

EVEREST RE GROUP LTD  
Form 10-K  
March 02, 2015

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
FORM 10-K

Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014

Commission file number 1-15731  
EVEREST RE GROUP, LTD.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Bermuda  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

98-0365432  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

Wessex House – 2nd Floor  
45 Reid Street  
PO Box HM 845  
Hamilton HM DX, Bermuda  
441-295-0006

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive office)

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

Title of Each Class	Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered
Common Shares, \$.01 par value per share	New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

YES    X                      NO

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act.

YES                              NO    X

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    X            NO

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

YES    X            NO

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. [ ]

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.

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

(Do not check if smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

YES                              NO    X

The aggregate market value on June 30, 2014, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second quarter, of the voting shares held by non-affiliates of the registrant was \$7,332,951 thousand.

At February 1, 2015, the number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common shares was 44,473,459.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Certain information required by Items 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 of Form 10-K is incorporated by reference into Part III hereof from the registrant's proxy statement for the 2014 Annual General Meeting of Shareholders, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days of the close of the registrant's fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

---

EVEREST RE GROUP, LTD

TABLE OF CONTENTS  
FORM 10-K

	Page
<b>PART I</b>	
Item 1.	1
Item 1A.	27
Item 1B.	39
Item 2.	39
Item 3.	39
Item 4.	39
<b>PART II</b>	
Item 5.	39
Item 6.	42
Item 7.	43
Item 7A.	77
Item 8.	77
Item 9.	77
Item 9A.	77
Item 9B.	78
<b>PART III</b>	
Item 10.	78
Item 11.	78
Item 12.	78
Item 13.	78
Item 14.	79
<b>PART IV</b>	
Item 15.	79



## PART I

Unless otherwise indicated, all financial data in this document have been prepared using accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”). As used in this document, “Group” means Everest Re Group, Ltd.; “Holdings Ireland” means Everest Underwriting Group (Ireland) Limited; “Ireland Re” means Everest Reinsurance Company (Ireland), Limited; “Holdings” means Everest Reinsurance Holdings, Inc.; “Everest Re” means Everest Reinsurance Company and its subsidiaries (unless the context otherwise requires); and the “Company”, “we”, “us”, and “our” means Everest Re Group, Ltd. and its subsidiaries.

### ITEM 1. BUSINESS

#### The Company.

Group, a Bermuda company, was established in 1999 as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Holdings. On February 24, 2000, a corporate restructuring was completed and Group became the new parent holding company of Holdings. Holdings continues to be the holding company for the Company’s U.S. based operations. Holders of shares of common stock of Holdings automatically became holders of the same number of common shares of Group. Prior to the restructuring, Group had no significant assets or capitalization and had not engaged in any business or prior activities other than in connection with the restructuring.

In connection with the February 24, 2000 restructuring, Group established a Bermuda-based reinsurance subsidiary, Everest Reinsurance (Bermuda), Ltd. (“Bermuda Re”), which commenced business in the second half of 2000. Group also formed Everest Global Services, Inc., a Delaware subsidiary, to perform administrative functions for Group and its U.S. based and non-U.S. based subsidiaries.

On December 30, 2008, Group contributed Holdings to its Irish holding company, Holdings Ireland. Holdings Ireland is a direct subsidiary of Group and was established to serve as a holding company for the U.S. and Irish reinsurance and insurance subsidiaries.

Holdings, a Delaware corporation, was established in 1993 to serve as the parent holding company of Everest Re, a Delaware property and casualty reinsurer formed in 1973. Until October 6, 1995, Holdings was an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of The Prudential Insurance Company of America (“The Prudential”). On October 6, 1995, The Prudential sold its entire interest in Holdings in an initial public offering.

Effective February 27, 2013, the Company established a new subsidiary, Mt. Logan Re Ltd. (“Mt. Logan Re”) and effective July 1, 2013, Mt. Logan Re established separate segregated accounts and issued non-voting redeemable preferred shares to capitalize the segregated accounts. Accordingly, the financial position and operating results for Mt. Logan Re are consolidated with the Company and the non-controlling interests in Mt. Logan Re’s operating results and equity are presented as separate captions in the Company’s financial statements.

The Company’s principal business, conducted through its operating segments, is the underwriting of reinsurance and insurance in the U.S., Bermuda and international markets. The Company had gross written premiums, in 2014, of \$5.7 billion with approximately 79% representing reinsurance and 21% representing insurance. Shareholders’ equity at December 31, 2014 was \$7.5 billion. The Company underwrites reinsurance both through brokers and directly with ceding companies, giving it the flexibility to pursue business based on the ceding company’s preferred reinsurance purchasing method. The Company underwrites insurance principally through general agent relationships, brokers and surplus lines brokers. Group’s active operating subsidiaries, excluding Mt. Logan Re and Mt. McKinley Insurance Company (“Mt. McKinley”), which is in run-off, are each rated A+ (“Superior”) by A.M. Best Company (“A.M. Best”), a leading provider of insurer ratings that assigns financial strength ratings to insurance companies based on their ability to meet their obligations to policyholders.



Following is a summary of the Company's principal operating subsidiaries:

- Bermuda Re, a Bermuda insurance company and a direct subsidiary of Group, is registered in Bermuda as a Class 4 insurer and long-term insurer and is authorized to write property and casualty and life and annuity business. Bermuda Re commenced business in the second half of 2000. Bermuda Re's UK branch writes property and casualty reinsurance to the United Kingdom and European markets. At December 31, 2014, Bermuda Re had shareholder's equity of \$3.0 billion.
- Everest International Reinsurance, Ltd. ("Everest International"), a Bermuda insurance company and a direct subsidiary of Group, is registered in Bermuda as a Class 4 insurer and is authorized to write property and casualty business. Through 2014, all of Everest International's business has been inter-affiliate quota share reinsurance assumed from Everest Re, the UK branch of Bermuda Re and Ireland Re. At December 31, 2014, Everest International had shareholder's equity of \$417.6 million.
- Mt. Logan Re, a Bermuda insurance company and a direct subsidiary of Group, is registered in Bermuda as a Class 3 insurer and is authorized to write property and casualty reinsurance. Through 2014, all of Mt. Logan Re's business has been inter-affiliate reinsurance assumed from Everest Re, the UK branch of Bermuda Re and Ireland Re, and all business has been written through segregated cells. At December 31, 2014, Mt. Logan Re had shareholders' equity of \$487.8 million.
- Ireland Re, an Ireland reinsurance company and an indirect subsidiary of Group, is licensed to write non-life reinsurance, both directly and through brokers, for the London and European markets.
- Everest Re, a Delaware insurance company and a direct subsidiary of Holdings, is a licensed property and casualty insurer and/or reinsurer in all states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico and is authorized to conduct reinsurance business in Canada, Singapore and Brazil. Everest Re underwrites property and casualty reinsurance for insurance and reinsurance companies in the U.S. and international markets. At December 31, 2014, Everest Re had statutory surplus of \$2.9 billion.
- Everest Insurance Company of Canada ("Everest Canada"), a Canadian insurance company and direct subsidiary of Holdings Ireland, is licensed to write property and casualty insurance in all Canadian provinces.
- Everest National Insurance Company ("Everest National"), a Delaware insurance company and a direct subsidiary of Everest Re, is licensed in 50 states and the District of Columbia and is authorized to write property and casualty insurance on an admitted basis in the jurisdictions in which it is licensed. The majority of Everest National's business is reinsured by its parent, Everest Re.
- Everest Indemnity Insurance Company ("Everest Indemnity"), a Delaware insurance company and a direct subsidiary of Everest Re, writes excess and surplus lines insurance business in the U.S. on a non-admitted basis. Excess and surplus lines insurance is specialty property and liability coverage that an insurer not licensed to write insurance in a particular jurisdiction is permitted to provide to insureds when the specific specialty coverage is unavailable from admitted insurers. Everest Indemnity is licensed in Delaware and is eligible to write business on a non-admitted basis in all other states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The majority of Everest Indemnity's business is reinsured by its parent, Everest Re.
- Everest Security Insurance Company ("Everest Security"), a Georgia insurance company and a direct subsidiary of Everest Re, writes property and casualty insurance on an admitted basis in Georgia and Alabama. The majority of Everest Security's business is reinsured by its parent, Everest Re.

Mt. McKinley, a Delaware insurance company and a direct subsidiary of Holdings, was acquired by Holdings in September 2000 from The Prudential. In 1985, Mt. McKinley ceased writing new and renewal insurance and commenced a run-off operation to service claims arising from its previously written business. Effective September 19, 2000, Mt. McKinley and Bermuda Re entered into a loss portfolio transfer reinsurance agreement, whereby Mt. McKinley transferred, for arm's-length consideration, all of its net insurance exposures and reserves to Bermuda Re.



- Heartland Crop Insurance, Inc. (“Heartland”), a Kansas based managing general agent and a direct subsidiary of Holdings, was acquired on January 2, 2011. Heartland specializes in crop insurance, which is written mainly through Everest National.

#### Reinsurance Industry Overview.

Reinsurance is an arrangement in which an insurance company, the reinsurer, agrees to indemnify another insurance or reinsurance company, the ceding company, against all or a portion of the insurance risks underwritten by the ceding company under one or more insurance contracts. Reinsurance can provide a ceding company with several benefits, including a reduction in its net liability on individual risks or classes of risks, catastrophe protection from large and/or multiple losses and/or a reduction in operating leverage as measured by the ratio of net premiums and reserves to capital. Reinsurance also provides a ceding company with additional underwriting capacity by permitting it to accept larger risks and write more business than would be acceptable relative to the ceding company’s financial resources. Reinsurance does not discharge the ceding company from its liability to policyholders; rather, it reimburses the ceding company for covered losses.

There are two basic types of reinsurance arrangements: treaty and facultative. Treaty reinsurance obligates the ceding company to cede and the reinsurer to assume a specified portion of a type or category of risks insured by the ceding company. Treaty reinsurers do not separately evaluate each of the individual risks assumed under their treaties, instead, the reinsurer relies upon the pricing and underwriting decisions made by the ceding company. In facultative reinsurance, the ceding company cedes and the reinsurer assumes all or part of the risk under a single insurance contract. Facultative reinsurance is negotiated separately for each insurance contract that is reinsured. Facultative reinsurance, when purchased by ceding companies, usually is intended to cover individual risks not covered by their reinsurance treaties because of the dollar limits involved or because the risk is unusual.

Both treaty and facultative reinsurance can be written on either a pro rata basis or an excess of loss basis. Under pro rata reinsurance, the ceding company and the reinsurer share the premiums as well as the losses and expenses in an agreed proportion. Under excess of loss reinsurance, the reinsurer indemnifies the ceding company against all or a specified portion of losses and expenses in excess of a specified dollar amount, known as the ceding company's retention or reinsurer's attachment point, generally subject to a negotiated reinsurance contract limit.

In pro rata reinsurance, the reinsurer generally pays the ceding company a ceding commission. The ceding commission generally is based on the ceding company’s cost of acquiring the business being reinsured (commissions, premium taxes, assessments and miscellaneous administrative expense and may contain profit sharing provisions, whereby the ceding commission is adjusted based on loss experience). Premiums paid by the ceding company to a reinsurer for excess of loss reinsurance are not directly proportional to the premiums that the ceding company receives because the reinsurer does not assume a proportionate risk. There is usually no ceding commission on excess of loss reinsurance.

Reinsurers may purchase reinsurance to cover their own risk exposure. Reinsurance of a reinsurer's business is called a retrocession. Reinsurance companies cede risks under retrocessional agreements to other reinsurers, known as retrocessionaires, for reasons similar to those that cause insurers to purchase reinsurance: to reduce net liability on individual or classes of risks, protect against catastrophic losses, stabilize financial ratios and obtain additional underwriting capacity.

Reinsurance can be written through intermediaries, generally professional reinsurance brokers, or directly with ceding companies. From a ceding company's perspective, the broker and the direct distribution channels have advantages and disadvantages. A ceding company's decision to select one distribution channel over the other will be influenced by its perception of such advantages and disadvantages relative to the reinsurance coverage being placed.



#### Business Strategy.

The Company's business strategy is to sustain its leadership position within targeted reinsurance and insurance markets, provide effective management throughout the property and casualty underwriting cycle and thereby achieve an attractive return for its shareholders. The Company's underwriting strategies seek to capitalize on its i) financial strength and capacity, ii) global franchise, iii) stable and experienced management team, iv) diversified product and distribution offerings, v) underwriting expertise and disciplined approach, vi) efficient and low-cost operating structure and vii) effective enterprise risk management practices.

The Company offers treaty and facultative reinsurance and admitted and non-admitted insurance. The Company's products include the full range of property and casualty reinsurance and insurance coverages, including marine, aviation, surety, errors and omissions liability ("E&O"), directors' and officers' liability ("D&O"), medical malpractice, other specialty lines, accident and health ("A&H") and workers' compensation.

The Company's underwriting strategies emphasizes underwriting profitability over premium volume. Key elements of this strategy include careful risk selection, appropriate pricing through strict underwriting discipline and adjustment of the Company's business mix in response to changing market conditions. The Company focuses on reinsuring companies that effectively manage the underwriting cycle through proper analysis and pricing of underlying risks and whose underwriting guidelines and performance are compatible with its objectives.

The Company's underwriting strategies emphasize flexibility and responsiveness to changing market conditions. The Company believes that its existing strengths, including its broad underwriting expertise, global presence, strong financial ratings and substantial capital, facilitate adjustments to its mix of business geographically, by line of business and by type of coverage, allowing it to participate in those market opportunities that provide the greatest potential for underwriting profitability. The Company's insurance operations complement these strategies by accessing business that is not available on a reinsurance basis. The Company carefully monitors its mix of business across all operations to avoid unacceptable geographic or other risk concentrations.

#### Marketing.

The Company writes business on a worldwide basis for many different customers and lines of business, thereby obtaining a broad spread of risk. The Company is not substantially dependent on any single customer, small group of customers, line of business or geographic area. For the 2014 calendar year, no single customer (ceding company or insured) generated more than 3% of the Company's gross written premiums. The Company believes that a reduction of business from any one customer would not have a material adverse effect on its future financial condition or results of operations.

Approximately 65%, 21% and 14% of the Company's 2014 gross written premiums were written in the broker reinsurance, insurance markets and direct reinsurance, respectively.

The broker reinsurance market consists of several substantial national and international brokers and a number of smaller specialized brokers. Brokers do not have the authority to bind the Company with respect to reinsurance agreements, nor does the Company commit in advance to accept any portion of a broker's submitted business. Reinsurance business from any ceding company, whether new or renewal, is subject to acceptance by the Company. Brokerage fees are generally paid by reinsurers. The Company's ten largest brokers accounted for an aggregate of approximately 60% of gross written premiums in 2014. The largest broker, Marsh and McLennan, accounts for approximately 23% of gross written premiums. The second largest broker, Aon Benfield Re, accounted for approximately 20% of gross written premiums. The Company believes that a reduction of business assumed from any one broker would not have a material adverse effect on the Company.

The direct reinsurance market remains an important distribution channel for reinsurance business written by the Company. Direct placement of reinsurance enables the Company to access clients who prefer to place their

reinsurance directly with reinsurers based upon the reinsurer's in-depth understanding of the ceding company's needs.

The Company's insurance business writes direct business targeting commercial, property and casualty. It also writes business through general agents, brokers and surplus lines brokers. In 2014, Arrowhead General Insurance Agency accounted for approximately 5% of the Company's gross written premium. No other single general agent generated more than 3% of the Company's gross written premiums.

The Company continually evaluates each business relationship, including the underwriting expertise and experience brought to bear through the involved distribution channel, performs analyses to evaluate financial security, monitors performance and adjusts underwriting decisions accordingly.

#### Segment Results.

The U.S. Reinsurance operation writes property and casualty reinsurance and specialty lines of business, including Marine, Aviation, Surety and A&H business, on both a treaty and facultative basis, through reinsurance brokers, as well as directly with ceding companies primarily within the U.S. The International operation writes foreign property and casualty reinsurance through Everest Re's branches in Canada and Singapore and through offices in Brazil, Miami and New Jersey. The Bermuda operation provides reinsurance and insurance to worldwide property and casualty markets through brokers and directly with ceding companies from its Bermuda office and reinsurance to the United Kingdom and European markets through its UK branch and Ireland Re. The Insurance operation writes property and casualty insurance directly and through general agents, brokers and surplus lines brokers within the U.S. and Canada. The Mt. Logan Re segment represents business written for the segregated accounts of Mt. Logan Re, which were formed on July 1, 2013. The Mt. Logan Re business represents a diversified set of catastrophe exposures, diversified by risk/peril and across different geographical regions globally.

These segments, with the exception of Mt. Logan Re, are managed independently, but conform with corporate guidelines with respect to pricing, risk management, control of aggregate catastrophe exposures, capital, investments and support operations. Management generally monitors and evaluates the financial performance of these operating segments based upon their underwriting results. The Mt. Logan Re segment is managed independently and seeks to write a diverse portfolio of catastrophe risks for each segregated account to achieve desired risk and return criteria.

Underwriting results include earned premium less losses and loss adjustment expenses ("LAE") incurred, commission and brokerage expenses and other underwriting expenses. We measure our underwriting results using ratios, in particular loss, commission and brokerage and other underwriting expense ratios, which, respectively, divide incurred losses, commissions and brokerage and other underwriting expenses by premiums earned.

Mt. Logan Re's business is sourced through operating subsidiaries of the Company; however, the activity is only reflected in the Mt. Logan Re segment. For other inter-affiliate reinsurance, business is generally reported within the segment in which the business was first produced, consistent with how the business is managed.

Except for Mt. Logan Re, the Company does not maintain separate balance sheet data for its operating segments. Accordingly, the Company does not review and evaluate the financial results of its operating segments based upon balance sheet data.

Underwriting results include earned premium less losses and loss adjustment expenses ("LAE") incurred, commission and brokerage expenses and other underwriting expenses. Underwriting results are measured using ratios, in particular loss, commission and brokerage and other underwriting expense ratios, which, respectively, divide incurred losses, commissions and brokerage and other underwriting expenses by premiums earned. The Company utilizes inter-affiliate reinsurance, although such reinsurance does not materially impact segment results, as business is generally reported within the segment in which the business was first produced. For selected financial information regarding these segments, see ITEM 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" - Note 20 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements and ITEM 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation - Segment Results".



Edgar Filing: EVEREST RE GROUP LTD - Form 10-K

Underwriting Operations.

The following five year table presents the distribution of the Company's gross written premiums by its segments: U.S. Reinsurance, International, Bermuda, Insurance and Mt. Logan Re. The premiums for each segment are further split between property and casualty business and, for reinsurance business, between pro rata or excess of loss business:

(Dollars in millions)	Gross Written Premiums by Segment											
	2014		2013		2012		2011		2010			
U.S. Reinsurance												
Property												
Pro Rata (1)	\$665.7	11.6 %	\$631.2	12.1 %	\$313.2	7.3 %	\$594.9	13.9 %	\$698.2	16.6 %		
Excess	772.6	13.4 %	631.7	12.1 %	534.8	12.4 %	380.6	8.9 %	315.9	7.5 %		
Casualty												
Pro Rata (1)	382.4	6.7 %	342.5	6.6 %	273.6	6.3 %	215.5	5.0 %	200.0	4.8 %		
Excess	218.8	3.8 %	204.4	3.9 %	189.1	4.4 %	155.8	3.6 %	181.3	4.3 %		
Total (2)	2,039.6	35.5 %	1,809.7	34.7 %	1,310.7	30.4 %	1,346.8	31.4 %	1,395.4	33.2 %		
International												
Property												
Pro Rata (1)	846.0	14.7 %	673.4	12.9 %	630.9	14.6 %	713.0	16.6 %	701.6	16.7 %		
Excess	467.0	8.1 %	426.5	8.2 %	365.9	8.5 %	315.7	7.4 %	291.6	6.9 %		
Casualty												
Pro Rata (1)	152.9	2.7 %	134.4	2.6 %	102.6	2.4 %	122.2	2.9 %	120.3	2.9 %		
Excess	116.5	2.0 %	111.5	2.1 %	92.9	2.2 %	87.6	2.0 %	93.4	2.2 %		
Total (2)	1,582.4	27.5 %	1,345.8	25.8 %	1,192.3	27.7 %	1,238.4	28.9 %	1,207.0	28.7 %		
Bermuda												
Property												
Pro Rata (1)	252.4	4.4 %	244.6	4.7 %	208.3	4.8 %	213.2	5.0 %	226.1	5.4 %		
Excess	167.7	2.9 %	161.5	3.1 %	145.1	3.4 %	162.6	3.8 %	173.5	4.1 %		
Casualty												
Pro Rata (1)	178.5	3.1 %	213.9	4.1 %	228.9	5.3 %	204.9	4.8 %	205.0	4.9 %		
Excess	171.7	3.0 %	154.2	3.0 %	152.1	3.5 %	144.5	3.4 %	128.4	3.1 %		
Total (2)	770.3	13.5 %	774.3	14.9 %	734.4	17.1 %	725.3	17.0 %	733.0	17.5 %		
Total Reinsurance												
Property												
Pro Rata (1)	1,764.1	30.7 %	1,549.2	29.7 %	1,152.4	26.7 %	1,521.1	35.5 %	1,625.9	38.7 %		
Excess	1,407.3	24.5 %	1,219.7	23.4 %	1,045.8	24.3 %	858.9	20.0 %	781.0	18.6 %		
Casualty												
Pro Rata (1)	713.8	12.4 %	690.7	13.2 %	605.1	14.0 %	542.6	12.7 %	525.3	12.5 %		
Excess	507.0	8.8 %	470.1	9.0 %	434.1	10.1 %	387.9	9.0 %	403.1	9.6 %		
Total (2)	4,392.3	76.4 %	3,929.7	75.3 %	3,237.4	75.1 %	3,310.6	77.2 %	3,335.3	79.4 %		
Insurance												
Property												
Pro Rata (1)	414.0	7.2 %	545.6	10.5 %	459.2	10.7 %	341.9	8.0 %	130.1	3.1 %		
Excess	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %		
Casualty												
Pro Rata (1)	804.4	14.0 %	723.2	13.9 %	613.9	14.2 %	633.8	14.8 %	735.4	17.5 %		

Edgar Filing: EVEREST RE GROUP LTD - Form 10-K

Excess	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %
Total (2)	1,218.4	21.2 %	1,268.7	24.3 %	1,073.1	24.9 %	975.6	22.8 %	865.4	20.6 %		

Mt. Logan Re

Property

Pro Rata (1)	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Excess	138.4	2.4 %	20.2	0.4 %	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Casualty

Pro Rata (1)	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Excess	-	0.0 %	-	0.0 %	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total (2)	138.4	2.4 %	20.2	0.4 %	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total Company

Property

Pro Rata (1)	2,178.1	37.9 %	2,094.8	40.1 %	1,611.6	37.4 %	1,863.0	43.5 %	1,756.0	41.8 %		
Excess	1,545.6	26.9 %	1,239.9	23.8 %	1,045.8	24.3 %	858.9	20.0 %	781.0	18.6 %		

Casualty

Pro Rata (1)	1,518.2	26.4 %	1,413.9	27.1 %	1,219.1	28.3 %	1,176.3	27.4 %	1,260.6	30.0 %		
Excess	507.0	8.8 %	470.1	9.0 %	434.1	10.1 %	387.9	9.1 %	403.1	9.6 %		
Total (2)	\$5,749.0	100.0%	\$5,218.6	100.0%	\$4,310.5	100.0%	\$4,286.2	100.0%	\$4,200.7	100.0%		

(1) For purposes of the presentation above, pro rata includes all insurance and reinsurance attaching to the first dollar of loss incurred by the ceding company.

