

# The strength of Bank of America

## Bank of America Corporation's financial power

- In the third quarter of 2012, Bank of America Corporation reported net income of \$340 million, or \$0.00 per diluted share, compared with net income of \$6.2 billion for the same period a year ago and net income of \$2.5 billion in the second quarter of 2012.
- The results for the third quarter of 2012 were negatively impacted by \$1.9 billion of accounting adjustments related to improvements in the company's credit spreads; \$1.6 billion for total litigation expenses, including a charge for the previously announced settlement of the Merrill Lynch class action litigation; and a charge of \$0.8 billion related to the repricing of certain deferred tax assets due to a reduction in the U.K. corporate tax rate. Together, these three items totaled a negative \$0.28 per share.
- The year-ago quarter included \$6.2 billion in positive credit valuation adjustments, \$0.6 billion in total litigation expenses and \$0.8 billion related to the repricing of certain deferred tax assets due to a reduction in the U.K. corporate tax rate. Together, these three items totaled a positive \$0.27 per share in the third quarter of 2011. In addition, the year-ago quarter included, among other significant items, a \$3.6 billion pretax gain on the sale of a portion of the company's investment in China Construction Bank (CCB), partially offset by \$2.2 billion of net losses related to equity and strategic investments other than CCB.
- The results this quarter demonstrate that we are doing more business with our customers and clients: Deposits are up; mortgage originations are up; we surpassed 11 million in mobile customers; small business lending is up 27% year over year; loans to our commercial clients rose for the seventh consecutive quarter; and we maintained our position as the second-ranked global investment banking firm. In addition, the company continued to increase the number of Financial Advisors, mortgage loan officers and small business bankers.
- Liquidity remains strong. One measure of liquidity is what is called "time to required funding" – which refers to the number of months Bank of America Corporation, the parent company, can meet its unsecured contractual obligations as they come due, using only its global excess liquidity sources and without issuing any new debt or accessing additional liquidity sources. Its time to required funding, as of the end of the third quarter of 2012, was 35 months.
- The company is focused on building capital and liquidity mainly through retained earnings and implementing other capital-related initiatives, including focusing on the reduction of higher risk-weighted assets. At the end of the third quarter of 2012, Bank of America had Tier 1 common capital of \$136 billion under Basel I, more than any other major U.S. bank, and a record Tier 1 common capital ratio of 11.41%, the second highest of the largest U.S. money center banks.

## A market-leading position

- As one of the world's largest financial institutions, we serve approximately 55 million consumers, clients and small businesses around the world, doing business with one out of every two households in the U.S. We have approximately 5,500 banking centers and approximately 16,300 ATMs.

## Supporting customers and clients

- We continued to support the economic recovery in the third quarter of 2012 by extending \$117 billion in credit to U.S. consumers, small and medium-sized businesses, and large corporate clients. This included \$73.7 billion in commercial non-real estate loans, \$20.3 billion in residential first mortgages, \$10.6 billion in commercial real estate loans, \$4.5 billion in U.S. consumer and small business credit cards, \$933 million in home equity products and \$6.8 billion in other consumer credit. In addition, we raised \$145 billion in capital on behalf of our clients.

## Credit ratings\*

Entity	FITCH	Moody's	Standard & Poor's
<b>Bank of America Corporation</b>			
Outlook	Stable	Negative	Negative
Long-term senior unsecured	A	Baa2	A-
Short-term	F1	P-2	A-2
Subordinated debt	BBB	Baa3	BBB+
Trust preferred	BB	Ba2	BB+
Preferred stock	BB-	Ba1	BB+
<b>Merrill Lynch &amp; Co., Inc.</b>			
Outlook	Stable	Negative	Negative
Long-term senior unsecured	A	Baa2	A-
Short-term	F1	P-2	A-2
<b>Bank of America, N.A.</b>			
Outlook	Stable	Stable	Negative
Long-term senior unsecured	A	A3	A
Long-term deposit	A+	A3	A
Short-term	F1	P-2	A-1
<b>Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner &amp; Smith Incorporated (MLPF&amp;S)</b>			
Long-term senior unsecured	A	-	A
Short-term	F1	-	A-1
<b>Merrill Lynch International (MLI)</b>			
Long-term senior unsecured	-	-	A
Short-term	-	-	A-1
<b>Merrill Lynch International Bank Ltd.</b>			
Long-term senior unsecured	A	-	-
Short-term	F1	-	-

\*Ratings are as of Sept. 30, 2012. Bank of America is under no obligation to update this information. The ratings agencies regularly evaluate us and certain asset-backed securitizations. As a result, credit ratings and outlooks change from time to time. For the latest credit ratings, you should contact Fitch Ratings, Moody's and Standard & Poor's.

