

VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS INC
Form 10-Q
April 26, 2012
Table of Contents

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

(Mark one)
 QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2012
OR
 TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the transition period from _____ to _____
Commission file number: 1-8606

Verizon Communications Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction)

23-2259884
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

of incorporation or organization)

140 West Street New
York, New York
(Address of principal executive offices)

10007
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 395-1000

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

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to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes No

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

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

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

Smaller reporting company

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

At March 30, 2012, 2,841,032,606 shares of the registrant's common stock were outstanding, after deducting 126,577,513 shares held in treasury.

Table of Contents**Table of Contents**

	Page
<u>PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>	
Item 1. <u>Financial Statements (Unaudited)</u>	
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income</u>	
<i>Three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011</i>	2
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income</u>	
<i>Three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011</i>	3
<u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets</u>	
<i>At March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011</i>	4
<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows</u>	
<i>Three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011</i>	5
<u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	6
Item 2. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	18
Item 3. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	34
Item 4. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	34
<u>PART II - OTHER INFORMATION</u>	
Item 1. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	34
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	34
Item 2. <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	34
Item 6. <u>Exhibits</u>	35
<u>Signature</u>	36
Certifications	

Table of Contents**Part I - Financial Information****Item 1. Financial Statements****Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income**

Verizon Communications Inc. and Subsidiaries

	Three Months Ended	
(dollars in millions, except per share amounts) (unaudited)	2012	March 31, 2011
Operating Revenues	\$ 28,242	\$ 26,990
Operating Expenses		
Cost of services and sales (exclusive of items shown below)	11,319	11,229
Selling, general and administrative expense	7,700	7,284
Depreciation and amortization expense	4,028	4,024
Total Operating Expenses	23,047	22,537
Operating Income	5,195	4,453
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated businesses	103	101
Other income and (expense), net	19	36
Interest expense	(685)	(709)
Income Before Provision For Income Taxes	4,632	3,881
Provision for income taxes	(726)	(617)
Net Income	\$ 3,906	\$ 3,264
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interest	\$ 2,220	\$ 1,825
Net income attributable to Verizon	1,686	1,439
Net Income	\$ 3,906	\$ 3,264
Basic Earnings Per Common Share		
Net income attributable to Verizon	\$.59	\$.51
Weighted-average shares outstanding (in millions)	2,842	2,830
Diluted Earnings Per Common Share		
Net income attributable to Verizon	\$.59	\$.51
Weighted-average shares outstanding (in millions)	2,849	2,834
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.5000	\$ 0.4875

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Table of Contents**Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income**

Verizon Communications Inc. and Subsidiaries

	Three Months Ended	
(dollars in millions) (unaudited)	2012	March 31, 2011
Net Income	\$ 3,906	\$ 3,264
Other comprehensive income, net of taxes		
Foreign currency translation adjustments	104	214
Unrealized gain on cash flow hedges	8	31
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	23	
Defined benefit pension and postretirement plans	(6)	(1)
Other comprehensive income attributable to Verizon	129	244
Other comprehensive income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest	3	(2)
Total Comprehensive Income	\$ 4,038	\$ 3,506
Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interest	\$ 2,223	\$ 1,823
Comprehensive income attributable to Verizon	1,815	1,683
Total Comprehensive Income	\$ 4,038	\$ 3,506

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Table of Contents**Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets**

Verizon Communications Inc. and Subsidiaries

(dollars in millions, except per share amounts) (unaudited)	At March 31, 2012	At December 31, 2011
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,909	\$ 13,362
Short-term investments	623	592
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$737 and \$802	11,234	11,776
Inventories	1,063	940
Prepaid expenses and other	4,683	4,269
Total current assets	23,512	30,939
Plant, property and equipment	218,250	215,626
Less accumulated depreciation	130,064	127,192
	88,186	88,434
Investments in unconsolidated businesses	3,566	3,448
Wireless licenses	73,294	73,250
Goodwill	23,465	23,357
Other intangible assets, net	5,744	5,878
Other assets	5,154	5,155
Total assets	\$ 222,921	\$ 230,461
Liabilities and Equity		
Current liabilities		
Debt maturing within one year	\$ 3,121	\$ 4,849
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	13,231	14,689
Other	6,561	11,223
Total current liabilities	22,913	30,761
Long-term debt	48,476	50,303
Employee benefit obligations	32,164	32,957
Deferred income taxes	25,610	25,060
Other liabilities	5,337	5,472
Equity		
Series preferred stock (\$.10 par value; none issued)		
Common stock (\$.10 par value; 2,967,610,119 shares issued in both periods)	297	297
Contributed capital	37,926	37,919
Reinvested earnings	1,444	1,179

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Accumulated other comprehensive income	1,398	1,269
Common stock in treasury, at cost	(4,735)	(5,002)
Deferred compensation employee stock ownership plans and other	341	308
Noncontrolling interest	51,750	49,938
Total equity	88,421	85,908
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 222,921	\$ 230,461

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Table of Contents**Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

Verizon Communications Inc. and Subsidiaries

	Three Months Ended	
(dollars in millions) (unaudited)	2012	March 31, 2011
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Net Income	\$ 3,906	\$ 3,264
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization expense	4,028	4,024
Employee retirement benefits	375	373
Deferred income taxes	656	790
Provision for uncollectible accounts	278	270
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated businesses, net of dividends received	(89)	(86)
Changes in current assets and liabilities, net of effects from acquisition/disposition of businesses	(1,580)	(2,070)
Other, net	(1,617)	(1,530)
Net cash provided by operating activities	5,957	5,035
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Capital expenditures (including capitalized software)	(3,565)	(4,363)
Acquisitions of licenses, investments and businesses, net of cash acquired	(165)	(104)
Net change in short-term investments	16	24
Other, net	41	68
Net cash used in investing activities	(3,673)	(4,375)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Proceeds from long-term borrowings		6,440
Repayments of long-term borrowings and capital lease obligations	(1,828)	(552)
Increase (decrease) in short-term obligations, excluding current maturities	(1,734)	2,384
Dividends paid	(1,291)	(1,379)
Proceeds from sale of common stock	69	70
Special distribution to noncontrolling interest	(4,500)	
Other, net	(453)	(284)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(9,737)	6,679
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(7,453)	7,339
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	13,362	6,668
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 5,909	\$ 14,007

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Table of Contents

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Verizon Communications Inc. and Subsidiaries

(Unaudited)

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared based upon Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rules that permit reduced disclosure for interim periods. For a more complete discussion of significant accounting policies and certain other information, you should refer to the financial statements included in the Verizon Communications Inc. (Verizon or the Company) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. These financial statements reflect all adjustments that are necessary for a fair presentation of results of operations and financial condition for the interim periods shown including normal recurring accruals and other items. The results for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results for the full year.

We have reclassified prior year amounts to conform to the current year presentation.

Recently Adopted Accounting Standards

During the first quarter of 2012, we adopted the accounting standard update regarding the presentation of comprehensive income. This update was issued to increase the prominence of items reported in other comprehensive income. The update requires that all nonowner changes in stockholders' equity be presented either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate, but consecutive statements. In connection with the adoption of this standard our condensed consolidated financial statements include a separate statement of comprehensive income.