(2) Certain totals and subtotals may not reconcile due to rounding.

U.S. Reinsurance Segment. The Company's U.S. Reinsurance segment writes property and casualty reinsurance and specialty lines of business, including Marine, Aviation, Surety and A&H business, on both a treaty and facultative basis, through reinsurance brokers, as well as directly with ceding companies within the U.S. The marine and aviation business is written primarily through brokers and contains a significant international component. Surety business consists mainly of reinsurance of contract surety bonds. The Company targets certain brokers and, through the broker market, specialty companies and small to medium sized standard lines companies. The Company also targets companies that place their business predominantly in the direct market, including small to medium sized regional ceding companies, and seeks



to develop long-term relationships with those companies. In addition, the U.S. Reinsurance segment writes portions of reinsurance programs for large, national insurance companies.

In 2014, \$1,229.7 million of gross written premiums were attributable to U.S. treaty property business, of which 55.1% was written on an excess of loss basis and 44.9% was written on a pro rata basis. The Company's property underwriters utilize sophisticated underwriting methods to analyze and price property business. The Company manages its exposures to catastrophe and other large losses by limiting exposures on individual contracts and limiting aggregate exposures to catastrophes in any particular zone and across contiguous zones.

U.S. treaty casualty business accounted for \$518.7 million of gross written premiums in 2014, of which 69.0% was written on a pro rata basis and 31.0% was written on an excess of loss basis. The treaty casualty business consists of professional liability, D&O liability, workers' compensation, excess and surplus lines and other liability coverages. As a result of the complex technical nature of most of these risks, the Company's casualty underwriters tend to specialize by line of business and work closely with the Company's pricing actuaries.

The Company's facultative unit conducts business both through brokers and directly with ceding companies, and consists of three underwriting units representing property, casualty, and national brokerage lines of business. Business is written from a facultative headquarters office in New York and satellite offices in Chicago and Oakland. In 2014, \$55.1 million, \$39.2 million and \$16.2 million of gross written premiums were attributable to the casualty, property and national brokerage lines of business, respectively.

The marine and aviation unit's 2014 gross written premiums totaled \$105.4 million, substantially all of which was written on a treaty basis and sourced through reinsurance brokers. Of the marine and aviation gross written premiums in 2014, marine treaties represented 73.9% and consisted mainly of hull and cargo coverage. In 2014, the marine unit's premiums were written 57.4% on a pro rata basis and 42.6% on an excess of loss basis. Of the marine and aviation gross written premiums in 2014, aviation premiums accounted for 26.1% and included reinsurance of airline and general aviation risks. In 2014, the aviation unit's premiums were written 89.7% on a pro rata basis and 10.3% on an excess of loss basis.

In 2014, gross written premiums of the surety unit totaled \$48.7 million, 88.6% of which was written on a pro rata basis. Most of the portfolio is reinsurance of contract surety bonds written directly with ceding companies, with the remainder being trade credit reinsurance, mostly in international markets.

In 2014, gross written premium of the A&H reinsurance unit totaled \$26.5 million, written through brokers.

In 2014, 95.2% and 4.8% of the U.S. Reinsurance segment's gross written premiums were written in the broker reinsurance and direct reinsurance markets, respectively.

**International Segment.** The Company's International segment focuses on opportunities in the international reinsurance markets. The Company targets several international markets, including: Canada, with a branch in Toronto; Asia, with a branch in Singapore; and Latin America, Brazil, Africa and the Middle East, which business is serviced from Everest Re's Miami and New Jersey offices. The Company also writes from New Jersey "home-foreign" business, which provides reinsurance on the international portfolios of U.S. insurers. Of the Company's 2014 international gross written premiums, 83.0% represented property business, while 17.0% represented casualty business. As with its U.S. operations, the Company's International segment focuses on financially sound companies that have strong management and underwriting discipline and expertise. Of the Company's international business, 60.1% was written through brokers, with 39.9% written directly with ceding companies.

Gross written premiums of the Company's Canadian branch totaled \$154.6 million in 2014 and consisted of 40.4% of excess property business, 35.3% of excess casualty business, 14.3% of pro rata casualty business and 10.0% of pro

rata property business. Of the Canadian gross written premiums, 83.8% consisted of treaty reinsurance, while 16.2% was facultative reinsurance.

The Company's Singapore branch covers the Asian markets and accounted for \$227.9 million of gross written premiums in 2014 and consisted of 49.0% of excess property business, 48.1% of pro rata property business, 1.6% of pro rata casualty business and 1.3% of excess casualty business.

International business written out of Everest Re's Miami and New Jersey offices accounted for \$1,199.9 million of gross written premiums in 2014 and consisted of 59.9% of pro rata treaty property business, 21.0% of excess treaty property business, 10.6% of pro rata treaty casualty business, 2.6% of excess treaty casualty business and 5.9% of facultative property and casualty business. Of this international business, 74.3% was sourced from Latin America, 11.2% was sourced from the Middle East, 5.9% was sourced from Africa and 8.6% was home-foreign business.

Bermuda Segment. The Company's Bermuda segment writes property and casualty reinsurance through Bermuda Re and property and casualty reinsurance through its UK branch as well as through Ireland Re. In 2014, Bermuda Re had gross written premiums of \$392.4 million, virtually all of which was treaty reinsurance.

In 2014, the UK branch of Bermuda Re wrote \$257.4 million of gross treaty reinsurance premium consisting of 43.2% of excess casualty business, 12.3% of pro rata casualty business, 25.0% of excess property business and 19.5% of pro rata property business.

In 2014, Ireland Re wrote \$120.5 million of gross treaty reinsurance premium consisting of 39.7% of pro rata property business, 30.9% of excess property business, 19.6% of pro rata casualty business and 9.8% of excess casualty business.

Insurance Segment. The Insurance segment writes property and casualty insurance, including medical stop loss insurance, directly and through general agents, brokers and surplus lines brokers within the U.S. and Canada. In 2014, the Company's Insurance segment wrote \$1,218.4 million of gross written premiums, of which 66.0% was casualty and 34.0% was property, principally targeting commercial property and casualty business. Business written through general agents with program administrators represented 44.0% of the premium with the remainder written directly through the Company's offices. Workers' compensation business accounted for \$384.5 million, or 31.6% of the total business written, which included \$307.5 million, or 80%, of workers' compensation business written in California. In addition, professional liability business written was \$240.9 million, crop insurance business written was \$163.7 million; other short-tail/package business written was \$144.3 million; other liability business written was \$129.2 million; A&H insurance business written was \$81.2 million; and non-standard auto insurance business written through retail agents was \$74.6 million. With respect to insurance written through general agents and surplus lines brokers, the Company supplements the initial underwriting process with periodic claims, underwriting and operational reviews and ongoing monitoring.

Mt. Logan Re Segment. The Mt. Logan Re segment represents business written for the segregated accounts of Mt. Logan Re, which were formed on July 1, 2013. The Mt. Logan Re business represents a diversified set of catastrophe exposures, diversified by risk/peril and across different geographical regions globally. Mt. Logan Re's business is sourced through operating subsidiaries of the Company; however, the activity is only reflected in the Mt. Logan Re segment. For other inter-affiliate reinsurance, business is generally reported within the segment in which the business was first produced, consistent with how the business is managed. Gross written premium for 2014 was \$138.4 million.

Geographic Areas. The Company conducts its business in Bermuda, the U.S. and a number of foreign countries. For select financial information about geographic areas, see ITEM 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" - Note 20 of Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements. Risks attendant to the foreign operations of the Company parallel those attendant to the U.S. operations of the Company, with the primary exception of foreign exchange risks. For more information about the risks, see ITEM 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Safe Harbor Disclosure".



#### Underwriting.

One of the Company's strategies is to "lead" as many of the reinsurance treaties it underwrites as possible. The Company leads on approximately two-thirds of its treaty reinsurance business as measured by premium. The lead reinsurer on a treaty generally accepts one of the largest percentage shares of the treaty and is in the strongest position to negotiate price, terms and conditions. Management believes this strategy enables it to obtain more favorable terms and conditions on the treaties on which it participates. When the Company does not lead the treaty, it may still suggest changes to any aspect of the treaty. The Company may decline to participate on a treaty based upon its assessment of all relevant factors.

The Company's treaty underwriting process involves a team approach among the Company's underwriters, actuaries and claim staff. Treaties are reviewed for compliance with the Company's general underwriting standards and most larger treaties are subjected to detailed actuarial analysis. The actuarial models used in such analyses are tailored in each case to the subject exposures and loss experience. The Company does not separately evaluate each of the individual risks assumed under its treaties. The Company does, however, evaluate the underwriting guidelines of its ceding companies to determine their adequacy prior to entering into a treaty. The Company may also conduct underwriting, operational and claim audits at the offices of ceding companies to monitor adherence to underwriting guidelines. Underwriting audits focus on the quality of the underwriting staff, pricing and risk selection and rate monitoring over time. Claim audits may be performed in order to evaluate the client's claims handling abilities and practices.

The Company's facultative underwriters operate within guidelines specifying acceptable types of risks, limits and maximum risk exposures. Specified classes of large premium U.S. risks are referred to Everest Re's New York facultative headquarters for specific review before premium quotations are given to clients. In addition, the Company's guidelines require certain types of risks to be submitted for review because of their aggregate limits, complexity or volatility, regardless of premium amount on the underlying contract. Non-U.S. risks exhibiting similar characteristics are reviewed by senior managers within the involved operations.

In addition to its own underwriting staff, the Company's insurance operations write casualty coverages for homogeneous risks through select program managers. These programs are evaluated based upon actuarial analysis and the program manager's capabilities. The Company's rates, forms and underwriting guidelines are tailored to specific risk types. The Company's underwriting, actuarial, claim and financial functions work closely with its program managers to establish appropriate underwriting and processing guidelines as well as appropriate performance monitoring mechanisms.

#### Risk Management of Underwriting and Retrocession Arrangements

**Underwriting Risk and Accumulation Controls.** Each segment and business unit manages its underwriting risk in accordance with established guidelines. These guidelines place dollar limits on the amount of business that can be written based on a variety of factors, including ceding company profile, line of business, geographic location and risk hazards. In each case, the guidelines permit limited exceptions, which must be authorized by the Company's senior management. Management regularly reviews and revises these guidelines in response to changes in business unit market conditions, risk versus reward analyses and the Company's enterprise and underwriting risk management processes.

The operating results and financial condition of the Company can be adversely affected by catastrophe and other large losses. The Company manages its exposure to catastrophes and other large losses by:

- selective underwriting practices;
- diversifying its risk portfolio by geographic area and by types and classes of business;

- limiting its aggregate catastrophe loss exposure in any particular geographic zone and contiguous zones;
- purchasing reinsurance and/or retrocessional protection to the extent that such coverage can be secured cost-effectively. See “Reinsurance and Retrocession Arrangements”.

Like other insurance and reinsurance companies, the Company is exposed to multiple insured losses arising out of a single occurrence, whether a natural event, such as a hurricane or an earthquake, or other catastrophe, such as an explosion at a major factory. A large catastrophic event can be expected to generate insured losses to multiple reinsurance treaties, facultative certificates and direct insurance policies across various lines of business.

The Company focuses on potential losses that could result from any single event or series of events as part of its evaluation and monitoring of its aggregate exposures to catastrophic events. Accordingly, the Company employs various techniques to estimate the amount of loss it could sustain from any single catastrophic event or series of events in various geographic areas. These techniques range from deterministic approaches, such as tracking aggregate limits exposed in catastrophe-prone zones and applying reasonable damage factors, to modeled approaches that attempt to scientifically measure catastrophe loss exposure using sophisticated Monte Carlo simulation techniques that forecast frequency and severity of potential losses on a probabilistic basis.

No single computer model, or group of models, is currently capable of projecting the amount and probability of loss in all global geographic regions in which the Company conducts business. In addition, the form, quality and granularity of underwriting exposure data furnished by ceding companies is not uniformly compatible with the data requirements for the Company's licensed models, which adds to the inherent imprecision in the potential loss projections. Further, the results from multiple models and analytical methods must be combined to estimate potential losses by and across business units. Also, while most models have been updated to incorporate claims information from recent catastrophic events, catastrophe model projections are still inherently imprecise. In addition, uncertainties with respect to future climatic patterns and cycles could add further uncertainty to loss projections from models based on historical data.

Nevertheless, when combined with traditional risk management techniques and sound underwriting judgment, catastrophe models are a useful tool for underwriters to price catastrophe exposed risks and for providing management with quantitative analyses with which to monitor and manage catastrophic risk exposures by zone and across zones for individual and multiple events.

Projected catastrophe losses are generally summarized in terms of the probable maximum loss ("PML"). The Company defines PML as its anticipated loss, taking into account contract terms and limits, caused by a single catastrophe affecting a broad contiguous geographic area, such as that caused by a hurricane or earthquake. The PML will vary depending upon the modeled simulated losses and the make-up of the in force book of business. The projected severity levels are described in terms of "return periods", such as "100-year events" and "250-year events". For example, a 100-year PML is the estimated loss to the current in-force portfolio from a single event which has a 1% probability of being exceeded in a twelve month period. In other words, it corresponds to a 99% probability that the loss from a single event will fall below the indicated PML. It is important to note that PMLs are estimates. Modeled events are hypothetical events produced by a stochastic model. As a result, there can be no assurance that any actual event will align with the modeled event or that actual losses from events similar to the modeled events will not vary materially from the modeled event PML.

From an enterprise risk management perspective, management sets limits on the levels of catastrophe loss exposure the Company may underwrite. The limits are revised periodically based on a variety of factors, including but not limited to the Company's financial resources and expected earnings and risk/reward analyses of the business being underwritten.

The Company may purchase reinsurance to cover specific business written or the potential accumulation or aggregation of exposures across some or all of its operations. Reinsurance purchasing decisions consider both the potential coverage and market conditions including the pricing, terms, conditions and availability of coverage, with the aim of securing cost effective protection. The amount of reinsurance purchased has varied over time, reflecting the Company's view of its exposures and the cost of reinsurance.





Management estimates that the projected net economic loss from its largest 100-year event in a given zone represents approximately 11% of its projected 2015 shareholders' equity. Economic loss is the PML exposure, net of third party reinsurance and the noncontrolling interests of Mt. Logan Re, reduced by estimated reinstatement premiums to renew coverage and estimated income taxes. The impact of income taxes on the PML depends on the distribution of the losses by corporate entity, which is also affected by inter-affiliate reinsurance. Management also monitors and controls its largest PMLs at multiple points along the loss distribution curve, such as loss amounts at the 20, 50, 100, 250, 500 and 1,000 year return periods. This process enables management to identify and control exposure accumulations and to integrate such exposures into enterprise risk, underwriting and capital management decisions.

The Company's catastrophe loss projections, segmented by risk zones, are updated quarterly and reviewed as part of a formal risk management review process. The table below reflects the Company's PML exposure, net of third party reinsurance and the noncontrolling interests of Mt. Logan Re, at various return periods for its top three zones/perils (as ranked by the largest 1 in 100 year events) based on loss projection data as of January 1, 2015:

Return Periods (in years)	1 in 20	1 in 50	1 in 100	1 in 250	1 in 500	1 in 1,000
Exceeding Probability (Dollars in millions)	5.0%	2.0%	1.0%	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%
Zone/ Peril						
Southeast U.S., Wind	\$ 665	\$ 1,075	\$ 1,371	\$ 1,799	\$ 2,045	\$ 2,258
California, Earthquake	142	473	864	1,256	1,615	1,939
Texas, Wind	139	402	743	1,450	1,934	2,190

The projected net economic losses for the top three zones/perils scheduled above are as follows:

Return Periods (in years)	1 in 20	1 in 50	1 in 100	1 in 250	1 in 500	1 in 1,000
Exceeding Probability (Dollars in millions)	5.0%	2.0%	1.0%	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%
Zone/ Peril						
Southeast U.S., Wind	\$ 408	\$ 638	\$ 852	\$ 1,083	\$ 1,243	\$ 1,396
California, Earthquake	116	350	596	846	1,080	1,291
Texas, Wind	107	296	509	952	1,260	1,438

The Company believes that its methods of monitoring, analyzing and managing catastrophe exposures provide a credible risk management framework, which is integrated with its enterprise risk management, underwriting and capital management plans. However, there is much uncertainty and imprecision inherent in the catastrophe models and the catastrophe loss estimation process generally. As a result, there can be no assurance that the Company will not experience losses from individual events that exceed the PML or other return period projections, perhaps by a material amount. Nor can there be assurance that the Company will not experience events impacting multiple zones, or multiple severe events that could, in the aggregate, exceed the Company's PML expectations by a significant amount.

**Terrorism Risk.** While the Company writes some reinsurance contracts covering terrorism, the Company's risk management philosophy is to limit the amount of exposure by geographic region, and to strictly manage coverage for properties in areas that may be considered a target for terrorists. Providing terrorism coverage on reinsurance contracts is negotiable, and many, but not all, treaties exclude this coverage. Most insurance policies however mandate inclusion of terrorism coverage. As a result, the Company is exposed to losses from terrorism on both its reinsurance and its insurance book of business, particularly its workers' compensation and property policies. However, the insurance book generally does not insure large corporations or corporate locations that represent large concentrations of risk.

The U.S. Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015 could provide some protection to the insurance book of business. It might also provide indirect protection to exposed reinsurance treaties. However, the Company is still exposed to risk of loss from terrorism due to deductibles, co-pays and uncovered lines of business.

Reinsurance and Retrocession Arrangements. The Company may purchase reinsurance to cover specific business written or the potential accumulation or aggregation of exposures across some or all of its operations. Reinsurance purchasing decisions consider both the potential coverage and market conditions including the pricing, terms, conditions and availability of coverage, with the aim of securing cost effective protection. The amount of reinsurance purchased has varied over time, reflecting the Company's view of its exposures and the cost of reinsurance. In recent years, the Company has increased its use of reinsurance offered through capital market facilities.

The Company participates in "common account" retrocessional arrangements for certain reinsurance treaties whereby a ceding company purchases reinsurance for the benefit of itself and its reinsurers under one or more of its reinsurance treaties. Common account retrocessional arrangements reduce the effect of individual or aggregate losses to all participating companies, including the ceding company, with respect to the involved treaties.

All of the Company's reinsurance and retrocessional agreements transfer significant reinsurance risk and therefore, are accounted for as reinsurance in accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") guidance.

