



NEDBANK GROUP

A Member of the  OLD MUTUAL Group

'South Africa's banking system has remained resilient. This is reflected in our country's improvement from 15th to 6th place in the latest World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Report ranking on the soundness of banks.

In 2009 capital ratios strengthened further and the liquidity position remained sound. This strength of our balance sheet positions us to capitalise on growth opportunities and to benefit from the expected turnaround in economic conditions.

During the economic downturn we have supported clients by advancing loans within prudent risk appetite parameters and this is reflected in the 8,4% growth of our loan book in the second half of the year. Pleasingly this resulted in modest market share gains. Nedbank Group has adopted a responsible approach to managing its staff complement by relying on natural attrition to achieve efficiencies and has not undertaken any retrenchment programmes. This has ensured stability and continuity in servicing our clients, and contributed to improved staff morale.

Nedbank Group continues to focus on balancing short-term profitability with our overriding goal of long-term sustainability. Our focus extends beyond purely economic and financial considerations, which is reflected in Nedbank Group being at the forefront of environmental sustainability and the first SA corporate to commit itself to becoming carbon-neutral.

Notwithstanding the increase in impairments, we believe that the operating condition of the group has strengthened during the year. The business clusters have performed well under difficult conditions.

Over the past six years the group has transformed into a sustainable business focusing appropriately on all stakeholders. This has allowed us to withstand the challenging economic environment and build our balance sheet strength to take advantage of opportunities when prospects improve. In recent months we've also seen a smooth transition to the new leadership team under Mike Brown. All the executives have significant experience in their areas of specialisation and the team is well-equipped to lead Nedbank Group strongly into the future.'

Tom Boardman
Chief Executive

Mike Brown
Chief Executive Designate

Banking environment

The local banking industry experienced an exceptionally tough and volatile year as a result of the impact of the global recession combined with cyclical credit stress in the domestic economy.

Demand for credit slowed dramatically and retail impairments increased significantly as consumers came under severe pressure from falling income, job losses, declining asset prices and record high debt burdens. By the end of 2009 growth in asset-based finance had slowed to 1,0% year-on-year. Interest rates were reduced by 450 basis points to cushion the effects of a rapidly slowing economy and increasing unemployment.

Corporate demand for credit lost momentum due to weak global and local demand, which eroded corporate profits through weaker pricing power, lower commodity prices and a strong rand. Support came from construction projects and increased government spending, boosted primarily by the public sector's infrastructure drive and preparations for the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

Despite the negative economic trends dominating much of 2009, underlying trading conditions showed early signs of improvement around the third quarter. This was led by a rebound in growth in emerging markets, especially China and India, and was followed by initial indications of recovery in most industrialised countries, chiefly brought about by unprecedented government intervention and massive fiscal and monetary stimulation. Improved commodity prices and global demand brought an element of relief to domestic export manufacturers, lifting South Africa out of 'official' recession in the third quarter. There are early signs that the sharp drop in interest rates is starting to reverse household credit demand as house prices showed modest signs of a slow recovery towards the end of the year.

Key to the outlook for 2010 will be employment growth. After job losses of nearly one million during the downturn, employment showed early signs of stabilising in the fourth quarter of 2009. Job creation in the formal sector is likely to be slow, with an overall 2% employment gain for the year being expected. This will support household income and lead to some improvement in consumer finances and therefore spending. The rebound is likely to be slower than in previous cycles given weak consumer and business confidence and tighter lending criteria.

Review of results

Headline earnings decreased by 25,8% from R5 765 million to R4 277 million. Basic earnings reduced by 24,7% to R4 826 million (2008: R6 410 million).¹

Diluted headline earnings per share (EPS) decreased by 29,8% from 1 401 cents to 983 cents. Diluted EPS declined by 28,8% from 1 558 to 1 109 cents. Results were in line with the guidance given in the third-quarter trading update.¹

The group's return on average ordinary shareholders' equity (ROE), excluding goodwill, decreased from 20,1% to 13,0%. ROE decreased from 17,7% to 11,5% for the year. These declines were driven primarily by increasing retail impairment levels and the negative impact from lower endowment earnings that reduced the return on assets, together with strengthened capital levels as shareholders' equity growth far exceeded growth in total assets.

Nedbank Retail's credit quality deteriorated in 2009, with impairments worsening significantly, although the rate of new defaults slowed in the second half of the year. Business banking and wholesale banking impairments ended the year at better levels than originally anticipated.

The group's funding and liquidity levels have remained sound as a result of ongoing focus on increasing and strengthening liquidity buffers, lengthening the funding profile, maintaining a low reliance on interbank, foreign and capital markets, as well as robust balance sheet management. A strong, broad-based deposit franchise also provides the group with diverse funding sources.

Nedbank Capital

Nedbank Capital performed well in volatile markets and achieved growth in headline earnings of 6,6% to R1 349 million. Return on risk-adjusted capital (ROAC) increased to 45,3% and economic profit (EP) increased by 18,6% to R955 million.

The interest margin benefited from enhanced credit spreads as a result of a focus on EP and debt optimisation that also contributed to non-interest revenue (NIR) growth of 25,4%. This growth in NIR was supported by market volatility, narrowing of credit spreads and increased client flow that lifted trading revenue. Sound investments in the private equity portfolio, together with investment banking fee income, accounted for the remainder of the growth. Adverse markets were mitigated by active risk management, which resulted in a credit loss ratio of 26 basis points.

Treasury experienced exceptionally strong growth and capitalised well on the reduction in interest rates. Despite delays and cancellations of client projects, numerous new opportunities were originated, enabling Investment Banking to achieve good growth. Global Markets continued to develop the client franchise and generate income within acceptable risk parameters.