During the first quarter of 2012, we adopted the accounting standard update regarding fair value measurement. This update was issued to provide a consistent definition of fair value and ensure that the fair value measurement and disclosure requirements are similar between U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards. This standard update also changes certain fair value measurement principles and enhances the disclosure requirements particularly for Level 3 fair value measurements. The adoption of this standard update did not have a significant impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements.

During the first quarter of 2012, we adopted the accounting standard update regarding testing of goodwill for impairment. This standard update gives companies the option to perform a qualitative assessment to first assess whether the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. If an entity determines it is not more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit is less than its carrying amount, then performing the two-step impairment test is unnecessary. The adoption of this standard did not have a significant impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements.

Leasing Arrangements

At each reporting period, we monitor the credit quality of the various lessees in our portfolios. Regarding the leveraged lease portfolio, external credit reports are used where available and where not available we use internally developed indicators. These indicators or internal credit risk grades factor historic loss experience, the value of the underlying collateral, delinquency trends, and industry and general economic conditions. The credit quality of our lessees primarily varies from AAA to CCC-. For each reporting period the leveraged leases within the portfolio are reviewed for indicators of impairment where it is probable the rent due according to the contractual terms of the lease will not be collected. All significant accounts, individually or in the aggregate, are current and none are classified as impaired.

Earnings Per Common Share

There were a total of approximately 7 million and 4 million stock options and restricted stock units outstanding to purchase shares included in the computation of diluted earnings per common share for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Outstanding options to purchase shares that were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per common share because to do so would have been anti-dilutive for the period were not significant for the three months ended March 31, 2012, and included 20 million weighted-average shares for

the three months ended March 31, 2011.

Table of Contents**2. Acquisitions and Other**

During the three months ended March 31, 2012, we acquired various wireless licenses and markets for cash consideration that was not significant.

In February 2012, Verizon entered into a joint venture with Coinstar, Inc. Verizon Ventures IV LLC, a subsidiary of Verizon, holds a 65% majority ownership share in the joint venture and Redbox Automated Retail, LLC, a subsidiary of Coinstar, Inc., holds a 35% ownership share. The joint venture is controlled by Verizon and therefore is being consolidated for reporting purposes. The joint venture will offer access to media rentals through online and mobile content streaming from Verizon to consumers across the country as well as physical media rentals through Redbox kiosks. The joint venture plans to introduce its subscription services in the second half of 2012. The initial funding related to the formation of the joint venture was not significant to Verizon.

In December 2011, we entered into agreements to acquire Advanced Wireless Services (AWS) spectrum licenses held by SpectrumCo, LLC and Cox TMI Wireless, respectively. The aggregate value of these transactions was approximately \$3.9 billion. The consummation of each of these transactions is subject to various conditions, including approval by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and review by the Department of Justice (DOJ). These spectrum acquisitions are expected to close in 2012.

In December 2011, we entered into commercial agreements with affiliates of Comcast Corporation, Time Warner Cable, Bright House Networks and Cox Communications Inc. (the cable companies). Through these agreements, the cable companies and Verizon Wireless became agents to sell one another's products and services and, over time, the cable companies will have the option, subject to the terms and conditions of the agreements, of selling Verizon Wireless service on a wholesale basis. In addition, the cable companies (other than Cox Communications Inc.) and Verizon Wireless have formed a technology innovation joint venture for the development of technology and intellectual property to better integrate wireline and wireless products and services. These commercial agreements and the formation of the joint venture are currently under review by the DOJ and the FCC.

During 2011, we also entered into agreements with a subsidiary of Leap Wireless, and with Savary Island Wireless, which is majority-owned by Leap Wireless, for the purchase of certain of their AWS and PCS licenses in exchange for cash and our 700 megahertz (MHz) A block license in Chicago. The consummation of each of these transactions is subject to customary closing conditions, including approval by the FCC.

On April 18, 2012, we announced plans to conduct an open sale process for all of our 700 MHz A and B spectrum licenses in order to rationalize our spectrum holdings. We acquired these licenses as part of the FCC Auction 73 in 2008. The sale of these licenses is contingent upon the close of the purchase of the AWS licenses from SpectrumCo, Cox and Leap Wireless described above.

3. Wireless Licenses, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets**Wireless Licenses**

Changes in the carrying amount of Wireless licenses are as follows:

(dollars in millions)	
Balance at January 1, 2012	\$ 73,250
Acquisitions (Note 2)	25
Capitalized interest on wireless licenses	19
Balance at March 31, 2012	\$ 73,294

During the quarter ended March 31, 2012, approximately \$1.1 billion of wireless licenses were under development for commercial service for which we were capitalizing interest costs.

Table of Contents**Goodwill**

Changes in the carrying amount of Goodwill are as follows:

(dollars in millions)	Verizon Wireless	Wireline	Total
Balance at January 1, 2012	\$ 17,963	\$ 5,394	\$ 23,357
Acquisitions (Note 2)	105		105
Reclassifications, adjustments and other		3	3
Balance at March 31, 2012	\$ 18,068	\$ 5,397	\$ 23,465

Other Intangible Assets

The following table displays the composition of Other intangible assets, net:

(dollars in millions)	At March 31, 2012			At December 31, 2011		
	Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Amount	Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Amount
Customer lists (6 to 13 years)	\$ 3,389	\$ (2,009)	\$ 1,380	\$ 3,529	\$ (2,052)	\$ 1,477
Non-network internal-use software (3 to 7 years)	9,663	(5,642)	4,021	9,536	(5,487)	4,049
Other (2 to 25 years)	567	(224)	343	561	(209)	352
Total	\$ 13,619	\$ (7,875)	\$ 5,744	\$ 13,626	\$ (7,748)	\$ 5,878

The amortization expense for Other intangible assets was as follows:

(dollars in millions)	00000000000000000000 Three Months Ended March 31,
2012	\$ 361
2011	370

Estimated annual amortization expense for Other intangible assets is as follows:

Years	00000000000000000000 (dollars in millions)
2012	\$ 1,378
2013	1,210
2014	899
2015	709
2016	506

Table of Contents**4. Debt**

Changes to debt during the three months ended March 31, 2012 are as follows:

(dollars in millions)	Debt Maturing within One Year	Long-term Debt	Total
Balance at January 1, 2012	\$ 4,849	\$ 50,303	\$ 55,152
Repayments of long-term borrowings and capital leases obligations	(1,828)		(1,828)
Decrease in short-term obligations, excluding current maturities	(1,734)		(1,734)
Reclassifications of long-term debt	1,750	(1,750)	
Other	84	(77)	7
Balance at March 31, 2012	\$ 3,121	\$ 48,476	\$ 51,597

During January 2012, \$1.0 billion of 5.875% Verizon New Jersey Inc. Debentures matured and were repaid. During February 2012, \$0.8 billion of 5.25% Verizon Wireless Notes matured and were repaid.

