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): August 10, 2018

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

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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:

o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

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

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

o 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 o

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. o

Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.

The executive officers of First Merchants Corporation intend to use the material filed herewith, in whole or in part, in one or more meetings with investors and analysts. A copy of the investor presentation is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

First Merchants Corporation does not intend for this Item 7.01 or Exhibit 99.1 to be treated as "filed" for purposes of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or incorporated into its filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) (99.1) First Merchants Corporation Investor Presentation

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.

DATE: August 10, 2018

FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION

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







FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION | 200 E. Jackson St., P.O. Box 792, Muncie, IN 47305 | 765.747.1500

Forward-Looking Statements

This presentation 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 forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements relating to First Merchants' goals, intentions and expectations; statements regarding the First Merchants' business plan and growth strategies; statements regarding the asset quality 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 economic and business conditions; the existence or exacerbation of general geopolitical instability and uncertainty; the ability of First Merchants to integrate recent acquisitions and attract new customers; 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, 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 undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether written or oral, relating to the matters discussed in this presentation or press release. In addition, the company's past results of operations 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 non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of the registrant's historical or future financial performance, financial position or cash flows that excludes amounts, or is subject to adjustments that have the effect of excluding amounts, that are included in the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP in the statement of income, balance sheet or statement of cash flows (or equivalent statements) of the issuer; or includes amounts, or is subject to adjustments that have the effect of including amounts, that are excluded from the most directly comparable measure so calculated and presented. In this regard, GAAP refers to generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. Pursuant to the requirements of Regulation G, First Merchants Corporation has provided reconciliations within the slides, as necessary, of the non-GAAP financial measure to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure.



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Company Profile (as of 6/30/2018)

First Merchants

- First Merchants Bank, formed in 1893, celebrating its 125th anniversary.
- First Merchants Corporation, organized in 1982, is the largest financial services holding company headquartered in Central Indiana

Financial Highlights	(\$ in Thousands)
Assets	\$9,734,715
Loans, Net	\$7,003,516
Deposits	\$7,503,815
Tangible Common Equity	\$867,144
TCE/TA	9.36%
2017 Net Income – YTD	\$76,313
2017 ROAA – YTD	1.60%
2017 ROATCE - YTD	18.61%
NPAs/Loans + OREO	0.42%



Market Information

Common Shares Outstanding	49,280,188
-	
Market Cap	\$2,286,601
Dividend Yield	1.64%
Price/Tangible Book Value	2.62x
Price/LTM EPS	18.3x
Price/2018 Est. EPS	15.1x

Leadership Team – First Merchants

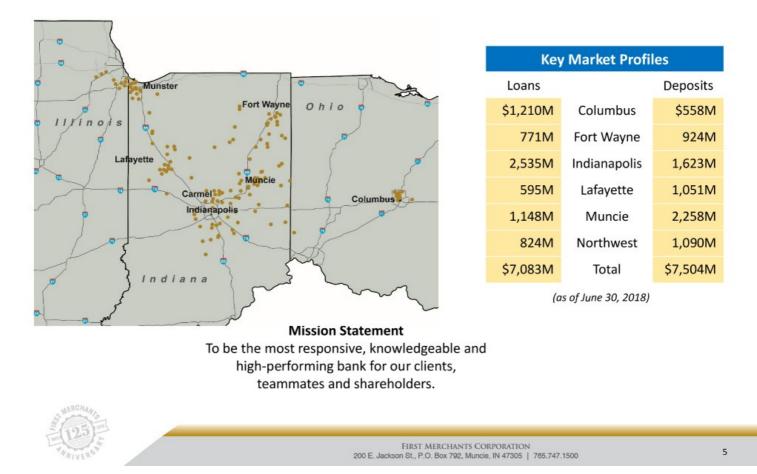
Name/Title

Michael C. Rechin, President & CEO Mark K. Hardwick, EVP, Chief Operating Officer & Chief Financial Officer Michael J. Stewart, EVP & Chief Banking Officer John J. Martin, EVP & Chief Credit Officer

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Our Franchise



Key FMC Deposit Market Share - FDIC Data June 30, 2017 (includes June 30, 2017, balances of IAB Financial Bank)

County	Region/Type	Market Position	Market %	\$ Deposits
Delaware County, IN	Muncie (Established)		48.98%	\$ 1,068,364
Jasper County, IN	Lafayette (Established)	1	31.54%	205,99
White County, IN	Lafayette (Established)	1	33.69%	158,74
Wells County, IN	Fort Wayne (Growth)	1	26.35%	119,473
Jay County, IN	Muncie (Established)	1	43.22%	90,90
Union County, IN	Muncie (Established)	1	40.54%	43,43
Tippecanoe County, IN	Lafayette (Established)	2	19.47%	504,15
Henry County, IN	Muncie (Established)	2	37.32%	227,29
Clinton County, IN	Lafayette (Established)	2	14.11%	59,95
Wabash County, IN	Muncie (Established)	2	14.07%	57,15
Madison County, IN	Indianapolis (Growth)	3	23.21%	314,51
Adams County, IN	Muncie (Established)	3	16.19%	109,61
Shelby County, IN	Indianapolis (Growth)	3	16.62%	91,24
Randolph County, IN	Muncie (Established)	3	5.88%	72,16
Hendricks County, IN	Indianapolis (Growth)	4	9.88%	234,21
Morgan County, IN	Indianapolis (Growth)	4	10.69%	97,94
Huntington County, IN	Fort Wayne (Growth)	4	16.55%	95,33
Hancock County, IN	Indianapolis (Growth)	4	8.66%	87,63
Marshall County, IN	Fort Wayne (Growth)	4	8.74%	65,252
Carroll County, IN	Lafayette (Established)	4	11.30%	33,05
Brown County, IN	Indianapolis (Growth)	4	18.32%	19,62
Hamilton County, IN	Indianapolis (Growth)	5	6.51%	594,97
Allen County, IN	Fort Wayne (Growth)	5	8.68%	585,51
Johnson County, IN	Indianapolis (Growth)	5	7.88%	169,01
Fayette County, IN	Muncie (Established)	5	8.25%	27,00
Miami County, IN	Muncie (Established)	5	7.97%	31,25
				\$5,163,830

First Merchants "Whole Bank" Strategy

- Commercial Banking
- Consumer Banking
- Private Wealth Advisors
- Growth Strategy
 - Organic
 - Merger/Acquisition







First Merchants Strategy

- Commercial Bank
 - Located in Prime Growth Commercial Banking Markets
 - Indianapolis, Indiana
 - · Columbus, Ohio
 - Fort Wayne, Indiana
 - Lafayette, Indiana
 - Northwest Indiana



- Hire the Best Talent Supported with the Finest:
 - Sales Management Process
 - Lending and Cash Management Services
 - Revenue-Based Incentive System





First Merchants Strategy

- Consumer Retail Bank
 - Diverse Locations in Stable Rural and Growth Metro Markets
 - Supported by:
 - Talented Customer Service Oriented Banking Center and Call Center Professionals
 - State-of-the-Art Deposit and CRM Systems
 - Highly Usable Online Banking System
 - Widely Available Mobile Banking System
 - Customer Service and Relationship Growth-Oriented Incentive System