**Merrill Lynch, as part of Bank of America Corporation, has a global reach, a pool of investment insights and a depth of resources that few other financial services companies can match. And Merrill Lynch continues to base its underlying business on an unwavering dedication to helping clients reach their financial goals.**

- Merrill Lynch Global Wealth Management (MLGWM), part of Bank of America Corporation's Global Wealth & Investment Management (GWIM) business, had \$1.8 trillion in client balances as of Sept. 30, 2012,<sup>1</sup> and more than 17,500 Financial Advisors around the world.
- In the third quarter of 2012, GWIM, which includes MLGWM and U.S. Trust, reported net income of \$542 million.

**Your brokerage assets are safe and secure**

Client assets are kept separate and segregated from Bank of America Corporation's proprietary assets in accordance with strict regulatory requirements. In addition to your deposits and brokerage assets being secure, the invested assets you entrust to MLPF&S are protected by a number of safeguards:

- **Securities account protection through the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC).** MLPF&S, as a U.S. broker-dealer, is a member of SIPC, and its accounts are covered by SIPC. SIPC is a federally mandated non-profit corporation that protects investors' securities if a brokerage firm fails. SIPC funds are available to make up for any shortfall in client assets—up to a maximum of \$500,000 per client for securities, inclusive of \$250,000 per client for cash.
- **Private insurance coverage from Lloyd's of London.** MLPF&S has obtained excess-SIPC coverage through a Lloyd's of London syndicate. The policy provides additional protection for shortfalls above the SIPC limits (including up to \$1.9 million for cash), subject to an aggregate loss limit of \$1 billion for all customer claims.
- **Safe securities holding practices.** Client securities are legally the property of clients, are not on MLPF&S's balance sheet and are not exposed to MLPF&S's creditors, or those of Bank of America Corporation.
- **Stringent regulatory compliance systems.** As a registered broker-dealer, MLPF&S is subject to the comprehensive and stringent rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) mandating customer protection, financial responsibility and recordkeeping. MLPF&S protects client securities and cash from any risks involving the non-customer business activities of MLPF&S.
- **One of the strongest client security programs in the world.** MLPF&S regards both the security of your personal and financial information and the protection of your identity as critical priorities. MLPF&S maintains strong security standards, including firewalls, encryption and other technological safeguards, as well as advanced forms of protection regarding client authentication and account access controls.

<sup>1</sup> Source: Bank of America. Merrill Lynch Global Wealth Management (MLGWM) represents multiple business areas within Bank of America's wealth and investment management division, including Merrill Lynch Wealth Management (North America and International), Merrill Lynch Trust Company and Private Banking & Investment Group. As of Sept. 30, 2012, MLGWM entities had approximately \$1.8 trillion in client balances. Client Balances consists of the following assets of clients held in their MLGWM accounts: assets under management (AUM) of MLGWM entities, client brokerage assets, assets in custody of MLGWM entities, loan balances and deposits of MLGWM clients held at Bank of America, N.A., and affiliated banks.

Investing in securities is always subject to market risk. Neither SIPC nor "excess-SIPC" coverage protects you against fluctuations in the market value of securities. Additional information about SIPC protection is available at [www.sipc.org](http://www.sipc.org).

Merrill Lynch offers a full range of brokerage, investment advisory (including financial planning) and other services. There are important differences between brokerage and investment advisory services, including the type of advice and assistance provided, the fees charged, and the rights and obligations of the parties. It is important to understand the differences, particularly when determining which service or services to select.

Merrill Lynch is the marketing name for Merrill Lynch Wealth Management and Merrill Edge, which are made available through MLPF&S.

All data is confirmed as of Sept. 30, 2012.

Bank of America does not undertake any duty to update this information.

Bank of America Corporation ("BAC") is the financial holding company that, through its subsidiaries and affiliated companies, provides banking and nonbanking financial services.

Merrill Lynch Wealth Management makes available products and services offered by Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, a registered broker-dealer and member SIPC, and other subsidiaries of BAC.

Banking products are provided by Bank of America, N.A., and affiliated banks, members FDIC and wholly owned subsidiaries of BAC.

Investment products:

<b>Are Not FDIC Insured</b>	<b>Are Not Bank Guaranteed</b>	<b>May Lose Value</b>
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