Guarantees

We guarantee the debentures and first mortgage bonds of our operating telephone company subsidiaries. As of March 31, 2012, \$5.4 billion principal amount of these obligations remain outstanding. Each guarantee will remain in place for the life of the obligation unless terminated pursuant to its terms, including the operating telephone company no longer being a wholly-owned subsidiary of Verizon.

We also guarantee the debt obligations of GTE Corporation that were issued and outstanding prior to July 1, 2003. As of March 31, 2012, \$1.7 billion principal amount of these obligations remain outstanding.

Debt Covenants

We and our consolidated subsidiaries are in compliance with all of our debt covenants.

Credit Facility

As of March 31, 2012, the unused borrowing capacity under a \$6.2 billion three-year credit facility, maturing on October 15, 2014, with a group of major financial institutions was approximately \$6.1 billion.

5. Fair Value Measurements

The following table presents the balances of assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of March 31, 2012:

(dollars in millions)	Level 1⁽¹⁾	Level 2⁽²⁾	Level 3⁽³⁾	Total
Assets:				
Short-term investments:				
Equity securities	\$ 294	\$	\$	\$ 294
Fixed income securities	1	328		329
Other current assets:				

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Interest rate swaps		10		10
Forward contracts		9		9
Other assets:				
Fixed income securities	225	749		974
Interest rate swaps		580		580
Cross currency swaps		131		131
Total		\$ 520	\$ 1,807	\$ 2,327

⁽¹⁾ quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities

⁽²⁾ observable inputs other than quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities

⁽³⁾ no observable pricing inputs in the market

Table of Contents

Equity securities consist of investments in common stock of domestic and international corporations measured using quoted prices in active markets.

Fixed income securities consist primarily of investments in U.S. Treasuries and agencies, as well as municipal bonds. We use quoted prices in active markets for our U.S. Treasury securities, and therefore these securities are classified as Level 1. For all other fixed income securities that do not have quoted prices in active markets, we use alternative matrix pricing as a practical expedient resulting in these debt securities being classified as Level 2.

Derivative contracts are valued using models based on readily observable market parameters for all substantial terms of our derivative contracts and thus are classified within Level 2. We use mid-market pricing for fair value measurements of our derivative instruments.

We recognize transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy as of the end of the reporting period. There were no transfers within the fair value hierarchy during the three months ended March 31, 2012.

Fair Value of Short-term and Long-term Debt

The fair value of our debt is determined using various methods, including quoted market prices for identical terms and maturities, which is a Level 1 measurement, as well as quoted prices for similar terms and maturities in inactive markets and future cash flows discounted at current rates, which are Level 2 measurements. The fair value of our short-term and long-term debt, excluding capital leases, was as follows:

	At March 31, 2012		At December 31, 2011	
(dollars in millions)	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
Short- and long-term debt, excluding capital leases	\$ 51,275	\$ 60,164	\$ 54,800	\$ 64,485

Derivative Instruments

We enter into derivative transactions to manage our exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates, interest rates, and equity and commodity prices. We employ risk management strategies, which may include the use of a variety of derivatives including cross currency swaps, foreign currency and prepaid forwards and collars, interest rate swap agreements, commodity swap and forward agreements and interest rate locks. We do not hold derivatives for trading purposes.

We measure all derivatives, including derivatives embedded in other financial instruments, at fair value and recognize them as either assets or liabilities on our consolidated balance sheets. Changes in the fair values of derivative instruments not qualifying as hedges or any ineffective portion of hedges are recognized in earnings in the current period. Changes in the fair values of derivative instruments used effectively as fair value hedges are recognized in earnings, along with changes in the fair value of the hedged item. Changes in the fair value of the effective portions of cash flow hedges are reported in Other comprehensive income and recognized in earnings when the hedged item is recognized in earnings.

Interest Rate Swaps

We have entered into domestic interest rate swaps to achieve a targeted mix of fixed and variable rate debt. We principally receive fixed rates and pay variable rates based on the London Interbank Offered Rate, resulting in a net increase or decrease to Interest expense. These swaps are designated as fair value hedges and hedge against changes in the fair value of our debt portfolio. We record the interest rate swaps at fair value on our condensed consolidated balance sheets as assets and liabilities. Changes in the fair value of the interest rate swaps due to changes in interest rates are recorded to Interest expense, which are offset by changes in the fair value of the debt. The fair value of these contracts, primarily included in Other assets and Long-term debt, was \$0.6 billion at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011. As of March 31, 2012, the total notional amount of these interest rate swaps was \$7.0 billion.

Cross Currency Swaps

Verizon Wireless previously entered into cross currency swaps designated as cash flow hedges to exchange approximately \$1.6 billion of British Pound Sterling and Euro-denominated debt into U.S. dollars and to fix our future interest and principal payments in U.S. dollars, as well as to

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mitigate the impact of foreign currency transaction gains or losses. A portion of the gains and losses recognized in Other comprehensive income is reclassified to Other income and (expense), net to offset the related pretax foreign currency transaction gain or loss on the underlying debt obligations. The fair value of the outstanding swaps, included in Other assets, was approximately \$0.1 billion at March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively. During the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, a pretax gain of \$0.1 billion was recognized in Other comprehensive income, respectively.

Table of Contents**6. Stock-Based Compensation****Verizon Communications Long-Term Incentive Plan**

The Verizon Communications Inc. Long-Term Incentive Plan (the Plan) permits the granting of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, performance stock units and other awards. The maximum number of shares available for awards from the Plan is 119.6 million shares.

Restricted Stock Units

The Plan provides for grants of Restricted Stock Units (RSUs) that generally vest at the end of the third year after the grant. The RSUs granted prior to January 1, 2010 were classified as liability awards because the RSUs were paid in cash upon vesting. The RSUs granted subsequent to January 1, 2010 are classified as equity awards because the RSUs will be paid in Verizon common stock upon vesting. The RSU equity awards are measured using the grant date fair value of Verizon common stock and are not remeasured at the end of each reporting period. Dividend equivalent units are also paid to participants at the time the RSU award is paid, and in the same proportion as the RSU award.

Performance Stock Units

The Plan also provides for grants of Performance Stock Units (PSUs) that generally vest at the end of the third year after the grant. As defined by the Plan, the Human Resources Committee of the Board of Directors determines the number of PSUs a participant earns based on the extent to which the corresponding goals have been achieved over the three-year performance cycle. The PSUs are classified as liability awards because the PSU awards are paid in cash upon vesting. The PSU award liability is measured at its fair value at the end of each reporting period and, therefore, will fluctuate based on the price of Verizon common stock as well as performance relative to the targets. Dividend equivalent units are also paid to participants at the time that the PSU award is determined and paid, and in the same proportion as the PSU award.

The following table summarizes the Restricted Stock Unit and Performance Stock Unit activity:

(shares in thousands)	Restricted Stock Units	Performance Stock Units
Outstanding, beginning of year	19,836	27,614
Granted	5,354	8,127
Payments	(7,312)	(8,499)
Cancelled/Forfeited	(43)	(45)
Outstanding, March 31, 2012	17,835	27,197

As of March 31, 2012, unrecognized compensation expense related to the unvested portion of Verizon's RSUs and PSUs was approximately \$0.7 billion and is expected to be recognized over approximately two years.

