

First Merchants Corporation Announces First Quarter 2023 Earnings Per Share

April 25, 2023

MUNCIE, Ind., April 25, 2023 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- First Merchants Corporation (NASDAQ - FRME)

First Quarter 2023 Highlights:

- Net income available to common stockholders was \$63.6 million for the first quarter and diluted earnings per common share totaled \$1.07, compared to \$48.6 million and \$.91 in the first quarter of 2022, and \$70.3 million and \$1.19 in the fourth quarter of 2022.
- Adjusted net income available to common stockholders¹ for the first quarter was \$63.6 million and adjusted diluted earnings per common share¹ totaled \$1.07, compared to \$47.3 million and \$.88 in the first quarter of 2022, and \$70.5 million and \$1.19 in the fourth quarter of 2022.
- Strong liquidity and capital with Common Equity Tier 1 Capital Ratio of 10.82%.
- Deposit growth of \$320.5 million, or 8.9% annualized on a linked quarter basis.
- Total loans grew \$237.9 million, or 7.9% annualized on a linked quarter basis.
- Non-accrual loans totaled \$46.6 million compared to \$42.3 million on a linked quarter basis.
- The efficiency ratio totaled 51.72% for the quarter.

Mark Hardwick, Chief Executive Officer, stated, "Given the disruption in the banking industry, we are pleased to share a quarter-end balance sheet that reflects a very safe and sound institution with continued growth. Loans, Deposits, on-hand liquidity and capital all improved over year-end. We prioritized enhancing our liquidity position during the quarter while also meeting the demands of the customer base. Our team of bankers have been true brand ambassadors during the quarter by showing poise and confidence throughout the communities we serve. We remain focused on delivering our plan for the year."

First Quarter Financial Results:

First Merchants Corporation (the "Corporation) has reported first quarter 2023 net income available to common stockholders of \$63.6 million compared to \$48.6 million during the same period in 2022. Earnings per share for the period totaled \$1.07 per share compared to the first quarter of 2022 result of \$.91 per share.

Total assets equaled \$18.2 billion as of quarter-end and loans totaled \$12.3 billion. Total loans increased \$2.9 billion during the past twelve months. The acquisition of Level One contributed \$1.6 billion of loans. Excluding acquired loans and PPP forgiveness, the Corporation experienced organic loan growth of \$1.3 billion, or 14.4 percent, during the past twelve months. This was offset by the forgiveness of PPP loans of \$88.5 million. Total loans grew organically \$237.9 or 7.9% annualized on a linked quarter basis.

Investments, totaling \$4.1 billion, decreased \$431.9 million, or 9.6 percent, during the last twelve months and decreased \$206.4 million or 19.4% annualized on a linked quarter basis.

Total deposits equaled \$14.7 billion as of quarter-end and increased by \$1.8 billion over the past twelve months. The acquisition of Level One contributed \$1.9 billion in deposits resulting in an organic deposit decline of \$133.5 million or 1.0%. Total deposits grew \$320.5 million or 8.9% annualized on a linked quarter basis. The loan to deposit ratio for the current quarter ended at 83.3 percent.

The Corporation's Allowance for Credit Losses – Loans (ACL) totaled \$223.1 million as of quarter-end, or 1.82 percent of total loans, an increase of \$27.1 million over prior year due to the acquisition of Level One. Loan charge offs, net of recoveries, for the quarter totaled \$0.2 million. No provision expense was recorded during the quarter or during the last twelve months other than CECL Day 1 expense of \$16.8 million due to the acquisition of Level One. Non-performing assets to total assets were 0.30% for the first quarter of 2023, a decrease of two basis points compared to 0.32% in the first quarter of 2022.

Net-interest income, totaling \$144.1 million for the quarter, declined \$4.9 million, or 3.3 percent, compared to prior quarter and increased \$41.8 million, or 40.9 percent compared to the first quarter of 2022. Stated net-interest margin on a tax equivalent basis, totaling 3.58 percent, declined by 14 basis points compared to the fourth quarter of 2022 and increased 55 basis points compared to the first quarter of 2022. Net-interest margin excluding the impact of fair value accretion and PPP loans totaled 3.52%, a decrease of 13 basis points compared to 3.65% for the fourth quarter of 2022 and an increase of 55 basis points from the first quarter of 2022. During the quarter, increased deposit costs and mix offset the increase in earning asset yields causing a reduction of margin of eight basis points. The lower day count in the quarter caused a decline of five basis points.

