ARRIS GROUP INC Form 11-K June 28, 2012 Table of Contents

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 fixed year orded December 31, 2011

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011

ARRIS GROUP, INC. EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN

of

ARRIS GROUP, INC.

A Delaware Corporation

IRS Employer Identification No. 58-2588724

SEC File Number 000-31254

3871 Lakefield Drive

Suwanee, GA 30024

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(678) 473-2000

ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan

Audited Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

As of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and for the Year ended December 31, 2011

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors of ARRIS Group, Inc.

and the Trustees of the ARRIS Group, Inc.

Employee Savings Plan

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan (the Plan) as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2011. 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 of the Plan at December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2011, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2011, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is 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. Such information is the responsibility of the Plan s management. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audits of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Atlanta, Georgia

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

June 28, 2012

ARRIS Group, Inc.

Employee Savings Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	Decemt 2011 (in thou	2010
Assets		
Investments, at fair value	\$ 147,480	\$ 138,688
Receivables:		
Employer contributions	461	458
Notes receivable from participants	2,342	1,999
	2,803	2,457
Net assets reflecting assets at fair value	150,283	141,145
Adjustment from fair value to contract value for investments in fully benefit-responsive investment contracts	(1,043)	(167)
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 149,240	\$ 140,978

See accompanying notes.

ARRIS Group, Inc.

Employee Savings Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

Year ended December 31, 2011

Additions to net assets attributable to:	(in	thousands)
Contributions:		
Participants	\$	11,024
Rollovers	Ψ	217
Employer		4,957
Zinkrojer		.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
Total contributions		16,198
Investment income:		
Dividends and interest		3,025
Net depreciation in fair value of investments		(4,144)
Total investment income (loss)		(1,119)
Interest income on loans receivable		99
Interest income on loans receivable		99
Total additions		15,178
Deductions from net assets attributable to:		(6.002)
Benefits paid to participants		(6,903)
Administrative expenses		(13)
		((01()
Total deductions		(6,916)
Net increase in net assets		8,262
		,
Net assets available for benefits:		140.079
Beginning of year		140,978
	¢	140.240
End of year	\$	149,240

See accompanying notes.

ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011

1. Description of the Plan

The following description of the ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Summary Plan Description and Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan s provisions.

General

The Plan, a defined contribution plan covering substantially all employees of ARRIS Group, Inc. (ARRIS or the Company), is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA). The Plan contains the safe harbor provisions under Section 401(k) (12) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Contributions

Participants may contribute up to 50% of their pretax compensation in increments of 0.1%, subject to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) limitations. The Plan permits participants to designate all or a portion of their contributions as after-tax Roth contributions.

Under the terms of the Plan, the Company may also make discretionary employer matching-contributions. The Company matches 100% of a participant s contributions up to the first 3% of compensation contributed to the Plan, plus 50% of the participant s contributions with respect to the next 2% of compensation contributed to the Plan, for a maximum employer-matching contribution equal to 4% of compensation.

The Plan provides a true-up employer matching contribution to active participants accounts if, after the end of the Plan year, it is determined that a participant received less than the maximum percentage of employer-matching contributions required based on the participant s total contributions for the year.

Participant Accounts

Each participant s account is credited with the participant s contributions, allocations of the Company s matching contributions, allocable share of investment results, and allocable share of administrative expenses not otherwise paid by the Company. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as set forth in the Plan documents.

Vesting

Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Employer matching contributions made on and after January 1, 2008, plus actual earnings thereon, are immediately vested at 100%. The Company contribution portion of participant accounts made prior to January 1, 2008, plus actual earnings thereon become fully vested after three years of credited service.

Forfeitures

During 2011, approximately \$2 thousand of nonvested employer contributions were forfeited by terminated Plan participants. Forfeited balances of nonvested terminated participants accounts are used to reduce Company contributions. In 2011, the Company used \$10 thousand of forfeitures to offset contributions. As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, unallocated assets (e.g., forfeitures) included in investments totaled \$4 thousand and \$12 thousand, respectively.

ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2011

1. Description of the Plan (continued)

Payment of Benefits

Upon termination of service, retirement, death or permanent disability, a participant may receive a lump-sum distribution equal to the nonforfeitable portion of his/her Plan account. The Plan also provides for hardship distributions and, once a participant has attained age 59 ¹/2, in-service distributions.