The RSUs granted in 2012 and classified as equity awards have a weighted average grant date fair value of \$38.67 per unit.

Stock Options

The Plan provides for grants of stock options to participants at an option price per share of no less than 100% of the fair market value of Verizon common stock on the date of grant. Each grant has a 10-year life, vesting equally over a three-year period, starting at the date of the grant. We have not granted new stock options since 2004.

The following table summarizes Verizon's stock option activity:

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(shares in thousands)	Stock Options	Weighted-Average Exercise Price
Outstanding, beginning of year	27,819	\$ 41.24
Exercised	(1,256)	35.29
Cancelled/Forfeited	(17,024)	45.18
Outstanding, March 31, 2012	9,539	35.00

All stock options outstanding at March 31, 2012 were exercisable.

Table of Contents**Verizon Wireless Long-Term Incentive Plan**

The Verizon Wireless Long-Term Incentive Plan (the Wireless Plan) provides compensation opportunities to eligible employees of Verizon Wireless (the Partnership). Under the Wireless Plan, Value Appreciation Rights (VARs) were granted to eligible employees. As of March 31, 2012, all VARs were fully vested. We have not granted new VARs since 2004.

The following table summarizes the Value Appreciation Rights activity:

(shares in thousands)	Value Appreciation Rights	Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value
Outstanding, beginning of year	8,214	\$ 12.39
Exercised	(674)	10.62
Cancelled/Forfeited	(4)	12.98
Outstanding, March 31, 2012	7,536	12.54

7. Employee Benefits

We maintain non-contributory defined benefit pension plans for many of our employees. In addition, we maintain postretirement health care and life insurance plans for our retirees and their dependents, which are both contributory and non-contributory, and include a limit on our share of the cost for certain recent and future retirees. In accordance with our accounting policy for pension and other postretirement benefits, actuarial gains and losses are recognized in operating results in the year in which they occur. These gains and losses are measured annually as of December 31 or upon a remeasurement event.

Net Periodic Benefit Cost

The following table summarizes the benefit (income) cost related to our pension and postretirement health care and life insurance plans:

(dollars in millions)	Pension		Health Care and Life	
Three Months Ended March 31,	2012	2011	2012	2011
Service cost	\$ 89	\$ 77	\$ 92	\$ 75
Amortization of prior service cost (credit)	(1)	18	(9)	(14)
Subtotal	88	95	83	61
Expected return on plan assets	(442)	(494)	(43)	(41)
Interest cost	362	397	327	355
Net periodic benefit (income) cost	\$ 8	\$ (2)	\$ 367	\$ 375

Severance Payments

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During the three months ended March 31, 2012, we paid severance benefits of \$0.1 billion. At March 31, 2012, we had a remaining severance liability of \$1.0 billion, a portion of which includes future contractual payments to employees separated as of March 31, 2012.

Employer Contributions

During the three months ended March 31, 2012, we contributed \$0.4 billion to our qualified pension trusts, \$0.1 billion to our nonqualified pension plans and \$0.4 billion to our other postretirement benefit plans. There have been no material changes to the estimated qualified and nonqualified pension contributions in 2012 as previously disclosed in Part II, Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Table of Contents**8. Equity and Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income****Equity**

Changes in the components of Total equity were as follows:

(dollars in millions)	Attributable to Verizon	Three Months Ended March 31, 2012	
		Noncontrolling Interest	Total Equity
Balance at beginning of period	\$ 35,970	\$ 49,938	\$ 85,908
Net income	1,686	2,220	3,906
Other comprehensive income	129	3	132
Comprehensive income	1,815	2,223	4,038
Contributed capital	7		7
Dividends declared	(1,421)		(1,421)
Common stock in treasury	267		267
Distributions and other	33	(411)	(378)
Balance at end of period	\$ 36,671	\$ 51,750	\$ 88,421

Noncontrolling interests included in our condensed consolidated financial statements primarily consist of Vodafone Group Plc's (Vodafone) 45% ownership interest in Verizon Wireless.

Special Distribution

In July 2011, the Board of Representatives of Verizon Wireless declared a distribution to its owners, payable on January 31, 2012 in proportion to their partnership interests on that date, in the aggregate amount of \$10 billion. During January 2012, Vodafone received a cash payment of \$4.5 billion and the remainder of the distribution was received by Verizon.

Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income

The components of Accumulated other comprehensive income were as follows:

(dollars in millions)	At December 31,	
	At March 31, 2012	2011
Foreign currency translation adjustments	\$ 828	\$ 724
Net unrealized gain on cash flow hedges	164	156
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	95	72
Defined benefit pension and postretirement plans	311	317
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	\$ 1,398	\$ 1,269

Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments

The change in Foreign currency translation adjustments for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 was primarily related to our investment in Vodafone Omnitel and was driven by movements of the U.S. dollar against various other currencies, primarily the Euro, in which we have operations.

Table of Contents**9. Segment Information****Reportable Segments**

We have two reportable segments, which we operate and manage as strategic business units and organize by products and services. We measure and evaluate our reportable segments based on segment operating income, consistent with the chief operating decision maker's assessment of segment performance.

Corporate, eliminations and other includes unallocated corporate expenses, intersegment eliminations recorded in consolidation, the results of other businesses, such as our investments in unconsolidated businesses, pension and other employee benefit related costs, lease financing, as well as other adjustments and gains and losses that are not allocated in assessing segment performance due to their non-operational nature. Although such transactions are excluded from the business segment results, they are included in reported consolidated earnings. Gains and losses that are not individually significant are included in all segment results as these items are included in the chief operating decision maker's assessment of segment performance.

Our segments and their principal activities consist of the following:

Segment	Description
Verizon Wireless	Verizon Wireless communications products and services include wireless voice and data services and equipment sales, which are provided to consumer, business and government customers across the United States.
Wireline	Wireline's communications products and services include voice, Internet access, broadband video and data, Internet protocol network services, network access, long distance and other services. We provide these products and services to consumers in the United States, as well as to carriers, businesses and government customers both in the United States and in over 150 other countries around the world.