Non-interest income, totaling \$25.0 million for the quarter, increased \$0.9 million compared to the fourth quarter of 2022 and decreased \$0.9 million from the first quarter of 2022. The increase over the fourth quarter of 2022 was driven primarily by higher card payment fees, derivative hedge fees, offset by losses on the sale of available for sale securities.

Non-interest expense totaled \$93.7 million for the quarter, an increase of \$4.0 million from the fourth quarter of 2022. The increase was primarily due to higher salaries, incentives and employee benefits offset by lower marketing expenses and FDIC assessments. A one-time FDIC assessment credit of approximately \$2.0 million was recorded lowering overall FDIC assessment cost for the quarter. Additionally, gains on the sales of properties were recorded in the fourth quarter and reflected in Other Expenses that did not recur in the current quarter, causing a negative quarter-over quarter variance.

The Corporation's total risk-based capital ratio equaled 13.23 percent, common equity tier 1 capital ratio equaled 10.82 percent, and the tangible common equity ratio totaled 7.75 percent. These ratios continue to reflect the Corporation's strong liquidity and capital positions.

¹ See "Non-GAAP Financial Information" for reconciliation

CONFERENCE CALL

First Merchants Corporation will conduct a first quarter earnings conference call and web cast at 10:30 a.m. (ET) on Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

To access via phone, participants will need to register using the following link where they will be provided a phone number and access code: (https://register.vevent.com/register/BI257d3b7683714a4382f8765266a99667)

In order to view the webcast and presentation slides, please go to (<u>https://edge.media-server.com/mmc/p/trq9ekv4</u>) during the time of the call. A replay of the webcast will be available until April 25, 2024.

Detailed financial results are reported on the attached pages.

About First Merchants Corporation

First Merchants Corporation is a financial holding company headquartered in Muncie, Indiana. The Corporation has one full-service bank charter, First Merchants Bank. The Bank also operates as First Merchants Private Wealth Advisors (as a division of First Merchants Bank).

First Merchants Corporation's common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market System under the symbol FRME. Quotations are carried in daily newspapers and can be found on the company's Internet web page (<u>http://www.firstmerchants.com</u>).

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Forward-Looking Statements

This release contains forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe-harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements can often, but not always, be identified by the use of words like "believe", "continue", "pattern", "estimate", "project", "intend", "anticipate", "expect" and similar expressions or future or conditional verbs such as "will", would", "should", "could", "might", "can", "may", or similar expressions. These statements include statements of First Merchants' goals, intentions and expectations; statements regarding the First Merchants' business plan and growth strategies; statements regarding the asset guality of First Merchants' loan and investment portfolios; and estimates of First Merchants' risks and future costs and benefits. These forward-looking statements are subject to significant risks, assumptions and uncertainties that may cause results to differ materially from those set forth in forward-looking statements, including, among other things: possible changes in monetary and fiscal policies, and laws and regulations; the effects of easing restrictions on participants in the financial services industry; the cost and other effects of legal and administrative cases: possible changes in the credit worthiness of customers and the possible impairment of collectability of loans; fluctuations in market rates of interest; competitive factors in the banking industry; changes in the banking legislation or regulatory requirements of federal and state agencies applicable to bank holding companies and banks like First Merchants' affiliate bank; continued availability of earnings and excess capital sufficient for the lawful and prudent declaration of dividends; changes in market, economic, operational, liquidity (including the ability to grow and maintain core deposits and retain large, uninsured deposits), credit and interest rate risks associated with the First Merchants' business; and other risks and factors identified in each of First Merchants' filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. First Merchants does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether written or oral, relating to the matters discussed in this press release. In addition, First Merchants' past results of operations do not necessarily indicate its anticipated future results.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Dollars In Thousands)	Marc	h 31,	
	 2023		2022
ASSETS			
Cash and due from banks	\$ 125,818	\$	148,277
Interest-bearing deposits	352,695		395,262
Investment securities, net of allowance for credit losses of \$245,000 and \$245,000	4,057,389		4,489,263
Loans held for sale	9,408		3,938
Loans	12,241,461		9,356,241
Less: Allowance for credit losses - loans	 (223,052)		(195,984)
Net loans	12,018,409		9,160,257
Premises and equipment	115,857		105,883
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	41,878		26,422
Interest receivable	85,515		56,081
Goodwill and other intangibles	745,647		569,494
Cash surrender value of life insurance	309,090		291,881
Other real estate owned	7,777		6,271
Tax asset, deferred and receivable	103,070		73,422
Other assets	 206,355		138,807
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 18,178,908	\$	15,465,258
LIABILITIES			
Deposits:			
Noninterest-bearing	\$ 2,964,355	\$	2,745,235
Interest-bearing	 11,738,932		10,160,718