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First Merchants Strategy

"Service-driven alternative to super-regional bank competitors. Deliver superior service with presence close to the customer for . . . "

- Retail Banking
- Mortgage Banking
- Commercial Banking
 - Business Banking
 - Commercial & Industrial
 - Agriculture
 - Sponsor Finance
 - Public Finance
 - Healthcare Services
 - Investment Real Estate
 - Treasury Management and Merchant Processing Services
- Private Wealth Advisory (private banking, investment management, personal trust, brokerage, and retirement)



"We specialize in our communities"

Service

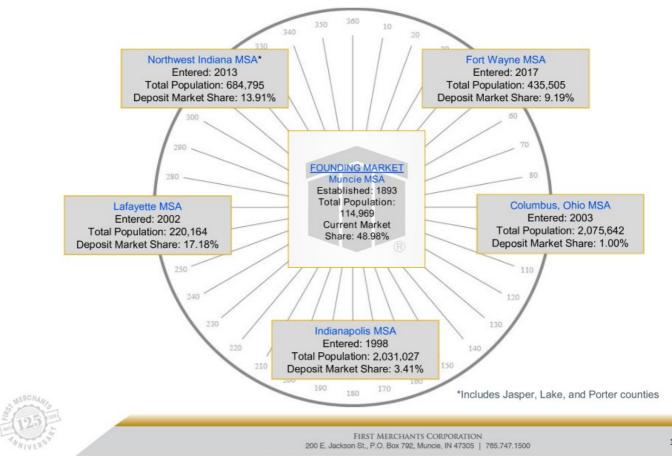
Driven

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How We Deliver



Organic Growth Opportunities Exists in All Directions



Ranked Best in the Midwest for Business



- AAA Credit Rating since 2008¹
- 1st in Midwest and 5th Nationally for Best State for Doing Business²
- 1st Metro Area for Strong Job Opportunities with Affordable Housing
- 1st Nationally for Highway Accessibility
- 1st in the Midwest/8th Nationally for Low Taxes
- 1st for Quality of Government and Government Administration³
- 1st for Best Business Regulatory Climate⁴
- Leading the Nation in Manufacturing Job Growth
- 2nd Nationally for Cost of Doing Business
- 2nd in the Nation for Small Business Growth
- 2nd Nationally for Availability of Skilled Labor
- 2nd Best City in the Nation for Recent Graduates (Indianapolis)
- Home to the 2nd Largest Global Fed Ex Air Hub
- 4th Nationally for Women in Tech and 10th in Overall Tech Job Growth
- 3 Maritime Ports Rank 6th in Waterborne Shipping





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Muncie Market

- Located 58 miles northeast of Indianapolis in the east central portion of the state
- Described by several national studies as a typical American community, Delaware County offers the advantages of larger cities without the hassles and costs associated with living in major metropolitan areas.
- Easy access to the top 100 markets in the country, Muncie-Delaware County has a diverse economic landscape
- Ranked #27, Forbes Best Small Places for Business and Careers
- Workforce experienced in life science, advanced manufacturing, 21st century logistics and information technology

Home to Ball State University

Delaware County, IN*					
Rank		Branches	Deposits	Mkt. Share	
1	First Merchants Corporation	11	\$ 1,068,364	48.98%	
2	Mutual First Financial	7	537,800	24.66%	
3	J.P. Morgan Chase	4	238,666	10.94%	
4	Old National Bancorp	4	199,567	9.15%	
5	Star Financial Group	3	135,667	6.22%	
6	Woodforest Financial Group	1	957	0.04%	
	Market Total	30	\$ 2,181,021		



*SNL Financial FDIC Summary of Deposits as of June 30, 2017



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Indianapolis Market

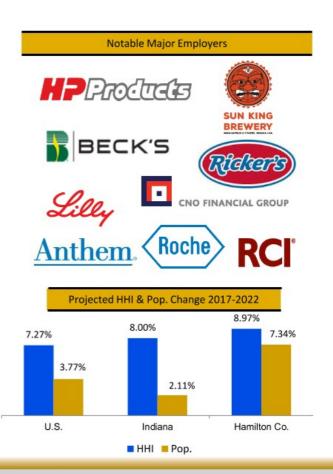
- Indianapolis metropolitan area includes four of the five fastestgrowing counties in Indiana and 10 of the 11 fastest-growing cities and towns with populations of at least 5,000*
- The 2015 population estimates released by the U.S. Census Bureau show suburban Hamilton County's population grew 13% over the last five years*
- Indiana's population growth outpaced those of neighboring states Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio*
- With 862,781 residents, Indianapolis was the nation's 14th largest city*

	Hamilton C	ounty, IN**		
Rank		Branches	Deposits	Mkt. Share
1	First Internet Bancorp	1	\$1,746,030	19.11%
2	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	15	1,558,738	17.06%
3	Merchants Bancorp	2	1,254,403	13.73%
4	PNC Financial Services Group	12	614,405	6.72%
5	First Merchants Corporation	11	594,976	6.51%
6	Lakeland Financial Corp	3	518,183	5.67%
7	Fifth Third Bancorp	6	492,718	5.39%
8	Huntington Bancshares	11	432,562	4.73%
9	Bank of Montreal	9	373,205	4.08%
10	KeyCorp	7	273,681	3.00%
	Market Total	117	\$ 9,136,439	



**SNL Financial FDIC Summary of Deposits as of June 30, 2017





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Lafayette Market

- > Ranked #1, MSN Money, Fastest Growing Cities in the State of Indiana
- > Ranked #2, Forbes Best Small Places for Business and Careers
- Ranked #2 in Indiana for STEM job density, with 13.6% of the workforce, topping the state's 10.9% & national average of 11.9% (Lafayette up 70.6% since 2001, with 4,850 new jobs)**
- Ranked #30, 24/7 Wall St., American City Adding the Most Jobs
- Home to Purdue University

Tippecanoe County, IN**					
Rank		Branches	Deposits	Mkt. Share	
1	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	6	\$ 824,748	31.85%	
2	First Merchants Corporation	9	504,153	19.47%	
3	Regions Financial Corp	6	311,047	12.01%	
4	Old National Bancorp	5	259,975	10.04%	
5	Horizon Bancorp	4	147,379	5.69%	
6	Huntington Bancshares, Inc.	4	129,307	4.99%	
7	First Bancshares, Inc.	6	119,618	4.62%	
8	Fifth Third Bancorp	3	90,997	3.51%	
9	1st Source Corp	3	70,529	2.72%	
10	Salin Bancshares	3	52,512	2.03%	
	Market Total	58	\$ 2,589,317		

*SNL Financial FDIC Summary of Deposits as of June 30, 2017

**Indianapolis Business Journal





Indiana

HHI Pop.

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Tippecanoe Co.