Table of Contents

The following table provides operating financial information for our two reportable segments:

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended	
	2012	March 31, 2011
External Operating Revenues		
Verizon Wireless		
Retail service	\$ 14,872	\$ 13,659
Other service	524	637
Service revenue	15,396	14,296
Equipment	1,835	1,687
Other	1,019	877
Total Verizon Wireless	18,250	16,860
Wireline		
Consumer retail	3,441	3,383
Small business	659	692
Mass Markets	4,100	4,075
Strategic services	1,969	1,765
Core	1,882	2,054
Global Enterprise	3,851	3,819
Global Wholesale	1,592	1,740
Other	123	201
Total Wireline	9,666	9,835
Total segments	27,916	26,695
Corporate, eliminations and other	326	295
Total consolidated reported	\$ 28,242	\$ 26,990
Intersegment Revenues		
Verizon Wireless	\$ 23	\$ 21
Wireline	279	312
Total segments	302	333
Corporate, eliminations and other	(302)	(333)
Total consolidated reported	\$	\$
Total Operating Revenues		
Verizon Wireless	\$ 18,273	\$ 16,881
Wireline	9,945	10,147
Total segments	28,218	27,028
Corporate, eliminations and other	24	(38)

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Total consolidated	reported		\$ 28,242	\$ 26,990
Operating Income				
Verizon Wireless			\$ 5,217	\$ 4,351
Wireline			157	288
Total segments			5,374	4,639
Reconciling items			(179)	(186)
Total consolidated	reported		\$ 5,195	\$ 4,453

Table of Contents

(dollars in millions)	At March 31, 2012	At December 31, 2011
Assets		
Verizon Wireless	\$ 139,834	\$ 147,378
Wireline	86,187	86,185
Total segments	226,021	233,563
Reconciling items	(3,100)	(3,102)
Total consolidated reported	\$ 222,921	\$ 230,461

A reconciliation of the total of the reportable segments operating income to consolidated income before provision for income taxes is as follows:

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended	
	2012	March 31, 2011
Total segment operating income	\$ 5,374	\$ 4,639
Corporate, eliminations and other	(179)	(186)
Total consolidated operating income	5,195	4,453
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated businesses	103	101
Other income and (expense), net	19	36
Interest expense	(685)	(709)
Income Before Provision For Income Taxes	\$ 4,632	\$ 3,881

We generally account for intersegment sales of products and services and asset transfers at current market prices. No single customer accounted for more than 10% of our total operating revenues during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011.

Table of Contents

10. Commitments and Contingencies

In the ordinary course of business Verizon is involved in various commercial litigation and regulatory proceedings at the state and federal level. Where it is determined, in consultation with counsel based on litigation and settlement risks, that a loss is probable and estimable in a given matter, the Company establishes an accrual. In none of the currently pending matters is the amount of accrual material. An estimate of the reasonably possible loss or range of loss in excess of the amounts already accrued cannot be made at this time due to various factors typical in contested proceedings, including (1) uncertain damage theories and demands; (2) a less than complete factual record; (3) uncertainty concerning legal theories and their resolution by courts or regulators; and (4) the unpredictable nature of the opposing party and its demands. We continuously monitor these proceedings as they develop and adjust any accrual or disclosure as needed. We do not expect that the ultimate resolution of any pending regulatory or legal matter in future periods, including the Hicksville and ActiveVideo Networks Inc. (ActiveVideo) matters described below, will have a material effect on our financial condition, but it could have a material effect on our results of operations for a given reporting period.

During 2003, under a government-approved plan, remediation commenced at the site of a former Sylvania facility in Hicksville, New York that processed nuclear fuel rods in the 1950s and 1960s. Remediation beyond original expectations proved to be necessary and a reassessment of the anticipated remediation costs was conducted. A reassessment of costs related to remediation efforts at several other former facilities was also undertaken. In September 2005, the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) accepted the Hicksville site into the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program. This may result in the ACE performing some or all of the remediation effort for the Hicksville site with a corresponding decrease in costs to Verizon. To the extent that the ACE assumes responsibility for remedial work at the Hicksville site, an adjustment to a reserve previously established for the remediation may be made. Adjustments to the reserve may also be made based upon actual conditions discovered during the remediation at this or any other site requiring remediation.

Verizon is currently involved in approximately 50 federal district court actions alleging that Verizon is infringing various patents. Most of these cases are brought by non-practicing entities and effectively seek only monetary damages; a small number are brought by companies that sell products and seek injunctive relief as well. These cases have progressed to various degrees and a small number may go to trial in the coming 12 months if they are not otherwise resolved. In August 2011, a jury found that Verizon is infringing four ActiveVideo patents related to Verizon's FiOS TV video-on-demand service (VOD), and entered a verdict for ActiveVideo for \$115 million, which the court subsequently increased by \$24 million. The jury, however, rejected ActiveVideo's claim that Verizon had willfully infringed its patents and the court stayed execution of the payments to ActiveVideo. Verizon was also later enjoined from continuing to use two of these allegedly infringed ActiveVideo patents and ordered to pay ActiveVideo approximately \$11 million per month from August 2011 to May 2012. The court deferred the onset of the injunction until May 2012, and the orders to make payments to ActiveVideo were stayed. Verizon has filed appeals addressing these rulings and is working with its vendors, Cisco and Ericsson, to redesign its VOD system.

In connection with the execution of agreements for the sales of businesses and investments, Verizon ordinarily provides representations and warranties to the purchasers pertaining to a variety of nonfinancial matters, such as ownership of the securities being sold, as well as indemnity from certain financial losses. From time to time, counterparties may make claims under these provisions, and Verizon will seek to defend against those claims and resolve them in the ordinary course of business.

Subsequent to the sale of Verizon Information Services Canada in 2004, we continue to provide a guarantee to publish directories, which was issued when the directory business was purchased in 2001 and had a 30-year term (before extensions). The preexisting guarantee continues, without modification, despite the subsequent sale of Verizon Information Services Canada and the spin-off of our domestic print and Internet yellow pages directories business. The possible financial impact of the guarantee, which is not expected to be adverse, cannot be reasonably estimated as a variety of the potential outcomes available under the guarantee result in costs and revenues or benefits that may offset each other. We do not believe performance under the guarantee is likely.

Table of Contents

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

Overview

Verizon Communications Inc. (Verizon, or the Company), is a holding company that, acting through its subsidiaries is one of the world's leading providers of communications, information and entertainment products and services to consumers, businesses and governmental agencies with a presence in over 150 countries around the world. Our offerings, designed to meet customers' demand for speed, mobility, security and control, include voice, data and video services on our wireless and wireline networks. We have two reportable segments, Verizon Wireless and Wireline. Our wireless business, operating as Verizon Wireless, provides voice and data services and equipment sales across the United States using one of the most extensive and reliable wireless networks. Our wireline business provides consumer, business and government customers with communications products and services, including voice, broadband data and video services, network access, long distance and other communications products and services, and also owns and operates one of the most expansive end-to-end global Internet Protocol (IP) networks. We have a highly skilled, diverse and dedicated workforce of approximately 191,800 employees as of March 31, 2012.

In recent years Verizon has embarked upon a strategic transformation as advances in technology have changed the ways that our customers interact in their personal and professional lives and that businesses operate. To meet the changing needs of our customers and the changing technological landscape, we are focusing our efforts around higher margin and growing areas of our business: wireless data, wireline data and strategic services, including cloud computing services.

Our strategy requires significant capital investments to acquire wireless spectrum, put the spectrum into service, expand the fiber optic network that supports our wireless and wireline businesses, maintain our wireless and wireline networks and develop and maintain significant advanced database capacity.

In our Wireless business, during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011, strong customer and data services growth driven by strong demand for smartphones and Internet data devices resulted in revenue growth of 8.2%. At March 31, 2012, smartphones represented 46.8% of our retail postpaid phone base, driving a 21.1% increase in data revenue as compared to the similar period in 2011. Data revenue accounted for 42.9% of Verizon Wireless' total service revenue in the quarter.