Total Deposits	14,703,287		12,905,953
Borrowings:			
Federal funds purchased	20		—
Securities sold under repurchase agreements	179,067		169,697
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	823,577		308,960
Subordinated debentures and other borrowings	151,312		118,677
Total Borrowings	1,153,976		597,334
Interest payable	11,979		3,589
Other liabilities	187,218		150,749
Total Liabilities	16,056,460		13,657,625
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Preferred Stock, \$1,000 par value, \$1,000 liquidation value:			
Authorized 600 cumulative shares			
Issued and outstanding - 125 cumulative shares	125		125
Preferred Stock, Series A, no par value, \$2,500 liquidation preference:			
Authorized 10,000 non-cumulative perpetual shares			
Issued and outstanding - 10,000 non-cumulative perpetual shares	25,000		_
Common Stock, \$.125 stated value:			
Authorized 100,000,000 shares			
Issued and outstanding - 59,257,051 and 53,424,823 shares	7,407		6,678
Additional paid-in capital	1,231,532		987,404
Retained earnings	1,057,298		897,818
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(198,914)		(84,392)
Total Stockholders' Equity	2,122,448		1,807,633
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$ 18,178,908	\$	15,465,258
		:	
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME	Three M	onths I	Ended
(Dollars In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)		rch 31	·
	2023		2022
INTEREST INCOME			
Loans receivable:			
Taxable	\$ 172,353		79,075
Tax-exempt	7,709)	5,704
Investment securities:			
Taxable	9,087	,	8,510
Tax-exempt	16,070)	15,875
Deposits with financial institutions	637	,	230

Investment securities:		
Taxable	9,087	8,510
Tax-exempt	16,070	15,875
Deposits with financial institutions	637	230
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	542	146
Total Interest Income	206,398	109,540
INTEREST EXPENSE		
Deposits	50,685	4,294
Federal funds purchased	1,297	—
Securities sold under repurchase agreements	848	89
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	7,064	1,218
Subordinated debentures and other borrowings	2,385	1,659
Total Interest Expense	62,279	7,260
NET INTEREST INCOME	144,119	102,280
Provision for credit losses - loans		
NET INTEREST INCOME AFTER PROVISION FOR CREDIT LOSSES	144,119	102,280
NON-INTEREST INCOME		
Service charges on deposit accounts	7,359	6,419
Fiduciary and wealth management fees	7,862	7,332
Card payment fees	5,172	5,723
Net gains and fees on sales of loans	2,399	2,199
Derivative hedge fees	1,148	918
Other customer fees	517	410
Earnings on cash surrender value of life insurance	1,288	1,696
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of available for sale securities	(1,571)	566
Other income	823	634
	o / o o =	

25,897

24,997

Total Non-Interest Income

NON-INTEREST EXPENSES							
Salaries and employee benefits		57,459		42,519			
Net occupancy		7,259		6,187			
Equipment		6,126		5,080			
Marketing							
Outside data processing fees		6,113		4,363			
Printing and office supplies		383		345			
Intangible asset amortization	asset amortization 2						
FDIC assessments		1,396		2,192			
Other real estate owned and foreclosure expenses		(18)		564			
Professional and other outside services		3,698		2,953			
Other expenses		7,798		6,020			
Total Non-Interest Expenses		93,720		72,325			
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX		75,396		55,852			
Income tax expense		11,317		7,266			
NET INCOME		64,079		48,586			
Preferred stock dividends		469					
NET INCOME AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS	\$	63,610	\$	48,586			
Per Share Data:							
Basic Net Income Available to Common Stockholders	\$	1.07	\$	0.91			
Diluted Net Income Available to Common Stockholders	\$	1.07	\$	0.91			
Cash Dividends Paid to Common Stockholders	\$	0.32	\$	0.29			
Average Diluted Common Shares Outstanding (in thousands)		59,441		53,616			

