STIFEL FINANCIAL CORP Form 10-Q May 10, 2012

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

Form 10-Q

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

For the Quarterly Period Ended March 31, 2012

OR

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

For the transition period from ______ to _____

Commission File No. 001-09305

STIFEL FINANCIAL CORP.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE

43-1273600

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

501North Broadway St. Louis, Missouri

(Address of principal executive offices)

63102

(Zip Code)

(314) 342-2000

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

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

Large accelerated filer: b Accelerated filer: o

Non-accelerated filer: o

Smaller reporting company: o

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common stock, \$0.15 par value per share, as of the close of business on April 30, 2012, was 53,720,016, which includes exchangeable shares of TWP Acquisition Company (Canada), Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the registrant. These shares are exchangeable at any time into an aggregate of 22,830 shares of common stock of the registrant; entitle the holder to dividend and other rights substantially economically equivalent to those of a share of common stock; and, through a voting trust, entitle the holder to a vote on matters presented to common shareholders.

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PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STIFEL FINANCIAL CORP. Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition

			De	cember 31,			
(in thousands)	March 31, 2012 (Unaudited)			2011			
Assets							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	226,458	\$	167,671			
Restricted cash		6,584		6,883			
Cash segregated for regulatory purposes		26		26			
Receivables:							
Brokerage clients, net		569,276		560,018			
Brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations		237,258		252,636			
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	ecurities purchased under agreements to resell 103,958						
Trading securities owned, at fair value (includes securities pledged of \$425,845							
and \$392,395, respectively)		575,724		474,951			
Available-for-sale securities, at fair value		1,347,535		1,214,141			
Held-to-maturity securities, at amortized cost		327,447		190,484			
Loans held for sale		141,136		131,754			
Bank loans, net of allowance		657,193		632,140			
Other real estate owned		717		708			
Investments		244,106		239,208			
Fixed assets, net		101,401		104,740			
Goodwill		358,988		358,988			
Intangible assets, net		32,534		33,863			
Loans and advances to financial advisors and other employees, net		183,652		172,717			
Deferred tax assets, net		141,798		177,803			
Other assets		209,903		157,714			
Total Assets	\$	5,465,694	\$	4,951,900			

STIFEL FINANCIAL CORP. Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition (continued)

(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)	March 31, 2012 (Unaudited)			ecember 31, 2011
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity				
Short-term borrowings from banks	\$	187,400	\$	199,400
Payables:				
Brokerage clients		291,317		245,886
Brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations		169,437		139,911
Drafts		56,627		75,901
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase		142,119		80,176
Bank deposits		2,357,912		2,071,738
Trading securities sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value		267,807		266,833
Securities sold, but not yet purchased, at fair value		21,823		19,223
Accrued compensation		124,962		204,076
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		240,530		257,194
Senior notes		175,000		-
Debenture to Stifel Financial Capital Trust II		35,000		35,000
Debenture to Stifel Financial Capital Trust III		35,000		35,000
Debenture to Stifel Financial Capital Trust IV		12,500		12,500
•		4,117,434		3,642,838
Liabilities subordinated to claims of general creditors		5,318		6,957
Shareholders' Equity:				
Preferred stock - \$1 par value; authorized 3,000,000 shares; none issued		-		-
Exchangeable common stock - \$0.15 par value; issued 34,593 and 172,242				
shares, respectively		5		26
Common stock - \$0.15 par value; authorized 97,000,000 shares; issued				
53,685,423 and 53,547,774 shares, respectively		8,053		8,032
Additional paid-in-capital		1,051,863		1,078,743
Retained earnings		286,854		277,195
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(189)	(7,938)
		1,346,586		1,356,058
Treasury stock, at cost, 92,359 and 1,769,096 shares, respectively)	(53,640)
Unearned employee stock ownership plan shares, at cost, 61,013 and 73,215		,	,	
shares, respectively		(261)	(313)
		1,342,942		1,302,105
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	\$	5,465,694	\$	4,951,900

STIFEL FINANCIAL CORP. Consolidated Statements of Operations (Unaudited)

		Three Months Ended March 31,					
(in thousands, except per share amounts)		2012		2011			
Revenues:	ф	102 202	Ф	155 706			
	\$	123,303	\$	155,786			
Principal transactions		116,233		92,859			
Investment banking		70,438		41,418			
Asset management and service fees		60,818		57,680			
Interest		25,257		18,856			
Other income		13,294		6,256			
Total revenues		409,343		372,855			
Interest expense		9,010		6,242			
Net revenues		400,333		366,613			
Non-interest expenses:							
Compensation and benefits		254,704		231,166			
Occupancy and equipment rental		30,791		29,325			
Communications and office supplies		20,373		18,845			
Commissions and floor brokerage		7,612		6,649			
Other operating expenses		27,599		29,944			
Total non-interest expenses		341,079		315,929			
•							
Income before income tax expense		59,254		50,684			
Provision for income taxes		24,481		19,286			
Net income	\$	34,773	\$	31,398			
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Earnings per common share:							
	\$	0.65	\$	0.60			
	\$	0.55	\$	0.50			
			T	3.3.2			
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding:							
Basic		53,243		52,534			
Diluted		62,669		63,179			

STIFEL FINANCIAL CORP. Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,				
(in thousands)		2012		2011	
Net income	\$	34,773	\$	31,398	
Other comprehensive income:					
Unrealized gains on available-for-sale securities, net of tax		4,850		1,193	
Unrealized gains on cash flow hedging instruments, net of tax		2,364		2,806	
Foreign currency translation adjustment, net of tax		535		534	
		7,749		4,533	
Comprehensive income	\$	42,522	\$	35,931	

STIFEL FINANCIAL CORP. Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

(** 4 1. \)		Three Months Ended March 31,				
(in thousands) Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		2012		2011		
Net income	\$	34,773	\$	31,398		
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash used in operating	Ψ	54,775	Ψ	31,370		
activities:						
Depreciation and amortization		7,189		5,606		
Amortization of loans and advances to financial advisors and other		7,109		2,000		
employees		13,931		14,268		
Amortization of premium on available-for-sale securities		2,886		3,602		
Provision for loan losses and allowance for loans and advances to		,		- ,		
financial advisors and other employees		955		(259)		
Amortization of intangible assets		1,329		1,064		
Deferred income taxes		31,514		23,351		
Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation		(12,438)		(22,463)		
Stock-based compensation		6,963		6,780		
Gains on investments		(7,952)		(3,317)		
Other, net		(308)		633		
Decrease/(increase) in operating assets:						
Cash segregated for regulatory purposes and restricted cash		299		996		
Receivables:						
Brokerage clients		(9,270)		(6,756)		
Brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations		15,378		(77,388)		
Securities purchased under agreements to resell		(28,503)		(90,616)		
Loans originated as held for sale		(356,192)		(179,834)		
Proceeds from mortgages held for sale		346,809		234,725		
Trading securities owned, including those pledged		(100,773)		(117,240)		
Loans and advances to financial advisors and other employees		(25,203)		(14,029)		
Other assets		(35,119)		(11,265)		
Increase/(decrease) in operating liabilities:						
Payables:						
Brokerage clients		45,431		(6,636)		
Brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations		13,590		(42,560)		
Drafts		(19,274)		(17,962)		
Trading securities sold, but not yet purchased		3,574		167,269		
Other liabilities and accrued expenses		(119,349)		(151,611)		
Net cash used in operating activities	\$	(189,760)	\$	(252,244)		

STIFEL FINANCIAL CORP. Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (continued)

	Three Months Ended March 31,				
(in thousands)	2012 2011				
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:					
Proceeds from:					
Maturities, calls, sales, and principal paydowns on available-for-sale					
securities	\$ 63,783	\$	71,512		
Calls of held-to-maturity securities	-		500		
Sale or maturity of investments	15,534		16,609		
Sale of other real estate owned	75		228		
Increase in bank loans, net	(25,534)		(7,604)		
Payments for:					
Purchase of available-for-sale securities	(192,536)		(251,409)		
Purchase of held-to-maturity securities	(136,854)		(11,264)		
Purchase of investments	(12,480)		(12,369)		
Purchase of fixed assets	(3,902)		(18,118)		
Net cash used in investing activities	(291,914)		(211,915)		
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:					
(Payments of)/proceeds from short-term borrowings from banks	(12,000)		190,100		
Proceeds from issuance of senior notes, net	170,291		-		
Increase in securities sold under agreements to repurchase	61,943		33,911		
Increase in bank deposits, net	286,174		2,322		
Increase in securities loaned	15,936		85,361		
Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation	12,438		22,463		
Reissuance of treasury stock	6,783		2,093		
Extinguishment of subordinated debt	(1,639)		(1,284)		
Net cash provided by financing activities	539,926		334,966		
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	535		534		
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	58,787		(128,659)		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	167,671		253,529		
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 226,458	\$	124,870		
•					
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:					
(Refunds, net of taxes paid)/Cash paid for income taxes, net of refunds	\$ (885)	\$	4,323		
Cash paid for interest	6,712		5,982		
Noncash investing and financing activities:					
Units, net of forfeitures	68,159		84,193		

STIFEL FINANCIAL CORP. Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

NOTE 1 - Nature of Operations and Basis of Presentation

Nature of Operations

Stifel Financial Corp. (the "Parent"), through its wholly owned subsidiaries, principally Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated ("Stifel Nicolaus"), Stifel Bank & Trust ("Stifel Bank"), Stifel Nicolaus Europe Limited ("SNEL"), Century Securities Associates, Inc. ("CSA"), Stifel Nicolaus Canada, Inc. ("SN Canada"), and Thomas Weisel Partners LLC ("TWP"), is principally engaged in retail brokerage; securities trading; investment banking; investment advisory; retail, consumer, and commercial banking; and related financial services. Although we have offices throughout the United States, two Canadian cities, and three European cities, our major geographic area of concentration is the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic regions, with a growing presence in the Northeast, Southeast and Western United States. Our company's principal customers are individual investors, corporations, municipalities, and institutions.

Basis of Presentation

The consolidated financial statements include Stifel Financial Corp. and its wholly owned subsidiaries, principally Stifel Nicolaus and Stifel Bank. All material intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated. Unless otherwise indicated, the terms "we," "us," "our," or "our company" in this report refer to Stifel Financial Corp. and its wholly owned subsidiaries.

We have prepared the accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). Pursuant to these rules and regulations, we have omitted certain information and footnote disclosures we normally include in our annual consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. In management's opinion, we have made all adjustments (consisting only of normal, recurring adjustments, except as otherwise noted) necessary to fairly present our financial position, results of operations and cash flows. Our interim period operating results do not necessarily indicate the results that may be expected for any other interim period or for the full fiscal year. These financial statements and accompanying notes should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 on file with the SEC.

Certain amounts from prior periods have been reclassified to conform to the current period's presentation. The effect of these reclassifications on our company's previously reported consolidated financial statements was not material.

There have been no material changes in our significant accounting policies, as compared to the significant accounting policies described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Consolidation Policies

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Stifel Financial Corp. and its subsidiaries. We also have investments or interests in other entities for which we must evaluate whether to consolidate by determining whether we have a controlling financial interest or are considered to be the primary beneficiary. In determining whether to consolidate these entities, we evaluate whether the entity is a voting interest entity or a variable interest entity ("VIE").

Voting Interest Entity. Voting interest entities are entities that have (i) total equity investment at risk sufficient to fund expected future operations independently, and (ii) equity holders who have the obligation to absorb losses or receive residual returns and the right to make decisions about the entity's activities. We consolidate voting interest entities when we determine that there is a controlling financial interest, usually ownership of all, or a majority of, the voting interest.

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Variable Interest Entity. VIEs are entities that lack one or more of the characteristics of a voting interest entity. We are required to consolidate VIEs in which we are deemed to be the primary beneficiary. The primary beneficiary is defined as the entity that has a variable interest, or a combination of variable interests, that maintains control and receives benefits or will absorb losses that are not pro rata with its ownership interests.

We determine whether we are the primary beneficiary of a VIE by first performing a qualitative analysis of the VIE's control structure, expected benefits and losses and expected residual returns. This analysis includes a review of, among other factors, the VIE's capital structure, contractual terms, which interests create or absorb benefits or losses, variability, related party relationships, and the design of the VIE. Where a qualitative analysis is not conclusive, we perform a quantitative analysis. We reassess our initial evaluation of an entity as a VIE and our initial determination of whether we are the primary beneficiary of a VIE upon the occurrence of certain reconsideration events. See Note 23 for additional information on variable interest entities.

NOTE 2 - Recently Adopted Accounting Guidance

Goodwill Impairment Testing

In September 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Update No. 2011-08 "Testing Goodwill for Impairment," which amends Topic 350 "Intangibles - Goodwill and Other." This update permits entities to make a qualitative assessment of whether it is more likely than not that a reporting unit's fair value is less than its carrying amount before applying the two-step goodwill impairment test. If an entity concludes that it is not more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, it would not be required to perform the two-step impairment test for that reporting unit. This update is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011 (January 1, 2012 for our company), with early adoption permitted. The adoption of the new guidance did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

Comprehensive Income

In June 2011, the FASB issued Update No. 2011-05, "Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income" ("Update No. 2011-05"), which allows for the presentation of total comprehensive income, the components of net income, and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. In addition, the guidance eliminates the option of presenting the components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in stockholders' equity. This guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2011 (January 1, 2012 for our company). While the adoption impacted where we disclose the components of other comprehensive income in our consolidated financial statements, it did not have an impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In December 2011, the FASB issued Update No. 2011-12, "Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05" ("Update No. 2011-12"), which deferred the requirement to present on the face of the financial statements reclassification adjustments for items that are reclassified from other comprehensive income to net income while the FASB further deliberates this aspect of the proposal. The amendments contained in Update No. 2011-05 do not change the items that must be reported in other comprehensive income or when an item of other comprehensive income must be reclassified to net income. Update No. 2011-05, as amended by Update No. 2011-12, became effective for us on January 1, 2012. Although the adoption of this new guidance did not have a material impact on our accounting for comprehensive income, it did impact our presentation of the components of comprehensive income by eliminating the historical practice of showing these items within our consolidated financial statements.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

In May 2011, the FASB issued Update No. 2011-04, "Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs" (Update No. 2011-04), which generally aligns the principals of measuring fair value and for disclosing information about fair value measurements with International Financial Reporting Standards. This guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2011 (January 1, 2012 for our company). Other than requiring additional disclosures regarding fair value measurements, the adoption of this new guidance did not have an impact on our consolidated financial statements. See Note 4 - Fair Value Measurements.

Reconsideration of Effective Control for Repurchase Agreements

In April 2011, the FASB issued Update No. 2011-03, "Transfers and Servicing (Topic 860): Reconsideration of Effective Control for Repurchase Agreements," which removes the requirement to consider whether sufficient collateral is held when determining whether to account for repurchase agreements and other agreements that both entitle and obligate the transferor to repurchase or redeem financial assets before their maturity as sales or as secured financings. This guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning on or after December 15, 2011 (January 1, 2012 for our company). The adoption of this new guidance did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

Recently Issued Accounting Guidance

Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities

In December 2011, the FASB issued Update No. 2011-11, "Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities," which enhance disclosures by requiring improved information about financial and derivative instruments that are either 1) offset (netting assets and liabilities) in accordance with Topic 210 "Balance Sheet," and Topic 815, "Derivatives and Hedging or 2) subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement or similar agreement. This guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013 (January 1, 2013 for our company), and requires retrospective disclosures for comparative periods presented. We are currently evaluating the impact the new guidance will have on our consolidated financial statements.

