure.

- (2) For purposes of this disclosure, current estimated property values are calculated using the most current HPI's available and applied on an individual loan basis, which results in an approximately three month delay in the production of reportable statistics for the current period. Therefore, the September 30, 2010 information in the table above reflects current estimated property values using HPIs as of June 30, 2010. For December 31, 2009, information in the table above reflects current estimated property values using HPIs as of September 30, 2009.
  - (3) Excludes the Consumer Lending receivable portfolios serviced by HSBC Bank USA which had a total outstanding principal balance of \$1.2 billion and \$1.5 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.
-

The following table summarizes various real estate secured receivables information (excluding receivables held for sale) for our Mortgage Services and Consumer Lending businesses:

	September 30, 2010		June 30, 2010		December 31, 2009	
	Mortgage Services	Consumer Lending	Mortgage Services	Consumer Lending	Mortgage Services	Consumer Lending
	(in millions)					
Fixed rate(3)	\$10,450(1)	\$33,179(2)	\$10,913(1)	\$34,597(2)	\$11,962(1)	\$37,717(2)
Adjustable rate(3)	6,425	1,567	6,912	1,654	7,979	1,869
Total	\$16,875	\$34,746	\$17,825	\$36,251	\$19,941	\$39,586
First lien	\$14,542	\$31,174	\$15,316	\$32,399	\$16,979	\$35,014
Second lien	2,333	3,572	2,509	3,852	2,962	4,572
Total	\$16,875	\$34,746	\$17,825	\$36,251	\$19,941	\$39,586
Adjustable rate(3)	\$5,253	\$1,567	\$5,638	\$1,655	\$6,471	\$1,869
Interest-only(3)	1,172	—	1,274	—	1,508	—
Total adjustable rate(3)	\$6,425	\$1,567	\$6,912	\$1,655	\$7,979	\$1,869
Total stated income	\$2,915	\$—	\$3,143	\$—	\$3,677	\$—

(1) Includes fixed rate interest-only loans of \$244 million, \$254 million and \$283 million at September 30, 2010, June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.

(2) Includes fixed rate interest-only loans of \$28 million, \$30 million and \$36 million at September 30, 2010, June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.

(3) Receivable classification between fixed rate, adjustable rate and interest-only receivables is based on the classification at the time of receivable origination and does not reflect any changes in the classification that may have occurred as a result of any loan modifications.

All of our non-core receivable portfolio balances have decreased from June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 reflecting the continued liquidation of these portfolios which will continue going forward. The liquidation rates in our real estate secured receivable portfolios continue to be impacted by declines in loan prepayments as fewer refinancing opportunities for our customers exist and the trends impacting the mortgage lending industry as previously discussed. As compared to December 31, 2009, the lower balances in our non-core receivable portfolio also reflect seasonal paydowns earlier in the year.

#### Real Estate Owned

We obtain real estate by taking possession of the collateral pledged as security for real estate secured receivables. REO properties are made available for sale in an orderly fashion with the proceeds used to reduce or repay the outstanding receivable balance. The following table provides quarterly information regarding our REO properties:

	Three Months Ended				
	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	Mar. 31, 2010	Dec. 31, 2009	Sept. 30, 2009
Number of REO properties at end of period	9,629	8,249	6,826	6,060	6,266
Number of properties added to REO inventory in the period	5,316	4,996	4,143	3,422	3,448
Average loss on sale of REO properties(1)	10.1%	4.2%	3.9%	5.4%	8.4%

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Average total loss on foreclosed properties(2)	52.1%	48.9%	49.0%	49.8%	51.6%
Average time to sell REO properties (in days)	158	156	170	172	184

---

- (1) Property acquired through foreclosure is initially recognized at the lower of adjusted cost or fair value less estimated costs to sell (“Initial REO Carrying Value”). The average loss on sale of REO properties is calculated as cash proceeds less the Initial REO Carrying Value divided by the Initial REO Carrying Value.
- (2) The average total loss on foreclosed properties sold each quarter includes both the loss on sale of the REO property as discussed above and the cumulative write-downs recognized on the loans up to the time of foreclosure. This average total loss on foreclosed properties is expressed as a percentage of the unpaid loan principal balance prior to write-down plus any other ancillary amounts owed (e.g., real estate tax advances) which were incurred prior to taking title to the property.

The number of REO properties at September 30, 2010 increased as compared to June 30, 2010 due to improved processing of foreclosures following backlogs in foreclosure proceedings and actions by local governments and certain states that lengthened the foreclosure process beginning in 2008. We anticipate the number of REO properties will continue to increase in future periods if the backlogs in foreclosure proceedings continue to be reduced. The average total loss on foreclosed properties increased during the three months ended September 30, 2010 as home prices in many markets began to deteriorate during the quarter due to the continuing elevated levels of foreclosed properties and the expiration of the homebuyer tax credit. The average loss on sale of REO properties increased during the three months ended September 30, 2010 reflecting declining home prices during the quarter as this ratio is negatively impacted by declines in home prices between the time we take title to the property and when the property is ultimately sold.

## Results of Operations

Unless noted otherwise, the following discusses amounts from continuing operations reported in our consolidated statement of income (loss).

Net interest income The following table summarizes net interest income:

	2010		2009		Increase (Decrease)	
	\$	% <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	% <sup>(1)</sup>	Amount	%
Three Months Ended September 30,	(dollars are in millions)					
Finance and other interest income	\$1,749	8.86%	\$2,269	9.37%	\$(520)	(22.92)%
Interest expense	689	3.49	912	3.77	(223)	(24.45)
Net interest income	\$1,060	5.37%	\$1,357	5.60%	\$(297)	(21.89)%
Nine Months Ended September 30,						
Finance and other interest income	\$5,493	8.94%	\$7,292	9.56%	\$(1,799)	(24.67)%
Interest expense	2,315	3.77	2,964	3.89	(649)	(21.90)
Net interest income	\$3,178	5.17%	\$4,328	5.68%	\$(1,150)	(26.57)%

- (1) % Columns: comparison to average owned interest-earning assets.



Net interest income decreased during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the year-ago periods primarily due to lower average receivables as a result of receivable liquidation, risk mitigation efforts, an increased focus by consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt and lower overall receivable yields due to lower yields in our real estate secured receivable portfolio partially offset by higher yields in our credit card and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios as discussed more fully below. Overall receivable yields were also negatively impacted by a shift in receivable mix to higher levels of lower yielding first lien real estate secured receivables as higher yielding second lien real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivables have run-off at a faster pace than first lien real estate secured receivables. We also experienced lower yields on our non-insurance investment portfolio held for liquidity management purposes. These investments are short term in nature and the lower yields reflect historically low interest rates consistent with the Federal Reserve Bank's monetary policy. These decreases were partially offset by lower interest expense in both periods due to lower average borrowings

---

and, in the year-to-date period, lower average rates. During the current quarter, average interest rates on borrowings were slightly higher as a result of a change in mix in outstanding borrowings.

While overall yields on our receivable portfolio decreased, receivable yields vary between receivable products. Lower yields in our real estate secured receivable portfolio reflects the impact of an increase in the expected lives of receivables in payment incentive programs since September 30, 2009 and the impact of the December 2009 Charge-off Policy Changes as these receivables now charge-off earlier than in the historical periods which results in all of the underlying accrued interest being reversed against net interest income upon charge-off earlier as well. Lower yields in our real estate secured receivable portfolio were partially offset during the three month period by reduced levels of modified receivables due to charge-off as well as declines in new modification volumes. Yields on our credit card receivable portfolio increased during both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as a result of repricing initiatives during the fourth quarter of 2009 which were partially offset by the implementation of certain provisions of the new credit card legislation including restrictions impacting repricing of delinquent accounts. We anticipate credit card receivable yields in future periods may continue to be negatively impacted by various provisions of the new credit card legislation which require certain rate increases to be periodically re-evaluated. Yields in our personal non-credit card portfolio increased during both periods as a result of significantly lower levels of nonaccrual receivables, partially offset by the impact of the December 2009 Charge-off Policy Changes as discussed above.

Net interest margin was 5.37 percent and 5.17 percent during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to 5.60 percent and 5.68 percent during the year-ago periods. Net interest margin decreased in both periods due to lower overall yields on our receivable portfolio as discussed above, partially offset by lower cost of funds as a percentage of average interest earning assets. The following table shows the impact of these items on net interest margin:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2010	2009	September 30, 2010	2009
Net interest margin – September 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively	5.60%	6.32%	5.68%	6.29%
Impact to net interest margin resulting from:				
Receivable yields:				
Receivable pricing	(.14)	.14	(.12)	.20
Receivable mix	(.15)	(.49)	(.23)	(.34)
Impact of modifications and nonperforming receivables	.18	(.82)	(.05)	(.99)
Non-insurance investment income	(.38)	(.25)	(.23)	(.25)
Cost of funds	.26	.70	.12	.77
Net interest margin – September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively	5.37%	5.60%	5.17%	5.68%

The varying maturities and repricing frequencies of both our assets and liabilities expose us to interest rate risk. When the various risks inherent in both the asset and the debt do not meet our desired risk profile, we use derivative financial instruments to manage these risks to acceptable interest rate risk levels. See the caption “Risk Management” for additional information regarding interest rate risk and derivative financial instruments.

Provision for credit losses The following table summarizes provision for credit losses by business:

Three Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009	Increase (Decrease)	
			Amount	%
	(dollars are in millions)			
Provision for credit losses by business:				
Credit card	\$205	\$424	\$(219)	(51.7)%
Mortgage Services	444	552	(108)	(19.6)
Consumer Lending	860	1,141	(281)	(24.6)
Total provision for credit losses	\$1,509	\$2,117	\$(608)	(28.7)%

Nine Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009	Increase (Decrease)	
			Amount	%
	(dollars are in millions)			
Provision for credit losses by business:				
Credit card	\$685	\$1,357	\$(672)	(49.5)%
Mortgage Services	1,204	1,556	(352)	(22.6)
Consumer Lending	3,081	4,253	(1,172)	(27.6)
Total provision for credit losses	\$4,970	\$7,166	\$2,196	(30.6)%

Our provision for credit losses decreased significantly during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the year-ago periods as a result of a lower provision for credit losses in our core credit card receivable portfolio as well as lower provision for credit losses in our non-core Mortgage Services and Consumer Lending businesses as discussed below.

- Provision for credit losses in our core credit card receivable portfolio decreased \$219 million and \$672 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, as compared to the year-ago periods. The decrease in both periods reflects lower receivable levels as a result of actions taken beginning in the fourth quarter of 2007 to manage risk as well as an increased focus by consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt. The decrease also reflects the impact of improvement in the underlying credit quality of the portfolio including continuing improvements in early stage delinquency roll rates and lower delinquency levels as customer payment rates continue to remain strong. The impact on credit card receivable losses from the current economic environment, including high unemployment rates, has not been as severe as originally expected due in part to improved customer payment behavior.
- The provision for credit losses in our Mortgage Services business decreased \$108 million and \$352 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, as compared to the year-ago periods. The decrease in both periods reflects lower receivable levels as the portfolio continues to liquidate, lower delinquency levels as compared to the year-ago periods, improvements in economic conditions since the year-ago periods and a higher percentage of charge-offs that were on first lien loans which generally have lower loss severities than second lien loans. The decreases in both periods also reflect lower loss estimates on troubled debt restructurings (“TDR Loans”), partially offset by the impact of elevated unemployment levels and lower receivable prepayments. Total loss severities have improved in both periods as compared to the year-ago periods as severities on foreclosed loans were lower as home prices stabilized in many markets and began to recover in others as compared to prior year levels. Improvements in total loss severities since the year-ago periods also reflect an increase in the number of properties for which we accepted a deed-in-lieu and an increase in the number of short sales, both of which result in lower losses compared to foreclosed loans.



- The provision for credit losses in our Consumer Lending business decreased \$281 million and \$1.2 billion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, as compared to the year-ago periods. The decrease in both periods reflects lower receivable levels as both the real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios continue to liquidate, lower delinquency levels as compared to the year-ago periods and improvements in economic conditions since the year-ago periods. The decrease in provision for real estate secured receivables also reflects a higher percentage of charge-offs on first lien loans which generally have lower loss severities than second lien loans. Total loss severities have improved in both periods as compared to the year-ago periods as severities on foreclosed loans were lower as home prices stabilized in many markets and began to recover in others as compared to prior year levels. Improvements in total loss severities since the year-ago periods also reflect an increase in the number of properties for which we accepted a deed-in-lieu and an increase in the number of short sales, both of which result in lower losses compared to foreclosed loans. The decreases in both periods also reflect lower loss estimates on TDR Loans, partially offset by lower receivable prepayments, portfolio seasoning and higher levels of unemployment. The decrease in the provision for credit losses for personal non-credit card receivables reflects lower receivable levels, lower delinquency levels and improvements in economic conditions since the year-ago periods as well as during the three months ended September 30, 2010 lower reserve requirements on TDR Loans.

In recent years, the impact of seasonal patterns in our provision for credit losses has been masked by the impact of a sustained deterioration in credit quality across all of our receivable portfolios. As the credit quality in our portfolios stabilizes, we anticipate that these seasonal patterns may re-emerge as a more significant component of our overall trend in loss provision.

Net charge-off dollars totaled \$1.9 billion and \$7.1 billion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to \$2.3 billion and \$6.8 billion during the year-ago periods. Net charge-off dollars during the first nine months of 2010 have been impacted by the December 2009 Charge-off Policy Changes for real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivables. As a result of these policy changes, net charge-off dollars are higher in 2010 than they otherwise would have been. See Note 8, "Changes in Charge-off Policies," in our 2009 Form 10-K for further discussion of this policy change. Net charge-off dollars in our core credit card receivable portfolio were positively impacted by improvements in U.S. economic conditions since the year-ago periods as well as an increased focus by consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt. For further discussion see "Credit Quality" in this Form 10-Q.

Credit loss reserves at September 30, 2010 decreased as compared to June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 as we recorded provision for credit losses less than net charge-offs of \$427 million and \$2.1 billion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively. Credit loss reserves were lower for all products as compared to June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 reflecting lower receivable levels in all receivable portfolios and, as compared to both the prior quarter and prior year end, lower delinquency levels in our credit card and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios. For further discussion of the changes in credit loss reserves by product see "Credit Quality" in this Form 10-Q.

During the first nine months of 2010, we continued to experience elevated levels of TDR Loans, driven largely by real estate secured TDR Loans. Beginning in 2008, we significantly increased the use of loan modifications in an effort to assist customers who are experiencing financial difficulties. As a result, TDR Loans have also increased as compared to December 31, 2009 as higher levels of modified loans become eligible to be reported as TDR Loans under our existing policy. Although TDR Loans generally carry a higher reserve requirement, in some cases their delinquency status was reset to current upon modification. Therefore, a portion of these balances will not be reported in two-months-and-over contractual delinquency and nonperforming loans unless they subsequently experience payment defaults. For further discussion of credit loss reserves see "Credit Quality" in this Form 10-Q.



Other revenues The following table summarizes other revenues:

Three Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009	Increase (Decrease)	
			Amount	%
	(dollars are in millions)			
Insurance revenue	\$69	\$83	\$(14)	(16.9)%
Investment income	24	31	(7)	(22.6)
Net other-than-temporary impairment losses	—	—	—	—
Derivative related income (expense)	(374)	(179)	(195)	(100.0+)
Gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives	(1)	(1,247)	1,246	99.9
Fee income	47	159	(112)	(70.4)
Enhancement services revenue	99	115	(16)	(13.9)
Taxpayer financial services revenue	—	2	(2)	(100.0)
Gain on bulk sale of receivables to HSBC Bank USA	—	—	—	—
Gain on receivable sales to HSBC affiliates	143	101	42	41.6
Servicing and other fees from HSBC affiliates	167	182	(15)	(8.2)
Lower of cost or fair value adjustment on receivables held for sale	—	(4)	4	100.0
Other income	25	18	7	38.9
Total other revenues	\$199	\$(739)	\$938	100.0+%

Nine Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009	Increase (Decrease)	
			Amount	%
	(dollars are in millions)			
Insurance revenue	\$213	\$261	\$(48)	(18.4)%
Investment income	75	83	(8)	(9.6)
Net other-than-temporary impairment losses	—	(20)	20	100.0
Derivative related income (expense)	(972)	67	(1,039)	(100.0+)
Gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives	602	(1,904)	2,506	100.0+
Fee income	156	510	(354)	(69.4)
Enhancement services revenue	303	374	(71)	(19.0)
Taxpayer financial services revenue	29	95	(66)	(69.5)
Gain on bulk sale of receivables to HSBC Bank USA	—	50	(50)	(100.0)
Gain on receivable sales to HSBC affiliates	401	319	82	25.7
Servicing and other fees from HSBC affiliates	560	564	(4)	(.7)
Lower of cost or fair value adjustment on receivables held for sale	2	(337)	339	100.0+
Other income	45	80	(35)	(43.8)
Total other revenues	\$1,414	\$142	\$1,272	100.0+%

Insurance revenue decreased during both periods as a result of lower credit related premiums due largely to the decision in late February 2009 to discontinue all new customer account originations in our Consumer Lending business. As a result of this decision, we no longer issue new credit insurance policies in this business segment but continue to collect premiums on existing policies. The decreases in insurance revenue were partially offset by growth in a term life insurance product that was introduced in 2007.





Investment income includes interest income on securities available-for-sale as well as realized gains and losses from the sale of securities. Investment income decreased in both periods as a result of lower gains on sales of securities and lower yields on money market funds as well as lower average investment balances.

Net other-than temporary impairment (“OTTI”) losses During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, OTTI losses on securities available-for-sale was less than \$1 million. During the nine months ended September 30, 2009, \$20 million of OTTI was recorded on our portfolio of perpetual preferred securities which was subsequently sold during the second quarter of 2009. For further information, see Note 4, “Securities,” in the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

Derivative related income (expense) includes realized and unrealized gains and losses on derivatives which do not qualify as effective hedges under hedge accounting principles as well as the ineffectiveness on derivatives which are qualifying hedges. Designation of swaps as effective hedges reduces the volatility that would otherwise result from mark-to-market accounting. All of our derivatives are economic hedges of the underlying debt instruments regardless of the accounting treatment. Derivative related income (expense) is summarized in the table below:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009
	(in millions)			
Net realized losses	\$(27)	\$(39)	\$(163)	\$(92)
Mark-to-market on derivatives which do not qualify as effective hedges	(343)	(141)	(795)	79
Ineffectiveness	(4)	1	(14)	80
Total	\$(374)	\$(179)	\$(972)	\$67

As previously discussed, the deterioration in marketplace and economic conditions has resulted in our Consumer Lending and Mortgage Services real estate secured receivables remaining on the balance sheet longer due to lower prepayment rates. To offset the increase in duration of these receivables and the corresponding increase in interest rate risk as measured by the present value of a basis point (“PVBP”), \$7.4 billion of longer-dated pay fixed/receive variable interest rate swaps were outstanding at the end of the third quarter of 2010. This represents an increase of \$840 million and \$2.1 billion in pay fixed/receive variable interest rate swaps during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively. While these positions acted as economic hedges by lowering our overall interest rate risk by more closely matching both the structure and duration of our liabilities to the structure and duration of our assets, they did not qualify as effective hedges under hedge accounting principles. As a result, these positions are carried at fair value and are marked-to-market through income while the item being hedged is not carried at fair value and no offsetting fair value adjustment is recorded. Market value movements for these non-qualifying hedges may be volatile during periods in which long term interest rates fluctuate, but they effectively lock in fixed interest rates for a set period of time which results in funding that is better aligned with longer term assets.

