UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

DATE OF REPORT (Date of earliest event reported): October 28, 2020

Commission File Number 0-17071

FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Indiana	35-1544218
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)

200 East Jackson Street

P.O. Box 792

Muncie, IN 47305-2814 (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(765) 747-1500

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

 Title of Each Class
 Trading Symbol(s)
 Name of each exchange on which registered

 Common Slock, \$0.125 stated value per share
 FRME
 Nasdaq Global Select Market

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

 $\hfill\square$ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

□ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

□ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

□ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company \Box

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

ITEM 2.02 RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION

On Wednesday, October 28, 2020, First Merchants Corporation will conduct a third quarter 2020 earnings conference call and web cast at 2:30 p.m. (ET). A copy of the slide presentation utilized on the conference call is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(a) Not applicable.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1 Slide Presentation, utilized on October 28, 2020, during conference call and web cast by First Merchants Corporation.

Exhibit 104 Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

First Merchants Corporation (Registrant)

By: <u>/s/ Mark K. Hardwick</u> Mark K. Hardwick Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer

Dated: October 28, 2020

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. Description

- 99.1 Slide presentation, utilized on October 28 2020, during conference call and web cast by First Merchants Corporation.
- 104 Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

30 2020 | Earnings Highlights | October 28, 202

First Merchants Corporation



First Merchants Corporation | 200 E. Jackson St., P.O. Box 792, Muncie, IN 47305-2814 | 1.765.747.1500



Forward Looking Stateme

This presentation contains forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe-harbor of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements but not always, be identified by the use of words like "believe", "continue", "pattern", "project", "intend", "anticipate", "expect" and similar expressions or future or conditional v as "will", would", "should", "could", "might", "can", "may", or similar expressions. These looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements relating to First Mercha intentions and expectations; statements regarding the First Merchants' business plan ar strategies; statements regarding the asset quality of First Merchants' loan and investment and estimates of First Merchants' risks and future costs and benefits. These forwa statements are subject to significant risks, assumptions and uncertainties that may cause differ materially from those set forth in forward-looking statements, including, among oth possible changes in economic and business conditions; the existence or exacerbation (geopolitical instability and uncertainty; the effects of a pandemic or other unforeseeable ability of First Merchants to integrate recent acquisitions and attract new customers; possibl in monetary and fiscal policies, and laws and regulations; the effects of easing restr participants in the financial services industry; the cost and other effects of legal and adm cases; possible changes in the credit worthiness of customers and the possible impa collectability of loans; fluctuations in market rates of interest; competitive factors in th industry; changes in the banking legislation or regulatory requirements of federal and state applicable to bank holding companies and banks like First Merchants' affiliate bank; availability of earnings and excess capital sufficient for the lawful and prudent decla dividends; changes in market, economic, operational, liquidity, credit and interest associated with the First Merchants' business; and other risks and factors identified in ea Merchants' filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. First Merchants unde obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether written or oral, relating to th discussed in this presentation or press release. In addition, the company's past results of (do not necessarily indicate its anticipated future results.

NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES

These slides contain non-GAAP financial measures. For purposes of Regulation G, a financial measure is a numerical measure of the registrant's historical or future financial per financial position or cash flows that excludes amounts, or is subject to adjustments that effect of excluding amounts, that are included in the most directly comparable measure and presented in accordance with GAAP in the statement of income, balance sheet or sta cash flows (or equivalent statements) of the issue; or includes amounts, or is subject to ad that have the effect of including amounts, that are excluded from the most directly cameasure so calculated and presented. In this regard, GAAP refers to generally accepted a principles in the United States. Pursuant to the requirements of Regulation G, First I Corporation has provided reconciliations within the slides, as necessary, of the non-GAAI measure to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure.

First Merchants Corporation | 200 E. Jackson St., P.O. Box 792, Muncie, IN 47305-2814 | 1.765.747.1500

Michael C. Rechin

President

Chief Executive Officer



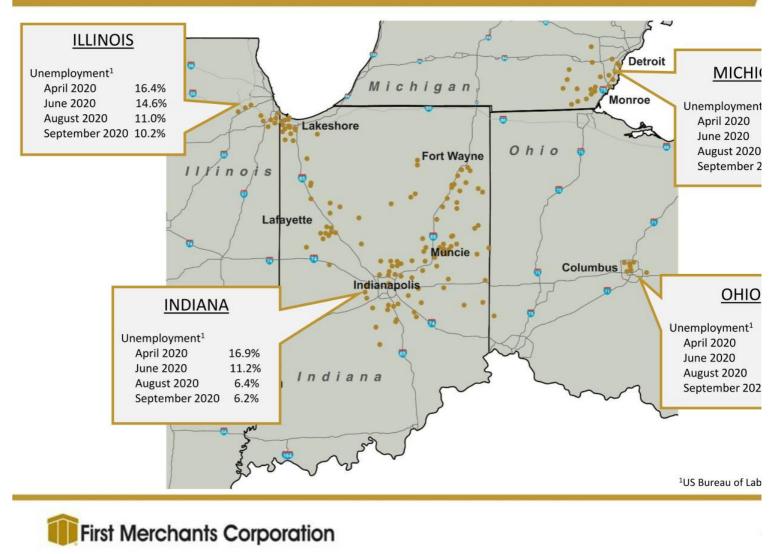
3rd Quarter 2020 Highlights

Earnings	 Eamings Per Share of \$.67; Net Income of \$36.2 Million; ROA 1.06% Pre-Tax Pre-Provision Income of \$54.4 Million PTPP ROA 1.59%; PTPP ROE 11.88% Core Net Interest Margin Stabilized on a Linked Quarter Basis
Assets	 Total Assets of \$13.7 Billion; Grew by 11.5% over 3Q 2019 Total Loans of \$9.2 Billion; Grew by \$940 Million over 3Q 2019
Deposits	 Total Deposits of \$10.9 Billion; Grew by \$1.1 Billion over 3Q 2019 Deposit Costs Declined by 61 bps from 4Q 2019 to 36 bps
Capital	 Tangible Common Equity to Assets of 9.57%, an increase of 26 bps \$23.48 TBV Per Share; 10.4% Increase over 3Q 2019 a3 Baseline Credit Assessment from Moody's Investor Service¹
First M	erchants Corporation

3rd Quarter 2020 Highlights cont.