Northwest Indiana Market

- Indiana's second-most populous market
- Benefit from its Chicago proximity
- Continue to produce finest steels, refine the cleanest fuels and deliver the best products to the Midwest**
- New investments by world-class companies like BP, Pratt Industries, Alcoa Howmet, Urschel Labs and Monosol**
- Lakefront being revitalized through the Marquette Plan and assistance of the Regional Development Authority**

	Lake Cou	unty, IN*		
Rank		Branches	Deposits	Mkt. Share
1	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	23	\$ 1,947,270	21.89%
2	First Bancshares, Inc.	29	1,853,302	20.83%
3	First Midwest Bancorp	17	1,011,308	11.37%
4	First Financial Bancorp	9	776,948	8.76%
5	Northwest Indiana Bancorp	15	762,955	8.58%
6	First Merchants Corporation	10	703,991	7.91%
7	Fifth Third Bancorp	13	477,393	5.37%
8	BMO Financial Corp	15	476,600	5.36%
9	AMB Financial Corp	5	178,837	2.01%
10	PNC Financial Services Group	4	171,860	1.93%
	Market Total	158	\$ 8,895,310	

*SNL Financial FDIC Summary of Deposits as of June 30, 2017 **www.nwiforum.org/nwi-becoming-an-economic powerhouse





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Fort Wayne Market

- 2nd Largest MSA in the State of Indiana
- Diversified economy (manufacturing, health care, retail trade, food services)
- Attractive location for businesses to locate and expand located between the Chicago, Detroit, Dayton, Toledo and Indianapolis metro areas
- Fort Wayne-Allen County economic engine of the Northeast Indiana region
- #1 place to raise a family (2017, SmartAsset.com)

	Allen Co	unty, IN*		
Rank		Branches	Deposits	Mkt. Share
1	Wells Fargo	13	\$ 1,860,166	27.59%
2	JP Morgan Chase & Co.	12	1,144,376	16.97%
3	Lakeland Financial Corp.	5	707,704	10.50%
4	PNC Financial Services Group	11	654,070	9.70%
5	First Merchants Corporation	8	585,513	8.68%
6	Old National Bancorp	5	489,317	7.26%
7	STAR Financial Group, Inc.	9	357,447	5.30%
8	1st Source Corp.	8	294,082	4.36%
9	Fifth Third Bancorp	8	236,108	3.50%
10	G.S.B. Financial Corp.	1	69,199	1.03%
	Market Total	102	\$ 6,741,959	



*SNL Financial FDIC Summary of Deposits as of June 30, 2017

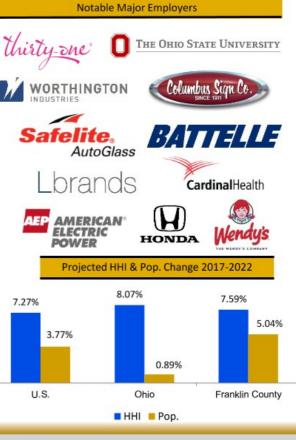


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Columbus, Ohio Market

- Second-most populous county in Ohio
- > Within 600 miles of 60% of All U.S. and Canadian Population
- Ranked 2nd in CNBC's 2010 study of state transportation systems for its infrastructure, vitality, quality roads, and ability to cost-effectively ship goods by land, air, and water**
- Home to Ohio State University

	Franklin G	ounty, OH*		
Rank		Branches	Deposits	Mkt. Share
1	Huntington Bancshares	63	\$ 21,024,114	41.96%
2	JP Morgan Chares & Co	48	12,503,686	24.95%
3	PNC Financial Services Group	42	5,001,589	9.98%
4	Fifth Third Bancorp	41	4,365,885	8.71%
5	Key Corp	21	1,411,859	2.82%
6	U.S. Bancorp	33	1,149,694	2.29%
7	Wells Fargo & Co	1	796,395	1.59%
8	First Merchants Corporation	10	609,366	1.22%
9	Heartland Bancorp	12	570,458	1.14%
10	First Financial Bancorp	6	527,051	1.05%
	Market Total	321	\$ 50,106,324	



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*SNL Financial FDIC Summary of Deposits as of June 30, 2017 **http://jobs-ohio.com/manufacturing/

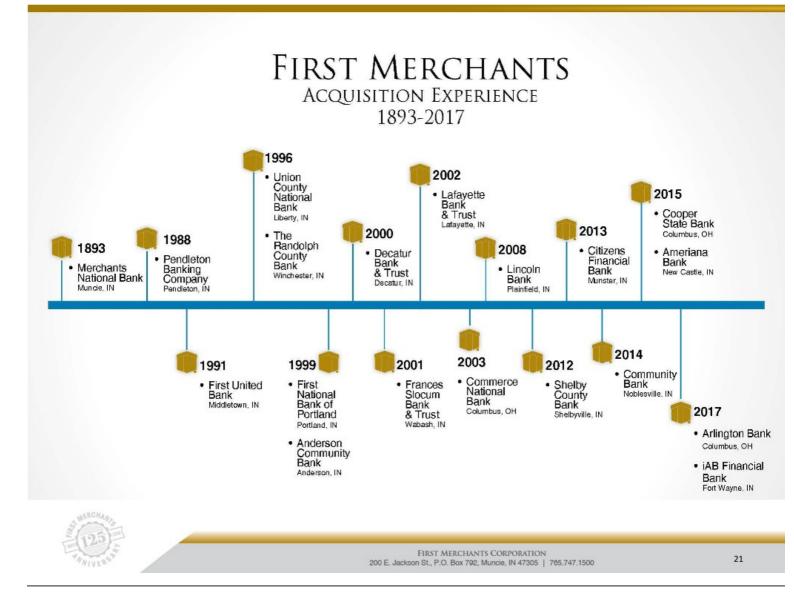


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Growth Through Acquisition

- Experienced Acquirer
- Expand in Current High-Growth Markets
- s arkets
- Extend into Additional High-Growth Markets
- Add to Franchise with Stable Deposit Gathering Markets







First Merchants Acquisition Process

- Continuous Relationship Building
- Complete and Thorough Due Diligence Process
- Demonstrated Pricing Discipline
- Detailed Project Management
- Integration Process
- Single Charter Operating Environment
- Scalable Technology and Operations Center





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Operational Delivery Highlights



Operational Delivery Highlights Customer, Digital Channel & Transaction Activity

2	Retail Households: 184K					
>	 Online Banking/Digital Channel Consumer: 83K Users 1.3M logins monthly 14K bill pay users 90K bill payment transactions monthly (\$30M) 	 Cash Management Annual Volume Automated Clearing House (ACH) # Originated: 2.5M Items (\$8B) # Received: 14M Items (\$23B) 				
	 Mobile: 48K Users 24.5 average logins per user, per month 14K mobile deposits per month 	 Domestic Wires # Originated: 42K Items (\$21B) # Received: 43K Items (\$27B) 				
	 Business: 9.9K Users 13% use ACH/Wire/Positive Pay 	 International Wires # Originated: 1K Items (\$35M) # Received: 159 Items (\$2.6M) 				
	 Total ATMS: 137 + 25,000 MoneyPass ATMs 					
X	 Total Debit Cards 157K active cards 3.2M monthly card swipes \$127M in monthly volume 	 Commercial Remote Deposit Capture 591 businesses using solution 143K deposits annually 1.7M items deposited annually \$3.7B in total deposits 				
	ERCHAN					