In 2010, we launched our fourth-generation (4G) Long-Term Evolution technology (LTE) mobile broadband network, and as of April 19, 2012, we have deployed 4G LTE in 230 markets covering more than 200 million people throughout the country. We expect to deploy 4G LTE in virtually our entire current third-generation (3G) network footprint by mid-2013. Our 4G LTE network has speeds up to ten times faster than those of 3G broadband. As a result of our investment in 4G LTE, we expect to achieve both capacity improvements as well as reduced costs per megabyte.

In Wireline, during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011, revenues were positively impacted by an 11.6% increase in strategic services revenue, which represented 51% of total Global Enterprise revenues, as well as the expansion of consumer and small business FiOS services. Enterprise and wholesale customers continue to be adversely affected by the economy, resulting in delayed decision-making regarding spending, particularly on information technology. To compensate for the shrinking market for traditional voice service, we continue to build the Wireline segment around data, video and advanced business services' areas where demand for reliable high-speed connections is growing. As more applications are developed for this high-speed service, we expect that FiOS will become a hub for managing a multitude of home services that will eventually be part of the digital grid, including not just entertainment and communications, but also machine-to-machine communications, such as home monitoring, home health care, energy management services and utilities.

In February 2012, Verizon entered into a joint venture with Coinstar, Inc. Verizon Ventures IV LLC, a subsidiary of Verizon, holds a 65% majority ownership share in the joint venture and Redbox Automated Retail, LLC, a subsidiary of Coinstar, Inc., holds a 35% ownership share. The joint venture is controlled by Verizon and therefore is being consolidated for reporting purposes. The joint venture will offer access to media rentals through online and mobile content streaming from Verizon to consumers across the country as well as physical media rentals through Redbox kiosks. The joint venture plans to introduce its subscription services in the second half of 2012. The initial funding related to the formation of the joint venture was not significant to Verizon.

Table of Contents

In December 2011, we entered into agreements to acquire Advanced Wireless Services (AWS) spectrum licenses held by Spectrum Co, LLC and Cox TMI Wireless. The aggregate value of these transactions is approximately \$3.9 billion. The consummation of each of these transactions is subject to various conditions, including approval by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and review by the Department of Justice (DOJ). These spectrum acquisitions are expected to close in 2012.

In December 2011, we entered into commercial agreements with affiliates of Comcast Corporation, Time Warner Cable, Bright House Networks and Cox Communications Inc. (the cable companies). Through these agreements, the cable companies and Verizon Wireless became agents to sell one another's products and services and, over time, the cable companies will have the option, subject to the terms and conditions of the agreements, to sell Verizon Wireless service on a wholesale basis. In addition, the cable companies (other than Cox Communications Inc.) and Verizon Wireless have formed a technology innovation joint venture for the development of technology and intellectual property to better integrate wireline and wireless products and services. These commercial agreements and the formation of the joint venture are currently under review by the DOJ and the FCC.

On April 18, 2012, we announced plans to conduct an open sale process for all of our 700 megahertz A and B spectrum licenses in order to rationalize our spectrum holdings. We acquired these licenses as part of the FCC Auction 73 in 2008. The sale of these licenses is contingent upon the close of the purchase of the AWS licenses from SpectrumCo, Cox and Leap Wireless described above.

Investing in innovative technology like wireless networks, high-speed fiber and cloud services has positioned Verizon at the center of the growth trends of the future. By investing in our own capabilities, we are also investing in the markets we serve by making sure our communities have a fast, reliable infrastructure for competing in the information economy. We are committed to putting our customers first and being a responsible member of our communities. Guided by this commitment and by our core values of integrity, respect, performance excellence and accountability, we believe we are well-positioned to produce a long-term return for our shareowners, create meaningful work for ourselves and provide something of lasting value for society.

Trends

There have been no significant changes to the information related to trends affecting our business that was disclosed in Part II, Item 7 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 except to the extent described above.

Table of Contents**Consolidated Results of Operations**

In this section, we discuss our overall results of operations and highlight items of a non-operational nature that are not included in our segment results. We have two reportable segments, which we operate and manage as strategic business units and organize by products and services. Our segments are Verizon Wireless and Wireline. In Segment Results of Operations, we review the performance of our two reportable segments.

Corporate, eliminations and other includes unallocated corporate expenses such as certain pension and other employee benefit related costs, intersegment eliminations recorded in consolidation, the results of other businesses such as our investments in unconsolidated businesses, lease financing and divested operations, and other adjustments and gains and losses that are not allocated in assessing segment performance due to their non-operational nature. Although such transactions are excluded from the business segment results, they are included in reported consolidated earnings. Gains and losses that are not individually significant are included in all segment results as these items are included in the chief operating decision maker's assessment of segment performance. We believe that this presentation assists users of our financial statements in better understanding our results of operations and trends from period to period.

Consolidated Revenues

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended			
	2012	March 31, 2011	Increase/(Decrease)	
Verizon Wireless				
Service revenue	\$ 15,410	\$ 14,311	\$ 1,099	7.7%
Equipment and other	2,863	2,570	293	11.4
Total	18,273	16,881	1,392	8.2
Wireline				
Mass Markets	4,103	4,078	25	0.6
Global Enterprise	3,852	3,816	36	0.9
Global Wholesale	1,861	2,042	(181)	(8.9)
Other	129	211	(82)	(38.9)
Total	9,945	10,147	(202)	(2.0)
Corporate, eliminations and other	24	(38)	62	nm
Consolidated Revenues	\$ 28,242	\$ 26,990	\$ 1,252	4.6

nm not meaningful

The increase in consolidated revenues during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 was primarily due to higher revenues at Verizon Wireless, the expansion of FiOS services and increased revenues from strategic services at our Wireline segment. Partially offsetting the increase were lower Global Wholesale, Global Enterprise Core and Other revenues at our Wireline segment.

Verizon Wireless revenues increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to growth in both service and equipment revenue. Service revenue increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to an increase in retail customers since April 1, 2011, as well as continued growth in our data revenue, partially offset by a decline in voice revenue.

Total wireless data revenue was \$6.6 billion and accounted for 42.9% of service revenue during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to \$5.5 billion and 38.1% during the similar period in 2011. Total wireless data revenue continues to be driven by demand for web and e-mail services due to an increase in smartphone penetration in addition to strong growth in the sales volume of tablets and Jetpacks.

Table of Contents

Equipment and other revenue increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to an increase in the average price of smartphones sold, attributable to an increase in the sales volume of 4G LTE devices, partially offset by a decrease in the sales volume of basic phones.

Wireline revenues decreased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily driven by declines in Global Wholesale, Global Enterprise Core and Other revenues, partially offset by increases in strategic services revenues, as well as residential and small business broadband revenues.

Mass Markets revenues increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 due to the expansion of consumer and small business FiOS services (Voice, Internet and Video), partially offset by the continued decline of local exchange revenues. The decrease in local exchange revenues was primarily due to a decline in residential and small business retail voice connections resulting primarily from competition and technology substitution.

Global Enterprise revenues increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily driven by higher strategic services revenues, in part due to the inclusion of the revenues of Terremark, partially offset by lower local services and traditional circuit-based revenues and decreased revenues from the sale of customer premise equipment.