Ongoing investment in people, risk processes and systems has allowed management to focus on steadily growing diversified earnings streams within a prudent risk appetite.

The cluster increased its visibility winning a number of key industry awards including Deal of the Year (*African Banker*) for the Bakwena deal and ICT/ Telecoms Deal of the Year (*Africa Investor*) for the Neotel deal.

Nedbank Corporate

Nedbank Corporate's headline earnings decreased by 1,9% to R1 534 million and a ROAC of 29,1% was achieved. EP grew by 11,6% to R836 million, driven by optimising and reducing capital. Core banking headline earnings, excluding property investing activities, increased by 7,8% and, after aligning for the allocated economic capital change to reflect like-on-like core earnings, increased by 16,2%.

The cluster implemented its selective growth strategies, focusing on high-economic-profit business, and prudently managing related risks. Impairments were well-managed with Corporate Banking and Nedbank Africa holding up well, while Property Finance saw an increase to more normalised levels from the low charge in 2008. Total expense growth was successfully managed within economic growth levels.

Net interest income (NII) and NIR on the core banking business grew 9,2% and 18,5% respectively. This growth was driven by improved credit margins, maintaining the quality of the book, modest volume increases in transactional banking products and gains in primary banking clients in both the public and private sectors. Property Finance had a 22,6% contraction in NIR, impacted by declining property valuations in the unlisted property investment portfolio. Average advances increased by 15,2%, with growth from all key businesses.

The credit loss ratio of 0,24% remained at the low end of the expected through-the-cycle range.

Corporate Banking had an excellent year with headline earnings up 25,3%, resulting from strong average asset growth, increased credit margins and good NIR growth across all sectors, supported by a number of primary-client gains. Property Finance earnings declined 31,5% from the normalisation of its impairment charge, lower utilisation of capital and reduced property investment profits, which although lower than in 2008 exceeded expectations in the subdued market conditions.

Nedbank Africa increased headline earnings by 24,5%, with solid performances from all the underlying businesses.

The group continues to make good progress with its alliance with the Pan-African banking group Ecobank. During the year the group launched various banking initiatives aimed at providing clients with a seamless one-bank experience. This included the implementation of systems to enable the opening of accounts across the 33-country footprint as well as the ability to access both Ecobank and Nedbank accounts through a single view. Local-knowledge centres were established in major country hubs in East, West, Central and South Africa to provide local information on selected sectors and countries to support clients in growing and expanding their businesses across the African continent.

The year ahead is expected to hold better prospects. However, the property market will remain subdued and the public sector infrastructure investment programme is likely to proceed at a slower pace post the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

Overall, Nedbank Corporate remains well-placed to grow and optimise business opportunities by leveraging its strong and valued client base and providing innovative solutions through skilled teams.

Nedbank Business Banking

Nedbank Business Banking remained highly profitable through a very challenging economic climate, generating a ROAC of 31,4% (2008: 31,5%) and EP of R610 million (2008: R762 million). The cluster produced headline earnings of R1 055 million, down 22,4% as a result of lower endowment income, a slowdown in client business activity and a reduction in advances to clients with single lending products as the cluster focused on supporting its core transactional clients.

Business Banking successfully implemented a capital optimisation programme, which resulted in a capital reduction from R4,3 billion to R3,4 billion. The cluster maintained its focus on quality asset growth from its primary-client base, while proactively risk managing or reducing exposure to

high-risk industries and clients, in particular those with only a single Nedbank lending product, resulting in a modest reduction in client assets of 2,9%.

Proactive risk management practices and the decentralised, accountable business model are fundamental to the way Business Banking operates and ensured that impairments were well-managed. The credit loss ratio of 0,52% (2008: 0,59%) remained within its through-the-cycle range and benefited from portfolio impairment releases of R162 million arising from converting benchmark data to actual loss data.

Despite the overall impact of lower client activity, Business Banking was able to strengthen its business franchise further by:

- improving credit margins on new assets in line with risk-based pricing principles;
- reducing fee leakage through automation of discretionary fee collection;
- prioritising primary-banked client acquisition to drive NIR and deposit growth;
- refining the decentralised business model to differentiate service levels based on client needs/volumes; and
- managing costs effectively while investing in key innovation for the benefit of our people and our clients.

Nedbank Retail

Nedbank Retail had a difficult year and reported a headline loss of R156 million (2008: R1 002 million profit) and an economic loss of R1 448 million for the period (2008: R291 million economic loss). These numbers include Nedbank Bancassurance and Wealth. The tough economic conditions experienced throughout 2009 and high levels of consumer indifference tested the effectiveness of lending decisions and risk-based pricing and collection strategies implemented prior to the cycle turning and the results reflect the consequences of these practices, especially in the Home Loans business.

NII was 6,4% lower, primarily as a result of reduced endowment income on capital and non-rate-sensitive deposits, as well as the higher cost of funding.

Impairments increased by 35,7% to R4 925 million, with the credit loss ratio increasing to 3,08% (2008: 2,47%), driven mainly by Home Loans where the defaulted advances increased by 58,5% on 2008. The slower property market and debt counselling processes make it more difficult to cure clients in default. It is therefore taking longer than initially anticipated to rehabilitate clients, notwithstanding the cashflow relief from interest rate reductions.

