

JOHN HANCOCK PREFERRED INCOME FUND III  
Form N-Q  
June 28, 2013

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM N-Q**

**QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED  
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES**

Investment Company Act file number 811-21287

John Hancock Preferred Income Fund III  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

601 Congress Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02210  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Salvatore Schiavone, Treasurer

601 Congress Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02210

(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 617-663-4497

Date of fiscal year end: July 31

Date of reporting period: April 30, 2013

ITEM 1. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

# John Hancock Preferred Income Fund III

## As of 4-30-13 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value
<b>Preferred Securities (a) 143.6% (94.2% of Total Investments)</b>		<b>\$885,978,448</b>
<hr/>		
(Cost \$836,724,758)		
<b>Consumer Discretionary 0.1%</b>		<b>758,740</b>
<hr/>		
<b>Media 0.1%</b>		
Comcast Corp., 5.000%	29,500	758,740
<b>Consumer Staples 2.1%</b>		<b>12,614,063</b>
<hr/>		
<b>Food &amp; Staples Retailing 2.1%</b>		
Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., Series A, 6.250% (S)	135,000	12,614,063
<b>Energy 1.1%</b>		<b>6,707,720</b>
<hr/>		
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 1.1%</b>		
Apache Corp., Series D, 6.000% (Z)	158,500	6,707,720
<b>Financials 91.4%</b>		<b>564,052,679</b>
<hr/>		
<b>Capital Markets 8.9%</b>		
Bank of New York Mellon Corp., 5.200%	45,000	1,152,900
Morgan Stanley Capital Trust III, 6.250%	160,000	4,064,000
Morgan Stanley Capital Trust IV, 6.250% (L) (Z)	845,000	21,429,200
Morgan Stanley Capital Trust V, 5.750%	100,000	2,520,000
Morgan Stanley Capital Trust VII, 6.600%	30,000	760,500
State Street Corp., 5.250%	62,000	1,579,760
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., 6.125% (Z)	875,500	23,454,645

**Commercial Banks 22.2%**

Barclays Bank PLC, Series 3, 7.100% (Z)	355,000	9,084,450
Barclays Bank PLC, Series 5, 8.125% (L) (Z)	515,000	13,250,950
BB&T Corp., 5.200% (I)	680,000	16,966,000
BB&T Corp., 5.625%	25,000	643,750
HSBC Holdings PLC, 8.000% (Z)	63,500	1,830,703
HSBC USA, Inc., 6.500%	135,000	3,473,550
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc., 5.375%	30,000	770,700
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (6.125% to 05/01/22, then 3 month LIBOR + 4.067%)	210,000	6,027,000
Royal Bank of Scotland Group PLC, Series L, 5.750% (Z)	941,000	21,708,870
Santander Finance Preferred SA Unipersonal, Series 10, 10.500%	313,500	8,649,465
Santander Holdings USA, Inc., Series C, 7.300% (Z)	463,000	11,741,680
U.S. Bancorp (6.000% to 04/15/17, then 3 month LIBOR + 4.861%)	160,000	4,489,600
U.S. Bancorp (6.500% to 01/15/22, then 3 month LIBOR + 4.468%) (L) (Z)	890,000	26,664,400
Wells Fargo & Company, 8.000% (L) (Z)	374,000	11,500,500

**Consumer Finance 3.0%**

HSBC Finance Corp., Depository Shares, Series B, 6.360% (Z)	610,800	15,532,644
SLM Corp., 6.000% (Z)	44,000	1,090,760
SLM Corp., Series A, 6.970% (Z)	44,899	2,241,807

**Diversified Financial Services 26.4%**

Citigroup Capital X, 6.100%	550,000	13,942,500
Citigroup Capital XIII (7.875% to 10/30/15, then 3 month LIBOR + 6.370%)	22,000	621,280
Deutsche Bank Capital Funding Trust VIII, 6.375% (Z)	40,000	1,013,600
Deutsche Bank Capital Funding Trust X, 7.350% (Z)	248,300	6,440,902

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## John Hancock Preferred Income Fund III

### As of 4-30-13 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value
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**Financials (continued)**