Asset Quality	 Allowance & Fair Value Marks totaling 1.65% of Loans \$12.5 Million Provision; Allowance increased by 57.3% over 3Q 2019
Liquidity	 Ample liquidity with Loan to Deposit Ratio of 84.8% Loan to Asset Ratio of 67.3% Cash and Investment Security levels remain strong at \$3.4 Billion
COVID-19 Loan Modifications	 \$176 Million in Loan modifications or 2% of the total portfolio in deferral Robust process for 2nd request modifications Residual Covid Modifications concentrated in hospitality industry receiving focused at
CARES Act	 SBA Paycheck Protection Program institution with more than 5,000 applications and greater than \$900 Million funded to businesses (FMB is, and has been, a preferred SBA Lender) Started to accept and file applications for forgiveness
First Merchants	s Corporation

Our Franchise



Mark K. Hardwick

Executive Vice President

Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer



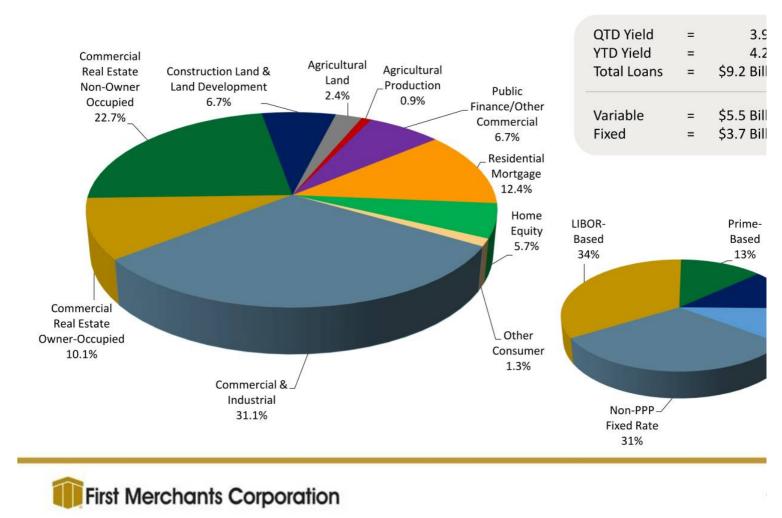
Total Assets

	(\$ in Millions)	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Q1-'20</u>	<u>Q2-'20</u>	<u>Q3-'2</u>
1.	Investments	\$1,633	\$2,596	\$2,698	\$2,789	\$2,93
2.	Loans	7,229	8,468	8,612	9,299 ¹	9,24
3.	Allowance	(81)	(80)	(99)	(121)	(127
4.	Goodwill & Intangibles	470	579	577	576	57
5.	BOLI	225	288	290	291	29
6.	Cash & Other	409	606	<u>616</u>	<u>985</u>	<u>81</u>
7.	Total Assets	<u>\$9,885</u>	\$12,457	<u>\$12,694</u>	<u>\$13,819</u>	<u>\$13,73</u>

 $^{\rm 1}$ Includes SBA Paycheck Protection Program loans of \$883 million in Q2 and \$901 million in Q3

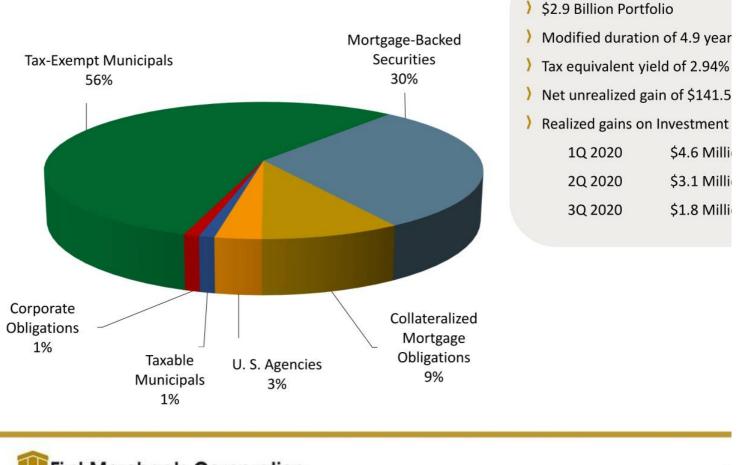
Loan Yield and Detail

(as of September 30, 2020)



Investment Portfolio

(as of September 30, 2020)

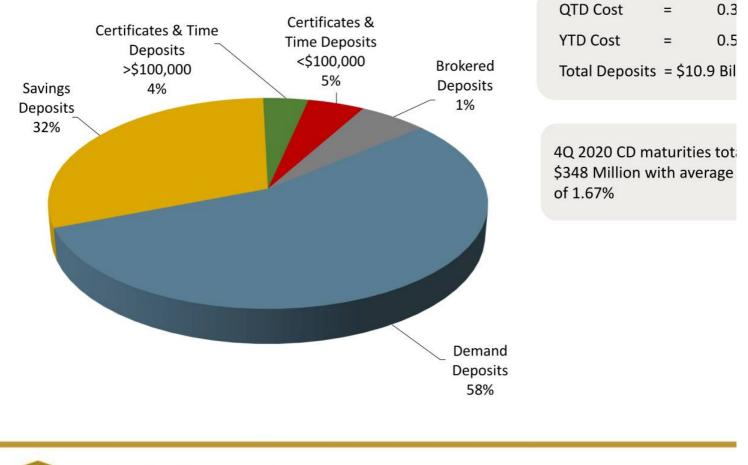


Total Liabilities and Capital

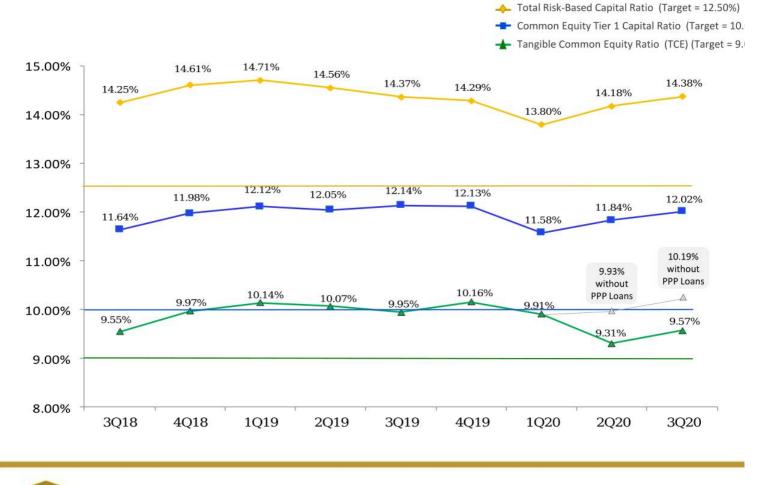
	(\$ in Millions)	<u>2018</u>	2019	<u>Q1-'20</u>	<u>Q2-'20</u>	<u>Q3-</u>
1.	Customer Non-Maturity Deposits	\$6,268	\$8,147	\$8,256	\$9,567	\$ 9,7
2.	Customer Time Deposits	1,241	1,478	1,411	1,276	1,0
3.	Brokered Deposits	<u>246</u>	<u>215</u>	<u>203</u>	<u>123</u>	
	Total Deposits	7,755	9,840	9,870	10,966	10,9
4.	Borrowings	538	599	716	754	e
5.	Other Liabilities	51	98	206	177	2
6.	Hybrid Capital	133	134	124	113	1
7.	Common Equity	1,408	<u>1,786</u>	<u>1,778</u>	<u>1,809</u>	<u>1,8</u>
8.	Total Liabilities and Capital	<u>\$9,885</u>	<u>\$12,457</u>	\$ <u>\$12,694</u>	<u>\$13,819</u>	<u>\$13,7</u>

Deposit Detail

(as of September 30, 2020)

