

SBC COMMUNICATIONS INC
Form 11-K
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UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

ANNUAL REPORT

Pursuant to Section 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004

Commission File Number 1-8610

SBC SAVINGS PLAN

SBC COMMUNICATIONS INC.

175 E. Houston, San Antonio, Texas 78205

Financial Statements, Supplemental Schedules and Exhibit

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

SBC Communications Inc., Plan Administrator

for SBC Savings Plan

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of SBC Savings Plan as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2004. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits at December 31, 2004 and 2003, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2004, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audits were performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental schedules of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2004, and reportable transactions for the year then ended are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. These supplemental schedules are the responsibility of the Plan's management. The supplemental schedules have been subjected to auditing procedures applied in our audits of the financial statements, and in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ ERNST & YOUNG LLP

San Antonio, Texas

June 14, 2005

SBC SAVINGS PLAN**STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS****(Dollars in Thousands)**

	December 31, 2004	2003
ASSETS		
Investments (See Note 3)	\$ 6,462,614	\$ 5,990,832
Dividends and interest receivable	50	40
Receivable for investments sold	537	179
Other receivables	1	1
Total Assets	6,463,202	5,991,052
LIABILITIES		
Payable for investments purchased	-	5,489
Administrative expenses payable	1,859	1,203
Other	-	24
Total Liabilities	1,859	6,716
Net Assets Available for Benefits	\$ 6,461,343	\$ 5,984,336

See Notes to Financial Statements.

SBC SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

(Dollars in Thousands)

Net Assets Available for Benefits, December 31, 2003	\$ 5,984,336
Additions to Net Assets:	
Contributions:	
Participant contributions	325,849
Employer contributions	149,222
	475,071
Investment Income:	
Dividends on SBC common shares	105,991
Net appreciation in value of investments	277,009
Interest	58,231
	441,231
Total Net Additions	916,302
Deductions from Net Assets:	
Administrative expenses	6,078
Distributions	433,074
Transfer to SBC Savings and Security Plan	143
Total Deductions	439,295
Net Assets Available for Benefits, December 31, 2004	\$ 6,461,343

See Notes to Financial Statements.

SBC SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Dollars in Thousands)

1. Plan Description - The SBC Savings Plan (Plan) was established by SBC Communications Inc. (SBC or the Company) to provide a convenient way for eligible employees to save for retirement on a regular and long-term basis. The following description of the Plan provides only general information. The Plan has detailed provisions covering participant eligibility, participant allotments from pay, participant withdrawals, participant loans, employer contributions and related vesting of contributions and Plan expenses. The Plan text and prospectus include complete descriptions of these and other Plan provisions. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Participants can invest their contributions in one or more of the following funds in 1% increments: the SBC Shares Fund, the Bond Fund, the Large Cap Stock Fund, the Interest Income Fund, the Asset Allocation Fund, the Global Equity Fund, the Mid and Small Cap Stock Fund and the International Stock Fund.

Company matching contributions are made solely in the form of shares of SBC's common stock held in an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) which is a separate investment account of this Plan.

Dividends on shares in the SBC Shares Fund and the ESOP can either be reinvested in the SBC Shares Fund on a quarterly basis, or paid into a separate fund known as a Dividend Fund Account (DFA) for distribution at the end of the year. Interest earned on dividends held in the DFA will be paid into the SBC Shares Fund. During 2004, Plan participants elected to receive \$26,327 in dividend distributions. This amount is included in distributions on the statement of changes in net assets.

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, SBC has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event that the Plan is terminated, subject to the conditions set forth by ERISA, the account balances of all participants shall be 100% vested.

2. Accounting Policies - The values of investments are determined as follows: SBC common shares on the basis of the closing price as reported on the New York Stock Exchange; contracts with insurance companies and other financial institutions at principal plus reinvested interest which approximates fair value; common collective trust funds at values obtained from fund managers; and temporary cash investments at cost which approximates fair value. Purchases and sales of securities are reflected as of the trade date. Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date. Interest earned on investments is recognized on the accrual basis.

The accompanying financial statements were prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, which require management to make estimates that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

SBC SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

(Dollars in Thousands)

3. Investments - Investments representing 5% or more of Plan net assets at either December 31, 2004 or 2003 were:

	2004	2003
<u>Employee Stock Ownership Plan*</u>		
SBC common shares	\$ 1,139,261	\$ 1,069,341
<u>SBC Shares Fund</u>		
SBC common shares	\$ 1,060,087	\$ 1,123,962
<u>Large Cap Stock Fund</u>		
Barclays Global Investors Equity Index Fund F	\$ 1,395,114	\$ 1,285,355
<u>Asset Allocation Fund</u>		
Barclays Global Investors U.S. Tactical Asset Allocation Fund F	\$ 446,586	\$ 410,280
<u>Mid and Small Cap Stock Fund</u>		
Extended Equity Market Fund F	\$ 431,957	\$ 279,579

* Nonparticipant-directed

During 2004, the Plan's investments (including gains and losses on investments bought and sold, as well as held during the year) appreciated (depreciated) in value as follows:

Common Stock	\$ (23,153)
Common Collective Trusts	300,162
Total	\$ 277,009

The Interest Income Fund consists of contracts with various financial institutions and insurance companies that promise to repay principal plus accrued income at contract maturity, subject to the creditworthiness of the issuer. Interest crediting rates are generally established when the contract is purchased and may be periodically reset. For the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, the average interest rates earned on these contracts were 4.21% and 4.71%. At December 31, 2004, the fixed crediting interest rates on these contracts ranged from 1.66% to 7.62%. At December 31, 2003, the fixed crediting interest rates on these contracts ranged from 3.51% to 7.97%. No valuation reserves were recorded to adjust contract amounts as of December 31, 2004 or 2003.

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The Interest Income Fund invests in both guaranteed investment contracts (GICs) and synthetic investment contracts (SICs). SICs differ from GICs in that the assets supporting the SICs are owned by the Plan. A bank or insurance company issues a wrapper contract that allows participant directed transactions to be made at contract value. Wrapper contracts are valued as the difference between the fair value of the supporting assets and the contract value. The assets supporting the GICs and SICs generally consist of high quality fixed income securities with a fair value of \$1,177,818 and \$1,178,302 at December 31, 2004 and 2003.

The Plan provides for investments in various investment securities, which in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such change could materially affect the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits and participant account balances.

SBC SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

(Dollars in Thousands)

4. Nonparticipant-Directed Investments - Information about the net assets and the significant components of the changes in net assets relating to the nonparticipant-directed investments as of December 31 is as follows:

	2004	2003
<u>Assets</u>		
SBC common shares	\$ 1,139,261	\$ 1,069,341