NOTE 3 - Receivables From and Payables to Brokers, Dealers and Clearing Organizations

Amounts receivable from brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, included (in thousands):

	1	March 31, 2012	De	ecember 31, 2011
Deposits paid for securities borrowed	\$	200,734	\$	193,509
Securities failed to deliver		22,336		15,485
Receivable from clearing organizations		14,188		43,642
	\$	237,258	\$	252,636

Amounts payable to brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, included (in thousands):

]	March 31, 2012	De	ecember 31, 2011
Deposits received from securities loaned	\$	141,101	\$	124,711
Securities failed to receive		24,791		11,216
Payable to clearing organizations		3,545		3,984
	\$	169,437	\$	139,911

Deposits paid for securities borrowed approximate the market value of the securities. Securities failed to deliver and receive represent the contract value of securities that have not been delivered or received on settlement date.

NOTE 4 - Fair Value Measurements

We measure certain financial assets and liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis, including cash equivalents, trading securities owned, available-for-sale securities, investments, trading securities sold, but not yet purchased, securities sold, but not yet purchased, and derivatives.

The degree of judgment used in measuring the fair value of financial instruments generally correlates to the level of pricing observability. Pricing observability is impacted by a number of factors, including the type of financial instrument, whether the financial instrument is new to the market and not yet established, and the characteristics specific to the transaction. Financial instruments with readily available active quoted prices for which fair value can be measured from actively quoted prices generally will have a higher degree of pricing observability and a lesser degree of judgment used in measuring fair value. Conversely, financial instruments rarely traded or not quoted will generally have less, or no, pricing observability and a higher degree of judgment used in measuring fair value.

We generally utilize third-party pricing services to value Level 1 and Level 2 available-for-sale investment securities, as well as certain derivatives designated as fair value hedges. We review the methodologies and assumptions used by the third-party pricing services and evaluate the values provided, principally by comparison with other available market quotes for similar instruments and/or analysis based on internal models using available third-party market data. We may occasionally adjust certain values provided by the third-party pricing service when we believe, as the result of our review, that the adjusted price most appropriately reflects the fair value of the particular security.

Following are descriptions of the valuation methodologies and key inputs used to measure financial assets and liabilities recorded at fair value. The descriptions include an indication of the level of the fair value hierarchy in which the assets or liabilities are classified.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents include highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. Due to their short-term nature, the carrying amount of these instruments approximates the estimated fair value. Actively traded money market funds are measured at their net asset value, which approximates fair value. As such, we classify the estimated fair value of these instruments as Level 1.

Financial Instruments (Trading securities and available-for-sale securities)

When available, the fair value of financial instruments are based on quoted prices in active markets and reported in Level 1. Level 1 financial instruments include highly liquid instruments with quoted prices, such as equities listed in active markets, certain corporate obligations, and U.S. treasury securities.

If quoted prices are not available, fair values are obtained from pricing services, broker quotes, or other model-based valuation techniques with observable inputs, such as the present value of estimated cash flows and reported as Level 2. The nature of these financial instruments include instruments for which quoted prices are available but traded less frequently, instruments whose fair value have been derived using a model where inputs to the model are directly observable in the market, or can be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data, and instruments that are fair valued using other financial instruments, the parameters of which can be directly observed. Level 2 financial instruments generally include U.S. government securities, mortgage-backed securities, corporate obligations infrequently traded, certain government and municipal obligations, asset-backed securities, and certain equity securities not actively traded.

Securities classified as Level 3, of which the substantial majority is auction rate securities ("ARS"), represent securities in less liquid markets requiring significant management assumptions when determining fair value. Due to the lack of a robust secondary auction-rate securities market with active fair value indicators, fair value for all periods presented was determined using an income approach based on an internally developed discounted cash flow model. The discounted cash flow model utilizes two significant unobservable inputs: discount rate and workout period. The discount rate was calculated using credit spreads of the underlying collateral or similar securities. The workout period was based on an assessment of publicly available information on efforts to re-establish functioning markets for these securities and our company's own redemption experience. Significant increases in any of these inputs in isolation would result in a significantly lower fair value. On an on-going basis, management verifies the fair value by reviewing the appropriateness of the discounted cash flow model and its significant inputs.

In addition to ARS, we have classified certain corporate obligations with unobservable pricing inputs and airplane trust certificates as Level 3. The methods used to value trading securities are the same as the methods used to value ARS, discussed above.

Investments

Investments valued at fair value include ARS, investments in mutual funds, U.S. treasury securities, investments in public companies, private equity securities, partnerships, and warrants of public or private companies.

Investments in certain public companies, mutual funds and U.S. treasury securities are valued based on quoted prices in active markets and reported in Level 1. Investments in certain private equity securities and partnerships with unobservable inputs and ARS for which the market has been dislocated and largely ceased to function are reported as Level 3 assets. The methods used to value ARS are discussed above.

Investments in partnerships and other investments include our general and limited partnership interests in investment partnerships and direct investments in non-public companies. The net assets of investment partnerships consist primarily of investments in non-marketable securities. The value of these investments is at risk to changes in equity markets, general economic conditions and a variety of other factors. We estimate fair value for private equity investments based on our percentage ownership in the net asset value of the entire fund, as reported by the fund or on behalf of the fund, after indication that the fund adheres to applicable fair value measurement guidance. For those funds where the net asset value is not reported by the fund, we derive the fair value of the fund by estimating the fair value of each underlying investment in the fund. In addition to using qualitative information about each underlying investment, as provided by the fund, we give consideration to information pertinent to the specific nature of the debt or equity investment, such as relevant market conditions, offering prices, operating results, financial conditions, exit strategy and other qualitative information, as available. The lack of an independent source to validate fair value estimates, including the impact of future capital calls and transfer restrictions, is an inherent limitation in the valuation process. Commitments to fund additional investments in nonmarketable equity securities recorded at fair value were \$3.7 million and \$4.0 million at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively.

Warrants are valued based upon the Black-Scholes option-pricing model that uses discount rates and stock volatility factors of comparable companies as inputs. These inputs are subject to management judgment to account for differences between the measured investment and comparable companies and are reported as Level 3 assets.

Securities Sold, But Not Yet Purchased

Equity securities that are valued based on quoted prices in active markets and reported in Level 1.

Derivatives

Derivatives are valued using quoted market prices when available or pricing models based on the net present value of estimated future cash flows. The valuation models used require market observable inputs, including contractual terms, market prices, yield curves, credit curves, and measures of volatility. We manage credit risk for our derivative positions on a counterparty-by-counterparty basis and calculate credit valuation adjustments, included in the fair value of these instruments, on the basis of our relationships at the counterparty portfolio/master netting agreement level. These credit valuation adjustments are determined by applying a credit spread for the counterparty to the total expected exposure of the derivative after considering collateral and other master netting arrangements. We have classified our interest rate swaps as Level 2.

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 are presented below:

	March 31, 2012					
	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3		
Assets:						
Cash equivalents	\$ 48,751	\$ 48,751	\$ -	\$ -		
Trading securities owned:	. ,					
U.S. government agency securities	91,271	-	91,271	-		
U.S. government securities	15,030	15,030	-	-		
Corporate securities:	•	,				
Fixed income securities	240,244	67,774	165,773	6,697		
Equity securities	31,810	28,584	3,226	-		
State and municipal securities	197,369	-	197,369	-		
Total trading securities owned	575,724	111,388	457,639	6,697		
Available-for-sale securities:						
U.S. government agency securities	1,116	-	1,116	-		
State and municipal securities	83,466	-	18,607	64,859		
Mortgage-backed securities:						
Agency	465,882	-	465,882	-		
Commercial	286,868	-	286,868	-		
Non-agency	16,689	-	16,689	-		
Corporate fixed income securities	468,097	310,850	145,247	12,000		
Asset-backed securities	25,417	-	25,417	-		
Total available-for-sale securities	1,347,535	310,850	959,826	76,859		
Investments:						
Corporate equity securities	27,504	27,311	193	-		
Mutual funds	36,855	36,855	-	-		
U.S. government securities	7,000	7,000	-	-		
Auction rate securities:						
Equity securities	92,077	-	-	92,077		
Municipal securities	13,404	-	-	13,404		
Other	39,266	942	342	37,982		
Total investments	216,106	72,108	535	143,463		
	\$ 2,188,116	\$ 543,097	\$ 1,418,000	\$ 227,019		
Liabilities:						
Trading securities sold, but not yet purchased:						
U.S. government securities	\$ 98,283	\$ 98,283	\$ -	\$ -		
U.S. government agency securities	6,161	-	6,161	-		
Corporate securities:						
Fixed income securities	145,002	46,729	98,273	-		
Equity securities	17,972	17,972	-	-		
State and municipal securities	389	-	389	-		
Total trading securities sold, but not yet purchased	267,807	162,984	104,823	-		
Securities sold, but not yet purchased	21,823	21,823	-	-		
Derivative contracts (1)	21,040	-	21,040	-		

\$ 310,670 \$ 184,807 \$ 125,863 \$ -

(1) Included in accounts payable and accrued expenses in the consolidated statements of financial condition.

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	December 31, 2011					
	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3		
Assets:						
Cash equivalents	\$ 14,156	\$ 14,156	\$ -	\$ -		
Trading securities owned:						
U.S. government agency securities	66,424	-	66,424	-		
U.S. government securities	32,845	32,845	-	-		
Corporate securities:						
Fixed income securities	244,535	31,398	209,395	3,742		
Equity securities	19,859	19,506	353	-		
State and municipal securities	111,288	-	111,288	-		
Total trading securities owned	474,951	83,749	387,460	3,742		
Available-for-sale securities:						
U.S. government agency securities	1,103	-	1,103	-		
State and municipal securities	86,932	-	20,036	66,896		
Mortgage-backed securities:						
Agency	404,662	-	404,662	-		
Commercial	271,510	-	271,510	-		
Non-agency	17,460	-	17,460	-		
Corporate fixed income securities	405,985	153,855	240,130	12,000		
Asset-backed securities	26,489	-	26,489	-		
Total available-for-sale securities	1,214,141	153,855	981,390	78,896		
Investments:						
Corporate equity securities	23,921	23,921	-	-		
Mutual funds	33,958	33,958	-	-		
Auction rate securities:						
Equity securities	103,176	-	-	103,176		
Municipal securities	11,729	-	-	11,729		
Other	38,424	1,055	336	37,033		
Total investments	211,208	58,934	336	151,938		
	\$ 1,914,456	\$ 310,694	\$ 1,369,186	\$ 234,576		
Liabilities:						
Trading securities sold, but not yet purchased:						
U.S. government securities	\$ 109,776	\$ 109,776	\$ -	\$ -		
U.S. government agency securities	954	-	954	-		
Corporate securities:						
Fixed income securities	149,460	74,719	74,741	-		
Equity securities	6,060	6,019	41	-		
State and municipal securities	583	-	583	-		
Total trading securities sold, but not yet purchased	266,833	190,514	76,319	-		
Securities sold, but not yet purchased	19,223	19,223	-	-		
Derivative contracts (1)	24,877	-	24,877	-		
	\$ 310,933	\$ 209,737	\$ 101,196	\$ -		

(1) Included in accounts payable and accrued expenses in the consolidated statements of financial condition.

Our investment in a senior preferred interest in Miller Buckfire & Co. LLC, which is included in investments in the consolidated statements of financial condition, is carried at cost and therefore not included in the above analysis of fair value at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011.

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The following table summarizes the changes in fair value carrying values associated with Level 3 financial instruments during the three months ended March 31, 2012 (in thousands):

Available-for-sale securities							Investmen	ts				
	Corporate Fixed Income Securities (1)		State and Municipa Securities (2)	1	Corporate Fixed Income Securities		Auction Rate Securities Equity	-	Auction Rate Securities Municipa	_	Other	
Balance at December 31												
2011	\$ 3,742		\$ 66,896		\$ 12,000	9	5 103,176		\$ 11,729		\$ 37,033	
Unrealized gains/(losses):											
Included in changes in n	et											
assets (3)	47		-		-		451		(65)	704	
Included in OCI (4)	-		(155)	-		-		-		-	
Realized gains (3)	18		118		-		-		-		590	
Purchases	5,246		-		-		2,800		2,040		390	
Sales	(2,557)	-		-		-		-		(735)
Redemptions	-		(2,000)	-		(14,350)	(300)	-	
Transfers:												
Into Level 3	227		-		-		-		-		-	
Out of Level 3	(26)	-		-		-		-		-	
Net change	2,955		(2,037)	-		(11,099)	1,675		949	
Balance at March 31, 2012	\$ 6,697		\$ 64,859		\$ 12,000	9	\$ 92,077		\$ 13,404		\$ 37,982	

- (1) Included in trading securities owned in the consolidated statements of financial condition.
- (2) Consists of auction rate securities.
- (3) Realized and unrealized gains/(losses) related to trading securities and investments are reported in other income in the consolidated statements of operations.
- (4) Unrealized gains related to available-for-sale securities are reported in accumulated other comprehensive loss in the consolidated statements of financial condition.

The results included in the table above are only a component of the overall investment strategies of our company. The table above does not present Level 1 or Level 2 valued assets or liabilities. The changes to our company's Level 3 classified instruments were principally a result of: unrealized gains and losses, and redemptions of ARS at par during the three months ended March 31, 2012. The changes in unrealized gains/(losses) recorded in earnings for the three months ended March 31, 2012 relating to Level 3 assets still held at March 31, 2012 were immaterial.

The following table presents quantitative information related to the significant unobservable inputs utilized in our company's Level 3 recurring fair value measurements as of March 31, 2012 (in thousands, except rates and years).

Discounted cash flow model - unobservable inputs

					P	
			Disc	ount rate	Worko	ut period
	Es	timated		Weighted		Weighted
	fa	ir value	Range	average	Range	average
			_	_	_	_
Available-for-sale securities:						
			2.4% -		3 - 4	
State and municipal securities	\$	64,859	9.2%	5.0%	years	3.5 years
Investments:						
Auction rate securities:						
			0.0% -		1 - 4	
Equity securities		92,077	7.5%	4.7%	years	2.6 years
			1.5% -		1 - 3	
Municipal securities		13,404	8.7%	4.2%	years	1.9 years

Transfers Within the Fair Value Hierarchy

We assess our financial instruments on a quarterly basis to determine the appropriate classification within the fair value hierarchy. Transfers between fair value classifications occur when there are changes in pricing observability levels. Transfers of financial instruments among the levels are deemed to occur at the beginning of the reporting period. There were \$1.8 million of transfers of financial assets from Level 2 to Level 1 during the three months ended March 31, 2012 primarily related to tax-exempt securities for which market trades were observed that provided transparency into the valuation of these assets. There were \$0.4 million of transfers of financial assets from Level 1 to Level 2 during the three months ended March 31, 2012 primarily related to tax-exempt securities for which there were low volumes of recent trade activity observed. There were \$0.2 million of transfers of financial assets into Level 3 during the three months ended March 31, 2012 related to corporate fixed income securities for which there were low volumes of recent trade activity observed.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The following reflects the fair value of financial instruments, as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, whether or not recognized in the consolidated statements of financial condition at fair value (in thousands).