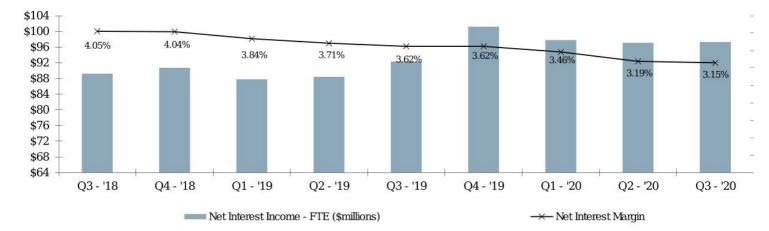


Capital Ratios



Net Interest Margin

	<u>Q3 - '18</u>	<u>Q4 - '18</u>	<u>Q1 - '19</u>	<u>Q2 - '19</u>	<u>Q3 - '19</u>	<u>Q4 - '19</u>	<u>Q1 - '</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>Q2 - '20</u>	l
Net Interest Income - FTE (\$millions)	\$ 89.2	\$ 90.7	\$ 87.8	\$ 88.4	\$ 92.3	\$ 101.2 \$	97	8	\$ 97.1	\$
Fair Value Accretion	\$ 3.2	\$ 3.9	\$ 2.3	\$ 2.2	\$ 2.5	\$ 5.0 \$	3	5	\$ 3.7	\$
Tax Equivalent Yield on Eaming Assets Interest Expense/Average Eaming Assets Net Interest Margin Fair Value Accretion Effect	4.88% 0.83% 4.05% 0.15%	4.97% 0.93% 4.04% 0.17%	4.89% 1.05% 3.84% 0.09%	4.86% 1.15% 3.71% 0.09%	4.77% 1.15% 3.62% 0.10%	4.63% 1.01% 3.62% 0.18%	4.38 0.92 3.46 0.12	%	3.72% 0.53% 3.19% 0.12%	



Non-Interest Income

	(\$ in Millions)	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Q1-'20</u>	<u>Q2-'20</u>	<u>Q3-</u>
1.	Service Charges on Deposit Accounts	\$ 21.0	\$23.0	\$ 6.0	\$ 4.3	\$
2.	Wealth Management Fees	14.9	17.6	6.0	5.6	
3.	Card Payment Fees	18.0	20.2	5.9	6.1	
4.	Gains on Sales of Mortgage Loans	7.0	7.9	3.4	3.7	
5.	Derivative Hedge Fees	2.5	5.4	1.9	1.1	
6.	Other Customer Fees	<u>1.9</u>	<u>1.7</u>	<u>0.4</u>	<u>0.3</u>	
	Total Customer Related Fees	65.3	75.8	23.6	21.1	2
7.	Cash Surrender Value of Life Ins	4.2	4.5	1.4	1.3	
8.	Gains on Sales of Securities	4.3	4.4	4.6	3.1	
9.	Other	<u>2.7</u>	<u>2.0</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>1.0</u>	
10.	Total Non-Interest Income	\$76.5	<u>\$86.7</u>	<u>\$29.8</u>	<u>\$26.5</u>	<u>\$2</u>

Non-Interest Expense

	(\$ in Millions)	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Q1-'20</u>	<u>Q2-'20</u>	<u>Q3-'</u>
1.	Salary & Benefits	\$131.7	\$144.0	\$39.2	\$35.7	\$39
2.	Premises & Equipment	32.7	35.8	10.2	9.9	10
3.	Intangible Asset Amortization	6.7	6.0	1.5	1.5	1
4.	Professional & Other Outside Services	8.2	15.4	2.3	1.6	2
5.	OREO/Credit-Related Expense	1.5	2.4	0.5	0.7	C
6.	FDIC Expense	2.9	0.7	1.5	1.5	1
7.	Outside Data Processing	13.2	16.5	4.2	2.6	Э
8.	Marketing	4.7	6.7	1.4	2.1	1
9.	Other	18.4	<u>19.3</u>	<u>5.3</u>	<u>4.4</u>	3
10.	Total Non-Interest Expense	\$220.0	<u>\$246.8</u> 1	<u>\$66.1</u>	<u>\$60.0</u>	<u>\$64</u>

¹Includes acquisition-related expenses of \$13.7 million

²Includes COVID related cleaning and PPE expenses of \$618,000 QTD and 1.1 million YTD

Earnings

	(\$ in Millions)	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Q1-'20</u>	<u>Q2-'20</u>	<u>Q3-</u>
1.	Net Interest Income	\$ 338.8	\$356.7	\$93.9	\$93.0	\$9
2.	Provision for Loan Losses	<u>(7.2)</u>	<u>(2.8)</u>	<u>(19.8)</u>	<u>(21.9)</u>	<u>(12</u>
3.	Net Interest Income after Provision	331.6	353.9	74.1	71.1	8
4.	Non-Interest Income	76.5	86.7	29.8	26.5	2
5.	Non-Interest Expense	<u>(220.0)</u>	<u>(246.8)</u>	<u>(66.1)</u>	<u>(60.0)</u>	<u>(64</u>
6.	Income Before Income Taxes	188.1	193.8	37.8	37.6	4
7.	Income Tax Expense	<u>(29.0)</u>	<u>(29.3)</u>	<u>(3.5)</u>	(<u>4.6)</u>	<u>(5</u>
8.	Net Income Avail. for Distribution	\$ 159.1	<u>\$164.5</u>	<u>\$34.3</u>	<u>\$33.0</u>	<u>\$3</u>
9.	EPS	\$ 3.22	\$ 3.19 ¹	\$0.62	\$0.62	\$0
10.	Efficiency Ratio	50.21%	52.73% ²	52.17%	47.95%	51.4

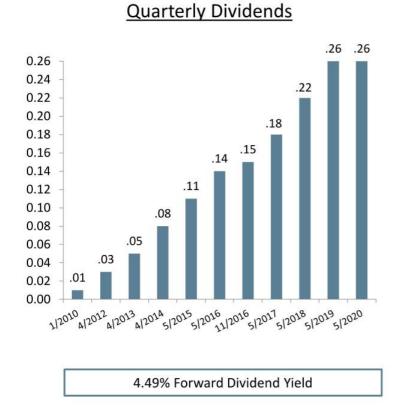
¹Acquisition-related expenses reduced EPS by \$0.21 ²Acquisition-related expenses increased the Efficiency Ratio by 3.04%

Per Share Results

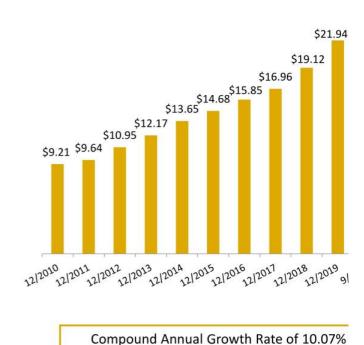
2019	<u>Q1</u>	<u>Q2</u>	<u>Q3</u>	<u>Q4</u>	Tot
1. Earnings Per Share	\$.78	\$.83 ¹	\$.71 ¹	\$.87 ¹	\$ 3.:
2. Dividends	\$.22	\$.26	\$.26	\$.26	\$ 1.0
3. Dividend Payout Ratio	28.2%	31.3%	36.6%	29.9%	31.4
4. Tangible Book Value	\$20.07	\$21.01	\$21.26	\$21.94	
<u>2020</u>	<u>Q1</u>	<u>Q2</u>	<u>Q3</u>	<u>Q4</u>	Tot
2020 1. Earnings Per Share	Q1 \$.62	Q2 \$.62	Q3 \$.67	<u>Q4</u> _	<u>Tot</u> \$ 1.9
	2.	10 - 12 - 12		<u>Q4</u> 	
1. Earnings Per Share	\$.62	\$.62	\$.67	<u>Q4</u> _ _	\$ 1.9