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2nd Quarter 2018 Financial Highlights

- > \$39.6 Million of Net Income, a 64.2% Increase over 2Q2017
- Earnings Per Share of \$.80, a 40.4% Increase over 2Q2017
- Total Assets of \$9.7 Billion Grew by 24.7% over 2Q2017
- Annualized Organic Loan & Deposit Growth of Approximately 10%
- 1.63% ROAA; 11.94% ROAE
- 49.32% Efficiency Ratio
- Broad-based Asset Quality Improvement



Total Assets

(\$ in Millions)		<u>2016</u>	2017	<u>Q1-'18</u>	<u>Q2-'18</u>	
1.	Investments	\$1,305	\$1,561	\$1,544	\$1,620	
2.	Loans	5,143	6,758	6,906	7,083	
3.	Allowance	(66)	(75)	(76)	(78)	
4.	Goodwill & Intangibles	259	477	475	473	
5.	BOLI	202	224	222	223	
6.	Other	<u>369</u>	<u>422</u>	<u>402</u>	<u>414</u>	
7.	Total Assets	<u>\$7,212</u>	<u>\$9,367</u>	<u>\$9,473</u>	<u>\$9,735</u>	
	Annualized Asset Growth		29.9%		7.9% ¹	

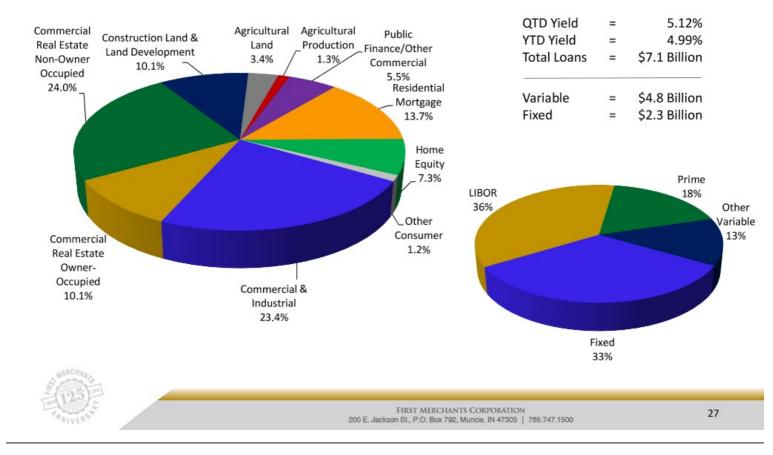
¹ Annualized from December 31, 2017



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Loan and Yield Detail

(as of 6/30/2018)

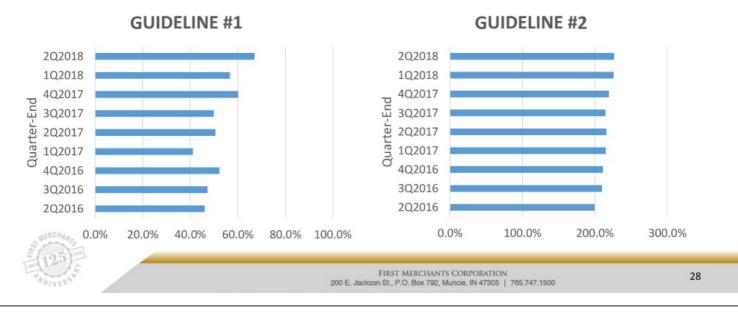


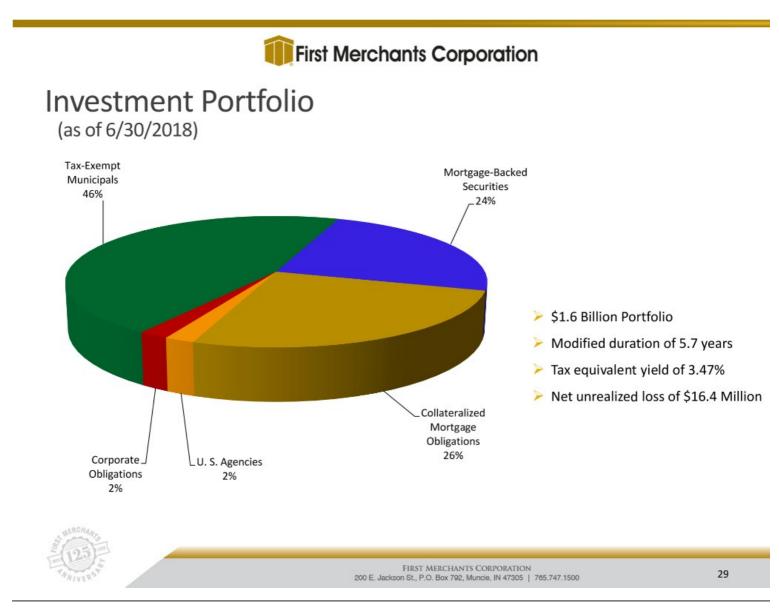
CRE Loan Concentration First Merchants Results in Relation to FDIC Guidelines

FDIC GUIDELINES TO IDENTIFY INSTITUTIONS POTENTIALLY EXPOSED TO CRE RISK:

Guideline 1: Total loans for construction, land development, and other land representing 100% or more of total capital

Guideline 2: Total CRE loans representing 300% or more of total capital AND a CRE portfolio that has increased 50% or more during the prior 36 months





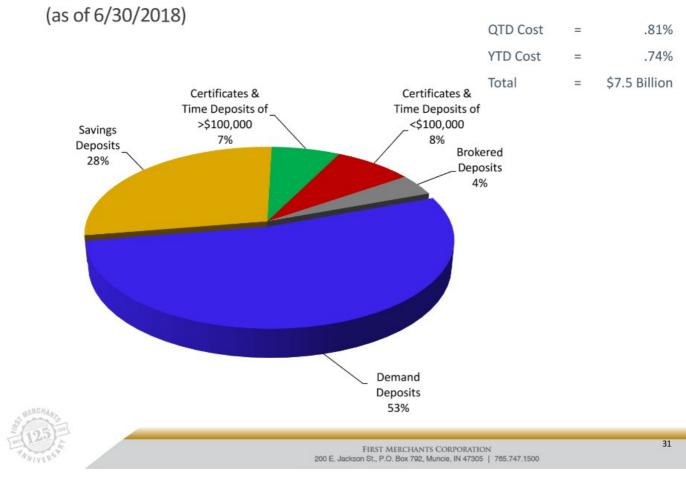
Total Liabilities and Capital

(\$ in Millions)		<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Q1-'18</u>	<u>Q2-'18</u>
1.	Customer Non-Maturity Deposits	\$4,428	\$5,741	\$5,850	\$6,033
2.	Customer Time Deposits	747	1,051	1,137	1,158
3.	Brokered Deposits	381	381	341	313
4.	Borrowings	572	701	644	706
5.	Other Liabilities	60	57	55	52
6.	Hybrid Capital	122	133	133	133
7.	Common Equity	<u>902</u>	<u>1,303</u>	<u>1,313</u>	<u>1,340</u>
8.	Total Liabilities and Capital	<u>\$7,212</u>	<u>\$9,367</u>	<u>\$9,473</u>	<u>\$9,735</u>