In response to the challenges experienced in Home Loans a number of steps were taken to improve collection efficiencies, differentiate sales in execution based on value and ease of saleability, and improve the economic profitability of new business written. Greater emphasis was placed on pricing for risk, tightening the loan-to-value (LTV) ratios (which resulted in the weighted average LTV on new business dropping from an average of 82,93% to 79,52% during the year), supporting our existing clients, increasing client rates to reflect higher funding costs and reducing fees paid to originators. Asset margins on new business have widened and the underlying risk quality has improved; however, this will take some time to be evidenced in the margin and advances risk profile, given the low volumes of new business currently being written.

Expense growth has been well-controlled at 9,9% through curtailment of headcount growth in backoffice and support areas. The higher efficiency ratio of 64,9% (2008: 61,1%) arose mainly as a result of lower endowment earnings.

The accountabilitys of the Retail executive team were reviewed to improve the effectiveness and focus on people, clients and strategic risk management. Five new members were appointed and the transformation profile of the team was maintained.

More recently the emphasis has been on understanding the current business challenges, ensuring risk exposures are adequately provided for and transitioning Retail into a more client-centred and integrated business focused primarily on growing our primary-client relationships in a holistic way. Key levers include NIR growth, branding, distribution, capital optimisation, managing for value, effective risk management and the Imperial Bank integration, underpinned by the culture of disciplined execution and differentiated client service.

The inherent strengths, opportunities and differentiators of Retail are being evaluated in relation to client segments and their EP potential in order to reshape Retail's strategy towards delivering sustainable EP through the cycle.

Nedbank Bancassurance and Wealth

Nedbank Group acquired the remaining shares previously held in joint ventures with Old Mutual in BoE Private Clients, Nedgroup Life Assurance Company and Fairbairn Private Bank with effect from 1 June 2009 for an amount of R12 billion settled by way of an issue of Nedbank Group Shares. Given its strategic importance in the drive to increase NIR, Nedbank Bancassurance and Wealth has been constituted as a new cluster and will be reported on separately from 2010.

The Asset Management Division increased assets by 12,3% to R93,6 billion. While international assets under management declined, the domestic asset management business had strong net inflows of R7,2 billion on the back of good fund performance. Nedgroup Investments was recently awarded third place in the Domestic Management Company of the Year Awards, and received two Raging Bull Awards for individual funds.

The Bancassurance Division had a very successful year, despite higher lapses and claims. The short-term insurance gross written premiums totalled R669 million, up 14,5% on 2008. The life assurance business achieved excellent results, with annual premium equivalent growth of 30,0% and value of new-business growth of 54,0%.

The Wealth Management Division was impacted by increased impairments, particularly in BoE Private Clients where the credit loss ratio deteriorated to 0,81% from 0,34% in 2008. In addition, the UK environment of record low interest rates resulted in a reduction of NII in Fairbairn Private Bank from £14 million in 2008 to £7,7 million in 2009. Advice-based sales through Nedbank Financial Planning increased 35,7% year-on-year, mainly into the low-risk and money market funds. BoE Private Clients was rated No1 in Service and Advice in an independent survey by SMC Marketing Solutions (Pty) Limited and Fairbairn Private Bank was voted Best International Wealth Manager 2009.

Bancassurance and Wealth is a key focus area in the strategy of driving growth in NIR for the group. Growth opportunities remain positive as a result of the potential to increase penetration of life and short-term products, the refocusing of the Asset Management Division and alignment to a single high-net-worth strategy and business in Wealth Management.

Imperial Bank

Imperial Bank's headline earnings increased by 19,3% to R430,8 million (2008: R361,2 million) as a result of better trading conditions mainly in the second half of 2009. Nedbank Group's share of these earnings increased from R166 million to R201 million. Return on equity of 13,2% and the efficiency ratio of 28,0% were similar to those in the previous year. Loans and advances grew 12,8% to R50,4 billion (2008: R44,7 billion) as Imperial Bank continued to attract good-quality new business. The credit loss ratio of 1,97% (2008: 1,71%) is expected to decrease as recoveries and accounts in arrears continue to improve.

Motor Finance Corporation (MFC) performed well, driven by a continued demand in the used-car market. Appropriate levels of pricing were achieved while maintaining strong risk controls and a lean operating environment. Impairments improved during the second half of the year and this is reflected in a lower credit loss ratio of 2,58% (H1 2009: 3,29% and 2008: 2,47%).

Trading conditions are expected to improve into 2010. However, the economic recovery is fragile and there is continued uncertainty, which could negatively impact on the business and particularly the corporate and commercial businesses.

On 16 September 2009 the group announced that it had entered into a binding agreement to acquire the remaining 49,9% share in Imperial Bank from Imperial Holdings for a purchase consideration of approximately R1 775 million. This is to be settled in cash. During February 2010 final regulatory approvals were received and Nedbank Limited acquired 100% of the ordinary and preference shares in Imperial Bank.

In parallel with this process the section 54 application is being prepared and will be submitted to the Regulator and Minister of Finance to request approval to merge Nedbank Limited and Imperial Bank. This process is anticipated to take at least six months. In the interim Imperial Bank will retain its banking licence and continue operating as a separate bank. There will be no retrenchments from the integration during 2010.

This acquisition allows for greater flexibility to leverage opportunities between Nedbank Limited and Imperial Bank. It will establish Nedbank Limited as the second largest vehicle financier, with an estimated 30% share of the retail vehicle market, and third largest bank by assets in South Africa, allowing for synergies with increased economies of scale. The MFC brand will be retained in the dealer channel.

Since the initial announcements the group has invested significantly in the planning of the integration to ensure a smooth transition in line with our values and guided by legislation and fair employment practices.