At December 31, 2014, the Company had \$670.9 million in reinsurance receivables with respect to both paid and unpaid losses ceded. Of this amount, \$102.3 million, or 15.2%, was receivable from C.V. Starr (Bermuda) ("C.V. Starr"); \$75.0 million, or 11.2%, was receivable from Resolution Group Reinsurance (Barbados) Limited ("Resolution Group"); \$64.6 million, or 9.6%, was receivable from Federal Crop Insurance Company ("FCIC"); \$60.7 million, or 9.0%, was receivable from Zurich Vericherungs Gesellschaft ("Zurich"); \$39.5 million, or 5.9%, was receivable from Transatlantic Reinsurance Company ("Transatlantic"); \$37.2 million, or 5.5%, was receivable from Hannover Rueck SE ("Hannover"); \$35.2 million, or 5.2%, was receivable from Axis Reinsurance Company ("Axis") and \$33.9 million, or 5.1%, was receivable from Axa Seguros Gen SA De Seguros Y Reaseguros ("Axa Seguros"). The receivables from C.V. Starr and Resolution Group are fully collateralized by individual trust agreements. No other retrocessionaire accounted for more than 5% of our receivables. Although management carefully selects its reinsurers, the Company is subject to credit risk with respect to its reinsurance because the ceding of risk to reinsurers does not relieve the Company of its liability to insureds or ceding companies. See ITEM 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Financial Condition".

#### Claims.

Reinsurance claims are managed by the Company's professional claims staff whose responsibilities include reviewing initial loss reports and coverage issues, monitoring claims handling activities of ceding companies, establishing and adjusting proper case reserves and approving payment of claims. In addition to claims assessment, processing and payment, the claims staff selectively conducts comprehensive claim audits of both specific claims and overall claim procedures at the offices of selected ceding companies. Insurance claims, except those relating to Mt. McKinley's business, are generally handled by third party claims service providers who have limited authority and are subject to oversight by the Company's professional claims staff.

The Company intensively manages its asbestos and environmental ("A&E") exposures through dedicated, centrally managed claim staffs for Mt. McKinley and Everest Re. Both are staffed with experienced claim and legal professionals who specialize in the handling of such exposures. These units actively manage each individual insured and reinsured account, responding to claim developments with evaluations of the involved exposures and adjustment of reserves as appropriate. Specific or general claim developments that may have material implications for the Company are regularly communicated to senior management, actuarial, legal and financial areas. Senior management and claim management personnel meet at least quarterly to review the Company's overall reserve positions and make changes, if appropriate. The Company continually reviews its internal processing, communications and analytics, seeking to enhance the management of its A&E exposures, in particular in regard to changes in asbestos claims and litigation.



Reserves for Unpaid Property and Casualty Losses and LAE.

Significant periods of time may elapse between the occurrence of an insured loss, the reporting of the loss to the insurer and the reinsurer and the payment of that loss by the insurer and subsequent payments to the insurer by the reinsurer. To recognize liabilities for unpaid losses and LAE, insurers and reinsurers establish reserves, which are balance sheet liabilities representing estimates of future amounts needed to pay reported and unreported claims and related expenses for losses that have already occurred. Actual losses and LAE paid may deviate, perhaps substantially, from such reserves. To the extent reserves prove to be insufficient to cover actual losses and LAE after taking into account available reinsurance coverage, the Company would have to recognize such reserve shortfalls and incur a charge to earnings, which could be material in the period such recognition takes place. See ITEM 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Loss and LAE Reserves”.

As part of the reserving process, insurers and reinsurers evaluate historical data and trends and make judgments as to the impact of various factors such as legislative and judicial developments that may affect future claim amounts, changes in social and political attitudes that may increase loss exposures and inflationary and general economic trends. While the reserving process is difficult and subjective for insurance companies, the inherent uncertainties of estimating such reserves are even greater for the reinsurer, due primarily to the longer time between the date of an occurrence and the reporting of any attendant claims to the reinsurer, the diversity of development patterns among different types of reinsurance treaties or facultative contracts, the necessary reliance on the ceding companies for information regarding reported claims and differing reserving practices among ceding companies. In addition, trends that have affected development of liabilities in the past may not necessarily occur or affect liability development in the same manner or to the same degree in the future. As a result, actual losses and LAE may deviate, perhaps substantially, from estimates of reserves reflected in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Like many other property and casualty insurance and reinsurance companies, the Company has experienced adverse loss development for prior accident years, which has led to increases in losses and LAE reserves and corresponding charges to income (loss) in the periods in which the adjustments were made. There can be no assurance that adverse development from prior years will not continue in the future or that such adverse development will not have a material adverse effect on net income (loss).

Changes in Historical Reserves.

The following table shows changes in historical loss reserves for the Company for 2004 and subsequent years. The table is presented on a GAAP basis except that the Company’s loss reserves for its Canadian branch operations are presented in Canadian dollars, the impact of which is not material. The top line of the table shows the estimated reserves for unpaid losses and LAE recorded at each year end date. The upper (paid) portion of the table presents the related cumulative amounts paid through each subsequent year end. The lower (liability re-estimated) portion shows the re-estimated amount of the original reserves as of the end of each succeeding year. The reserve estimates have been revised as more information became known about the actual claims for which the reserves were carried. The cumulative (deficiency)/redundancy line represents the cumulative change in estimates since the initial reserve was established. It is equal to the initial reserve less the latest estimate of the ultimate liability.

Since the Company has international operations, some of its loss reserves are established in foreign currencies and converted to U.S. dollars for financial reporting. Changes in conversion rates from period to period impact the U.S. dollar value of carried reserves and correspondingly, the cumulative deficiency line of the table. However, unlike other reserve development that affects net income (loss), the impact of currency translation is a component of other comprehensive income (loss). To differentiate these two reserve development components, the translation impacts for each calendar year are reflected in the table of Effects on Pre-tax Income Resulting from Reserve Re-estimates.

Edgar Filing: EVEREST RE GROUP LTD - Form 10-K

Each amount other than the original reserves in the top half of the table below includes the effects of all changes in amounts for prior periods. For example, if a loss settled in 2007 for \$100,000, was first reserved in 2004 at \$60,000 and remained unchanged until settlement, the \$40,000 deficiency (actual loss minus original estimate) would affect the cumulative deficiency for each of the years in 2004 through 2006. Conditions and trends that have affected development of the ultimate liability in the past are not indicative of future developments. Accordingly, it is not appropriate to extrapolate future redundancies or deficiencies based on this table.

Ten Year GAAP Loss Development Table Presented Net of Reinsurance with Supplemental Gross Data (1)

(Dollars in millions)	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Net Reserves for unpaid loss and LAE	\$6,766.9	\$8,175.4	\$8,078.9	\$8,324.7	\$8,214.7	\$8,315.9	\$8,650.7	\$9,553.0	\$9,464.6
Paid (cumulative) as of:									
One year later	1,553.1	2,116.9	1,915.4	1,816.4	1,997.2	1,988.7	2,008.3	2,220.2	2,353.8
Two years later	2,412.3	3,447.8	3,192.8	3,182.2	3,405.8	3,231.2	3,238.9	3,852.4	3,798.7
Three years later	3,181.4	4,485.2	4,246.3	4,191.7	4,335.1	4,043.9	4,352.7	4,987.1	
Four years later	3,854.8	5,306.5	5,036.3	4,791.8	4,914.8	4,903.9	5,089.6		
Five years later	4,459.5	5,950.6	5,446.9	5,206.8	5,601.3	5,545.0			
Six years later	4,952.9	6,281.7	5,745.7	5,777.5	6,126.5				
Seven years later	5,190.5	6,523.7	6,211.7	6,175.5					
Eight years later	5,387.3	6,920.0	6,554.0						
Nine years later	5,726.3	7,210.7							
Ten years later	5,958.0								
Net Liability re-estimated as of:									
One year later	6,633.7	8,419.8	8,356.7	8,112.9	8,461.9	8,229.4	8,648.2	9,572.4	9,424.1
Two years later	6,740.5	8,609.2	8,186.3	8,307.6	8,382.7	8,273.9	8,657.3	9,558.7	9,261.4
Three years later	7,059.9	8,489.7	8,398.7	8,267.1	8,426.5	8,274.1	8,663.2	9,584.2	
Four years later	6,996.7	8,683.8	8,401.8	8,298.4	8,408.3	8,248.0	8,683.7		
Five years later	7,162.2	8,729.6	8,427.4	8,272.5	8,416.5	8,353.3			
Six years later	7,246.3	8,752.3	8,399.8	8,317.8	8,553.8				
Seven years later	7,256.8	8,750.3	8,467.3	8,467.9					
Eight years later	7,272.2	8,829.8	8,621.6						
Nine years later	7,323.8	8,977.1							
Ten years later	7,466.9								
Cumulative (deficiency)/redundancy	\$(700.0 )	\$(801.7 )	\$(542.7 )	\$(143.1 )	\$(339.1 )	\$(37.4 )	\$(33.0 )	\$(31.2 )	\$203.2
Gross liability - end of year	\$7,886.6	\$9,175.1	\$8,888.0	\$9,032.2	\$8,905.9	\$8,957.4	\$9,340.1	\$10,134.0	\$10,067.5
Reinsurance receivable	1,119.6	999.7	809.1	707.4	691.2	641.5	689.4	581.1	602.8
Net liability-end of year	\$6,766.9	\$8,175.4	\$8,078.9	\$8,324.7	\$8,214.7	\$8,315.9	\$8,650.7	\$9,553.0	\$9,464.6
Gross re-estimated liability									
at December 31, 2014	\$8,727.0	\$10,107.0	\$9,478.8	\$9,207.8	\$9,339.3	\$9,163.4	\$9,488.6	\$10,230.2	\$9,974.6
Re-estimated receivable									
at December 31, 2014	1,260.1	1,129.9	857.1	739.9	785.5	810.1	804.9	646.0	713.2
Net re-estimated liability									
at December 31, 2014	\$7,466.9	\$8,977.1	\$8,621.6	\$8,467.9	\$8,553.8	\$8,353.3	\$8,683.7	\$9,584.2	\$9,261.4

Gross cumulative

(deficiency)/redundancy \$(840.4 ) \$(931.9 ) \$(590.8 ) \$(175.7 ) \$(433.4 ) \$(206.1 ) \$(148.5 ) \$(96.2 ) \$92.9

(1) The Canadian Branch reserves are reflected in Canadian dollars.

(2) Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.

There has been minimal development in reserves since 2006. Two classes of business were the principal contributors to the deficiencies through 2006: 1) the run-off of asbestos claims for both direct and reinsurance business has significantly contributed to the cumulative deficiencies for all years presented through 2006 and 2) property catastrophe adverse development contributed to the deficiency for 2005.

In the professional liability reinsurance class, the early 2000s saw a proliferation of claims relating to bankruptcies and other corporate, financial and/or management improprieties. This resulted in an increase in the frequency and severity of claims under the professional liability policies reinsured by the Company. In the general casualty area, the Company has experienced claim frequency and severity greater than expected in the Company's pricing and initial reserving assumptions.

In the workers' compensation insurance class, the majority of which was written in California, the Company has experienced adverse development primarily for accident year 2002 due to higher than expected claim frequency and severity. As a result of significant growth in this book of business in a challenging business environment, the Company's writings in this class were subject to more relative variability than in some of its established and/or stable lines of business. Although cumulative results through 2014 continue to be profitable for this book of business, there was some deterioration in claim frequency and severity related to older accident years.

The adverse development on the 2008 outstanding reserves was primarily attributable to foreign exchange rate movements resulting in an increase in the U.S. dollar reserves. In addition, the Company experienced adverse development on liability exposures for sub-prime for accident years 2006-2008 and contractors' liability exposures for accident years 2004-2005. The contractor liability exposures are currently in run-off. The Company also experienced adverse development on property lines but was offset by favorable development on other casualty lines.

The Company's loss and LAE reserves represent management's best estimate of the ultimate liability. While there can be no assurance that these reserves will not need to be increased in the future, management believes that the Company's existing reserves and reserving methodologies reduce the likelihood that any such increases would have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. These statements regarding the Company's loss reserves are forward looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. federal securities laws and are intended to be covered by the safe harbor provisions contained therein. See ITEM 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Safe Harbor Disclosure".

The following table is derived from the Ten Year GAAP Loss Development Table above and summarizes the effect of reserve re-estimates, net of reinsurance, on calendar year operations by accident year for the same ten year period ended December 31, 2014. Each column represents the amount of net reserve re-estimates made in the indicated calendar year and shows the accident years to which the re-estimates are applicable. The amounts in the total accident year column on the far right represent the cumulative reserve re-estimates for the indicated accident years.

Since the Company has operations in many countries, part of the Company's loss and LAE reserves are in foreign currencies and translated to U.S. dollars for each reporting period. Fluctuations in the exchange rates for the currencies, period over period, affect the U.S. dollar amount of outstanding reserves. The translation adjustment line at the bottom of the table eliminates the impact of the exchange fluctuations from the reserve re-estimates.

Effects on Pre-tax Income Resulting from Reserves Re-estimates

											Cumulative Re-estimates for Each
(Dollars in millions)	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Accident Year
Accident Years 2004 and prior	\$ 133.3	\$(106.8)	\$(319.4)	\$63.2	\$(165.6)	\$(84.1)	\$(10.6)	\$(15.4)	\$(51.6)	\$(143.1)	\$(700.0)
2005		(137.6)	130.1	56.3	(28.6 )	38.2	(12.1)	17.4	(27.8)	(4.2 )	31.6
2006			(88.4 )	50.9	(18.3 )	42.8	(3.0 )	25.7	11.9	(7.0 )	14.5
2007				41.5	17.6	43.6	(5.7 )	(1.8 )	22.3	4.2	121.8



Edgar Filing: EVEREST RE GROUP LTD - Form 10-K

2008	(52.5 )	38.6	(12.4)	(7.7 )	37.0	12.9	15.9			
2009		7.4	(0.8 )	(18.5)	34.4	31.9	54.5			
2010			47.1	(8.9 )	(32.1)	84.8	90.9			
2011				(10.2)	19.6	(4.9 )	4.4			
2012					26.9	188.2	215.0			
2013						12.7	12.7			
Total calendar year effect	\$ 133.3	\$(244.4)	\$(277.8)	\$211.8	\$(247.2)	\$86.5	\$2.5	\$(19.4)	\$40.5	\$175.4

Canada

(1)	(6.6 )	(0.5 )	(49.6 )	63.7	(39.4 )	(21.2)	9.7	(9.9 )	26.4	25.1
-----	--------	--------	---------	------	---------	--------	-----	--------	------	------

Translation

adjustment	(100.3)	109.3	120.9	(310.4)	157.8	(34.5)	(15.9)	32.9	(48.6)	(160.7)
------------	---------	-------	-------	---------	-------	--------	--------	------	--------	---------

Re-estimate

of net  
reserve  
after  
translation

adjustment	\$26.4	\$(135.6)	\$(206.5)	\$(34.9 )	\$(128.8)	\$30.9	\$(3.7 )	\$3.7	\$18.2	\$39.9
------------	--------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	--------	----------	-------	--------	--------

(1) This  
adjustment  
converts  
Canadian  
dollars  
to  
U.S.  
dollars.

(Some  
amounts  
may  
not  
reconcile  
due to  
rounding.)

The reserve development by accident year reflected in the above table was generally the result of the same factors described above that caused the deficiencies shown in the Ten Year GAAP Loss Development Table. The unfavorable development experienced in the 2004 and prior accident years relate principally to the previously discussed asbestos development. Other business areas contributing to adverse development were casualty reinsurance, including professional liability classes, and workers' compensation insurance, where, in retrospect, the Company's initial estimates of losses were underestimated principally as the result of unanticipated variability in the underlying exposures. The favorable development for accident year 2005 relates primarily to favorable experience with respect to property reinsurance business. In addition, casualty reinsurance has reflected favorable development for accident years 2004 to 2006.

The Company's loss reserving methodologies continuously monitor the emergence of loss and loss development trends, seeking, on a timely basis, to both adjust reserves for the impact of trend shifts and to factor the impact of such shifts into the Company's underwriting and pricing on a prospective basis.

The following table presents a reconciliation of beginning and ending reserve balances for the periods indicated on a GAAP basis:

(Dollars in millions)	Years Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Gross reserves at beginning of period	\$9,673.2	\$10,069.1	\$10,123.2
Incurred related to:			
Current year	2,946.4	2,818.5	2,748.9
Prior years	(39.9 )	(18.2 )	(3.7 )
Total incurred losses	2,906.5	2,800.3	2,745.3
Paid related to:			
Current year	761.8	664.7	633.9
Prior years	2,089.7	2,353.8	2,220.2
Total paid losses	2,851.5	3,018.5	2,854.1
Foreign exchange/translation adjustment	(160.7 )	(48.6 )	32.9
Change in reinsurance receivables on unpaid losses and LAE	153.2	(128.9 )	21.8
Gross reserves at end of period	\$9,720.8	\$9,673.2	\$10,069.1

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)

Incurred prior years' reserves decreased by \$39.9 million, \$18.2 million and \$3.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The decrease for 2014 was attributable to favorable development in the reinsurance segments of \$202.4 million related to treaty casualty, treaty property and catastrophe reserves, partially offset by \$137.8 million development on A&E reserves and \$0.2 million of favorable development related to Mt. Logan reserves and \$25.0 million of unfavorable development in the insurance segment primarily related to construction liability and umbrella business.

The decrease for 2013 was attributable to a \$148.8 million decrease in reinsurance business, primarily related to favorable development on treaty property reserves, partially offset by a \$130.5 million increase in insurance business primarily related to development on contractors' liability, umbrella and workers compensation reserves.

The decrease for 2012 was attributable to a \$57.2 million decrease in reinsurance business, primarily related to favorable development on treaty casualty reserves, partially offset by a \$53.5 million increase in insurance business primarily related to development on contractors' liability and workers compensation reserves.



## Reserves for Asbestos and Environmental Losses and LAE.

At December 31, 2014, the Company's gross reserves for A&E claims represented 4.9% of its total reserves. The Company's A&E liabilities stem from Mt. McKinley's direct insurance business and Everest Re's assumed reinsurance business. There are significant uncertainties in estimating the amount of the Company's potential losses from A&E claims and ultimate values cannot be estimated using traditional reserving techniques. See ITEM 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Asbestos and Environmental Exposures" and Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" - Note 3 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

The following table summarizes the composition of the Company's total reserves for A&E losses, gross and net of reinsurance, for the periods indicated:

(Dollars in millions)	Years Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Gross reserves	\$476.2	\$402.5	\$442.8
Reinsurance receivable	(18.0 )	(15.8 )	(17.1 )
Net reserves	\$458.2	\$386.7	\$425.7

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)

In 2014, during its normal exposure analysis, the Company increased its net A&E reserves by \$137.8 million; \$100.6 million related to its assumed reinsurance business and \$37.2 million related to its direct insurance business.

Additional losses, including those relating to latent injuries and other exposures, which are as yet unrecognized, the type or magnitude of which cannot be foreseen by either the Company or the industry, may emerge in the future. Such future emergence could have material adverse effects on the Company's future financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

## Future Policy Benefit Reserves.

The Company wrote a limited amount of life and annuity reinsurance in its Bermuda segment. Future policy benefit liabilities for annuities are reported at the accumulated fund balance of these contracts. Reserves for those liabilities include mortality provisions with respect to life and annuity claims, both reported and unreported. Actual experience in a particular period may be worse than assumed experience and, consequently, may adversely affect the Company's operating results for that period. See ITEM 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" - Note 1F of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Activity in the reserve for future policy benefits is summarized for the periods indicated:

(Dollars in millions)	At December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Balance at beginning of year	\$59.5	\$66.1	\$67.2
Liabilities assumed	0.3	0.1	0.1
Adjustments to reserves	4.7	(3.1 )	2.4
Benefits paid in the current year	(4.7 )	(3.6 )	(3.6 )
Balance at end of year	\$59.8	\$59.5	\$66.1

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)

## Investments.

The board of directors of each of the Company's operating subsidiaries is responsible for establishing investment policy and guidelines and, together with senior management, for overseeing their execution.

The Company's principal investment objectives are to ensure funds are available to meet its insurance and reinsurance obligations and to maximize after-tax investment income while maintaining a high quality diversified investment portfolio. Considering these objectives, the Company views its investment portfolio as having two components: 1) the investments needed to satisfy outstanding liabilities (its core fixed maturities portfolio) and 2) investments funded by the Company's shareholders' equity.

For the portion needed to satisfy global outstanding liabilities, the Company generally invests in taxable and tax-preferenced fixed income securities with an average credit quality of A1. For the U.S. portion of this portfolio, our mix of taxable and tax-preferenced investments is adjusted periodically, consistent with the Company's current and projected U.S. operating results, market conditions and our tax position. This global fixed maturity securities portfolio is externally managed by an independent, professional investment manager using portfolio guidelines approved by the Company.

Over the past several years, the Company has expanded the allocation of its investments funded by shareholders' equity to include: 1) a greater percentage of publicly traded equity securities, 2) emerging market fixed maturities through mutual fund structures, as well as individual holdings, 3) high yield fixed maturities, 4) bank loan securities and 5) private equity limited partnership investments. The objective of this portfolio diversification is to enhance the risk-adjusted total return of the investment portfolio by allocating a prudent portion of the portfolio to higher return asset classes, which are also less subject to changes in value with movements in interest rates. The Company limits its allocation to these asset classes because of 1) the potential for volatility in their values and 2) the impact of these investments on regulatory and rating agency capital adequacy models. The Company uses investment managers experienced in these markets and adjusts its allocation to these investments based upon market conditions. At December 31, 2014, the market value of investments in these investment market sectors, carried at both market and fair value, approximated 59% of shareholders' equity.

The duration of an investment is based on the maturity of the security but also reflects the payment of interest and the possibility of early prepayments. The Company's fixed income investment guidelines include a general duration guideline. This investment duration guideline is established and periodically revised by management, which considers economic and business factors, as well as the Company's average duration of potential liabilities, which, at December 31, 2014, is estimated at approximately 3.9 years, based on the estimated payouts of underwriting liabilities using standard duration calculations.