¹Acquisition-related expenses reduced EPS by \$0.01 in Q2; \$0.17 in Q3; \$0.03 in Q4; and \$0.21 for full-year 2019

Dividends and Tangible Book Value



Tangible Book Value



Michele M. Kawiecki

Senior Vice President

Director of Finance



ALLL and Fair Value Summary

 Beginning Allowance for Loan Losses (ALLL) Less: Net Charge-offs (Recoveries) Add: Provision Expense Ending Allowance for Loan Losses (ALLL) 	\$ \$	Q3-'19 81.3 1.3 <u>0.6</u> 80.6	\$ \$	<u>Q4-'19</u> 80.6 0.8 <u>0.5</u> 80.3	\$ \$	Q1-'20 80.3 0.6 <u>19.8</u> 99.5	\$ \$	<u>Q2-'20</u> 99.5 0.2 <u>21.9</u> 121.1	\$	Q3-'20 121.1 6.9 <u>12.5</u> 126.7
 Specific Reserves ALLL/Non-Accrual Loans ALLL/Non-Purchased Loans ALLL/Loans 	\$	2.3 354.5% 1.16% 0.97%	\$	0.7 503.4% 1.11% 0.95%	\$	0.6 635.5% 1.33% 1.15%	\$	13.0 241.7% 1.46% 1.30%	\$	9.1 223.3% 1.52% 1.37%
9. Fair Value Adjustment (FVA) 10. Total ALLL plus FVA 11. Purchased Loans plus FVA 12. FVA/Purchased Loans plus FVA	\$	41.3 121.9 1,410.3 2.93%	\$	36.6 116.9 1,271.2 2.88%	\$	33.1 132.5 1,155.1 2.86%	\$	29.3 150.4 1,039.4 2.82%	\$	26.0 152.7 940.4 2.76%
100% - 90% - 80% - 70% - 60% -								64.6 %	umulati	ve Loan Incom



2012

2013

2015

2010

2017

2014

50%

40% 30% 20% 10%
 16.0%
 = Cumulative Offset Charge-Offs

 19.4%
 = Remaining Fair Value Adjustment

02:20

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2019

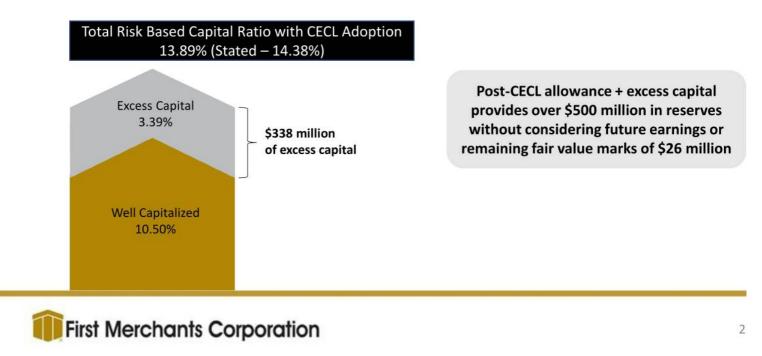
2018

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Loan Loss Coverage & Capital Strength

	ALLL	ALLL/Loans	ALLL/Loans - PPP Loan
Allowance for Loan Losses - 6/30/20	\$121.1	1.30%	1.44%
Q3-'20 increase in ALLL	\$ 5.6		
Allowance for Loan Losses - 9/30/20	\$126.7	1.37%	1.52%
CECL Day 1 Adoption Impact*	\$ 52.2		
Allowance for Loan Losses with CECL Day 1 Impact	\$178.9	1.93%	2.14%

*CECL has not been adopted and is included for illustrative purposes only. The impact assumes retrospective measurement back to January 1, 2020 and reflects the ran disclosed in the 12/31/19 Form 10-K. Adoption impact would also include \$18.5 million in reserve for unfunded commitments recorded in Other Liabilities.



John J. Martin

Executive Vice President Chief Credit Officer



Portfolio Trending – Q3-'20

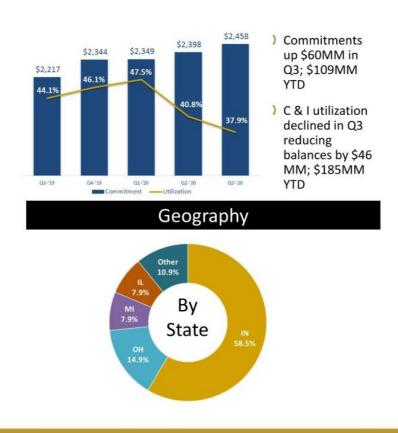
						Change Linked Qua
(\$ in Millions)	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Q1-'20</u>	<u>Q2-'20</u>	<u>Q3-'20</u>	<u>\$</u>
1. Commercial & Industrial	\$ 1,498	\$ 1,802	\$ 1,858	\$ 2,576	\$ 2,539	\$ (37)
2. Sponsor Finance	233	312	345	326	340	14
3. CRE Owner Occupied	725	910	921	915	928	13
4. Construction, Land and	546	787	644	640	622	(18)
Land Development						1011 400
5. CRE Non-Owner Occupied	1,861	1,899	2,114	2,098	2,099	1
6. Agricultural Production	92	94	87	94	83	(11) (
7. Agricultural Land	242	240	229	223	218	(5)
8. Public Finance/Other Commercial	<u>433</u>	<u>547</u>	<u>587</u>	<u>625</u>	<u>616</u>	<u>(9)</u>
9. Total Commercial Loans	5,630	6,591	6,785	7,497	7,445	(52)
10. Residential Mortgage	970	1,149	1,127	1,146	1,147	1
11. Home Equity	528	589	570	532	527	(5)
12. Other Consumer	<u>101</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>130</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>128</u>	<u>4</u>
13. Total Residential Mortgage and Consumer Loans	1,599	<u>1,877</u>	<u>1,827</u>	<u>1,802</u>	<u>1,802</u>	<u>0</u>
14. Total Loans	\$ 7,229	\$ 8,468	\$ 8,612	\$ 9,299	\$ 9,247	\$ (52)
Construction Concentration ¹	50%	62%	49%	47%	44%	
Investment RE Concentration ¹	221%	212%	208%	200%	194%	
¹ Ac a % of Rick Paced Capital						

¹As a % of Risk Based Capital

First Merchants Corporation

Loan Portfolio

C & I Line Utilization



COVID-19 Modifications¹ by Loan Ty

\$176 million, 1.9% of loans, have COVID-19 Mod in Def

(\$ in Millions)		1st Aod		2nd 1od	<u>In</u>	Def \$
Commercial & Industrial	\$	150	\$	12	\$	2
Sponsor Finance		6		6		10
CRE Owner Occupied		246		5		1
Construction & Land Development		30		1		1
CRE Non-Owner Occupied		456		80		11
Agriculture		1		1		
Residential Mortgage		80		11		37
Home Equity		7		-		
Other Consumer	-	3	<u></u>	-		22
Total Loans	\$	979	\$	116	\$	17

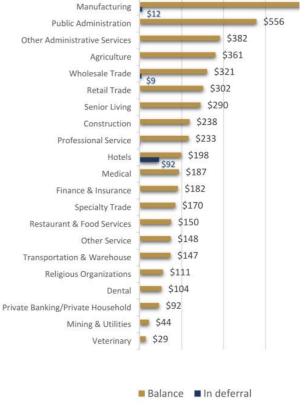
 1 1st Mod refers to loans with 1 Covid Mod. 2^{nd} Mod refers to loans with a 2^n 2 In Deferral is where the last extended payment due date is Q3 or in future.