Global Wholesale revenues decreased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to a decline in voice revenues as a result of decreased minutes of use (MOUs) in traditional voice products, partially offset by continuing demand for high-speed digital data services primarily due to fiber-to-the-cell customers upgrading their core data circuits to Ethernet facilities.

Other revenues decreased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to reduced business volumes, including former MCI mass market customer losses.

Consolidated Operating Expenses

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended			
	2012	March 31, 2011	Increase/(Decrease)	
Cost of services and sales	\$ 11,319	\$ 11,229	\$ 90	0.8%
Selling, general and administrative expense	7,700	7,284	416	5.7
Depreciation and amortization expense	4,028	4,024	4	0.1
Consolidated Operating Expenses	\$ 23,047	\$ 22,537	\$ 510	2.3

Cost of Services and Sales

Cost of services and sales increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to higher cost of equipment sales at our Verizon Wireless segment. In addition, the increase was also due to higher content costs associated with continued FiOS subscriber growth, the inclusion of the expenses of Terremark and other postretirement and active employee benefit costs at our Wireline segment. Partially offsetting the increase were lower data service and application costs at our Verizon Wireless segment as well as lower access costs at our Wireline segment.

Selling, General and Administrative Expense

Selling, general and administrative expense increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to higher sales commission expense and costs associated with regulatory fees at our Verizon Wireless segment. In addition, the increase was impacted by the inclusion of the expenses of Terremark and higher other postretirement and active employee benefit costs at our Wireline segment. Partially offsetting the increase were lower property and transaction tax expenses and decreased advertising expenses at our Wireline segment.

Table of Contents*Depreciation and Amortization Expense*

Depreciation and amortization expense increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily driven by growth in depreciable assets and the inclusion of the expenses of Terremark, partially offset by changes in the estimated useful lives of certain asset classes.

Consolidated Operating Income and EBITDA

Consolidated earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization expenses (Consolidated EBITDA) which is presented below, is a non-GAAP measure and does not purport to be an alternative to operating income as a measure of operating performance. Management believes that this measure is useful to investors and other users of our financial information in evaluating operating profitability on a more variable cost basis as it excludes the depreciation and amortization expense related primarily to capital expenditures and acquisitions that occurred in prior years, as well as in evaluating operating performance in relation to our competitors. Consolidated EBITDA is calculated by adding back interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization expense, equity in earnings of unconsolidated businesses and other income and (expense), net to net income.

It is management's intent to provide non-GAAP financial information to enhance the understanding of Verizon's GAAP financial information, and it should be considered by the reader in addition to, but not instead of, the financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP. Each non-GAAP financial measure is presented along with the corresponding GAAP measure so as not to imply that more emphasis should be placed on the non-GAAP measure. The non-GAAP financial information presented may be determined or calculated differently by other companies.

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended	
	2012	March 31, 2011
Consolidated Operating Income	\$ 5,195	\$ 4,453
Add Depreciation and amortization expense	4,028	4,024
Consolidated EBITDA	\$ 9,223	\$ 8,477

Other Consolidated Results*Other Income and (Expense), Net*

Additional information relating to Other income and (expense), net is as follows:

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended		
	2012	March 31, 2011	Increase/(Decrease)
Interest income	\$ 15	\$ 19	\$ (4) (21.1)%
Foreign exchange loss, net	(2)	(12)	10 (83.3)
Other, net	6	29	(23) (79.3)
Total	\$ 19	\$ 36	\$ (17) (47.2)

*Interest Expense***Three Months Ended**

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(dollars in millions)	2012	March 31, 2011	Increase/(Decrease)	
Total interest costs on debt balances	\$ 753	\$ 822	\$ (69)	(8.4)%
Less capitalized interest costs	68	113	(45)	(39.8)
Total	\$ 685	\$ 709	\$ (24)	(3.4)

Average debt outstanding	\$ 52,641	\$ 56,114
Effective interest rate	5.7%	5.9%

Total interest costs on debt balances decreased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to a \$3.5 billion decrease in average debt (see Consolidated Financial Condition) and a lower effective interest rate. Capitalized interest costs were lower in 2012 primarily due to our ongoing deployment of the 4G LTE network.

Table of Contents*Provision for Income Taxes*

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended		
	2012	March 31, 2011	Increase/(Decrease)
Provision for income taxes	\$ 726	\$ 617	\$ 109 17.7 %
Effective income tax rate	15.7%	15.9%	

The effective income tax rate is calculated by dividing the provision for income taxes by income before the provision for income taxes. Our annual effective income tax rate is significantly lower than the statutory federal income tax rate due to the inclusion of income attributable to Vodafone Group Plc. s (Vodafone) noncontrolling interest in the Verizon Wireless partnership within our income before the provision for income taxes, which resulted in our effective income tax rate being 14.4 and 14.1 percentage points lower during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

The effective income tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2012 is comparable to the similar period in 2011.

Unrecognized Tax Benefits

Unrecognized tax benefits were \$3.0 billion at March 31, 2012 and \$3.1 billion at December 31, 2011. Interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits were \$0.4 billion (after-tax) at March 31, 2012 and \$0.5 billion (after-tax) at December 31, 2011.

As a large taxpayer, we are under audit by the Internal Revenue Service and multiple state and foreign jurisdictions on numerous open tax positions. Significant tax litigation and appeals are ongoing in Canada for tax years as early as 2002. It is reasonably possible that the amount of the liability for unrecognized tax benefits could change by a significant amount during the next twelve-month period. An estimate of the range of the possible change cannot be made until issues are further developed or examinations close.

Net Income Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended		
	2012	March 31, 2011	Increase/(Decrease)
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interest	\$ 2,220	\$ 1,825	\$ 395 21.6 %

The increase in Net income attributable to noncontrolling interest during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 was due to higher earnings in our Verizon Wireless segment, which has a 45% noncontrolling partnership interest attributable to Vodafone.

Segment Results of Operations

We have two reportable segments, Verizon Wireless and Wireline, which we operate and manage as strategic business units and organize by products and services. We measure and evaluate our reportable segments based on segment operating income. The use of segment operating income is consistent with the chief operating decision maker s assessment of segment performance.

Segment earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (Segment EBITDA), which is presented below, is a non-GAAP measure and does not purport to be an alternative to operating income as a measure of operating performance. Management believes that this measure is useful to investors and other users of our financial information in evaluating operating profitability on a more variable cost basis as it excludes the depreciation and amortization expenses related primarily to capital expenditures and acquisitions that occurred in prior years, as well as in evaluating operating performance in relation to our competitors. Segment EBITDA is calculated by adding back depreciation and amortization expense to segment operating income.

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Verizon Wireless Segment EBITDA service margin, also presented below, is calculated by dividing Verizon Wireless Segment EBITDA by Verizon Wireless service revenues. Verizon Wireless Segment EBITDA service margin utilizes service revenues rather than total revenues. Service revenues primarily exclude equipment revenues in order to reflect the impact of providing service to the wireless customer base on an ongoing basis. Verizon Wireline EBITDA margin is calculated by dividing Wireline EBITDA by total Wireline revenues.