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

(Dollars in thousands)	Three Months Ended March 31.					
		Mar 2023	ch 31,	2022		
NET CHARGE-OFFS (RECOVERIES)	\$	225	\$	(587)		

AVERAGE BALANCES:		
Total Assets	\$ 18,022,195	\$ 15,464,605
Total Loans	12,135,384	9,255,928
Total Earning Assets	16,824,407	14,262,777
Total Deposits	14,423,409	12,817,690
Total Stockholders' Equity	2,083,125	1,891,223
FINANCIAL RATIOS:		
Return on Average Assets	1.42%	1.26%
Return on Average Stockholders' Equity	12.21	10.28
Return on Tangible Common Stockholders' Equity	19.82	14.99
Average Earning Assets to Average Assets	93.35	92.23
Allowance for Credit Losses - Loans as % of Total Loans	1.82	2.09
Net Charge-offs as % of Average Loans (Annualized)	0.01	(0.03)
Average Stockholders' Equity to Average Assets	11.56	12.23
Tax Equivalent Yield on Average Earning Assets	5.06	3.23
Interest Expense/Average Earning Assets	1.48	0.20
Net Interest Margin (FTE) on Average Earning Assets	3.58	3.03
Efficiency Ratio	51.72	52.79
Tangible Common Book Value Per Share	\$ 22.93	\$ 23.26

NON-PERFORMING ASSETS

(Dollars In Thousands)	March 31, 2023	De	December 31, 2022		eptember 30, 2022		June 30, 2022	March 31, 2022		
Non-Accrual Loans	\$ 46,576	\$	42,324	\$	43,508	\$	45,970	\$ 42,698		
Troubled Debt Restructures (TDR)	 		224		195	_	233	 141		
Non-Performing Loans (NPL)	46,576		42,548		43,703		46,203	42,839		
Other Real Estate Owned and Repossessions	 7,777		6,431		6,454		6,521	 6,271		

Non-Performing Assets (NPA) 90+ Days Delinguent	54,353 7,032	48,979 1,737	50,157 764		52,724 592	49,110 2,085	
NPAs & 90 Day Delinquent	\$ 61,385	\$ 50,716	\$ 50,921	\$	53,316	\$	51,195
Allowance for Credit Losses - Loans	\$ 223,052	\$ 223,277	\$ 226,702	\$	226,275	\$	195,984
Quarterly Net Charge-offs							
(Recoveries)	225	2,674	(427)		263		(587)
NPAs / Actual Assets %	0.30%	0.27%	0.28%		0.30%		0.32%
NPAs & 90 Day / Actual Assets %	0.34%	0.28%	0.29%		0.30%		0.33%
NPAs / Actual Loans and OREO %	0.44%	0.41%	0.43%		0.46%		0.52%
Allowance for Credit Losses - Loans /							
Actual Loans (%)	1.82%	1.86%	1.94%		1.98%		2.09%
Net Charge-offs (Recoveries) as % of							
Average Loans (Annualized)	0.01%	0.12%	(0.01)%)	0.01%		(0.03)%