	March	31, 2012	Decembe	er 31, 2011
	Carrying value	Estimated fair value	Carrying value	Estimated fair value
Financial assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 226,458	\$ 226,458	\$ 167,671	\$ 167,671
Restricted cash	6,584	6,584	6,883	6,883
Cash segregated for regulatory purposes	26	26	26	26
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	103,958	103,958	75,455	75,455
Trading securities owned	575,724	575,724	474,951	474,951
Available-for-sale securities	1,347,535	1,347,535	1,214,141	1,214,141
Held-to-maturity securities	327,447	329,833	190,484	189,071
Loans held for sale	141,136	141,136	131,754	131,754
Bank loans	657,193	665,773	632,140	639,341
Investments	244,106	244,106	239,208	239,208
Financial liabilities:				
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	\$ 142,119	\$ 142,119	\$ 80,176	\$ 80,176
Bank deposits	2,357,912	2,326,411	2,071,738	2,067,324
Trading securities sold, but not yet purchased	267,807	267,807	266,833	266,833
Securities sold, but not yet purchased	21,823	21,823	19,223	19,223
Derivative contracts (1)	21,040	21,040	24,877	24,877
Senior notes	175,000	189,108	-	-
Debentures to Stifel Financial Capital Trusts	82,500	69,206	82,500	67,594
Liabilities subordinated to the claims of general creditors	5,318	5,079	6,957	6,671

⁽¹⁾ Included in accounts payable and accrued expenses in the consolidated statements of financial condition.

The following table presents the estimated fair values of financial instruments not measured at fair value on a recurring basis (in thousands):

	March 31, 2012 (1)					
	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3		
Financial assets:						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 177,707	\$ 177,707	\$ -	\$ -		
Restricted cash	6,584	6,584	-	-		
Cash segregated for regulatory purposes	26	26	-	-		
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	103,958	103,958	-	-		
Held-to-maturity securities	329,833	14,707	39,537	275,589		
Loans held for sale	141,136	-	141,136	-		
Bank loans	665,773	-	665,773	-		
Investments	28,000	-	-	28,000		
Financial liabilities:						
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	\$ 142,119	35,809	106,310	-		
Bank deposits	2,326,411	-	2,326,411	-		
Senior notes	189,108	189,108	-	-		
Debentures to Stifel Financial Capital Trusts	69,206	-	-	69,206		
Liabilities subordinated to claims of general creditors	5,079	-	-	5,079		

(1) We adopted the provisions of Update No. 2011-04 in the first quarter of 2012 on a prospective basis. Accordingly, disclosures for prior periods are not presented.

The following, as supplemented by the discussion above, describes the valuation techniques used in estimating the fair value of our financial instruments as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011.

Financial Assets

Securities Purchased Under Agreements to Resell

Securities purchased under agreements to resell are collateralized financing transactions that are recorded at their contractual amounts plus accrued interest. The carrying values at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 approximate fair value due to the short-term nature.

Held-to-Maturity Securities

Securities held to maturity are recorded at amortized cost based on our company's positive intent and ability to hold these securities to maturity. Securities held to maturity include asset-backed securities, consisting of corporate obligations, collateralized debt obligation securities and ARS. The estimated fair value, included in the above table, is determined using several factors; however, primary weight is given to discounted cash flow modeling techniques that incorporated an estimated discount rate based upon recent observable debt security issuances with similar characteristics.

Loans Held for Sale

Loans held for sale consist of fixed-rate and adjustable-rate residential real estate mortgage loans intended for sale. Loans held for sale are stated at lower of cost or fair value. Fair value is determined based on prevailing market prices for loans with similar characteristics or on sale contract prices.

Bank Loans

The fair values of mortgage loans and commercial loans were estimated using a discounted cash flow method, a form of the income approach. Discount rates were determined considering rates at which similar portfolios of loans would be made under current conditions and considering liquidity spreads applicable to each loan portfolio based on the secondary market.

Financial Liabilities

Securities Sold Under Agreements to Repurchase

Securities sold under agreements to repurchase are collateralized financing transactions that are recorded at their contractual amounts plus accrued interest. The carrying values at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 approximate fair value due to the short-term nature.

Bank Deposits

The fair value for demand deposits is equal to the amount payable on demand at the reporting date (that is, their carrying amounts). The carrying amounts of variable-rate money-market and savings accounts approximate their fair values at the reporting date as these are short-term in nature. The fair value of other interest-bearing deposits, including certificates of deposit, was calculated by discounting the future cash flows using discount rates based on the expected current market rates for similar products with similar remaining terms.

Senior Notes

The fair value of our 6.70% senior notes is estimated based upon quoted market prices.

Debentures to Stifel Financial Capital Trusts

The fair value of our trust preferred securities is based on the discounted value of contractual cash flows. We have assumed a discount rate based on the coupon achieved in our recently issued 6.7% senior notes due 2022.

Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of General Creditors

The fair value of subordinated debt was measured using the interest rates commensurate with borrowings of similar terms.

These fair value disclosures represent our best estimates based on relevant market information and information about the financial instruments. Fair value estimates are based on judgments regarding future expected losses, current economic conditions, risk characteristics of the various instruments, and other factors. These estimates are subjective in nature and involve uncertainties and matters of significant judgment and, therefore, cannot be determined with precision. Changes in the above methodologies and assumptions could significantly affect the estimates.

NOTE 5 - Trading Securities Owned and Trading Securities Sold, But Not Yet Purchased

The components of trading securities owned and trading securities sold, but not yet purchased, at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, are as follows (in thousands):

	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Trading securities owned:		
U.S. government agency securities	\$ 91,271	\$ 66,424
U.S. government securities	15,030	32,845
Corporate securities:		
Fixed income securities	240,244	244,535
Equity securities	31,810	19,859
State and municipal securities	197,369	111,288
	\$ 575,724	\$ 474,951
Trading securities sold, but not yet purchased:		
U.S. government securities	\$ 98,283	\$ 109,776
U.S. government agency securities	6,161	954
Corporate securities:		
Fixed income securities	145,002	149,460
Equity securities	17,972	6,060
State and municipal securities	389	583
	\$ 267,807	\$ 266,833

At March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, trading securities owned in the amount of \$425.8 million and \$392.4 million, respectively, were pledged as collateral for our repurchase agreements and short-term borrowings.

Trading securities sold, but not yet purchased, represent obligations of our company to deliver the specified security at the contracted price, thereby creating a liability to purchase the security in the market at prevailing prices in future periods. We are obligated to acquire the securities sold short at prevailing market prices in future periods, which may exceed the amount reflected in the consolidated statements of financial condition.

NOTE 6 - Available-for-Sale and Held-to-Maturity Securities

The following tables provide a summary of the amortized cost and fair values of the available-for-sale securities and held-to-maturity securities at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 (in thousands):

	March 31, 2012 Gross Gross Amortized unrealized unrealized cost gains (1) losses (1)							Estimated fair value		
Available-for-sale securities										
U.S. government securities	\$	1,115	\$	2	\$	(1)	\$	1,116	
State and municipal securities		79,351		4,540		(425)		83,466	
Mortgage-backed securities:						`	,			
Agency		457,608		8,687		(413)		465,882	
Commercial		283,746		3,664		(542)		286,868	
Non-agency		16,458		231		-			16,689	
Corporate fixed income securities		466,221		4,647		(2,771)		468,097	
Asset-backed securities		25,252		498		(333)		25,417	
	\$	1,329,751	\$	22,269	\$	(4,485)	\$	1,347,535	
Held-to-maturity securities (2)						•				
Asset-backed securities	\$	251,832	\$	6,221	\$	(2,681)	\$	255,372	
Corporate fixed income securities		55,519		56		(1,331)		54,244	
Municipal auction rate securities		20,096		846		(725)		20,217	
·	\$	327,447	\$	7,123	\$	(4,737)	\$	329,833	
		Amortized cost		Decem Gross nrealized gains (1)	u	Gross nrealized			Estimated fair value	
Available-for-sale securities										
U.S. government securities	\$	1,105	\$	-	\$	(2)	\$	1,103	
State and municipal securities		82,256		4,979		(303)		86,932	
Mortgage-backed securities:										
Agency		396,952		8,469		(759)		404,662	
Commercial		270,677		1,811		(978)		271,510	
Non-agency		17,701		135		(376)		17,460	
Corporate fixed income securities		409,503		2,108		(5,626)		405,985	
Asset-backed securities		26,011		548		(70)		26,489	
	\$	1,204,205	\$	18,050	\$	(8,114)	\$	1,214,141	
Held-to-maturity securities (2)										
Asset-backed securities	\$	122,148	\$	2,953	\$	(3,138)	\$	121,963	
Corporate fixed income securities		55,544		56		(2,016)		53,584	
Municipal auction rate securities		12,792		733		(1)		13,524	
	\$	190,484	\$	3,742	\$	(5,155)	\$	189,071	

- (1) Unrealized gains/(losses) related to available-for-sale securities are reported in accumulated other comprehensive loss.
- (2) Held-to-maturity securities are carried in the consolidated statements of financial condition at amortized cost, and the changes in the value of these securities, other than impairment charges, are not reported on the consolidated financial statements.

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, we received proceeds of \$2.7 million from the sale of available-for-sale securities, which resulted in realized gains of an immaterial amount. During the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, unrealized gains, net of deferred taxes, of \$4.9 million and \$1.2 million, respectively, were recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss in the consolidated statements of financial condition.

The table below summarizes the amortized cost and fair values of debt securities, by contractual maturity (in thousands). Expected maturities may differ significantly from contractual maturities, as issuers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

		March 31, 2012						
	Availabl	Available-for-sale						
	secu	rities	Held-to-matu	urity securities				
	Amortized	Amortized Estimated		Estimated				
	cost	fair value	cost	fair value				
Debt securities								
Within one year	\$ 36,257	\$ 36,424	\$ -	\$ -				
After one year through three years	318,885	322,515	-	-				
After three years through five years	118,776	116,776	21,265	20,909				
After five years through ten years	5,583	6,207	143,413	142,717				
After ten years	92,438	96,174	162,769	166,207				
Mortgage-backed securities								
After one year through three years	9,528	10,003	-	-				
After five years through ten years	17,408	17,815	-	-				
After ten years	730,876	741,621	_	_				
	\$ 1 329 751	\$ 1 347 535	\$ 327 447	\$ 329 833				

The carrying value of securities pledged as collateral to secure public deposits and other purposes was \$706.3 million and \$634.8 million at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively.

The following table is a summary of the amount of gross unrealized losses and the estimated fair value by length of time that the available-for-sale securities have been in an unrealized loss position at March 31, 2012 (in thousands):

	Less than 12 months Gross			12 mo Gross	s or more	Total Gross			
	unrealize	d	Estimated	unrealized	1	Estimated	unrealize	d	Estimated
	losses		fair value	losses		fair value	losses		fair value
Available-for-sale securities									
U.S. government securities	\$ (1)	\$ 109	\$ -		\$ -	\$ (1)	\$ 109
State and municipal									
securities	(425)	26,129	-		-	(425)	26,129
Mortgage-backed securities:									
Agency	(413)	163,201	-		-	(413)	163,201
Commercial	(542)	46,227	-		-	(542)	46,227
Corporate fixed income									
securities	(1,301)	57,026	(1,470)	28,512	(2,771)	85,538
Asset-backed securities	(333)	15,196	-		-	(333)	15,196
	\$ (3,015)	\$ 307,888	\$ (1,470)	\$ 28,512	\$ (4,485)	\$ 336,400

The gross unrealized losses on our available-for-sale securities of \$4.5 million as of March 31, 2012 relate to 37 individual securities.

Certain investments in the available-for-sale portfolio at March 31, 2012, are reported in the consolidated statements of financial condition at an amount less than their amortized cost. The total fair value of these investments at March 31, 2012, was \$336.4 million, which was 25.0% of our available-for-sale investment portfolio. The amortized cost basis of these investments was \$331.9 million at March 31, 2012. As discussed in more detail below, we conduct periodic reviews of all securities with unrealized losses to assess whether the impairment is other-than-temporary.

Other-Than-Temporary Impairment

We evaluate all securities in an unrealized loss position quarterly to assess whether the impairment is other-than-temporary. Our other-than-temporary impairment ("OTTI") assessment is a subjective process requiring the use of judgments and assumptions. Accordingly, we consider a number of qualitative and quantitative criteria in our assessment, including the extent and duration of the impairment; recent events specific to the issuer and/or industry to which the issuer belongs; the payment structure of the security; external credit ratings and the failure of the issuer to make scheduled interest or principal payments; the value of underlying collateral; and current market conditions.

If we determine that impairment on our debt securities is other-than-temporary and we have made the decision to sell the security or it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell the security prior to recovery of its amortized cost basis, we recognize the entire portion of the impairment in earnings. If we have not made a decision to sell the security and we do not expect that we will be required to sell the security prior to recovery of the amortized cost basis, we recognize only the credit component of OTTI in earnings. The remaining unrealized loss due to factors other than credit, or the non-credit component, is recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss. We determine the credit component based on the difference between the security's amortized cost basis and the present value of its expected future cash flows, discounted based on the purchase yield. The non-credit component represents the difference between the security's fair value and the present value of expected future cash flows. Based on the evaluation, we recognized a credit-related OTTI of \$0.2 million in earnings for the three months ended March 31, 2012.

We estimate the portion of loss attributable to credit using a discounted cash flow model. Key assumptions used in estimating the expected cash flows include default rates, loss severity and prepayment rates. Assumptions used can vary widely based on the collateral underlying the securities and are influenced by factors such as collateral type, loan interest rate, geographical location of the borrower, and borrower characteristics.

We believe the gross unrealized losses related to all other securities of \$4.5 million as of March 31, 2012 are attributable to issuer specific credit spreads and changes in market interest rates and asset spreads. We, therefore, do not expect to incur any credit losses related to these securities. In addition, we have no intent to sell these securities with unrealized losses and it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell these securities prior to recovery of the amortized cost. Accordingly, we have concluded that the impairment on these securities is not other-than-temporary.

NOTE 7 - Bank Loans

The following table presents the balance and associated percentage of each major loan category in our loan portfolio at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 (in thousands, except percentages):

	March 31, 2012			December 31,	2011	
	Balance	Percent	Balance		Percent	
Consumer (1)	\$ 385,231	58.1%	\$	371,399	58.2%	
Commercial and industrial	203,559	30.7		186,996	29.3	
Residential real estate	47,200	7.1		51,755	8.1	
Home equity lines of credit	24,100	3.6		24,086	3.8	
Commercial real estate	2,996	0.4		3,107	0.5	
Construction and land	514	0.1		514	0.1	
	663,600	100.0%		637,857	100.0%	
	(537)			(421)		

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Unamortized loan fees, net of origination								
costs								
Loans in process		(89)		4				
Allowance for loan losses		(5,781)		(5,300)				
	\$	657,193	\$	632,140				

 $_{(1)}$ Includes securities-based loans of \$384.9 million and \$371.1 million at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively.

Changes in the allowance for loan losses for the periods presented were as follows (in thousands):

	Three Mont	Three Months Ended March		
		31,		
	2012	2011		
Allowance for loan losses, beginning of period	\$ 5,300	\$ 2,331		
Provision for loan losses	543	185		
Charge-offs:				
Residential real estate	(109) -		
Recoveries	47	5		
Allowance for loan losses, end of period	\$ 5,781	\$ 2,521		

A loan is determined to be impaired, usually when principal or interest becomes 90 days past due or when collection becomes uncertain. At the time a loan is determined to be impaired, the accrual of interest and amortization of deferred loan origination fees is discontinued ("non-accrual status"), and any accrued and unpaid interest income is reversed. At March 31, 2012, we had \$1.9 million of non-accrual loans, for which there was a specific allowance of \$0.6 million. Further, we had \$0.3 million in troubled debt restructurings at March 31, 2012. At December 31, 2011, we had \$2.3 million of non-accrual loans, for which there was a specific allowance of \$0.6 million. Further, we had \$0.3 million in troubled debt restructurings at December 31, 2011. The gross interest income related to impaired loans, which would have been recorded had these loans been current in accordance with their original terms, and the interest income recognized on these loans during the three months ended March 31, 2012, were insignificant to the consolidated financial statements.

