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WHIRLPOOL CORP /DE/  
Form 11-K  
June 21, 2001

FORM 11-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE  
[X] SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (No Fee Required)

For the plan year ended December 31, 2000

OR

[\_] TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (No Fee Required)

Commission file number 1-3932

Full title of plan: WHIRLPOOL 401(k) PLAN

Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address  
of its principal executive office:

WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION  
Administration Center  
2000 North M-63  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022-2692

Reference is hereby made to the Financial Statements attached hereto which begin  
on page F-1.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the  
trustees of the Plan have duly caused this annual report to be signed by the  
undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

WHIRLPOOL 401(k) PLAN

Date: June 21, 2001

By: /s/ John C. Anderson

-----  
Name: John C. Anderson  
Title: Trustee and Chairman of the  
Individual Trustees

ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 11-K

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PLAN YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000

WHIRLPOOL 401(k) PLAN

WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION

BENTON HARBOR, MICHIGAN

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WHIRLPOOL 401(k) PLAN

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

The following financial statements of the Whirlpool 401(k) Plan are submitted herewith:

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Report of Independent Auditors

The Trustees  
Whirlpool 401(k) Plan

We have audited the accompanying statements of assets available for benefits of the Whirlpool 401(k) Plan as of December 31, 2000 and 1999, and the related statements of changes in assets available for benefits for the years then ended. 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.

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We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the 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. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as 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 assets available for plan benefits of the Plan at December 31, 2000 and 1999, and the changes in its assets available for plan benefits for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Our audits were performed 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, 2000 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. This supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the plan's management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit 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.

Ernst & Young LLP

Chicago, Illinois  
April 23, 2001

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EIN 38-1490038  
Plan #001

## Whirlpool 401(k) Plan

### Statements of Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31	
	2000	1999
-----		
Contributions receivable:		
Employer	\$ 12,420,758	\$ 12,134,944
Participant	4,122,173	8,496,538
Interest receivable	565,764	88,161
Investments:		
At fair value:		
Mutual funds	474,888,429	556,680,473
Common and collective funds	108,702,166	131,634,416
Common stock of Whirlpool Corporation	110,951,247	87,841,266
Participant loans	39,292,581	32,899,422
At contract value:		
Guaranteed investment contracts	21,767,338	33,912,463

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Total investments	755,601,761	842,968,040
Assets available for benefits	\$772,710,456	\$863,687,683

See accompanying notes.

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EIN 38-1490038  
Plan #001

Whirlpool 401(k) Plan

Statements of Changes in Assets Available for Benefits

	Year ended December 31	
	2000	1999
Additions		
Dividends on Whirlpool Corporation common stock	\$ 2,024,489	\$ 1,917,80
Other dividend income	53,638,531	43,358,95
Interest income	8,712,703	8,119,16
	64,375,723	53,395,91
Employer contributions	12,420,758	12,134,94
Participant contributions	57,146,563	56,571,78
	69,567,321	68,706,72
Total additions	133,943,044	122,102,64
Deductions		
Benefit payments	61,966,851	53,300,96
Administrative expenses	111,350	91,93
Total deductions	62,078,201	53,392,89
Net realized and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments:		
Whirlpool Corporation common stock	(19,723,915)	27,926,28
Mutual funds	(139,296,747)	131,421,35
Common and collective funds	(3,821,408)	7,148,12
	(162,842,070)	166,495,77
Net increase (decrease)	(90,977,227)	235,205,51
Assets available for benefits at beginning of year	863,687,683	628,482,16
Assets available for benefits at end of year	\$ 772,710,456	\$863,687,68

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See accompanying notes.

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EIN 38-1490038  
Plan #001

## Whirlpool 401(k) Plan

### Notes to Financial Statements

Years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999

#### 1. Description of Plan

The Whirlpool 401(k) Plan (the Plan) is a defined-contribution plan sponsored by Whirlpool Corporation and participating subsidiaries (referred to as Employer, Plan Sponsor, or Whirlpool). The following description of the Plan provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Whirlpool 401(k) Plan Summary Plan Description for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

#### Eligibility

Essentially all U.S.-based full-time and part-time employees of Whirlpool are eligible to participate upon employment. Participation in the Plan is voluntary. The Plan allows each participant to make tax-deferred contributions to the Plan, by payroll deduction, each payroll period, in any whole percentage of eligible earnings up to 20% (15% prior to July 1, 2000), but not to exceed the maximum allowable annual contribution, as determined by the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Such elections are made and can be adjusted on a daily basis by giving notice to the custodian via the voice response system, to be effective, in most cases, as of the beginning of the next payroll period. In addition, certain employees may make additional tax-deferred contributions to the Plan by directing a portion of any annual bonus due to the participant, of one or more designated bonus plans, be deposited into the Plan. The amount of any such additional tax-deferred contributions may be elected by the employee to equal the same percentage of any annual bonus payment as is applied for payroll deduction purposes or in any whole percentage between 0% and 75%, as the participant elects, provided, however, that the deduction percentage applicable to a participant who is a highly compensated participant may not exceed 15%.