Participant Loans

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$500 up to a maximum of the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balances. Loan terms range from one to five years or up to ten years for the purchase of a primary residence. Certain loans originating from the C-COR, Incorporated Retirement Savings and Profit Sharing Plan (Prior Plan) that were assumed by the Plan in 2008 have longer terms as was permitted under the Prior Plan at the time the loans were made. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at the prime rate, plus 1%, in effect at the time of the disbursement of the loan. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Administrative Expenses

Substantially all expenses of administering the Plan are paid through Plan Investments with the exception of certain fees associated with participant loans in which case the fees are paid from the participant s account balance.

Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to terminate the Plan, subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants will become 100% vested in their accounts. The value of the trust assets and the shares of all participants and beneficiaries will be determined as of the effective date of the termination. Distributions will be made as provided in the Plan document.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Plan s financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2011

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Loans Receivable

Loans receivable represents participant loans that are recorded at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income on loans receivable from participants is recorded when it is earned. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2011 or 2010. If a participant ceases to make loan repayments and the plan administrator deems the participant loan to be a distribution, the participant loan balance is reduced and a benefit payment is recorded.

Investments

The Plan s investments in the mutual funds and the Company common stock fund are stated at fair value, which is based on quoted market prices on national exchanges as of the last business day of the Plan year. The contract value or the book value is based on contributions made to the plan plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. The fair value of the participation units is based on the fair value of the underlying assets.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

The Plan s investments in the Prudential Stable Fund, which is a fully benefit-responsive SGIC consisting of a wrapper contract and a common collective trust whose underlying investments are guaranteed investment contracts (GICs), are recorded at fair value (see Note 4); however, since they are fully benefit-responsive, an adjustment is reflected in the statements of net assets available for benefits to present the investments at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measurement attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. Contract value represents contributions made under the contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and fees.

Except for events which may result in termination for cause, including, but not limited to, plan termination or merger, early retirement incentive, and layoffs, the issuer may not cause the contract to be terminated at an amount other than contract value. The Plan does not believe that the occurrence of any event limiting the Plans ability to transact at contract value is probable.

Interest is credited on contract balances using a single portfolio rate approach. Under this methodology, a single interest crediting rate is applied to all contributions made to the product regardless of the timing of those contributions. Interest crediting rates are reviewed on a quarterly basis for resetting. The minimum crediting rate is 0%. The average earnings yield of the Prudential Stable Fund was approximately 1.93% and 2.76% at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The average yield credited to members was approximately 2.87% and 3.11% at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The average earnings yield differs from the average yield credited to participants as a result of the fund construction which utilizes contract value crediting rates that are intended to smooth out and blend in earnings yields over time.

ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2011

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

3. Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In May 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standards Update 2011-04, *Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurements and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs* (ASU 2011-04). ASU 2011-04 amended ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, to converge the fair value measurement guidance in US generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs). Some of the amendments clarify the application of existing fair value measurement requirements, while other amendments change a particular principle in ASC 820. In addition, ASU 2011-04 requires additional fair value disclosures. The amendments are to be applied prospectively and are effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. Since ASU 2010-06 only affects fair value measurement disclosures, the adoption of ASU 2011-04 will not affect the Plan s net assets available for benefits.

4. Investments

Individual investments that represent 5% or more of the Plan s net assets are as follows (in thousands):

	As of December 31,	
	2011	2010
Prudential Core Conservative Bond Fund (a)	\$ 24,468	\$ 20,256
Vanguard Institutional Index	10,235	9,752
Wells Fargo Advantage Growth ADM 10,087		
PIMCO Total Return Admin	10,069 9,431	
Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target 2030 I	9,701 9,499	
Oakmark Equity & Income	9,491	8,825
Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target 2020 I	8,505	8,285
Blackrock Equity Dividend A	8,206	
Columbia Acorn Z	7,759	8,716
American Funds Growth Fund R4	(b)	9,948
American Funds Cap Wld Growth & Income R4(b)		7,079

⁽a) Prudential Core Conservative Bond Fund is a common collective trust whose underlying investments are GICs, and is shown at fair value. The contract value was \$23.4 million and \$20.1 million as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

⁽b) Investment balance was less than 5% at year end.

ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2011

4. Investments (continued)

The Plan s investments (including investments bought, sold, and held during the year) appreciated (depreciated) in fair value as follows (in thousands):

	Year ended	
	December 31, 2011	
Mutual funds and lifecycle funds (quoted market prices)	\$	(4,679)
Collective trust fund (net asset value)		630
Common stock fund (quoted market prices)		(97)
	\$	(4,146)

Fair Value Measurements

Fair value is based on the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In order to increase consistency and comparability in fair value measurements, the FASB established a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes observable and unobservable inputs used to measure fair value into three broad levels, which are described below:

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for assets or liabilities. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to Level 1 inputs.

Level 2: Observable prices that are based on inputs not quoted on active markets, but corroborated by market data.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs are used when little or no market data is available. The fair value hierarchy gives the lowest priority to Level 3 inputs.

A financial instrument s level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for instruments measured at fair value, including the general classification of such instruments pursuant to the valuation hierarchy.

ARRIS Group, Inc, Common Stock Fund

This fund represents employer securities valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded. A small portion of the fund is invested in short-term instruments. The money market portion of the fund provides liquidity, which enables the Plan participants to transfer money daily among all investment choices. This common stock fund is classified as a Level 1 investment.

Lifecycle Funds

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These funds include investments in highly diversified funds designed to remain appropriate for investors in terms of risk throughout a variety of life circumstances. These funds share the common goal of first growing and then later preserving principal and contain a mix of U.S. and international common stocks, U.S. issued bonds and cash. There are currently no redemption restrictions on these investments. The fair value of the investments in this category is determined by obtaining quoted prices on nationally recognized securities exchanges. These investments are classified as level 1 within the valuation hierarchy.

ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2011

4. Investments (continued)

Synthetic GIC

The fair value of investments in SGICs is the market value of the assets within the underlying portfolio as of the plan year end date. The fair value of the wrapper equals zero, and is based on replacement cost for the contract. Contract value represents contributions made under the contract, plus interest at the contract rate, less withdrawals under the contract. The underlying investment of the SGIC, which is a common collective trust, is classified within level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Mutual Funds

The fair value of the mutual funds is determined by obtaining quoted prices on nationally recognized securities exchanges (level 1 input). The investment objective of the registered investment company is a combination of current income and capital growth and holds a diversified mix of domestic and international equities, domestic and international investment grade bonds, domestic high-yield bonds, and investment grade money market instruments.

ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2011

4. Investments (continued)

The following table presents the Plan assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis subject to the disclosure requirements (in thousands):

		December 31, 2011		
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
ARRIS common stock fund	\$ 6,173	\$	\$	\$ 6,173
Lifecycle funds	32,875			32,875
Synthetic GIC collective trust		24,468		24,468
Mutual funds:				
Money market funds	314			314
Balanced funds	9,491			9,491
Blended funds	20,642			20,642
Growth funds	19,495			19,495
Value funds	16,024			16,024
International equities	6,237			6,237
Intermediate term bond	10,069			10,069
Real estate equity	1,692			1,692
Total	\$ 123,012	\$ 24,468	\$	\$ 147,480

	December 31, 2010			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
ARRIS common stock fund	\$ 5,206	\$	\$	\$ 5,206
Lifecycle funds	30,579			30,579
Synthetic GIC collective trust		20,256		20,256
Mutual funds:				
Money market funds	294			294
Balanced funds	8,825			8,825
Blended funds	24,500			24,500
Growth funds	20,002			20,002
Value funds	11,252			11,252
International equities	7,079			7,079
Intermediate term bond	9,431			9,431
Real estate equity	1,264			1,264
Total	\$ 118,432	\$ 20,256	\$	\$ 138,688

ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2011

5. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to the Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements at December 31, 2011 to the Form 5500 (in thousands):

Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 149,240
Adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully benefit-responsive GIC	1,043
Net assets available for benefits per the Form 5500	\$ 150,283

The following is a reconciliation of total additions per the financial statements to total income per the Form 5500 for the year ended December 31, 2011 (in thousands):