Falling long-term interest rates during 2010 resulted in increases in net realized losses and had a significant negative impact on the mark-to-market on this portfolio of swaps. Should interest rates continue to decline, we will incur additional losses, although losses could reverse if and when interest rates increase. Over time, we may elect to further reduce our exposure to rising interest rates through the execution of additional pay fixed/receive variable interest rate swaps.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, ineffectiveness was largely due to the impact of falling U.S. long term rates on our cross currency cash flow hedges, partially offset by falling long-term foreign interest rates. Ineffectiveness income during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was primarily driven by changes in the

market value of our cross currency cash flow hedges due to the increase in long term U.S. rates and foreign rates in the first half of 2009.

---

Net income volatility, whether based on the impact of changes in interest rates on our swap portfolio which does not qualify for hedge accounting or ineffectiveness recorded on our qualifying hedges under the long haul method of accounting, impacts the comparability of our reported results between periods. Accordingly, derivative related income for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 should not be considered indicative of the results for any future periods.

Gain (loss) on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives reflects fair value changes on our fixed rate debt accounted for under fair value option (“FVO”) as well as the fair value changes and realized gains (losses) on the related derivatives associated with debt designated at fair value. The gain on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives was essentially flat during the three months ended September 30, 2010 and increased during the year-to-date period. The increase in the year-to-date period primarily reflects a widening of credit spreads since the beginning of the year as compared to a significant tightening of our credit spreads during the year-ago periods. See Note 11, “Fair Value Option,” in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for additional information, including a break out of the components on the gain on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives.

Fee income, which includes revenues from fee-based products such as credit cards, decreased during both periods as a result of lower late, overlimit and interchange fees due to lower volumes and lower delinquency levels, changes in customer behavior and impacts from changes required by the new credit card legislation. The new credit card legislation has resulted in significant decreases in late fees due to limits on fee that can be assessed and overlimit fees as customers must now opt-in for such overlimit fees as well as restrictions on fees charged to process on-line and telephone payments.

Enhancement services revenue, which consists of ancillary credit card revenue from products such as Account Secure Plus (debt protection) and Identity Protection Plan, decreased during both periods as a result of the impact of lower new origination volumes and lower receivable levels.

Taxpayer financial services (“TFS”) revenue decreased during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 as a result of changes in the way the TFS program is jointly managed between us and HSBC USA Inc. as well as lower loan volumes in the 2010 tax season. Beginning in the first quarter of 2010, a portion of the loans we previously purchased are now retained by HSBC USA Inc. and we receive a fee for both servicing the loans and for assuming the credit risk associated with these loans. As a result, the decrease in TFS revenue during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 is largely offset by higher servicing and other fee revenue related to these loans which is recorded as a component of servicing and other fees from HSBC affiliates.

During the third quarter of 2010, the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) announced it would stop providing information regarding certain unpaid obligations of a taxpayer (the “Debt Indicator”), which has historically served as a significant part of our underwriting process in our Taxpayer Financial Services (“TFS”) business. We determined that, without use of the Debt Indicator, we could no longer offer the product that has historically accounted for the substantial majority of our TFS loan production and that we might not be able to offer the remaining products available under the program in a safe and sound manner.

On October 15, 2010, H&R Block commenced an action in the United States District Court for The Eastern District of Missouri seeking injunctive relief compelling HSBC Finance and other HSBC North America subsidiaries to continue to fund tax refund anticipation loans and refund anticipation checks for the 2011 tax season. We believe that the decision of the IRS to stop issuing the Debt Indicator, a recent Supervisory Letter from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and certain contractual provisions provide defenses to the claim and support our decision regarding the suspension of offering these tax refund products. H&R Block’s request for a temporary restraining order was denied on October 18, 2010. The Court scheduled a four-day evidentiary hearing on the preliminary injunction for November 15-18, 2010. While we cannot determine the manner in which this dispute will ultimately be resolved,

there will likely be a significant decrease in, or elimination of, TFS volumes and related revenue in 2011, which, in either case, is not expected to have a material impact on our financial position or results of operations.

Gain on bulk sale of receivables to HSBC Bank USA during the first quarter of 2009 reflects the gain on the January 2009 sale of the GM and UP Portfolios, with an outstanding receivable balance of \$12.4 billion at the time of sale.

---

The gain was partially offset by a loss recorded on the termination of cash flow swaps associated with \$6.1 billion of indebtedness transferred to HSBC Bank USA as part of these transactions. No similar transaction occurred during the first nine months of 2010.

Gain on receivable sales to HSBC affiliates, which consists primarily of daily sales of private label receivable originations and certain credit card account originations to HSBC Bank USA increased in both periods. The increase in both periods was primarily due to higher overall premiums, partially offset by lower overall origination volumes. The higher overall premiums reflect the impact of contract renegotiation with certain merchants, repricing initiative in certain portfolios as well as the impact of improving credit quality during the first nine months of 2010, partially offset by impacts from the new credit card legislation, including restrictions impacting repricing of delinquent accounts.

Servicing and other fees from HSBC affiliates represents revenue received under service level agreements under which we service real estate secured, credit card, auto finance, private label receivables and beginning in the first quarter of 2010, taxpayer financial services loans for HSBC affiliates. The decrease during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 reflects lower levels of receivables being serviced for HSBC Bank USA as well as the transfer to HSBC Technology & Services (USA) Inc. (“HTSU”) of certain services we previously provided to other HSBC affiliates, partially offset in the year-to-date period by the servicing and other fees related to TFS loans as discussed above.

Lower of cost or fair value adjustment on receivables held for sale includes the non-credit portion of the lower of cost or fair value adjustment recorded on receivables at the date they are transferred to held for sale as well as the credit and non-credit portion of all lower of cost or fair value adjustments recorded on receivables held for sale subsequent to the transfer. During the first nine months of 2009, we had higher levels of receivables held for sale and the lower of cost or fair value adjustments on receivables held for sale reflects the impact of current market conditions on pricing at the time.

Other income increased during the three months ended September 30, 2010 due to a decrease in estimated exposure of certain interest rate rebate liabilities, partially offset by lower gains on miscellaneous asset sales. The decrease in the year-to date period reflects lower gains on sales of miscellaneous commercial assets.

Operating expenses The following table summarizes total costs and expenses:

Three Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009	Increase (Decrease) Amount	%
	(dollars are in millions)			
Salaries and employee benefits	\$149	\$249	\$(100)	(40.2)%
Occupancy and equipment expenses, net	25	22	3	13.6
Other marketing expenses	73	50	23	46.0
Real estate owned expenses	75	29	46	100.0+
Other servicing and administrative expenses	163	194	(31)	(16.0)
Support services from HSBC affiliates	296	220	76	34.5
Amortization of intangibles	35	39	(4)	(10.3)
Policyholders' benefits	36	50	(14)	(28.0)
Goodwill and other intangible asset impairment charges	—	—	—	—
Total costs and expenses	\$852	\$853	\$(1)	(.1)%

Increase

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Nine Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009	(Decrease)	
			Amount	%
	(dollars are in millions)			
Salaries and employee benefits	\$476	\$911	\$(435)	(47.7)%
Occupancy and equipment expenses, net	67	158	(91)	(57.6)
Other marketing expenses	208	127	81	63.8
Real estate owned expenses	154	175	(21)	(12.0)
Other servicing and administrative expenses	563	620	(57)	(9.2)
Support services from HSBC affiliates	840	717	123	17.2
Amortization of intangibles	108	119	(11)	(9.2)
Policyholders' benefits	116	153	(37)	(24.2)
Goodwill and other intangible asset impairment charges		—2,308	(2,308)	(100.0)
Total costs and expenses	\$2,532	\$5,288	\$(2,756)	(52.1)%

Salaries and employee benefits was significantly lower during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as a result of the reduced scope of our business operations, including the change in the number of employees from the strategic decisions implemented, the impact of entity-wide initiatives to reduce costs, and the centralization of additional shared services in North America, including, among other things, legal, compliance, tax and finance. The decrease in both periods also reflects the impact of the transfer of certain employees to the default mortgage loan servicing department of HSBC Bank USA during the third quarter of 2010 although this decrease was offset by an increase in support services from HSBC affiliates. Salaries and employee benefits during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 included severance costs of \$72 million, primarily related to our decision in February 2009 to discontinue new account originations for all products in our Consumer Lending business and close all branch offices. See Note 3, "Strategic Initiatives," in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for a complete description of these decisions.

Occupancy and equipment expenses have been impacted in both periods by the impact of strategic initiatives. During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, occupancy and equipment expenses were reduced by \$14 million as a result of a reduction in the lease liability associated with an office of our Mortgage Services business which has now been fully subleased. Additionally, during the nine months ended September 30, 2009, occupancy and equipment expenses included \$54 million related to the decision to close the Consumer Lending branch offices. Excluding the impact of these items, occupancy and equipment expense increased during the current quarter as a result of higher repair and maintenance expenses. Excluding the impact of the items discussed above, occupancy and equipment expense decreased during the year-to-date period due to lower depreciation, utilities and repair and maintenance expenses as a result of the reduction of the scope of our business operations since March 2009.

Other marketing expenses include payments for advertising, direct mail programs and other marketing expenditures. Other marketing expenses increased during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as we have increased direct marketing mailings and new customer account originations for portions of our non-prime credit card receivable portfolio based on recent performance trends in this portfolio as well as in the year-to-date period increased compliance mailings in the second quarter of 2010 related to the new credit card legislation. Although other marketing expenses have increased, overall marketing levels remain low as compared to historical levels. Current marketing levels should not be considered indicative of marketing expenses for any future periods.

Real estate owned expenses decreased during the year-to-date period but increased during the three months ended September 30, 2010. The decrease in the year-to-date period reflects lower losses on sales of REO properties as compared to the year-ago period as home prices stabilized in many markets and began to recover in others which resulted in generally higher home prices in 2010 as compared to 2009. This results in less deterioration in value between the date we take title to the property and when the property is ultimately sold. During the three months



ended September 30, 2010, REO expenses increased due to higher losses on REO sales as a result of lower home prices in the current quarter, a significant increase in the quarter in the number of REO properties held as the backlogs in foreclosure proceedings continued to be reduced and, to a lesser extent, a higher level of expenses.

Other servicing and administrative expenses included fixed asset write-downs of \$29 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 related to the decision to close the Consumer Lending branch offices. Excluding the impact of this item, other servicing and administrative expenses decreased during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as a result of the reduction of the scope of our business operations since March 2009 as well as the impact of entity wide initiatives to reduce costs, partially offset by higher third party collection costs. Additionally, the decrease was also partially offset by the impact of a change in the classification of certain pre-foreclosure costs, which during the first nine months of 2009 were reported as part of charge-off. In 2010, such costs are recorded in other servicing and administrative expenses which resulted in an incremental \$10 million and \$46 million being recorded in other servicing and administrative expenses during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010.

Support services from HSBC affiliates increased during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as beginning in January 2010 it includes legal, compliance, tax and finance and other shared services charged to us by HTSU which were previously recorded in salaries and employee benefits. Support services from HSBC affiliates also includes services charged to us by an HSBC affiliate located outside of the United States which provides operational support to our businesses, including among other areas, customer service, systems, collection and accounting functions. Additionally, the increase in both periods reflects the impact of the transfer of certain employees to a subsidiary of HSBC Bank USA in July 2010 as discussed above.

Amortization of intangibles decreased in both periods due to lower amortization for technology and customer lists due to the write-off of a portion of these intangibles during the first quarter of 2009 as a result of the decision to discontinue all new account originations in our Consumer Lending business and the remainder becoming fully amortized during the first quarter of 2010.

Policyholders' benefits decreased during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 due to lower claims on credit insurance policies since we are no longer issuing these policies in relation to Consumer Lending loans and there are fewer such policies in place. These decreases were partially offset by higher claims on a new term life product due to growth in this product offering.

Goodwill and other intangible asset impairment charges during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 includes goodwill impairment charges of \$2.3 billion related to our Card and Retail Services and Insurance Services businesses. All goodwill was written off at June 30, 2009. See Note 14, "Goodwill," our 2009 Form 10-K for further discussion of the goodwill impairment. Additionally during the first quarter of 2009, we recorded impairment charges of \$14 million for intangible assets associated with our Consumer Lending business as a result of our decision to discontinue new customer account originations for all products. See Note 3, "Strategic Initiatives," and Note 8, "Intangible Assets," in our 2009 Form 10-K for further discussion of the impairment. There were no intangible asset impairment charges during the first nine months of 2010.

Efficiency ratio The following table summarizes our owned basis efficiency ratio from continuing operations:

	2010	2009
Three months ended September 30,	66.72%	141.37%
Nine months ended September 30,	53.98	118.95

Our efficiency ratio during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 was impacted by the change in the fair value of debt for which we have elected fair value option accounting. Additionally, the three and



nine months ended September 30, 2009 were also significantly impacted by the goodwill and intangible asset impairment charges and Consumer Lending closure costs, as discussed above. Excluding these items from the periods presented, our efficiency ratio deteriorated significantly during both the quarter and year-to-date period. The deterioration in the year-to-date period reflects significantly lower net interest income and other revenues driven by receivable portfolio liquidation, declining overall yields on our real estate secured, lower derivative-

---

related income and lower fee income which outpaced the decrease in operating expenses. The deterioration was slightly higher during the current quarter as operating expenses were essentially flat as a result of higher REO expenses and marketing expenses during the quarter.

#### Segment Results – IFRS Management Basis

We have two reportable segments: Card and Retail Services and Consumer. Our segments are managed separately and are characterized by different middle-market consumer lending products, origination processes and locations. Our segment results are reported on a continuing operations basis.

Our Card and Retail Services segment comprises our core operations and includes our MasterCard, Visa, private label and other credit card operations. The Card and Retail Services segment offers these products throughout the United States primarily via strategic affinity and co-branding relationships, merchant relationships and direct mail. We also offer products and provide customer service through the Internet.

Our Consumer segment consists of our run-off Consumer Lending and Mortgage Services businesses which are no longer considered central to our core operations. The Consumer segment provided real estate secured and personal non-credit card loans with both revolving and closed-end terms and with fixed or variable interest rates. Loans were originated through branch locations and direct mail. Products were also offered and customers serviced through the Internet. Prior to the first quarter of 2007, we acquired loans through correspondent channels and prior to September 2007 we also originated loans sourced through mortgage brokers. While these businesses are operating in run-off mode, they have not been reported as discontinued operations because we continue to generate cash flow from the ongoing collections of the receivables, including interest and fees.

The “All Other” caption includes our Insurance business. It also includes our Taxpayer Financial Services and Commercial businesses which are no longer considered core to our operations. Each of these businesses falls below the quantitative threshold tests under segment reporting rules for determining reportable segments. The “All Other” caption also includes our corporate and treasury activities, which includes the impact of FVO debt. Certain fair value adjustments related to purchase accounting resulting from our acquisition by HSBC and related amortization have been allocated to corporate, which is included in the “All Other” caption within our segment disclosure. Goodwill which was established as a result of our acquisition by HSBC was not allocated to or included in the reported results of our reportable segments as the acquisition by HSBC was outside of the ongoing operational activities of our reportable segments, consistent with management’s view of our reportable segment results. Such remaining goodwill of \$2.4 billion was impaired during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Goodwill relating to acquisitions subsequent to our acquisition by HSBC was included in the reported respective segment results as those acquisitions specifically related to the business, consistent with management’s view of the segment results.

As discussed in Note 2, “Discontinued Operations,” in the accompanying consolidated financial statements, our Auto Finance business, which was previously reported in the Consumer segment, is now reported as discontinued operations and is no longer included in our segment presentation.

In the second quarter of 2010, we revised the methodology used to allocate interest expense between our reportable segments. The new methodology recognizes that non-receivable assets and liabilities in each of our business segments have a shorter life than previously assumed and incorporates transfer pricing consistent with this revised forecasted life. The impact of this change in methodology for our segments was not significant. There have been no other changes in our measurement of segment profit (loss) and, except as noted above, there have been no changes in the basis of segmentation as compared with the presentation in our 2009 Form 10-K.