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Dollars In Thousands)	 March 31, 2023	D	ecember 31, 2022	S	eptember 30, 2022	June 30, 2022	March 31, 2022
ASSETS							
Cash and due from banks	\$ 125,818	\$	122,594	\$	119,532	\$ 212,559	\$ 148,277
Interest-bearing deposits	352,695		126,061		179,593	136,702	395,262
Investment securities, net of allowance for							
credit losses	4,057,389		4,263,788		4,294,768	4,630,030	4,489,263
Loans held for sale	9,408		9,094		25,394	9,060	3,938
Loans	12,241,461		12,003,894		11,650,002	11,397,417	9,356,241
Less: Allowance for credit losses - loans	 (223,052)		(223,277)		(226,702)	 (226,275)	 (195,984)
Net loans	12,018,409		11,780,617		11,423,300	11,171,142	9,160,257
Premises and equipment	115,857		117,118		116,306	117,757	105,883
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	41,878		38,525		38,056	38,111	26,422
Interest receivable	85,515		85,070		71,605	68,728	56,081
Goodwill and other intangibles	745,647		747,844		750,713	753,649	569,494
Cash surrender value of life insurance	309,090		308,311		306,932	323,013	291,881
Other real estate owned	7,777		6,431		6,454	6,521	6,271
Tax asset, deferred and receivable	103,070		111,222		142,110	114,965	73,422
Other assets	 206,355		221,631		244,222	 198,255	 138,807
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 18,178,908	\$	17,938,306	\$	17,718,985	\$ 17,780,492	\$ 15,465,258
LIABILITIES							
Deposits:							
Noninterest-bearing	\$ 2,964,355	\$	3,173,417	\$	3,356,651	\$ 3,435,331	\$ 2,745,235
Interest-bearing	11,738,932		11,209,328		11,078,174	11,135,538	10,160,718
Total Deposits	 14,703,287		14,382,745		14,434,825	 14,570,869	 12,905,953
Borrowings:							
Federal funds purchased	20		171,560		185,000	100,000	_
Securities sold under repurchase							
agreements	179,067		167,413		194,482	186,468	169,697
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	823,577		823,674		643,769	598,865	308,960
Subordinated debentures and other							
borrowings	 151,312		151,298		151,301	 151,299	 118,677
Total Borrowings	1,153,976		1,313,945		1,174,552	1,036,632	597,334
Interest payable	11,979		7,530		4,971	2,978	3,589
Other liabilities	 187,218		199,316		197,971	 192,372	 150,749
Total Liabilities	16,056,460		15,903,536		15,812,319	15,802,851	13,657,625
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY							
Preferred Stock, \$1,000 par value, \$1,000							
liquidation value:							
Authorized 600 cumulative shares							
Issued and outstanding - 125 cumulative shares	125		125		125	125	125
Preferred Stock, Series A, no par value,	123		123		123	120	123

\$2,500 liquidation preference:

Authorized 10,000 non-cumulative perpetual shares Issued and outstanding - 10,000 non-cumulative perpetual shares	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	_
Common Stock, \$.125 stated value:					
Authorized 100,000,000 shares					
Issued and outstanding	7,407	7,396	7,393	7,383	6,678
Additional paid-in capital	1,231,532	1,228,626	1,226,695	1,226,378	987,404
Retained earnings	1,057,298	1,012,774	961,542	917,311	897,818
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	 (198,914)	 (239,151)	 (314,089)	 (198,556)	 (84,392)
Total Stockholders' Equity	 2,122,448	 2,034,770	 1,906,666	 1,977,641	 1,807,633
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$ 18,178,908	\$ 17,938,306	\$ 17,718,985	\$ 17,780,492	\$ 15,465,258

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF

INCOME

(Dollars In Thousands, Except Per Share

	larch 023	December 31, 2022	September 30, 2022	June 30, 2022	March 31, 2022
COME					
able:					
\$	172,353	\$ 156,102	\$ 128,504	\$ 106,787	\$ 79,075
t	7,709	6,930	6,500	5,990	5,704
ecurities:					
	9,087	9,417	10,055	10,372	8,510
t	16,070	17,033	17,261	17,212	15,875
n financial institutions	637	959	704	610	230
e Loan Bank stock	542	541	314	175	146
erest Income	206,398	190,982	163,338	141,146	109,540
PENSE					
	50,685	33,516	16,644	8,485	4,294
s purchased	1,297	808	418	76	_
ld under repurchase					
	848	541	372	134	89
e Loan Bank advances	7,064	4,932	3,493	1,774	1,218
I debentures and other			0.405		(
	2,385	2,229	2,105	2,016	1,659
erest Expense	62,279	42,026	23,032	12,485	7,260
TINCOME	144,119	148,956	140,306	128,661	102,280
credit losses - loans				16,755	
T INCOME AFTER OR CREDIT LOSSES	144,119	148,956	140,306	111,906	102,280
ges on deposit accounts	7,359	7,097	7,165	7,690	6,419
wealth management fees	7,862	7,501	7,221	7,634	7,332
nt fees	5,172	4,533	4,776	5,175	5,723
d fees on sales of loans	2,399	2,087	2,543	3,226	2,199
dge fees	1,148	326	700	1,444	918
ner fees	517	362	501	662	410
cash surrender value of life					
	1,288	1,515	6,655	1,308	1,696
gains (losses) on sales of					
sale securities	(1,571)	57	481	90	566
e (loss)	823	672	(425)		634
n-Interest Income	24,997	24,150	29,617	28,277	25,897
ST EXPENSES					
employee benefits	57,459	52,331	56,002	56,041	42,519
су	7,259	6,638	6,738	6,648	6,187
	6,126	6,148	5,997	6,720	5,080
	1,309	3,157	2,401	1,414	736
processing fees	6,113	5,611	6,827	4,881	4,363
processing fees	1,309	3,157	2,401	1,414	