COVID-19 Loan Modifications by Industry

Loan Balances by Industry

(\$ in Millions)	Q3 -	% of Total	1st	2nd	In Defer	ral O3
Segments based on NAICS Code	'20	Loans	Mod	Mod	\$	#
Manufacturing	\$ 795	8.6%	\$ 67	\$ 5	\$ 12	10
Public Administration	556	6.0%	2	2	1	12
Other Administrative Services	382	4.1%	27	4	2	6
Agriculture	361	3.9%	1	1	1	3
Wholesale Trade	321	3.5%	34	4	9	9
Retail Trade	302	3.3%	50	-	1	3
Senior Living	290	3.1%	2	14	170	-
Construction	238	2.6%	8	-	-	1
Professional Service	233	2.5%	10	120	3	3
Hotels	198	2.1%	118	52	92	15
Medical	187	2.0%	27	\sim	-	
Finance & Insurance	182	2.0%	1		-	-
Specialty Trade	170	1.8%	4	-		2
Restaurant & Food Services	150	1.6%	39	1.5	8.76	2
Other Service	148	1.6%	18	2	2	5
Transportation & Warehouse	147	1.6%	14	0.25	1	3
Religious Organizations	111	1.2%	10	3. 9 7	172	3
Dental	104	1.1%	58		2.00	3
Private Banking/Private Household	92	1.0%	4		1	2
Mining & Utilities	44	0.5%	-	-	-	-
Veterinary	29	0.4%	6			
Total Commercial Portfolio by NAICS	5,040	54.5%	500	82	124	70
Lessors of Real Estate NAICS	2,405	26.0%	389	23	44	28
Mortgage and Consumer Loans	1,802	19.5%	90	11	8	81
Total Loans	9,247	100.0%	\$979	\$116	\$ 176	179

Balance / Covid Mod In Deferral (



Residential Mortgage & Consumer

Residential Mortgage and Consumer Modifications – Q3-'20

(\$ in Millions)						
		% Total	1st	2nd	<u>In De</u>	ferral Q3
	Q3 - '20	Loans	Mod	Mod	\$	#
Residential Mortgage	\$ 1,147	12.4%	\$ 80	\$ 11	\$ 7	7 50
Home Equity	527	5.7%	7	-	1	l 11
Other Consumer	128	<u>1.4%</u>	3			20
Total	\$ 1,802	19.5%	\$90	\$ 11	\$ 8	8 81

Residential Mortgage Gain On Sale

-) Gain On Sale up 56.8% over Q2 to \$5.8 million
-) Offering extended locks with minimal impact on gain sale economics
-) Taking 15 year fixed rate fully salable on balance sheet at yield favorable to comparable MBS
- > Placing 7/1 and 10/1 jumbo mortgages on balance sheet.

Sponsor and Leveraged Lending

Sponsor Finance

-) 44 Borrowers, \$340 million outstanding
- Private Equity Firms in the Midwest and Southeast acquiring companies with less than \$10 million in EBITDA.
- > Senior Secured, Amortizing Term Loans and Revolving Lines of Credit

Leveraged Loans

-) 64 Borrowers, \$485 million outstanding
-) Borrowers where:
 - Greater than 3X Senior Funded Debt/El
 - Greater than 4X Total Funded Debt/EBI

Sponsor and Total Leveraged Balances Q3 – '20

(\$ in Millions)					2		Ĺ	eve	erage	d			
	Q3 ' 2	% of Total 0 Loans			Leveraged		% of Total Loans	1st Mod		2nd Mod		<u>In Defe</u> \$	
Sponsor Finance C&I	\$ 34	0 3.7%	\$	99	\$	241	2.6%	\$	6	\$	6	\$	6
Regional Commercial C&I	2,28	24.7%		2,160		122	1.3%		4		4		4
Shared National Credits	25	2.8%		135		122	1.3%		-		-		-
Total Sponsor, C&I and SNC	\$ 2,87	⁷⁹ 31.1%	\$ 2	2,394	\$	485	5.2%	\$	10	\$	10	\$	10

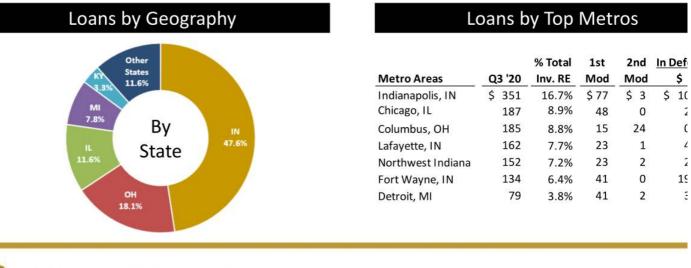
¹ Total balances with borrowers not meeting leveraged definition

Investment Real Estate

(c in Millions)

IRE Portfolio – Q3-'20

(ș în Millions)			% of Total	Av	erage	1st	2	nd	<u>In [</u>	Defer	ral Q3
Investment Real Estate	Q3	- '20	Loans	Loa	n Size	Mod	N	lod		\$	#
Multi-family	\$	719	7.8%	\$	1.4	\$102	\$	3	\$	8	6
Commercial Real Estate	į	1,380	<u>14.9%</u>		1.1	354	2	77	_1	.07	30
	\$2	2,099	22.7%	\$	1.2	\$456	\$	80	\$1	.15	36



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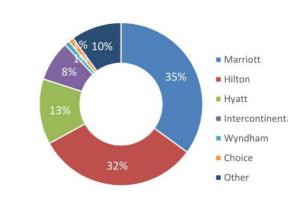
COVID-19 Sensitive Industries

			Hospi	tality					
(\$ in Millions)			% Total		Av	erage	1st	2nd	In Deferra
			# Loans	loa	n size	Mod	Mod	\$	
Hospitality (includes hotel/motel and other accomodations)	\$	198	2.1%	145	\$	1.4	\$118	\$ 52	\$ 92

Highlights

- Hotels: 109 loans to 72 borrowers totaling \$186 million
 - Includes 46 PPP loans totaling \$4 million where 19 borrowers are PPP loan only
-) Loan stage (\$):
 - 80% stabilized, 14% stabilizing, 4% construction, and 2% PPP
-) 26 loans totaling \$172 million with a balance > \$1 million
 - Weighted Average (WA) Loan to Value of ~55%
 - WA occupancy of ~46% (24 hotels reporting)
 - WA breakeven occupancy of ~56% (18 hotels reporting)