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Deutsche Bank Contingent Capital Trust II, 6.550% (L) (Z)	396,500	\$10,800,660
Deutsche Bank Contingent Capital Trust III, 7.600% (Z)	311,000	8,801,300
ING Groep NV, 7.050% (L) (Z)	598,970	15,339,622
ING Groep NV, 7.200% (L) (Z)	765,000	19,591,650
JPMorgan Chase & Company, 8.625% (Z)	395,000	10,076,450
JPMorgan Chase Capital XXIX, 6.700% (L) (Z)	687,500	18,321,875
Merrill Lynch Preferred Capital Trust III, 7.000% (Z)	510,000	12,918,300
Merrill Lynch Preferred Capital Trust IV, 7.120%	415,000	10,549,300
Merrill Lynch Preferred Capital Trust V, 7.280% (Z)	430,000	10,930,600
RBS Capital Funding Trust V, 5.900% (I)	725,000	15,906,500
RBS Capital Funding Trust VI, 6.250% (I)	340,000	7,616,000
<b>Insurance 13.7%</b>		
Aegon NV, 6.375% (Z)	276,000	7,360,920
Aegon NV, 6.500% (Z)	290,000	7,348,600
American Financial Group, Inc., 7.000% (L) (Z)	484,000	13,285,800
MetLife, Inc., Series B, 6.500% (L) (Z)	1,002,000	25,821,540
Phoenix Companies, Inc., 7.450%	574,500	13,184,775
PLC Capital Trust V, 6.125% (Z)	192,279	4,847,354
Prudential Financial, Inc., 5.750%	41,000	1,057,390
Prudential PLC, 6.500% (Z)	129,638	3,370,588
RenaissanceRe Holdings, Ltd., Series C, 6.080% (Z)	122,300	3,128,434
W.R. Berkley Corp., 5.625%	203,000	5,095,300
<b>Real Estate Investment Trusts 17.1%</b>		
Duke Realty Corp., Depositary Shares, Series J, 6.625%	638,100	16,220,502
Duke Realty Corp., Depositary Shares, Series K, 6.500% (L) (Z)	151,600	3,865,800
Duke Realty Corp., Depositary Shares, Series L, 6.600% (Z)	118,500	3,015,825
Kimco Realty Corp., 6.000% (L) (Z)	870,000	23,298,600
Public Storage, Inc., 5.200%	250,000	6,332,500
Public Storage, Inc., 5.750%	257,000	6,669,150
Public Storage, Inc., 6.350%	199,000	5,414,790
Public Storage, Inc., Depositary Shares, Series Q, 6.500%	121,700	3,351,618
Public Storage, Inc., Series P, 6.500% (Z)	123,000	3,345,600
Senior Housing Properties Trust, 5.625%	403,000	10,276,500
Ventas Realty LP, 5.450%	126,000	3,228,120
Wachovia Preferred Funding Corp., Series A, 7.250% (L) (Z)	740,000	20,668,200
<b>Thriffs &amp; Mortgage Finance 0.1%</b>		
Federal National Mortgage Association, Series S, 8.250% (I)	80,000	366,400
<b>Industrials 0.7%</b>		<b>4,588,639</b>

**Machinery 0.7%**

Stanley Black & Decker, Inc., 5.750%	172,700	4,588,639
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**Telecommunication Services 11.5%**

**70,985,670**

**Diversified Telecommunication Services 4.5%**

Qwest Corp., 7.000%	60,000	1,628,400
Qwest Corp., 7.375% (L) (Z)	777,500	21,163,550
Qwest Corp., 7.500%	174,500	4,777,810

**Wireless Telecommunication Services 7.0%**

Telephone & Data Systems, Inc., 6.875% (L) (Z)	468,000	12,472,200
Telephone & Data Systems, Inc., 7.000% (L) (Z)	415,000	11,184,250
United States Cellular Corp., 6.950% (L) (Z)	742,000	19,759,460

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**John Hancock Preferred Income Fund III**  
**As of 4-30-13 (Unaudited)**

	Shares	Value
<b>Utilities 36.7%</b>		<b>\$226,270,937</b>

**Electric Utilities 25.5%**

Alabama Power Company, 5.200% (L) (Z)	410,000	10,508,300
Duke Energy Corp., 5.125%	812,000	20,714,120
Entergy Arkansas, Inc., 5.750%	105,100	2,791,456
Entergy Louisiana LLC, 5.250% (Z)	240,000	6,261,600
Entergy Louisiana LLC, 5.875% (Z)	312,625	8,440,875
Entergy Louisiana LLC, 6.000% (Z)	240,600	6,387,930
Entergy Mississippi, Inc., 6.000%	108,194	2,868,223
Entergy Mississippi, Inc., 6.200% (Z)	148,000	3,963,440
Entergy Texas, Inc., 7.875%	71,986	1,950,821
FPL Group Capital Trust I, 5.875% (Z)	301,000	7,750,750