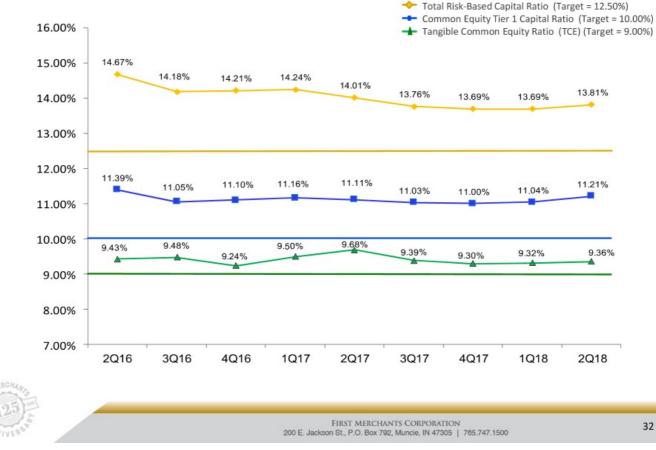


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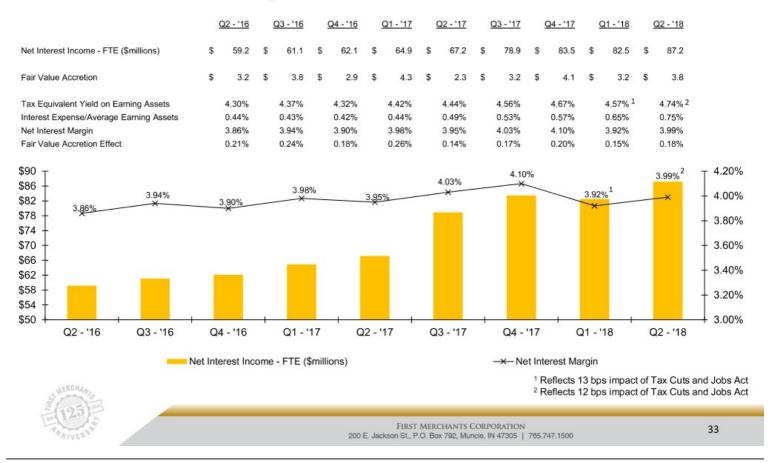
Deposit Detail



Capital Ratios



Net Interest Margin

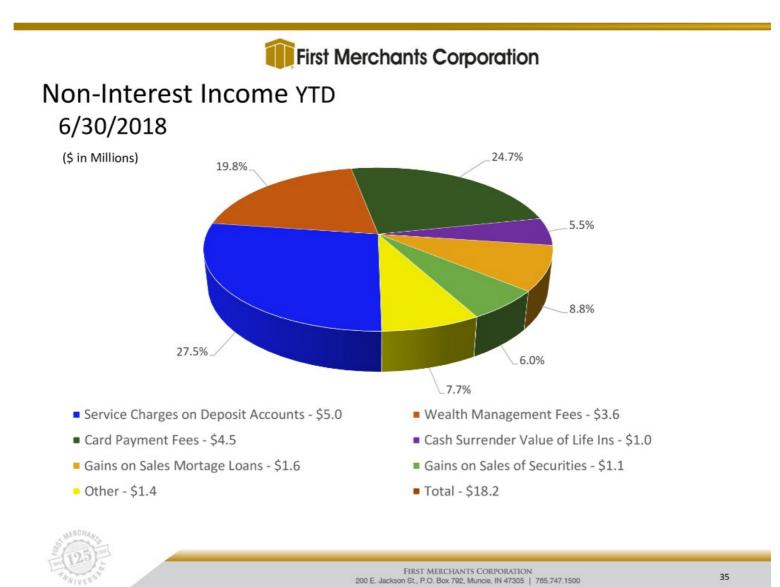


Non-Interest Income

	(\$ in Millions)	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Q1-'18</u>	<u>Q2-'18</u>	
1.	Service Charges on Deposit Accounts	\$17.8	\$ 18.7	\$ 4.8	\$ 5.0	
2.	Wealth Management Fees	12.6	14.7	3.8	3.6	
3.	Card Payment Fees	15.0	16.1	4.6	4.5	
4.	Cash Surrender Value of Life Ins	4.3	6.6	1.2	1.0	
5.	Gains on Sales of Mortgage Loans	7.1	7.6	1.8	1.6	
6.	Gains on Sales of Securities	3.4	2.6	1.6	1.1	
7.	Other	<u>5.0</u>	<u>4.7</u>	<u>1.8</u>	<u>1.4</u>	
8.	Total Non-Interest Income	<u>\$65.2</u>	<u>\$71.0</u>	<u>\$19.6</u>	<u>\$18.2</u>	



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Private Wealth Advisors

Delivers broad advisory capabilities and expertise through local, engaged and empowered leaders

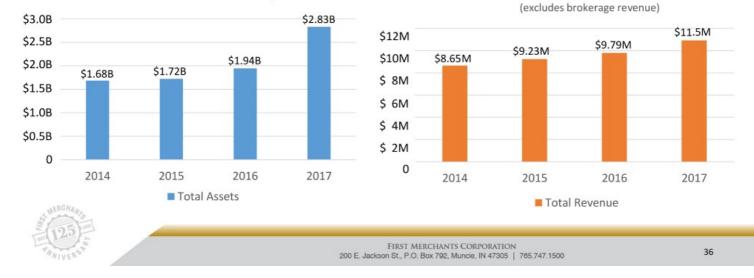
Business lines include:

- Investment Management Personal and Institutional
- Retirement Plan Services
- Trust Administration
- Private Banking
- Retail Brokerage (not reflected below)

Record quarterly revenue and assets under management

- Strong partnership with our Commercial and Retail lines of business in delivering whole-bank solutions for clients
- Continued growth in Private Banking and Investment Management
- Average Individual/Family relationship over \$1.3mm
- Average Retirement Plan over \$2.4mm
- Personal Trust/Fiduciary represents over 36% of total assets under management

Total Revenue



Total Assets under Management

Mortgage Banking

Key component of Fee Income

- Mortgage Production for sale and portfolio via commissioned and salaried loan originators
- Strong loan origination teams in high-growth areas of Indianapolis and Columbus, OH
- Centralized underwriting and processing
- Strong connectivity with retail branches
- Majority of the pipeline is driven by purchase business
- 12/31/2017 YTD 2,146 mortgages for \$391M in volume





Mortgage Banking Revenue

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Non-Interest Expense

(\$ in N	lillions)	2016	<u>2017</u>	<u>Q1-'18</u>	<u>Q2-'18</u>
1.	Salary & Benefits	\$102.6	\$119.8	\$ 32.2	\$ 32.2
2.	Premises & Equipment	29.5	30.1	8.4	7.9
3.	Intangible Asset Amortization	3.9	5.6	1.7	1.7
4.	Professional & Other Outside Services	6.5	12.8	1.5	1.8
5.	OREO/Credit-Related Expense	2.9	1.9	0.4	0.4
6.	FDIC Expense	3.0	2.6	0.7	0.7
7.	Outside Data Processing	9.2	12.2	3.0	3.4
8.	Marketing	3.0	3.7	0.9	1.5
9.	Other	16.7	<u>16.9</u>	<u>4.9</u>	<u>3.9</u>
10.	Total Non-Interest Expense	<u>\$177.3</u>	<u>\$ 205.6</u> 1	<u>\$ 53.7</u>	<u>\$ 53.5</u>