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Hotel Brands

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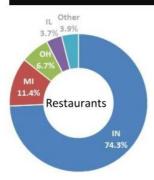
COVID-19 Sensitive Industries

				Retail						
(\$ in Millions)	0	3 '20	% Total Loans	# Loans	erage n size	1st Mod	nd od	<u>In</u>	<u>Deferi</u> Ś	ral Q: #
Retail - real estate secured	\$	451	4.9%	719	\$ 0.6	\$183	\$ 5	\$	17	1
Retail Trade Total	\$	142 593	<u> </u>	<u>1,426</u> 2,145	\$ 0.1 0.3	4 \$187	\$ - 5	\$	- 17	1

- RE secured includes:
 - \$246 million lessors of retail RE
 - \$48 million automotive dealerships
 - \$25 million tire and automotive parts retailers
 - \$42 million gas stations
 - \$90 million other retail RE for businesses in 65 different industries such as furniture stores, grocery stores, and building materials.
- Retail trade includes:
 - \$61 million in automotive dealers
 - \$14 million in automotive parts
 - \$16 million in building material dealers
 - \$5 million in grocery stores
 - \$5 million jewelry, luggage and leather goods stores
 - \$4 million lawn and garden equipment
 - \$4 million in book and music

COVID-19 Sensitive Industries

Restaurants and Food Service



(\$ in Millions)	Q3 '20	% Total Loans	# Loans	erage n Size	lst Iod	nd od	<u>In C</u>	Defer \$
Real Estate Secured	\$ 103	1.1%	231	\$ 0.4	\$ 46	\$ 1	\$	3
Non Real Estate Secured	94	1.0%	579	0.2	9	-		1
Total	\$ 197	2.1%	810	\$ 0.2	\$ 55	\$ 1	\$	4

Senior Living



(\$ In Millions)	Q	3 '20	% Total Loans	# Loans	erage n Size	st od	nd Iod	<u>In </u>	<u>Deferra</u> \$
Skilled Nursing Facilities	\$	166	1.8%	28	\$ 5.9	\$ -	\$ 2	\$	-
Assisted Living Facilities & other	1994	125	1.4%	44	2.8	2	14		-
Total	\$	291	3.2%	72	\$ 4.0	\$ 2	\$ 14	\$	-

Asset Quality – Q3-'20

(\$ in Millions)						Linked	inge Quai
	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Q1-'20</u>	<u>Q2-'20</u>	<u>Q3-'20</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u> </u>
1. Non-Accrual Loans	\$ 26.1	\$ 16.0	\$ 15.6	\$ 50.1	\$ 56.7	\$ 6.6	:
2. Other Real Estate	2.2	7.5	8.0	7.4	7.0	(0.4)	(
3. Renegotiated Loans	1.1	0.8	0.7	1.1	2.7	1.6	14
4. 90+ Days Delinquent Loans	1.9	0.1	0.3	5.0	1.3	(3.7)	(7
5. Total NPAs & 90+ Days Delinquent	\$ 31.3	\$ 24.4	\$ 24.6	\$ 63.6	\$ 67.7	\$ 4.1	
6. Total NPAs & 90+ Days/Loans & ORE	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.7%	0.7%		
7. Classified Loans	\$167.4	\$200.1	\$207.0	\$239.6	\$252.8	\$ 13.2	
8. Classified Loans/Total Loans	2.3%	2.4%	2.4%	2.6%	2.7%	-	

Non-Performing Asset Reconciliation

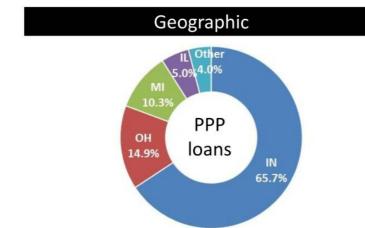
(\$ in Millions)

	Q4-'19	<u>Q1-'20</u>	Q2-'20	<u>Q3-'20</u>
1. Beginning Balance NPAs & 90+ Days Delinquent	\$ 30.5	\$ 24.4	\$ 24.6	\$ 63.6
Non-Accrual				
2. Add: New Non-Accruals	2.3	2.8	35.6	20.8
3. Less: To Accrual/Payoff/Renegotiated	(6.9)	(1.2)	(0.6)	(6.8)
4. Less: To OREO	(0.8)	(0.7)	-	a de la calencia de l
5. Less: Charge-offs	<u>(1.3)</u>	<u>(1.3)</u>	<u>(0.5)</u>	(7.4)
6. Increase / (Decrease): Non-Accrual Loans	(6.7)	(0.4)	34.5	6.6
Other Real Estate Owned (ORE)				
7. Add: New ORE Properties	0.8	0.7	-	-
8. Less: ORE Sold	(0.3)	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.3)
9. Less: ORE Losses (write-downs)	<u>(0.1)</u>		<u>(0.3)</u>	(0.1)
10. Increase / (Decrease): ORE	0.4	0.5	(0.6)	(0.4)
11. Increase / (Decrease): 90+ Days Delinquent	. 0	0.2	4.7	(3.7)
12. Increase / (Decrease): Renegotiated Loans	<u>0.2</u>	<u>(0.1)</u>	<u>0.4</u>	<u>1.6</u>
13. Total NPAs & 90+ Days Delinquent Change	<u>(6.1)</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>39.0</u>	<u>4.1</u>
14. Ending Balance NPAs & 90+ Days Delinquent	\$ 24.4	\$ 24.6	\$ 63.6	\$ 67.7
First Marshants Corporation				

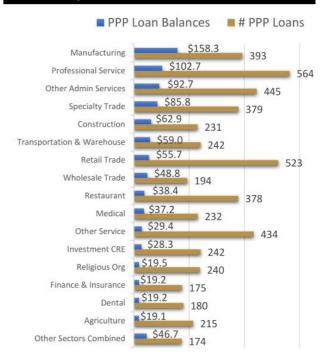
Payroll Protection Loans

Payroll Protection Summary

- \$922.9 million in loans to 5,241 borrowers
- \$30.2 million in fees on PPP loans,
 \$3.8 amortized this quarter and \$23.5 million remaining
- 2,682 loans < \$50,000 total \$54 million
- Accepting and filing applications for forgiveness



Payroll Protection Distribution



Credit Response to COVID-19

Loan Portfolio	 Proactively engaging customers to chart path forward Maintaining existing underwriting standards while recognizing the impact of pandemic Opportunistic portfolio growth to well positioned borrowers
Asset Quality	 Beginning credit cycle with stronger credit profile and enhanced processes Net Charge-offs of \$6.9 million or .30% of average loans (annualized), .11% YTD Focus remains on deferrals in Hospitality portfolio and Senior Living workouts
Approach	 Retained 100% of PPP loans with forgiveness processing underway \$94 million, 154 applications, filed for forgiveness as of October 26, 2020 Quarterly portfolio reviews on targeted asset classes (Hospitality and Senior) Experienced workout staff with special asset process in tact from last recession

Michael C. Rechin

President

Chief Executive Officer



First Merchants... Well positioned for the future...