Total additions per the financial statements	\$ 15,178
Add: Adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully benefit-responsive	
GIC at December 31, 2011	1,043
Less: Adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully benefit-responsive	
GIC at December 31, 2010	(167)
Total income per the Form 5500	\$ 16,054

ARRIS Group, Inc. Employee Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

December 31, 2011

6. Income Tax Status

The Plan has received a determination letter from the IRS dated November 10, 2011, stating that the Plan is qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code) and the related trust is exempt from taxation. Subsequent to this determination letter by the Internal Revenue Service, the Plan was amended. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the Code to maintain its qualification. The plan administrator believes the Plan is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Code and therefore believes the Plan, as amended, is qualified and the related trust is tax-exempt.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States require plan management to evaluate uncertain tax positions taken by the Plan. The financial statement effects of a tax position are recognized when the position is more likely than not, based on the technical merits, to be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2011, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken. The Plan has recognized no interest or penalties related to uncertain tax positions. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The plan administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2008.

7. Transactions with Parties-in-Interest

The following transactions qualify as related-party transactions; however, all of these types of transactions are exempt under the prohibited transaction rules:

The Plan held ARRIS common stock fund valued at \$6.2 million and \$5.2 million at December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Participants have loans from their fund accounts outstanding in the amount of \$2.3 million and \$2.0 million as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

8. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

ARRIS Group, Inc.

Employee Savings Plan

EIN: 58-2588724 Plan Number: 002

Schedule H, Line 4(i)

Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

December 31, 2011

(c)

Description of

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue	Investment	Current Value	
	Prudential	Prudential Core Conservative Bond Fund	\$ 24,468,44	.9
	Vanguard	Vanguard Institutional Index	10,234,56	1
	Wells Fargo	Wells Fargo Advantage Growth ADM	10,086,77	5
	PIMCO	PIMCO Total Return Admin	10,068,78	6
	Wells Fargo	Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target 2030 I	9,701,27	9
	Oakmark	Oakmark Equity & Income	9,490,78	4
	Wells Fargo	Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target 2020 I	8,505,18	0
	Blackrock	Blackrock Equity Dividend A	8,205,59	3
	Columbia	Columbia Acorn Z	7,758,74	4
	American Funds	American Funds Cap Wld Growth & Income R4	6,237,43	3
	Thornburg	Thornburg International Value R5	5,546,20	3
	Davis	Davis New York Venture A	4,861,16	0
	Columbia	Columbia Mid Cap Value Z	4,539,92	7
	Wells Fargo	Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target 2040 I	4,492,33	
	Wells Fargo	Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target 2025 I	3,347,03	3
	Franklin	Franklin Rising Dividends Adv	3,278,99	8
	Wells Fargo	Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target 2035 I	1,991,54	2
	Wells Fargo	Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target 2010 I	1,823,92	.7
	American Century	American Century Real Estate Inv	1,691,59	1
	Blackrock	Blackrock Equity Dividend A	1,649,16	6
	Wells Fargo	Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target 2015 I	1,331,93	2
	Wells Fargo	Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target Today I	788,28	2
	Wells Fargo	Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target 2045 I	500,86	0
	Wells Fargo	Wells Fargo Advantage DJ Target 2050 I	392,57	0
**	Dwight Asset Management	Fixed Fund-Institutional		9
*	ARRIS Group, Inc.	Common stock fund	6,173,26	4
*	ARRIS Group, Inc.	Short Term Investments & Cash	314,05	9
*	Participants	Loans receivable; interest rates range 3.25% - 9.50%; maturities through 09/02/2037	2,341,65	9

\$ 149,822,099

(e)

* Represents a party-in-interest to the Plan

** Investment presented at contract value

Note: Cost information (column d) has not been included as all investments are participant directed.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the trustees (or other persons who administer the employee savings plan) have duly caused this annual report to be signed by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized,

ARRIS GROUP, INC. EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN

By: Administrative Committee (Plan Administrator)

/s/ Lawrence A Margolis Lawrence A. Margolis

Executive Vice President,

Administration, Legal, HR, and Strategy,

Chief Counsel, and Secretary

Dated: June 28, 2012