#### Contributions and Vesting

For each year, the Employer establishes performance goals. Performance is measured in terms of annual balanced scorecard measures as determined by the Whirlpool Board of Directors. The attainment of these goals results in an Employer matching contribution based on the tax-deferred contributions of each employee that do not exceed 5% of the employee's eligible earnings. Regardless of performance, the Employer will make a guaranteed matching contribution of \$.25 per dollar that eligible employees contribute to the Plan. Employer matching contributions and tax-deferred contributions are 100% vested at all times. Exempt employees, with the exception of certain Whirlpool officers,

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## Whirlpool 401(k) Plan

### Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

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### 1. Description of Plan (continued)

became eligible for Employer matching contributions as of January 1, 2000. Participants who terminate employment during the year are not eligible for Employer matching contributions unless the termination is due to the participant's retirement, death, disability, or a reduction in work force.

Participants may direct employee contributions to one or a combination of several fund alternatives offered by the Plan. Employer matching contributions are initially invested in the Whirlpool Stock Fund (but may subsequently be transferred to another investment fund in accordance with provisions of the Plan).

#### Benefit Payments

On termination of service, a participant with an account balance of \$5,000 or less will receive a single lump-sum distribution equal to the value of his or her account. Participants with account balances exceeding \$5,000 can elect to receive a lump-sum distribution or may elect a monthly installment option. Monthly installments are paid over a period of time not to exceed nine years and 11 months.

#### Participant Accounts

Deposits and withdrawals from each investment fund and transfers among investment funds are made at the direction of the participants' elections. The Employer is responsible for determining that such transactions are in accordance with the Plan.

Income, including market value adjustments, under each of these funds is allocated to the participants' accounts daily based on each participant's equity in the fund.

The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's account.

Any amounts forfeited with respect to this Plan shall be applied to reduce future Employer match contributions.

Plan investments are made in the manner specified in the Trust agreement and in accordance with the stated investment policies of the respective funds. To the extent monies available for investment are not immediately invested, as provided in the investment policy of each fund, such monies are temporarily invested in short-term income investments. All investments are made in light of a continuing evaluation of economic and market conditions that may cause such investment policy to vary from time to time.

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### Whirlpool 401(k) Plan

#### Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

### 1. Description of Plan (continued)

#### Loans

The Plan provides for loans to participants in amounts up to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of a participant's account balance, with a minimum loan amount of \$500. Such loans are allocated to a separate loan account and treated for investment purposes as an investment of the account of the participant who

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received the loan.

### Plan Termination

Although the Employer has not expressed any intent to terminate the Plan, it is free to do so at any time subject to the provisions of the IRC and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

## 2. Significant Accounting Policies

### Investments Held by the Trust

All the investments of the Plan are held by the Trust. The custodian invests all assets of the Trust except as follows: (i) the Individual Trustees direct the investment of the Whirlpool Stock Fund; and (ii) the Individual Trustees may direct that a specified percentage of the assets credited to any or all of the investment fund or funds be allocated to one or more separate accounts within said investment fund and invested in accordance with the direction of the Individual Trustees or an investment manager designated by the Individual Trustees.

Contributions, loan distributions and repayments, and benefit payments are specifically identified to the fund or funds within the Trust to which assets of the Plan are credited. Investment income and related expenses of the Trust are allocated to the investment funds based on each investment fund's proportionate share of the current value of the Trust assets daily.

### Investment Valuation

The Plan's guaranteed investment contracts are stated at contract value as reported by the insurance companies. Contract value represents contributions made under the contract, plus interest at the contract rate, less the insurance companies' administrative expenses. Whirlpool common stock is valued at the last reported sales price on a national securities exchange on the last business day of the Plan year. The fair value of the participation

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### Whirlpool 401(k) Plan

#### Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

## 2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

units owned by the Plan in the common and collective funds and mutual funds is based on quoted redemption values on the last business day of the Plan year. Participant loans are valued at cost, which approximates fair value.

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.

### Administrative Expenses

In general, Plan expenses, except for broker commissions and portfolio transaction fees, are paid by Whirlpool.

### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the Trustees to make estimates and assumptions

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that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### Reclassifications

Certain amounts in the 1999 financial statements have been reclassified to conform to the 2000 presentation.