Looking Forward...

> Succession Planning Yields Continuity and Growth

-) Mark Hardwick Chief Executive Officer
- Mike Stewart President
-) Michele Kawiecki Chief Financial Officer

Industry Leading Performance

-) Return on Assets and Efficiency Ratios
- Pre-Tax Pre-Provision Earnings strength of \$54.4 Million

Capital Preservation and Strength

-) TCE of 10.19% excluding effect of PPP Loans
-) Diversified loan portfolio, long-term consistent asset quality and underwriting
- Allowance for Loan Losses & Fair Value Marks total approximately 1.65% of loans

) Initiatives

- Corporate Social Responsibility investment fortifies our communities staying power
-) Accelerate our delivery channel change

"Compelling value proposition"

First Merchants Corporation



FIRST MERCHAI BANK NAMED B BANK IN INDIA



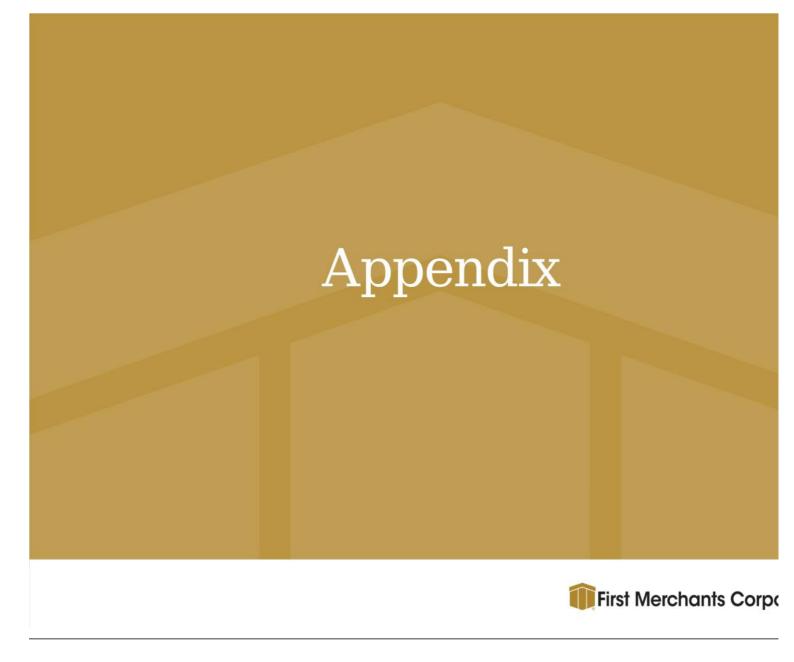
First Merchants E Ranked Top 5 i 2018, 2019 and 2



First Merchants Corporation common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol FRME

Additional information can be found at www.firstmerchants.com

Investor Inquiries: Nicole Weaver, Investor Relations 765.521.7619 nweaver@firstmerchants.com



CAPITAL RATIOS (dollars in thousands):

		3Q18	4Q18	1Q19	2Q19	3Q19		4Q19	1Q20	2Q20	
Total Risk-Based Capital Ratio	3										_
Total Stockholders' Equity (GAAP)		1,361,426	1,408,260	1,455,848	1,501,636	1,749,012		1,786,437	1,777,960	1,809,095	
Adjust for Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Income) Loss ¹		35,409	21,422	1,595	(14,602)	(25,648)		(27,874)	(53,656)	(63,845)	
Less: Preferred Stock		(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)		(125)	(125)	(125)	
Add: Qualifying Capital Securities		66,086	66,141	66,197	66,252	66,308		66,363	56,419	46,248	
Less: Tier 1 Capital Deductions		1 a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a	10 A	10		10 C		<u></u>	~ <u>~</u>		
Less: Disallowed Goodwill and Intangible Assets		(464,658)	(463,525)	(462,202)	(460,885)	(570,098)		(569,468)	(568,442)	(567,246)	
Less: Disallowed Deferred Tax Assets		(1,111)	-	(4,037)	(2,587)	(3,460)		-	-	-	
Total Tier 1 Capital (Regulatory)	\$	997,027	\$ 1,032,173	\$ 1,057,276	\$ 1,089,689	\$ 1,215,989	\$	1,255,333	\$ 1,212,156	\$ 1,224,127	\$
Qualifying Subordinated Debentures		65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000		65,000	65,000	65,000	
Allowance for Loan Losses includible in Tier 2 Capital		78,406	80,552	80,902	81,274	80,571		80,284	99,454	121,119	
Total Risk-Based Capital (Regulatory)	\$	1,140,433	\$ 1,177,725	\$ 1,203,178	\$ 1,235,963	\$ 1,361,560	\$	1,400,617	\$ 1,376,610	\$ 1,410,246	Ş
Net Risk-Weighted Assets (Regulatory)	\$	8,001,191	\$ 8,060,882	\$ 8,176,677	\$ 8,491,188	\$ 9,474,126	\$	9,799,329	\$ 9,978,462	\$ 9,946,087	\$
Total Risk-Based Capital Ratio (Regulatory)		14.25%	14.61%	14.71%	14.56%	14.37%		14.29%	13.80%	14.18%	
Common Equity Tier 1 Capital Ratio											
Total Tier 1 Capital (Regulatory)	\$	997,027	\$ 1,032,173	\$ 1,057,276	\$ 1,089,689	\$ 1,215,989	Ś	1,255,333	\$ 1,212,156	\$ 1,224,127	\$
Less: Qualified Capital Securities		(66,086)	(66,141)	(66,197)	(66,252)	(66,308)		(66,363)	(56,419)	(46,248)	
Add: Additional Tier 1 Capital Deductions		-	-	-	100 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000	-		-	-	-	
Common Equity Tier 1 Capital (Regulatory)	\$	930,941	\$ 966,032	\$ 991,079	\$ 1,023,437	\$ 1,149,681	\$	1,188,970	\$ 1,155,737	\$ 1,177,879	0,
Net Risk-Weighted Assets (Regulatory)	\$	8,001,191	\$ 8,060,882	\$ 8,176,677	\$ 8,491,188	\$ 9,474,126	\$	9,799,329	\$ 9,978,462	\$ 9,946,087	4
Common Equity Tier 1 Capital Ratio (Regulatory)		11.64%	11.98%	12.12%	12.05%	12.14%		12.13%	11.58%	11.84%	

¹ Includes net unrealized gains or losses on securities available for sale, net gains or losses on cash flow hedges, and amounts resulting from the application of the applicable accounting guidance for defined benefit and other postretirement plans.