We report results to our parent, HSBC, in accordance with its reporting basis, IFRSs. Our segment results are presented on an IFRS Management Basis (a non-U.S. GAAP financial measure) as operating results are monitored and reviewed, trends are evaluated and decisions about allocating resources such as employees are made almost exclusively on an IFRS Management Basis. Accordingly, our segment reporting is on an IFRS Management Basis. IFRS Management Basis results are IFRSs results which assume that the GM and UP credit card portfolios and the private label and real estate secured receivables transferred to HSBC Bank USA have not been sold and remain on

---

our balance sheet and the revenues and expenses related to these receivables remain on our income statement. IFRS Management Basis also assumes that the purchase accounting fair value adjustments relating to our acquisition by HSBC have been “pushed down” to HSBC Finance Corporation. Operations are monitored and trends are evaluated on an IFRS Management Basis because the receivable sales to HSBC Bank USA were conducted primarily to fund prime customer loans more efficiently through bank deposits and such receivables continue to be managed and serviced by us without regard to ownership. However, we continue to monitor capital adequacy, establish dividend policy and report to regulatory agencies on a U.S. GAAP legal entity basis. A summary of the significant differences between U.S. GAAP and IFRSs as they impact our results are summarized in Note 15, “Business Segments,” in the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

Card and Retail Services Segment The following table summarizes the IFRS Management Basis results for our Card and Retail Services segment:

Three Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009	Increase (Decrease)	
			Amount	%
	(dollars are in millions)			
Net interest income	\$1,156	\$1,302	\$(146)	(11.2)%
Other operating income	340	582	(242)	(41.6)
Total operating income	1,496	1,884	(388)	(20.6)
Loan impairment charges	487	1,172	(685)	(58.4)
	1,009	712	297	41.7
Operating expenses	487	460	27	5.9
Profit before tax	\$522	\$252	\$270	100.0+%
Net interest margin, annualized	13.93%	12.79%	—	—
Efficiency ratio	32.55	24.42	—	—
Return (after—tax) on average assets	4.30	1.63	—	—
Balances at end of period:				
Customer loans	32,224	\$39,323	\$(7,099)	(18.1)%
Assets	30,791	37,192	(6,401)	(17.2)

Nine Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009	Increase (Decrease)	
			Amount	%
	(dollars are in millions)			
Net interest income	\$3,611	\$3,940	\$(329)	(8.4)%
Other operating income	1,086	1,810	(724)	(40.0)
Total operating income	4,697	5,750	(1,053)	(18.3)
Loan impairment charges	1,808	3,891	(2,083)	(53.5)
	2,889	1,859	1,030	55.4
Operating expenses, excluding goodwill impairment charges	1,427	1,404	23	1.6
Profit (loss) before tax and goodwill impairment charges	1,462	455	1,007	100.0+
Goodwill impairment charges(1)	—	530	(530)	(100.0)
Profit (loss) before tax(1)	\$1,462	\$(75)	\$1,537	100.0+%
Net interest margin, annualized	13.89%	12.38%	—	—
Efficiency ratio	30.38	33.63	—	—
Return (after-tax) on average assets	3.78	(.88)	—	—



---

(1) Goodwill impairment charges of \$530 million (after-tax) during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 were not deductible for tax purposes. This resulted in a net loss of \$267 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

Our Card and Retail Services segment reported a higher profit before tax for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the year-ago periods driven by lower loan impairment charges, partially offset by lower other operating income, lower net interest income and higher operating expenses. The higher profit before tax for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 also reflects the impact of goodwill impairment charges of \$530 million recorded during 2009.

Loan impairment charges decreased during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, as compared to the year-ago periods. The decrease in both periods reflects lower loan levels as a result of actions taken beginning in the fourth quarter of 2007 to manage risk and fewer active customer accounts as well as an increased focus by consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt. The decrease also reflects the impact of improvement in the underlying credit quality of the portfolio including continuing improvements in early stage delinquency roll rates and lower delinquency levels as customer payment rates continue to remain strong. The impact on credit card loan losses from the current economic environment, including high unemployment rates, has not been as severe as originally expected due in part to improved customer payment behavior. During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, we decreased credit loss reserves to \$2.6 billion as loan impairment charges were \$1.4 billion lower than net charge-offs. During the nine months ended September 30, 2009, we decreased credit loss reserves to \$4.1 billion as loan impairment charges were \$228 million lower than net charge-offs.

Net interest income decreased in both periods due to lower interest income, partially offset by lower interest expense due to lower average borrowings and lower average rates. The lower interest income reflects the impact of lower overall loan levels, partially offset by higher loan yields. Loan yields increased during the first nine months of 2010 as a result of repricing initiatives during the fourth quarter of 2009 and higher yields on private label receivables since September 2009 driven by the benefits from contract renegotiation with certain merchants which were partially offset by the implementation of certain provisions of the new credit card legislation including restrictions impacting repricing of delinquent accounts. We anticipate credit card loan yields in future periods may continue to be negatively impacted by various provisions of the new credit card legislation which require certain rate increases to be periodically re-evaluated. Net interest margin increased in both periods due to higher loan yields as discussed above and a lower cost of funds. The decrease in other operating income in both periods was primarily due to lower late and overlimit fees due to lower volumes, lower delinquency levels, changes in customer behavior and impacts from changes required by new credit card legislation. As compared to the year-ago periods, the new credit card legislation has resulted in significant decreases in overlimit fees as customers must now opt-in for such fees as well as restrictions on fees charged to process on-line and telephone payments. Additionally, other operating income reflects lower enhancement services revenue due to lower new origination volumes and lower loan levels. Excluding the goodwill impairment charges in the year-ago period, operating expenses increased during both periods due to higher marketing expenses, higher collection costs and higher support services from affiliates, partially offset by lower salary expenses and lower pension expenses driven by a curtailment gain. While marketing expenses continue to be higher as compared to the prior year periods, overall marketing levels continue to remain low. Goodwill impairment charges during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 reflect the impairment of all goodwill recorded at the segment level as a result of deterioration of economic and credit conditions in the United States during the first half of 2009. See Note 14, "Goodwill," in the 2009 Form 10-K for additional discussion of the goodwill impairment charges recorded during 2009.

The efficiency ratio for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was significantly impacted by the goodwill impairment recorded in the prior year-to-date period. Excluding the impact of the goodwill impairment in the year-ago period, the efficiency ratio increased 813 basis points and 596 basis points during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, as compared to the year-ago periods driven by the decrease in other operating income, primarily due to lower fee income as a result of the new credit card legislation and lower delinquency levels, as well as the impact of lower net interest income and higher operating expenses.

---

ROA during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was significantly impacted by the goodwill impairment recorded during that period. Excluding the impact of the goodwill impairment in the year-ago period, ROA improved 267 basis points and 291 basis points during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, as compared to the year-ago periods primarily due to the impact of the higher profit before tax in the current periods, driven by the lower loan impairment charges in both periods as discussed above, partially offset by the impact of lower average receivable levels as discussed below.

On May 22, 2009, the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009 (the "CARD Act") was signed into law and we have implemented all of its provisions. The CARD Act has required us to make changes to our business practices, and will likely require us and our competitors to manage risk differently than has historically been the case. Pricing, underwriting and product changes have either been implemented or are under analysis to partially mitigate the impact of the new legislation. Although we continue to believe the implementation of the new rules is likely to have a material adverse financial impact to us, the full impact of the CARD Act remains uncertain at this time as it will ultimately depend upon successful implementation of our strategies, consumer behavior and the actions of our competitors. Although our estimates are subject to change as we finalize strategies and better understand customer behavior and competitors' actions, we currently estimate that the impact of the CARD Act including the mitigating actions referred to above could be a reduction in revenue net of credit loss provision of approximately \$200 million to \$250 million during 2010, the substantial majority of which began in the second half of the year.

Customer loans Customer loans for our Card and Retail Services segment can be analyzed as follows:

	September 30, 2010	Increases (Decreases)			
		June 30, 2010		December 31, 2009	
		\$	%	\$	%
		(dollars are in millions)			
Credit card	\$19,288	\$(679)	(3.4)%	\$(3,856)	(16.7)%
Private label	12,855	(327)	(2.5)	(2,770)	(17.7)
Other	81	(7)	(8.0)	(23)	(22.1)
Total loans	\$32,224	\$(1,013)	(3.0)%	\$(6,649)	(17.1)%

Customer loans decreased to \$32.2 billion at September 30, 2010 as compared to \$33.2 billion at June 30, 2010 and \$38.9 billion at December 31, 2009 reflecting fewer active customer accounts, primarily in our prime credit card and private label loan portfolios and the impact of actions taken to manage risk. The decrease also reflects an increased focus by consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt. In 2008, we identified certain segments of our credit card portfolio which have been the most impacted by the housing and economic conditions and we stopped all new account originations in those market segments. Based on recent performance trends which began in the second half of 2009, we increased direct marketing mailings and new customer account originations for portions of our non-prime credit card portfolio which will likely result in lower run-off of credit card loans from attrition through the remainder of 2010. However, we expect a certain level of attrition will continue as credit card loans at September 30, 2010 include \$4.5 billion associated with certain segments of our portfolio for which we no longer originate new accounts and private label loans include \$905 million associated with merchants for which we no longer finance new purchases. As compared to December 31, 2009, the lower loan balances also reflect seasonal paydowns earlier in the year.

See "Receivables Review" for additional discussion of the decreases in our receivable portfolios.

Performance Trends The following is additional key performance data related to our Card and Retail Services portfolios. The information is based on IFRS Management Basis results.



Our Cards and Retail Services portfolios consist of three key segments. The non-prime portfolios are primarily originated through direct mail channels (the “Non-prime Portfolio”). The prime portfolio consists primarily of General Motors, Union Privilege and Retail Services receivables (the “Prime Portfolio”). These receivables are

---

primarily considered prime at origination, however the credit profile of some customers will subsequently change due to changes in customer circumstances. The other portfolio is comprised of several run-off portfolios and receivables originated under alternative marketing programs such as third party turndown programs (the "Other Portfolio"). The Other Portfolio includes certain adjustments not allocated to either the Non-prime or Prime Portfolios. The Other Portfolio contains both prime and non-prime receivables.

The following table includes key financial metrics for our Card and Retail Services business:

	Quarter Ended					Change between Sept. 30, 2010 and Dec. 31, 2009
	Sept. 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	Mar. 31, 2010	Dec. 31, 2009	Sept. 30, 2009	
(dollars are in millions)						
Receivables:						
Non-prime	\$8,056	\$8,235	\$8,632	\$9,462	\$9,951	(14.9)%
Prime	22,079	22,831	24,068	26,806	26,753	(17.6)
Other	2,089	2,171	2,287	2,605	2,619	(19.8)
Total	\$32,224	\$33,237	\$34,987	\$38,873	\$39,323	(17.1)%
Net Interest Margin:						
Non-prime	20.81%	20.03%	21.04%	20.18%	20.17%	3.1%
Prime	10.84	10.49	10.84	9.67	9.71	12.1
Other	20.04	24.44	20.15	17.68	15.77	13.3
Total	13.93%	13.77%	13.97%	12.85%	12.79%	8.4%
Dollars of Delinquency:						
Non-prime	\$539	\$603	\$787	\$975	\$1,006	(44.7)%
Prime	819	921	1,027	1,222	1,250	(33.0)
Other	138	152	195	241	241	(42.7)
Total	\$1,496	\$1,676	\$2,009	\$2,438	\$2,497	(38.6)%

As previously discussed, customer loans have decreased by 17 percent as compared to December 31, 2009. The Prime Portfolio has decreased at a faster rate than the Non-Prime Portfolio since December 2009 due to a higher seasonal impact of the Prime Portfolio as loans in this portfolio tend to have higher spending levels in the fourth quarter which are paid off during the first quarter.

Net interest margin for both the Non-prime and Prime Portfolios continues to remain strong as a result of repricing initiatives during the fourth quarter of 2009, partially offset by the implementation of certain provisions of the CARD Act. While the increase in net interest margin for both portfolios has been impacted by the implementation of certain provisions of the CARD Act, including restrictions on the repricing of delinquent accounts effective in February 2010, the impact has been more pronounced in the Non-prime Portfolio as a greater proportion of account holders in this portfolio have benefited from these restrictions.

While we continue to see improvements in credit performance across the Cards and Retail Services segment during the first nine months of 2010, the Non-prime Portfolio credit performance has shown improvements to a greater degree relative to our Prime Portfolio through this stage of the economic cycle. Dollars of delinquency and net charge-off dollars in the Non-prime Portfolio have improved at a faster rate than in our Prime Portfolio as non-prime customers typically have lower home ownership and smaller credit lines which have lower minimum payment

requirements.

The trends discussed above are at a point in time. Given the volatile economic conditions, there can be no certainty such trends will continue in the future.

---

Consumer Segment The following table summarizes the IFRS Management Basis results for our Consumer segment:

Three Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009	Increase (Decrease)	
			Amount	%
	(dollars are in millions)			
Net interest income	\$599	\$727	\$(128)	(17.7)%
Other operating income	(4)	30	(34)	(100.0+)
Total operating income	595	757	(162)	(21.4)
Loan impairment charges	1,402	1,753	(351)	(20.0)
Operating expenses	(807)	(996)	189	19.0
Profit (loss) before tax	222	230	(8)	(3.5)
Net interest margin, annualized	3.80%	3.60%	—	—
Efficiency ratio	37.31	30.38	—	—
Return (after-tax) on average assets	(4.22)	(4.10)	—	—
Balances at end of period:				
Customer loans	\$61,258	\$78,811	\$(17,553)	(22.3)%
Assets	61,471	76,001	(14,530)	(19.1)

Nine Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009	Increase (Decrease)	
			Amount	%
	(dollars are in millions)			
Net interest income	\$1,763	\$2,360	\$(597)	(25.3)%
Other operating income	24	22	2	9.1
Total operating income	1,787	2,382	(595)	(25.0)
Loan impairment charges	4,484	6,004	(1,520)	(25.3)
Operating expenses	(2,697)	(3,622)	925	25.5
Profit (loss) before tax	655	957	(302)	(31.6)
Net interest margin, annualized	3.54%	3.73%	—	—
Efficiency ratio	36.65	40.18	—	—
Return (after-tax) on average assets	(4.34)	(4.89)	—	—

Our Consumer segment reported a lower loss before tax during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the year-ago periods due to lower loan impairment charges and lower operating expenses, partially offset by lower net interest income and, in the three month period, lower other operating income.

Loan impairment charges decreased significantly during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the year-ago periods as discussed below.

- Loan impairment charges in our Mortgage Services business decreased in both periods reflecting lower loan levels as the portfolio continues to liquidate, lower delinquency levels as compared to the year-ago periods, improvements in economic conditions since the year-ago periods and a higher percentage of charge-offs that were on first lien loans which generally have lower loss severities than second lien loans. The decreases in both periods also reflect lower loss estimates on TDR Loans, partially offset by the impact of elevated unemployment levels and lower receivable payments. Total loss severities have improved in



both periods as compared to the year-ago periods as severities on foreclosed loans were lower as home prices stabilized in many markets and began to recover in others as compared to prior year levels. Improvements in total loss severities since the year-ago periods also reflect an increase in the number of properties for which we accepted a deed-in-lieu and an increase in the number of short sales, both of which result in lower losses compared to foreclosed loans.

- Loan impairment charges in our Consumer Lending business decreased in both periods reflecting lower loan levels as both the real estate secured and personal non-credit card loan portfolios continue to liquidate, lower delinquency levels as compared to the year-ago periods and improvements in economic conditions since the year-ago periods. The decrease in loan impairment charges for real estate secured loans also reflects a higher percentage of charge-offs on first lien loans which generally have lower loss severities than second lien loans. Total loss severities have improved in both periods as compared to the year-ago periods as severities on foreclosed loans were lower as home prices stabilized in many markets and began to recover in others as compared to prior year levels. Improvements in total loss severities since the year-ago periods also reflect an increase in the number of properties for which we accepted a deed-in-lieu and an increase in the number of short sales, both of which result in lower losses compared to foreclosed loans. The decreases in both periods also reflect lower loss estimates on TDR Loans, partially offset by lower loan prepayments, portfolio seasoning and higher levels of unemployment. The decrease in loan impairment charges for personal non-credit card loans reflects lower loan levels, lower delinquency levels and improvements in economic conditions since the year-ago periods as well as during the three months ended September 30, 2010 lower reserve requirements on TDR Loans.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, credit loss reserves decreased to \$5.8 billion as loan impairment charges were \$1.4 billion lower than net charge-offs. During the nine months ended September 30, 2009, credit loss reserves increased to \$10.4 billion as loan impairment charges were \$570 million greater than net charge-offs. Credit loss reserves since September 31, 2009 were significantly impacted by the December 2009 Charge-off Policy Changes.

Net interest income decreased in both periods due to lower average loans as a result of liquidation, risk mitigation efforts and lower overall loan yields due to lower yields in our real estate secured loan portfolio partially offset by higher yields in our personal non-credit card loan portfolio. The lower overall yields on our loan portfolio reflect the impact of the December 2009 Charge-off Policy Changes as real estate secured and personal non-credit card loans now charge-off earlier than in the historical period which results in all of the underlying accrued interest being reversed against net interest income upon charge-off earlier as well. Overall loan yields were also negatively impacted by a shift in loan mix to higher levels of lower yielding first lien real estate secured loans as higher yielding second lien real estate secured and personal non-credit card loans have run-off at a faster pace than first lien real estate secured loans. Lower yields in our real estate secured portfolio also reflect the impact of an increase in the expected lives of loans in payment incentive programs since September 2009, partially offset during the three month period by reduced levels of modified loans due to charge-off as well as declines in new modification volumes. Yields in our personal non-credit card portfolio increased during both periods as a result of significantly lower levels of nonaccrual loans. The decrease in net interest income was partially offset by lower interest expense due to lower average borrowings and lower average rates. The decrease in net interest margin reflects the lower loan yields as discussed above.

Other operating income decreased during the three months ended September 30, 2010 due to lower credit insurance commissions and higher losses on sales of REO properties reflecting an increase in the number of REO properties sold during the current quarter. Other operating income was essentially flat during the year-to-date period as the lower credit insurance commissions were more than offset by lower losses on sales of REO properties during the year-to-date period reflecting home price stabilization since the prior year period which continued through the first half of 2010. Stabilization in home prices results in less deterioration in value between the date we take title to the

property and when the property is ultimately sold.

Operating expenses during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 included \$134 million of costs related to the decision to discontinue new originations for all products in our Consumer Lending business and closure of the

---

Consumer Lending branch offices. In addition, we were required to perform an interim intangible asset impairment test for our remaining Consumer Lending intangible asset which resulted in an impairment charge of \$5 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. See Note 5, "Strategic Initiatives," in our 2009 Form 10-K for additional information regarding this decision. Excluding these items from the year-ago period, operating expenses remained lower, decreasing 3 percent and 20 percent during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, due to the reductions in the scope of our business operations as well as other cost containment measures and lower pension expense driven by a curtailment gain, partially offset by higher REO expenses as the number of REO properties has increased and, to a lesser extent, a higher level of expense associated with these properties as well as higher collection costs.

The efficiency ratio during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was impacted by the \$139 million in restructuring and impairment charges discussed above. Excluding the impact of the restructuring charges from the year-ago period, the efficiency ratio increased 693 basis points and 231 basis points during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, as the decrease in net interest income due to lower loan levels and lower yields outpaced the decrease in operating expenses. The increase was more pronounced during the three months ended September 30, 2010 due to the higher losses on sales of REO properties during the quarter.

ROA improved during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 primarily due to a lower net loss than the year-ago periods as discussed above and the impact of lower average assets. ROA deteriorated slightly during the three month period as a result of the higher losses on sales of REO properties during the quarter.