Printing and office supplies	383	390		472	381		345
Intangible asset amortization	2,197	2,303		2,303	2,303		1,366
FDIC assessments	1,396	2,295		2,824	2,924		2,192
Other real estate owned and foreclosure		-			-		
expenses	(18)	197		328	(266)		564
Professional and other outside services	3,698	3,961		4,461	10,267		2,953
Other expenses	7,798	6,668		8,025	6,000		6,020
Total Non-Interest Expenses	93,720	 89,699		96,378	 97,313		72,325
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX	 75,396	 83,407		73,545	 42,870		55,852
Income tax expense	11,317	12,647		9,793	3,879		7,266
NET INCOME	 64,079	 70,760		63,752	 38,991		48,586
Preferred stock dividends	469	468		469	469		
NET INCOME AVAILABLE TO COMMON	 100	 100		100	 100	<u> </u>	
STOCKHOLDERS	\$ 63,610	\$ 70,292	\$	63,283	\$ 38,522	\$	48,586
Per Share Data:						:	
Basic Net Income Available to Common							
Stockholders	\$ 1.07	\$ 1.20	\$	1.08	\$ 0.64	\$	0.91
Diluted Net Income Available to Common							
Stockholders	\$ 1.07	\$ 1.19	\$	1.08	\$ 0.63	\$	0.91
Cash Dividends Paid to Common							
Stockholders	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.32	\$	0.32	\$ 0.32	\$	0.29
Average Diluted Common Shares							
Outstanding (in thousands)	59,441	59,384		59,339	59,308		53,616
FINANCIAL RATIOS:							
Return on Average Assets	1.42%	1.59%	•	1.43%	0.88%		1.26%
Return on Average Stockholders' Equity	12.21	14.36		12.54	7.62		10.28
Return on Tangible Common							
Stockholders' Equity	19.82	24.21		20.85	12.91		14.99
Average Earning Assets to Average							
Assets	93.35	93.66		92.90	92.45		92.23
Allowance for Credit Losses - Loans as %	4.00	4.00		4.04	1.00		0.00
of Total Loans	1.82	1.86		1.94	1.98		2.09
Net Charge-offs (Recoveries) as % of Average Loans (Annualized)	0.01	0.12		(0.01)	0.01		(0.03)
Average Stockholders' Equity to Average	0.01	0.12		(0.01)	0.01		(0.03)
Assets	11.56	10.98		11.36	11.37		12.23
Tax Equivalent Yield on Average Earning	11.00	10.00		11.00	11.07		12.20
Assets	5.06	4.73		4.11	3.58		3.23
Interest Expense/Average Earning Assets	1.48	1.01		0.56	0.30		0.20
Net Interest Margin (FTE) on Average				0.00	0.00		0.20
Earning Assets	3.58	3.72		3.55	3.28		3.03
Efficiency Ratio	51.72	48.60		53.34	58.45		52.79
Tangible Common Book Value Per Share	\$ 22.93	\$ 21.45	\$	19.26	\$ 20.45	\$	23.26
2							