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Gulf Power Company, 5.750% (L) (Z)	135,100	3,716,601
HECO Capital Trust III, 6.500%	228,100	5,921,476
NextEra Energy Capital Holdings, Inc., 5.125%	130,000	3,289,000
NextEra Energy Capital Holdings, Inc., 5.700% (L) (Z)	644,000	17,117,520
PPL Capital Funding, Inc., 5.900%	838,000	21,788,000
PPL Corp., 9.500%	300,000	17,535,000
SCE Trust I, 5.625%	87,000	2,327,250
SCE Trust II, 5.100%	545,000	13,734,000

**Independent Power Producers & Energy Traders 0.7%**

Constellation Energy Group, Inc., Series A, 8.625%	164,000	4,173,800
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**Multi-Utilities 10.5%**

BGE Capital Trust II, 6.200% (Z)	720,000	18,504,000
Dominion Resources, Inc., Series A, 8.375% (Z)	249,900	6,784,785
DTE Energy Company, 5.250% (L) (Z)	415,000	10,707,000
DTE Energy Company, 6.500%	303,000	8,426,430
SCANA Corp., 7.700%	756,000	20,608,560

**Shares Value**

**Common Stocks 0.7% (0.4% of Total Investments) \$4,078,650**

(Cost \$3,707,405)

**Energy 0.1% 436,000**

**Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels 0.1%**

BP PLC, ADR	10,000	436,000
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**Utilities 0.6% 3,642,650**

**Electric Utilities 0.4%**

Entergy Corp.	5,000	356,150
FirstEnergy Corp.	50,000	2,330,000

**Multi-Utilities 0.2%**

TECO Energy, Inc.	50,000	956,500
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**Maturity**

	Rate (%)	date	Par value	Value
<b>Capital Preferred Securities (b) 1.4% (1.0% of Total Investments)</b>				<b>\$8,935,011</b>
<hr/>				
(Cost \$9,517,500)				
<b>Financials 1.4%</b>				<b>8,935,011</b>
<hr/>				
<b>Commercial Banks 1.4%</b>				
CA Preferred Funding Trust	7.000	01/29/49	\$9,000,000	8,935,011

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## John Hancock Preferred Income Fund III

### As of 4-30-13 (Unaudited)

<b>Corporate Bonds 2.7% (1.8% of Total Investments)</b>				<b>\$16,827,635</b>
<hr/>				
(Cost \$17,880,628)				
<b>Energy 1.8%</b>				<b>11,239,125</b>
<hr/>				
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 1.8%</b>				
Southern Union Company (P)	3.316	11/01/66	\$12,900,000	11,239,125
<b>Utilities 0.9%</b>				<b>5,588,510</b>
<hr/>				
<b>Electric Utilities 0.9%</b>				
Southern California Edison Company (6.250% to 02/01/2022, then 3 month LIBOR + 4.199%) (Q)	6.250	02/01/22	5,000,000	5,588,510
<b>Short-Term Investments 4.0% (2.6% of Total Investments)</b>				<b>\$24,485,000</b>
<hr/>				
(Cost \$24,485,000)				

			<b>Par value</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Repurchase Agreement 4.0%</b>				<b>24,485,000</b>

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Repurchase Agreement with State Street Corp. dated 4-30-13 at 0.010% to be repurchased at \$24,485,007 on 5-1-13, collateralized by \$24,855,000 United States Treasury Notes, 0.625% due 8-31-17 (valued at \$24,979,275, including interest) 24,485,000 24,485,000

**Total investments (Cost \$892,315,291)† 152.4% \$940,304,744**

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**Other assets and liabilities, net (52.4%) (\$323,205,979)**

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**Total net assets 100.0% \$617,098,765**

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The percentage shown for each investment category is the total value of that category as a percentage of the net assets of the Fund.

ADR American Depositary Receipts

LIBOR London Interbank Offered Rate

(a) Includes preferred stocks and hybrid securities with characteristics of both equity and debt that pay dividends on a periodic basis.