Customer loans Customer loans for our Consumer segment can be analyzed as follows:

	September 30, 2010	Increases (Decreases) From			
		June 30, 2010		December 31, 2009	
		\$	%	\$	%
		(dollars are in millions)			
Real estate secured(1)	\$53,181	\$(2,506)	(4.5)%	\$(8,080)	(13.2)%
Personal non-credit card	8,077	(728)	(8.3)	(2,632)	(24.6)
Total customer loans	\$61,258	\$(3,234)	(5.0)%	\$(10,712)	(14.9)%

(1) Real estate secured receivables are comprised of the following:

	September 30, 2010	Increases (Decreases) From			
		June 30, 2010		December 31, 2009	
		\$	%	\$	%
		(dollars are in millions)			
Consumer Lending	\$34,661	\$(1,506)	(4.2)%	\$(4,836)	(12.2)%
Mortgage Services	18,520	(1,000)	(5.1)	(3,244)	(14.9)
Total real estate secured	\$53,181	\$(2,506)	(4.5)%	\$(8,080)	(13.2)%

Customer loans decreased to \$61.3 billion at September 30, 2010 as compared to \$64.5 billion at June 30, 2010 and \$72.0 billion at December 31, 2009 reflecting the continued liquidation of these portfolios which will continue to decline going forward. The liquidation rates in our real estate secured receivable portfolio continues to be impacted by declines in loan prepayments as fewer refinancing opportunities for our customers exist and the trends impacting the mortgage lending industry as previously discussed. Decreases as compared to December 31, 2009 also reflect seasonal paydowns earlier in the year.



See “Receivables Review” for a more detail discussion of the decreases in our receivable portfolios.

---

## Credit Quality

**Credit Loss Reserves** We maintain credit loss reserves to cover probable incurred losses of principal, accrued interest and fees, including late, overlimit and annual fees. Credit loss reserves are based on a range of estimates and are intended to be adequate but not excessive. We estimate probable losses for consumer receivables using a roll rate migration analysis that estimates the likelihood that a loan will progress through the various stages of delinquency, or buckets, and ultimately charge-off based upon recent historical performance experience of other loans in our portfolio. This analysis considers delinquency status, loss experience and severity and takes into account whether loans are in bankruptcy, have been re-aged or rewritten, or are subject to forbearance, an external debt management plan, hardship, modification, extension or deferment. Our credit loss reserves take into consideration the loss severity expected based on the underlying collateral, if any, for the loan in the event of default based on recent trends. Delinquency status may be affected by customer account management policies and practices, such as the re-age of accounts, forbearance agreements, extended payment plans, modification arrangements, external debt management programs and deferments. When customer account management policies or changes thereto, shift loans from a “higher” delinquency bucket to a “lower” delinquency bucket, this will be reflected in our roll rate statistics. To the extent that re-aged or modified accounts have a greater propensity to roll to higher delinquency buckets, this will be captured in the roll rates. Since the loss reserve is computed based on the composite of all of these calculations, this increase in roll rate will be applied to receivables in all respective delinquency buckets, which will increase the overall reserve level. In addition, loss reserves on consumer receivables are maintained to reflect our judgment of portfolio risk factors that may not be fully reflected in the statistical roll rate calculation or when historical trends are not reflective of current inherent losses in the portfolio. Portfolio risk factors considered in establishing loss reserves on consumer receivables include product mix, unemployment rates, bankruptcy trends, the credit performance of modified loans, geographic concentrations, loan product features such as adjustable rate loans, economic conditions, such as national and local trends in housing markets and interest rates, portfolio seasoning, account management policies and practices, current levels of charge-offs and delinquencies, changes in laws and regulations and other factors which can affect consumer payment patterns on outstanding receivables, such as natural disasters.

While our credit loss reserves are available to absorb losses in the entire portfolio, we specifically consider the credit quality and other risk factors for each of our products. We recognize the different inherent loss characteristics in each of our products as well as customer account management policies and practices and risk management/collection practices. We also consider key ratios in developing our overall loss reserve estimate, including reserves to nonperforming loans, reserves as a percentage of net charge-offs, reserves as a percentage of two-months-and-over contractual delinquency and months coverage ratios. Loss reserve estimates are reviewed periodically and adjustments are reported in earnings when they become known. As these estimates are influenced by factors outside of our control such as consumer payment patterns and economic conditions, there is uncertainty inherent in these estimates, making it reasonably possible that they could change.

In establishing reserve levels, given the general decline in home prices that have occurred over the past three years in the U.S., we anticipate that losses in our real estate secured receivable portfolios will continue to be incurred with greater frequency and severity than experienced prior to 2007. There is currently little secondary market liquidity for subprime mortgages. As a result of these conditions, lenders have significantly tightened underwriting standards, substantially limiting the availability of alternative and subprime mortgages. As fewer financing options currently exist in the marketplace for home buyers, properties in certain markets are remaining on the market for longer periods of time which contributes to home price depreciation. For many of our customers, the ability to refinance and access equity in their homes is no longer an option as home prices remain stagnant in many markets and have depreciated in others. These housing market trends were exacerbated by the recent economic downturn, including high levels of unemployment, and these industry trends continue to impact our portfolio. We have considered these factors in establishing our credit loss reserve levels, as appropriate. While we have noted signs of improvement in these industry and housing market trends during the first nine months of 2010 as previously discussed, it is impossible to predict

whether such improvement will continue in future periods. It is generally

---

believed that a sustained recovery of the housing market, as well as unemployment rates, is not expected to begin to occur at the earliest until late 2011.

The following table sets forth credit loss reserves for our continuing operations for the periods indicated:

	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(dollars are in millions)		
Credit loss reserves	\$6,971	\$7,398	\$9,091
Reserves as a percent of:			
Receivables(4)	10.05%	10.16%	11.13%
Net charge-offs(1)(2)	90.0	75.0	39.6(3)
Nonperforming receivables(2)(4)	92.5	100.0	102.4
Two-months-and-over contractual delinquency(4)	69.1	74.4	75.5

(1) Reserves as a percent of net charge-offs for the quarter, annualized.

(2) Ratio excludes nonperforming receivables and charge-offs associated with receivable portfolios which are considered held for sale as these receivables are carried at the lower of cost or fair value with no corresponding credit loss reserves.

(3) The December 2009 Charge-off Policy Changes as previously discussed resulted in an acceleration of charge-off for certain real estate secured and personal non credit card receivables during the fourth quarter of 2009 which would have otherwise occurred during future periods.

(4) These ratios have been significantly impacted by the increase in the level of real estate secured receivables which have been written down to the lower of cost or net realizable value less cost to sell and, therefore, do not require credit loss reserves. The following table shows these ratios excluding the receivables written down to net realizable value less cost to sell:

	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
Reserves as a percent of:			
Receivables	10.81%	10.84%	11.61%
Nonperforming receivables	195.3	202.5	161.6
Two-months-and-over contractual delinquency	116.3	121.4	103.8

Credit loss reserves at September 30, 2010 decreased as compared to June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 as we recorded provision for credit losses less than net charge-offs of \$427 million and \$2.1 billion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively. Credit loss reserves were lower for all products as compared to June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 as discussed below.

- The decrease in credit loss reserves in our core credit card receivable portfolio reflects lower loss estimates due to lower receivable levels as a result of the actions previously taken to reduce risk which has led to improved credit quality including lower delinquency levels as well as an increased focus by consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt. The decrease in credit loss reserves also reflects the impact of lower delinquency levels, including continuing improvements in early stage delinquency roll rates.

- The decrease in credit loss reserve levels in our real estate secured receivable portfolio reflects lower receivable levels as the portfolio continues to liquidate and to a lesser extent as compared to December 31, 2009, improvements in total loss severities as well as the impact of an increase of \$317 million and \$1.5 billion during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, of real estate secured receivables which are carried at the lower of cost or net realizable value less cost to sell and, therefore, no longer have credit loss reserves associated with them. As compared to December 31, 2009, credit loss reserves also reflect lower delinquency levels as the delinquent balances migrate to charge-off and are replaced by lower levels of new delinquency volume as the portfolio seasons. However, delinquency levels for real estate secured receivables increased during the third quarter consistent with seasonal patterns of higher delinquency levels in the second half of the year. The increase in delinquency levels during the third quarter did not negatively impact credit loss reserve levels as a significant portion of the increase reflects the

higher levels of receivables which no longer have credit loss reserves associated with them, as discussed above. These receivables which are currently carried at the lower of cost or fair value are generally in the process of foreclosure and will remain in our delinquency totals until we obtain title to the property. Reserve requirements for real estate secured TDR Loans were essentially flat compared to December 31, 2009 but decreased slightly during the current quarter reflecting lower new TDR Loan volumes.

- Credit loss reserve levels in our personal non-credit card portfolio decreased as a result of lower receivable levels including lower delinquency levels. Although reserve requirements on personal non-credit card TDR Loans were essentially flat during the third quarter, reserve requirements were slightly higher as compared to December 31, 2009 due to slight increases in expected loss rates.

At September 30, 2010, approximately \$4.9 billion, or 9 percent of our real estate secured receivable portfolio has been written down to net realizable value less cost to sell and, therefore, have no credit loss reserves associated with them. In addition, approximately \$8.2 billion of real estate secured receivables which have not been written down to net realizable value less cost to sell are considered TDR Loans and \$1.2 billion of non-real estate secured receivables are considered TDR Loans, which are reserved using a discounted cash flow analysis which generally results in a higher reserve requirement. As a result, 25 percent of our real estate secured receivable portfolio and 21 percent of our total receivable portfolio have either been written down to net realizable value less cost to sell or are reserved for using the TDR Loan discounted cash flow analysis.

Credit loss estimates for our core credit card receivable portfolio relate primarily to our non-prime credit card receivable portfolio. Our non-prime credit card receivable product is structured for customers with low credit scores. The products have lower credit lines and are priced for higher risk. The deterioration of the housing markets in the U.S. over the past three years has affected the credit performance of our entire credit card portfolio, particularly in states which previously had experienced the greatest home price appreciation. Our non-prime credit card receivable portfolio concentration in these states is approximately proportional to the U.S. population, but a substantial majority of our non-prime customers are renters who are, on the whole, demonstrating a better payment history on their loans than homeowners in the portfolio as a whole. Furthermore, our lower credit scoring customers within our non-prime portfolio, which have an even lower home ownership rate, have shown the least deterioration through this stage of the economic cycle. In addition, through September 30, 2010, high unemployment rates have resulted in less credit deterioration in the non-prime portfolios as compared to prime portfolios. Should these trends continue, credit loss reserves for our credit card receivables will continue to decrease. However, there can be no certainty that these trends will continue.

Reserves as a percentage of receivables decreased to 10.05 percent at September 30, 2010 compared to 10.16 percent at June 30, 2010 and 11.13 percent at December 31, 2009 driven by significantly lower delinquency levels in our credit card and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios as discussed more fully below which resulted in the decreases in our credit loss reserves outpacing the decreases in receivable levels. This ratio was also impacted by increases in the level of real estate secured receivables which have been written down to the lower of cost or net

realizable value less cost to sell and do not require corresponding credit loss reserves. These receivables increased by \$317 million and \$1.5 billion as compared to June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.

Reserves as a percentage of net charge-offs (quarter net charge-offs, annualized) were 90.0 percent at September 30, 2010 compared to 75.0 percent at June 30, 2010 and 39.6 percent at December 31, 2009. Reserves as a percentage of net charge-offs (quarter net charge-offs, annualized) at December 31, 2009 was significantly impacted by the December 31, 2009 Charge-off Policy Change. This ratio increased as compared to June 30, 2010 as dollars of net charge-offs decreased at a faster pace than reserves during the three months ended September 30, 2010 as the lower delinquency levels we experienced earlier during the year have resulted in lower net charge-off levels in the current quarter.

Reserves as a percentage of nonperforming receivables was 92.5 percent at September 30, 2010 compared to 100.0 percent at June 30, 2010 and 102.4 percent at December 31, 2009. As compared to June 30, 2010, the decrease reflects the impact of higher levels of nonperforming receivables, primarily in first lien real estate secured receivables due to seasonal trends of higher delinquency levels in the second half of the year. As compared to

---

December 31, 2009, the decrease reflects the higher levels of nonperforming real estate secured receivables carried at the lower of cost or net realizable value less cost to sell which do not require corresponding credit loss reserves.

Reserves as a percentage of two-months-and-over contractual delinquency decreased to 69.1 percent at September 30, 2010 compared to 74.4 percent at June 30, 2010 and 75.5 percent at December 31, 2009. This ratio has been significantly impacted by the increase in the level of real estate secured receivables which have been written down to the lower of cost or net realizable value less cost to sell and do not require corresponding credit loss reserves. Excluding these receivables from this calculation for all periods, reserves as a percentage of two-months-and-over contractual delinquency totaled 116.3 percent at September 30, 2010 compared to 121.4 percent at June 2010 and 103.8 percent at December 2009. As compared to December 31, 2009, the ratio increased as dollars of delinquency decreased at a faster pace than reserve levels due to higher reserve requirements on TDR Loans. As compared to June 30, 2010, the ratio decreased as a result of higher delinquency levels in our real estate secured receivable portfolio in the current quarter while overall reserve levels declined.

The following table summarizes the changes in credit loss reserves by product during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009:

	Real Estate Secured		Personal		Total
	First Lien	Second Lien	Credit Card	Non-Credit Card	
Three months ended September 30, 2010:					
Balances at beginning of period	\$3,386	\$1,097	\$1,294	\$1,621	\$7,398
Provision for credit losses	898	147	201	263	1,509
Charge-offs	(908)	(315)	(417)	(477)	(2,117)
Recoveries	12	15	58	96	181
Net charge-offs	(896)	(300)	(359)	(381)	(1,936)
Balance at end of period	\$3,388	\$944	\$1,136	\$1,503	\$6,971
Three months ended September 30, 2009:					
Balances at beginning of period	\$5,848	\$1,961	\$2,067	\$2,646	\$12,522
Provision for credit losses	587	433	421	676	2,117
Charge-offs	(574)	(500)	(583)	(763)	(2,420)
Recoveries	10	11	51	59	131
Net charge-offs	(564)	(489)	(532)	(704)	(2,289)
Receivables transferred to held for sale					
Balance at end of period	\$5,871	\$1,905	\$1,956	\$2,618	\$12,350
Nine months ended September 30, 2010:					
Balances at beginning of period	\$3,997	\$1,430	\$1,816	\$1,848	\$9,091
Provision for credit losses	2,419	619	680	1,252	4,970
Charge-offs	(3,060)	(1,158)	(1,537)	(1,867)	(7,622)
Recoveries	32	53	177	270	532
Net charge-offs	(3,028)	(1,105)	(1,360)	(1,597)	(7,090)
Balance at end of period	\$3,388	\$944	\$1,136	\$1,503	\$6,971
Nine months ended September 30, 2009:					
Balances at beginning of period	\$4,998	\$2,115	\$2,249	\$2,668	\$12,030
Provision for credit losses	2,602	1,173	1,350	2,041	7,166
Charge-offs	(1,744)	(1,413)	(1,800)	(2,259)	(7,216)
Recoveries	15	30	157	168	370
Net charge-offs	(1,729)	(1,383)	(1,643)	(2,091)	(6,846)

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Receivables transferred to held for sale	—	—	—	—	—
Balance at end of period	\$5,871	\$1,905	\$1,956	\$2,618	\$12,350

---



Delinquency The following table summarizes dollars of two-months-and-over contractual delinquency and two-months-and-over contractual delinquency as a percent of consumer receivables and receivables held for sale (“delinquency ratio”):

	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(dollars are in millions)		
Dollars of Contractual Delinquency:			
Continuing operations:			
Core receivables:			
Credit card receivables	\$673	\$752	\$1,211
Non-core receivable portfolios:			
Real estate secured(1)(2)(3)	8,494	8,237	9,395
Personal non-credit card	921	954	1,432
Total non-core receivables	9,415	9,191	10,827
Total – continuing operations	10,088	9,943	12,038
Discontinued operations	—	125	252
Total receivables	\$10,088	\$10,068	\$12,290
Delinquency Ratio:			
Continuing operations:			
Core receivables:			
Credit card receivables	6.81%	7.44%	10.41%
Non-core receivable portfolios:			
Real estate secured(1)(2)(3)	16.45	15.23	15.78
Personal non-credit card	11.78	11.19	13.65
Total non-core receivables	15.84	14.68	15.46
Total – continuing operations	14.55	13.67	14.74
Discontinued operations	—	4.31	5.62
Total receivables	14.55%	13.31%	14.27%

- (1) Real estate secured dollars of two-months-and-over contractual delinquency and as a percentage of consumer receivables and receivables held for sale for our Mortgage Services and Consumer Lending businesses are comprised of the following:

	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(dollars are in millions)		
Dollars of Contractual Delinquency:			
Mortgage Services:			
First lien	\$2,734	\$2,682	\$2,992
Second lien	266	276	381
Total Mortgage Services	\$3,000	\$2,958	\$3,373
Consumer Lending:			
First lien	\$5,021	\$4,796	\$5,380
Second lien	473	483	642
Total Consumer Lending	\$5,494	\$5,279	\$6,022
Delinquency Ratio:			
Mortgage Services:			
First lien	18.80%	17.51%	17.62%
Second lien	11.38	11.01	12.87
Total Mortgage Services	17.77%	16.59%	16.91%
Consumer Lending:			
First lien	16.11%	14.80%	15.37%
Second lien	13.23	12.53	14.03
Total Consumer Lending	15.81%	14.56%	15.21%

- (2) The following reflects dollars of contractual delinquency and the delinquency ratio for interest-only, ARM and stated income real estate secured receivables:

	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(dollars are in millions)		
Dollars of Contractual Delinquency:			
Interest-only loans	\$412	\$394	\$447
ARM loans	2,130	2,174	2,536
Stated income loans	722	737	861
Delinquency Ratio:			
Interest-only loans	28.50%	25.28%	24.47%
ARM loans	26.66	25.38	25.76
Stated income loans	24.77	23.46	23.42

- (3) At September 30, 2010, June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, real estate secured delinquency includes \$4.1 billion, \$3.8 billion and \$3.3 billion, respectively, of receivables that are carried at the lower of cost or net realizable value less cost to sell and are generally in the process of foreclosure. See "Real Estate Owned" for additional information regarding our REO properties.

Core credit card receivables Dollars of delinquency for our core credit card receivables decreased as compared to June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 due to lower receivable levels due to the actions previously taken to tighten underwriting and reduce the risk profile of the portfolio. Customer payment rates continue to be strong resulting from an increased focus by consumers to reduce outstanding credit card debt. The lower delinquency levels also reflect the impact of improved delinquency roll rates, partially offset by seasonal trends for higher delinquency during the second half of the year. As compared to December 31, 2009, the lower delinquency levels also reflect seasonal paydowns earlier in the year, a significant portion of which was on delinquent accounts.

---

The delinquency ratio for our credit card receivable portfolio at September 30, 2010 decreased 63 basis points as compared to June 30, 2010 and 360 basis points as compared to December 31, 2009 as dollars of credit card delinquency decreased at a faster pace than receivable levels.