¹ 2017 includes acquisition-related expenses of \$12.2 million



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Earnings

	0					
	(\$ in Millions)	2016	2017	<u>Q1-'18</u>	<u>Q2-'18</u>	
	. Net Interest Income	\$226.5	\$ 277.3	\$ 79.9	\$ 84.6	
	2. Provision for Loan Losses	<u>(5.7)</u>	<u>(9.1)</u>	<u>(2.5)</u>	<u>(1.7)</u>	
	8. Net Interest Income after Provision	220.8	268.2	77.4	82.9	
4	 Non-Interest Income 	65.2	71.0	19.6	18.2	
ļ	5. Non-Interest Expense	<u>(177.3)</u>	(205.6)	<u>(53.7)</u>	<u>(53.5)</u>	
(5. Income before Income Taxes	108.7	133.6	43.3	47.6	
	7. Income Tax Expense	<u>(27.6)</u>	<u>(37.5)</u> ¹	<u>(6.6)</u>	<u>(8.0)</u>	
2	8. Net Income Avail. for Distribution	<u>\$ 81.1</u>	<u>\$ 96.1</u>	<u>\$ 36.7</u>	<u>\$ 39.6</u>	
9	9. EPS	\$ 1.98	\$ 2.12 ²	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.80	
	0. Efficiency Ratio	56.51%	54.56%	51.33%	49.32%	

¹ 2017 includes \$5.1 million of additional tax expense due to revaluing deferred taxes as a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act
 ² Acquisition-related expenses, the impact of tax reform, and pension settlement accounting reduced EPS by \$0.30 for 2017



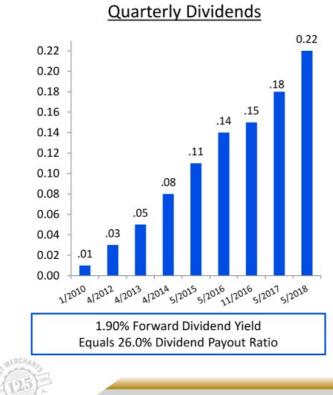
Per Share Results

<u>2017</u>	<u>Q1</u>	<u>Q2</u>	<u>Q3</u>	<u>Q4</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Earnings Per Share	\$.56	\$.57	\$.50	\$.49	\$ 2.12
2. Dividends	\$.15	\$.18	\$.18	\$.18	\$.69
3. Tangible Book Value	\$16.49	\$16.97	\$16.62	\$16.96	
<u>2018</u>	<u>Q1</u>	<u>Q2</u>	<u>Q3</u>	<u>Q4</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Earnings Per Share	\$.74	\$.80	-	-	\$ 1.54
2. Dividends	\$.18	\$.22	-	-	\$.40
3. Tangible Book Value	\$17.14	\$17.71	_	_	

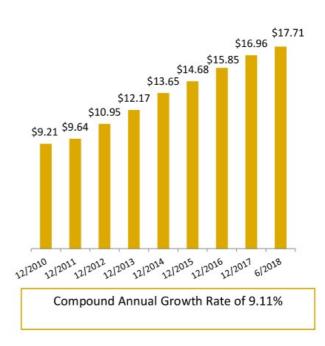


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Dividends and Tangible Book Value



Tangible Book Value



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Asset Quality Summary

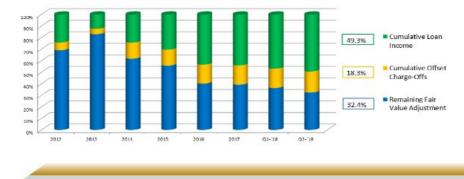
(\$ in Millions)					Char Linked C	-
	2016	2017	<u>Q1-'18</u>	<u>Q2-'18</u>	\$	%
1. Non-Accrual Loans	\$ 30.0	\$ 28.7	\$ 27.5	\$ 20.1	\$ (7.4)	(26.9%)
2. Other Real Estate	9.0	10.4	9.7	9.1	(0.6)	(6.2%)
3. Renegotiated Loans	4.7	1.0	0.6	0.5	(0.1)	(16.7%)
4. 90+ Days Delinquent Loans	0.1	0.9	0.7	0.2	(0.5)	(71.4%)
5. Total NPAs & 90+ Days Delinquent	\$ 43.8	\$ 41.0	\$ 38.5	\$ 29.9	\$ (8.6)	(22.3%)
6. Total NPAs & 90+ Days/Loans & ORE	0.9%	0.6%	0.6%	0.4%		
7. Classified Assets	\$174.1	\$153.1	\$ 178.4	\$166.3	\$ (12.1)	(6.8%)
8. Specific Reserves	\$ 0.9	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.3	\$ 0.5	\$ (0.8)	(61.5%)



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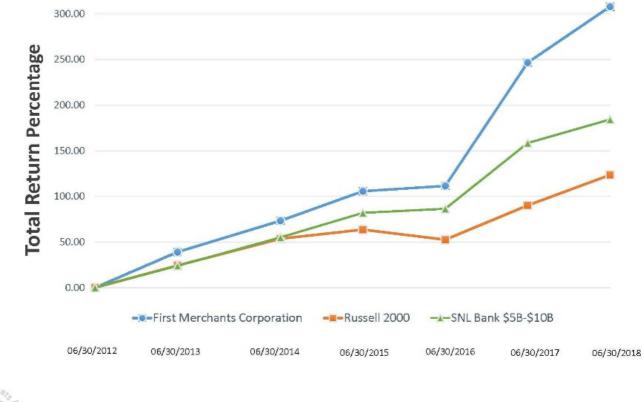
ALLL and Fair Value Summary

(\$ in Millions)	<u>Q3-'17</u>	<u>Q4-'17</u>	<u>Q1-'18</u>	Q2-'18
1. Beginning Allowance for Loan Losses (ALLL)	\$ 70.5	\$ 73.4	\$ 75.0	\$ 76.4
Net Charge-offs (Recoveries)	(0.8)	0.2	1.1	0.6
3. Provision Expense	2.1	<u>1.8</u>	2.5	<u>1.7</u>
4. Ending Allowance for Loan Losses (ALLL)	\$ 73.4	\$ 75.0	\$ 76.4	\$ 77.5
5. ALLL/Non-Accrual Loans	227.4%	261.2%	277.9%	385.0%
6. ALLL/Non-Purchased Loans	1.44%	1.36%	1.32%	1.28%
7. ALLL/Loans	1.13%	1.11%	1.11%	1.09%
8. Fair Value Adjustment (FVA)	\$ 50.4	\$ 46.3	\$ 43.1	\$ 37.2
9. Total ALLL plus FVA	123.8	121.3	119.5	114.7
10. Purchased Loans plus FVA	1,445.8	1,304.7	1,179.8	1,059.1
11. FVA/Purchased Loans plus FVA	3.49%	3.55%	3.65%	3.51%



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Total Return Performance





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FMC Strategy and Tactics Overview

Looking Forward . . .