LOANS

(Dollars In Thousands)	March 31, 2023	Decembe 2022	- ,	31, September 30, 2022		30, 2	March 31, 2022	
Commercial and industrial loans	\$ 3,502,204 \$ 3,4		37,126 \$	3,330,529	\$ 3,2	97,477 \$	2,826,660	
Agricultural land, production and other loans to farmers	219,598	24	1,793	221,954	2	14,904	209,077	
Real estate loans:								
Construction	960,979	83	35,582	828,923	7	45,983	552,975	
Commercial real estate, non-owner								
occupied	2,375,410	2,40	07,475	2,299,272	2,4	23,185	2,073,197	
Commercial real estate, owner occupied	1,244,117	1,24	6,528	1,268,567	1,2	64,563	974,521	
Residential	2,185,943	2,09	6,655	1,990,668	1,8	13,297	1,226,695	
Home equity	621,354	63	80,632	621,619	5	86,108	512,641	
Individuals' loans for household and other								
personal expenditures	172,389	17	75,211	173,225	1	57,264	147,593	
Public finance and other commercial loans	959,467	93	82,892	915,245	8	94,636	832,882	
Loans	12,241,461	12,00	3,894	11,650,002	11,3	97,417	9,356,241	
Allowance for credit losses - loans	(223,052)	(22	23,277)	(226,702)	(2	26,275)	(195,984)	

NET LOANS	\$ 12,018,409	\$	11,780,617	\$ 11,423,300	\$	11,171,142	\$	9,160,257
		-			-		-	

DEPOSITS

(Dollars In Thousands)	I	March 31,		ecember 31,	Se	eptember 30,	June 30,			March 31,	
		2023		2022	2022			2022		2022	
Demand deposits	\$	8,422,387	\$	8,448,797	\$	8,534,950	\$	8,785,889	\$	7,806,033	
Savings deposits		4,499,487		4,657,140		5,054,490		4,875,880		4,444,417	
Certificates and other time deposits of \$100,000 or											
more		1,040,379		742,539		443,588		436,942		252,033	
Other certificates and time deposits		574,886		468,712		381,365		446,973		380,293	
Brokered certificates of deposits		166,148		65,557		20,432		25,185		23,177	
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$	14,703,287	\$	14,382,745	\$	14,434,825	\$	14,570,869	\$	12,905,953	

CONSOLIDATED AVERAGE BALANCE SHEET AND NET INTEREST MARGIN ANALYSIS

(Dollars in Thousands)

(, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	For the Three Months Ended									
		М	arcl	h 31, 2023			М	arch	n 31, 2022	
		Average Balance		Interest Income / Expense	Average Rate		Average Balance	I	Interest ncome / Expense	Average Rate
ASSETS										
Interest-bearing deposits	\$	172,814	\$	637	1.47%	\$	484,626	\$	230	0.19%
Federal Home Loan Bank stock		39,759		542	5.45		27,914		146	2.09
Investment securities: ⁽¹⁾										
Taxable		1,924,079		9,087	1.89		1,957,675		8,510	1.74
Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾		2,552,371		20,342	3.19		2,536,634		20,095	3.17
Total Investment Securities		4,476,450		29,429	2.63		4,494,309		28,605	2.55
Loans held for sale		23,538		360	6.12		4,352		40	3.68
Loans: ⁽³⁾										
Commercial		8,483,879		139,661	6.58		6,868,438		64,679	3.77
Real estate mortgage		1,914,640		18,391	3.84		924,268		7,840	3.39
Installment		840,450		13,941	6.64		711,038		6,516	3.67
Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾		872,877		9,758	4.47		747,832		7,220	3.86
Total Loans		12,135,384		182,111	6.00		9,255,928		86,295	3.73
Total Earning Assets		16,824,407		212,719	5.06%		14,262,777		115,276	3.23%
Total Non-Earning Assets		1,197,788					1,201,828			
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	18,022,195				\$	15,464,605			
LIABILITIES	_					_				
Interest-bearing deposits:										
Interest-bearing deposits	\$	5,263,601	\$	24,662	1.87%	\$	5,027,466	\$	2,408	0.19%
Money market deposits		2,746,047		13,577	1.98		2,514,429		872	0.14
Savings deposits		1,826,209		2,965	0.65		1,867,411		441	0.09
Certificates and other time deposits		1,466,275		9,481	2.59		676,661		573	0.34
Total Interest-Bearing Deposits	_	11,302,132		50,685	1.79		10,085,967		4,294	0.17
Borrowings:		1,293,309		11,594	3.59		616,572		2,966	1.92
Total Interest-Bearing Liabilities		12,595,441		62,279	1.98		10,702,539		7,260	0.27
Noninterest-bearing deposits		3,121,277					2,731,723			
Other liabilities		222,352					139,120			
Total Liabilities		15,939,070					13,573,382			
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		2,083,125					1,891,223			
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$	18,022,195		62,279		\$	15,464,605		7,260	
Net Interest Income (FTE)			\$	150,440		_		\$	108,016	
Net Interest Spread (FTE) ⁽⁴⁾					3.08%					2.96%
Net Interest Margin (FTE):										
Interest Income (FTE) / Average Earning Assets					5.06%					3.23%
Interest Expense / Average Earning Assets					1.48%					0.20%

Net Interest Margin (FTE)⁽⁵⁾

⁽¹⁾Average balance of securities is computed based on the average of the historical amortized cost balances without the effects of the fair value adjustments. Annualized amounts are computed using a 30/360 day basis.