Credit Quality

We closely monitor economic conditions and loan performance trends to manage and evaluate our exposure to credit risk. Trends in delinquency ratios are an indicator, among other considerations, of credit risk within our loan portfolios. The level of nonperforming assets represents another indicator of the potential for future credit losses. Accordingly, key metrics we track and use in evaluating the credit quality of our loan portfolio include delinquency and nonperforming asset rates, as well as charge-off rates and our internal risk ratings of the loan portfolio. In general, we are a secured lender. At March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, approximately 95% and 95% of our loan portfolio was collateralized, respectively. Collateral is required in accordance with the normal credit evaluation process based upon the creditworthiness of the customer and the credit risk associated with the particular transaction.

The following is a breakdown of the allowance for loan losses by type for as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 (in thousands, except rates):

	March 31, 2012			December 31, 2011		
	Balance Percent(1)			Balance	Percent(1)	
Commercial and industrial	\$ 2,908	30.7%	\$	2,595	29.3%	
Residential real estate	667	7.1		679	8.1	
Commercial real estate	565	0.4		633	0.5	
Consumer	785	58.1		510	58.2	
Unallocated	856	3.7		883	3.9	
	\$ 5,781	100.0%	\$	5,300	100.0%	

(1) Loan category as a percentage of total loan portfolio.

At March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, Stifel Bank had loans outstanding to its executive officers, directors, and their affiliates in the amount of \$0.8 million and \$0.8 million, respectively, and loans outstanding to other Stifel Financial Corp. executive officers, directors, and their affiliates in the amount of \$5.2 million and \$4.3 million, respectively. Such loans and other extensions of credit were made in the ordinary course of business and were made on substantially the same terms (including interest rates and collateral requirements) as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with other persons.

At March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, we had mortgage loans held for sale of \$141.1 million and \$131.8 million, respectively. For the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, we recognized gains of \$2.8 million and \$2.0 million, respectively, from the sale of originated loans, net of fees and costs.

NOTE 8 - Fixed Assets

The following is a summary of fixed assets as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 (in thousands):

	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Furniture and equipment	\$ 149,905	\$ 147,210
Building and leasehold improvements	77,100	77,192
Total	227,005	224,402
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(125,604)	(119,662)
	\$ 101,401	\$ 104,740

For the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, depreciation and amortization of furniture and equipment, and leasehold improvements totaled \$7.2 million and \$5.6 million, respectively.

NOTE 9 - Goodwill and Intangible Assets

Goodwill impairment is tested at the reporting unit level, which is an operating segment or one level below an operating segment on an annual basis. The goodwill impairment analysis is a two-step test. The first step, used to identify potential impairment, involves comparing each reporting unit's fair value to its carrying value, including goodwill. If the fair value of a reporting unit exceeds its carrying value, applicable goodwill is considered not to be impaired. If the carrying value exceeds fair value, there is an indication of impairment and the second step is performed to measure the amount of impairment. Our annual goodwill impairment testing was completed as of July 31, 2011, with no impairment identified.

The carrying amount of goodwill and intangible assets attributable to each of our reporting segments is presented in the following table (in thousands):

	De	ecember 31,			Ir	npairment	I	March 31,
		2011	N	et additions		losses		2012
Goodwill								
Global Wealth Management	\$	143,828	\$	-	\$	-	\$	143,828
Institutional Group		215,160		-		-		215,160
	\$	358,988	\$	-	\$	-	\$	358,988

	De	cember 31,						1	March 31,
		2011	Ne	et additions	Ar	nortizatio	n		2012
Intangible assets									
Global Wealth Management	\$	18,819	\$	-	\$	(625)	\$	18,194
Institutional Group		15,044		-		(704)		14,340
	\$	33,863	\$	-	\$	(1,329)	\$	32,534

Amortizable intangible assets consist of acquired customer relationships, trade name, non-compete agreements, and investment banking backlog that are amortized over their contractual or determined useful lives. Intangible assets subject to amortization as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 were as follows (in thousands):

	March Gross	31, 2012	Decemb Gross	per 31, 2011
	carrying value	Accumulated amortization	carrying value	Accumulated amortization
Customer relationships	\$ 40,166	\$ 15,843	\$ 40,166	\$ 14,827
Trade name	9,442	1,264	9,442	1,011
Investment banking backlog	2,250	2,217	2,250	2,157
	\$ 51,858	\$ 19,324	\$ 51,858	\$ 17,995

Amortization expense related to intangible assets was \$1.3 million and \$1.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

The weighted-average remaining lives of the following intangible assets at March 31, 2012 are: customer relationships, 6.9 years; and trade name, 8.1 years. The investment banking backlog will be amortized over their estimated lives, which we expect to be within the next 12 months. As of March 31, 2012, we expect amortization expense in future periods to be as follows (in thousands):

Fiscal year	
Remainder of 2012	\$ 3,597
2013	4,309
2014	3,856
2015	3,129
2016	2,829
Thereafter	14,814
	\$ 32,534

NOTE 10 - Short-Term Borrowings

Our short-term financing is generally obtained through short-term bank line financing on an uncommitted, secured basis, short-term bank line financing on an unsecured basis and securities lending arrangements. We borrow from various banks on a demand basis with company-owned and customer securities pledged as collateral. The value of customer-owned securities used as collateral is not reflected in the consolidated statements of financial condition. Our uncommitted secured lines of credit at March 31, 2012 totaled \$680.0 million with four banks and are dependent on having appropriate collateral, as determined by the bank agreements, to secure an advance under the line. The availability of our uncommitted lines are subject to approval by the individual banks each time an advance is requested and may be denied. Our peak daily borrowing was \$364.0 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012. There are no compensating balance requirements under these arrangements.

Our committed short-term bank line financing at March 31, 2012 consisted of a \$50.0 million committed revolving credit facility with two banks. The credit facility expires in December 2012. The applicable interest rate under the revolving credit facility is calculated as a per annum rate equal to the higher of (i) the prime rate, (ii) the federal funds effective rate plus 0.50%, or (iii) one-month Eurocurrency rate plus 1.00%, as defined in the revolving credit facility. At March 31, 2012, we had no advances on our revolving credit facility and were in compliance with all covenants.

At March 31, 2012, short-term borrowings from banks were \$187.4 million at an average rate of 1.13%, which were collateralized by company-owned securities valued at \$283.7 million. At December 31, 2011, short-term borrowings from banks were \$199.4 million at an average rate of 1.17%, which were collateralized by company-owned securities valued at \$293.0 million. The average bank borrowing was \$185.3 million and \$168.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, at average daily interest rates of 1.13%, and 1.40%, respectively.

At March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, Stifel Nicolaus had a stock loan balance of \$141.1 million and \$124.7 million, respectively, at average daily interest rates of 0.14% and 0.17%, respectively. The average outstanding securities lending arrangements utilized in financing activities were \$156.0 million and \$98.4 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, at average daily effective interest rates of 2.09% and 1.34%, respectively. Customer-owned securities were utilized in these arrangements.

NOTE 11 - Bank Deposits

Deposits consist of money market and savings accounts, certificates of deposit, and demand deposits. Deposits at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 were as follows (in thousands):

	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Money market and savings accounts	\$ 2,316,088	\$ 2,024,568
Demand deposits (interest-bearing)	25,292	29,509
Demand deposits (non-interest-bearing)	14,942	15,691
Certificates of deposit	1,590	1,970
-	\$ 2,357,912	\$ 2,071,738

The weighted average interest rate on deposits was 0.1% and 0.2% at March 31, 2011 and December 31, 2011, respectively.

Scheduled maturities of certificates of deposit at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 were as follows (in thousands):

	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Certificates of deposit, less than \$100:		
Within one year	\$ 546	\$ 794
One to three years	241	240
	\$ 787	\$ 1,034
Certificates of deposit, \$100 and greater:		
Within one year	\$ 521	\$ 656
One to three years	282	280
	803	936
	\$ 1,590	\$ 1,970

At March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the amount of deposits includes related party deposits, primarily brokerage customers' deposits from Stifel Nicolaus of \$2.3 billion and \$2.1 billion, respectively, and interest-bearing and time deposits of executive officers, directors, and their affiliates of \$0.1 million and \$0.6 million, respectively. Such deposits were made in the ordinary course of business and were made on substantially the same terms (including interest rates) as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with other persons.

NOTE 12 - Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities

We use interest rate swaps as part of its interest rate risk management strategy. Interest rate swaps generally involve the exchange of fixed and variable rate interest payments between two parties, based on a common notional principal amount and maturity date with no exchange of underlying principal amounts. Interest rate swaps designated as cash flow hedges involve the receipt of variable amounts from a counterparty in exchange for our company making fixed payments. Our policy is not to offset fair value amounts recognized for derivative instruments and fair value amounts recognized for the right to reclaim cash collateral or the obligation to return cash collateral arising from derivative instruments recognized at fair value executed with the same counterparty under master netting arrangements.

The following table provides the notional values and fair values of our derivative instruments as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 (in thousands):

			March 31, 20	12			
		Asset der	rivatives	Liability de	eriva	tives	
	Notional	Balance sheet	Positive	Balance sheet	N	egative fair	
	value	location	fair value	location		value	
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments under Topic 815:							
				Accounts			
Cash flow interest rate				payable and accrued			
contracts	\$ 734,567	Other assets	\$ -	expenses	\$	(21,040)
			December 31, 2	2011			
		Asset der	rivatives	Liability de	eriva	tives	
	Notional	Balance sheet	Positive	Balance sheet	N	egative fair	
	value	location	fair value	location		value	
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments under Topic 815:							
Cash flow interest rate				Accounts payable and accrued			
contracts	\$ 761,907	Other assets	\$ -	expenses	\$	(24,877)

Cash Flow Hedges

We have entered into interest rate swap agreements that effectively modify our exposure to interest rate risk by converting floating rate debt to a fixed rate debt over the next ten years.

Any unrealized gains or losses related to cash flow hedging instruments are reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss into earnings in the same period the hedged forecasted transaction affects earnings and are recorded in interest expense on the accompanying consolidated statements of operations. The ineffective portion of the cash flow hedging instruments is recorded in other income or other operating expense. There was no ineffectiveness recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2012.

Amounts reported in accumulated other comprehensive loss related to derivatives will be reclassified to interest expense as interest payments are made on our variable rate deposits. During the next twelve months, we estimate that \$10.5 million will be reclassified as an increase to interest expense.

The following table shows the effect of our company's derivative instruments in the consolidated statements of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2012								
	(Gain)/Loss	(Gain)/Loss Loss							
	recognized	Location of loss	reclassified	Location of loss	recognized				
	in OCI	reclassified from	from OCI	recognized in OCI	due to				
	(effectiveness)	OCI into income	into income	(ineffectiveness)	ineffectiveness				
Cash flow interest rate									
contracts	\$ (625)	Interest expense	\$ 3,211	None	\$ -				
	Three Months Ended March 31, 2011								
	(Gain)/Loss		Loss		Loss				
	recognized	Location of loss	reclassified	Location of loss	recognized				
	in OCI	reclassified from	from OCI	recognized in OCI	due to				
	(effectiveness)	OCI into income	into income	(ineffectiveness)	ineffectiveness				
Cash flow interest rate									
contracts	\$ (1,135)	Interest expense	\$ 3,405	None	\$ -				

We maintain a risk management strategy that incorporates the use of derivative instruments to minimize significant unplanned fluctuations in earnings caused by interest rate volatility. Our goal is to manage sensitivity to changes in rates by hedging the maturity characteristics of variable rate affiliated deposits, thereby limiting the impact on earnings. By using derivative instruments, we are exposed to credit and market risk on those derivative positions. We manage the market risk associated with interest rate contracts by establishing and monitoring limits as to the types and degree of risk that may be undertaken. Credit risk is equal to the extent of the fair value gain in a derivative if the counterparty fails to perform. When the fair value of a derivative contract is positive, this generally indicates that the counterparty owes our company and, therefore, creates a repayment risk for our company. When the fair value of a derivative contract is negative, we owe the counterparty and, therefore, have no repayment risk. See Note 4 in the notes to our consolidated financial statements for further discussion on how we determine the fair value of our financial instruments. We minimize the credit (or repayment) risk in derivative instruments by entering into transactions with high-quality counterparties that are reviewed periodically by senior management.

Credit Risk-Related Contingency Features

We have agreements with our derivative counterparties containing provisions where if we default on any of our indebtedness, including default where repayment of the indebtedness has not been accelerated by the lender, then we could also be declared in default on our derivative obligations.

We have agreements with certain of our derivative counterparties that contain provisions where if our shareholders' equity declines below a specified threshold or if we fail to maintain a specified minimum shareholders' equity, then we could be declared in default on our derivative obligations.

Certain of our agreements with our derivative counterparties contain provisions where if a specified event or condition occurs that materially changes our creditworthiness in an adverse manner, we may be required to fully collateralize our obligations under the derivative instrument.

Regulatory Capital-Related Contingency Features

Certain of our derivative instruments contain provisions that require us to maintain our capital adequacy requirements. If we were to lose our status as "adequately capitalized," we would be in violation of those provisions, and the counterparties of the derivative instruments could request immediate payment or demand immediate and ongoing full overnight collateralization on derivative instruments in net liability positions.

As of March 31, 2012, the fair value of derivatives in a net liability position, which includes accrued interest but excludes any adjustment for nonperformance risk, related to these agreements was \$22.2 million (termination value). We have minimum collateral posting thresholds with certain of our derivative counterparties and have posted cash collateral of \$32.9 million against our obligations under these agreements. If we had breached any of these provisions at March 31, 2012, we would have been required to settle our obligations under the agreements at the termination value.

Counterparty Risk

In the event of counterparty default, our economic loss may be higher than the uncollateralized exposure of our derivatives if we were not able to replace the defaulted derivatives in a timely fashion. We monitor the risk that our uncollateralized exposure to each of our counterparties for interest rate swaps will increase under certain adverse market conditions by performing periodic market stress tests. These tests evaluate the potential additional uncollateralized exposure we would have to each of these derivative counterparties assuming changes in the level of market rates over a brief time period.

NOTE 13 - Senior Notes

On January 18, 2012, we issued \$175.0 million principal amount of 6.70% Senior Notes due 2022 (the "notes"). Interest on the notes will accrue from January 23, 2012 and will be paid quarterly in arrears on January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15 of each year, commencing on April 15, 2012. The notes will mature on January 15, 2022. We may redeem the notes in whole or in part on or after January 15, 2015 at our option at a redemption price equal to 100% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption.

NOTE 14 - Commitments, Guarantees, and Contingencies

Broker-Dealer Commitments and Guarantees

In the normal course of business, we enter into underwriting commitments. Settlement of transactions relating to such underwriting commitments, which were open at March 31, 2012, had no material effect on the consolidated financial statements.

In connection with margin deposit requirements of The Options Clearing Corporation, we pledged customer-owned securities valued at \$88.2 million to satisfy the minimum margin deposit requirement of \$56.0 million at March 31, 2012.