Statement of comprehensive income

NII

NII grew 0,8% to R16 306 million.¹

Following a 450 basis point interest rate cut during 2009 and the resulting effect of lower endowment income, the group's net interest margin decreased in line with expectations to 3,39% from 3,66% in 2008.¹ The primary drivers of margin compression were:

- liability margin compression reflecting the higher cost of term funding;
- lower endowment on capital and non-repurchasing of transactional deposit accounts that are not rate-sensitive; and
- quicker downward repricing of interest-earning assets compared with interest-earning liabilities.

These were partially offset by the repricing of asset margins in line with the group's risk-based pricing policies.

Impairments charge on loans and advances

The credit loss ratio of 1,47% for 2009 (2008: 1,17%) showed signs of improvement after having peaked at 1,67% at 31 March 2009.¹

The credit cycle has to date largely impacted consumers and the smaller businesses, as reflected in the continued deterioration of retail credit loss ratios. High levels of unemployment, lower collateral values due to weak housing and vehicle markets, and delays in recoveries resulting from debt counselling have all played a part in the increase in defaulted advances in retail secured loans.

Wholesale banking credit loss ratios have improved since June 2009 and remained better than anticipated for this part of the economic cycle. On the whole credit quality in the Capital, Corporate and Business Banking books has remained within acceptable levels, although in this volatile economic environment the risk of corporate default remains high.

Credit loss ratio (%)	2009	2008
Nedbank Capital	0,26	0,06
Nedbank Corporate	0,24	0,12
Nedbank Business Banking	0,52	0,59
Nedbank Retail	3,08	2,47
Imperial Bank	1,97	1,71
Nedbank Group	1,47	1,17

Defaulted advances increased by 56,3% from R1 301 million to R27 045 million and represent 5,9% of total advances. Total impairment provisions increased by 24,7% from R7 859 million to R9 798 million. Although early arrears have improved for the last seven consecutive months of the year, defaulted advances have continued increasing, albeit at a slower rate.

NIR

NIR, including the consolidation of the Bancassurance and Wealth joint ventures, grew by 11,0% to R11 906 million (2008: R10 729 million).¹ Like-for-like NIR increased by 6,1%, driven by good growth in commission and fee income and trading income offset to an extent by fair-value gains, which dropped from R368 million in 2008 to R44 million. The drop in fair-value gains is mainly the result of the group reporting, in 2008, fair-value gains of R207 million from the mark-to-market of its own debt, which we mentioned were unlikely to be repeated and were highlighted as poor-quality income that was not attributed to capital. In 2009 fair-value gains on the group's debt amounted to R6 million.

Commission and fee income was 12,4% higher, largely from volume growth in retail transactional banking and increases in fees charged across the bank.

Trading income increased by 18,6% from R1 553 million in 2008 to R1 841 million in 2009, reflecting robust trading activity in treasury, investment banking and the global market businesses.

Private equity income remained broadly flat for the year. However, underlying contributions were mixed with the recovery in the Nedbank Capital private equity portfolio being offset by the Nedbank Corporate property private equity portfolio having a lower unrealised gain.

NIR from private equity (Rm)	2009	2008
Nedbank Capital private equity	269	127
Nedbank Corporate property private equity	35	176
Total NIR from private equity	304	303

Bancassurance and Wealth NIR increased by 61,7% to R1 518 million for the year, driven primarily from the consolidation of the joint ventures for seven months and with good performances from the asset management, financial planning and life insurance businesses. On a like-for-like basis NIR for Bancassurance and Wealth increased by 4,7%, with good growth in the SA businesses, but pressure on NIR in the international businesses due to the challenging economic environment.

Expenses¹

Nedbank Group continued to maintain tight control on discretionary spending while investing in strategic areas of the business. Expenses increased by 9,9% to R15 100 million (2008: R13 741 million). This increase was impacted by the inclusion of the abovementioned joint-venture acquisitions from 1 June 2009. Staff headcount and temporary staff decreased by 1,9% and 12,3%, respectively.

On a like-for-like basis, excluding the joint-venture acquisitions, expenses increased by 7,7%.

Staff expenses grew by 10,3%, driven by an average salary increase of 10,2% in April 2009 (with lower-paid staff receiving slightly more) and as a result of the inclusion of the abovementioned joint-venture acquisitions from 1 June 2009. Staff headcount and temporary staff decreased by 1,9% and 12,3%, respectively.

- Marketing costs were restricted to an increase of 1,4%.
 - Information technology costs increased by 8,3% and related mainly to project-based software development and processing costs.
 - Occupation and accommodation costs increased by 12,5% as a result of branch and office rent increases, renovations, lease cancellation costs and office relocations.
 - Other expenses, which include the black economic empowerment (BEE) share-based payments charge, decreased from R194 million to R126 million.
- Associate and joint venture income¹
- Associate income decreased to R55 million in 2009 (2008: R154 million) as a result of the BoE Private Clients and Nedgroup Life Assurance Company (NedLife) joint-venture acquisitions that were previously accounted for as joint ventures under the equity method.
- Taxation¹
- The taxation charges (excluding taxation on non-trading and capital items) decreased by 29,9% from R1 757 million in 2008 to R1 232 million. The effective tax rate decreased from 21,6% in 2008 to 20,2% as a result of:
- a reduced secondary tax on companies (STC) charge due to lower dividend declarations in 2009 compared with 2008 and, additionally, the interim dividend in 2008 being a full cash dividend with no scrip offer; and
 - the release of tax risk provisions no longer required at December 2009.

Non-trading and capital items¹

Income after taxation from non-trading and capital items decreased to R549 million for the year (2008: R645 million). The main contribution in 2009 came from the accounting reallocation of the Bancassurance and Wealth joint ventures immediately prior to their acquisition, while in the previous year the main contributor was R622 million after-tax profit from the sale of Visa shares.