- Manage market presence and our core banking business. Continue organic growth protocol.
- > Optimize our retail and commercial deposit strategy... products and pricing.
- Capitalize on talent opportunities from performance and preferred employer recognitions
- Build out of specialty finance businesses in sponsor finance, public finance, asset-based lending, and loan syndications
- Assess M&A opportunities and operating strategies as we prepare to cross the \$10 Billion asset level



Why Invest in First Merchants?

- Forbes Magazine recognition as a Top 5 Ranking in "America's Best Banks"
- Performance Ranked Best among Indiana Banks by Bank Director Magazine
- Attractive and Growing Earnings Stream
- 2nd Largest Indiana Bank with an Energized and Experienced Management Team
- Attractive Long-Term Deposit Market Shares

Forbes 2018 BEST BANKS AMERIC

FIRST MERCHANTS BANK **RANKED #4 IN 2018**

IN

- Commercial Presence that Creates a Client Preference
- State-of-the-Art Technology and Operations Center
- Successful Acquisition and Integration Track Record
- Focused on Providing Sustainable

Shareholder Value





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Research Coverage

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Contact Information

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 M. Weaver Investor Relations Telephone: 765.521.7619 nweaver@firstmerchants.com





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Appendix



FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION 200 E. Jackson St., P.O. Box 792, Muncie, IN 47305 | 765.747.1500

Appendix – Non-GAAP Reconciliation

CAPITAL RATIOS (dollars in thousands):

	2Q16	3Q16	4Q16	1Q17	2Q17	3Q17	4Q17	1Q18	2Q18
Total Risk-Based Capital Ratio									
Total Stockholders' Equity (GAAP)	887,550	900,865	901,657	929,470	1,035,116	1,283,120	1,303,463	1,313,073	1,340,328
Adjust for Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Income) Loss	(7,035)	(3,924)	13,581	3,722	(1,384)	6,358	3,534	21,725	24,868
Less: Preferred Stock	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)
Add: Qualifying Capital Securities	55,296	55,355	55,415	55,474	55,534	65,864	65,919	65,975	66,030
Less: Tier 1 Capital Deductions	(1,828)	(1,440)	(376)	(80)	(166)	-	-	-	-
Less: Disallowed Goodwill and Intangible Assets	(249,932)	(249,541)	(249,104)	(250,493)	(300,307)	(462,080)	(464,066)	(467,518)	(466,063)
Less: Disallowed Deferred Tax Assets	(2,743)	(2,161)	(564)	(320)	(665)	-	-	(2,594)	(2,104)
Total Tier 1 Capital (Regulatory)	\$ 681,183	\$ 699,029	\$ 720,484	\$ 737,648	\$ 788,003	\$ 893,137	\$ 908,725	\$ 930,536	\$ 962,934
Qualifying Subordinated Debentures	65,000	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	62,186	63,456	66,037	68,225	70,471	73,354	75,032	76,420	77,543
Total Risk-Based Capital (Regulatory)	\$ 808,369	\$ 827,485	\$ 851,521	\$ 870,873	\$ 923,474	\$1,031,491	\$1,048,757	\$1,071,956	\$1,105,477
Net Risk-Weighted Assets (Regulatory)	\$ 5,511,557	\$ 5,836,806	\$ 5,993,381	\$6,114,112	\$6,592,710	\$7,497,321	\$7,660,604	\$7,831,727	\$ 8,002,666
Total Risk-Based Capital Ratio (Regulatory)	14.67%	14.18%	14.21%	14.24%	14.01%	13.76%	13.69%	13.69%	13.81%
Common Equity Tier 1 Capital Ratio									
Total Tier 1 Capital (Regulatory)	\$ 681,183	\$ 699,029	\$ 720,484	\$ 737,648	\$ 788,003	\$ 893,137	\$ 908,725	\$ 930,536	\$ 962,934
Less: Qualified Capital Securities	(55,296)	(55,355)	(55,415)	(55,474)	(55,534)	(65,864)	(65,919)	(65,975)	(66,030)
Add: Additional Tier 1 Capital Deductions	1,828	1,440	376	80	166	-	-	-	-
Common Equity Tier 1 Capital (Regulatory)	\$ 627,715	\$ 645,114	\$ 665,445	\$ 682,254	\$ 732,635	\$ 827,273	\$ 842,806	\$ 864,561	\$ 896,904
Net Risk-Weighted Assets (Regulatory)	\$ 5,511,557	\$ 5,836,806	\$ 5,993,381	\$6,114,112	\$6,592,710	\$7,497,321	\$7,660,604	\$7,831,727	\$ 8,002,666
Common Equity Tier 1 Capital Ratio (Regulatory)	11.39%	11.05%	11.10%	11.16%	11.11%	11.03%	11.00%	11.04%	11.21%

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.



FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION 200 E. Jackson St., P.O. Box 792, Muncie, IN 47305 | 765.747.1500

Appendix – Non-GAAP Reconciliation

TANGIBLE COMMON EQUITY RATIO (dollars in thousands):

		2Q16		3Q16		4Q16		1Q17	2Q17	3Q17		4Q17		1Q18		2Q18
Total Stockholders' Equity (GAAP)	\$	887,550	\$	900,865	\$	901,657	\$	929,470	\$1,035,116	\$1,283,120	\$:	1,303,463	\$1	,313,073	\$1	L,340,328
Less: Preferred Stock		(125)		(125)		(125)		(125)	(125)	(125)		(125)		(125)		(125)
Less: Intangible Assets		(260,822)		(259,844)		(258,866)	8	(257,963)	(309,686)	(478,558)		(476,503)		(474,777)	3	(473,059)
Tangible Common Equity (non-GAAP)	\$	626,603	\$	640,896	\$	642,666	\$	671,382	\$ 725,305	\$ 804,437	\$	826,835	\$	838,171	\$	867,144
Total Assets (GAAP)	\$6	,906,418	\$	7,022,352	\$ 1	7,211,611	\$	7,326,193	\$7,805,029	\$ 9,049,403	\$ 9	9,367,478	\$9	,472,796	\$ 9	9,734,715
Less: Intangible Assets		(260,822)		(259,844)		(258,866)		(257,963)	(309,686)	(478,558)		(476,503)		(474,777)		(473,059)
Tangible Assets (non-GAAP)	\$6	,645,596	\$6	6,762,508	\$6	6,952,745	\$	7,068,230	\$7,495,343	\$8,570,845	\$8	8,890,975	\$8	,998,019	\$ 9	9,261,656
Tangible Common Equity Ratio (non-GAAP)		9.43%		9.48%		9.24%		9.50%	9.68%	9.39%		9.30%		9.32%		9.36%

TANGIBLE COMMON EQUITY PER SHARE (dollars in thousands):