The duration of the fixed income portfolio at December 31, 2014 and 2013 was 2.9 years and 3.2 years, respectively. The Company has shortened the duration of its portfolio in recent years in response to very low available yields, particularly on securities with longer maturities. As a result, the Company has focused on purchasing high quality, shorter duration investments and investments with floating rate yields. These investments will be less subject to decline in market value if interest rates rise in the future, as forecasted by most investment analysts.

For each currency in which the Company has established substantial loss and LAE reserves, the Company seeks to maintain invested assets denominated in such currency in an amount approximately equal to the estimated liabilities. Approximately 29% of the Company's consolidated reserves for losses and LAE and unearned premiums represent amounts payable in foreign currencies.

The Company's net investment income was \$530.6 million, \$548.5 million and \$600.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The decrease from 2013 to 2014 was primarily due to lower reinvestment rates for the fixed income portfolios and a decrease in our limited partnership income.

The Company had net realized capital gains for 2014 of \$84.0 million. In 2014, the Company recorded \$121.7 million of gains due to fair value re-measurements on fixed maturity and equity securities and \$1.9 million of net realized capital gains from sales of fixed maturity and equity securities, partially offset by \$39.5 million of other-than-temporary impairments on fixed maturity securities. In 2013, net realized capital gains were \$300.2 million due to \$258.9 million of gains due to fair value re-measurements on fixed maturity and equity securities and \$42.4 million of net realized capital gains from sales of fixed maturity and equity securities, partially offset by \$1.1 million of other-than-temporary impairments on fixed maturity securities. In 2012, net realized capital gains were \$164.4 million due to \$118.1 million of gains due to fair value re-measurements on fixed maturity and equity securities and \$56.3 million of net realized capital gains from sales of fixed maturity and equity securities, partially

offset by \$10.0 million of other-than-temporary impairments on fixed maturity securities.

The Company's cash and invested assets totaled \$17.4 billion at December 31, 2014, which consisted of 87.4% fixed maturities and cash, of which 89.8% were investment grade; 9.1% equity securities and 3.5% other invested assets. The average maturity of fixed maturity securities was 4.4 years at December 31, 2014, and their overall duration was 2.9 years.

As of December 31, 2014, the Company did not have any direct investments in commercial real estate or direct commercial mortgages or any material holdings of derivative investments (other than equity index put option contracts as discussed in ITEM 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" - Note 4 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements) or securities of issuers that are experiencing cash flow difficulty to an extent that the Company's management believes could threaten the issuer's ability to meet debt service payments, except where other-than-temporary impairments have been recognized.

The Company's investment portfolio includes structured commercial mortgage-backed securities ("CMBS") with a book value of \$231.4 million and a market value of \$241.7 million. CMBS securities comprising more than 56% of the December 31, 2014 market value are rated AAA by Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("Standard & Poor's"). Furthermore, securities comprising more than 83% of the market value are rated investment grade by Standard & Poor's.

The following table reflects investment results for the Company for the periods indicated:

(Dollars in millions)	Average Investments (1)	Pre-tax Investment Income (2)	December 31,		Pre-tax Realized Net Capital (Losses) Gains (3)	Pre-tax Unrealized Net Capital Gains (Losses)
			Pre-tax	Effective		
			Yield			
2014	\$ 16,831.9	\$ 530.6	3.15 %		\$ 84.0	\$ 20.3
2013	16,472.5	548.5	3.33 %		300.2	(467.2 )
2012	16,220.9	600.2	3.70 %		164.4	161.0
2011	15,680.9	620.0	3.95 %		6.9	106.6
2010	15,297.4	653.5	4.27 %		101.9	48.4

- (1) Average of the beginning and ending carrying values of investments and cash, less net funds held, future policy benefit reserve, and non-interest bearing cash. Bonds, common stock and redeemable and non-redeemable preferred stocks are carried at market value. Common stock which are actively managed are carried at fair value.
- (2) After investment expenses, excluding realized net capital gains (losses).
- (3) Included in 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010 are fair value re-measurements of \$121.7 million, \$258.9 million, \$118.1 million, (\$4.4) million and \$70.4 million, respectively.

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)



The amortized cost, market value and gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation of available for sale, fixed maturity, equity security investments, carried at market value and other-than-temporary impairments (“OTTI”) in accumulated other comprehensive income (“AOCI”) are as follows for the periods indicated:

At December 31, 2014

(Dollars in millions)	Amortized Cost	Unrealized Appreciation	Unrealized Depreciation	Market Value	OTTI in AOCI (a)
Fixed maturity securities					
U.S. Treasury securities and obligations of					
U.S. government agencies and corporations	\$ 221.1	\$ 10.3	\$ (0.3 )	\$ 231.0	\$ -
Obligations of U.S. states and political					
subdivisions	783.1	42.0	(0.6 )	824.5	-
Corporate securities	4,626.0	143.9	(62.9 )	4,707.0	(6.9 )
Asset-backed securities	340.8	1.7	(1.2 )	341.2	-
Mortgage-backed securities					
Commercial	231.4	10.7	(0.4 )	241.7	-
Agency residential	2,157.2	37.6	(11.6 )	2,183.2	-
Non-agency residential	2.7	0.1	(0.1 )	2.7	-
Foreign government securities	1,488.1	71.2	(26.9 )	1,532.5	-
Foreign corporate securities	2,980.7	109.7	(53.1 )	3,037.3	-
Total fixed maturity securities	\$ 12,831.2	\$ 427.0	\$ (157.1 )	\$ 13,101.1	\$ (6.9 )
Equity securities	\$ 148.3	\$ 3.8	\$ (11.9 )	\$ 140.2	\$ -

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)

At December 31, 2013

(Dollars in millions)	Amortized Cost	Unrealized Appreciation	Unrealized Depreciation	Market Value	OTTI in AOCI (a)
Fixed maturity securities					
U.S. Treasury securities and obligations of					
U.S. government agencies and corporations	\$ 160.0	\$ 2.7	\$ (1.7 )	\$ 161.0	\$ -
Obligations of U.S. states and political					
subdivisions	970.7	40.8	(9.0 )	1,002.5	-
Corporate securities	3,950.9	155.6	(27.1 )	4,079.4	3.2
Asset-backed securities	170.0	3.5	(0.4 )	173.0	-
Mortgage-backed securities					
Commercial	254.8	16.7	(1.0 )	270.4	-
Agency residential	2,294.7	34.5	(50.2 )	2,279.1	-
Non-agency residential	4.8	0.2	(0.2 )	4.8	-
Foreign government securities	1,740.3	69.8	(29.3 )	1,780.8	-
Foreign corporate securities	2,844.9	86.5	(45.6 )	2,885.8	-
Total fixed maturity securities	\$ 12,391.2	\$ 410.3	\$ (164.6 )	\$ 12,636.9	\$ 3.2
Equity securities	\$ 148.3	\$ 4.3	\$ (8.6 )	\$ 144.1	\$ -

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)

(a) Represents the amount of OTTI recognized in AOCI. Amount includes unrealized gains and losses on impaired securities relating to changes in the value of such securities subsequent to the impairment measurement date.

The following table represents the credit quality distribution of the Company's fixed maturities for the periods indicated:

(Dollars in millions)	2014	At December 31,				
		2013		2013		
Rating Agency Credit Quality Distribution:	Market Value	Percent of Total	Market Value	Percent of Total	Market Value	Percent of Total
AAA	\$ 4,483.6	34.2 %	\$ 4,418.1	35.0 %		
AA	2,881.8	22.0 %	2,750.2	21.8 %		
A	2,798.7	21.4 %	2,502.1	19.8 %		
BBB	1,381.4	10.5 %	1,460.8	11.6 %		
BB	889.3	6.8 %	975.0	7.7 %		
B	500.4	3.8 %	426.9	3.4 %		
Other	165.9	1.3 %	103.8	0.7 %		
Total	\$ 13,101.1	100.0 %	\$ 12,636.9	100.0 %		

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)

The following table summarizes fixed maturities by contractual maturity for the periods indicated:

(Dollars in millions)	2014	At December 31,				
		2013		2013		
Fixed maturity securities - available for sale	Market Value	Percent of Total	Market Value	Percent of Total	Market Value	Percent of Total
Due in one year or less	\$ 1,189.4	9.1 %	\$ 1,067.8	8.5 %		
Due after one year through five years	5,726.3	43.7 %	5,740.7	45.4 %		
Due after five years through ten years	2,313.7	17.7 %	2,101.2	16.6 %		
Due after ten years	1,102.9	8.4 %	999.9	7.9 %		
Asset-backed securities	341.2	2.6 %	173.0	1.4 %		
Mortgage-backed securities	2,427.6	18.5 %	2,554.3	20.2 %		
Total fixed maturity securities	\$ 13,101.1	100.0 %	\$ 12,636.9	100.0 %		

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)

#### Financial Strength Ratings.

The following table shows the current financial strength ratings of the Company's operating subsidiaries as reported by A.M. Best, Standard & Poor's and Moody's. These ratings are based upon factors of concern to policyholders and should not be considered an indication of the degree or lack of risk involved in a direct or indirect equity investment in an insurance or reinsurance company.

All of the below-mentioned ratings are continually monitored and revised, if necessary, by each of the rating agencies. The ratings presented in the following table were in effect as of February 27, 2015.

The Company believes that its ratings are important as they provide the Company's customers and its investors with an independent assessment of the Company's financial strength using a rating scale that provides for relative

Edgar Filing: EVEREST RE GROUP LTD - Form 10-K

comparisons. Strong financial ratings are particularly important for reinsurance companies. Ceding companies must rely on their reinsurers to pay covered losses well into the future. As a result, a highly rated reinsurer is generally preferred.

Operating Subsidiary:	A.M. Best	Standard & Poor's	Moody's
Everest Re	A+ (Superior)	A+ (Strong)	A1 (upper-medium)
Bermuda Re	A+ (Superior)	A+ (Strong)	A1 (upper-medium)
Ireland Re	A+ (Superior)	A+ (Strong)	Not Rated
Everest International	A+ (Superior)	Not Rated	Not Rated
Everest National	A+ (Superior)	A+ (Strong)	Not Rated
Everest Indemnity	A+ (Superior)	Not Rated	Not Rated
Everest Security	A+ (Superior)	Not Rated	Not Rated
Everest Canada	A+ (Superior)	Not Rated	Not Rated
Mt. McKinley	Not Rated	Not Rated	Not Rated
Mt. Logan Re	Not Rated	Not Rated	Not Rated

A.M. Best states that the “A+” (“Superior”) rating is assigned to those companies which, in its opinion, have a superior ability to meet their ongoing insurance policy and contract obligations based on A.M. Best’s comprehensive quantitative and qualitative evaluation of a company’s balance sheet strength, operating performance and business profile. A.M. Best affirmed these ratings on July 25, 2014. Standard & Poor’s states that the “A+” rating is assigned to those insurance companies which, in its opinion, have strong financial security characteristics with respect to their ability to pay under its insurance policies and contracts in accordance with their terms. Standard & Poor’s affirmed these ratings on June 4, 2014. Moody’s states that an “A1” rating is assigned to companies that, in their opinion, offer upper-medium grade security and are subject to low credit risk. Moody’s affirmed these ratings on October 9, 2014.

Subsidiaries other than Everest Re and Bermuda Re may not be rated by some or any rating agencies because such ratings are not considered essential by the individual subsidiary’s customers or because of the limited nature of the subsidiary’s operations. In particular, Mt. McKinley is not rated because it is in run-off status.

#### Debt Ratings.

The following table shows the debt ratings by A.M. Best, Standard & Poor’s and Moody’s of the Holdings’ senior notes due June 1, 2044 and long term notes due May 1, 2067 both of which are considered investment grade. Debt ratings are the rating agencies’ current assessment of the credit worthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific obligation.

	A.M. Best		Standard & Poor's		Moody's	
Senior Notes	a-	(Strong)	A-	(Strong)	Baa1	(Medium Grade)
Long Term Notes	bbb	(Adequate)	BBB	(Adequate)	Baa2	(Medium Grade)

A debt rating of “a-” is assigned by A.M. Best where the issuer, in A.M. Best’s opinion, has a strong ability to meet the terms of the obligation. A.M. Best assigns a debt rating in the “bbb” range where the issuer, in A.M. Best’s opinion, has adequate ability to meet the terms of the obligation but notes that the issue is more susceptible to changes in economic or other conditions. Standard & Poor’s assigns a debt rating in the “A” range to issuers that have strong capacity to meet its financial commitments but is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligors in higher-rated categories. A debt rating in the “BBB” range is assigned by Standard & Poor’s where the obligation exhibits adequate protection parameters although adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. According to Moody’s, a debt rating of “Baa” is assigned to issues that are considered medium-grade obligations and subject to moderate credit risk and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.

#### Competition.

The worldwide reinsurance and insurance businesses are highly competitive, as well as cyclical by product and market. As such, financial results tend to fluctuate with periods of constrained availability, high rates and strong profits followed by periods of abundant capacity, low rates and constrained profitability. Competition in the types of reinsurance and insurance business that we underwrite is based on many factors, including the perceived overall financial strength of the reinsurer or insurer, ratings of the reinsurer or insurer by A.M. Best and/or Standard & Poor’s, underwriting expertise, the jurisdictions where the reinsurer or insurer is licensed or otherwise authorized, capacity and coverages offered, premiums charged, other terms and conditions of the reinsurance and insurance business offered, services offered, speed of claims payment and reputation and experience in lines written. Furthermore, the market impact from these competitive factors related to reinsurance and insurance is generally not consistent across lines of business, domestic and international geographical areas and distribution channels.



The Company competes in the U.S., Bermuda and international reinsurance and insurance markets with numerous global competitors. The Company's competitors include independent reinsurance and insurance companies, subsidiaries or affiliates of established worldwide insurance companies, reinsurance departments of certain insurance companies, domestic and international underwriting operations, including underwriting syndicates at Lloyd's and certain government sponsored risk transfer vehicles. Some of these competitors have greater financial resources than the Company and have established long term and continuing business relationships, which can be a significant competitive advantage. In addition, the lack of strong barriers to entry into the reinsurance business and recently, the securitization of reinsurance and insurance risks through capital markets provide additional sources of potential reinsurance and insurance capacity and competition.

Worldwide insurance and reinsurance market conditions continued to be very competitive, particularly in the property catastrophe and casualty reinsurance lines of business. Generally, there was ample insurance and reinsurance capacity relative to demand, as well as, additional capital from the capital markets through insurance linked financial instruments. These financial instruments such as side cars, catastrophe bonds and collateralized reinsurance funds, provide capital markets with access to insurance and reinsurance risk exposure. The capital markets demand for these products is being primarily driven by the current low interest environment and the desire to achieve greater risk diversification and potentially higher returns on their investments. This increased competition is generally having a negative impact on rates, terms and conditions; however, the impact varies widely by market and coverage.

Rates tend to fluctuate by specific region and products, particularly areas recently impacted by large catastrophic events. During the second and third quarters of 2013, Canada experienced historic flooding in Alberta and Toronto, which resulted in higher catastrophe rates in these areas during 2014. Although there were flooding and wind storm events in Europe and Asia in the latter part of 2013, the overall 2013 catastrophe losses for the industry were lower than average. This lower level of losses, combined with increased competition resulted in downward pressure on rates in certain geographical areas during 2014. Catastrophe results during 2014 were also generally benign, which could have a negative impact on worldwide regional catastrophe markets during 2015.

Overall, the Company believes that given its size, strong ratings, distribution system, reputation, expertise and capital market vehicle activity the current marketplace conditions provide profit opportunities. The Company continues to employ its strategy of targeting business that offers the greatest profit potential, while maintaining balance and diversification in its overall portfolio.

#### Employees.

As of February 1, 2015, the Company employed 1,125 persons. Management believes that employee relations are good. None of the Company's employees are subject to collective bargaining agreements, and the Company is not aware of any current efforts to implement such agreements.

#### Regulatory Matters.

The Company and its insurance subsidiaries are subject to regulation under the insurance statutes of the various jurisdictions in which they conduct business, including essentially all states of the U.S., Canada, Singapore, Brazil, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Bermuda. These regulations vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and are generally designed to protect ceding insurance companies and policyholders by regulating the Company's conduct of business, financial integrity and ability to meet its obligations. Many of these regulations require reporting of information designed to allow insurance regulators to closely monitor the Company's performance.

**Insurance Holding Company Regulation.** Under applicable U.S. laws and regulations, no person, corporation or other entity may acquire a controlling interest in the Company, unless such person, corporation or entity has obtained the prior approval for such acquisition from the insurance commissioners of Delaware and the other states in which the Company's insurance subsidiaries are domiciled or deemed domiciled, currently California and Georgia. Under these laws, "control" is presumed when any person acquires, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of the voting securities of an

insurance company. To obtain the approval of any change in control, the proposed acquirer must file an application with the relevant insurance commissioner disclosing, among other things, the background of the acquirer and that of its directors and officers, the acquirer's financial condition and its proposed changes in the management and operations of the insurance



company. U.S. state regulators also require prior notice or regulatory approval of material inter-affiliate transactions within the holding company structure.

The Insurance Companies Act of Canada requires prior approval by the Minister of Finance of anyone acquiring a significant interest in an insurance company authorized to do business in Canada. In addition, the Company is subject to regulation by the insurance regulators of other states and foreign jurisdictions in which it is authorized to do business. Certain of these states and foreign jurisdictions impose regulations regulating the ability of any person to acquire control of an insurance company authorized to do business in that jurisdiction without appropriate regulatory approval similar to those described above.

**Dividends.** Under Bermuda law, Group is prohibited from declaring or paying a dividend if such payment would reduce the realizable value of its assets to an amount less than the aggregate value of its liabilities and its issued share capital and share premium (additional paid-in capital) accounts. Group's ability to pay dividends and its operating expenses is partially dependent upon dividends from its subsidiaries. The payment of dividends by insurance subsidiaries is limited under Bermuda law as well as the laws of the various U.S. states in which Group's insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries are domiciled or deemed domiciled. The limitations are generally based upon net income (loss) and compliance with applicable policyholders' surplus or minimum solvency and liquidity requirements as determined in accordance with the relevant statutory accounting practices. Under Irish corporate and regulatory law, Holdings Ireland and its subsidiaries are limited as to the dividends they can pay based on retained earnings and net income (loss) and/or capital and minimum solvency requirements. As Holdings has outstanding debt obligations, it is dependent upon dividends and other permissible payments from its operating subsidiaries to enable it to meet its debt and operating expense obligations and to pay dividends.

Under Bermuda law, Bermuda Re and Everest International are unable to declare or make payment of a dividend if they fail to meet their minimum solvency margin or minimum liquidity ratio. As a long term insurer, Bermuda Re is also unable to declare or pay a dividend to anyone who is not a policyholder unless, after payment of the dividend, the value of the assets in their long term business fund, as certified by their approved actuary, exceeds their liabilities for long term business by at least the \$250,000 minimum solvency margin. Prior approval of the Bermuda Monetary Authority is required if Bermuda Re's or Everest International's dividend payments would exceed 25% of their prior year end statutory capital and surplus. At December 31, 2014, Bermuda Re and Everest International exceeded their solvency and liquidity requirements by a significant margin.

The payment of dividends to Holdings by Everest Re is subject to limitations imposed by Delaware law. Generally, Everest Re may only pay dividends out of its statutory earned surplus, which was \$2,893.0 million at December 31, 2014, and only after it has given 10 days prior notice to the Delaware Insurance Commissioner. During this 10-day period, the Commissioner may, by order, limit or disallow the payment of ordinary dividends if the Commissioner finds the insurer to be presently or potentially in financial distress. Further, the maximum amount of dividends that may be paid without the prior approval of the Delaware Insurance Commissioner in any twelve month period is the greater of (1) 10% of the insurer's statutory surplus as of the end of the prior calendar year or (2) the insurer's statutory net income (loss), not including realized capital gains (losses), for the prior calendar year. Accordingly, the maximum amount that will be available for the payment of dividends by Everest Re in 2015 without triggering the requirement for prior approval of regulatory authorities in connection with a dividend is \$357.3 million.

**Insurance Regulation.** Bermuda Re, Everest International and Mt. Logan Re are not admitted to do business in any jurisdiction in the U.S. These entities conduct their insurance business from their offices in Bermuda, and in the case of Bermuda Re, its branch in the UK. In Bermuda, Bermuda Re, Everest International and Mt. Logan Re are regulated by the Insurance Act 1978 (as amended) and related regulations (the "Act"). The Act establishes solvency and liquidity standards and auditing and reporting requirements and subjects Bermuda Re, Everest International and Mt. Logan Re to the supervision, investigation and intervention powers of the Bermuda Monetary Authority. Under the Act, Bermuda Re and Everest International, as Class 4 insurers, are each required to maintain a principal office in

Bermuda, to maintain a minimum of \$100 million in statutory capital and surplus, to have an independent auditor approved by the Bermuda Monetary Authority conduct an annual audit and report on their respective statutory and U.S. GAAP financial statements and filings and to have an appointed loss reserve specialist (also approved by the Bermuda Monetary Authority) review and report on their respective loss reserves annually. Under the Act and the

Segregated Accounts Companies Act 2000, Mt. Logan Re is licensed as a Class 3 insurer and is deemed a segregated cell company.