⁽²⁾Tax-exempt securities and loans are presented on a fully taxable equivalent basis, using a marginal tax rate of 21 percent for 2023 and 2022. These totals equal \$6,321 and \$5,736 for the three months ended March 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

⁽³⁾ Non accruing loans have been included in the average balances.

⁽⁴⁾ Net Interest Spread (FTE) is interest income expressed as a percentage of average earning assets minus interest expense expressed as a percentage of average interest-bearing liabilities.

⁽⁵⁾ Net Interest Margin (FTE) is interest income expressed as a percentage of average earning assets minus interest expense expressed as a percentage of average earning assets.

ADJUSTED EPS EXCLUDING PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM ("PPP") AND ACQUISITION-RELATED EXPENSES - NON-GAAP

	Thousands.		

(Dollars in Thousands, Except r er Share Amounts)												
		March 31, 2023	Deo	cember 31, 2022	Sep	otember 30, 2022		June 30, 2022	Ν	/larch 31, 2022		
Net Income Available to Common Stockholders - GAAP	\$	63,610	\$	\$ 70,292		\$ 63,283		38,522	\$	48,586		
Adjustments:												
PPP loan income		(25)		(109)		(323)		(891)		(1,884)		
Acquisition-related expenses		_		413		3,417		12,549		152		
Acquisition-related provision expense		_		_		_		16,755		_		
Tax on adjustment		6		(75)		(759)		(6,967)		425		
Adjusted Net Income Available to Common Stockholders - Non-GAAP	\$	63,591	\$	70,521	\$	65,618	\$	59,968	\$	47,279		
Average Diluted Common Shares Outstanding (in thousands)		59,441		59,384		59,339		59,308		53,616		
Diluted Earnings Per Common Share - GAAP Adjustments:	\$	1.07	\$	1.19	\$	1.08	\$	0.63	\$	0.91		
PPP loan income		_		(0.01)		_		(0.01)		(0.04)		
Acquisition-related expenses		_		0.01		0.05		0.22		_		
Acquisition-related provision expense		_		_		_		0.30		_		
Tax on adjustment		_		_		(0.01)		(0.13)		0.01		
Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Common Share -												
Non-GAAP	\$	1.07	\$	1.19	\$	1.12	\$	1.01	\$	0.88		

RETURN ON TANGIBLE COMMON EQUITY

(Dollars In Thousands)	Three Months Ended											
		March 31, 2023	December 31, 2022		S	September 30, 2022		June 30, 2022		March 31, 2022		
Total Average Stockholders' Equity (GAAP) Less: Average Preferred Stock Less: Average Intangible Assets, Net of Tax	\$	2,083,125 (25,125) (739,190)	\$	1,958,041 (25,125) (741,632)	\$	2,018,156 (25,125) (744,069)		2,021,123 (25,125) (745,614)	\$	1,891,223 (125) (565,476)		
Average Tangible Common Equity, Net of Tax (Non-GAAP)	\$	1,318,810	\$	1,191,284	\$	1,248,962	\$	1,250,384	\$	1,325,622		
Net Income Available to Common Stockholders (GAAP) Plus: Intangible Asset Amortization, Net of Tax	\$	63,610 1,734	\$	70,292 1,819	\$	63,283 1,819	\$	38,521 1,820	\$	48,586 1,079		
Tangible Net Income (Non-GAAP)	\$	65,344	\$	72,111	\$	65,102	\$	40,341	\$	49,665		
Return on Tangible Common Equity (Non-GAAP)		19.82%		24.21%		20.85%		12.91%		14.99%		

For more information, contact: Nicole M. Weaver, Vice President and Director of Corporate Administration 765-521-7619 http://www.firstmerchants.com Three Months Ended