		4Q10		4Q11		4Q12		4Q13		4Q14		4Q15		4Q16	ł., .	1Q17	2Q17	3Q17	4Q17	1Q18	2Q18
Total Stockholders' Equity (GAAP)	\$	454,408	\$	514,467	\$	552,236	\$	634,923	\$	726,827	\$	850,509	\$	901,657	\$	929,470	\$1,035,116	\$1,283,120	\$1,303,463	\$1,313,073	\$ 1,340,328
Less: Preferred Stock		(67,880)		(90,783)		(90,908)		(125)		(125)		(125)		(125)		(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)	(125)
Less: Intangible Assets		(154,019)		(150,471)		(149,529)		(202,767)		(218,755)		(259,764)		(258,866)		(257,963)	(309,686)	(478,558)	(476,503)	(474,777)	(473,059)
TaxBenefit		2,907		2,224	8	2,249		4,973		6,085	_	6,278		5,930		5,659	6,941	12,510	6,788	6,043	5,690
Tangible Common Equity, Net of Tax (non-GAAP)	\$	235,416	\$	275,437	\$	314,048	\$	437,004	\$	514,032	\$	596,898	\$	648,596	\$	677,041	\$ 732,246	\$ 816,947	\$ 833,623	\$ 844,214	\$ 872,834
Shares Outstanding	2	5,574,251	2	8,559,707	2	8,692,616	3	5,921,761	3	7,669,948	40	,664,258	40	,912,697	41	,047,543	43,153,509	49,140,594	49,158,238	49,243,096	49,280,188
Tangible Common Equity per Share (non-GAAP)	\$	9.21	\$	9.64	\$	10.95	\$	12.17	\$	13.65	\$	14.68	\$	15.85	\$	16.49	\$ 16.97	\$ 16.62	\$ 16.96	\$ 17.14	\$ 17.71



FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION 200 E. Jackson St., P.O. Box 792, Muncie, IN 47305 | 765.747.1500

Appendix – Non-GAAP Reconciliation

erest Expense (GAAP) tangible Asset Amortization	\$		\$ 20	2017 05,556 \$	10	_	2Q18
tangible Asset Amortization	\$		\$ 20	05 556 S	50.00		
0		12 0101		,,,,,,,,,,	53,68	7\$	53,504
Second Francisco Francisco		(3,910)		(5,647)	(1,72	6)	(1,718)
REO and Foreclosure Expenses		(2,877)		(1,903)	(40	2)	(362)
d Non Interest Expense (non-GAAP)	<u>8</u>	170,572	19	98,006	51,55	9	51,424
rest Income (GAAP)		226,473	27	7,284	79,91	6	84,571
lly Taxable Equivalent Adjustment	89	13,541	1	17,270	2,58	4	2,625
rest Income on a Fully Taxable Equivalent Basis (non-G	A	240,014	29	94,554	82,50	0	87,196
erest Income (GAAP)		65,203	7	1,009	19,56	1	18,191
vestment Securities Gains (Losses)		(3,389)		(2,631)	(1,60	9)	(1,122)
d Non Interest Income (non-GAAP)		61,814	e	58,378	17,95	2	17,069
d Revenue (non-GAAP)	_	301,828	36	52,932	100,45	2	104,265
y Ratio (non-GAAP)		56.51%	!	54.56%	51.33	%	49.32%
RD DIVIDEND YIELD							
				2Q18			
ecent quarter's dividend per share			\$	0.22			
ecent quarter's dividend per share - Annualized			\$	0.88			
rice at 6/30/18			\$	46.40			
ward Dividend Yield				1.90%			
ND PAYOUT RATIO							
				2018 YTD			
nds per share			\$	0.40			
s Per Share			\$	1.54			
idend Payout Ratio				26.0%			

First Merchants Corporation Appendix – Non-GAAP Reconciliation

	1993.0	2016	100	2017	6	1Q18	2	2Q18
Total Risk-Based Capital (Subsidiary Bank Only)	S.C							
Total Stockholders' Equity (GAAP)	\$	973,641	\$	1,404,303	\$	1,414,109	\$	1,432,722
Adjust for Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Income) Loss	1	9,701		763		19,231		22,589
Less: Preferred Stock		(125)		(125)		(125)		(125)
Less: Tier 1 Capital Deductions		107.0		-		-		70
Less: Disallowed Goodwill and Intangible Assets		(248,656)		(463,618)		(467,070)		(465,616)
Less: Disallowed Deferred Tax Assets				-		(2,234)		(1,862)
Total Tier 1 Capital (Regulatory)		734,561		941,323		963,911		987,708
Allowance for Loan Losses includible in Tier 2 Capital		66,037		75,032		76,420		77,543
Total Risk-Based Capital (Regulatory)	\$	800,598	\$	1,016,355	\$	1,040,331	\$	1,065,251
Construction, Land and Land Development Loans	\$	418,703	\$	612,219	\$	590,093	\$	714,866
Concentration as a % of the Bank's Risk-Based Capital		52%		60%		57%		67%
Construction, Land and Land Development Loans	\$	418,703	\$	612,219	\$	590,093	\$	714,866
Investment Real Estate Loans		1,272,415		1,617,943		1,760,226		1,699,962
Total Construction and Investment RE Loans	\$	1,691,118	\$	2,230,162	\$	2,350,319	\$	2,414,828
Concentration as a % of the Bank's Risk-Based Capital	_	211%		219%		226%	3	227%

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.

ALLOWANCE AS A PERCENTAGE OF NON-PURCHASED LOANS (dollars in thousands):

	3	Q17		4Q17		1Q18		2Q18
Loans Held for Sale (GAAP)	\$	4,514	\$	7,216	\$	4,469	\$	2,046
Loans (GAAP)	6,4	83,448	6,	751,199	6	,901,696	7	,081,059
Total Loans	6,4	87,962	6,	758,415	6	,906,165	7	,083,105
Less: Purchased Loans	(1,3	95,368)	(1,	258,386)	(1	,136,711)	(1	,022,160)
Non-Purchased Loans (non-GAAP)	\$ 5,0	92,594	\$5,	500,029	\$5	,769,454	\$6	,060,945
Allowance for Loan Losses (GAAP)	s	73,354	\$	75,032	\$	76,420	\$	77,543
Fair Value Adjustment (FVA) (GAAP)	21	50,434		46,304		43,121		37,221
Allowance plus FVA (non-GAAP)	\$ 1	23,788	\$	121,336	\$	119,541	\$	114,764
Purchased Loans (GAAP)	\$ 1,3	95,368	\$1,	258,386	\$1	,136,711	\$1	,022,160
Fair Value Adjustment (FVA) (GAAP)		50,434		46,304		43,121		37,221
Purchased Loans plus FVA (non-GAAP)	\$1,4	45,802	\$1,	304,690	\$1	,179,832	\$1	,059,381
Allowance as a Percentage of Non-Purchased Loans (non-GAAP)		1.44%		1.36%		1.32%		1.28%
FVA as a Percentage of Purchased Loans plus FVA (non-GAAP)		3.49%		3.55%		3.65%		3.51%

FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION 200 E. Jackson St., P.O. Box 792, Muncie, IN 47305 | 765.747.1500