In connection with margin deposit requirements of the National Securities Clearing Corporation, we deposited \$24.1 million in cash at March 31, 2012, which satisfied the minimum margin deposit requirements of \$18.4 million.

We also provide guarantees to securities clearinghouses and exchanges under their standard membership agreement, which requires members to guarantee the performance of other members. Under the agreement, if another member becomes unable to satisfy its obligations to the clearinghouse, other members would be required to meet shortfalls. Our liability under these agreements is not quantifiable and may exceed the cash and securities we have posted as collateral. However, the potential requirement for us to make payments under these arrangements is considered remote. Accordingly, no liability has been recognized for these arrangements.

TWP has entered into settlement and release agreements ("Settlement Agreements") with certain customers, whereby it will purchase their ARS, at par, in exchange for a release from any future claims. At March 31, 2012, we estimate that TWP customers held \$32.7 million par value of ARS, which may be repurchased over the next 5 years. The amount estimated for repurchase assumes no issuer redemptions.

We have recorded a liability for our estimated exposure to the repurchase plan based upon a net present value calculation, which is subject to change and future events, including redemptions. ARS redemptions have been at par, and we believe will continue to be at par over the remaining repurchase period. Future periods' results may be affected by changes in estimated redemption rates or changes in the fair value of ARS.

Other Commitments

In the ordinary course of business, Stifel Bank has commitments to extend credit in the form of commitments to originate loans, standby letters of credit, and lines of credit. See Note 18 in the notes to our consolidated financial statements for further details.

Concentration of Credit Risk

We provide investment, capital-raising, and related services to a diverse group of domestic customers, including governments, corporations, and institutional and individual investors. Our exposure to credit risk associated with the non-performance of customers in fulfilling their contractual obligations pursuant to securities transactions can be directly impacted by volatile securities markets, credit markets, and regulatory changes. This exposure is measured on an individual customer basis and on a group basis for customers that share similar attributes. To reduce the potential for risk concentrations, counterparty credit limits have been implemented for certain products and are continually monitored in light of changing customer and market conditions. As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, we did not have significant concentrations of credit risk with any one customer or counterparty, or any group of customers or counterparties.

Note 15 - Legal Proceedings

Our company and its subsidiaries are named in and subject to various proceedings and claims arising primarily from our securities business activities, including lawsuits, arbitration claims, class actions, and regulatory matters. Some of these claims seek substantial compensatory, punitive, or indeterminate damages. Our company and its subsidiaries are also involved in other reviews, investigations, and proceedings by governmental and self-regulatory organizations regarding our business, which may result in adverse judgments, settlements, fines, penalties, injunctions, and other relief. We are contesting the allegations in these claims, and we believe that there are meritorious defenses in each of these lawsuits, arbitrations, and regulatory investigations. In view of the number and diversity of claims against the company, the number of jurisdictions in which litigation is pending, and the inherent difficulty of predicting the outcome of litigation and other claims, we cannot state with certainty what the eventual outcome of pending litigation or other claims will be.

We have established reserves for potential losses that are probable and reasonably estimable that may result from pending and potential legal actions, investigations and regulatory proceedings. In many cases, however, it is inherently difficult to determine whether any loss is probable or even possible or to estimate the amount or range of any potential loss, particularly where proceedings may be in relatively early stages or where plaintiffs are seeking substantial or indeterminate damages. Matters frequently need to be more developed before a loss or range of loss can reasonably be estimated.

In our opinion, based on currently available information, review with outside legal counsel, and consideration of amounts provided for in our consolidated financial statements with respect to these matters, including the matters described below, the ultimate resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse impact on our financial position and results of operations. However, resolution of one or more of these matters may have a material effect on the results of operations in any future period, depending upon the ultimate resolution of those matters and depending upon the level of income for such period. For matters where a reserve has not been established and for which we believe a loss is reasonably possible, as well as for matters where a reserve has been recorded but for which an exposure to loss in excess of the amount accrued is reasonably possible, based on currently available information, we believe that such losses will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

SEC/Wisconsin Lawsuit

The SEC filed a civil lawsuit against our company in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin on August 10, 2011. The action arises out of our role in investments made by five Southeastern Wisconsin school districts (the "school districts") in transactions involving collateralized debt obligations ("CDOs"). These transactions are described in more detail below in connection with the civil lawsuit filed by the school districts. The SEC has asserted claims under Section 10b and Rule 10b-5 of the Exchange Act, Sections 17a(1), 17a(2) and 17a(3) of the Securities Act and Section 15c(1)(A) of the Exchange Act. The claims are based upon both alleged misrepresentations and omissions in connection with the sale of the CDOs to the school districts, as well as the allegedly unsuitable nature of the CDOs. On October 31, 2011, we filed a motion to dismiss the action for failure to state a claim. Briefs supporting and opposing our motion have been filed with the Court. The District Court has not yet ruled on the motion to dismiss. We believe, based upon currently available information and review with outside counsel, that we have meritorious defenses to the SEC's lawsuit and intend to vigorously defend the SEC's claims.

We were named in a civil lawsuit filed in the Circuit Court of Milwaukee, Wisconsin (the "Wisconsin State Court") on September 29, 2008. The lawsuit was filed against our company, Stifel Nicolaus, as well as Royal Bank of Canada Europe Ltd. ("RBC"), and certain other RBC entities (collectively the "Defendants") by the school districts and the individual trustees for other post-employment benefit ("OPEB") trusts established by those school districts (collectively the "Plaintiffs"). This lawsuit relates to the same transactions that are the subject of the SEC action noted

above.

The suit arises out of purchases of certain CDOs by the OPEB trusts. The RBC entities structured and served as "arranger" for the CDOs. We served as the placement agent/broker in connection with the transactions. The school districts each formed trusts that made investments designed to address their OPEB liabilities. The total amount of the investments made by the OPEB trusts was \$200.0 million. Since the investments were made, we believe their value has declined, resulting in a total loss for the OPEB trusts. The Plaintiffs have asserted that the school districts contributed \$37.5 million to the OPEB trusts to purchase the investments. The balance of \$162.5 million used to purchase the investments was borrowed by the OPEB trusts from Depfa Bank. The recourse under the loan agreements entered into by Depfa Bank is each of the OPEB trusts' respective assets and the moral obligation of each school district. The legal claims asserted in the Complaint included violation of the Wisconsin Securities Act, fraud, and negligence. The lawsuit sought equitable relief, unspecified compensatory damages, treble damages, punitive damages, and attorney's fees and costs. The Plaintiffs claimed that the RBC entities and our company either made misrepresentations or failed to disclose material facts in connection with the sale of the CDOs, and thus allegedly violated the Wisconsin Securities Act.

On July 25, 2011, we entered into a binding letter agreement to purchase, at a substantial discount, the approximately \$162.5 million face value notes referenced above issued by Depfa Bank in connection with the loans made to the OPEB trusts formed by the school districts (the "Depfa notes"). The Plaintiffs' liabilities to repay the Depfa Notes compose the majority of the Plaintiffs' claimed damages. We subsequently consummated such purchase on August 23, 2011 pursuant to a definitive agreement with Depfa Bank. On March 19, 2012 we announced the settlement by our company and Stifel Nicolaus of the lawsuit brought by the school districts in exchange for a cash payment, release of the school districts' moral obligations, and an agreement not to pursue the OPEB trusts for repayment of the Depfa Notes beyond amounts the OPEB trusts may collect from the RBC entities in the continuation of the litigation. We agreed to make a \$13.0 million cash payment to the school districts and to fund the issuance of a \$9.5 million letter of credit payable to the school districts upon final resolution of the SEC lawsuit. The settlement also provides the potential for the school districts to obtain significant additional damages from the RBC entities. Appropriate reserves for these amounts were previously recorded and included in the consolidated results of operations. The RBC entities and our company and Stifel Nicolaus have asserted cross claims for indemnity and contribution against each other, and we will also continue in the lawsuit to recover from the RBC entities payments we have made to the school districts and for amounts owed by the OPEB trusts under the Depfa Notes.

TWP LLC FINRA Matter

On April 28, 2010, FINRA commenced an administrative proceeding against TWP involving a transaction undertaken by a former employee in which approximately \$15.7 million of ARS were sold from a TWPG account to the accounts of three customers. FINRA alleged that TWP violated various NASD and FINRA rules, as well as Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5. TWP's answer denied the substantive allegations and asserted various affirmative defenses. TWP repurchased the ARS at issue from the customers at par. FINRA sought fines and other relief against TWP and the former employee.

On November 8, 2011, the FINRA hearing panel fined TWP \$0.2 million for not having adequate supervisory procedures governing principal transactions in violation of NASD rules and ordered TWP to pay certain administrative fees and costs. The FINRA hearing panel dismissed all other charges against TWP and the former employee. On December 5, 2011, FINRA appealed the hearing panel's findings to the National Adjudicatory Council.

EDC Bond Issuance Matter

On January 16, 2012, our company and Stifel Nicolaus were named as defendants in a suit filed in Wisconsin state court with respect to Stifel Nicolaus' role as initial purchaser in a \$50.0 million bond offering under Rule 144A in January 2008. The bonds were issued by the Lake of the Torches Economic Development Corporation ("EDC") in connection with certain new financing for the construction of a proposed new casino, as well as refinancing of indebtedness involving Lac Du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians (the "Tribe"), who are also defendants in the action, together with Godfrey & Kahn, S.C. ("G&K") who served as both issuer's counsel and bond counsel in the transaction. In an action in federal court in Wisconsin related to the transaction, EDC was successful in its assertion that the bond indenture was void as an unapproved "management contract" under National Indian Gaming Commission regulations, and that accordingly the Tribe's waiver of sovereign immunity contained in the indenture was void. After a remand from the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, a new federal action continues regarding the validity of the bond documents other than the bond indenture, and our company and Stifel Nicolaus are defendants in this new federal action.

Saybrook Tax Exempt Investors LLC, a qualified institutional buyer and the sole bondholder through its special purpose vehicle LDF Acquisition LLC (collectively, "Saybrook"), and Wells Fargo Bank, NA ("Wells Fargo"), indenture trustee for the bonds (collectively, "plaintiffs"), also brought a Wisconsin state court suit against EDC, our company and G&K, based on alleged misrepresentations about the enforceability of the indenture and the bonds and

the waiver of sovereign immunity. The parties have agreed to stay the state court action until the federal court rules on whether it has jurisdiction over the new federal action. Saybrook is the plaintiff in the new federal action and in the state court action. The plaintiffs allege that G&K represented in various legal opinions issued in the transaction, as well as in other documents associated with the transaction, that (i) the bonds and indenture were legally enforceable obligations of EDC and (ii) EDC's waivers of sovereign immunity were valid. The claims asserted against us are for breaches of implied warranties of validity and title, securities fraud and statutory misrepresentation under Wisconsin state law, intentional and negligent misrepresentations relating to the validity of the bond documents and the Tribe's waiver of its sovereign immunity. To the extent EDC does not fully perform its obligations to Saybrook pursuant to the bonds, the plaintiffs seek a judgment for rescission, restitutionary damages, including the amounts paid by the plaintiffs for the bonds, and costs; alternatively, the plaintiffs seek to recover damages, costs and attorneys' fees from us. On May 2, 2012, we filed a motion to dismiss all of the claims alleged against our company and Stifel Nicolaus in the new federal court action. While there can be no assurance that we will be successful, we believe we have meritorious legal and factual defenses to the matter, and we intend to vigorously defend the claims.

NOTE 16 - Regulatory Capital Requirements

We operate in a highly regulated environment and are subject to capital requirements, which may limit distributions to our company from its subsidiaries. Distributions from our broker-dealer subsidiaries are subject to net capital rules. A broker-dealer that fails to comply with the SEC's Uniform Net Capital Rule (Rule 15c3-1) may be subject to disciplinary actions by the SEC and self-regulatory organizations, such as FINRA, including censures, fines, suspension, or expulsion. Stifel Nicolaus and TWP have chosen to calculate their net capital under the alternative method, which prescribes that their net capital shall not be less than the greater of \$1.0 million or \$250,000 (actual), respectively, or two percent of aggregate debit balances (primarily receivables from customers) computed in accordance with the SEC's Customer Protection Rule (Rule 15c3-3). CSA calculates its net capital under the aggregate indebtedness method, whereby its aggregate indebtedness may not be greater than fifteen times its net capital (as defined).

At March 31, 2012, Stifel Nicolaus had net capital of \$307.6 million, which was 45.2% of aggregate debit items and \$294.0 million in excess of its minimum required net capital. At March 31, 2012, CSA's, TWP's and S&Y's net capital exceeded the minimum net capital required under the SEC rule.

Our international subsidiary, SNEL, is subject to the regulatory supervision and requirements of the Financial Services Authority ("FSA") in the United Kingdom. At March 31, 2012, SNEL's capital and reserves were in excess of the financial resources requirement under the rules of the FSA.

Our Canadian subsidiary, SN Canada, is subject to the regulatory supervision and requirements of the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada ("IIROC"). At March 31, 2012, SN Canada's net capital and reserves were in excess of the financial resources requirement under the rules of the IIROC.

Our company, as a bank holding company, and Stifel Bank are subject to various regulatory capital requirements administered by the Federal and state banking agencies. Failure to meet minimum capital requirements can initiate certain mandatory and possibly additional discretionary actions by regulators that, if undertaken, could have a direct material effect on our company's and Stifel Bank's financial results. Under capital adequacy guidelines and the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action, our company and Stifel Bank must meet specific capital guidelines that involve quantitative measures of our assets, liabilities, and certain off-balance-sheet items as calculated under regulatory accounting practices. Our company's and Stifel Bank's capital amounts and classification are also subject to qualitative judgments by the regulators about components, risk weightings, and other factors.

Quantitative measures established by regulation to ensure capital adequacy require our company, as a bank holding company, and Stifel Bank to maintain minimum amounts and ratios of total and Tier 1 capital (as defined in the regulations) to risk-weighted assets (as defined), and Tier 1 capital to average assets (as defined). To be categorized as "well capitalized," our company and Stifel Bank must maintain total risk-based, Tier 1 risk-based, and Tier 1 leverage ratios as set forth in the tables below (in thousands, except ratios).

Stifel Financial Corp. - Federal Reserve Capital Amounts March 31, 2012

					To Be Well Cap	italized Under
			For Capital	Adequacy	Prompt Corre	ctive Action
	Actual		Purposes		Provisions	
	Amount	Ratio	Amount	Ratio	Amount	Ratio
Total capital to						
risk-weighted assets	\$ 939,967	25.2 %	\$ 297,914	8.0 %	\$ 372,392	10.0 %
Tier 1 capital to						
risk-weighted assets	934,186	25.1	148,957	4.0	223,435	6.0
Tier 1 capital to						
adjusted average total						
assets	934,186	22.3	167,334	4.0	209,167	5.0

Stifel Bank - Federal Reserve Capital Amounts March 31, 2012

	Actual		For Capital Adequacy Purposes		To Be Well Capitalized Under Prompt Corrective Action Provisions	
	Amount	Ratio	Amount	Ratio	Amount	Ratio
Total capital to						
risk-weighted assets	\$ 189,782	10.8 %	\$ 140,448	8.0 %	\$ 175,560	10.0 %
Tier 1 capital to						
risk-weighted assets	184,001	10.5	70,224	4.0	105,336	6.0
Tier 1 capital to						
adjusted average total						
assets	184,001	7.5	98,806	4.0	123,507	5.0

NOTE 17 - Employee Incentive, Deferred Compensation, and Retirement Plans

We maintain several incentive stock award plans that provide for the granting of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, performance awards, and stock units to our employees. We are permitted to issue new shares under all stock award plans approved by shareholders but are allowed to reissue our treasury shares. Awards under our company's incentive stock award plans are granted at market value at the date of grant. Options expire ten years from the date of grant. The awards generally vest ratably over a three- to eight-year vesting period.