Bermuda Re is also registered under the Act as long term insurer and is thereby authorized to write life and annuity business. As a long term insurer, Bermuda Re is required to maintain \$250,000 in statutory capital separate from their Class 4 minimum statutory capital and surplus, to maintain long term business funds, to separately account for this business and to have an approved actuary prepare a certificate concerning their long term business assets and liabilities to be filed annually. Bermuda Re's operations in the United Kingdom and worldwide are subject to regulation by the Financial Services Authority (the "FSA"). The FSA imposes solvency, capital adequacy, audit, financial reporting and other regulatory requirements on insurers transacting business in the United Kingdom. Bermuda Re presently meets or exceeds all of the FSA's solvency and capital requirements.

U.S. domestic property and casualty insurers, including reinsurers, are subject to regulation by their state of domicile and by those states in which they are licensed. The regulation of reinsurers is typically focused on financial condition, investments, management and operation. The rates and policy terms of reinsurance agreements are generally not subject to direct regulation by any governmental authority.

The operations of Everest Re's foreign branch offices in Canada and Singapore are subject to regulation by the insurance regulatory officials of those jurisdictions. Management believes that the Company is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations pertaining to its business and operations.

Everest Indemnity, Everest National, Everest Security and Mt. McKinley are subject to regulations similar to the U.S. regulations applicable to Everest Re. In addition, Everest National and Everest Security must comply with substantial regulatory requirements in each state where they conduct business. These additional requirements include, but are not limited to, rate and policy form requirements, requirements with regard to licensing, agent appointments, participation in residual markets and claim handling procedures. These regulations are primarily designed for the protection of policyholders.

Licenses. Everest Re is a licensed property and casualty insurer and/or reinsurer in all states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In New Hampshire and Puerto Rico, Everest Re is licensed for reinsurance only. Such licensing enables U.S. domestic ceding company clients to take credit for uncollateralized reinsurance receivables from Everest Re in their statutory financial statements.

Everest Re is licensed as a property and casualty reinsurer in Canada. It is also authorized to conduct reinsurance business in Singapore and Brazil. Everest Re can also write reinsurance in other foreign countries. Because some jurisdictions require a reinsurer to register in order to be an acceptable market for local insurers, Everest Re is registered as a foreign insurer and/or reinsurer in the following countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela and the Philippines. Everest National is licensed in 50 states and the District of Columbia. Everest Indemnity is licensed in Delaware and is eligible to write insurance on a surplus lines basis in 49 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Everest Security is licensed in Georgia and Alabama. Mt. McKinley is licensed in Delaware and California. Bermuda Re and Everest International are registered as Class 4 insurers in Bermuda, and Bermuda Re is also registered as a long term insurer in Bermuda. Bermuda Re is also an authorized reinsurer in the U.K. Mt. Logan Re is registered as a Class 3 insurer in Bermuda. Ireland Re is licensed to write non-life reinsurance for the London and European markets. Everest Canada is licensed to write property and casualty insurance in Canada.

Periodic Examinations. Everest Re, Everest National, Everest Indemnity, Everest Security and Mt. McKinley are subject to periodic financial examination (usually every three to four years) of their affairs by the insurance departments of the states in which they are licensed, authorized or accredited. Everest Re's, Everest National's, Everest Security's, Everest Indemnity's and Mt. McKinley's last examination reports were as of December 31, 2010. None of

these reports contained any material findings or recommendations. In addition, U.S. insurance companies are subject to examinations by the various state insurance departments where they are licensed concerning compliance with applicable conduct of business regulations.

**NAIC Risk-Based Capital Requirements.** The U.S. National Association of Insurance Commissioners (“NAIC”) has developed a formula to measure the amount of capital appropriate for a property and casualty insurance company to support its overall business operations in light of its size and risk profile. The major categories of a company’s risk profile are its asset risk, credit risk, and underwriting risk. The standards are an effort by the NAIC to prevent insolvencies, to ward off other financial difficulties of insurance companies and to establish uniform regulatory standards among state insurance departments.

Under the approved formula, a company’s statutory surplus is compared to its risk based capital (“RBC”). If this ratio is above a minimum threshold, no action is necessary. Below this threshold are four distinct action levels at which an insurer’s domiciliary state regulator can intervene with increasing degrees of authority over an insurer as the ratio of surplus to RBC decreases. The mildest intervention requires an insurer to submit a plan of appropriate corrective actions. The most severe action requires an insurer to be rehabilitated or liquidated.

Based on their financial positions at December 31, 2014, Everest Re, Everest National, Everest Indemnity and Everest Security significantly exceed the minimum thresholds. Since Mt. McKinley ceased writing new and renewal insurance in 1985, its domiciliary regulator, the Delaware Insurance Commissioner, has exempted Mt. McKinley from complying with RBC requirements.

Various proposals to change the RBC formula arise from time to time. The Company is unable to predict whether any such proposal will be adopted, the form in which any such proposals would be adopted or the effect, if any, the adoption of any such proposal or change in the RBC calculations would have on the Company.

#### Tax Matters.

The following summary of the taxation of the Company is based on current law. There can be no assurance that legislative, judicial, or administrative changes will not be enacted that might materially affect this summary.

**Bermuda.** Under Bermuda law, no income, withholding or capital gains taxes are imposed upon Group and its Bermuda subsidiaries. Group and its Bermuda subsidiaries have received an undertaking from the Minister of Finance in Bermuda that, in the event of any taxes being imposed, Group and its Bermuda subsidiaries will be exempt from taxation in Bermuda until March 2035. Non-Bermuda branches of Bermuda subsidiaries are subject to local taxes in the jurisdictions in which they operate.

**United States.** Group’s U.S. subsidiaries conduct business in and are subject to taxation in the U.S. Non-U.S. branches of U.S. subsidiaries are subject to local taxation in the jurisdictions in which they operate. Should the U.S. subsidiaries distribute current or accumulated earnings and profits in the form of dividends or otherwise, the Company would be subject to withholding taxes. The cumulative amount that would be subject to withholding tax, if distributed, is not practicable to compute. Group and its Bermuda subsidiaries believe that they have operated and will continue to operate their businesses in a manner that will not cause them to generate income treated as effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business within the U.S. On this basis, Group does not expect that it and its Bermuda subsidiaries will be required to pay U.S. corporate income taxes other than withholding taxes on certain investment income and premium excise taxes. If Group or its Bermuda subsidiaries were to become subject to U.S. income tax, there could be a material adverse effect on the Company’s financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**United Kingdom.** Bermuda Re’s UK branch conducts business in the UK and is subject to taxation in the UK. Bermuda Re believes that it has operated and will continue to operate its Bermuda operation in a manner which will not cause them to be subject to UK taxation. If Bermuda Re’s Bermuda operations were to become subject to UK income tax, there could be a material adverse impact on the Company’s financial condition, results of operations and cash flow.

Ireland. Holdings Ireland and Ireland Re conduct business in Ireland and are subject to taxation in Ireland.

#### Available Information.

The Company's Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, proxy statements and amendments to those reports are available free of charge through the Company's internet website at <http://www.everestgroup.com> as soon as reasonably practicable after such reports are electronically filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC").

#### ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

In addition to the other information provided in this report, the following risk factors should be considered when evaluating an investment in our securities. If the circumstances contemplated by the individual risk factors materialize, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected and the trading price of our common shares could decline significantly.

#### RISKS RELATING TO OUR BUSINESS

Fluctuations in the financial markets could result in investment losses.

Prolonged and severe disruptions in the overall public debt and equity markets, such as occurred during 2008, could result in significant realized and unrealized losses in our investment portfolio. Although financial markets have significantly improved since 2008, they could deteriorate in the future. There could also be disruption in individual market sectors, such as occurred in the energy sector during the fourth quarter of 2014. Such declines in the financial markets could result in significant realized and unrealized losses on investments and could have a material adverse impact on our results of operations, equity, business and insurer financial strength and debt ratings.

Our results could be adversely affected by catastrophic events.

We are exposed to unpredictable catastrophic events, including weather-related and other natural catastrophes, as well as acts of terrorism. Any material reduction in our operating results caused by the occurrence of one or more catastrophes could inhibit our ability to pay dividends or to meet our interest and principal payment obligations. Subsequent to April 1, 2010, we define a catastrophe as an event that causes a loss on property exposures before reinsurance of at least \$10.0 million, before corporate level reinsurance and taxes. Prior to April 1, 2010, we used a threshold of \$5.0 million. By way of illustration, during the past five calendar years, pre-tax catastrophe losses, net of contract specific reinsurance but before cessions under corporate reinsurance programs, were as follows:

Calendar year: (Dollars in millions)	Pre-tax catastrophe losses
2014	\$ 62.2
2013	195.0
2012	410.0
2011	1,300.4
2010	571.1

Our losses from future catastrophic events could exceed our projections.

We use projections of possible losses from future catastrophic events of varying types and magnitudes as a strategic underwriting tool. We use these loss projections to estimate our potential catastrophe losses in certain geographic areas and decide on the placement of retrocessional coverage or other actions to limit the extent of potential losses in a given geographic area. These loss projections are approximations, reliant on a mix of quantitative and qualitative

processes, and actual losses may exceed the projections by a material amount, resulting in a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.



If our loss reserves are inadequate to meet our actual losses, our net income would be reduced or we could incur a loss.

We are required to maintain reserves to cover our estimated ultimate liability of losses and LAE for both reported and unreported claims incurred. These reserves are only estimates of what we believe the settlement and administration of claims will cost based on facts and circumstances known to us. In setting reserves for our reinsurance liabilities, we rely on claim data supplied by our ceding companies and brokers and we employ actuarial and statistical projections. The information received from our ceding companies is not always timely or accurate, which can contribute to inaccuracies in our loss projections. Because of the uncertainties that surround our estimates of loss and LAE reserves, we cannot be certain that ultimate losses and LAE payments will not exceed our estimates. If our reserves are deficient, we would be required to increase loss reserves in the period in which such deficiencies are identified which would cause a charge to our earnings and a reduction of capital. By way of illustration, during the past five calendar years, the reserve re-estimation process resulted in a decrease to our pre-tax net income in one of the years:

Calendar year: (Dollars in millions)	Effect on pre-tax net income	
2014	\$ 39.9	increase
2013	18.2	increase
2012	3.7	increase
2011	3.7	decrease
2010	30.9	increase

See ITEM 1, “Business - Changes in Historical Reserves,” which provides a more detailed chart showing the effect of reserve re-estimates on calendar year operating results for the past ten years.

The difficulty in estimating our reserves is significantly more challenging as it relates to reserving for potential A&E liabilities. At year-end 2014, 4.9% of our gross reserves were comprised of A&E reserves. A&E liabilities are especially hard to estimate for many reasons, including the long delays between exposure and manifestation of any bodily injury or property damage, difficulty in identifying the source of the asbestos or environmental contamination, long reporting delays and difficulty in properly allocating liability for the asbestos or environmental damage. Legal tactics and judicial and legislative developments affecting the scope of insurers’ liability, which can be difficult to predict, also contribute to uncertainties in estimating reserves for A&E liabilities.

The failure to accurately assess underwriting risk and establish adequate premium rates could reduce our net income or result in a net loss.

Our success depends on our ability to accurately assess the risks associated with the businesses on which the risk is retained. If we fail to accurately assess the risks we retain, we may fail to establish adequate premium rates to cover our losses and LAE. This could reduce our net income and even result in a net loss.

In addition, losses may arise from events or exposures that are not anticipated when the coverage is priced. In addition to unanticipated events, we also face the unanticipated expansion of our exposures, particularly in long-tail liability lines. An example of this is the expansion over time of the scope of insurers’ legal liability within the mass tort arena, particularly for A&E exposures discussed above.

Decreases in pricing for property and casualty reinsurance and insurance could reduce our net income.

The worldwide reinsurance and insurance businesses are highly competitive, as well as cyclical by product and market. These cycles, as well as other factors that influence aggregate supply and demand for property and casualty insurance and reinsurance products, are outside of our control. The supply of (re)insurance is driven by prevailing prices and levels of capacity that may fluctuate in response to a number of factors including large catastrophic losses and investment returns being realized in the insurance industry. Demand for (re)insurance is influenced by underwriting results of insurers and insureds, including catastrophe losses, and prevailing general economic conditions. If any of these factors were to result in a decline in the demand for (re)insurance or an overall increase in (re)insurance capacity, our net income could decrease.

If rating agencies downgrade the ratings of our insurance subsidiaries, future prospects for growth and profitability could be significantly and adversely affected.

Our active insurance company subsidiaries currently hold financial strength ratings assigned by third-party rating agencies which assess and rate the claims paying ability and financial strength of insurers and reinsurers. Our active subsidiaries carry an “A+” (“Superior”) rating from A.M. Best. Everest Re, Bermuda Re, Ireland Re and Everest National hold an “A+” (“Strong”) rating from Standard & Poor’s. Everest Re and Bermuda Re hold an “A1” (“upper-medium grade”) rating from Moody’s. Financial strength ratings are used by client companies and agents and brokers that place the business as an important means of assessing the financial strength and quality of reinsurers. A downgrade or withdrawal of any of these ratings might adversely affect our ability to market our insurance products and could have a material and adverse effect on future prospects for growth and profitability.

Consistent with market practice, much of our treaty reinsurance business allows the ceding company to terminate the contract or seek collateralization of our obligations in the event of a rating downgrade below a certain threshold. The termination provision would generally be triggered if a rating fell below A.M. Best’s A- rating level, which is three levels below Everest Re’s current rating of A+. To a lesser extent, Everest Re also has modest exposure to reinsurance contracts that contain provisions for obligatory funding of outstanding liabilities in the event of a rating agency downgrade. Those provisions would also generally be triggered if Everest Re’s rating fell below A.M. Best’s A- rating level.

The failure of our insureds, intermediaries and reinsurers to satisfy their obligations to us could reduce our income.

In accordance with industry practice, we have uncollateralized receivables from insureds, agents and brokers and/or rely on agents and brokers to process our payments. We may not be able to collect amounts due from insureds, agents and brokers, resulting in a reduction to net income.

We are subject to credit risk of reinsurers in connection with retrocessional arrangements because the transfer of risk to a reinsurer does not relieve us of our liability to the insured. In addition, reinsurers may be unwilling to pay us even though they are able to do so. The failure of one or more of our reinsurers to honor their obligations to us in a timely fashion would impact our cash flow and reduce our net income and could cause us to incur a significant loss.

If we are unable or choose not to purchase reinsurance and transfer risk to reinsurers, our net income could be reduced or we could incur a net loss in the event of unusual loss experience.

We are generally less reliant on the purchase of reinsurance than many of our competitors, in part because of our strategic emphasis on underwriting discipline and management of the cycles inherent in our business. We try to separate our risk taking process from our risk mitigation process in order to avoid developing too great a reliance on reinsurance. Historically, we generally purchased reinsurance from other third parties only when we expect a net benefit. With the expansion of the capital markets into insurance linked financial instruments, we increased our use of capital market products for catastrophe reinsurance during 2014. In addition, some of our quota share contracts with larger retrocessions were increased during 2014. The percentage of business that we reinsure may vary considerably from year to year, depending on our view of the relationship between cost and expected benefit for the contract period.

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Percentage of ceded written premiums to gross written premiums	8.6%	4.1%	5.3%	4.1%	6.1%

Because we have purchased minimal reinsurance in recent years, our net income could be reduced following a large uninsured event or adverse overall claims experience.



Our industry is highly competitive and we may not be able to compete successfully in the future.

Our industry is highly competitive and subject to pricing cycles that can be pronounced. We compete globally in the United States, Bermuda and international reinsurance and insurance markets with numerous competitors. Our competitors include independent reinsurance and insurance companies, subsidiaries or affiliates of established worldwide insurance companies, reinsurance departments of certain insurance companies and domestic and international underwriting operations, including underwriting syndicates at Lloyd's.

According to Standard & Poor's, we rank among the top ten global reinsurance groups, where more than two-thirds of the market share is concentrated. The worldwide net premium written by the Top 40 global reinsurance groups, for both life and non-life business, was estimated to be \$202 billion in 2013 according to data compiled by Standard & Poor's. The leaders in this market are Munich Re, Swiss Re, Hannover Rueckversicherung AG, Berkshire Hathaway Re, SCOR SE and syndicates at Lloyd's. Some of these competitors have greater financial resources than we do and have established long term and continuing business relationships throughout the industry, which can be a significant competitive advantage. In addition, the lack of strong barriers to entry into the reinsurance business and the entry of alternative capital market products and vehicles provide additional sources of reinsurance and insurance capacity and increased competition.

We are dependent on our key personnel.

Our success has been, and will continue to be, dependent on our ability to retain the services of our Chairman, Joseph V. Taranto (age 65) and existing key executive officers and to attract and retain additional qualified personnel in the future. The loss of the services of any key executive officer or the inability to hire and retain other highly qualified personnel in the future could adversely affect our ability to conduct business. Generally, we consider key executive officers to be those individuals who have the greatest influence in setting overall policy and controlling operations: President and Chief Executive Officer, Dominic J. Addesso (age 61), Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Craig Howie (age 51), Executive Vice President and Chief Underwriting Officer, John P. Doucette (age 49) and Executive Vice President, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary, Sanjoy Mukherjee (age 48). We currently have an agreement with Mr. Taranto to serve as a non-employee Director and Chairman of the Board through December 31, 2016, subject to Mr. Taranto's annual election to the Board by its shareholders during its Annual General Meetings that occur over the term of the agreement. We have employment contracts with Mr. Addesso, Mr. Doucette and Mr. Mukherjee, which have been filed with the SEC and provide for terms of employment ending on December 31, 2016 for Mr. Addesso and September 1, 2016 for Mr. Doucette and Mr. Mukherjee.

Special considerations apply to our Bermuda operations. Under Bermuda law, non-Bermudians, other than spouses of Bermudians and individuals holding permanent or working resident certificates, are not permitted to engage in any gainful occupation in Bermuda without a work permit issued by the Bermuda government. A work permit is only granted or extended if the employer can show that, after a proper public advertisement, no Bermudian, spouse of a Bermudian or individual holding a permanent or working resident certificate is available who meets the minimum standards reasonably required for the position. The Bermuda government places a six-year term limit on individuals with work permits, subject to specified exemptions for persons deemed to be key employees of businesses with a significant physical presence in Bermuda. Currently, all our Bermuda-based professional employees who require work permits have been granted permits by the Bermuda government that expire at various times between August 2016 and February 2017. This includes Mark de Saram, the chief executive officer of our Bermuda reinsurance operation. In the event his work permit were not renewed, we could lose his services, thereby adversely affecting our ability to conduct our business in Bermuda until we were able to replace him with an individual in Bermuda who did not require a work permit or who was granted the permit. The Company has an employment contract with Mr. de Saram, which was filed with the SEC and provides for term of employment ending on June 30, 2016.



Our investment values and investment income could decline because they are exposed to interest rate, credit, and market risks.

A significant portion of our investment portfolio consists of fixed income securities and smaller portions consist of equity securities and other investments. Both the fair market value of our invested assets and associated investment income fluctuate depending on general economic and market conditions. For example, the fair market value of our predominant fixed income portfolio generally increases or decreases inversely to fluctuations in interest rates. The market value of our fixed income securities could also decrease as a result of a downturn in the business cycle that causes the credit quality of such securities to deteriorate. The net investment income that we realize from future investments in fixed income securities will generally increase or decrease with interest rates.

Interest rate fluctuations also can cause net investment income from fixed income investments that carry prepayment risk, such as mortgage-backed and other asset-backed securities, to differ from the income anticipated from those securities at the time of purchase. In addition, if issuers of individual investments are unable to meet their obligations, investment income will be reduced and realized capital losses may arise.

The majority of our fixed income securities are classified as available for sale and temporary changes in the market value of these investments are reflected as changes to our shareholders' equity. Our actively managed equity security portfolios are fair valued and any changes in fair value are reflected as net realized capital gains or losses. As a result, a decline in the value of our securities reduces our capital or could cause us to incur a loss.

We have invested a portion of our investment portfolio in equity securities. The value of these assets fluctuates with changes in the markets. In times of economic weakness, the fair value of these assets may decline, and may negatively impact net income. We also invest in non-traditional investments which have different risk characteristics than traditional fixed income and equity securities. These alternative investments are comprised primarily of private equity limited partnerships. The changes in value and investment income/(loss) for these partnerships may be more volatile than over-the-counter securities.

The following table quantifies the portion of our investment portfolio that consists of fixed income securities, equity securities and investments that carry prepayment risk.

(Dollars in millions)	At December 31, 2014	% of Total	
Mortgage-backed securities:			
Commercial	\$ 241.7	1.4	%
Agency residential	2,183.2	12.5	%
Non-agency residential	2.7	0.0	%
Other asset-backed	341.2	2.0	%
Total asset-backed	2,768.8	15.9	%
Other fixed income	10,332.3	59.3	%
Total fixed income, at market value	13,101.1	75.2	%
Fixed maturities, at fair value	1.5	0.0	%
Equity securities, at market value	140.2	0.8	%
Equity securities, at fair value	1,447.8	8.3	%
Other invested assets	601.9	3.5	%
Cash and short-term investments	2,143.4	12.2	%
Total investments and cash	\$ 17,435.9	100.0	%

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)





We may experience foreign currency exchange losses that reduce our net income and capital levels.