Table of Contents**Verizon Wireless**

Our Verizon Wireless segment, primarily comprised of Celco Partnership doing business as Verizon Wireless, is a joint venture formed in April 2000 by the combination of the U.S. wireless operations and interests of Verizon and Vodafone. Verizon owns a controlling 55% interest in Verizon Wireless and Vodafone owns the remaining 45%. Verizon Wireless provides wireless voice and data services across one of the most extensive wireless networks in the United States.

We provide these services and equipment sales to consumer, business and government customers in the United States on a postpaid and prepaid basis. Postpaid customers represent individual lines of service for which a customer pays in advance a monthly access charge in return for a monthly voice and/or data service allowance, and use of any services beyond the allowances is billed monthly in arrears. Our prepaid service enables individuals to obtain wireless data and voice services without a long-term contract or credit verification by paying in advance.

Operating Revenue and Selected Operating Statistics

(dollars in millions, except ARPU)	Three Months Ended			
	2012	March 31, 2011	Increase/(Decrease)	
Retail service	\$ 14,886	\$ 13,674	\$ 1,212	8.9 %
Other service	524	637	(113)	(17.7)
Service revenue	15,410	14,311	1,099	7.7
Equipment and other	2,863	2,570	293	11.4
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 18,273	\$ 16,881	\$ 1,392	8.2
Customers ('000) ⁽¹⁾				
Retail customers	92,988	88,414	4,574	5.2
Retail postpaid customers	87,963	84,031	3,932	4.7
Net additions in period ('000) ⁽²⁾				
Retail customers	734	879	(145)	(16.5)
Retail postpaid customers	501	906	(405)	(44.7)
Churn Rate:				
Retail customers	1.24%	1.33%		
Retail postpaid customers	0.96%	1.01%		
ARPU:				
Retail service	\$ 53.66	\$ 51.88	\$ 1.78	3.4
Retail postpaid	55.43	53.52	1.91	3.6
Retail postpaid data	23.80	20.51	3.29	16.0

⁽¹⁾ As of end of period

⁽²⁾ Excluding acquisitions and adjustments

The increase in Verizon Wireless total operating revenue during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 was the result of growth in both service and equipment revenue.

Customers

Retail (non-wholesale) customers are customers directly served and managed by Verizon Wireless that use its branded services. Churn is the rate at which customers disconnect individual lines of service. We expect to continue to experience retail customer growth based on the strength of

our product offerings and network service quality.

Retail customer net additions decreased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to a decrease in retail postpaid customer gross additions, partially offset by an increase in prepaid gross additions and improvements in our retail customer churn rates. The decline in postpaid gross additions primarily reflects the timing of the iPhone launch in 2011.

Table of Contents*Service Revenue*

Service revenue increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to continued growth in data revenue, partially offset by a decline in voice revenue.

Total data revenue was \$6.6 billion and accounted for 42.9% of service revenue during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to \$5.5 billion and 38.1% during the similar period in 2011. Total wireless data revenue continues to be driven by demand for web and email services due to an increase in smartphone penetration in addition to strong growth in the sales volume of tablets and Jetpacks. We expect that total service revenue will continue to grow as we increase smartphone penetration.

The increases in retail service ARPU (the average revenue per user per month from retail customers), and retail postpaid ARPU (the average revenue per user per month from retail postpaid customers) for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 were due to a continued increase in our retail postpaid data ARPU, partially offset by a decline in our retail postpaid voice ARPU. Retail postpaid data ARPU increased as a result of continued growth in the proportion of our customer base using smartphones, which grew to 46.8% of our retail postpaid customers as of March 31, 2012 compared to 32.2% at March 31, 2011. However, both retail postpaid ARPU and retail postpaid data ARPU growth were adversely impacted by the growing proportion of our customers using internet data devices and customers optimizing the value of their data packages for these devices. Internet data devices represented 8.3% of our retail postpaid customer base as of March 31, 2012 compared to 7.3% as of March 31, 2011. In addition, our retail postpaid voice ARPU was \$31.63 during the three months ended March 31, 2012, representing a decline of \$1.38, or 4.2%, compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to the ongoing impact of our retail customers seeking to optimize the value of our voice minute bundles.

Other service revenue decreased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 as a result of a decrease in third party roaming revenue.

Equipment and Other Revenue

Equipment and other revenue increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to an increase in the average price of smartphones sold, attributable to an increase in the sales volume of 4G LTE devices, partially offset by a decrease in the sales volume of basic phones. In addition, regulatory fees increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011, and were offset by related expenses.

Operating Expenses

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended			
	2012	March 31, 2011	Increase/(Decrease)	
Cost of services and sales	\$ 5,910	\$ 5,880	\$ 30	0.5%
Selling, general and administrative expense	5,228	4,751	477	10.0
Depreciation and amortization expense	1,918	1,899	19	1.0
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 13,056	\$ 12,530	\$ 526	4.2

Cost of Services and Sales

Cost of services and sales increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to a \$0.2 billion increase in cost of equipment sales, which was driven by an increase in the sales volume of higher cost smartphones and other data-capable devices, partially offset by a decline in the sales volume of basic phones. Partially offsetting the increase in the cost of equipment sales was a decrease in costs for data services and applications, primarily *VZ Mail*.

Selling, General and Administrative Expense

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Selling, general and administrative expense increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily due to higher sales commission expense in our indirect channel as well as costs associated with regulatory fees. Indirect sales commission expense increased \$0.3 billion during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 as a result of increases in the average commission per unit, as the mix of units continues to shift toward data devices and more customers activate data services, and increased contract renewals in connection with equipment upgrades.

Table of Contents*Depreciation and Amortization Expense*

Depreciation and amortization expense increased during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 primarily driven by growth in depreciable assets, partially offset by changes in the estimated useful lives of certain asset classes.

Segment Operating Income and EBITDA

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended			
	2012	March 31, 2011	Increase/(Decrease)	
Segment Operating Income	\$ 5,217	\$ 4,351	\$ 866	19.9%
Add Depreciation and amortization expense	1,918	1,899	19	1.0
Segment EBITDA	\$ 7,135	\$ 6,250	\$ 885	14.2
Segment operating income margin	28.6%	25.8%		
Segment EBITDA service margin	46.3%	43.7%		

The changes in the table above during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the similar period in 2011 were primarily a result of the factors described in connection with operating revenues and operating expenses above.

Wireline

The Wireline segment provides customers with voice service including long distance, broadband video and data, IP network services, network access and other services. We provide these products and services to consumer and small businesses in the United States, as well as to businesses and government customers and carriers both in the United States and in over 150 other countries around the world.

Operating Revenues and Selected Operating Statistics

(dollars in millions)	Three Months Ended			
	2012	March 31, 2011	Increase/(Decrease)	
Consumer retail	\$ 3,441	\$ 3,383	\$ 58	1.7%
Small business	662	695	(33)	(4.7)
Mass Markets	4,103	4,078	25	0.6
Strategic services	1,969			