All stock-based compensation plans are administered by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors ("Compensation Committee"), which has the authority to interpret the plans, determine to whom awards may be granted under the plans, and determine the terms of each award. According to these plans, we are authorized to grant

an additional 8.9 million shares at March 31, 2012.

Stock-based compensation expense included in compensation and benefits expense in the consolidated statements of operations for our company's incentive stock award plans was \$15.1 million and \$9.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The tax benefit related to stock-based compensation recognized in shareholders' equity was \$12.4 million and \$22.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Stock Options

We have substantially eliminated the use of stock options as a form of compensation. During the three months ended March 31, 2012, no options were granted.

At March 31, 2012, all outstanding options were exercisable. Cash proceeds from the exercise of stock options were \$1.2 million and \$0.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Tax benefits realized from the exercise of stock options for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 were \$3.3 million and \$0.8 million, respectively.

Stock Units

A stock unit represents the right to receive a share of common stock from our company at a designated time in the future without cash payment by the employee and is issued in lieu of cash incentive, principally for deferred compensation and employee retention plans. The restricted stock units vest on an annual basis over the next three to eight years and are distributable, if vested, at future specified dates. At March 31, 2012, the total number of stock units outstanding was 14.3 million, of which 4.7 million were unvested.

At March 31, 2012, there was unrecognized compensation cost for stock units of \$172.6 million, which is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 3.4 years.

Deferred Compensation Plans

The Stifel Nicolaus Wealth Accumulation Plan (the "SWAP Plan") is provided to certain revenue producers, officers, and key administrative employees, whereby a certain percentage of their incentive compensation is deferred as defined by the Plan into company stock units with a 25% matching contribution by our company. Participants may elect to defer up to an additional 15% of their incentive compensation with a 25% matching contribution. Units generally vest over a three- to seven-year period and are distributable upon vesting or at future specified dates. Deferred compensation costs are amortized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period. Elective deferrals are 100% vested. As of March 31, 2012, there were 14.1 million units outstanding under the SWAP Plan.

Additionally, the SWAP Plan allows Stifel Nicolaus' financial advisors who achieve certain levels of production, the option to defer a certain percentage of their gross commissions. As stipulated by the SWAP Plan, the financial advisors have the option to: 1) defer 4% of their gross commissions into company stock units with a 25% matching contribution or 2) defer up to 2% in mutual funds, which earn a return based on the performance of index mutual funds as designated by our company or a fixed income option. The mutual fund deferral option does not include a company match. Financial advisors may elect to defer an additional 1% of gross commissions into company stock units with a 25% matching contribution. Financial advisors have no ownership in the mutual funds. Included in the investments in the consolidated statements of financial condition are investments in mutual funds of \$36.9 million and \$34.0 million at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively, that were purchased by our company to economically hedge, on an after-tax basis, its liability to the financial advisors who choose to base the performance of their return on the index mutual fund option. At March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the deferred compensation liability related to the mutual fund option of \$14.2 million and \$24.5 million, respectively, is included in accrued compensation in the consolidated statements of financial condition.

In addition, certain financial advisors, upon joining our company, may receive company stock units in lieu of transition cash payments. Deferred compensation related to these awards generally vests over a five- to eight-year period. Deferred compensation costs are amortized on a straight-line basis over the deferral period.

NOTE 18 - Off-Balance Sheet Credit Risk

In the normal course of business, we execute, settle, and finance customer and proprietary securities transactions. These activities expose our company to off-balance sheet risk in the event that customers or other parties fail to satisfy their obligations.

In accordance with industry practice, securities transactions generally settle within three business days after trade date. Should a customer or broker fail to deliver cash or securities as agreed, we may be required to purchase or sell securities at unfavorable market prices.

We borrow and lend securities to facilitate the settlement process and finance transactions, utilizing customer margin securities held as collateral. We monitor the adequacy of collateral levels on a daily basis. We periodically borrow from banks on a collateralized basis, utilizing firm and customer margin securities in compliance with SEC rules. Should the counterparty fail to return customer securities pledged, we are subject to the risk of acquiring the securities at prevailing market prices in order to satisfy our customer obligations. We control our exposure to credit risk by continually monitoring our counterparties' positions, and where deemed necessary, we may require a deposit of additional collateral and/or a reduction or diversification of positions. Our company sells securities it does not currently own (short sales) and is obligated to subsequently purchase such securities at prevailing market prices. We are exposed to risk of loss if securities prices increase prior to closing the transactions. We control our exposure to price risk from short sales through daily review and setting position and trading limits.

We manage our risks associated with the aforementioned transactions through position and credit limits and the continuous monitoring of collateral. Additional collateral is required from customers and other counterparties when appropriate.

We have accepted collateral in connection with resale agreements, securities borrowed transactions, and customer margin loans. Under many agreements, we are permitted to sell or repledge these securities held as collateral and use these securities to enter into securities lending arrangements or to deliver to counterparties to cover short positions. At March 31, 2012, the fair value of securities accepted as collateral where we are permitted to sell or repledge the securities was \$1.1 billion, and the fair value of the collateral that had been sold or repledged was \$142.1 million. At December 31, 2011, the fair value of securities accepted as collateral where we are permitted to sell or repledge the securities was \$1.0 billion, and the fair value of the collateral that had been sold or repledged was \$80.2 million.

We enter into interest rate derivative contracts to manage exposures that arise from business activities that result in the receipt or payment of future known and uncertain cash amounts, the value of which are determined by interest rates. Our derivative financial instruments are principally used to manage differences in the amount, timing, and duration of our known or expected cash payments related to certain variable-rate affiliated deposits. Interest rate swaps designated as cash flow hedges involve the receipt of variable-rate amounts from a counterparty in exchange for us making fixed-rate payments. Our interest rate hedging strategies may not work in all market environments and, as a result, may not be effective in mitigating interest rate risk.

Derivatives' notional contract amounts are not reflected as assets or liabilities in the consolidated statements of financial condition. Rather, the market, or fair value, of the derivative transactions are reported in the consolidated statements of financial condition as other assets or accounts payable and accrued expenses, as applicable.

For a complete discussion of our activities related to derivative instruments, see Note 12 in the notes to our consolidated financial statements.

In the ordinary course of business, Stifel Bank has commitments to originate loans, standby letters of credit, and lines of credit. Commitments to originate loans are agreements to lend to a customer as long as there is no violation of any condition established by the contract. These commitments generally have fixed expiration dates or other termination clauses and may require payment of a fee. Since a portion of the commitments may expire without being drawn upon, the total commitment amounts do not necessarily represent future cash commitments. Each customer's creditworthiness is evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The amount of collateral obtained, if necessary, is based on the credit evaluation of the counterparty. Collateral held varies, but may include accounts receivable, inventory, property, plant and equipment, commercial real estate, and residential real estate.

At March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, Stifel Bank had outstanding commitments to originate loans aggregating \$169.9 million and \$141.0 million, respectively. The commitments extended over varying periods of time, with all commitments at March 31, 2012 scheduled to be disbursed in the following two months.

Through Stifel Bank, in the normal course of business, we originate residential mortgage loans and sell them to investors. We may be required to repurchase mortgage loans that have been sold to investors in the event there are breaches of certain representations and warranties contained within the sales agreements. While we have yet to repurchase a loan sold to an investor, we may be required to repurchase mortgage loans that were sold to investors in the event that there was inadequate underwriting or fraud, or in the event that the loans become delinquent shortly after they are originated. We also may be required to indemnify certain purchasers and others against losses they incur in the event of breaches of representations and warranties and in various other circumstances, and the amount of such losses could exceed the repurchase amount of the related loans. Consequently, we may be exposed to credit risk associated with sold loans.

Standby letters of credit are irrevocable conditional commitments issued by Stifel Bank to guarantee the performance of a customer to a third party. Financial standby letters of credit are primarily issued to support public and private borrowing arrangements, including commercial paper, bond financing, and similar transactions. Performance standby letters of credit are issued to guarantee performance of certain customers under non-financial contractual obligations. The credit risk involved in issuing standby letters of credit is essentially the same as that involved in extending loans to customers. Should Stifel Bank be obligated to perform under the standby letters of credit, it may seek recourse from the customer for reimbursement of amounts paid. At March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, Stifel Bank had outstanding letters of credit totaling \$10.6 million and \$9.2 million, respectively. One of the standby letters of credit has an expiration of December 16, 2013. All of the remaining standby letters of credit commitments at March 31, 2012 have expiration terms that are less than one year.

Lines of credit are agreements to lend to a customer as long as there is no violation of any condition established in the contract. Lines of credit generally have fixed expiration dates. Stifel Bank uses the same credit policies in granting lines of credit as it does for on-balance sheet instruments. At March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, Stifel Bank had granted unused lines of credit to commercial and consumer borrowers aggregating \$119.3 million and \$102.4 million, respectively.

NOTE 19 - Income Taxes

Our effective rate for the three months ended March 31, 2012 was 41.3% compared to 38.1% for the three months ended March 31, 2011. The change in the effective tax rate is due to an increase in our state tax rate and losses incurred at a lower tax rate in foreign jurisdictions during the three months ended March 31, 2012, combined with the reduction of the valuation allowance, which lowered our effective tax rate during the comparable period in 2011.

NOTE 20 - Segment Reporting

We currently operate through the following three business segments: Global Wealth Management, Institutional Group, and various corporate activities combined in the Other segment.

Our Global Wealth Management segment consists of two businesses, the Private Client Group and Stifel Bank. The Private Client Group includes branch offices and independent contractor offices of our broker-dealer subsidiaries located throughout the United States, primarily in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic regions with a growing presence in the Northeast, Southeast, and Western United States. These branches provide securities brokerage services, including the sale of equities, mutual funds, fixed income products, and insurance, as well as offering banking products to their clients through Stifel Bank. Stifel Bank segment provides residential, consumer, and commercial lending, as well as FDIC-insured deposit accounts to customers of our broker-dealer subsidiaries and to the general public.

The Institutional Group segment includes institutional sales and trading. It provides securities brokerage, trading, and research services to institutions, with an emphasis on the sale of equity and fixed income products. This segment also includes the management of and participation in underwritings for both corporate and public finance (exclusive of

sales credits generated through the private client group, which are included in the Global Wealth Management segment), merger and acquisition, and financial advisory services.

The Other segment includes certain corporate activities of our company.

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Information concerning operations in these segments of business for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 is as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months	Ended March
	3	1,
	2012	2011
Net revenues: (1)		
Global Wealth Management	\$ 248,348	\$ 238,446
Institutional Group	148,504	126,994
Other	3,481	1,173
	\$ 400,333	\$ 366,613
Income before income taxes:		
Global Wealth Management	\$ 69,178	\$ 61,472
Institutional Group	23,704	21,393
Other	(33,628)	(32,181)
	\$ 59,254	\$ 50,684

⁽¹⁾ No individual client accounted for more than 10 percent of total net revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2012 or 2011.

The following table presents our company's total assets on a segment basis at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 (in thousands):

		December
	March 31,	31,
	2012	2011
Global Wealth Management	\$ 3,980,145	\$ 3,637,069
Institutional Group	1,182,290	1,028,948
Other	303,259	285,883
	\$ 5,465,694	\$ 4,951,900

We have operations in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, and Europe. Our company's foreign operations are conducted through its wholly owned subsidiaries, SNEL and SN Canada. Substantially all long-lived assets are located in the United States.

Revenues, classified by the major geographic areas in which they are earned for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, were as follows (in thousands):

	Three Mon Marci	
	2012	2011
Net revenues:		
United States	\$ 391,838	\$ 351,009
United Kingdom	3,890	6,049
Other European	2,353	3,107
Canada	2,252	6,448

\$ 400,333 \$ 366,613

NOTE 21 - Earnings Per Share ("EPS")

Basic EPS is computed by dividing earnings available to common shareholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding. Diluted EPS reflects the potential dilution that could occur if securities or other contracts to issue common stock were exercised or converted into common stock or resulted in the issuance of common stock that then shared in the earnings of the entity. Diluted earnings per share include dilutive stock options and stock units under the treasury stock method.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 (in thousands, except per share data):

	Three Months Ended March 31,			
		2012		2011
Net income	\$	34,773	\$	31,398
Shares for basic and diluted calculations:				
Average shares used in basic computation		53,243		52,534
Dilutive effect of stock options and units (1)		9,426		10,645
Average shares used in diluted computation		62,669		63,179
Net income per share:				
Basic	\$	0.65	\$	0.60
Diluted (1)	\$	0.55	\$	0.50

(1) Diluted earnings per share is computed on the basis of the weighted average number of shares of common stock plus the effect of dilutive potential common shares outstanding during the period using the treasury stock method. Diluted earnings per share include stock options and units.

For the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, the anti-dilutive effect from restricted stock units was immaterial.

NOTE 22 - Shareholders' Equity

Share Repurchase Program

We have an ongoing authorization from the Board of Directors to repurchase our common stock in the open market or in negotiated transactions. On November 7, 2011, the Board authorized the repurchase of an additional 3.0 million shares. At March 31, 2012, the maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under this plan was 4.3 million. The repurchase program has no expiration date. These purchases may be made on the open market or in privately negotiated transactions, depending upon market conditions and other factors. Repurchased shares may be used to meet obligations under our employee benefit plans and for general corporate purposes.

Issuance of Shares

During the three months ended March 31, 2012, we reissued 1.7 million shares from treasury for shares as a result of vesting and exercise transactions under our incentive stock award plans.

NOTE 23 - Variable Interest Entities

The determination as to whether an entity is a VIE is based on the structure and nature of the entity. We also consider other characteristics, such as the ability to influence the decision-making relative to the entity's activities and how the entity is financed. The determination as to whether we are the primary beneficiary for entities subject to the deferral is based on a qualitative analysis of the VIE's expected losses and expected residual returns. This analysis includes a review of, among other factors, the VIE's capital structure, contractual terms, which interests create or absorb variability, related party relationships, and the design of the VIE. For entities not subject to the deferral, the determination as to whether we are the primary beneficiary is based on an analysis of the power to direct the activities of the VIE as well as the obligation to absorb losses or benefits that could potentially be significant to the entity. Where qualitative analyses are not conclusive, we perform a quantitative analysis. Our company's involvement with VIEs is limited to entities used as investment vehicles and private equity funds, the establishment of Stifel Financial Capital Trusts, and our issuance of a convertible promissory note.

We have formed several non-consolidated investment funds with third-party investors that are typically organized as limited liability companies ("LLCs") or limited partnerships. These partnerships and LLCs have assets of approximately \$278.8 million at March 31, 2012. For those funds where we act as the general partner, our company's economic interest is generally limited to management fee arrangements as stipulated by the fund operating agreements. We have generally provided the third-party investors with rights to terminate the funds or to remove us as the general partner. Management fee revenue earned by our company was insignificant during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011. In addition, our direct investment interest in these entities is insignificant at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011.