**Non-core receivable portfolios** Dollars of delinquency for our non-core receivable portfolios increased \$224 million since June 30, 2010 reflecting higher dollars of delinquency for our real estate secured receivable portfolios partially offset by lower dollars of delinquency for personal non-credit card receivables. The increase in dollars of delinquency for real estate secured receivables during the third quarter reflects portfolio seasoning and seasonal trends for higher delinquency during the second half of the year. Delinquency levels for real estate secured receivables were also impacted by the slowing pace of improvements in economic conditions and continuing high unemployment levels. Of the \$257 million increase in dollars of delinquency for real estate secured receivables, \$246 million of this increase relates to an increase in delinquency associated with receivables carried at the lower of cost or net realizable value less cost to sell due to an increase in late-stage delinquency roll rates as well as lower subsequent charge-offs on accounts which have been carried at net realizable value less cost to sell for a period of time. These receivables which are currently carried at the lower of cost or net realizable value less cost to sell are generally in the process of foreclosure and will remain in our delinquency totals until we obtain title to the property. The increase in dollars of delinquency for real estate secured receivables was partially offset by lower receivable levels as the portfolio continues to liquidate. Lower delinquency levels in our personal non-credit card receivable portfolio as compared to June 30, 2010 also reflect lower receivable levels and delinquent balances continue to migrate to charge-off, partially offset by seasonal trends for higher delinquency during the second half of the year. We also believe dollars of delinquency in all of our non-core receivable portfolios have been positively impacted as a result of the risk mitigation actions we have taken since 2007 to tighten underwriting and reduce the risk profile of these portfolios.

The decrease in dollars of delinquency since December 31, 2009 for our non-core receivable portfolio reflect lower receivable levels as discussed above, seasonal paydowns earlier in the year and the impact of improved economic conditions since year-end 2009. As compared to December 31, 2009, delinquent accounts which have migrated to charge-off have been replaced with lower levels of new delinquency volume as the portfolios continue to season. We believe the decrease in dollars of delinquency in our non-core receivable portfolios also reflects the impact of the risk mitigation actions as discussed above. The decreases in dollars of delinquency since December 2009 were partially offset by the impact of continuing high unemployment rates.

The delinquency ratio for real estate secured receivables increased as compared to June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 reflecting the continued liquidation of the portfolio and, as compared to June 2010, the impact of higher dollars of delinquency. Our personal non-credit card receivable portfolio reported lower delinquency ratios as compared to June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 reflecting the lower delinquency levels as discussed above which has declined at a faster pace than receivable levels.

**Net Charge-offs of Consumer Receivables** The table below summarizes dollars of net charge-off of consumer receivables for the quarter and as a percent of average consumer receivables, annualized, ("net charge-off ratio"). During a quarter that receivables are transferred to receivables held for sale, those receivables continue to be included in the average consumer receivable balances prior to such transfer and any charge-offs related to those receivables prior to such transfer remain in our net charge-off totals. However, for periods following the transfer to the held for sale classification, the receivables are no longer included in average consumer receivable balance as such loans are carried at the lower of cost or fair value and there are no longer any charge-offs reported associated with these receivables.

The dollars of net charge-offs and the net-charge-off ratio for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and June 30, 2010 are not comparable to the historical period as comparability has been impacted by the December 2009 Charge-off Policy Changes for real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivables. Charge-off for these receivables under the revised policy is recognized sooner for these products than during the historical period.

Three Months Ended(1)	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	September 30, 2009
	(dollars are in millions)		
Net Charge-off dollars:			
Continuing operations:			
Core receivables:			
Credit card receivables	\$359	\$474	\$532
Non-core receivable portfolios:			
Real estate secured(2)(3)	1,196	1,452	1,053
Personal non-credit card	381	539	704
Total non-core receivables	1,577	1,991	1,757
Total – continuing operations	1,936	2,465	2,289
Discontinued operations	—	37	111
Total receivables	\$1,936	\$2,502	\$2,400
Net Charge-off ratio:			
Continuing operations:			
Core receivables:			
Credit card receivables	14.26%	18.14%	17.95%
Non-core receivable portfolios:			
Real estate secured(2)(3)	9.05	10.47	6.40
Personal non-credit card	18.60	24.03	21.46
Total non-core receivables	10.33	12.36	8.90
Total receivables – continuing operations	10.88%	13.16%	10.08%
Real estate secured net charge-offs and REO expense as a percent of average real estate secured receivables for continuing operations	9.61%	10.76%	6.58%

(1) The net charge-off ratio for all quarterly periods presented is net charge-offs for the quarter, annualized, as a percentage of average consumer receivables for the quarter.

(2) Real estate secured net charge-off dollars, annualized, as a percentage of average consumer receivables for our Mortgage Services and Consumer Lending businesses are comprised of the following:

Three Months Ended	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	September 30, 2009
	(dollars are in millions)		
Net charge-off dollars:			
Mortgage Services:			
First lien	\$360	\$452	\$331
Second lien	134	157	247
Total Mortgage Services	\$494	\$609	\$578
Consumer Lending:			
First lien	\$537	\$643	\$233
Second lien	165	200	242

Total Consumer Lending	\$702	\$843	\$475
Net charge-off ratio:			
Mortgage Services:			
First lien	9.62%	11.45%	6.96%
Second lien	22.16	24.25	28.09
Total Mortgage Services	11.36%	13.26%	10.27%
Consumer Lending:			
First lien	6.75%	7.78%	2.46%
Second lien	17.80	19.73	18.20
Total Consumer Lending	7.91%	9.09%	4.39%

(3) Net charge-off dollars and the net charge-off ratio for ARM loans are as follows:

Three Months Ended	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	September 30, 2009
	(dollars are in millions)		
Net charge-off dollars — ARM Loans	\$282	\$325	\$311
Net charge-off ratio — ARM Loans	13.63%	14.59%	10.73%

Core credit card receivables Dollars of net charge-offs for our core credit card receivables decreased as compared to the prior quarter and prior year quarter reflecting lower average receivable levels as previously discussed, including lower delinquency levels and lower levels of personal bankruptcy filings, partially offset by continued high levels of unemployment. Lower dollars of net charge-offs as compared to both the prior and prior year quarter also reflect improvements in economic conditions, although the pace of improvement slowed during the current quarter.

The net charge-off ratio for our credit card receivable portfolio decreased 388 basis points and 369 basis points as compared to the prior quarter and prior year quarter as the decrease in dollars of net charge-offs outpaced the decrease in average receivables.

Non-core receivable portfolios Dollars of net charge-offs for our non-core receivable portfolio decreased as compared to the prior quarter reflecting lower average receivable levels and lower delinquency levels for our personal non-credit card receivable portfolio.

As compared to the prior year quarter, dollars of net charge-offs for our non-core receivable portfolio decreased reflecting lower average receivable levels and lower delinquency levels for both our real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios. Real estate secured receivable net charge-off dollars as compared to the prior year quarter also reflect a higher percentage of charge-offs on first lien loans which generally have lower loss severities than second lien loans. Additionally, lower dollars of net charge-offs for real estate secured receivables reflect lower total loss severities as loss severities on foreclosed loans improved as compared to the prior year quarter due to stabilization in the housing markets since the prior year. Improvements in total loss severities as compared to the prior year quarter also reflect an increase in the number of properties for which we accepted a

deed-in-lieu and an increase in the number of short sales, both of which result in lower losses compared to foreclosed loans. Also dollars of net charge-offs for our real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivable portfolios as compared to the prior year quarter have been impacted by the December 2009 Charge-off Policy Changes, which resulted in charge-offs being recognized sooner for these products than during the year-ago period.

The net charge-off ratio for our non-core receivable portfolios decreased as compared to the prior quarter as the decrease in dollars of net charge-offs as discussed above outpaced the decrease in average receivables. As compared to the prior year quarter, the net charge-off ratio increased reflecting the impact of the new underlying charge-off trend as a result of the December 2009 Charge-off Policy Change.

Nonperforming Assets Nonperforming assets are summarized in the following table:

	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(dollars are in millions)		
Continuing operations:			
Core receivables:			
Credit card receivables (accruing receivables 90 or more days delinquent)(3)	\$486	\$554	\$890
Non-core nonaccrual receivable portfolios (nonaccrual receivables)(1):			
Real estate secured(2)(5)	6,418	6,213	6,995
Personal non-credit card	634	637	998
Total non-core receivable portfolios	7,052	6,850	7,993
Total nonperforming receivables	7,538	7,404	8,883
Real estate owned	908	787	592
Total nonperforming assets – continuing operations	8,446	8,191	9,475
Discontinued operations	—	125	252
Total nonperforming assets	\$8,446	\$8,316	\$9,727
Credit loss reserves as a percent of nonperforming receivables(4)	92.5%	100.0%	102.4%

(1) Nonaccrual receivables reflect all loans which are 90 or more days contractually delinquent. Nonaccrual receivables do not include receivables which have made qualifying payments and have been re-aged and the contractual delinquency status reset to current as such activity, in our judgment, evidences continued payment probability. If a re-aged loan subsequently experiences payment default and becomes 90 or more days contractually delinquent, it will be reported as nonaccrual.

(2) Nonaccrual real estate secured receivables including held for sale are comprised of the following:

	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(in millions)		
Real estate secured:			
Closed-end:			
First lien	\$5,925	\$5,721	\$6,304
Second lien	340	318	510
Revolving:			
First lien	4	3	2

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Second lien	149	171	179
Total real estate secured	\$6,418	\$6,213	\$6,995

(3) Consistent with industry practice, accruing consumer receivables 90 or more days delinquent includes credit card receivables.

(4) Ratio represents credit loss reserves divided by the corresponding outstanding balance of total nonperforming receivables. Nonperforming receivables include accruing loans contractually past due 90 days or more, but excludes nonperforming receivables associated with

receivable portfolios which are considered held for sale as these receivables are carried at the lower of cost or fair value with no corresponding credit loss reserves.

(5) At September 30, 2010, June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, non-accrual real estate secured receivables includes \$4.0 billion, \$3.8 billion and \$3.3 billion, respectively, of receivables that are carried at the lower of cost or net realizable value less cost to sell.

Total nonperforming receivables increased since June 30, 2010 reflecting higher delinquency levels for real estate secured receivables during the third quarter as discussed above. As compared to December 31, 2009, total nonperforming receivables decreased as a result of the lower delinquency levels during the first nine months of 2010 as well as the impact of lower receivable levels. Higher levels of real estate owned at September 30, 2010 reflects improvements in processing foreclosure activities following backlogs throughout 2009 in foreclosure proceedings and actions by local governments and certain states that have lengthened the foreclosure process. Real estate nonaccrual receivables include stated income loans at our Mortgage Services business of \$593 million, \$603 million and \$683 million at September 30, 2010, June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.

As discussed more fully below, we have numerous account management policies and practices to assist our customers in accordance with their individual needs, including either temporarily or permanently modifying loan terms. Loans which have been granted a permanent modification, a twelve-month or longer modification, or two or more consecutive six-month modifications are considered troubled debt restructurings for purposes of determining loss reserve estimates.

The following table summarizes TDR Loans which are shown as nonperforming receivables in the table above:

	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(in millions)		
Continuing operations:			
Real estate secured	\$1,734	\$1,547	\$1,607
Credit card	23	29	36
Personal non-credit card	102	95	106
Total – continuing operations	1,859	1,671	1,749
Discontinued operations	—	11	20
Total	\$1,859	\$1,682	\$1,769

For additional information related to TDR Loans, see Note 5, “Receivables,” to our accompanying consolidated financial statements.

**Customer Account Management Policies and Practices** Our policies and practices for the collection of consumer receivables, including our customer account management policies and practices, permit us to take extraordinary action with respect to delinquent or troubled accounts based on criteria which, in our judgment, evidence continued payment



probability as well as in the case of real estate secured receivables, a continuing of desire for borrowers to stay in their homes. The policies and practices are designed to manage customer relationships, maximize collection opportunities and avoid foreclosure if economically expedient. Currently, we utilize the following account management actions:

- **Modification** – Management action that results in a change to the terms and conditions of the loan either temporarily or permanently without changing the delinquency status of the loan. Modifications may include changes to one or more terms of the loan including, but not limited to, a change in interest rate, extension of the amortization period, reduction in payment amount and partial forgiveness or deferment of principal.
  - **Collection Re-age** – Management action that results in the resetting of the contractual delinquency status of an account to current but does not involve any changes to the original terms and conditions of the loan. If an account which has been re-aged subsequently experiences a payment default, it will again become contractually delinquent. We use collection re-aging as an account and customer management tool in an effort to increase
-

the cash flow from our account relationships, and accordingly, the application of this tool is subject to complexities, variations and changes from time to time.

- **Modification Re-age** – Management action that results in a change to the original terms and conditions of the loan, either temporarily or permanently, and also resets the contractual delinquency status of an account to current as discussed above. If an account which has been re-aged subsequently experiences a payment default, it will again become contractually delinquent.

Our policies and practices for managing accounts are continually reviewed and assessed to assure that they meet the goals outlined above, and accordingly, we make exceptions to these general policies and practices from time to time. In addition, exceptions to these policies and practices may be made in specific situations in response to legal or regulatory agreements or orders. As a result of our on-going review, we have begun implementing changes to our policies and procedures to increase consistency in our policies for all products. Effective during the second quarter of 2010, we implemented changes to our policies and procedures for the real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivables in our Consumer Lending and Mortgage Services businesses. The adoption of these policies and procedures did not have a material impact on our financial position or results of operations. We expect to adopt similar policies and procedures in our Card and Retail Services business during the second half of 2011. Until then, credit card receivables in our Card and Retail Services business will continue to follow the policies and practices outlined in our 2009 Form 10-K.

See our 2009 Form 10-K for information regarding our policies and procedures prior to the second quarter of 2010 for our Consumer Lending and Mortgage Services businesses as well as the ongoing policies and procedures for our other products and businesses.

The table below summarizes our policies and procedures for account management actions implemented during the second quarter of 2010 for the real estate secured and personal non-credit card receivables in our Consumer Lending and Mortgage Services businesses.

	Real Estate(1)	Personal Non-Credit Card(1)
Minimum time since prior account management action	6 or 12 months depending on type of account management action	6 months
Minimum time since account opened	9 months	9 months
Minimum qualifying monthly payments required	2 in 60 days after approval	2 in 60 days after approval
Maximum number of account management actions	5 in 5 years	5 in 5 years

(1) We employ account modification, re-aging and other customer account management policies and practices as flexible customer account management tools and the specific criteria may vary by product line. In addition to variances in criteria by product, criteria may also vary within a product line. Also, we continually review our product lines and assess modification and re-aging criteria and, as such, they are subject to revision or exceptions from time to time. Accordingly, the description of our account modification and re-aging policies or practices provided in this table should be taken only as general guidance to the modification and re-aging approach taken within each product line, and not as assurance that accounts not meeting these criteria will never be modified or re-aged, that every account meeting these criteria will in fact be modified or re-aged or that these criteria will not change or that exceptions will not be made in individual cases. In addition, in an effort to determine optimal customer account

management strategies, management may run more conservative tests on some or all accounts in a product line for fixed periods of time in order to evaluate the impact of alternative policies and practices.

As a result of the expansion of our modification and re-age programs in response to the marketplace conditions previously described, modification and re-age volumes since January 2007 for real estate secured receivables have increased. Since January 2007, we have cumulatively modified and/or re-aged approximately 344,500 real estate secured loans with an aggregate outstanding principal balance of \$40.6 billion at the time of modification and/or re-age under our foreclosure avoidance programs and a proactive ARM reset modification program described below. These totals include approximately 70,700 real estate secured loans with an outstanding principal balance of \$10.8 billion that received two or more modifications since January 2007 and, therefore, may be classified as TDR

---

Loans. The following provides information about the subsequent performance of all real estate secured loans granted a modification or re-age since January 2007:

Status as of September 30, 2010	Number of Loans	Outstanding Receivable Balance at Time of Modification Action
Current or less than 30-days delinquent	42%	41%
30- to 59-days delinquent	9	9
60-days or more delinquent	19	23
Paid-in-full	7	6
Charged-off, transferred to real estate owned or sold	23	21
	100%	100%

The following table shows the number of real estate secured accounts remaining in our portfolio as well as the outstanding receivable balance of these accounts as of the period indicated for loans that we have taken an account management action by the type of action taken:

	Number of Accounts(1)		Outstanding Receivable Balance(1)(4)	
	Consumer Lending (accounts are in thousands)	Mortgage Services	Consumer Lending (dollars are in millions)	Mortgage Services
September 30, 2010:				
Collection re-age only	87.2	33.4	\$7,402	\$2,991
Modification only(2)	13.6	8.5	1,592	991
Modification re-age	67.3	48.3	8,381	5,989
Total loans modified and/or re-aged(3)	168.1	90.2	\$17,375	\$9,971
June 30, 2010:				
Collection re-age only	88.3	34.9	\$7,535	\$3,156
Modification only(2)	15.9	9.4	1,934	1,120
Modification re-age	66.5	49.7	8,375	6,255
Total loans modified and/or re-aged(3)	170.7	94.0	\$17,844	\$10,531
December 31, 2009:				
Collection re-age only	91.3	36.5	\$7,779	\$3,331
Modification only(2)	16.6	10.6	2,096	1,274
Modification re-age	67.5	53.1	8,805	6,917
Total loans modified and/or re-aged(3)	175.4	100.2	\$18,680	\$11,522

(1) Loans which have been granted a permanent modification, a twelve-month or longer modification, or two or more consecutive six-month modifications are considered troubled debt restructurings for purposes of determining loss reserves. For additional information related to our troubled debt restructurings, see Note 5, "Receivables," in the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

(2) Includes loans that have been modified under a proactive ARM reset modification program described below.

- (3) The following table provides information at September 30, 2010 regarding the delinquency status of real estate secured receivables remaining in the portfolio that were granted modifications of loan terms and/or re-aged:

	Number of Accounts		Outstanding Receivable Balance	
	Consumer Lending	Mortgage Services	Consumer Lending	Mortgage Services
September 30, 2010:				
Current or less than 30-days delinquent	62%	62%	59%	63%
30- to 59-days delinquent	13	11	14	11
60-days or more delinquent	25	27	27	26
	100%	100%	100%	100%
June 30, 2010:				
Current or less than 30-days delinquent	64%	65%	62%	66%
30- to 59-days delinquent	12	10	13	10
60-days or more delinquent	24	25	25	24
	100%	100%	100%	100%
December 31, 2009:				
Current or less than 30-days delinquent	62%	64%	59%	65%
30- to 59-days delinquent	13	11	14	11
60-days or more delinquent	25	25	27	24
	100%	100%	100%	100%

- (4) The outstanding receivable balance included in this table reflects the principal amount outstanding on the loan excluding any basis adjustments to the loan such as unearned income, unamortized deferred fees and costs on originated loans, purchase accounting fair value adjustments and premiums or discounts on purchased loans.