Through our Bermuda and international operations, we conduct business in a variety of foreign (non-U.S.) currencies, principally the Euro, the British pound, the Canadian dollar, and the Singapore dollar. Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses denominated in foreign currencies are exposed to changes in currency exchange rates. Our reporting currency is the U.S. dollar, and exchange rate fluctuations, especially relative to the U.S. dollar, may materially impact our results and financial position. In 2014, we wrote approximately 28.4% of our coverages in non-U.S. currencies; as of December 31, 2014, we maintained approximately 14.1% of our investment portfolio in investments denominated in non-U.S. currencies. During 2014, 2013 and 2012, the impact on our quarterly pre-tax net income from exchange rate fluctuations ranged from a loss of \$13.0 million to a gain of \$31.8 million.

We are subject to cybersecurity risks that could negatively impact our business operations.

We are dependent upon our information technology platform, including our processing systems, data and electronic transmissions in our business operations. Security breaches could expose us to the loss or misuse of our information, litigation and potential liability. In addition, cyber incidents that impact the availability, reliability, speed, accuracy or other proper functioning of these systems could have a significant negative impact on our operations and possibly our results. An incident could also result in a violation of applicable privacy and other laws, damage our reputation, cause a loss of customers or give rise to monetary fines and other penalties, which could be significant. Management is not aware of a cybersecurity incident that has had a material impact on our operations.

#### RISKS RELATING TO REGULATION

Insurance laws and regulations restrict our ability to operate and any failure to comply with those laws and regulations could have a material adverse effect on our business.

We are subject to extensive and increasing regulation under U.S., state and foreign insurance laws. These laws limit the amount of dividends that can be paid to us by our operating subsidiaries, impose restrictions on the amount and type of investments that we can hold, prescribe solvency, accounting and internal control standards that must be met and maintained and require us to maintain reserves. These laws also require disclosure of material inter-affiliate transactions and require prior approval of “extraordinary” transactions. Such “extraordinary” transactions include declaring dividends from operating subsidiaries that exceed statutory thresholds. These laws also generally require approval of changes of control of insurance companies. The application of these laws could affect our liquidity and ability to pay dividends, interest and other payments on securities, as applicable, and could restrict our ability to expand our business operations through acquisitions of new insurance subsidiaries. We may not have or maintain all required licenses and approvals or fully comply with the wide variety of applicable laws and regulations or the relevant authority’s interpretation of the laws and regulations. If we do not have the requisite licenses and approvals or do not comply with applicable regulatory requirements, the insurance regulatory authorities could preclude or temporarily suspend us from carrying on some or all of our activities or monetarily penalize us. These types of actions could have a material adverse effect on our business. To date, no material fine, penalty or restriction has been imposed on us for failure to comply with any insurance law or regulation.

As a result of the recent dislocation of the financial markets, Congress and the Presidential administration in the United States are implementing changes in the way the financial services industry is regulated. Some of these changes are also impacting the insurance industry. For example, the United States Department of Treasury has recently established the Federal Insurance Office with the authority to monitor all aspects of the insurance sector, monitor the extent to which traditionally underserved communities and consumers have access to affordable non-health insurance products, to represent the United States on prudential aspects of international insurance matters, to assist with administration of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program and to advise on important national and international insurance matters. In addition, regulatory bodies in Europe are developing a new capital adequacy directive for

insurers and reinsurers. The future impact of such initiatives, if any, on our operation, net income (loss) or financial condition cannot be determined at this time.

Regulatory challenges in the United States could adversely affect the ability of Bermuda Re to conduct business.

Bermuda Re does not intend to be licensed or admitted as an insurer or reinsurer in any U.S. jurisdiction. Under current law, Bermuda Re generally will be permitted to reinsure U.S. risks from its office in Bermuda without obtaining those licenses. However, the insurance and reinsurance regulatory framework is subject to periodic legislative review and revision. In the past, there have been congressional and other initiatives in the United States regarding increased supervision and regulation of the insurance industry, including proposals to supervise and regulate reinsurers domiciled outside the United States. If Bermuda Re were to become subject to any insurance laws of the United States or any U.S. state at any time in the future, it might be required to post deposits or maintain minimum surplus levels and might be prohibited from engaging in lines of business or from writing some types of policies. Complying with those laws could have a material adverse effect on our ability to conduct business in Bermuda and international markets.

Bermuda Re may need to be licensed or admitted in additional jurisdictions to develop its business.

As Bermuda Re's business develops, it will monitor the need to obtain licenses in jurisdictions other than Bermuda and the U.K., where it has an authorized branch, in order to comply with applicable law or to be able to engage in additional insurance-related activities. In addition, Bermuda Re may be at a competitive disadvantage in jurisdictions where it is not licensed or does not enjoy an exemption from licensing relative to competitors that are so licensed or exempt from licensing. Bermuda Re may not be able to obtain any additional licenses that it determines are necessary or desirable. Furthermore, the process of obtaining those licenses is often costly and may take a long time.

Bermuda Re's ability to write reinsurance may be severely limited if it is unable to arrange for security to back its reinsurance.

Many jurisdictions do not permit insurance companies to take credit for reinsurance obtained from unlicensed or non-admitted insurers on their statutory financial statements without appropriate security. Bermuda Re's reinsurance clients typically require it to post a letter of credit or enter into other security arrangements. If Bermuda Re is unable to obtain or maintain a letter of credit facility on commercially acceptable terms or is unable to arrange for other types of security, its ability to operate its business may be severely limited. If Bermuda Re defaults on any letter of credit that it obtains, it may be required to prematurely liquidate a substantial portion of its investment portfolio and other assets pledged as collateral.

#### RISKS RELATING TO GROUP'S SECURITIES

Because of our holding company structure, our ability to pay dividends, interest and principal is dependent on our receipt of dividends, loan payments and other funds from our subsidiaries.

Group and Holdings are holding companies, each of whose most significant asset consists of the stock of its operating subsidiaries. As a result, each of Group's and Holdings' ability to pay dividends, interest or other payments on its securities in the future will depend on the earnings and cash flows of the operating subsidiaries and the ability of the subsidiaries to pay dividends or to advance or repay funds to it. This ability is subject to general economic, financial, competitive, regulatory and other factors beyond our control. Payment of dividends and advances and repayments from some of the operating subsidiaries are regulated by U.S., state and foreign insurance laws and regulatory restrictions, including minimum solvency and liquidity thresholds. Accordingly, the operating subsidiaries may not be able to pay dividends or advance or repay funds to Group and Holdings in the future, which could prevent us from paying dividends, interest or other payments on our securities.



Provisions in Group's bye-laws could have an anti-takeover effect, which could diminish the value of its common shares.

Group's bye-laws contain provisions that could delay or prevent a change of control that a shareholder might consider favorable. The effect of these provisions could be to prevent a shareholder from receiving the benefit from any premium over the market price of our common shares offered by a bidder in a potential takeover. Even in the absence of an attempt to effect a change in management or a takeover attempt, these provisions may adversely affect the prevailing market price of our common shares if they are viewed as discouraging takeover attempts in the future.

For example, Group's bye-laws contain the following provisions that could have an anti-takeover effect:

- the total voting power of any shareholder owning more than 9.9% of the common shares will be reduced to 9.9% of the total voting power of the common shares;
- the board of directors may decline to register any transfer of common shares if it has reason to believe that the transfer would result in:
  - i.) any person that is not an investment company beneficially owning more than 5.0% of any class of the issued and outstanding share capital of Group,
  - ii.) any person holding controlled shares in excess of 9.9% of any class of the issued and outstanding share capital of Group, or
  - iii.) any adverse tax, regulatory or legal consequences to Group, any of its subsidiaries or any of its shareholders;
- Group also has the option to redeem or purchase all or part of a shareholder's common shares to the extent the board of directors determines it is necessary or advisable to avoid or cure any adverse or potential adverse consequences if:
  - i.) any person that is not an investment company beneficially owns more than 5.0% of any class of the issued and outstanding share capital of Group,
  - ii.) any person holds controlled shares in excess of 9.9% of any class of the issued and outstanding share capital of Group, or
  - iii.) share ownership by any person may result in adverse tax, regulatory or legal consequences to Group, any of its subsidiaries or any other shareholder.

The Board of Directors has indicated that it will apply these bye-law provisions in such manner that "passive institutional investors" will be treated similarly to investment companies. For this purpose, "passive institutional investors" include all persons who are eligible, pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b)(1) under the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, ("the Exchange Act") to file a short-form statement on Schedule 13G, other than an insurance company or any parent holding company or control person of an insurance company.

Applicable insurance laws may also have an anti-takeover effect.

Before a person can acquire control of a U.S. insurance company, prior written approval must be obtained from the insurance commissioner of the state where that insurance company is domiciled or deemed commercially domiciled. Prior to granting approval of an application to acquire control of a domestic insurance company, a state insurance commissioner will consider such factors as the financial strength of the applicant, the integrity and

competence of the applicant's board of directors and executive officers, the acquiror's plans for the future operations of the insurance company and any anti-competitive results that may arise from the consummation of the acquisition of control. Because any person who acquired control of Group would thereby acquire indirect control of its insurance company subsidiaries in the U.S., the insurance change of control laws of Delaware, California and Georgia would apply to such a transaction. This could have the effect of delaying or even preventing such a change of control.

The ownership of common shares of Group by Holdings may have an impact on securing approval of shareholder proposals that Group's management supports.

As of December 31, 2014, Holdings owned 9,719,971 or 17.9% of the outstanding common shares of Group. Under Group's bye-laws, the total voting power of any shareholder owning more than 9.9% of the common shares is reduced to 9.9% of the total voting power of the common shares. Nevertheless, Holdings, which is controlled by Group, has the ability to vote 9.9% of the total voting power of Group's common shares.

Investors in Group may have more difficulty in protecting their interests than investors in a U.S. corporation.

The Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda (the "Companies Act"), differs in material respects from the laws applicable to U.S. corporations and their shareholders. The following is a summary of material differences between the Companies Act, as modified in some instances by provisions of Group's bye-laws, and Delaware corporate law that could make it more difficult for investors in Group to protect their interests than investors in a U.S. corporation. Because the following statements are summaries, they do not address all aspects of Bermuda law that may be relevant to Group and its shareholders.

**Alternate Directors.** Group's bye-laws provide, as permitted by Bermuda law, that each director may appoint an alternate director, who shall have the power to attend and vote at any meeting of the board of directors or committee at which that director is not personally present and to sign written consents in place of that director. Delaware law permits a director to appoint another director as an alternate to attend any board committee meeting. However, Delaware law does not provide for the designation of alternate directors with authority to attend or vote at a meeting of the board of directors.

**Committees of the Board of Directors.** Group's bye-laws provide, as permitted by Bermuda law, that the board of directors may delegate any of its powers to committees that the board appoints, and those committees may consist partly or entirely of non-directors. Delaware law allows the board of directors of a corporation to delegate many of its powers to committees, but those committees may consist only of directors.

**Interested Directors.** Bermuda law and Group's bye-laws provide that if a director has a personal interest in a transaction to which the company is also a party and if the director discloses the nature of this personal interest at the first opportunity, either at a meeting of directors or in writing to the directors, then the company will not be able to declare the transaction void solely due to the existence of that personal interest and the director will not be liable to the company for any profit realized from the transaction. In addition, after a director has made the declaration of interest referred to above, he or she is allowed to be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present and to vote on a transaction in which he or she has an interest, unless disqualified from doing so by the chairman of the relevant board meeting. Under Delaware law, an interested director could be held liable for a transaction in which that director derived an improper personal benefit. Additionally, under Delaware law, a corporation may be able to declare a transaction with an interested director to be void unless one of the following conditions is fulfilled:

- the material facts as to the interested director's relationship or interests are disclosed or are known to the board of directors and the board in good faith authorizes the transaction by the affirmative vote of a majority of the disinterested directors;
- the material facts are disclosed or are known to the shareholders entitled to vote on the transaction and the transaction is specifically approved in good faith by the holders of a majority of the voting shares; or
  - the transaction is fair to the corporation as of the time it is authorized, approved or ratified.





**Transactions with Significant Shareholders.** As a Bermuda company, Group may enter into business transactions with its significant shareholders, including asset sales, in which a significant shareholder receives, or could receive, a financial benefit that is greater than that received, or to be received, by other shareholders with prior approval from Group's board of directors but without obtaining prior approval from the shareholders. In the case of an amalgamation, in which two or more companies join together and continue as a single company, a resolution of shareholders approved by a majority of at least 75% of the votes cast is required in addition to the approval of the board of directors, except in the case of an amalgamation with and between wholly-owned subsidiaries. If Group was a Delaware corporation, any business combination with an interested shareholder (which, for this purpose, would include mergers and asset sales of greater than 10% of Group's assets that would otherwise be considered transactions in the ordinary course of business) within a period of three years from the time the person became an interested shareholder would require prior approval from shareholders holding at least 66 2/3% of Group's outstanding common shares not owned by the interested shareholder, unless the transaction qualified for one of the exemptions in the relevant Delaware statute or Group opted out of the statute. For purposes of the Delaware statute, an "interested shareholder" is generally defined as a person who together with that person's affiliates and associates owns, or within the previous three years did own, 15% or more of a corporation's outstanding voting shares.

**Takeovers.** Under Bermuda law, if an acquiror makes an offer for shares of a company and, within four months of the offer, the holders of not less than 90% of the shares that are the subject of the offer tender their shares, the acquiror may give the nontendering shareholders notice requiring them to transfer their shares on the terms of the offer. Within one month of receiving the notice, dissenting shareholders may apply to the court objecting to the transfer. The burden is on the dissenting shareholders to show that the court should exercise its discretion to enjoin the transfer. The court will be unlikely to do this unless there is evidence of fraud or bad faith or collusion between the acquiror and the tendering shareholders aimed at unfairly forcing out minority shareholders. Under another provision of Bermuda law, the holders of 95% of the shares of a company (the "acquiring shareholders") may give notice to the remaining shareholders requiring them to sell their shares on the terms described in the notice. Within one month of receiving the notice, dissenting shareholders may apply to the court for an appraisal of their shares. Within one month of the court's appraisal, the acquiring shareholders are entitled either to acquire all shares involved at the price fixed by the court or cancel the notice given to the remaining shareholders. If shares were acquired under the notice at a price below the court's appraisal price, the acquiring shareholders must either pay the difference in price or cancel the notice and return the shares thus acquired to the shareholder, who must then refund the purchase price. There are no comparable provisions under Delaware law.

**Inspection of Corporate Records.** Members of the general public have the right to inspect the public documents of Group available at the office of the Registrar of Companies and Group's registered office, both in Bermuda. These documents include the memorandum of association, which describes Group's permitted purposes and powers, any amendments to the memorandum of association and documents relating to any increase or reduction in Group's authorized share capital. Shareholders of Group have the additional right to inspect Group's bye-laws, minutes of general meetings of shareholders and audited financial statements that must be presented to the annual general meeting of shareholders. The register of shareholders of Group also is open to inspection by shareholders and to members of the public without charge. Group is required to maintain its share register at its registered office in Bermuda. Group also maintains a branch register in the offices of its transfer agent in the U.S., which is open for public inspection as required under the Companies Act. Group is required to keep at its registered office a register of its directors and officers that is open for inspection by members of the public without charge. However, Bermuda law does not provide a general right for shareholders to inspect or obtain copies of any other corporate records. Under Delaware law, any shareholder may inspect or obtain copies of a corporation's shareholder list and its other books and records for any purpose reasonably related to that person's interest as a shareholder.

**Shareholder's Suits.** The rights of shareholders under Bermuda law are not as extensive as the rights of shareholders under legislation or judicial precedent in many U.S. jurisdictions. Class actions and derivative actions are generally not available to shareholders under the laws of Bermuda. However, the Bermuda courts ordinarily would be expected

to follow English case law precedent, which would permit a shareholder to bring an action in the name of Group to remedy a wrong done to Group where the act complained of is alleged to be beyond the corporate power of Group or illegal or would result in the violation of Group's memorandum of association or bye-laws. Furthermore, the court would give consideration to acts that are

alleged to constitute a fraud against the minority shareholders or where an act requires the approval of a greater percentage of Group's shareholders than actually approved it. The winning party in an action of this type generally would be able to recover a portion of attorneys' fees incurred in connection with the action. Under Delaware law, class actions and derivative actions generally are available to stockholders for breach of fiduciary duty, corporate waste and actions not taken in accordance with applicable law. In these types of actions, the court has discretion to permit the winning party to recover its attorneys' fees.

**Limitation of Liability of Directors and Officers.** Group's bye-laws provide that Group and its shareholders waive all claims or rights of action that they might have, individually or in the right of the Company, against any director or officer for any act or failure to act in the performance of that director's or officer's duties. However, this waiver does not apply to claims or rights of action that arise out of fraud or dishonesty. This waiver may have the effect of barring claims arising under U.S. federal securities laws. Under Delaware law, a corporation may include in its certificate of incorporation provisions limiting the personal liability of its directors to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for many types of breach of fiduciary duty. However, these provisions may not limit liability for any breach of the duty of loyalty, acts or omissions not in good faith or that involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, the authorization of unlawful dividends, stock repurchases or stock redemptions, or any transaction from which a director derived an improper personal benefit. Moreover, Delaware provisions would not be likely to bar claims arising under U.S. federal securities laws.

**Indemnification of Directors and Officers.** Group's bye-laws provide that Group shall indemnify its directors or officers to the full extent permitted by law against all actions, costs, charges, liabilities, loss, damage or expense incurred or suffered by them by reason of any act done, concurred in or omitted in the conduct of Group's business or in the discharge of their duties. Under Bermuda law, this indemnification may not extend to any matter involving fraud or dishonesty of which a director or officer may be guilty in relation to the company, as determined in a final judgment or decree not subject to appeal. Under Delaware law, a corporation may indemnify a director or officer who becomes a party to an action, suit or proceeding because of his position as a director or officer if (1) the director or officer acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and (2) if the action or proceeding involves a criminal offense, the director or officer had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

**Enforcement of Civil Liabilities.** Group is organized under the laws of Bermuda. Some of its directors and officers may reside outside the U.S. A substantial portion of our assets are or may be located in jurisdictions outside the U.S. As a result, a person may not be able to affect service of process within the U.S. on directors and officers of Group and those experts who reside outside the U.S. A person also may not be able to recover against them or Group on judgments of U.S. courts or to obtain original judgments against them or Group in Bermuda courts, including judgments predicated upon civil liability provisions of the U.S. federal securities laws.

**Dividends.** Bermuda law does not allow a company to declare or pay a dividend, or make a distribution out of contributed surplus, if there are reasonable grounds for believing that the company, after the payment is made, would be unable to pay its liabilities as they become due, or that the realizable value of the company's assets would be less, as a result of the payment, than the aggregate of its liabilities and its issued share capital and share premium accounts. The share capital account represents the aggregate par value of issued shares, and the share premium account represents the aggregate amount paid for issued shares over and above their par value. Under Delaware law, subject to any restrictions contained in a company's certificate of incorporation, a company may pay dividends out of the surplus or, if there is no surplus, out of net profits for the fiscal year in which the dividend is declared and/or the preceding fiscal year. Surplus is the amount by which the net assets of a corporation exceed its stated capital. Delaware law also provides that dividends may not be paid out of net profits at any time when stated capital is less than the capital represented by the outstanding stock of all classes having a preference upon the distribution of assets.



## RISKS RELATING TO TAXATION

If U.S. tax law changes, our net income may be reduced.

For several years now, some members of Congress have expressed concern about U.S. corporations that move their place of incorporation to low-tax jurisdictions. Also, some members of Congress have expressed concern over a competitive advantage that foreign-controlled insurers and reinsurers may have over U.S. controlled insurers and reinsurers due to the purchase of reinsurance by U.S. insurers from affiliates operating in some foreign jurisdictions, including Bermuda. It is possible that future legislation that would be disadvantageous to our Bermuda insurance subsidiaries could be enacted. If any such legislation were enacted, the U.S. tax burden on our Bermuda operations, or on some business ceded from our licensed U.S. insurance subsidiaries to our non-U.S. insurance subsidiaries, could be increased. This would reduce our net income.

Group and/or Bermuda Re may be subject to U.S. corporate income tax, which would reduce our net income.

Bermuda Re. The income of Bermuda Re is a significant portion of our worldwide income from operations. We have established guidelines for the conduct of our operations that are designed to ensure that Bermuda Re is not engaged in the conduct of a trade or business in the U.S. Based on its compliance with those guidelines, we believe that Bermuda Re should not be required to pay U.S. corporate income tax, other than withholding tax on U.S. source dividend income. However, if the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) were to successfully assert that Bermuda Re was engaged in a trade or business, Bermuda Re would be required to pay U.S. corporate income tax on all of its income and possibly the U.S. branch profits tax. However, if the IRS were to successfully assert that Bermuda Re was engaged in a U.S. trade or business, we believe the U.S.-Bermuda tax treaty would preclude the IRS from taxing Bermuda Re’s income except to the extent that its income was attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by that subsidiary. We do not believe that Bermuda Re has a permanent establishment in the U.S. If the IRS were to successfully assert that Bermuda Re did have income attributable to a permanent establishment in the U.S., Bermuda Re would be subject to U.S. tax only on that income. This would reduce our net income.