Thomas Weisel Capital Management LLC, a subsidiary of our company, acts as the general partner of a series of investment funds in venture capital and fund of funds and manages investment funds that are active buyers of secondary interests in private equity funds, as well as portfolios of direct interests in venture-backed companies. These partnerships have combined assets of approximately \$235.7 million at March 31, 2012. We hold variable interests in these funds as a result of our company's rights to receive management fees. Our company's investment in and additional capital commitments to the private equity funds are also considered variable interests. The additional capital commitments are subject to call at a later date and are limited in amount. Our exposure to loss is limited to our investments in, advances and commitments to, and receivables due from these funds, and that exposure is \$1.3 million at March 31, 2012. Management fee revenue earned by our company was insignificant during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011.

For the entities noted above that were determined to be VIEs, we have concluded that we are not the primary beneficiary and therefore we are not required to consolidated these entities. Additionally, for certain other entities we reviewed other relevant accounting guidance, which states the general partner in a limited partnership is presumed to control that limited partnership. The presumption may be overcome if the limited partners have either: (1) the substantive ability to dissolve the limited partnership or otherwise remove the general partner without cause, or (2) substantive participating rights, which provide the limited partners with the ability to effectively participate in significant decisions that would be expected to be made in the ordinary course of the limited partnership's business and thereby preclude the general partner from exercising unilateral control over the partnership. If the criteria are not met, the consolidation of the partnership or limited liability company is required. Based on our evaluation of these entities, we determined that these entities do not require consolidation.

Debenture to Stifel Financial Capital Trusts

We have completed private placements of cumulative trust preferred securities through Stifel Financial Capital Trust II, Stifel Financial Capital Trust IV (collectively, the "Trusts"). The Trusts are

non-consolidated wholly owned business trust subsidiaries of our company and were established for the limited purpose of issuing trust securities to third parties and lending the proceeds to our company.

The trust preferred securities represent an indirect interest in junior subordinated debentures purchased from our company by the Trusts, and we effectively provide for the full and unconditional guarantee of the securities issued by the Trusts. We make timely payments of interest to the Trusts as required by contractual obligations, which are sufficient to cover payments due on the securities issued by the Trusts, and believe that it is unlikely that any circumstances would occur that would make it necessary for our company to make payments related to these Trusts other than those required under the terms of the debenture agreements and the trust preferred securities agreements. The Trusts were determined to be VIEs because the holders of the equity investment at risk do not have adequate decision-making ability over the Trust's activities. Our investment in the Trusts is not a variable interest, because equity interests are variable interests only to the extent that the investment is considered to be at risk. Because our investment was funded by the Trusts, it is not considered to be at risk.

Interest in FSI Group, LLC ("FSI")

We have provided financing of \$18.0 million in the form of a convertible promissory note to FSI, a limited liability company specializing in investing in banks, thrifts, insurance companies, and other financial services firms. The note is convertible at our election into a 49.9% interest in FSI at any time after the third anniversary or during the defined conversion period. The convertible promissory note has a minimum coupon rate equal to 10% per annum plus additional interest related to certain defined cash flows of the business, not to exceed 18% per annum. As we do not hold the power to direct the activities of FSI nor to absorb a majority of the expected losses, or receive a majority of the expected benefits, it was determined that we are not the primary beneficiary.

Our company's exposure to loss is limited to the carrying value of the note with FSI at March 31, 2012, of \$18.0 million, which is included in other assets in the consolidated statements of financial condition. Our company had no liabilities related to this entity at March 31, 2012. We have the discretion to make additional capital contributions. We have not provided financial or other support to FSI that we were not previously contractually required to provide as of March 31, 2012. Our company's involvement with FSI has not had a material effect on its consolidated financial position, operations, or cash flows.

NOTE 24 - Subsequent Events

In accordance with Topic 855, "Subsequent Events," we evaluate subsequent events that have occurred after the balance sheet date but before the financial statements are issued. There are two types of subsequent events: (1) recognized, or those that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the date of the balance sheet, including the estimates inherent in the process of preparing financial statements, and (2) non-recognized, or those that provide evidence about conditions that did not exist at the date of the balance sheet but arose after that date. Based on the evaluation, we did not identify any recognized subsequent events that would have required adjustment to the consolidated financial statements.

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion of the financial condition and results of operations of our company should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, and the accompanying consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

Certain statements in this report may be considered forward-looking. Statements that are not historical or current facts, including statements about beliefs and expectations, are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements cover, among other things, statements made about general economic and market conditions, the investment banking industry, our objectives and results, and also may include our belief regarding the effect of various legal proceedings, management expectations, our liquidity and funding sources, counterparty credit risk, or other similar matters. Forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties, and important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated, including those factors discussed below under "External Factors Impacting Our Business" as well as the factors identified under "Risk Factors" in Part I, Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, as updated in our subsequent reports filed with the SEC. These reports are available at our web site at www.stifel.com and at the SEC web site at www.sec.gov.

Because of these and other uncertainties, our actual future results may be materially different from the results indicated by these forward-looking statements. In addition, our past results of operations do not necessarily indicate our future results. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and we undertake no obligation to update them in light of new information or future events, unless we are obligated to do so under federal securities laws.

Unless otherwise indicated, the terms "we," "us," "our" or "our company" in this report refer to Stifel Financial Corp. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries.

Executive Summary

We operate as a financial services and bank holding company. We have built a diversified business serving private clients, institutional investors, and investment banking clients located across the country. Our principal activities are: (i) private client services, including securities transaction and financial planning services; (ii) institutional equity and fixed income sales, trading and research, and municipal finance; (iii) investment banking services, including mergers and acquisitions, public offerings, and private placements; and (iv) retail and commercial banking, including personal and commercial lending programs.

Our core philosophy is based upon a tradition of trust, understanding, and studied advice. We attract and retain experienced professionals by fostering a culture of entrepreneurial, long-term thinking. We provide our private, institutional and corporate clients quality, personalized service, with the theory that if we place clients' needs first, both our clients and our company will prosper. Our unwavering client and employee focus have earned us a reputation as one of the leading brokerage and investment banking firms off Wall Street. We have grown our business both organically and through opportunistic acquisitions.

We plan to maintain our focus on revenue growth with a continued appreciation for the development of quality client relationships. Within our private client business, our efforts will be focused on recruiting experienced financial advisors with established client relationships. Within our capital markets business, our focus continues to be on providing quality client management and product diversification. In executing our growth strategy, we will continue to seek out opportunities that allow us to take advantage of the consolidation among middle-market firms, whereby

allowing us to increase market share in our private client and institutional group businesses.

Stifel Financial Corp. (the "Parent"), through its wholly owned subsidiaries, principally Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated ("Stifel Nicolaus"), Stifel Bank & Trust ("Stifel Bank"), Stifel Nicolaus Europe Limited ("SNEL"), Century Securities Associates, Inc. ("CSA"), and Stifel Nicolaus Canada, Inc. ("SN Canada"), is principally engaged in retail brokerage; securities trading; investment banking; investment advisory; retail, consumer, and commercial banking; and related financial services. Although we have offices throughout the United States, two Canadian cities, and three European cities, our major geographic area of concentration is the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic regions, with a growing presence in the Northeast, Southeast and Western United States. Our principal customers are individual investors, corporations, municipalities, and institutions.

We plan to maintain our focus on revenue growth with a continued focus on developing quality relationships with our clients. Within our private client business, our efforts will be focused on recruiting experienced financial advisors with established client relationships. Within our institutional group business, our focus continues to be on providing quality client management and product diversification. In executing our growth strategy, we take advantage of the consolidation among middle market firms, which we believe provides us opportunities in our Global Wealth Management and Institutional Group businesses.

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Our ability to attract and retain highly skilled and productive employees is critical to the success of our business. Accordingly, compensation and benefits comprise the largest component of our expenses, and our performance is dependent upon our ability to attract, develop and retain highly skilled employees who are motivated and committed to providing the highest quality of service and guidance to our clients.

On October 1, 2011, we acquired Stone & Youngberg LLC ("Stone & Youngberg"), a leading financial services firm specializing in municipal finance and fixed income securities. Stone & Youngberg's comprehensive institutional group expands our public finance, institutional sales and trading and bond underwriting, particularly in the Arizona and California markets, and adds more than 30 financial advisors in four offices to our Private Client Group. The purchase consideration consisted of cash, a portion paid at closing and a portion to be paid over the next three years, and stock based on the value of net assets at closing. In addition, we may be required to pay a contingent earn-out over a five year period after the close based upon revenue goals, as established in the purchase agreement. The public finance, institutional sales and trading, and retail businesses were integrated with Stifel Nicolaus immediately after the acquisition. Stone & Youngberg remains a wholly owned broker-dealer subsidiary of the Parent.

Results for the three months ended March 31, 2012

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, our net revenues increased 9.2% to \$400.3 million compared to \$366.6 million during the comparable period in 2011. Net income increased 10.7% to \$34.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012, compared to \$31.4 million during the comparable period in 2011.

The increase in net revenues from the prior year was primarily attributable to higher investment banking revenues as a result of the improved performance of the capital markets; increased principal transactions revenues as a result of strong trading volumes and tightening credit spreads; increased net interest revenues as a result of the growth of net interest-earning assets at Stifel Bank; and growth in asset management and service fees as a result of an increase in investment advisory revenues. The increase in revenue growth was offset by a decline in commission revenues, which was down from the record high during the first quarter of 2011. While market conditions improved during the first quarter 2012, the lack of volatility in the capital markets limited trading opportunities during the first quarter of 2012.

External Factors Impacting our Business

Performance in the financial services industry in which we operate is highly correlated to the overall strength of economic conditions and financial market activity. Overall market conditions are a product of many factors, which are beyond our control and mostly unpredictable. These factors may affect the financial decisions made by investors, including their level of participation in the financial markets. In turn, these decisions may affect our business results. With respect to financial market activity, our profitability is sensitive to a variety of factors, including the demand for investment banking services as reflected by the number and size of equity and debt financings and merger and acquisition transactions, the volatility of the equity and fixed income markets, the level and shape of various yield curves, the volume and value of trading in securities, and the value of our customers' assets under management. The municipal underwriting market is challenging as state and local governments reduce their debt levels. Investors are showing a lack of demand for longer-dated municipals and are reluctant to take on credit or liquidity risks. Investor confidence has been dampened by the debt concerns in Europe, continued economic turmoil related to the disasters in Japan, concerns over unemployment levels and economic data in the U.S. lackluster jobs growth, and the uncertainty with the U.S. budget.

Our overall financial results continue to be highly and directly correlated to the direction and activity levels of the United States equity and fixed income markets. At March 30, 2012, the key indicators of the markets' performance, the Dow Jones Industrial Average, the NASDAQ and the S&P 500 closed 8.1%, 11.2% and 6.2% higher than their December 30, 2011 closing prices, respectively.

As a participant in the financial services industry, we are subject to complicated and extensive regulation of our business. The recent economic and political environment has led to legislative and regulatory initiatives, both enacted and proposed, that could substantially intensify the regulation of the financial services industry and may significantly impact us. On July 21, 2010, the Dodd-Frank Act was signed into law. The Dodd-Frank Act will have a broad impact on the financial services industry and will impose significant new regulatory and compliance requirements, including the designation of certain financial companies as systemically significant, the imposition of increased capital, leverage, and liquidity requirements, and numerous other provisions designed to improve supervision and oversight of, and strengthen safety and soundness within, the financial services sector. The expectation is that this new legislation will significantly restructure and increase regulation in the financial services industry, which could increase our cost of doing business, change certain business practices, and alter the competitive landscape.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 Compared with Three Months Ended March 31, 2011

The following table presents consolidated financial information for the periods indicated (in thousands, except percentages):

					As a Per R For the	evenu	es		
	For the	Thre	ee Months E	Inded	Ended				
		M	arch 31,		March 31,				
				%					
	2012		2011	Change	2012		2011		
Revenues:									
Commissions	\$ 123,303	\$	155,786	(20.9)	30.8	%	42.5	%	
Principal transactions	116,233		92,859	25.2	29.1		25.3		
Investment banking	70,438		41,418	70.1	17.6		11.3		
Asset management and service fees	60,818		57,680	5.4	15.2		15.7		
Interest	25,257		18,856	33.9	6.3		5.1		
Other income	13,294		6,256	112.3	3.3		1.8		
Total revenues	409,343		372,855	9.8	102.3	,	101.7		
Interest expense	9,010		6,242	44.3	2.3		1.7		
Net revenues	400,333		366,613	9.2	100.0)	100.0)	
Non-interest expenses:									
Compensation and benefits	254,704		231,166	10.2	63.6		63.1		
Occupancy and equipment rental	30,791		29,325	5.0	7.7		8.0		
Communication and office supplies	20,373		18,845	8.1	5.1		5.1		
Commissions and floor brokerage	7,612		6,649	14.5	1.9		1.8		
Other operating expenses	27,599		29,944	(7.8)	6.9		8.2		
Total non-interest expenses	341,079		315,929	8.0	85.2		86.2		
Income before income taxes	59,254		50,684	16.9	14.8		13.8		
Provision for income taxes	24,481		19,286	26.9	6.1		5.2		
Net income	\$ 34,773	\$	31,398	10.7	8.7	%	8.6	%	

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, net revenues (total revenues less interest expense) increased \$33.7 million to \$400.3 million; a 9.2% increase over the \$366.6 million recorded for the three months ended March 31, 2011. For the three months ended March 31, 2012, we reported net income of \$34.8 million compared to net income of \$31.4 million during the comparable period in 2011.

NET REVENUES

The following table presents consolidated net revenues for the periods indicated (in thousands, except percentages):

	Three Months Ended March 31,					
				%		
	2012		2011	Change		
Net revenues:				_		
Commissions	\$ 123,303	\$	155,786	(20.9)		
Principal transactions	116,233		92,859	25.2		
Investment banking:						
Capital raising	54,833		32,358	69.5		
Strategic advisory fees	15,605		9,060	72.2		
	70,438		41,418	70.1		
Asset management and service fees	60,818		57,680	5.4		
Net interest	16,247		12,614	28.8		
Other income	13,294		6,256	112.3		
Total net revenues	\$ 400,333	\$	366,613	9.2		

Except as noted in the following discussion of variances, the underlying reasons for the increase in revenue can be attributed principally to the increased number of private client group offices and financial advisors in our Global Wealth Management segment and the increased number of revenue producers in our Institutional Group segment.

Commissions - Commission revenues are primarily generated from agency transactions in OTC and listed equity securities, insurance products and options. In addition, commission revenues also include distribution fees for promoting and distributing mutual funds.

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, commission revenues decreased 20.9% to \$123.3 million from \$155.8 million in the comparable period in 2011. The decrease is primarily attributable to a decrease in OTC transactions from the comparable period in 2011.

Principal transactions - For the three months ended March 31, 2012, principal transactions revenues increased 25.2% to \$116.2 million from \$92.9 million in the comparable period in 2011. The increase is primarily attributable to improved fixed income institutional brokerage revenues as a result of strong trading volumes and tightening credit spreads.

Investment banking - Investment banking revenues include: (i) capital raising revenues representing fees earned from the underwriting of debt and equity securities, and (ii) strategic advisory fees related to corporate debt and equity offerings, municipal debt offerings, merger and acquisitions, private placements and other investment banking advisory fees.

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, investment banking revenues increased 70.1%, to \$70.4 million from \$41.4 million in the comparable period in 2011. The increase was primarily attributable to an increase in capital raising and advisory fees as a result of improved equity capital market conditions, improving investor sentiment and lower volatility.