Another account management technique that we employ in respect of delinquent accounts is forbearance which may also be considered a modification. Under a forbearance agreement, we may agree not to take certain collection or credit agency reporting actions with respect to missed payments, often in return for the borrower's agreement to pay an additional amount with future required payments. We typically use forbearance with individual borrowers in transitional situations, usually involving borrower hardship circumstances or temporary setbacks that are expected to affect the borrower's ability to pay the contractually specified amount for a period of time. Additionally, in the past we also used loan rewrites to assist our customers which involved an extension of a new loan. We currently no longer offer loan rewrites. The amount of receivables subject to forbearance or rewrites is not significant.

In addition to the account management techniques discussed above, we have also increased the use of deed-in-lieu and short sales in 2010 to assist our real estate secured receivable customers. In a deed-in-lieu, the borrower agrees to surrender the deed to the property without going through foreclosure proceedings and we release the borrower from further obligation. In a short sale, the property is offered for sale to potential buyers at a price which has been pre-negotiated between us and the borrower. This pre-negotiated price is based on updated property valuations and probability of default. Short sales also release the borrower from further obligation. From our perspective, loss severities on deed-in-lieu and short sales are lower than losses from foreclosed loans, or for loans where we have previously decided not to pursue foreclosure, and provide resolution to the delinquent receivable over a shorter period of time. We currently anticipate the use of deed-in-lieu and short sales will continue to increase in future periods as we continue to work with our customers.

Modification Programs As a result of the marketplace conditions previously described, in the fourth quarter of 2006 we began performing extensive reviews of our account management policies and practices particularly in light of the current needs of our customers. As a result of these reviews, beginning in the fourth quarter of 2006, we significantly increased our use of modifications in response to what we expected would be a longer term need of

---

assistance by our customers due to the weak housing market and U.S. economy. In these instances, our Mortgage Services and Consumer Lending businesses actively use account modifications to reduce the rate and/or payment on a number of qualifying loans and generally re-age certain of these accounts upon receipt of two or more modified payments and other criteria being met. This account management practice is designed to assist borrowers who may have purchased a home with an expectation of continued real estate appreciation or whose income has subsequently declined.

Based on the economic environment and expected slow recovery of housing values, during 2008 we developed additional analytical review tools leveraging best practices to assist us in identifying customers who are willing to pay, but are expected to have longer term disruptions in their ability to pay. Using these analytical review tools, we expanded our foreclosure avoidance programs to assist customers who did not qualify for assistance under prior program requirements or who required greater assistance than available under the programs. The expanded program required certain documentation as well as receipt of two qualifying payments before the account may be re-aged. Prior to July 2008, for our Consumer Lending customers, receipt of one qualifying payment was required for a modified account before the account would be re-aged. We also increased the use of longer term modifications to provide assistance in accordance with the needs of our customers which may result in higher credit loss reserve requirements. For selected customer segments, this expanded program lowers the interest rate on fixed rate loans and for ARM loans the expanded program modifies the loan to a lower interest rate than scheduled at the first interest rate reset date. The eligibility requirements for this expanded program allow more customers to qualify for payment relief and in certain cases can result in a lower interest rate than allowed under other existing programs. During the third quarter of 2009, in order to increase the long-term success rate of our modification programs we increased certain documentation requirements for participation in these programs. By late 2009, the volume of loans that qualified for a new modification had fallen significantly. We expect the volume of new modifications to continue to decline as we believe a smaller percentage of our customers with unmodified loans will benefit from loan modification in a way that will not ultimately result in a repeat default on their loans. Additionally, volumes of new loan modifications are expected to decrease as we are no longer originating real estate secured receivables as well as the impact of the continued seasoning of a liquidating portfolio and improvements in economic conditions. We will continue to evaluate our consumer relief programs as well as all aspects of our account management practices to ensure our programs benefit our customers in accordance with their financial needs in ways that are economically viable for both our customers and our stakeholders. We have elected not to participate in the U.S. Treasury sponsored programs as we believe our long-standing home preservation programs provide more meaningful assistance to our customers.

Loans modified under these programs are only included in the re-aging statistics table (“Re-age Table”) that is included in our discussion of our re-age programs, if the delinquency status of a loan was reset as a part of the modification or was re-aged in the past for other reasons. Not all loans modified under these programs have the delinquency status reset and, therefore, are not considered to have been re-aged.

The following table summarizes loans modified during the first nine months of 2010, some of which may have also been re-aged:

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2010	Number of		Outstanding	
	Accounts Modified	Consumer Mortgage Lending Services	Balance at Time of Modification	Consumer Mortgage Lending Services
Foreclosure avoidance programs(1)(2)	21,300	14,700	\$3.1	\$2.0

(dollars are in billions)

- (1) Includes all loans modified during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 regardless of whether the loan was also re-aged.
  - (2) If qualification criteria are met, customer modification may occur on more than one occasion for the same account. For purposes of the table above, an account is only included in the modification totals once in an annual period and not for each separate modification in an annual period.
-



A primary tool used during account modification, involves modifying the monthly payment through lowering the rate on the loan on either a temporary or permanent basis. The following table summarizes the weighted-average contractual rate reductions and the average amount of payment relief provided to customers that entered an account modification for the first time during the quarter indicated.

Three Months Ended	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	March 31, 2010
Weighted-average contractual rate reduction in basis points on account modifications during the period(1)(2)	341	339	329
Average payment relief provided on account modifications as a percentage of total payment prior to modification(2)	27.6%	27.3%	26.5%

(1) The weighted-average rate reduction was determined based on the rate in effect immediately prior to the modification, which for ARMs may be lower than the rate on the loan at the time of origination.

(2) Excludes any modifications on purchased receivable portfolios of our Consumer Lending business which totaled \$1.2 billion, \$1.3 billion and 1.4 billion as of September 30, 2010, June 30, 2010 and March 31, 2010, respectively.

In addition to the foreclosure avoidance programs described above, beginning in October 2006 we also established a program specifically designed to meet the needs of select customers with ARMs nearing their first interest rate reset and payment reset that we expected would be negatively impacted by the rate adjustment. Under a proactive ARM reset modification program, we proactively contacted these customers and, as appropriate and in accordance with defined policies, we modified the loans allowing time for the customer to seek alternative financing or improve their individual situation. At the end of the modification period, we re-evaluated the loan to determine if an extension of the modification term is warranted. If the loan was less than 30-days delinquent and had not received assistance under any other risk mitigation program, typically the modification could be extended for an additional twelve-month period at a time provided the customer demonstrates an ongoing need for assistance. A loan that was modified under the proactive ARM reset modification program for twelve-months or longer was generally considered a TDR Loan. Loans modified as part of this specific risk mitigation effort were not considered to have been re-aged as these loans were not contractually delinquent at the time of the modification. However, if the loan had been re-aged in the past for other reasons or qualified for a re-age subsequent to the modification, it was included in the Re-age Table. As the majority of our existing ARM loan portfolio has passed the loan's initial reset date, the volume of new modifications under the proactive ARM reset modification program decreased significantly during the second half of 2009. As a result, this modification program ended during the fourth quarter of 2009. In total, we modified approximately 13,200 loans through the proactive ARM reset modification program with an aggregate outstanding principal balance of \$2.2 billion at the time of the modification.

**Re-age Programs** Our policies and practices include various criteria for an account to qualify for re-aging, however, that does not require us to re-age the account. The extent to which we re-age accounts that are eligible under our existing policies will vary depending upon our view of prevailing economic conditions and other factors which may change from period to period. In addition, for some products, accounts may be re-aged without receipt of a payment in certain special circumstances (e.g. upon reaffirmation of a debt owed to us in connection with a Chapter 7 bankruptcy proceeding). In addition, exceptions to our policies and practices may be made in specific situations in response to legal or regulatory agreements or orders.

We continue to monitor and track information related to accounts that have been re-aged. Currently, approximately 88 percent of all re-aged receivables are real estate secured products, which in general have less loss severity exposure

because of the underlying collateral. Credit loss reserves, including reserves on TDR Loans, take into account whether loans have been re-aged, rewritten or are subject to forbearance, an external debt management plan, modification, extension or deferment. Our credit loss reserves, including reserves on TDR Loans, also take into consideration the loss severity expected based on the underlying collateral, if any, for the loan.

We used certain assumptions and estimates to compile our re-aging statistics. The systemic counters used to compile the information presented below exclude from the reported statistics loans that have been reported as contractually delinquent but have been reset to a current status because we have determined that the loans should not

---

have been considered delinquent (e.g., payment application processing errors). When comparing re-aging statistics from different periods, the fact that our re-age policies and practices will change over time, that exceptions are made to those policies and practices, and that our data capture methodologies have been enhanced, should be taken into account.

## Re-age Table(1)(2)

	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
Continuing operations:			
Never re-aged	60.0%	60.2%	61.9%
Re-aged:			
Re-aged in the last 6 months	9.5	10.9	12.3
Re-aged in the last 7-12 months	11.4	11.5	13.6
Previously re-aged beyond 12 months	19.1	17.4	12.2
Total ever re-aged	40.0	39.8	38.1
Total continuing operations:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Discontinued operations:			
Never re-aged		— 51.6	55.0
Re-aged		— 48.4	45.0
Total discontinued operations		—100.0%	100.0%

## Re-aged by Product(1)(3)(4)

	September 30, 2010		June 30, 2010		December 31, 2009	
Continuing operations:						
Real estate secured(3)	\$24,546	47.5%	\$25,507	47.2%	\$27,036	45.4%
Credit card	444	4.5	475	4.7	527	4.5
Personal non-credit card	2,817	36.0	3,070	36.0	3,678	35.1
Total – continuing operations	27,807	40.0	29,052	39.8	31,241	38.1
Discontinued operations	—	—	1,397	48.4	2,021	45.0
Total	\$27,807	40.0%	\$30,449	40.1%	\$33,262	38.4%

(1) The Re-age Table includes both Collection Re-ages and Modification Re-ages, as discussed above.

(2) Excludes commercial and other.

(3) The following table summarizes re-ages of real estate secured receivables as presented in the table above for our Mortgage Services and Consumer Lending businesses:

	September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(dollars are in millions)		
Mortgage Services	\$9,343	\$9,808	\$10,699
Consumer Lending	15,203	15,699	16,337
Total real estate secured	\$24,546	\$25,507	\$27,036

- (4) The outstanding receivable balance included in this table reflects the principal amount outstanding on the loan net of unearned income, unamortized deferred fees and costs on originated loans, purchase accounting fair value adjustments and premiums or discounts on purchased loans.
-

The overall decrease in dollars of re-aged loans during the first nine months of 2010 reflects the lower delinquency and receivable levels as discussed above. At September 30, 2010, June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, \$7.4 billion (27 percent of total re-aged loans in the Re-age Table), \$7.2 billion (25 percent of total re-aged loans in the Re-age Table) and \$7.9 billion (25 percent of total re-aged loans in the Re-age Table), respectively, of re-aged accounts have subsequently experienced payment defaults and are included in our two-months-and-over contractual delinquency at the period indicated.

We continue to work with advocacy groups in select markets to assist in encouraging our customers with financial needs to contact us. We have also implemented new training programs to ensure that our customer service representatives are focused on helping the customer through difficulties, are knowledgeable about the available re-aging and modification programs and are able to advise each customer of the best solutions for their individual circumstance.

We also support a variety of national and local efforts in homeownership preservation and foreclosure avoidance.

**Geographic Concentrations** The following table reflects the percentage of receivables and receivables held for sale by state which individually account for 5 percent or greater of our portfolio as of September 30, 2010 as well as the unemployment rate for these states for September 2010.

	Percentage of Portfolio Receivables at September 30, 2010			Percent of Total Receivables		Unemployment Rates for Sept. 2010(1)
	Credit Cards	Real Estate Secured	Other	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009	
California	10.8%	10.1%	6.2%	9.7%	10.4%	12.4%
New York	7.4	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.8	8.3
Florida	6.9	6.3	5.7	6.4	6.6	11.9
Pennsylvania	4.2	5.9	6.4	5.7	5.5	9.0
Ohio	4.2	5.4	5.9	5.3	5.2	10.0

(1) The U.S. national unemployment rate for September 2010 was 9.6 percent.

Because our underwriting, collections and processing functions are centralized, we can quickly change our credit standards and intensify collection efforts in specific locations. We believe this lowers risks resulting from such geographic concentrations.

#### Liquidity and Capital Resources

**HSBC Related Funding** In connection with our acquisition by HSBC, HSBC announced its expectation that funding costs for the HSBC Finance Corporation businesses would be lower as a result of the funding diversity of HSBC. As a result, we work with our affiliates under the oversight of HSBC North America to maximize opportunities and efficiencies in HSBC's operations in the U.S., including funding efficiencies.

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

Debt due to affiliates and other HSBC related funding are summarized in the following table:

	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(in billions)	
Debt issued to HSBC subsidiaries:		
Term debt	\$8.3	\$9.0
Debt outstanding to HSBC clients:		
Euro commercial paper	.5	.7
Term debt	.9	1.8
Total debt outstanding to HSBC clients	1.4	2.5
Cash received on bulk and subsequent sales of credit card receivables to HSBC Bank USA, net (cumulative)	8.4	10.3
Cash received on bulk sale of auto finance receivables to HSBC Bank USA, net (cumulative)	—	2.8
Cash received on bulk and subsequent sales of private label credit card receivables to HSBC Bank USA, net (cumulative)	13.7	16.6
Real estate secured receivable activity with HSBC Bank USA:		
Cash received on sales (cumulative)	3.7	3.7
Direct purchases from correspondents (cumulative)	4.2	4.2
Reductions in real estate secured receivables sold to HSBC Bank USA	(6.3)	(6.1)
Total real estate secured receivable activity with HSBC Bank USA	1.6	1.8
Cash received from sale of U.K. Operations to HOHU	.4	.4
Cash received from sale of U.K. credit card business to HSBC Bank plc (“HBEU”)	2.7	2.7
Cash received from sale of Canadian Operations to HSBC Bank Canada	.3	.3
Capital contributions by HSBC Investments (North America) Inc. (cumulative)	8.8	8.6
Total HSBC related funding	\$45.6	\$55.0

At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, funding from HSBC, including debt issuances to HSBC subsidiaries and clients, represented 14 percent and 14 percent, respectively, of our total debt and preferred stock funding.

Cash proceeds received from the sale of our Canadian Operations to HSBC Bank Canada, the sale of our U.K. Operations to HOHU, the sale of our European Operations to an HBEU affiliate and the sale of our U.K. credit card business to HBEU were used to pay down short-term domestic borrowings, including outstanding commercial paper balances, and draws on bank lines from HBEU. Proceeds received from the bulk sale and subsequent daily sales of private label and credit card receivables to HSBC Bank USA and the proceeds from the bulk sale of certain auto finance receivables were used to pay down maturing long-term debt and short-term domestic borrowings, including outstanding commercial paper balances. Proceeds from each of these transactions as well as the ongoing daily sales were also used to fund ongoing operations.

We have a \$1.5 billion uncommitted secured credit facility and a \$1.0 billion committed unsecured credit facility from HSBC Bank USA. At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, there were no balances outstanding under either of these lines.

We had derivative contracts with a notional value of \$52.3 billion, or approximately 99 percent of total derivative contracts, outstanding with HSBC affiliates at September 30, 2010 and \$58.6 billion, or approximately 98 percent at December 31, 2009. Such arrangements reduce the counterparty risk exposure related to the derivatives portfolio.

Interest bearing deposits with banks and other short-term investments Interest bearing deposits with banks totaled \$15 million and \$17 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. Securities purchased under agreements to resell totaled \$4.8 billion and \$2.9 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. The increase in the amount of short-term investments is due primarily to the generation of additional liquidity as a result of the run-off of our liquidating receivable portfolios, the sale of REO properties, receipt of tax

---

related payments and issuance of medium-term retail notes. A portion of these investments will be liquidated over the remainder of 2010 to be used to repay maturing debt.

Commercial paper totaled \$3.1 billion and \$4.3 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. Included in this total was outstanding Euro commercial paper sold to customers of HSBC of \$519 million and \$664 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. Commercial paper balances were lower at September 30, 2010 as a result of our higher short-term liquid investment portfolio. Our funding strategies are structured such that committed bank credit facilities exceed 100 percent of outstanding commercial paper.

We had committed back-up lines of credit totaling \$6.3 billion and \$7.8 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. At December 31, 2009, one of these facilities totaling \$2.5 billion was with an HSBC affiliate to support our issuance of commercial paper. This \$2.5 billion credit facility was renewed in September 2010 as a new \$2.0 billion back-up credit facility, split evenly between 364 days and two years. Given the overall reduction in our balance sheet, the lower level of back-up lines in support of our current commercial paper issuance program is consistent with our reduced 2010 funding requirements.

Long-term debt decreased to \$57.9 billion at September 30, 2010 from \$68.9 billion at December 31, 2009. The following table summarizes issuances and retirements of long-term debt during 2010 and 2009:

Nine Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009
	(in millions)	
Long-term debt issued	\$654	\$3,118
Repayments of long-term debt(1)	(11,577)	(15,153)
Net long-term debt repayments	\$(10,923)	\$(12,035)

(1) Additionally, during the nine months ended September 30, 2009, long-term debt of \$6.1 billion was assumed by HSBC Bank USA in connection with their purchase of the GM and UP Portfolios, as discussed previously.

Issuances of long-term debt during the first nine months of 2010 included the following:

- \$459 million of InterNotes (retail-oriented medium-term notes)
- \$195 million of securities backed by credit card receivables. For accounting purposes, this transaction was structured as a secured financing

During the second quarter of 2010, we decided to redeem up to approximately \$1.0 billion of retail medium-term notes in four phases of approximately \$250 million each. During the third quarter of 2010, we redeemed \$752 million of retail medium term notes. The final redemption of retail medium term notes of approximately \$250 million was completed in October 2010. These redemptions were funded through a new \$1.0 billion 364-day uncommitted revolving credit agreement with HSBC North America which was also executed during the third quarter of 2010 and allowed for borrowings with maturities of up to 15 years. As of September 30, 2010, \$750 million was outstanding under this credit agreement.

Preferred Shares Subsequent to September 30, 2010, our Board of Directors approved the issuance of up to 1,000 shares of Series C preferred stock. During the fourth quarter of 2010, we intend to convert \$1.0 billion in notes from HSBC North America scheduled to mature between 2022 and 2025 into preferred stock by repaying the loans to HSBC North America and issuing preferred stock to HINO. This transaction will enhance our total capital level. This



transaction will also enhance both our common and preferred equity to total assets and tangible shareholder's equity to tangible assets ratios. It will not, however, impact our tangible common equity to tangible assets ratio.