Group. We conduct our operations in a manner designed to minimize our U.S. tax exposures. Based on our compliance with guidelines designed to ensure that we generate only immaterial amounts, if any, of income that is subject to the taxing jurisdiction of the U.S., we believe that we should be required to pay only immaterial amounts, if any, of U.S. corporate income tax, other than withholding tax on U.S. source dividend income. However, if the IRS successfully asserted that we had material amounts of income that was subject to the taxing jurisdiction of the U.S., we would be required to pay U.S. corporate income tax on that income, and possibly the U.S. branch profits tax. The imposition of such tax would reduce our net income.

If Bermuda Re became subject to U.S. income tax on its income, or if we became subject to U.S. income tax, our income could also be subject to the U.S. branch profits tax. In that event, Group and Bermuda Re would be subject to taxation at a higher combined effective rate than if they were organized as U.S. corporations. The combined effect of the 35% U.S. corporate income tax rate and the 30% branch profits tax rate is a net tax rate of 54.5%. The imposition of these taxes would reduce our net income.

Group and/or Bermuda Re may become subject to Bermuda tax, which would reduce our net income.

Group and Bermuda Re are not subject to income or profits tax, withholding tax or capital gains taxes in Bermuda. Both companies have received an assurance from the Bermuda Minister of Finance under The Exempted Undertakings Tax Protection Amendment Act of 2011 to the effect that if any legislation is enacted in Bermuda that imposes any tax computed on profits or income, or computed on any capital asset, gain or appreciation, or any tax in the nature of estate duty or inheritance tax, then that tax will not apply to us or to any of our operations or our shares, debentures or other obligations until March 31, 2035. This assurance does not prevent the application of any of those

taxes to persons ordinarily resident in Bermuda and does not prevent the imposition of any tax payable in accordance with the provisions of The Land Tax Act 1967 of Bermuda or otherwise payable in relation to any land leased to Group or Bermuda Re.

Our net income will be reduced if U.S. excise and withholding taxes are increased.

Bermuda Re is subject to federal excise tax on reinsurance and insurance premiums with respect to risks located in the U.S. In addition, Bermuda Re is subject to withholding tax on dividend income from U.S. sources. These taxes could increase and other taxes could be imposed in the future on Bermuda Re's business, which would reduce our net income.

#### ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

#### ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

Everest Re's corporate offices are located in approximately 230,500 square feet of leased office space in Liberty Corner, New Jersey. Bermuda Re's corporate offices are located in approximately 3,600 total square feet of leased office space in Hamilton, Bermuda. The Company's other twenty one locations occupy a total of approximately 158,500 square feet, all of which are leased. Management believes that the above-described office space is adequate for its current and anticipated needs.

#### ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In the ordinary course of business, the Company is involved in lawsuits, arbitrations and other formal and informal dispute resolution procedures, the outcomes of which will determine the Company's rights and obligations under insurance and reinsurance agreements. In some disputes, the Company seeks to enforce its rights under an agreement or to collect funds owing to it. In other matters, the Company is resisting attempts by others to collect funds or enforce alleged rights. These disputes arise from time to time and are ultimately resolved through both informal and formal means, including negotiated resolution, arbitration and litigation. In all such matters, the Company believes that its positions are legally and commercially reasonable. The Company considers the statuses of these proceedings when determining its reserves for unpaid loss and loss adjustment expenses.

Aside from litigation and arbitrations related to these insurance and reinsurance agreements, the Company is not a party to any other material litigation or arbitration.

#### ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not Applicable.

### PART II

#### ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

##### Market Information.

The common shares of Group trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol, "RE". The quarterly high and low market prices of Group's common shares for the periods indicated were:

	2014		2013	
	High	Low	High	Low
First Quarter	\$ 153.05	\$ 137.48	\$ 130.64	\$ 110.91
Second Quarter	161.87	150.81	135.97	123.65

Third Quarter	165.46	155.91	145.51	126.36
Fourth Quarter	176.27	158.36	159.13	144.81

Number of Holders of Common Shares.

The number of record holders of common shares as of February 1, 2015 was 260. That number does not include the beneficial owners of shares held in “street” name or held through participants in depositories, such as The Depository Trust Company.



## Dividend History and Restrictions.

In 1995, the Board of Directors of the Company established a policy of declaring regular quarterly cash dividends and has paid a regular quarterly dividend in each quarter since the fourth quarter of 1995. The Company declared and paid its quarterly cash dividend of \$0.48 per share for the first three quarters of 2013. The Company declared and paid its quarterly cash dividend of \$0.75 per share for the fourth quarter of 2013 and for the first three quarters of 2014. The Company declared and paid its quarterly cash dividend of \$0.95 per share for the fourth quarter of 2014. On February 25, 2015, the Company's Board of Directors declared a dividend of \$0.95 per share, payable on or before March 25, 2015 to shareholders of record on March 11, 2015.

The declaration and payment of future dividends, if any, by the Company will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors and will depend upon many factors, including the Company's earnings, financial condition, business needs and growth objectives, capital and surplus requirements of its operating subsidiaries, regulatory restrictions, rating agency considerations and other factors. As an insurance holding company, the Company is partially dependent on dividends and other permitted payments from its subsidiaries to pay cash dividends to its shareholders. The payment of dividends to Group by Holdings and to Holdings by Everest Re is subject to Delaware regulatory restrictions and the payment of dividends to Group by Bermuda Re is subject to Bermuda insurance regulatory restrictions. See "Regulatory Matters – Dividends" and ITEM 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data" - Note 16 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

## Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers

Period	Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities			
	(a) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased	(b) Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)	(c) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	(d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (1)
January 1 - 31, 2014	185,619	\$ 150.7663	185,619	4,386,798
February 1 - 28, 2014	957,194	\$ 146.4680	922,054	3,464,744
March 1 - 31, 2014	584,491	\$ 148.8831	584,491	2,880,253
April 1 - 30, 2014	-	\$ -	-	2,880,253
May 1 - 31, 2014	393,941	\$ 157.4986	389,949	2,490,304
June 1 - 30, 2014	85,143	\$ 159.1929	85,143	2,405,161
July 1 - 31, 2014	143,086	\$ 159.4543	143,086	2,262,075
August 1 - 31, 2014	234,777	\$ 158.1341	234,777	2,027,298
September 1 - 30, 2014	96,492	\$ 161.9591	92,944	1,934,354
October 1 - 31, 2014	19,474	\$ 165.7776	18,800	1,915,554
November 1 - 30, 2014	101,683	\$ 169.8669	100,529	6,815,025
December 1 - 31, 2014	471,462	\$ 169.4524	471,462	6,343,563
Total	3,273,362	\$ -	3,228,854	6,343,563

(1) On September 21, 2004, the Company's board of directors approved an amended share repurchase program authorizing the Company and/or its subsidiary Holdings to purchase up to an aggregate of 5,000,000 of the Company's common shares through open market transactions, privately negotiated transactions or both. On July 21, 2008; February 24, 2010; February 22, 2012; May 15, 2013; and November 19, 2014, the Company's executive committee of the Board of Directors has approved subsequent amendments to the share repurchase program authorizing the Company and/or its subsidiary Holdings, to purchase up to a current aggregate of 30,000,000 of the Company's shares (recognizing that the number of shares authorized for repurchase has been reduced by those shares that have already been purchased) in open market transactions, privately negotiated transactions or both. Through February 20, 2015, the Company purchased an additional 225,554 shares for \$38.1 million under the share repurchase program.

Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities.

None.

40

---

Performance Graph.

The following Performance Graph compares cumulative total shareholder returns on the Common Shares (assuming reinvestment of dividends) from December 31, 2009 through December 31, 2014, with the cumulative total return of the Standard & Poor's 500 Index and the Standard & Poor's Insurance (Property and Casualty) Index.

	12/09	12/10	12/11	12/12	12/13	12/14
Everest Re Group, Ltd.	100.00	101.40	102.81	137.04	197.38	219.96
S&P 500	100.00	115.06	117.49	136.30	180.44	205.14
S&P Property & Casualty Insurance	100.00	108.94	108.67	130.52	180.50	208.92

\*\$100 invested on 12/31/09 in stock or index, including reinvestment of dividends.

Fiscal year ending December 31.

Copyright© 2015 S&P, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies Inc. All rights reserved.

## ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected consolidated GAAP financial data of the Company as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010, were derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company. The following financial data should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes.

(Dollars in millions, except per share amounts)	Years Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Operating data:					
Gross written premiums	\$ 5,749.0	\$ 5,218.6	\$ 4,310.5	\$ 4,286.2	\$ 4,200.7
Net written premiums	5,256.9	5,004.8	4,081.1	4,108.9	3,945.6
Premiums earned	5,169.1	4,753.5	4,164.6	4,101.3	3,934.6
Net investment income	530.6	548.5	600.2	620.0	653.5
Net realized capital gains (losses)	84.0	300.2	164.4	6.9	101.9
Incurred losses and loss adjustment expenses (including catastrophes)	2,906.5	2,800.3	2,745.3	3,726.2	2,945.7
Net catastrophe losses (1)	56.0	177.7	361.1	1,237.6	544.1
Commission, brokerage, taxes and fees	1,135.6	977.6	952.7	950.5	931.9
Other underwriting expenses	240.4	237.1	207.7	182.4	166.3
Corporate expenses	23.4	24.8	24.0	16.5	14.9
Interest, fees and bond issue cost amortization expense	38.5	46.1	53.7	52.3	55.8
Income (loss) before taxes	1,446.1	1,555.0	939.5	(233.9 )	591.2
Income tax expense (benefit)	187.7	289.7	110.6	(153.5 )	(19.5 )
Net income (loss) (2)	1,258.5	1,265.3	829.0	(80.5 )	610.8
Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	(59.3 )	(5.9 )	-	-	-
Net income (loss) attributable to Everest Re Group	1,199.2	1,259.4	829.0	(80.5 )	610.8
EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO EVEREST RE:					
Basic (3)	\$ 26.16	\$ 25.67	\$ 15.85	\$ (1.49 )	\$ 10.73
Diluted (4)	\$ 25.91	\$ 25.44	\$ 15.79	\$ (1.49 )	\$ 10.70
Dividends declared	\$ 3.20	\$ 2.19	\$ 1.92	\$ 1.92	\$ 1.92
Certain GAAP financial ratios: (5)					
Loss ratio	56.2	% 58.9	% 65.9	% 90.9	% 74.9
Other underwriting expense ratio	26.6	% 25.6	% 27.9	% 27.6	% 27.9
Combined ratio (2)	82.8	% 84.5	% 93.8	% 118.5	% 102.8
Balance sheet data (at end of period):					
Total investments and cash	\$ 17,435.9	\$ 16,596.5	\$ 16,576.2	\$ 15,797.4	\$ 15,365.0
Total assets	20,817.8	19,808.0	19,777.9	18,893.6	18,384.2
Loss and LAE reserves	9,720.8	9,673.2	10,069.1	10,123.2	9,340.2

Total debt	638.4	488.3	818.2	818.1	868.1
Total liabilities	12,945.2	12,746.4	13,044.4	12,822.2	12,100.7
Redeemable noncontrolling interests -					
Mt. Logan Re	421.6	93.4	-	-	-
Shareholders' equity	7,451.1	6,968.3	6,733.5	6,071.4	6,283.5
Book value per share (6)	166.75	146.57	130.96	112.99	115.45

- (1) Catastrophe losses are presented net of reinsurance and reinstatement premiums. Effective April 1, 2010, a catastrophe is defined, for purposes of the consolidated Selected Financial Data, as an event that caused a loss on property exposures before reinsurance of at least \$10.0 million before corporate level reinsurance and taxes. All prior periods reflect a catastrophe as a property event with expected reported losses of at least \$5.0 million before corporate level reinsurance and taxes. Catastrophe insurance provides coverage for one event. When limits are exhausted, some contractual arrangements provide for the availability of additional coverage upon the payment of additional premium. This additional premium is referred to as reinstatement premium.
- (2) Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.
- (3) Based on weighted average basic common shares outstanding of 45.4 million, 48.6 million, 51.9 million, 53.8 million and 56.6 million for 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.
- (4) Based on weighted average diluted common shares outstanding of 45.8 million, 49.1 million, 52.1 million and 56.8 million for 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2010, respectively. Diluted calculation was not applicable for 2011.
- (5) Loss ratio is the GAAP losses and LAE incurred as a percentage of GAAP net premiums earned. Underwriting expense ratio is the GAAP commissions, brokerage, taxes, fees and other underwriting expenses as a percentage of GAAP net premiums earned. Combined ratio is the sum of the loss ratio and underwriting expense ratio.
- (6) Based on 44.7 million, 47.5 million, 51.4 million, 53.7 million and 54.4 million common shares outstanding for December 31, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

## ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATION

The following is a discussion and analysis of our results of operations and financial condition. It should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes thereto presented under ITEM 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data".

### Industry Conditions.

The worldwide reinsurance and insurance businesses are highly competitive, as well as cyclical by product and market. As such, financial results tend to fluctuate with periods of constrained availability, high rates and strong profits followed by periods of abundant capacity, low rates and constrained profitability. Competition in the types of reinsurance and insurance business that we underwrite is based on many factors, including the perceived overall financial strength of the reinsurer or insurer, ratings of the reinsurer or insurer by A.M. Best and/or Standard & Poor's, underwriting expertise, the jurisdictions where the reinsurer or insurer is licensed or otherwise authorized, capacity and coverages offered, premiums charged, other terms and conditions of the reinsurance and insurance business offered, services offered, speed of claims payment and reputation and experience in lines written. Furthermore, the market impact from these competitive factors related to reinsurance and insurance is generally not consistent across lines of business, domestic and international geographical areas and distribution channels.

We compete in the U.S., Bermuda and international reinsurance and insurance markets with numerous global competitors. Our competitors include independent reinsurance and insurance companies, subsidiaries or affiliates of established worldwide insurance companies, reinsurance departments of certain insurance companies, domestic and international underwriting operations, including underwriting syndicates at Lloyd's and certain government sponsored risk transfer vehicles. Some of these competitors have greater financial resources than we do and have established long term and continuing business relationships, which can be a significant competitive advantage. In addition, the lack of strong barriers to entry into the reinsurance business and recently, the securitization of reinsurance and insurance risks through capital markets provide additional sources of potential reinsurance and insurance capacity and competition.

Worldwide insurance and reinsurance market conditions continued to be very competitive, particularly in the property catastrophe and casualty reinsurance lines of business. Generally, there was ample insurance and reinsurance capacity relative to demand, as well as, additional capital from the capital markets through insurance linked financial instruments. These financial instruments such as side cars, catastrophe bonds and collateralized reinsurance funds, provide capital markets with access to insurance and reinsurance risk exposure. The capital markets demand for these products is being primarily driven by the current low interest environment and the desire to achieve greater risk diversification and potentially higher returns on their investments. This increased competition is generally having a negative impact on rates, terms and conditions; however, the impact varies widely by market and coverage.

Rates tend to fluctuate by specific region and products, particularly areas recently impacted by large catastrophic events. During the second and third quarters of 2013, Canada experienced historic flooding in Alberta and Toronto, which resulted in higher catastrophe rates in these areas during 2014. Although there were flooding and wind storm events in Europe and Asia in the latter part of 2013, the overall 2013 catastrophe losses for the industry were lower than average. This lower level of losses, combined with increased competition resulted in downward pressure on rates in certain geographical areas during 2014. Catastrophe results during 2014 were also generally benign, which could have a negative impact on worldwide regional catastrophe markets during 2015.

Overall, we believe that given our size, strong ratings, distribution system, reputation, expertise and capital market vehicle activity the current marketplace conditions provide profit opportunities. We continue to employ our strategy of targeting business that offers the greatest profit potential, while maintaining balance and diversification in our overall portfolio.



Edgar Filing: EVEREST RE GROUP LTD - Form 10-K

Financial Summary.

We monitor and evaluate our overall performance based upon financial results. The following table displays a summary of the consolidated net income (loss), ratios and shareholders' equity for the periods indicated.

(Dollars in millions)	Years Ended December 31,			Percentage Increase/(Decrease)			
	2014	2013	2012	2014/2013	2013/2012		
Gross written premiums	\$ 5,749.0	\$ 5,218.6	\$ 4,310.5	10.2	%	21.1	%
Net written premiums	5,256.9	5,004.8	4,081.1	5.0	%	22.6	%
<b>REVENUES:</b>							
Premiums earned	\$ 5,169.1	\$ 4,753.5	\$ 4,164.6	8.7	%	14.1	%
Net investment income	530.6	548.5	600.2	-3.3	%	-8.6	%
Net realized capital gains (losses)	84.0	300.2	164.4	-72.0	%	82.6	%
Net derivative gain (loss)	(11.6 )	44.0	(9.7 )	-126.3	%		NM
Other income (expense)	18.4	(5.5 )	3.3		NM		NM
Total revenues	5,790.6	5,640.8	4,922.8	2.7	%	14.6	%
<b>CLAIMS AND EXPENSES:</b>							
Incurred losses and loss adjustment expenses	2,906.5	2,800.3	2,745.3	3.8	%	2.0	%
Commission, brokerage, taxes and fees	1,135.6	977.6	952.7	16.2	%	2.6	%
Other underwriting expenses	240.4	237.1	207.7	1.4	%	14.2	%
Corporate expenses	23.4	24.8	24.0	-5.6	%	3.5	%
Interest, fees and bond issue cost amortization expense	38.5	46.1	53.7	-16.4	%	-14.1	%
Total claims and expenses	4,344.5	4,085.9	3,983.3	6.3	%	2.6	%
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TAXES	1,446.1	1,555.0	939.5	-7.0	%	65.5	%
Income tax expense (benefit)	187.7	289.7	110.6	-35.2	%	162.0	%
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 1,258.5	\$ 1,265.3	\$ 829.0	-0.5	%	52.6	%
Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests	(59.3 )	(5.9 )	-		NM		NM
NET INCOME (LOSS) ATTRIBUTABLE TO EVEREST RE GROUP	\$ 1,199.2	\$ 1,259.4	\$ 829.0	-4.8	%	51.9	%
<b>RATIOS:</b>							
						Point Change	
Loss ratio	56.2	%	58.9	%	65.9	%	(2.7 ) (7.0 )
Commission and brokerage ratio	22.0	%	20.6	%	22.9	%	1.4 (2.3 )
Other underwriting expense ratio	4.6	%	5.0	%	5.0	%	(0.4 ) -
Combined ratio	82.8	%	84.5	%	93.8	%	(1.7 ) (9.3 )
<b>Balance sheet data:</b>							
						Percentage Increase/(Decrease)	
(Dollars in millions, except per share amounts)	At December 31,						
	2014	2013	2012	2014/2013	2013/2012		
Total investments and cash	\$ 17,435.9	\$ 16,596.5	\$ 16,576.2	5.1	%	0.1	%



Edgar Filing: EVEREST RE GROUP LTD - Form 10-K

Total assets	20,817.8	19,808.0	19,777.9	5.1	%	0.2	%
Loss and loss adjustment expense reserves	9,720.8	9,673.2	10,069.1	0.5	%	-3.9	%
Total debt	638.4	488.3	818.2	30.7	%	-40.3	%
Total liabilities	12,945.2	12,746.4	13,044.4	1.6	%	-2.3	%
Redeemable noncontrolling interests - Mt. Logan Re	421.6	93.4	-			NM	NM
Shareholders' equity	7,451.1	6,968.3	6,733.5	6.9	%	3.5	%
Book value per share	166.75	146.57	130.96	13.8	%	11.9	%

(NM, not meaningful)

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)

Revenues.

Premiums. Gross written premiums increased by 10.2% to \$5,749.0 million in 2014, compared to \$5,218.6 million in 2013, reflecting a \$462.5 million, or 11.8%, increase in our reinsurance business and a \$118.2 million increase from the Mt. Logan Re segment, which commenced operations in the third quarter of 2013, partially offset by a \$50.4 million, or 4.0%, decrease in our insurance business. The increase in reinsurance premiums was mainly due to new business: quota share contracts and contracts with catastrophe exposed risks, partially offset by a negative impact of \$52.1 million from the movement in foreign exchange rates. The decrease in insurance premiums was primarily due to lower crop premiums, partially offset by an increase in non-standard auto business. Net written premiums increased by 5.0% to \$5,256.9 million in 2014 compared to \$5,004.8 million in 2013. The variance between the increase in gross written premiums

compared to the increase in net written premiums is primarily due to a higher utilization of reinsurance related to the new quota share contracts. Premiums earned increased by 8.7% to \$5,169.1 million in 2014, compared to \$4,753.5 million in 2013. The change in premiums earned relative to net written premiums is the result of timing; premiums are earned ratably over the coverage period whereas written premiums are recorded at the initiation of the coverage period.

Gross written premiums increased by 21.1% to \$5,218.6 million in 2013, compared to \$4,310.5 million in 2012, reflecting a \$692.3 million, or 21.4%, increase in our reinsurance business, a \$195.6 million, or 18.2%, increase in our insurance business and \$20.2 million from our new Mt. Logan Re segment. The increase in reinsurance premiums was mainly due to the impact of a Florida quota share reinsurance contract as well as new business, increased participations on existing business, and higher original rates on subject business. Excluding the year over year impact of the large Florida quota share reinsurance contract, gross written premiums increased 15.0% and reinsurance premiums increased 13.4%, compared to the prior year. The increase in insurance premiums was primarily due to the growth in California workers' compensation, crop and non-standard auto business. Net written premiums increased by 22.6% to \$5,004.8 million in 2013 compared to \$4,081.1 million in 2012, which is consistent with the increase in gross written premiums. Premiums earned increased by 14.1% to \$4,753.5 million in 2013, compared to \$4,164.6 million in 2012. Unlike written premiums, premiums earned were minimally impacted by the Florida quota share reinsurance contract. The change in premiums earned was comparable to net written premiums, excluding the impact of the Florida quota share reinsurance contract.