Statement of financial position

Total assets

Total assets increased by 0,6% to R571 billion (2008: R567 billion). During the year:

- cash and securities declined by 8,2% mainly from the maturing of R10 billion of additional liquidity assets. This was offset by the purchase of replacement government bonds of R4 billion to hedge long-term debt instruments; and
 - the group showed lower trading and derivative balances mainly arising from foreign exchange movements.
- This was balanced by:
- growth in intangible assets related to the Bancassurance and Wealth joint-venture acquisitions;
 - growth in investments from the first-time consolidation of NedLife; and
 - an increase in advances.

Advances

Advances increased by 3,7% to R450 billion, reflecting:

- ongoing growth in Nedbank Capital and Imperial Bank;
- slower growth in Nedbank Corporate and Nedbank Retail; and
- reduced advances in Nedbank Business Banking due to a slowdown in client demand for credit and a reduction of single-product loans in line with the drive to reduce higher risk exposures and focus on primary clients.

Growth in advances took place across a number of categories, including personal loans, mortgage loans, preference shares, deposits placed under reverse repurchase agreements and other loans, offset by a decrease in low-margin overnight loans. Overall market share increased by 1,4%.

The group has focused on managing for value and selective asset growth while improving margins, resulting in bank advances growth and lower levels of advances in the trading portfolio. Details of advances growth by division are as follows:

Advances (Rm)	2009	2008	Change (%)
Nedbank Capital	55 315	47 686	16,0
Nedbank Corporate	137 173	136 222	0,7
Nedbank Business Banking	50 115	55 321	(9,4)
Nedbank Retail	157 500	150 107	4,9
Imperial Bank	50 451	44 734	12,8
Other	(253)	163	(>100,0)
Total	450 301	434 233	3,7

Deposits¹

The group retained a strong ratio of advances to deposits of 96%. It grew deposits in line with its requirement to fund the growth in balance sheet assets, with deposits increasing by 0,5% to R469,4 billion (2008: R465,9 billion). In the retail deposit market current and savings account balances remain at low levels as consumers reduce debt levels. In the wholesale deposit market current and savings accounts as well as fixed deposits have increased, partially offset by a reduction in other term deposits.

Optimising and diversifying the funding mix and lengthening the profile continued to be a key management focus. Despite intense competition in the local deposit market, the group has maintained its strong deposit franchise and continues to hold the second largest share of household deposits at 24,2%. During the year a number of innovative retail deposit products were successfully introduced, including Nedbank's Equity-linked Deposit, EasyAccess Deposit and Platinum Park-It.

Capital

Nedbank Group remains focused on optimising and strengthening its capital ratios. During 2009 these ratios have increased significantly and continue to be maintained above the group's target ratios. The group holds a surplus of R13,5 billion above its minimum total regulatory capital adequacy requirements.

Capital adequacy	2009 ratio	2008 ratio	Target range	Regulatory minimum
Core Tier 1 ratio	9,9%	8,2%	7,5% to 9,0%	5,25%
Tier 1 ratio	11,5%	9,6%	8,5% to 10,0%	7,00%
Total capital ratio	14,9%	12,4%	11,5% to 13,0%	9,75%

¹ Capital adequacy ratios include unappropriated profit at the year-end.

Regulatory capital adequacy ratios increased mainly due to the retention of earnings and a key focus on the optimisation of capital and risk-weighted assets, enabled by enhancing data quality and more selective asset growth using our EP-based 'managing for value' philosophy. This resulted in risk-weighted assets decreasing by 8,1%, which is well below overall balance sheet growth of 0,6%. The group was also able to maintain its dividend cover at 2,309 times while increasing capital.

To increase conservatism the group increased its target debt rating (solvency standard) from A- to A for internal economic capital requirements in line with the higher target ratios for regulatory capital announced early in 2009. A more conservative definition of available financial resources to cover the economic capital requirements was also introduced.

The group currently holds a surplus of R11,8 billion against its economic capital requirements. This is calibrated to the new A debt rating including a 10% buffer, which is assessed against comprehensive stress and scenario testing.

The group's leverage ratio (total assets to ordinary shareholders equity) at 14,4 times (2008: 16,2 times) is conservative by international standards and in line with the local peer group.

In response to the global financial crisis the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision has released far-reaching new requirements and proposals under the capital, liquidity, risk management and accounting provisioning aimed at creating a more resilient global banking sector. Currently these have a targeted implementation date of the end of 2012. The impact on capital is, at this early stage, anticipated to be moderate for the major SA banks, but remains subject to a comprehensive quantitative impact study in the first half of 2010 and finalisation of the proposals by the end of 2010. The impact of the liquidity proposals would be significant on SA banks if implemented as is, but we anticipate modifications and changes appropriate for South Africa. No liquidity issues were experienced in South Africa during the global financial crisis.

Funding and liquidity

The group's liquidity position remains sound, with a loan-to-deposit ratio of 95,9%. Management continues to focus on diversifying the funding base, lengthening the funding profile and further strengthening and increasing the liquidity buffers.

In addition to the strong deposit franchise across Nedbank Retail, Nedbank Business Banking and Nedbank Corporate providing a diverse funding mix, the group successfully increased the size of its liquidity buffer in 2009 and lengthened the overall funding profile in order to achieve improved asset-liability matching. Increased focus on capital market issuance under the domestic medium-term note programme, the introduction of innovative fixed-deposit products for retail clients and a broader offering of money market products were the primary drivers behind the lengthening of the funding profile.