Common Equity During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, HSBC Investments (North America) Inc. ("HINO") made a capital contribution to us totaling \$200 million to support ongoing operations and to maintain capital at levels we believe are prudent in the current market conditions. Until we return to profitability, we are dependent upon the continued capital support of HSBC to continue our business operations and maintain selected

---

capital ratios. HSBC has provided significant capital in support of our operations in the last few years and has indicated that it is fully committed and has the capacity and willingness to continue that support.

Selected capital ratios In managing capital, we develop a target for tangible common equity to tangible assets. This ratio target is based on discussions with HSBC and rating agencies, risks inherent in the portfolio and the projected operating environment and related risks. Additionally, effective September 30, 2009, we are required by our credit providing banks to maintain a minimum tangible common equity to tangible assets ratio of 6.75 percent. Our targets may change from time to time to accommodate changes in the operating environment or other considerations such as those listed above.

Selected capital ratios are summarized in the following table:

	September 30, December 31,	
	2010	2009
Tangible common equity to tangible assets(1)	7.11%	7.60%
Common and preferred equity to total assets	8.43	8.86

(1) Tangible common equity to tangible assets represents a non-U.S. GAAP financial ratio that is used by HSBC Finance Corporation management and applicable rating agencies to evaluate capital adequacy and may differ from similarly named measures presented by other companies. See “Basis of Reporting” for additional discussion on the use of non-U.S. GAAP financial measures and “Reconciliations to U.S. GAAP Financial Measures” for quantitative reconciliations to the equivalent U.S. GAAP basis financial measure.

Subject to regulatory approval, HSBC North America will be required to implement Basel II no later than April 1, 2011 in accordance with current regulatory timelines. While we will not report separately under the new rules, the composition of our balance sheet will impact the overall HSBC North America capital requirement. Based on a comprehensive analysis of the HSBC North America balance sheet, we are taking a series of actions to achieve targeted total capital levels under these new regulations. In consideration of this objective, we expect to offer noteholders of certain series of our debt the ability to exchange their existing senior notes for newly issued subordinated debt. Subject to market conditions, we plan to issue \$2.0 billion to \$3.0 billion in new 10 year fixed rate subordinated debt in exchange for tendered senior debt.

Secured financings We currently have secured conduit credit facilities with commercial banks which provide for secured financings of receivables on a revolving basis totaling \$650 million and \$400 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, \$455 million and \$400 million, respectively, were available under these facilities. These facilities will mature in the second quarter of 2011 and are renewable at the banks’ option.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, we issued secured financings of \$75 million and \$195 million, respectively, collateralized by credit card receivables under the secured conduit credit facilities discussed above. There were no secured financings issued during the three months ended September 30, 2009. During the nine months ended September 30, 2009, we issued secured financings of \$1.6 billion collateralized by personal non-credit card receivables under credit facilities available at that time but expired during 2009.

Secured financings issued under our current conduit credit facilities as well as secured financings previously issued under public trusts of \$4.4 billion at September 30, 2010 are secured by \$6.7 billion of closed-end real estate secured and credit card receivables. Secured financings of \$4.7 billion at December 31, 2009 are secured by \$6.8 billion of

Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

closed-end real estate secured receivables. The following table shows by product type the receivables which secure our secured financings:

	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(in billions)	
Real estate secured	\$6.3	\$6.8
Credit card	.4	—
Total	\$6.7	\$6.8

---

As it relates to our discontinued Auto Finance business, at December 31, 2009 we had secured financings of \$778 million collateralized by \$1.2 billion of auto finance receivables. These secured financings were assumed by SC USA as part of the sale of the remainder of our auto finance receivable portfolio in August 2010. See Note 2, "Discontinued Operations," in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for further discussion of this transaction.

Commitments We also enter into commitments to meet the financing needs of our customers. In most cases, we have the ability to reduce or eliminate these open lines of credit. As a result, the amounts below do not necessarily represent future cash requirements at September 30, 2010:

	September 30, December 31,	
	2010	2009
	(in billions)	
Private label and credit cards(1)(2)	\$99.5	\$96.1
Other consumer lines of credit	.6	.5
Open lines of credit	\$100.1	\$96.6

(1) These totals include open lines of credit related to private label credit cards and the GM and UP Portfolios for which we sell all new receivable originations to HSBC Bank USA on a daily basis.

(2) Includes an estimate for acceptance of credit offers mailed to potential customers prior to September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009.

2010 Funding Strategy Our current range of estimates for funding needs and sources for 2010 are summarized in the table that follows.

	Actual		Estimated		Estimated
	January 1	October 1	October 1	December 31,	Full Year
	through	through	through	December 31,	2010
	September 30,	September 30,	September 30,	December 31,	2010
	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010
	(in billions)				
Funding needs:					
Net asset growth/(attrition)	\$(5)	\$(1)	—	0	\$(6)
Commercial paper maturities	1	0	—	1	—
Term debt maturities	12	3	—	4	15
Secured financings, including conduit facility maturities	1	0	—	1	—
Total funding needs	\$9	\$2	—	6	\$11
Funding sources:					
Commercial paper issuances	\$(2)	\$3	—	4	\$1
Term debt issuances	0	0	—	1	—
Asset transfers and loan sales	3	0	—	0	—
Secured financings, including conduit facility renewals	0	0	—	0	—
HSBC and HSBC subsidiaries, including capital infusions	1	0	—	1	—
Other(1)	7	(1)	—	0	6
Total funding sources	\$9	\$2	—	6	\$11

(1) Primarily reflects cash provided by operating activities.

---

For the remainder of 2010, the combination of portfolio attrition, cash generated from operations and issuances of retail notes will generate the liquidity necessary to meet our maturing debt obligations. If necessary, these sources of liquidity may be supplemented with institutionally placed debt.

Commercial paper outstanding will continue to be lower than our historical levels throughout the remainder of 2010. The majority of outstanding commercial paper is expected to be directly placed, domestic commercial paper. Euro commercial paper will continue to be marketed predominately to HSBC clients.

#### Fair Value

Net income volatility arising from changes in either interest rate or credit components of the mark-to-market on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives affects the comparability of reported results between periods. Accordingly, gain on debt designated at fair value and related derivatives for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 should not be considered indicative of the results for any future period.

**Control Over Valuation Process and Procedures** A control framework has been established which is designed to ensure that fair values are either determined or validated by a function independent of the risk-taker. To that end, the ultimate responsibility for the determination of fair values rests with the HSBC Finance Valuation Committee. The HSBC Finance Valuation Committee establishes policies and procedures to ensure appropriate valuations. Fair values for debt securities and long-term debt for which we have elected fair value option are determined by a third-party valuation source (pricing service) by reference to external quotations on the identical or similar instruments. An independent price validation process is also utilized. For price validation purposes, we obtain quotations from at least one other independent pricing source for each financial instrument, where possible. We consider the following factors in determining fair values:

- similarities between the asset or the liability under consideration and the asset or liability for which quotation is received;
- whether the security is traded in an active or inactive market;
- consistency among different pricing sources;
- the valuation approach and the methodologies used by the independent pricing sources in determining fair value;
- the elapsed time between the date to which the market data relates and the measurement date; and
- the manner in which the fair value information is sourced.

Greater weight is given to quotations of instruments with recent market transactions, pricing quotes from dealers who stand ready to transact, quotations provided by market-makers who originally underwrote such instruments, and market consensus pricing based on inputs from a large number of participants. Any significant discrepancies among the external quotations are reviewed by management and adjustments to fair values are recorded where appropriate.

Fair values for derivatives are determined by management using valuation techniques, valuation models and inputs that are developed, reviewed, validated and approved by the Quantitative Risk and Valuation Group of an affiliate, HSBC Bank USA. These valuation models utilize discounted cash flows or an option pricing model adjusted for counterparty credit risk and market liquidity. The models used apply appropriate control processes and procedures to ensure that the derived inputs are used to value only those instruments that share similar risk to the relevant benchmark indexes and therefore demonstrate a similar response to market factors. In addition, a validation process is

followed which includes participation in peer group consensus pricing surveys, to ensure that valuation inputs incorporate market participants' risk expectations and risk premium.

We have various controls over our valuation process and procedures for receivables held for sale. As these fair values are generally determined using modeling techniques, the controls may include independent development or validation of the logic within the valuation models, the inputs to those models, and adjustments required to outside valuation models. The inputs and adjustments to valuation models are reviewed with management and reconciled to inputs and

---

assumptions used in other internal valuation processes. In addition, from time to time, certain portfolios are valued by independent third parties, primarily for related party transactions, which are used to validate our internal models.

Fair Value Hierarchy Accounting principles related to fair value measurements establish a fair value hierarchy structure that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to determine the fair value of an asset or liability (the “Fair Value Framework”). The Fair Value Framework distinguishes between inputs that are based on observed market data and unobservable inputs that reflect market participants’ assumptions. It emphasizes the use of valuation methodologies that maximize market inputs. For financial instruments carried at fair value, the best evidence of fair value is a quoted price in an actively traded market (Level 1). Where the market for a financial instrument is not active, valuation techniques are used. The majority of valuation techniques use market inputs that are either observable or indirectly derived from and corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the financial instrument (Level 2). Because Level 1 and Level 2 instruments are determined by observable inputs, less judgment is applied in determining their fair values. In the absence of observable market inputs, the financial instrument is valued based on valuation techniques that feature one or more significant unobservable inputs (Level 3). The determination of the level of fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement of an asset or a liability is classified often requires judgment. We consider the following factors in developing the fair value hierarchy:

- whether the asset or liability is transacted in an active market with a quoted market price that is readily available;
  - the size of transactions occurring in an active market;
  - the level of bid-ask spreads;
- a lack of pricing transparency due to, among other things, the complexity of the product structure and market liquidity;
  - whether only a few transactions are observed over a significant period of time;
  - whether the pricing quotations vary substantially among independent pricing services;
- whether the inputs to the valuation techniques can be derived from or corroborated with market data; and
- whether significant adjustments are made to the observed pricing information or model output to determine the fair value.

Level 1 inputs are unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that the reporting entity has the ability to access for the identical assets or liabilities. A financial instrument is classified as a Level 1 measurement if it is listed on an exchange or is an instrument actively traded in the OTC market where transactions occur with sufficient frequency and volume. We regard financial instruments that are listed on the primary exchanges of a country, such as equity securities and derivative contracts, to be actively traded. Non-exchange-traded instruments classified as Level 1 assets include securities issued by the U.S. Treasury.

Level 2 inputs are inputs that are observable either directly or indirectly but do not qualify as Level 1 inputs. We generally classify derivative contracts, corporate debt including asset-backed securities as well as our own debt issuance for which we have elected fair value option which are not traded in active markets, as Level 2 measurements. Currently, substantially all such items qualify as Level 2 measurements. These valuations are typically obtained from a third party valuation source which, in the case of derivatives, includes valuations provided by an affiliate, HSBC Bank USA.



Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability and include situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability. Level 3 inputs incorporate market participants' assumptions about risk and the risk premium required by market participants in order to bear that risk. We develop Level 3 inputs based on the best information available in the circumstances. As of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, our Level 3 instruments recorded at fair value on a recurring basis include \$26 million and \$49 million, respectively, primarily U.S. corporate debt securities and asset-backed securities. As of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, our Level 3 assets recorded at fair value on a non-recurring basis included receivables held for sale totaling \$4 million and \$3 million, respectively.

Transfers between leveling categories are recognized at the end of each reporting period.

---

Transfers Into (Out of) Level 1 and 2 Measurements Transfers from Level 1 (quoted unadjusted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities) to Level 2 (using inputs that are observable for the identical asset or liability, either directly or indirectly) totaled \$59 million during the three months ended September 30, 2010 and transfers from Level 2 to Level 1 totaled \$9 million during the three months ended September 30, 2010 as a result of reclassifications in certain product groupings. There were no transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 during the three or nine months ended September 30, 2009.

Transfers Into (Out of) Level 2 and Level 3 Measurements Assets recorded at fair value on a recurring basis at September 30, 2010 and 2009 which have been classified as using Level 3 measurements include certain U.S. corporate debt securities and mortgage-backed securities. Securities are classified as using Level 3 measurements when one or both of the following conditions are met:

- An asset-backed security is downgraded below a AAA credit rating; or
- An individual security fails the quarterly pricing comparison test, which is described more fully in Note 17, "Fair Value Measurements," in the accompanying consolidated financial statements, with a variance greater than 5 percent.

Transfers into or out of Level 3 classifications, net, represents changes in the mix of individual securities that meet one or both of the above conditions. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, we transferred \$0 million and \$27 million, respectively, of U.S. government sponsored enterprises and corporate debt securities, from Level 3 to Level 2 as they no longer met one or both of the conditions described above, which was partially offset by the transfer of \$0 million and \$12 million, respectively, from Level 2 to Level 3 of U.S. government sponsored enterprises, corporate debt securities and asset-backed securities which met one or both of the conditions described above.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, we transferred \$54 million and \$173 million, respectively, of individual securities, primarily asset-backed securities and corporate debt securities, from Level 3 to Level 2 as they no longer met one or both of the conditions described above, which was partially offset by the transfer of \$36 million and \$121 million, respectively, from Level 2 to Level 3 of individual securities, primarily corporate debt securities and asset-backed securities which met one or both of the conditions described above.

We reported a total of \$26 million and \$49 million of available-for-sale securities, or approximately 1 percent and 2 percent of our securities portfolio as Level 3 at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, Level 3 assets as a percentage of total assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis were 1 percent and 2 percent, respectively.

See Note 17, "Fair Value Measurements" in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for further details including our valuation techniques as well as the classification hierarchy associated with assets and liabilities measured at fair value.

#### Risk Management

We continue in our efforts to build an enterprise-wide risk function incorporating credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk, operational risk, compliance risk, reputational risk and strategic risk.

Credit Risk Day-to-day management of credit risk is administered by the HSBC North America Chief Retail Credit Officer who reports to the HSBC North America Chief Risk Officer. The HSBC North America Chief Risk Officer reports to the HSBC North America Chief Executive Officer and to the Group Managing Director and Chief Risk Officer of HSBC. While our product offerings have been significantly reduced as a result of our decision to

discontinue all new customer account originations except in our Card and Retail Services business, there has not been significant changes to our credit risk management process. We have established detailed policies to address the credit risk that arises from our lending activities. Our credit and portfolio management procedures focus on sound underwriting, effective collections and customer account management efforts for each loan. Our lending guidelines, which delineate the credit risk we are willing to take and the related terms, are specific not only for each product, but also take into consideration various other factors including borrower characteristics, return on equity, capital

---

deployment and our overall risk appetite. We also have specific policies to ensure the establishment of appropriate credit loss reserves on a timely basis to cover probable losses of principal, interest and fees. See the captions “Credit Quality” and “Risk Management” in our 2009 Form 10-K for a detailed description of our policies regarding the establishment of credit loss reserves and our delinquency and charge-off policies and practices. Our customer account management policies and practices are described under the caption “Credit Quality — Customer Account Management Policies and Practices” in this Form 10-Q. Also see Note 2, “Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and New Accounting Pronouncements,” in our 2009 Form 10-K for further discussion of our policies surrounding credit loss reserves. Our policies and procedures are consistent with HSBC standards and are regularly reviewed and updated both on an HSBC Finance Corporation and HSBC level. The credit risk function continues to refine “early warning” indicators and reporting, including stress testing scenarios on the basis of current experience. These risk management tools are embedded within our business planning process.

Counterparty credit risk is our primary exposure on our interest rate swap portfolio. Counterparty credit risk is the risk that the counterparty to a transaction fails to perform according to the terms of the contract. Currently the majority of our existing derivative contracts are with HSBC subsidiaries, making them our primary counterparty in derivative transactions. Most swap agreements, both with unaffiliated and affiliated third parties, require that payments be made to, or received from, the counterparty when the fair value of the agreement reaches a certain level. Generally, third-party swap counterparties provide collateral in the form of cash which is recorded in our balance sheet as derivative financial assets or derivative related liabilities. We provided third party swap counterparties with collateral totaling \$19 million and \$46 million at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. The fair value of our agreements with affiliate counterparties required the affiliate to provide cash collateral of \$2.1 billion and \$3.4 billion at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively. These amounts are offset against the fair value amount recognized for derivative instruments that have been offset under the same master netting arrangement. See Note 10, “Derivative Financial Instruments,” in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for additional information related to interest rate risk management and Note 17, “Fair Value Measurements,” for information regarding the fair value of our financial instruments.

There have been no significant changes in our approach to credit risk management since December 31, 2009.

Liquidity Risk Continued success in reducing the size of our non-core receivable portfolio coupled with the stabilization in our core credit card portfolio will be the primary driver of our liquidity management process going forward. Lower cash flow as a result of declining receivable balances as well as lower cash generated from attrition due to elevated charge-offs, may not provide sufficient cash to fully cover maturing debt over the next four to five years. The required incremental funding will be generated through the execution of alternative liquidity management strategies, including selected debt issuances. Additionally, should market pricing for receivables improve in future years, a portion of this required funding could be generated through receivable portfolio sales. Domestic debt markets have reopened to financial institutions and a number of institutional investors have expressed interest in buying new issuances from us. In the event a portion of our incremental funding need is met through issuances of unsecured term debt, these issuances would better match the projected cash flows of the remaining run-off portfolio and reduce reliance on direct HSBC support. HSBC has indicated it remains fully committed and has the capacity and willingness to continue to provide such support.

Maintaining our credit ratings is an important part of maintaining our overall liquidity profile. As indicated by the major rating agencies, our credit ratings are directly dependent upon the continued support of HSBC. A credit ratings downgrade would increase borrowing costs, and depending on its severity, substantially limit access to capital markets, require cash payments or collateral posting and permit termination of certain contracts material to us.



The following summarizes our credit ratings at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009:

	Standard & Poor's Corporation	Moody's Investors Service	Fitch, Inc.
As of September 30, 2010:			
Senior debt	A	A3	AA-
Commercial paper	A-1	P-1	F-1+
Series B preferred stock	BBB	Baa2	A+
As of December 31, 2009:			
Senior debt	A	A3	AA-
Commercial paper	A-1	P-1	F-1+
Series B preferred stock	BBB	Baa2	A+

In October 2010, Standard & Poor's Corporation downgraded our Series B preferred stock to BBB - from BBB.

Other conditions that could negatively affect our liquidity include unforeseen capital requirements, a strengthening of the U.S. dollar, a slowdown in the rate of attrition of our balance sheet and an inability to obtain expected funding from HSBC, its subsidiaries and clients.