Capital raising revenues increased 69.5% to \$54.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 from \$32.4 million in the comparable period in 2011. During the first quarter of 2012, equity capital raising revenues increased 76.6% to \$39.5 million from \$22.4 million in the comparable period in 2011. For the three months ended March 31, 2012, fixed income capital raising revenues increased 234.7% to \$11.1 million from \$3.3 million in the comparable period in 2011.

Strategic advisory fees increased 72.2% to \$15.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 from \$9.1 million in the comparable period in 2011. The increase is primarily attributable to an increase in the number of completed equity transactions over the comparable period in 2011.

Asset management and service fees - Asset management and service fees include fees for asset-based financial services provided to individuals and institutional clients. Investment advisory fees are charged based on the value of assets in fee-based accounts. Asset management and service fees are affected by changes in the balances of client assets due to market fluctuations and levels of net new client assets.

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, asset management and service fee revenues increased 5.4% to \$60.8 million from \$57.7 million in the comparable period of 2011. The increase is primarily a result of an increase in investment advisory revenues, offset by a reduction in fees for money-fund balances due to the waiving of fees by certain fund managers. See "Assets in fee-based accounts" included in the table in "Results of Operations - Global Wealth Management."

Other income - For the three months ended March 31, 2012, other income increased 112.3% to \$13.3 million from \$6.3 million during the comparable period in 2011. Other income primarily includes investment gains, including gains on our private equity investments, and loan originations fees from Stifel Bank.

NET INTEREST INCOME

The following tables present average balance data and operating interest revenue and expense data, as well as related interest yields for the periods indicated (in thousands, except rates):

					Three Mont	hs E	Ended				
		Ma	rch	31, 2012			Ma	rch	31, 2011		
				Interest	Average				Interest	Averag	ge
		Average		Income/	Interest		Average		Income/	Interes	
		Balance]	Expense	Rate		Balance]	Expense	Rate	
Interest-earning assets:											
Margin balances (Stifel											
Nicolaus)	\$	504,287	\$	4,885	3.87 %	\$	444,443	\$	4,587	4.13	, %
Interest-earning assets (Stife	1										
Bank)		2,385,689		17,476	2.93		1,734,407		11,203	2.58	}
Stock borrow (Stifel											
Nicolaus)		67,669		26	0.16		96,861		5	0.02	2
Other (Stifel Nicolaus)				2,870					3,061		
Total interest revenue			\$	25,257				\$	18,856		
Interest-bearing liabilities:											
Short-term borrowings											
(Stifel Nicolaus)	\$	185,342	\$	522	1.13 %	\$	168,502	\$	589	1.40) %
Interest-bearing liabilities											
(Stifel Bank)		2,213,848		4,064	0.73		1,615,049		4,238	1.05	;
Stock loan (Stifel Nicolaus)		155,986		817	2.09		98,394		330	1.34	ŀ
Senior notes (Stifel											
Financial)		175,000		2,293	6.94		-		-	-	
Interest-bearing liabilities											
(Capital Trusts)		82,500		1,005	4.87		82,500		977	4.73	}
Other (Stifel Nicolaus)				309					108		
Total interest expense				9,010					6,242		
Net interest income			\$	16,247				\$	12,614		

Net interest income - Net interest income is the difference between interest earned on interest-earning assets and interest paid on funding sources. Net interest income is affected by changes in the volume and mix of these assets and liabilities, as well as by fluctuations in interest rates and portfolio management strategies. For the three months ended March 31, 2012, net interest income increased to \$16.2 million from \$12.6 million during the comparable period in 2011.

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, interest revenue increased 33.9% to \$25.3 million from \$18.9 million in the comparable period in 2011, principally as a result of a \$6.3 million increase in interest revenue generated from the interest-earning assets of Stifel Bank. The average interest-earning assets of Stifel Bank increased to \$2.4 billion during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to \$1.7 billion during the comparable period in 2011 at average interest rates of 2.93% and 2.58%, respectively.

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, interest expense increased 44.3% to \$9.0 million from \$6.2 million during the comparable period in 2011. The increase is primarily attributable to the interest expense associated with our January 2012 issuance of \$175.0 million of 6.70% senior notes.

NON-INTEREST EXPENSES

The following table presents consolidated non-interest expenses for the periods indicated (in thousands, except percentages):

	For	For the Three Months Ended M				
	20	12	2011	% Change		
Non-interest expenses:				_		
Compensation and benefits	\$ 25	4,704 \$	231,166	10.2		
Occupancy and equipment rental	30	,791	29,325	5.0		
Communications and office supplies	20	,373	18,845	8.1		
Commissions and floor brokerage	7,6	512	6,649	14.5		
Other operating expenses	27	,599	29,944	(7.8)		
Total non-interest expenses	\$ 34	1,079 \$	315,929	8.0		

Except as noted in the following discussion of variances, the underlying reasons for the increase in non-interest expenses can be attributed principally to our continued expansion and increased administrative overhead to support the growth in our segments.

Compensation and benefits - Compensation and benefits expenses, which are the largest component of our expenses, include salaries, bonuses, transition pay, benefits, amortization of stock-based compensation, employment taxes and other employee-related costs. A significant portion of compensation expense is comprised of production-based variable compensation, including discretionary bonuses, which fluctuates in proportion to the level of business activity, increasing with higher revenues and operating profits. Other compensation costs, including base salaries, stock-based compensation amortization, and benefits, are more fixed in nature.

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, compensation and benefits expense increased 10.2%, or \$23.5 million, to \$254.7 million from \$231.2 million during the comparable period in 2011. The increase is principally due to the following: 1) increased variable compensation as a result of increased revenue production and profitability; 2) increased fixed compensation for the additional administrative support staff; and 3) an increase in deferred compensation expense as a result of the acceleration of the vesting period for all unit grants awarded to retirement-eligible employees in February 2012.

Compensation and benefits expense as a percentage of net revenues was 63.6% for the three months ended March 31, 2012, compared to 63.1% for the three months ended March 31, 2011. Excluding the acceleration of deferred compensation expense, compensation and benefits expense as a percentage of net revenues was 62.7% for the three months ended March 31, 2012, compared to 62.9% for the three months ended March 31, 2011.

A portion of compensation and benefits expenses includes transition pay, principally in the form of upfront notes, signing bonuses and retention awards in connection with our continuing expansion efforts, of \$18.4 million (4.6% of net revenues) for the three months ended March 31, 2012, compared to \$18.8 million (5.1% of net revenues) for the comparable period in 2011. The upfront notes are amortized over a five to ten year period.

Occupancy and equipment rental - For the three months ended March 31, 2012, occupancy and equipment rental expense increased 5.0% to \$30.8 million from \$29.3 million during the three months ended March 31, 2011. The increase is primarily due to the increase in rent and depreciation expense due primarily to an increase in office

locations. As of March 31, 2012, we have 326 locations compared to 311 at March 31, 2011.

Communications and office supplies - Communications expense includes costs for telecommunication and data communication, primarily for obtaining third-party market data information. For the three months ended March 31, 2012, communications and office supplies expense increased 8.1% to \$20.4 million from \$18.8 million during the first quarter of 2011. The increase is primarily attributable to our continued expansion through the addition of revenue producers and support staff.

Commissions and floor brokerage - For the three months ended March 31, 2012, commissions and floor brokerage expense increased 14.5% to \$7.6 million from \$6.6 million during the comparable period in 2011. The increase is primarily attributable to costs associated with the conversion of customer accounts to a new omnibus platform during the first quarter of 2012, offset by lower clearing fees which are generally correlated with the decrease in commissions revenues.

Other operating expenses - Other operating expenses primarily include license and registration fees, litigation-related expenses, which consist of amounts we reserve and/or pay out related to legal and regulatory matters, travel and entertainment, promotional expenses and expenses for professional services.

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, other operating expenses decreased 7.8% to \$27.6 million from \$29.9 million during the three months ended March 31, 2011. The decrease is primarily attributable to a reduction in legal expenses and travel and promotion and conference expenses, offset by an increase in professional service fees and subscription expenses.

Provision for income taxes - For the three months ended March 31, 2012, our provision for income taxes was \$24.5 million, representing an effective tax rate of 41.3%, compared to expense of \$19.3 million for the comparable period in 2012, representing an effective tax rate of 38.1%. The change in the effective tax rate is due to an increase in our state tax rate and losses incurred at a lower tax rate in foreign jurisdictions during the three months ended March 31, 2012, combined with the reduction of the valuation allowance, which lowered our effective tax rate during the comparable period in 2011.

SEGMENT ANALYSIS

Our reportable segments include Global Wealth Management, Institutional Group, and Other.

Our Global Wealth Management segment consists of two businesses, the Private Client Group and Stifel Bank. The Private Client Group includes branch offices and independent contractor offices of our broker-dealer subsidiaries located throughout the United States, primarily in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic regions with a growing presence in the Northeast, Southeast and Western United States. These branches provide securities brokerage services, including the sale of equities, mutual funds, fixed income products, and insurance, as well as offering banking products to their private clients through Stifel Bank, which provides residential, consumer, and commercial lending, as well as Federal Depository Insurance Corporation ("FDIC")-insured deposit accounts to customers of our broker-dealer subsidiaries and to the general public.

The Institutional Group segment includes institutional sales and trading. It provides securities brokerage, trading, and research services to institutions with an emphasis on the sale of equity and fixed income products. This segment also includes the management of and participation in underwritings for both corporate and public finance (exclusive of sales credits generated through the private client group, which are included in the Global Wealth Management segment), merger and acquisition, and financial advisory services.

The Other segment includes interest income from stock borrow activities, unallocated interest expense, interest income and gains and losses from investments held, and all unallocated overhead cost associated with the execution of orders; processing of securities transactions; custody of client securities; receipt, identification, and delivery of funds and securities; compliance with regulatory and legal requirements; internal financial accounting and controls; and general administration.

We evaluate the performance of our segments and allocate resources to them based on various factors, including prospects for growth, return on investment, and return on revenues.

Results of Operations - Global Wealth Management

Three Months Ended March 31, 2011 Compared with Three Months Ended March 31, 2010

The following table presents consolidated financial information for the Global Wealth Management segment for the periods indicated (in thousands, except percentages):

					As a Perc	_		
						venue		
					For the T			
	For the		ee Months E	nded	Ended			
		Ma	arch 31,		Ma	irch 3	1,	
				%				
	2012		2011	Change	2012		2011	
Revenues:								
Commissions	\$ 91,023	\$	101,762	(10.6)		%	42.7	%
Principal transactions	59,045		56,163	5.1	23.7		23.6	
Asset management and service fees	60,586		57,530	5.3	24.4		24.1	
Investment banking	12,470		6,312	97.6	5.0		2.6	
Interest	23,099		16,703	38.3	9.3		7.0	
Other income	7,577		5,510	37.5	3.1		2.3	
Total revenues	253,800		243,980	4.0	102.2		102.3	
Interest expense	5,452		5,534	(1.5)	2.2		2.3	
Net revenues	248,348		238,446	4.2	100.0		100.0	
Non-interest expenses:								
Compensation and benefits	143,757		142,586	0.8	57.9		59.8	
Occupancy and equipment rental	15,786		15,198	3.9	6.3		6.4	
Communication and office supplies	8,869		8,139	9.0	3.6		3.4	
Commissions and floor brokerage	3,420		2,793	22.4	1.4		1.2	
Other operating expenses	7,338		8,258	(11.1)	2.9		3.4	
Total non-interest expenses	179,170		176,974	1.2	72.1		74.2	
Income before income taxes	\$ 69,178	\$	61,472	12.5	27.9	%	25.8	%

	Ma	rch 31, 2012	Ma	rch 31, 2011
Branch offices		297		285
Financial advisors		1,858		1,787
Independent contractors		155		160
Assets in fee-based accounts:				
Value (in thousands) (1)	\$	18,552,774	\$	16,717,112
Number of accounts		71,065		61,529

(1) Fee based account revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011are billed in arrears based on values as of December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively.

NET REVENUES

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, Global Wealth Management net revenues increased 4.2% to \$248.3 million from \$238.4 million for the comparable period in 2011. The increase in net revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2012 over the comparable period in 2011 is attributable to increased net interest revenues as a result of the growth of net interest-earning assets at Stifel Bank; higher investment banking revenues as a result of the improved performance of the capital markets; growth in asset management and service fees as a result of an increase in assets under management through market performance; and increased principal transactions revenues as a result of strong trading volumes and tightening credit spreads. The increase in revenue growth was offset by a decline in commission revenues. While market conditions improved during the first quarter of 2012, the lack of volatility in the capital markets impacted the commission revenues derived from our retail clients during the quarter.

Commissions - For the three months ended March 31, 2012, commission revenues decreased 10.6% to \$91.0 million from \$101.8 million in the comparable period in 2011. The decrease is primarily attributable to a decrease in agency transactions in equities, insurance products and mutual funds.

Principal transactions - For the three months ended March 31, 2012, principal transactions revenues increased 5.1% to \$59.0 million from \$56.2 million in the comparable period in 2011. The increase is primarily attributable to increased principal transactions, primarily in fixed income products from the first quarter of 2011.

Asset management and service fees - For the three months ended March 31, 2012, asset management and service fees increased 5.3% to \$60.6 million from \$57.5 million in the comparable period in 2011. The increase is primarily a result of an increase in investment advisory revenues, offset by a reduction in fees for money-fund balances due to the waiving of fees by certain fund managers. The value of assets in fee-based accounts increased 10.8% from March 31, 2011. This increase is primarily attributable to net inflows and market appreciation. See "Assets in fee-based accounts" included in the table above for further details.

Investment banking - Investment banking, which represents sales credits for investment banking underwritings, increased 97.6% to \$12.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 from \$6.3 million during the comparable period in 2011. See "Investment banking" in the Institutional Group segment discussion for information on the changes in net revenues.

Interest revenue - For the three months ended March 31, 2012, interest revenue increased 38.3% to \$23.1 million from \$16.7 million in the comparable period in 2011. The increase is primarily due to the growth of the interest-earning assets of Stifel Bank and increased interest rates on our investment portfolio. See "Net Interest Income - Stifel Bank" below for a further discussion of the changes in net revenues. The increase is also attributable to an increase in interest revenue from customer margin borrowing to finance trading activity.

Other income - For the three months ended March 31, 2012, other income increased 37.5% to \$7.6 million from \$5.5 million during the comparable period in 2011. The increase is primarily attributable to an increase in investment gains on our private equity investments and an increase in mortgage fees due to the increase in loan originations at Stifel Bank.

Interest expense - For the three months ended March 31, 2012, interest expense of \$5.5 million was consistent with the comparable period in 2011. See "Net Interest Income - Stifel Bank" below for a further discussion of the changes in net revenues.

NET INTEREST INCOME - STIFEL BANK

The following tables present average balance data and operating interest revenue and expense data for Stifel Bank, as well as related interest yields for the periods indicated (in thousands, except rates):

	Three	e Months Ende	ed	Three Months Ended					
	M	arch 31, 2012		March 31, 2011					
		Interest	Average		Interest	Average			
	Average	Income/	Interest	Average	Income/	Interest			
	Balance	Expense	Rate	Balance	Expense	Rate			
Assets:					_				
Federal funds sold	\$ 154,496	\$ 90	0.70 %	\$ 160,570	\$ 104	0.26 %			
U.S. government agencies	-	-	-	24,973	90	1.44			
State and political subdivisions:									
Taxable	90,905	1,138	5.01	77,437	625	3.23			