During the year the following programmes were undertaken to diversify the funding base and lengthen the bank's existing funding profile:

- the issuing of R5,6 billion of senior unsecured debt, which was five times oversubscribed;¹
- the raising of R153 million in perpetual preference shares;¹
- obtaining a \$100 million credit line from a foreign development bank; and¹
- focusing on the retail deposit base through innovative products.¹

Nedbank Group maintains a low reliance on interbank, capital market and foreign funding. The group's small proportion of foreign funding at just over 1,0% is driven by the group's regional focus where 91,4% of the group's asset base is in South Africa. Low historic reliance in the abovementioned markets creates diversification opportunities subject to pricing.

Nedbank Group continues to adopt a strategy of applying best international practice, with the Basel principles on sound liquidity management having been further embedded during this financial period.

Transformation

Transformation remains a key strategic differentiator and the group continues to

AUDITED SUMMARISED FINANCIAL RESULTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

These results and additional information are available at www.nedbankgroup.co.za.

Capital position strengthened
(total ratio up from 12,4% to 14,9%)

Diluted headline earnings per share down 29,8% to 983 cents

Improving credit loss ratio (H1: 1,57% to H2: 1,41%)

Net asset value per share increased 6,8% to 9 100 cents

Final dividend per share of 230 cents

Significant progress on transformation – level-two BBEE

Financial highlights

at 31 December	2009	2008
Statistics		
Number of shares listed	m 498,7	468,9
Number of shares in issue, excluding shares held by group entities	m 435,7	409,7
Weighted average number of shares	m 423,4	405,4
Diluted weighted average number of shares	m 435,1	411,5
Headline earnings per share	cents 1 010	1 422
Diluted headline earnings per share	cents 983	1 401
Ordinary dividends declared per share	cents 440	620
– Interim	cents 210	310
– Final	cents 230	310
Ordinary dividends paid per share	cents 520	660
Dividend cover	times 2,30	2,29
Net asset value per share	cents 9 100	8 522
Tangible net asset value per share	cents 7 398	7 179
Closing share price	cents 12 405	9 550
Price/earnings ratio	historical 12	7
Market capitalisation	Rbn 61,9	44,8
Number of employees	27 037	27 570
Key ratios (%)		
Return on ordinary shareholders' equity (ROE)	11,5	17,7
ROE, excluding goodwill	13,0	20,1
Return on total assets (ROA)	0,75	1,09
Net interest income to average interest-earning banking assets	3,39	3,66
Non-interest revenue to total income	42,2	39,9
Credit loss ratio	1,47	1,17
Non-interest revenue to total operating expenses	78,8	78,1
Efficiency ratio	53,5	51,1
Effective taxation rate	20,2	21,6
Group capital adequacy ratios: Basel II (including unappropriated profits)		
– Core Tier I	9,9	8,2
– Tier 1	11,5	9,6
– Total	14,9	12,4
Statement of financial position statistics (Rm)		
Total equity attributable to equity holders of the parent	39 649	34 913
Total equity	44 984	40 073
Amounts owed to depositors	469 355	466 890
Loans and advances	450 301	434 233
– Gross	460 099	442 092
– Impairment of loans and advances	(9 798)	(7 859)
Total assets	570 703	567 023

Consolidated statement of comprehensive income

for the year ended 31 December	2009	2008
Rm		
Interest and similar income	50 537	57 986
Interest expense and similar charges	34 231	41 816
Net interest income	16 306	16 170
Impairments charge on loans and advances	6 634	4 822
Income from lending activities	9 672	11 348
Non-interest revenue	11 906	10 729
Operating income	21 578	22 077
Total operating expenses	15 100	13 741
– Operating expenses	14 974	13 547
– BEE transaction expenses	126	194
Indirect taxation	438	374
Profit from operations before non-trading and capital items	6 040	7 962
Non-trading and capital items	624	756
– Net profit on sale of subsidiaries, investments, and property and equipment	635	767
– Net impairment of investments, property and equipment, and capitalised development costs	(11)	(11)
Profit from operations	6 664	8 718
Share of profits of associates and joint ventures	55	154
Profit before direct taxation	6 719	8 872
Total direct taxation	1 307	1 868
– Direct taxation	1 232	1 757
– Taxation on non-trading and capital items	75	111
Profit for the year	5 412	7 004
Other comprehensive (expense)/income net of taxation	(228)	255
– Exchange differences on translating foreign operations	(335)	242
– Fair-value adjustments on available-for-sale assets	21	(71)
– Gains on property revaluations	86	84
Total comprehensive income for the year	5 184	7 259
Profit attributable to:		
Equity holders of the parent	4 826	6 410
Non-controlling interest – ordinary shareholders	242	257
– preference shareholders	344	337
Profit for the year	5 412	7 004
Total comprehensive income attributable to:		
Equity holders of the parent	4 603	6 665
Non-controlling interest – ordinary shareholders	237	257
– preference shareholders	344	337
Total comprehensive income for the year	5 184	7 259
Basic earnings per share	cents 1 140	1 581
Diluted earnings per share	cents 1 109	1 558

Headline earnings reconciliation

for the year ended 31 December	2009	2008
Rm	Gross	Net of taxation
Profit attributable to equity holders of the parent	4 826	6 410
Less: Non-trading and capital items	624	756
– Net profit on sale of subsidiaries, investments, and property and equipment	635	767
– Net impairment of investments, property and equipment, and capitalised development costs	(11)	(11)
Headline earnings	4 277	5 765

Condensed consolidated statement of cashflows

for the year ended 31 December	2009	2008
Rm		
Cash generated by operations	14 915	14 557
Change in funds for operating activities	(14 603)	(10 674)
Net cash from operating activities before taxation	312	3 883
Taxation paid	(2 318)	(2 233)
Cashflows (utilised by)/from operating activities	(2 006)	1 650
Cashflows utilised by investing activities	(3 171)	(999)
Cashflows from/(utilised by) financing activities	4 878	(685)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(299)	(34)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year*	18 674	18 708
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year*	18 375	18 674

* Including mandatory reserve deposits with central banks.