**Net Investment Income.** Net investment income decreased by 3.3% to \$530.6 million in 2014 compared with net investment income of \$548.5 million in 2013. Net pre-tax investment income, as a percentage of average invested assets, was 3.2% in 2014 compared to 3.5% in 2013. The decline in income and yield in 2014 compared to 2013 was primarily the result of lower reinvestment rates for the fixed income portfolios and a decrease in our limited partnership income.

Net investment income decreased by 8.6% to \$548.5 million in 2013 compared with net investment income of \$600.2 million in 2012. Net pre-tax investment income, as a percentage of average invested assets, was 3.5% in 2013 compared to 3.9% in 2012. The decline in income and yield was primarily the result of lower reinvestment rates for the fixed income portfolios, less dividend income from equity investments and a decrease in our limited partnership income.

**Net Realized Capital Gains (Losses).** Net realized capital gains were \$84.0 million, \$300.2 million and \$164.4 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The \$84.0 million was comprised of \$121.7 million of net gains from fair value re-measurements and \$1.9 million of net realized capital gains from sales on our fixed maturity and equity securities, which were partially offset by \$39.5 million of other-than-temporary impairments. The net realized capital gains of \$300.2 million in 2013 were the result of \$258.9 million of gains from fair value re-measurements and \$42.4 million of net realized capital gains from sales on our fixed maturity and equity securities, which were partially offset by \$1.1 million of other-than-temporary impairments. The net realized capital gains of \$164.4 million in 2012 were the result of \$118.1 million of gains from fair value re-measurements and \$56.3 million of net realized capital gains from sales on our fixed maturity and equity securities, which were partially offset by \$10.0 million of other-than-temporary impairments.

**Net Derivative Gain (Loss).** In 2005 and prior, we sold seven equity index put option contracts, which remain outstanding. These contracts meet the definition of a derivative in accordance with FASB guidance and as such, are fair valued each quarter with the change recorded as net derivative gain or loss in the consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income (loss). As a result of these adjustments in value, we recognized net derivative losses of \$11.6 million in 2014, net derivative gains of \$44.0 million in 2013 and net derivative losses of \$9.7 million in 2012. The change in the fair value of these equity index put option contracts is indicative of the change in the equity markets and interest rates over the same periods.

Other Income (Expense). We recorded other income of \$18.4 million in 2014, other expense of \$5.5 million in 2013 and other income of \$3.3 million in 2012. The changes were primarily the result of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates for the corresponding periods.

## Claims and Expenses.

Incurred Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses. The following table presents our incurred losses and loss adjustment expenses (“LAE”) for the periods indicated.

(Dollars in millions)	Current Year	Years Ended December 31,		Total Incurred	Ratio %/ Pt Change	
		Ratio %/ Pt Change	Prior Years			
<b>2014</b>						
Attritional (a)	\$ 2,856.4	55.2%	\$ (12.1)	-0.2%	\$ 2,844.3	55.0%
Catastrophes	90.0	1.7 %	(27.8)	-0.5 %	62.2	1.2 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,946.4</b>	<b>56.9%</b>	<b>\$ (39.9)</b>	<b>-0.7 %</b>	<b>\$ 2,906.5</b>	<b>56.2%</b>
<b>2013</b>						
Attritional (a)	\$ 2,623.5	55.2%	\$ (18.2)	-0.4%	\$ 2,605.3	54.8%
Catastrophes	195.0	4.1 %	-	0.0 %	195.0	4.1 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,818.5</b>	<b>59.3%</b>	<b>\$ (18.2)</b>	<b>-0.4 %</b>	<b>\$ 2,800.3</b>	<b>58.9%</b>
<b>2012</b>						
Attritional (a)	\$ 2,338.9	56.2%	\$ (3.7 )	-0.1 %	\$ 2,335.2	56.1 %
Catastrophes	410.0	9.8 %	-	0.0 %	410.0	9.8 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,748.9</b>	<b>66.0%</b>	<b>\$ (3.7 )</b>	<b>-0.1 %</b>	<b>\$ 2,745.3</b>	<b>65.9%</b>
<b>Variance 2014/2013</b>						
Attritional	\$ 232.9	- pts	\$ 6.1	0.2 pts	\$ 239.0	0.2 pts
Catastrophes	(105.0 )	(2.4 ) pts	(27.8)	(0.5) pts	(132.8 )	(2.9 ) pts
<b>Total segment</b>	<b>\$ 127.9</b>	<b>(2.4 ) pts</b>	<b>\$ (21.7)</b>	<b>(0.3) pts</b>	<b>\$ 106.2</b>	<b>(2.7 ) pts</b>
<b>Variance 2013/2012</b>						
Attritional	\$ 284.6	(1.0 ) pts	\$ (14.5)	(0.3) pts	\$ 270.1	(1.3 ) pts
Catastrophes	(215.0 )	(5.7) pts	-	- pts	(215.0 )	(5.7) pts
<b>Total segment</b>	<b>\$ 69.6</b>	<b>(6.7) pts</b>	<b>\$ (14.5)</b>	<b>(0.3) pts</b>	<b>\$ 55.0</b>	<b>(7.0) pts</b>

(a) Attritional losses exclude catastrophe losses.

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)

Incurred losses and LAE increased by 3.8% to \$2,906.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared to \$2,800.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, primarily due to increases in current year attritional losses, partially offset by a reduction in current year catastrophe losses. The increase in current year attritional losses of \$232.9 million is primarily due to the impact of the increase in premiums earned. The \$12.1 million of favorable prior years development for 2014 is a combination of \$174.7 million of favorable development in the reinsurance segments, related primarily to treaty casualty and treaty property reserves, partially offset by \$137.8 million of development on A&E reserves and \$24.9 million of development on insurance reserves, primarily related to construction liability and umbrella business. The \$90.0 million of current year catastrophe losses for the year ended December 31, 2014 represented 1.7 points and related to the Japan snowstorm (\$31.5 million), Hurricane Odile (\$22.0 million), the Chilean earthquake (\$21.5 million) and the Brisbane hailstorm (\$15.0 million). The \$195.0 million of current year catastrophe losses for the year ended December 31, 2013 related to Canadian floods (\$79.7 million), U.S. storms (\$44.8 million), Typhoon Fitow (\$30.0 million), German hailstorms (\$20.5 million) and European floods (\$20.0 million).

Incurring losses and LAE increased by 2.0% to \$2,800.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared to \$2,745.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2012, primarily due to increases in current year attritional losses, partially offset by the decline in current year catastrophe losses for 2013 (outlined above). The increase in current year attritional losses of \$284.6 million is primarily due to the impact of the increase in premiums earned. Despite the increase in current year attritional losses, the current year attritional loss ratio decreased by 1.0 points due to the shift in the mix of business towards excess of loss business, which generally results in lower loss ratios. The \$410.0 million of current year catastrophe losses for 2012 represented 9.8 points and related to Superstorm Sandy (\$325.0 million), U.S. storms (\$60.0 million) and Hurricane Isaac (\$25.0 million).

Commission, Brokerage, Taxes and Fees. Commission, brokerage, taxes and fees increased by 16.2% to \$1,135.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared to \$977.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2013. These changes were primarily due to the impact of the increase in premiums earned, changes in the mix of business and higher contingent commissions.

Commission, brokerage, taxes and fees increased by 2.6% to \$977.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2013 compared to \$952.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. The year over year changes were primarily due to the impact of the increase in premiums earned, partially offset by an increase in excess of loss business in 2013 which carries a lower commission rate than pro rata business.

Other Underwriting Expenses. Other underwriting expenses were \$240.4 million, \$237.1 million and \$207.7 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The increase in other underwriting expenses for 2014 compared to 2013 was mainly due to the impact of the increase in premiums earned. The increase in other underwriting expenses for 2013 compared to 2012 was mainly due to the impact of higher premiums earned and higher compensation expenses.

Corporate Expenses. Corporate expenses, which are general operating expenses that are not allocated to segments, were comparable at \$23.4 million, \$24.8 million and \$24.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Interest, Fees and Bond Issue Cost Amortization Expense. Interest, fees and other bond amortization expense was \$38.5 million and \$46.1 million in 2014 and 2013, respectively. The decrease was primarily due to the redemption of \$329.9 million of trust preferred securities in May 2013 and the maturity of \$250.0 million of senior notes on October 15, 2014, partially offset by the impact of the issuance of \$400.0 million of senior notes in June 2014.

Interest, fees and other bond amortization expense was \$46.1 million and \$53.7 million in 2013 and 2012, respectively. The decrease was primarily due to the redemption of \$329.9 million of trust preferred securities in May 2013. The year over year decrease was partially offset by \$7.7 million of amortization expense on remaining capitalized issuance costs related to the redeemed securities.

Income Tax Expense (Benefit). We had income tax expenses of \$187.7 million, \$289.7 million and \$110.6 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. Income tax expense is primarily a function of the geographic location of the Company's pre-tax income and the statutory tax rates in those jurisdictions, as affected by tax-exempt investment income and as calculated under the annualized effective tax rate ("AETR") method. Variations in the AETR generally result from changes in the relative levels of pre-tax income, including the impact of catastrophe losses and net capital gains (losses), among jurisdictions with different tax rates. The decrease in income tax expense for 2014 compared to 2013 is primarily due to lower net realized capital gains in the U.S. and the realization of additional foreign tax credits.

#### Net Income (Loss).

Our net income was \$1,258.5 million, \$1,265.3 million and \$829.0 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The changes were primarily driven by the financial component fluctuations explained above.

#### Net Income (Loss) Attributable to Everest Re Group.

Our net income attributable to Everest Re Group was \$1,199.2 million, \$1,259.4 million and \$829.0 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The changes were primarily driven by the financial component fluctuations described above, as well as the impact of net income attributable to noncontrolling interests in 2014 and 2013.

#### Ratios.

Our combined ratio decreased by 1.7 points to 82.8% in 2014 compared to 84.5% in 2013. The loss ratio component decreased 2.7 points in 2014, over the same period last year primarily due to the \$105.0 million decrease in current year catastrophe losses, which lowered the loss ratio by 2.4 points. The commission and brokerage ratio components increased 1.4 points in 2014 primarily due to changes in the mix of business and higher contingent commissions. The other underwriting expense ratio components decreased by 0.4 points in 2014 over the same period last year primarily due to higher premiums earned.

Our combined ratio decreased by 9.3 points to 84.5% in 2013 compared to 93.8% in 2012. The loss ratio component decreased 7.0 points in 2013, over the same period last year primarily due to the \$215.0 million decrease in current year catastrophe losses, which lowered the loss ratio by 5.7 points. The commission and brokerage ratio components decreased 2.3 points in 2013 due to the one time impact of the termination of the Florida quota share contract in 2012 and the increase in excess of loss business which carries a lower commission than pro rata business. The other underwriting expense ratio components remained flat in 2013 over the same period in 2012.

#### Shareholders' Equity.

Shareholders' equity increased by \$482.8 million to \$7,451.1 million at December 31, 2014 from \$6,968.3 million at December 31, 2013, principally as a result of \$1,199.2 million of net income attributable to Everest Re Group, share-based compensation transactions of \$39.0 million and \$22.1 million of unrealized appreciation on investments, net of tax, partially offset by repurchases of 3.2 million common shares for \$500.0 million, \$145.9 million of shareholder dividend, \$95.4 million of net foreign currency translation adjustments and \$36.1 million of net benefit plan obligation adjustments.

Shareholders' equity increased by \$234.8 million to \$6,968.3 million at December 31, 2013 from \$6,733.5 million at December 31, 2012, principally as a result of \$1,259.4 million of net income attributable to Everest Re Group, share-based compensation transactions of \$83.3 million and \$23.6 million of net benefit plan obligation adjustments, partially offset by repurchases of 4.7 million common shares for \$621.9 million, \$402.8 million of unrealized depreciation on investments, net of tax, \$106.7 million of shareholder dividends and \$0.2 million of net foreign currency translation adjustments.

#### Consolidated Investment Results

##### Net Investment Income.

Net investment income decreased by 3.3% to \$530.6 million in 2014 compared to \$548.5 million in 2013, primarily due to a decline in income from our fixed maturities, reflective of lower reinvestment rates, and a decline in income from our limited partnership investments.

Net investment income decreased by 8.6% to \$548.5 million in 2013 compared to \$600.2 million in 2012, primarily due to declines in income from our fixed maturities, reflective of declining reinvestment rates, from our equities, due to the partial liquidation of some mutual funds and from our limited partnership investments.

The following table shows the components of net investment income for the periods indicated.

(Dollars in millions)	Years Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Fixed maturities	\$462.8	\$473.5	\$489.8
Equity securities	47.2	45.4	59.2
Short-term investments and cash	1.6	1.3	1.3
Other invested assets			
Limited partnerships	40.9	46.9	64.9
Other	3.6	7.3	3.9
Gross investment income before adjustments	556.1	574.4	619.0
Funds held interest income (expense)	9.5	10.6	10.6
Future policy benefit reserve income (expense)	(1.7 )	(2.8 )	(2.9 )
Gross investment income	563.9	582.3	626.6
Investment expenses	(33.3 )	(33.8 )	(26.4 )
Net investment income	\$530.6	\$548.5	\$600.2

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)

The following tables show a comparison of various investment yields for the periods indicated.

	2014	2013	2012
Imbedded pre-tax yield of cash and invested assets at December 31	3.0%	3.2%	3.5%
Imbedded after-tax yield of cash and invested assets at December 31	2.6%	2.8%	3.0%
Annualized pre-tax yield on average cash and invested assets	3.2%	3.5%	3.9%
Annualized after-tax yield on average cash and invested assets	2.7%	2.9%	3.3%

	2014	2013	2012
Fixed income portfolio total return	3.5%	0.4%	4.8%
Barclay's Capital - U.S. aggregate index	6.0%	-2.0%	4.2%
Common equity portfolio total return	10.4%	22.4%	13.8%
S&P 500 index	13.7%	32.4%	16.0%
Other invested asset portfolio total return	11.8%	16.9%	16.0%

The pre-tax equivalent total return for the bond portfolio was approximately 3.6%, 0.6% and 5.0%, respectively, in 2014, 2013 and 2012. The pre-tax equivalent return adjusts the yield on tax-exempt bonds to the fully taxable equivalent.

Our fixed income and equity portfolios have different compositions than the benchmark indexes. Our fixed income portfolios have a shorter duration because we align our investment portfolio with our liabilities. We also hold foreign securities to match our foreign liabilities while the index is comprised of only U.S. securities. Our equity portfolios reflect an emphasis on dividend yield and growth equities, while the index is comprised of the largest 500 equities by market capitalization.





Edgar Filing: EVEREST RE GROUP LTD - Form 10-K

Net Realized Capital Gains (Losses).

The following table presents the composition of our net realized capital gains (losses) for the periods indicated.

(Dollars in millions)	Years Ended December 31,			2014/2013	2013/2012
	2014	2013	2012	Variance	Variance
Gains (losses) from sales:					
Fixed maturity securities, market value:					
Gains	\$ 36.1	\$ 37.7	\$ 31.9	\$ (1.6 )	\$ 5.8
Losses	(31.7 )	(30.9 )	(17.2 )	(0.8 )	(13.7 )
Total	4.4	6.8	14.7	(2.4 )	(7.9 )
Fixed maturity securities, fair value:					
Gains	1.3	0.5	6.3	0.8	(5.8 )
Losses	(4.4 )	(0.3 )	(0.6 )	(4.2 )	0.3
Total	(3.1 )	0.2	5.7	(3.3 )	(5.5 )
Equity securities, market value:					
Gains	1.7	3.0	16.7	(1.3 )	(13.7 )
Losses	(1.2 )	(0.3 )	(1.8 )	(0.9 )	1.5
Total	0.4	2.6	14.9	(2.2 )	(12.3 )
Equity securities, fair value:					
Gains	19.2	41.8	41.1	(22.5 )	0.7
Losses	(19.1 )	(9.0 )	(20.1 )	(10.1 )	11.1
Total	0.2	32.7	21.0	(32.6 )	11.7
Total net realized capital gains (losses) from sales:					
Gains	58.3	82.8	96.0	(24.5 )	(13.2 )
Losses	(56.5 )	(40.5 )	(39.6 )	(16.0 )	(0.9 )
Total	1.9	42.4	56.3	(40.5 )	(13.9 )
Other-than-temporary impairments:					
	(39.5 )	(1.1 )	(10.0 )	(38.4 )	8.9
Gains (losses) from fair value adjustments:					
Fixed maturities, fair value	(1.5 )	0.3	1.9	(1.8 )	(1.6 )
Equity securities, fair value	123.2	258.6	116.2	(135.4)	142.4
Total	121.7	258.9	118.1	(137.2)	140.8
Total net realized capital gains (losses)	\$ 84.0	\$ 300.2	\$ 164.4	\$ (216.2)	\$ 135.8

(Some amounts may not reconcile due to rounding.)

Net realized capital gains were \$84.0 million, \$300.2 million and \$164.4 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. In 2014, we recorded \$121.7 million of net realized capital gains due to fair value re-measurements on fixed maturity and equity securities and \$1.9 million of net realized capital gains from sales of fixed maturity and equity securities, partially offset by \$39.5 million of other-than-temporary impairments. The fixed maturity and equity sales in 2014 related primarily to adjusting the portfolios for overall market changes and individual credit shifts along with maintaining a balanced foreign currency exposure. In 2013, we recorded \$258.9 million of net realized capital gains due to fair value re-measurements on fixed maturity and equity securities and \$42.4 million of net realized capital gains from sales of fixed maturity and equity securities, partially offset by \$1.1 million of

other-than-temporary impairments. The fixed maturity and equity sales in 2013 related primarily to adjusting the portfolios for overall market changes and individual credit shifts along with maintaining a balanced foreign currency exposure. In 2012, we recorded \$118.1 million of net realized capital gains due to fair value re-measurements on fixed maturity and equity securities and \$56.3 million of net realized capital gains from sales of fixed maturity and equity securities, partially offset by \$10.0 million of other-than-temporary impairments. The fixed maturity sales in 2012 related primarily to maintaining a balanced foreign currency exposure and the equity sales related primarily to reducing our equity exposure.

### Segment Results.

The U.S. Reinsurance operation writes property and casualty reinsurance and specialty lines of business, including Marine, Aviation, Surety and A&H business, on both a treaty and facultative basis, through reinsurance brokers, as well as directly with ceding companies primarily within the U.S. The International operation writes foreign property and casualty reinsurance through Everest Re's branches in Canada and Singapore and through offices in Brazil, Miami and New Jersey. The Bermuda operation provides reinsurance and insurance to worldwide property and casualty markets through brokers and directly with ceding companies from its Bermuda office and reinsurance to the United Kingdom and European markets through its UK branch and Ireland Re. The Insurance operation writes property and casualty insurance directly and through general agents, brokers and surplus lines brokers within the U.S. and Canada. The Mt. Logan Re segment represents business written for the segregated accounts of Mt. Logan Re, which were formed on July 1, 2013. The Mt. Logan Re business represents a diversified set of catastrophe exposures, diversified by risk/peril and across different geographical regions globally.

These segments, with the exception of Mt. Logan Re, are managed independently, but conform with corporate guidelines with respect to pricing, risk management, control of aggregate catastrophe exposures, capital, investments and support operations. Management generally monitors and evaluates the financial performance of these operating segments based upon their underwriting results. The Mt. Logan Re segment is managed independently and seeks to write a diverse portfolio of catastrophe risks for each segregated account to achieve desired risk and return criteria.

Underwriting results include earned premium less losses and LAE incurred, commission and brokerage expenses and other underwriting expenses. We measure our underwriting results using ratios, in particular loss, commission and brokerage and other underwriting expense ratios, which, respectively, divide incurred losses, commissions and brokerage and other underwriting expenses by premiums earned.

Mt. Logan Re's business is sourced through operating subsidiaries of the Company; however, the activity is only reflected in the Mt. Logan Re segment. For other inter-affiliate reinsurance, business is generally reported within the segment in which the business was first produced, consistent with how the business is managed.

Except for Mt. Logan Re, the Company does not maintain separate balance sheet data for its operating segments. Accordingly, the Company does not review and evaluate the financial results of its operating segments based upon balance sheet data.

Our loss and LAE reserves are our best estimate of our ultimate liability for unpaid claims. We re-evaluate our estimates on an ongoing basis, including all prior period reserves, taking into consideration all available information and, in particular, recently reported loss claim experience and trends related to prior periods. Such re-evaluations are recorded in incurred losses in the period in which re-evaluation is made.

The following discusses the underwriting results for each of our segments for the periods indicated.

U.S. Reinsurance.

The following table presents the underwriting results and ratios for the U.S. Reinsurance segment for the periods indicated

(Dollars in millions)	Years Ended December 31,				2014/2013		2013/2012	
	2014	2013	2012		Variance	% Change	Variance	% Change