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BELLSOUTH CORP  
Form SC 13G  
February 05, 2004

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

SCHEDULE 13G

UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
ANNUAL FILING

BELLSOUTH CORPORATION  
(NAME OF ISSUER)  
COMMON STOCK  
(TITLE CLASS OF SECURITIES)  
079860102  
(CUSIP NUMBER)  
12/31/2003  
(DATE OF EVENT WHICH REQUIRES FILING OF THIS STATEMENT)

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX TO DESIGNATE THE RULE PURSUANT TO WHICH  
THIS SCHEDULE IS FILED:

- (X) RULE 13D-1(B)  
( ) RULE 13D-1(C)  
( ) RULE 13D-1(D)

\*THE REMAINDER OF THIS COVER PAGE SHALL BE FILLED OUT FOR A  
REPORTING PERSON'S INITIAL FILING ON THIS FORM WITH RESPECT TO THE  
SUBJECT CLASS OF SECURITIES, AND FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENT  
CONTAINING INFORMATION WHICH WOULD ALTER THE DISCLOSURES PROVIDED  
IN A PRIOR COVER PAGE.

THE INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REMAINDER OF THIS COVER PAGE SHALL  
NOT BE DEEMED TO BE "FILED" FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECTION 18 OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 ("ACT") OR OTHERWISE SUBJECT TO  
THE LIABILITIES OF THAT SECTION OF THE ACT BUT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO  
ALL OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE ACT (HOWEVER, SEE THE NOTES).

CUSIP NO. 079860102

13G

PAGE 2 OF 5 PAGES

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON/EIN  
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF PERSON  
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, ACTING IN VARIOUS  
FIDUCIARY CAPACITIES. 04-1867445
2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP.\*  
  
NOT APPLICABLE A \_\_\_  
B \_\_\_
3. SEC USE ONLY
4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
5. SOLE VOTING POWER

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- 50,416,201 SHARES
6. SHARED VOTING POWER  
91,292,401 SHARES
7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
144,060,906 SHARES
8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
2,963,204 SHARES
9. TOTAL BENEFICIALLY OWNED  
147,024,110 SHARES
10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES\*
- NOT APPLICABLE
11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9  
7.96%
12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON\*
- BK

SCHEDULE 13G PAGE 3 OF 5 PAGES  
ITEM 1.

(A) NAME OF ISSUER  
BELLSOUTH CORPORATION

(B) ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES

1155 PEACHTREE STREET, N.E.  
ATLANTA, GA. 30309-3610

ITEM 2.

(A) NAME OF PERSON FILING (SSB or other)  
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, TRUSTEE

(B) ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE OR, IF NONE,  
RESIDENCE  
225 FRANKLIN STREET, BOSTON, MA 02110

(C) CITIZENSHIP  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

(D) TITLE CLASS OF SECURITIES  
COMMON STOCK

(E) CUSIP NUMBER  
079860102

ITEM 3. IF THIS STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-1(B), OR  
13D-2(B), CHECK WHETHER THE PERSON FILING IS A:

(B)  BANK AS DEFINED IN SECTION 3(A)(6) OF THE ACT

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP

- (A) AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED  
147,024,110 SHARES
- (B) PERCENT OF CLASS  
7.96 %
- (C) NUMBER OF SHARES AS TO WHICH SUCH PERSON HAS:
  - (I) SOLE POWER TO VOTE OR TO DIRECT THE VOTE OF  
50,416,201 SHARES
  - (II) SHARED POWER TO VOTE OR TO DIRECT THE VOTE OF  
91,292,401 SHARES
  - (III) SOLE POWER TO DISPOSE OR TO DIRECT THE DISPOSITION OF  
144,060,906 SHARES
  - (IV) SHARED POWER TO DISPOSE OR TO DIRECT THE DISPOSITION OF  
2,963,204 SHARES

ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF A CLASS

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON.

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING REPORTED ON BY THE PARENT HOLDING COMPANY

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION

THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION SHALL BE INCLUDED IF THE STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-1(B):

BY SIGNING BELOW I CERTIFY THAT, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, THE SECURITIES REFERRED TO ABOVE WERE ACQUIRED IN THE ORDINARY COURSE OF BUSINESS AND WERE NOT ACQUIRED FOR THE PURPOSE OF AND DO NOT HAVE THE EFFECT OF CHANGING OR INFLUENCING THE CONTROL OF THE ISSUER OF SUCH SECURITIES AND WERE NOT ACQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH OR AS A PARTICIPANT IN ANY

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TRANSACTION HAVING SUCH PURPOSES OR EFFECT.

THIS REPORT IS NOT AN ADMISSION THAT STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY IS THE BENEFICIAL OWNER OF ANY SECURITIES COVERED BY THIS REPORT, AND STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF ALL SHARES REPORTED HEREIN PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-4.

SIGNATURE

AFTER REASONABLE INQUIRY AND TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION SET FORTH IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT.

5 FEBRUARY 2004

STATE STREET CORPORATION  
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY,  
TRUSTEE

/s/ SUSAN C. DANIELS  
VICE PRESIDENT