(b) Includes hybrid securities with characteristics of both equity and debt that trade with, and pay, interest income.

(l) Non-income producing security.

(L) A portion of this security is a Lent Security as of 4-30-13, and is part of segregated collateral pursuant to the Committed Facility Agreement. Total value of Lent Securities at 4-30-13 was \$251,270,575.

(P) Variable rate obligation. The coupon rate shown represents the rate at period end.

(Q) Perpetual bonds have no stated maturity date. Date shown as maturity date is next call date.

(S) This security is exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. Such a security may be resold, normally to qualified institutional buyers, in transactions exempt from registration.

(Z) A portion of this security is segregated as collateral pursuant to the Credit Facility Agreement. Total collateral value at 4-30-13 was \$494,736,925.

† At 4-30-13, the aggregate cost of investment securities for federal income tax purposes was \$892,340,897. Net unrealized appreciation aggregated \$47,963,847, of which \$62,035,910 related to appreciated investment securities and \$14,072,063 related to depreciated investment securities.



## **John Hancock Preferred Income Fund III** **As of 4-30-13 (Unaudited)**

The Fund had the following country concentration as a percentage of total investments as of 4-30-13:

United States	88.2%
United Kingdom	5.3%
Netherlands	5.3%
Spain	0.9%
Bermuda	0.3%

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## **John Hancock Preferred Income Fund III** **As of 4-30-13 (Unaudited)**

### **Notes to Portfolio of Investments**

**Security valuation.** Investments are stated at value as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), normally at 4:00 P.M., Eastern Time. In order to value the securities, the Fund uses the following valuation techniques: Equity securities held by the Fund are valued at the last sale price or official closing price on the principal securities exchange on which they trade. In the event there were no sales during the day or closing prices are not available, then the securities are valued using the last quoted bid or evaluated price. Debt obligations are valued based on the evaluated prices provided by an independent pricing service, which utilizes both dealer-supplied and electronic data processing techniques, taking into account factors such as institutional-size trading in similar groups of securities, yield, quality, coupon rate, maturity, type of issue, trading characteristics and other market data. Swaps are marked-to-market daily based upon values from third party

vendors, which may include a registered commodities exchange, or broker quotations. Foreign securities and currencies are valued in U.S. dollars, based on foreign currency exchange rates supplied by an independent pricing service. Certain securities traded only in the over-the-counter market are valued at the last bid price quoted by brokers making markets in the securities at the close of trading. Certain short-term securities are valued at amortized cost. Other portfolio securities and assets, where reliable market quotations are not available, are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by the Fund's Pricing Committee following procedures established by the Board of Trustees, which include price verification procedures. The frequency with which these fair valuation procedures are used cannot be predicted.

The Fund uses a three-tier hierarchy to prioritize the pricing assumptions, referred to as inputs, used in valuation techniques to measure fair value. Level 1 includes securities valued using quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes securities valued using other significant observable inputs. Observable inputs may include quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk. Prices for securities valued using these inputs are received from independent pricing vendors and brokers and are based on an evaluation of the inputs described. Level 3 includes securities valued using significant unobservable inputs when market prices are not readily available or reliable, including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments. Factors used in determining value may include market or issuer specific events or trends, changes in interest rates and credit quality. The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risks associated with investing in those securities. Changes in valuation techniques may result in transfers into or out of an assigned level within the disclosure hierarchy.

Securities with a market value of approximately \$46,262,585 at the beginning of the year were transferred from Level 2 to Level 1 during the period since quoted prices in active markets for identical securities became available.

The following is a summary of the values by input classification of the Fund's investments as of April 30, 2013, by major security category or type:

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## John Hancock Preferred Income Fund III