Condensed segmental reporting

for the year ended 31 December	Total assets		Operating income		Headline earnings	
Rm	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008
Nedbank Corporate	148 606	148 506	4 129	3 985	1 534	1 564
Business Banking	79 386	79 646	3 637	4 020	1 055	1 360
Nedbank Capital	196 560	188 706	3 205	2 684	1 349	1 266
Nedbank Retail	177 857	170 963	8 585	9 413	(156)	1 002
Imperial Bank	55 660	48 768	1 275	1 120	201	166
Shared Services	7 431	6 373	195	2	133	(32)
Central Management	34 487	36 639	629	929	161	439
Eliminations	(129 284)	(112 578)	(77)	(76)		
Total	570 703	567 023	21 578	22 077	4 277	5 765

Consolidated statement of financial position

at 31 December	2009	2008
Rm		
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	7 867	8 609
Other short-term securities	18 550	18 589
Derivative financial instruments	12 710	22 321
Government and other securities	35 983	42 138
Loans and advances	450 301	434 233
Other assets	5 455	6 084
Clients' indebtedness for acceptances	2 031	3 024
Current taxation receivable	602	346
Investment securities	11 025	8 455
Non-current assets held for sale	12	10
Investments in associate companies and joint ventures	924	1 167
Deferred taxation asset	282	200
Investment property	211	213
Property and equipment	4 967	4 327
Long-term employee benefit assets	1 860	1 741
Mandatory reserve deposits with central banks	10 508	10 065
Intangible assets	7 415	5 501
Total assets	570 703	567 023
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Ordinary share capital	436	410
Ordinary share premium	13 728	11 370
Reserves	25 485	23 133
Total equity attributable to equity holders of the parent	39 649	34 913
Non-controlling interest attributable to		
– ordinary shareholders	1 849	1 881
– preference shareholders	3 486	3 279
Total equity	44 984	40 073
Derivative financial instruments	11 551	23 737
Amounts owed to depositors	469 355	466 890
Provisions and other liabilities	11 252	9 829
Liabilities under acceptances	2 031	3 024
Current taxation liabilities	315	235
Deferred taxation liabilities	1 945	2 100
Long-term employee benefit liabilities	1 304	1 231
Investment contract liabilities	6 749	5 843
Insurance contract liabilities	1 133	
Long-term debt instruments	20 084	14 061
Total liabilities	525 719	526 950
Total equity and liabilities	570 703	567 023
Guarantees on behalf of clients	28 161	25 226

Condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity

	Total equity attributable to equity holders of the parent	Non-controlling interest attributable to ordinary shareholders	Non-controlling interest attributable to preference shareholders	Total equity
Rm				
Balance at 31 December 2007	30 193	1 511	3 421	35 125
Ordinary non-controlling shareholders' share of preference dividends paid		(4)	4	–
Dividends to shareholders	(2 736)	(81)	(341)	(3 158)
Issues of shares net of expenses	997	225		1 222
Shares issued/delisted by BEE trusts	318			318
Shares acquired/cancelled by BEE trusts	(658)			(658)
Total income and expense for the year	6 799	230	195	7 224
Total comprehensive income for the year	6 665	257	337	7 259
Net income/(expense) recognised directly in equity	134	(27)	(142)	(35)
Release of reserves previously not available	(61)			(61)
Share-based payment reserve movement	188			188
Regulatory risk reserve provision	7			7
Disposal of subsidiaries		(29)		(29)
Preference shares held by group entities			(142)	(142)
Other movements		2		2
Balance at 31 December 2008	34 913	1 881	3 279	40 073
Ordinary non-controlling shareholders' share of preference dividends paid		(9)	9	–
Dividends to shareholders	(2 253)	(5)	(353)	(2 611)
Issues of shares net of expenses	2 664		361	3 025
Shares issued/delisted by BEE trusts	296			296
Shares acquired/cancelled by group entities and BEE trusts	(576)			(576)
Total income and expense for the year	4 605	(18)	190	4 777
Total comprehensive income for the year	4 603	237	344	5 184
Net income/(expense) recognised directly in equity	2	(255)	(154)	(407)
Share-based payment reserve movement	28			28
Buyout of non-controlling interests	(17)	(281)		(298)
Regulatory risk reserve provision	(4)			(4)
Acquisition of subsidiaries		26		26
Preference shares acquired by group entities			(154)	(154)
Other movements	(5)			(5)
Balance at 31 December 2009	39 649	1 849	3 486	44 984

Condensed geographical segmental reporting

for the year ended 31 December	Operating income		Headline earnings	
Rm	2009	2008	2009	2008
South Africa	19 867	20 504	3 800	5 408
– Business operations	19 867	20 504	4 260	5 932
– BEE transaction expenses			(116)	(187)
– Non-controlling interest – preference shareholders			(344)	(337)
Rest of Africa	860	764	213	182
Rest of world – business operations	851	809	264	175
Total	21 578	22 077	4 277	5 765

Directors:
Dr RJ Khoza (*Chairman*), TA Boardman* (*Chief Executive*),
CJW Ball** (*Chief Executive Designate*),
TCP Chikane, GW Dempster*, MA Enus-Brey, Prof B de L Figaji,
DI Hope (*New Zealand*), A de VC Knott-Craig, WE Lucas-Bull,
NP Mxasana, PJ Moleketi, RK Morathi* (*Chief Financial Officer*),
JVF Roberts (*British*), GT Seroke, MI Wyman (*British*).