TANGIBLE COMMON EQUITY RATIO (dollars in thousands):

		3Q18	18 4Q18 1Q19		2Q19	2Q19 3Q19			4Q19	1Q20	202	20			
Total Stockholders' Equity (GAAP)	-	1,361,426	\$	1,408,260	\$	1,455,848	\$	1,501,636	\$	1,749,012	\$	1,786,437	\$ 1,777,960	\$ 1,809,09	5\$
Less: Preferred Stock		(125)		(125)		(125)		(125)		(125)		(125)	(125)	(12	5)
Less: Intangible Assets		(471,409)		(469,784)	8	(468,256)		(466,736)		(579,751)		(578,881)	(577,366)	(575,85	5)
Tangible Common Equity (non-GAAP)	\$	889,892	\$	938,351	\$	987,467	\$	1,034,775	\$	1,169,136	\$	1,207,431	\$ 1,200,469	\$ 1,233,11	5\$
Total Assets (GAAP)	5	9,787,282	\$	9,884,716	\$	10,210,925	\$	10,737,857	\$	12,325,061	\$	12,457,254	\$12,693,518	\$13,819,37	8 \$1
Less: Intangible Assets		(471,409)	_	(469,784)	8	(468,256)		(466,736)		(579,751)		(578,881)	(577,366)	(575,85	5)
Tangible Assets (non-GAAP)	\$	9,315,873	\$	9,414,932	\$	9,742,669	\$	10,271,121	\$	11,745,310	\$	11,878,373	\$12,116,152	\$13,243,52	3 \$1
Tangible Common Equity Ratio (non-GAAP)		9.55%		9.97%		10.14%		10.07%		9.95%		10.16%	9.91%	9.31	%

TANGIBLE COMMON EQUITY PER SHARE (dollars in thousands):

	4Q10	4Q11	4Q12	4Q13	4Q14	4Q15	4Q16
Total Stockholders' Equity (GAAP)	\$ 454,408	\$ 514,467	\$ 552,236	\$ 634,923	\$ 726,827	\$ 850,509	\$ 901,657
Less: Preferred Stock	(67,880)	(90,783)	(90,908)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)
Less: Intangible Assets	(154,019)	(150,471)	(149,529)	(202,767)	(218,755)	(259,764)	(258,866)
Tax Benefit	2,907	2,224	2,249	4,973	6,085	6,278	5,930
Tangible Common Equity, Net of Tax (non-GAAP)	\$ 235,416	\$ 275,437	\$ 314,048	\$ 437,004	\$ 514,032	\$ 596,898	\$ 648,596
Shares Outstanding	25,574,251	28,559,707	28,692,616	35,921,761	37,669,948	40,664,258	40,912,697
Tangible Common Equity per Share (non-GAAP)	\$ 9.21	\$ 9.64	\$ 10.95	\$ 12.17	\$ 13.65	\$ 14.68	\$ 15.85
	4Q17	1Q18	2Q18	3Q18	3Q19	3Q20	
Total Stockholders' Equity (GAAP)	\$ 1,303,463	\$ 1,313,073	\$ 1,340,328	\$ 1,361,426	\$ 1,749,012	\$ 1,833,656	
Less: Preferred Stock	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	
Less: Intangible Assets	(476,503)	(474,777)	(473,059)	(471,409)	(579,751)	(574,369)	
Tax Benefit	6,788	6,043	5,690	5,351	7,627	6,292	
Tangible Common Equity, Net of Tax (non-GAAP)	\$ 833,623	\$ 844,214	\$ 872,834	\$ 895,243	\$ 1,176,763	\$ 1,265,454	
Shares Outstanding	49,158,238	49,243,096	49,280,188	49,304,542	55,345,672	53,891,733	
Tangible Common Equity per Share (non-GAAP)	\$ 16.96	\$ 17.14	\$ 17.71	\$ 18.16	\$ 21.26	\$ 23.48	

Appendix – Non-GAAP Reconciliation

EFFICIENCY RATIO (dollars in thousands):

		2018	2019	1Q20		2Q20	3Q20
Non Interest Expense (GAAP)	\$	219,951	\$ 246,763 \$	66,171	\$ 59	9,989	\$ 64,709
Less: Intangible Asset Amortization		(6,719)	(5,994)	(1,514)	(1	L,511)	(1,486)
Less: OREO and Foreclosure Expenses		(1,470)	(2,428)	(505)		(684)	(717)
Adjusted Non Interest Expense (non-GAAP)		211,762	238,341	64,152	57	7,794	62,506
Net Interest Income (GAAP)		338,857	356,660	93,877	93	3,018	92,921
Plus: Fully Taxable Equivalent Adjustment		10,732	13,085	3,894	4	1,088	4,340
Net Interest Income on a Fully Taxable Equivalent Basis (non-GAAP)		349,589	369,745	97,771	97	7,106	97,261
Non Interest Income (GAAP)		76,459	86,688	29,799	26	5,481	26,163
Less: Investment Securities Gains (Losses)	12	(4,269)	(4,415)	(4,612)	(3	3,068)	(1,817)
Adjusted Non Interest Income (non-GAAP)		72,190	82,273	25,187	23	3,413	24,346
Adjusted Revenue (non-GAAP)		421,779	452,018	122,958	120),519	121,607
Efficiency Ratio (non-GAAP)		50.21%	52.73%	52.17%	4	7.95%	51.40%

FORWARD DIVIDEND YIELD

		3Q20
Most recent quarter's dividend per share	Ś	0.26
Most recent quarter's dividend per share - Annualized	\$	1.04
Stock Price at 9/30/20	\$	23.16
Forward Dividend Yield		4.49%

Appendix – Non-GAAP Reconciliation

		2018	2019	1Q20	2Q20	3Q20
Total Risk-Based Capital (Subsidiary Bank Only)	-					
Total Stockholders' Equity (GAAP)	\$	1,456,220 \$	1,787,006	\$ 1,850,513	\$ 1,882,807	\$ 1,908,858
Adjust for Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Income) Loss		19,031	(30,495)	(56,807)	(66,941)	(68,423)
Less: Preferred Stock		(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)
Less: Tier 1 Capital Deductions		-		-	-	-
Less: Disallowed Goodwill and Intangible Assets		(463,076)	(569,021)	(567,994)	(566,799)	(565,624)
Less: Disallowed Deferred Tax Assets	5		1	 	1	
Total Tier 1 Capital (Regulatory)		1,012,050	1,187,365	1,225,587	1,248,942	1,274,686
Allowance for Loan Losses includible in Tier 2 Capital	-	80,552	80,284	99,454	121,119	125,428
Total Risk-Based Capital (Regulatory)	\$	1,092,602 \$	1,267,649	\$ 1,325,041	\$ 1,370,061	\$ 1,400,114
Construction, Land and Land Development Loans	\$	545,729 \$	787,568	\$ 643,674	\$ 640,560	\$ 622,084
Concentration as a % of the Bank's Risk-Based Capital		50%	62%	49%	47%	44%
Construction, Land and Land Development Loans	\$	545,729 \$	787,568	\$ 643,674	\$ 640,560	\$ 622,084
Investment Real Estate Loans		1,865,544	1,902,692	2,118,148	2,097,767	2,098,589
Total Construction and Investment RE Loans	\$	2,411,273 \$	2,690,260	\$ 2,761,822	\$ 2,738,327	\$ 2,720,673
Concentration as a % of the Bank's Risk-Based Capital	0	221%	212%	208%	200%	194%

¹ Includes net unrealized gains or losses on securities available for sale, net gains or losses on cash flow hedges, and amounts resulting from the application of the applicable accounting guidance for defined benefit and other postretirement plans.