### As of 4-30-13 (Unaudited)

	<b>Total Market</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>
	<b>Value at</b>	<b>Quoted</b>	<b>Significant</b>	<b>Significant</b>
	<b>4-30-13</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Observable</b>	<b>Unobservable</b>
			<b>Inputs</b>	<b>Inputs</b>
<b>Preferred Securities</b>				
Consumer Discretionary	<b>\$758,740</b>	\$758,740	—	—
Consumer Staples	<b>12,614,063</b>	—	\$12,614,063	—
Energy	<b>6,707,720</b>	6,707,720	—	—
Financials	<b>564,052,679</b>	555,729,259	8,323,420	—
Industrials	<b>4,588,639</b>	4,588,639	—	—
Telecommunication Services	<b>70,985,670</b>	70,985,670	—	—
Utilities	<b>226,270,937</b>	204,482,937	21,788,000	—
<b>Common Stocks</b>				
Energy	<b>436,000</b>	436,000	—	—
Utilities	<b>3,642,650</b>	3,642,650	—	—
<b>Capital Preferred Securities</b>				

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Financials	<b>8,935,011</b>	—	8,935,011	—
<b>Corporate Bonds</b>				
Energy	<b>11,239,125</b>	—	11,239,125	—
Utilities	<b>5,588,510</b>	—	5,588,510	—
<b>Short-Term Investments</b>	<b>24,485,000</b>	—	24,485,000	—
<hr/>				
<b>Total Investments in Securities</b>	<b>\$940,304,744</b>	<b>\$847,331,615</b>	<b>\$92,973,129</b>	—
<b>Other Financial Instruments:</b>				
Interest Rate Swaps	<b>(\$3,288,410)</b>	—	(\$3,288,410)	—

**Repurchase agreements.** The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements. When the Fund enters into a repurchase agreement, it receives collateral, which is held in a segregated account by the Fund's custodian. The collateral amount is marked-to-market and monitored on a daily basis to ensure that the collateral held is in an amount not less than the principal amount of the repurchase agreement plus any accrued interest. In the event of a default by the counterparty, realization of the collateral proceeds could be delayed, during which time the collateral value may decline.

**Real estate investment trusts.** The Fund may invest in real estate investment trusts (REITs) and, as a result, will estimate the components of distributions from these securities. Such estimates are revised when actual components of distributions are known. Distributions from REITs received in excess of income may be recorded as a reduction of cost of investments and/or as a realized gain.

**Interest rate swaps.** Interest rate swaps represent an agreement between a Fund and counterparty to exchange cash flows based on the difference between two interest rates applied to a notional amount. The payment flows are usually netted against each other, with the difference being paid by one party to the other. The Fund settles accrued net interest receivable or payable under the swap contracts at specified, future intervals. Swaps are marked-to-market daily based upon values from third party vendors or broker quotations, and the change in value is recorded as unrealized appreciation/depreciation of swap contracts. A termination payment by the counterparty or the Fund is recorded as realized gain or loss, as well as the net periodic payments received or paid by the Fund.

During the period ended April 30, 2013, the Fund used interest rate swaps in anticipation of rising interest rates. The following table summarizes the interest rate swap contracts held as of April 30, 2013.

COUNTERPARTY	USD NOTIONAL AMOUNT	PAYMENTS MADE BY FUND	PAYMENTS RECEIVED BY FUND	MATURITY DATE	MARKET VALUE
Morgan Stanley Capital Services	\$72,000,000	Fixed 1.4625%	3-month LIBOR(a)	Aug 2016	<b>(\$2,466,793)</b>
Morgan Stanley Capital Services	72,000,000	Fixed 0.8750%	3-month LIBOR(a)	Jul 2017	<b>(821,617)</b>
	<b>\$144,000,000</b>				<b>(\$3,288,410)</b>

(a) At 4-30-13, the 3-month LIBOR rate was 0.27310%.

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For additional information on the Fund's significant accounting policies, please refer to the Fund's most recent semiannual or annual shareholder report.

ITEM 2. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

(a) Based upon their evaluation of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as conducted within 90 days of the filing date of this Form N-Q, the registrant's principal executive officer and principal accounting officer have concluded that those disclosure controls and procedures provide reasonable assurance that the material information required to be disclosed by the registrant on this report is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms.

(b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's last fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the

registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 3. EXHIBITS.

Separate certifications for the registrant's principal executive officer and principal accounting officer, as required by Rule 30a-2(a) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, are attached.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

John Hancock Preferred Income Fund III

By: /s/ Hugh McHaffie  
Hugh McHaffie  
President

Date: June 26, 2013

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By: /s/ Hugh McHaffie  
Hugh McHaffie  
President

Date: June 26, 2013

By: /s/ Charles A. Rizzo  
Charles A. Rizzo  
Chief Financial Officer

Date:

June 26, 2013