* Executive ** Senior independent non-executive director

Sponsor in Namibia: Old Mutual Investment Services (Namibia) (Pty) Limited.

This announcement is available on the group's website – www.nedbankgroup.co.za – together with the following additional information:

- Detailed financial information in HTML and PDF formats.
- Financial results presentation to analysts.
- Link to a webcast of the presentation to analysts.

For further information kindly contact Nedbank Group Investor Relations by email at nedbankgroupir@nedbank.co.za.

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Transfer secretaries in South Africa: Computershare Investor Services (Pty) Limited, 70 Marshall Street, Johannesburg, 2001, South Africa; PO Box 61051, Marshalltown, 2107, South Africa.

Transfer secretaries in Namibia: Transfer Secretaries (Pty) Limited, Shop 8, Kaiserkrone Centre, Post Street Mall, Windhoek, Namibia; PO Box 2401, Windhoek, Namibia.

Company Secretary: GS Nienaber

Reg No: 1966/010630/06 **ISIN:** ZAE000004875

JSE share code: NED **NSX share code:** NNBK

Sponsors in South Africa: Merrill Lynch South Africa (Pty) Limited, Nedbank Capital.



MAKE THINGS HAPPEN



Acquisitions

On 5 June 2009 Nedbank Group Limited acquired the remaining 50% share in the joint ventures of Nedgroup Life Assurance Company Limited (NedLife) and BoE (Pty) Limited, and the remaining 29,8% share in subsidiary Fairbairn Private Bank from Old Mutual plc and its subsidiaries. The transaction included the existing client bases held by the companies and the brandnames. These transactions were financed by the issue of 12,9 million shares, as agreed at the general meeting held on 5 June 2009.

There were no contingent consideration arrangements and indemnification assets recognised on the acquisition of these entities. No contingent liabilities have been recognised by the group as a result of these acquisitions.

The receivables recognised by the group are included in other assets and represent their fair value due to their short-term nature. Management is of the opinion that the gross contractual cashflows receivable are not materially different to the fair value of the receivables recognised.

NedLife is a life assurance company that provides non-underwritten credit life assurance and other simple risk and investment products primarily to Nedbank Group clients. A large proportion of NedLife's business is derived from the provision of life cover linked to Nedbank Group's lending activities. NedLife also sells credit life assurance through two of the largest mortgage originators in South Africa.

BoE (Pty) Limited is one of South Africa's largest private client wealth management houses, offering a fully integrated range of financial services and advice, including private and specialised banking, investment management, stockbroking and trust and fiduciary services to various niche markets.

Fairbairn Private Bank is an award-winning offshore private bank offering comprehensive transactional banking, credit, treasury, fiduciary and corporate services as well as execution and discretionary asset management. Its client base consists of high-net-worth individuals, professional intermediaries, non-trading companies, trusts, governments and institutional investors.

The principle reasons for the acquisitions are that it will allow the group to:

- simplify and focus its group structure and create a substantive, wholly owned bancassurance and wealth division;
- facilitate the natural flow and segmentation of clients, products and services provided by these businesses to and from the wider Nedbank group;
- extend the scope and range of products that Nedbank Group will sell to its clients in future, particularly in the competitive bancassurance market; and
- acquire a diverse stream of non-banking income that will increase Nedbank Group's NIR.

Management is of the opinion that the ability of the group to generate new business and enhanced synergies as a result of these acquisitions justified the goodwill recognised in the statement of financial position. The goodwill recognised as a result of the transaction is not tax-deductible.

Expenses relating to these acquisitions of R2 million were recognised in the statement of comprehensive income. An additional R3 million relating to share issue expenses was debited to equity.

Acquisition of remaining stakes in joint ventures

Nedbank Group acquired the balance of the joint ventures' shareholding and loan account from Old Mutual South Africa Limited for the issue of 10 157 719 shares (total purchase consideration R926 million).

The acquired businesses contributed R619 million to the group's NIR and R259 million to the group's profit for the period after the acquisition. If the acquired businesses had been included in the statement of financial position for the entire year, it would have resulted in NIR of R920 million and profit for the period of R370 million, relating to the acquired businesses, being recognised in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income.

There was a deemed disposal of the existing joint ventures, which were previously equity-accounted, that resulted in a non-headline after-tax capital profit of R547 million being recognised in profit and loss. The acquisition date fair value

Goodwill

Rm	2009	2008
Reconciliation of carrying amount		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the year	3 894	3 898
Arising on business combinations	1 126	
Realised through disposals		(2)
Foreign currency translation and other	(39)	(2)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	4 981	3 894

Analysis	2009			2008		
Rm	Cost	Accumulated impairment losses	Carrying amount	Cost	Accumulated impairment losses	Carrying amount
Fairbairn Private Bank (Jersey) Limited/ Fairbairn Trust Company Limited (Guernsey)	408	(138)	270	447	(138)	309
Peoples Mortgage Limited	198	(198)	–	198	(198)	–
Imperial Bank Limited	285	(25)	260	285	(25)	260
Nedbank Limited	3 938	(1 114)	2 824	3 938	(1 114)	2 824
Old Mutual Bank	206		206	206		206
BoE (Pty) Limited	725		725			–
Nedgroup Life Assurance Company Limited	401		401			–
Nedbank Namibia Limited	134	(2)	132	134	(2)	132
Capital One	82		82	82		82
American Express	81		81	81		81
	6 458	(1 477)	4 981	5 371	(1 477)	3 894