There have been no significant changes in our approach to liquidity risk management since December 31, 2009.

Market Risk HSBC has certain limits and benchmarks that serve as additional guidelines in determining the appropriate levels of interest rate risk. One such limit is expressed in terms of the Present Value of a Basis Point, which reflects the change in value of the balance sheet for a one basis point movement in all interest rates without considering other correlation factors or assumptions. At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, our absolute PVBP limit was \$8.20 million and \$8.95 million, respectively, which included the risk associated with the hedging instruments we employed. Thus, for a one basis point change in interest rates, the policy at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 dictated that the value of the balance sheet could not increase or decrease by more than \$8.20 million and \$8.95 million, respectively. The reduction in our PVBP limit coincides with the previously discussed actions we are taking to lower overall market risk through the execution of additional non-qualifying hedge positions. Over time we anticipate further reductions both in our exposure to rising interest rates and the corresponding PVBP limit through the execution of additional non-qualifying hedges.

The following table shows the components of absolute PVBP at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 broken down by currency risk:

	September 30, December 31,	
	2010	2009
	(in millions)	
USD	\$6.336	\$6.657
JPY	.132	.099
Absolute PVBP risk	\$6.468	\$6.756

We also monitor the impact that an immediate hypothetical increase or decrease in interest rates of 25 basis points applied at the beginning of each quarter over a 12 month period would have on our net interest income assuming for 2010 and 2009 a declining balance sheet and the current interest rate risk profile. These estimates include the impact on net interest income of debt and related derivatives carried at fair value and also assume we would not take any



corrective actions in response to interest rate movements and, therefore, exceed what most likely would occur if rates were to change by the amount indicated. The following table summarizes such estimated impact:

	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(in millions)	
Decrease in net interest income following a hypothetical 25 basis points rise in interest rates applied at the beginning of each quarter over the next 12 months	\$25	\$66
Increase in net interest income following a hypothetical 25 basis points fall in interest rates applied at the beginning of each quarter over the next 12 months	29	70

A principal consideration supporting both of the PVBP and margin at risk analyses is the projected prepayment of loan balances for a given economic scenario. Individual loan underwriting standards in combination with housing valuations, loan modification programs and macroeconomic factors related to available mortgage credit are the key assumptions driving these prepayment projections. While we have utilized a number of sources to refine these projections, we cannot currently project precise prepayment rates with a high degree of certainty in all economic environments given recent, significant changes in both subprime mortgage underwriting standards and property valuations across the country.

There has been no significant change in our approach to market risk management since December 31, 2009.

**Operational Risk** There has been no significant change in our approach to operational risk management since December 31, 2009.

**Compliance Risk** Due to the increasing scale and complexity of our regulatory environment, and consistent with the suggestion of our regulators and the organizational model of HSBC, in the second quarter of 2010, the Compliance and Legal functions in North America were divided into two separate functions, whereas before Compliance had reported to Legal. The Compliance function will continue to report to the CEO of HSBC North America as well as functionally to the HSBC Head of Group Compliance. The HSBC Head of Group Compliance has been appointed as the Acting Head of Compliance, North America Region until such time as a permanent Head of Compliance, HSBC North America Region is appointed. Additional steps have been taken to further strengthen our compliance risk management approach, including increased investment in people, systems and advisory services; strategic actions to streamline our business; and the strengthening of the Anti-Money Laundering (“AML”) Office with responsibility for the guidance and oversight of AML risk management activities within HSBC North America and its subsidiaries, including HSBC Finance.

In the first week of October, HSBC North America entered into a consent cease and desist order with the Federal Reserve Board. The consent order requires improvements for an effective compliance risk management program across our U.S. businesses. HSBC North America has already taken several initial steps to address the Federal Reserve Board’s concerns, including those described above. In addition, a new officer overseeing the AML functions was hired in early October. HSBC North America is committed to fully addressing the requirements of the consent order, and efforts to strengthen the Compliance function will continue.

**Reputational Risk** There has been no significant change in our approach to reputational risk management since December 31, 2009.

**Strategic Risk** There has been no significant change in our approach to strategic risk management since December 31, 2009.





HSBC FINANCE CORPORATION  
RECONCILIATIONS TO U.S. GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES

	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(dollars are in millions)	
Tangible common equity:		
Common shareholder's equity	\$6,071	\$7,804
Exclude:		
Fair value option adjustment	(499)	(518)
Unrealized (gains) losses on cash flow hedging instruments	747	633
Postretirement benefit plan adjustments, net of tax	(1)	(8)
Unrealized (gains) losses on available-for-sale investments	(122)	(31)
Intangible assets	(640)	(748)
Tangible common equity	\$5,556	\$7,132
Tangible shareholders' equity:		
Tangible common equity	\$5,556	\$7,132
Preferred stock	575	575
Mandatorily redeemable preferred securities of Household Capital Trusts	1,000	1,000
Tangible shareholders' equity	\$7,131	\$8,707
Tangible assets:		
Total assets	\$78,858	\$94,553
Exclude:		
Intangible assets	(640)	(748)
Derivative financial assets	(61)	—
Tangible assets	\$78,157	\$93,805
Equity ratios:		
Common and preferred equity to total assets	8.43%	8.86%
Tangible common equity to tangible assets	7.11	7.60
Tangible shareholders' equity to tangible assets	9.12	9.28

### Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

See Item 2, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Conditions and Results of Operations,” under the caption “Risk Management – Market Risk” of this Form 10-Q.

### Item 4. Controls and Procedures

**Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures** We maintain a system of internal and disclosure controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by HSBC Finance Corporation in the reports we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the “Exchange Act”), is recorded, processed, summarized and reported on a timely basis. Our Board of Directors, operating through its audit committee, which is composed entirely of independent outside directors, provides oversight to our financial reporting process.

We conducted an evaluation, with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this report so as to alert them in a timely fashion to material information required to be disclosed in reports we file under the Exchange Act.

**Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting** There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended September 30, 2010 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

### Item 1. Legal Proceedings

**General** We are party to various legal proceedings, including actions that are or purport to be class actions, resulting from ordinary business activities relating to our current and/or former operations. These actions generally assert violations of laws and/or unfair treatment of consumers. Due to the uncertainties in litigation and other factors, we cannot be certain that we will ultimately prevail in each instance. We believe that our defenses to these actions have merit and any adverse decision should not materially affect our consolidated financial condition. However, losses may be material to our results of operations for any particular future period depending on our income level for that period. Where appropriate, insurance carriers have been notified.

**Card Services Litigation** Since June 2005, HSBC Finance Corporation, HSBC North America, and HSBC, as well as other banks and Visa Inc. and Master Card Incorporated, were named as defendants in four class actions filed in Connecticut and the Eastern District of New York; *Photos Etc. Corp. et al. v. Visa U.S.A., Inc., et al.* (D. Conn. No. 3:05-CV-01007 (WWE)); *National Association of Convenience Stores, et al. v. Visa U.S.A., Inc., et al.* (E.D.N.Y. No. 05-CV 4520 (JG)); *Jethro Holdings, Inc., et al. v. Visa U.S.A., Inc. et al.* (E.D.N.Y. No. 05-CV-4521 (JG)); and *American Booksellers Ass’n v. Visa U.S.A., Inc. et al.* (E.D.N.Y. No. 05-CV-5391 (JG)). Numerous other complaints containing similar allegations (in which no HSBC entity is named) were filed across the country against Visa Inc., MasterCard Incorporated and other banks. These actions principally allege that the imposition of a no-surcharge rule by the associations and/or the establishment of the interchange fee charged for credit card transactions causes the merchant discount fee paid by retailers to be set at supracompetitive levels in violation of the Federal antitrust laws. These suits have been consolidated and transferred to the Eastern District of New York. The consolidated case is: *In re Payment Card Interchange Fee and Merchant Discount Antitrust Litigation, MDL 1720, E.D.N.Y.* A consolidated, amended complaint was filed by the plaintiffs on April 24, 2006 and a second consolidated amended complaint was filed on January 29, 2009. The parties are engaged in discovery, motion practice and mediation. At this time, we are

unable to quantify the potential impact from this action, if any.

Securities Litigation In August 2002, we restated previously reported consolidated financial statements related to certain MasterCard and Visa co-branding and affinity credit card relationships and a third party marketing

---

agreement, which were entered into between 1992 and 1999. All were part of our Card Services operations. As a result of the restatement and other corporate events, including, e.g., the 2002 settlement with 46 states and the District of Columbia relating to real estate lending practices, Household International and certain former officers were named as defendants in a class action lawsuit, *Jaffe v. Household International, Inc., et al.*, No. 02 C 5893 (N.D. Ill., filed August 19, 2002).

The complaint, as narrowed by Court rulings, asserted claims under § 10 and § 20 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, on behalf of all persons who acquired and disposed of Household International common stock between July 30, 1999 and October 11, 2002. The claims alleged that the defendants knowingly or recklessly made false and misleading statements of material facts relating to Household's Consumer Lending operations, including collections, sales and lending practices, some of which ultimately led to the 2002 state settlement agreement, and facts relating to accounting practices evidenced by the restatement. The plaintiffs claim that these statements were made in conjunction with the purchase or sale of securities, that they justifiably relied on one or more of those statements, that the false statement(s) caused the plaintiffs' damages, and that some or all of the defendants should be liable for those damages.

A jury trial concluded on April 30, 2009 and the jury rendered a verdict on May 7 partially in favor of the plaintiffs with respect to Household International and three former officers. The jury found 17 of 40 alleged misstatements actionable and that the first actionable statement occurred on March 23, 2001. This effectively excludes claims for purchases made prior to that date.

A second phase of the case will proceed to determine the actual damages, if any, due to the plaintiff class. Although the jury determined that the loss per common share attributable to the alleged misstatements varied by day and ranged from -\$4.60 (no loss) to \$23.94, how this stage of the case will proceed has not been determined by the Court. Matters to be determined include, but are not limited to, whether there will be discovery to determine if shareholders actually relied upon statements found to be misleading, the process for determining which shareholders purchased securities on or after March 23, 2001 and sold during the relevant period (the sale window potentially extending up to 90 days after October 11, 2002), as well as other procedural matters and eligibility criteria. The parties have submitted briefs outlining each side's proposed structure for this second phase of the case. Given the complexity associated with this phase of the case, it is impossible at this time to determine whether any damages will eventually be awarded, or the amount of any such award.

We filed several motions that would have disposed of the case prior to a determination of actual damages, including defendants' motion for summary judgment filed in May 2008 and motions to direct a verdict made at the close of both the plaintiffs' and defendants' cases. Without ruling on the merits of these motions on July 28, 2010, the Court denied these motions as being either moot or premature. When any final judgment is entered by the District Court at the conclusion of the damages phase of the case, the parties have 30 days in which to appeal the verdict to the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

Despite the verdict at the District Court level and the denial of our motions to dispose of the case prior to the damages phase, we continue to believe, after consultation with counsel, that neither Household nor its former officers engaged in any wrongdoing and that the Seventh Circuit will reverse the trial Court verdict upon appeal.

**Governmental and Regulatory Matters.** HSBC Finance and certain of its subsidiaries are or may be subject to formal and informal investigations, as well as subpoenas and/or requests for information, from various governmental and self-regulatory agencies relating to our business activities. In all such cases, we cooperate fully and engage in efforts to resolve these matters.



Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibits included in this Report:

- 12 Statement of Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends
  - 31 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
  - 32 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
-

## Index

- Account management policies and practices 101
- Assets:
  - by business segment 42
  - fair value of financial assets 47
  - fair value measurements 46
  - nonperforming 100
- Balance sheet (consolidated) 4
- Basis of reporting 8, 66
- Business:
  - consolidated performance review 59
  - focus 58
- Capital:
  - 2010 funding strategy 112
  - common equity movements 110
  - consolidated statement of changes 5
  - selected capital ratios 111
- Cards and Retail Services business segment 42, 84
- Cash flow (consolidated) 6
- Cautionary statement regarding forward-looking statements 56
- Consumer business segment 42, 88
- Contingent liabilities 54
- Controls and procedures 120
- Credit quality 65, 91
- Credit risk:
  - component of fair value option 30
  - concentration 20
  - management 115
- Current environment 56
- Deferred tax assets 33
- Derivatives:
  - cash flow hedges 26
  - fair value hedges 25
  - income (expense) 78
  - non-qualifying hedges 27
  - notional value 29
- Equity:
  - consolidated statement of changes 5
  - ratios 111
- Equity securities available-for-sale 14
- Estimates and assumptions 8
- Executive overview 56
- Fair value measurements:
  - assets and liabilities recorded at fair value on a recurring basis 48
  - assets and liabilities recorded at fair value on a non-recurring basis 51
  - transfers into/out of level two and level three 49, 115
  - valuation techniques 51
- Fee income 79
- Financial highlights metrics 64
- Financial liabilities:
  - designated at fair value 29
  - fair value of financial liabilities 47
- Forward looking statements 56
- Funding 66, 112
- Geographic concentration of receivables 108
- Goodwill 23
- Impairment:
  - available-for-sale securities 15, 78
  - credit losses 21, 61, 75
  - nonperforming receivables 100
- Income (loss) from financial instruments designated at fair value 30, 79
- Income tax expense 31
- Insurance:
  - policyholders benefits expense 82
  - revenue 77
- Intangible assets 23
- Internal control 120
- Interest income:
  - net interest income 73
  - sensitivity 118
- Key performance indicators 64
- Legal proceedings 54, 120
- Liabilities:
  - commercial paper 110
  - commitments, lines of credit 110
  - financial liabilities designated at fair value 29
  - long-term debt 110
- Liquidity and capital resources 108
- Litigation 54, 120
- Loans and advances — see Receivables
- Loan impairment charges — see Provision for credit losses
- Market risk 117
- Market turmoil — see Current Environment
- Mortgage lending products 18, 70
- Net interest income 73
- New and proposed accounting pronouncements 54
- Operating expenses 80
- Operational risk 118
- Other revenues 77



Edgar Filing: HSBC HOLDINGS PLC - Form 6-K

control over valuation process	113	Pension and other postretirement benefits	33
financial instruments	47	Performance, developments and trends	59
hierarchy	114	Profit (loss) before tax:	
transfers into/out of level one and level two	49, 115	by segment — IFRSs management basis	42
consolidated	3	Risk management:	
Provision for credit losses	61, 75	credit	115
Ratios:		compliance	118
capital	111	liquidity	116
charge-off (net)	98	market	117
credit loss reserve related	92	operational	118
earnings to fixed charges — Exhibit	12	reputational	118
efficiency	64, 82	strategic	118
financial	64	Securities:	
Re-aged receivables	107	fair value	14, 48
Real estate owned	72	maturity analysis	17
Receivables:		Segment results — IFRSs management basis:	
by category	18, 70	card and retail services	42, 84
by charge-off (net)	98	consumer	42, 88
by delinquency	95	“All Other” grouping	42
geographic concentration	108	overall summary	40, 83
held for sale	21	Selected financial data	64
modified and/or re-aged	103	Sensitivity:	
nonperforming	100	projected net interest income	118
overall review	70	Statement of changes in shareholders’ equity	5
risk concentration	20, 108	Statement of changes in comprehensive income (loss)	5
troubled debt restructures	19, 76, 101	Statement of income (loss)	3
Reconciliation to U.S. GAAP financial measures	119	Strategic initiatives and focus	10, 58
Reconciliation of U.S. GAAP results to IFRSs	42, 67	Table of contents	2
Refreshed loan-to-value	71	Tangible common equity to tangible managed assets	66, 111
Related party transactions	35	Troubled debt restructures	19, 76, 101
Results of operations	73	Variable interest entities	45
Risk elements in the loan portfolio by product	20		

Signature

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

Date: November 5, 2010

HSBC FINANCE CORPORATION  
(Registrant)

/s/ Michael A. Reeves  
Michael A. Reeves  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

---

Exhibit Index

- 12 Statement of Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends
  - 31 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
  - 32 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
-

HSBC FINANCE CORPORATION  
 COMPUTATION OF RATIO OF EARNINGS (LOSS) TO FIXED CHARGES AND TO  
 COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS

Nine Months Ended September 30,	2010	2009
	(dollars are in millions)	
Loss from continuing operations	\$(1,848)	\$(6,592)
Income tax benefit	(1,062)	(1,392)
Loss from continuing operations before income tax benefit	(2,910)	(7,984)
Fixed charges:		
Interest expense	2,315	2,964
Interest portion of rentals(1)	5	32
Total fixed charges	2,320	2,996
Total earnings (loss) from continuing operations, as defined	\$(590)	\$(4,988)
Ratio of earnings (loss) to fixed charges	(.25)	(1.66)
Preferred stock dividends(2)	42	42
Ratio of earnings (loss) to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends	(.25)	(1.64)

---

(1) Represents one-third of rentals, which approximates the portion representing interest.

(2) Preferred stock dividends are grossed up to their pretax equivalents.

CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002  
Certification of Chief Executive Officer

I, Patrick J. Burke, Chief Executive Officer of HSBC Finance Corporation, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of HSBC Finance Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, 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;
  - c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting.

Date: November 5, 2010

/s/ PATRICK J. BURKE  
Patrick J. Burke  
Chief Executive Officer

---

Certification of Chief Financial Officer

I, Michael A. Reeves, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of HSBC Finance Corporation, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of HSBC Finance Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, 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;
  - c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting.

Date: November 5, 2010

/s/ MICHAEL A. REEVES  
Michael A. Reeves  
Executive Vice President  
and Chief Financial Officer

---



CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to  
Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

The certification set forth below is being submitted in connection with the HSBC Finance Corporation (the "Company") Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ending September 30, 2010 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report") for the purpose of complying with Rule 13a-14(b) or Rule 15d-14(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

I, Patrick J. Burke, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify that:

1. the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act; and
2. the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of HSBC Finance Corporation.

Date: November 5, 2010

/s/ PATRICK J. BURKE  
Patrick J. Burke  
Chief Executive Officer

---

Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350,  
As Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

The certification set forth below is being submitted in connection with the HSBC Finance Corporation (the “Company”) Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ending September 30, 2010 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “Report”) for the purpose of complying with Rule 13a-14(b) or Rule 15d-14(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”) and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

I, Michael A. Reeves, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify that:

1. the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act; and
2. the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of HSBC Finance Corporation.

Date: November 5, 2010

/s/ MICHAEL A. REEVES  
Michael A. Reeves  
Executive Vice President  
and Chief Financial Officer

---

SIGNATURE

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

HSBC Holdings plc

By:

Name: P A Stafford

Title: Assistant Group Secretary

Date: 5 November 2010