### 3. Investments

A summary of the guaranteed investment contracts held at December 31, 2000, is as follows:

	Crediting Interest Rate	2000 Average Yield	Fair Value
<hr/>			
Continental Assurance Company, #GP-24029	5.15%	5.04%	\$ 2,019,583
GE Life & Annuity Assurance Co., #GS-2949	6.40	6.02	1,330,227
GE Life & Annuity Assurance Co., #GS-3056	5.81	5.65	3,620,755
Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., #GAC-24896	6.05	5.76	2,992,915
Peoples Security Life Insurance Co., #BDA-00720-FR	5.07	4.85	2,012,823
New York Life Insurance Company, #GA-30679	5.16	4.96	2,207,474
New York Life Insurance Company, #GA-30745	5.40	5.26	3,579,133
Principal Life Insurance Company, #GA-4-30429	6.26	6.07	4,004,428
			<hr/>
			\$21,767,338
			<hr/>

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### Whirlpool 401(k) Plan

#### Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

### 3. Investments (continued)

All guaranteed insurance contracts have crediting interest rates that are fixed over the lives of the contracts.

The fair value of individual investments that represent 5% or more of the Plan's assets is as follows:

	December 31 2000	1999
<hr/>		
Putnam Asset Allocation Balanced Portfolio	\$ 48,928,307	\$ 50,486,000
Putnam New Opportunities Fund	80,398,528	92,380,127
Putnam Voyager Fund	224,085,335	302,795,477
Whirlpool Corporation common stock	110,951,247	87,841,266
Putnam Stable Value Fund	74,339,242	86,855,114
Putnam S&P 500 Index Fund	34,362,924	44,779,302

### 4. Income Tax Status

The Internal Revenue Service ruled on March 27, 1995, that the Plan qualified



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under section 401(a) of the IRC and that the related trust is tax-exempt under section 501(a) of the IRC. The Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter. In addition, in order to maintain its qualified status, the Plan must be operated in accordance with the terms of the Plan document and the requirements of the IRC. The Plan Administrator believes that the Plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

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## Supplemental Schedule

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EIN 38-1490038  
Plan #001

## Whirlpool 401(k) Plan

### Schedule H, Line 4(i) - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

December 31, 2000

Description of Investment	Number of Shares or Units	Contract Current Value
-----		
Mutual funds:		
Putnam* Bond Index Fund	182,460	\$ 2,008,88
Alger Mid-Cap Growth Retirement Portfolio*	454,279	7,200,32
Neuberger & Berman Genesis Trust*	143,929	3,850,10
Federated Stock Fund*	30,362	1,031,41
Lazard International Equity Fund*	11,344	152,12
Putnam* New Century Fund	63,283	1,122,63
Alger Small-Cap Growth Retirement Portfolio*	35,370	735,68
TCW Galileo Small-Cap Growth Fund*	78,865	2,160,12
TCW Galileo Select Equity I/Concentrated Core*	37,565	766,33
Alger Growth Retirement Portfolio*	59,367	857,85
PIMCO High Yield Fund*	56,902	552,52
Putnam * Growth Opportunities Fund	54,643	1,204,87
Putnam* International Voyager Fund	107,795	2,436,16
Putnam* Vista Fund	377,378	5,045,54
Putnam* New Opportunities Fund	1,343,109	80,398,52
EuroPacific Growth Fund*	909,818	28,522,80
Heartland Value Fund*	606,854	20,013,93
Putnam* Voyager Fund	9,372,034	224,085,33
Putnam* Income Fund	1,247,965	7,986,97
Vanguard Windsor II Fund*	591,777	16,096,32
Putnam* Asset Allocation Growth Portfolio	992,363	10,955,68
Putnam* Asset Allocation Balanced Portfolio	4,517,849	48,928,30
Putnam* Asset Allocation Conservative Portfolio	946,705	8,775,95
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		474,888,42

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EIN 38-1490038

Plan #001

Whirlpool 401(k) Plan

Schedule H, Line 4(i) - Schedule of Assets  
(Held at End of Year) (continued)

December 31, 2000

Description of Investment	Number of Shares or Units	
Common and collective funds:		
Putnam* Stable Value Fund	74,339,242	\$ 7
Putnam* S&P 500 Index Fund	1,084,688	3
		---
		10
Whirlpool Corporation* common stock	2,326,632	11
Insurance contracts:		
Continental Assurance Company* guaranteed investment contract, #GP-24029, 5.15%		
GE Life & Annuity Assurance Co.* guaranteed investment contract, #GS-2949, 6.40%		
GE Life & Annuity Assurance Co.* guaranteed investment contract, #GS-3056, 5.81%		
Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.* guaranteed investment contract, #GAC-24896, 6.05%		
Peoples Security Life Insurance Co.* guaranteed investment contract, #BDA-00720-FR, 5.07%		
New York Life* guaranteed investment contract, #GA-30679, 5.16%		
New York Life * guaranteed investment contract, #GA-30745, 5.40%		
Principal Life Insurance Company* guaranteed investment contract, #GA-4-30429, 6.26%		
		---
Participant loans (9%)		2
		3
		---
Total investments		\$75
		===

\*Party in interest.

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Exhibit Index  
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Exhibit No. -----	Document -----	Sequential Page Number -----
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