

FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP  
Form 10-Q  
November 06, 2015

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

(Mark one)

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

**For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2015**

or

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

**For the transition period from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_**

**Commission File Number: 000-10972**

**FIRST FARMERS AND MERCHANTS CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Tennessee  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

62-1148660  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

816 South Garden Street  
Columbia, Tennessee  
(Address of principal executive offices)

38401

(Zip Code)

(931) 388-3145

---

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

---

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

## Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes     No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes    No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act).  Yes  No

As of October 30, 2015, the registrant had 4,779,697 shares of common stock outstanding.

FIRST FARMERS AND MERCHANTS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

INDEX

	<b>Page Number</b>
PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
ITEM 1.	
	<u>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>
	<u>CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2015</u> 3
	<u>AND DECEMBER 31, 2014</u>
	<u>CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME FOR THE THREE AND</u> 4
	<u>NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 AND 2014</u>
	<u>CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR</u> 5
	<u>THE THREE AND NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 AND 2014</u>
	<u>CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE NINE</u> 6
	<u>MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 AND 2014</u>
	<u>CONDENSED NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u> 7
ITEM 2.	<u>MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND</u> 38
	<u>RESULTS OF OPERATIONS</u>
ITEM 3.	<u>QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES</u>
ITEM 4.	<u>ABOUT MARKET RISK</u> 44
	<u>CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES</u> 45
PART II OTHER INFORMATION	
ITEM 1.	<u>LEGAL PROCEEDINGS</u> 46
ITEM 1A.	<u>RISK FACTORS</u> 46
	<u>UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND</u>
ITEM 2.	<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u> 46
ITEM 3.	<u>DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES</u> 46
ITEM 4.	<u>MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES</u> 46
ITEM 5.	<u>OTHER INFORMATION</u> 46
ITEM 6.	<u>EXHIBITS</u> 47

## FIRST FARMERS AND MERCHANTS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

		September 30, <b>2015</b>	December 31, <b>2014</b>
	<i>(dollars in thousands, except per share data)</i>	(unaudited)	
<b>ASSETS</b>		\$	\$
	Cash and due from banks	20,302	18,511
	Interest-bearing deposits	8,956	10,086
	Federal funds sold	-	1,700
	Total cash and cash equivalents	29,258	30,297
	Securities:		
	Available-for-sale	403,366	397,886
	Held-to-maturity (fair market value \$3,240 and \$22,263 as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively)	3,210	21,985
	Total securities	406,576	419,871
	Loans, net of deferred fees	727,535	652,052
	Allowance for loan and lease losses	(8,585)	(7,934)
	Net loans	718,950	644,118
	Bank premises and equipment, net	25,741	25,773
	Other real estate owned	90	5
	Bank owned life insurance	26,447	26,176
	Goodwill	9,018	9,018
	Deferred tax asset	3,271	5,097
	Other assets	11,545	10,640
	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 1,230,896</b>	<b>\$1,170,995</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	Deposits:		
	Noninterest-bearing	\$ 223,380	\$ 204,358
	Interest-bearing	837,821	815,597
	Total deposits	1,061,201	1,019,955
	Federal funds purchased	11,515	-
	Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	24,936	22,834
	Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	13,282	13,622
	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,110,934</b>	<b>1,056,411</b>
<b>SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY</b>	Common stock - \$10 par value per share, 8,000,000 shares authorized; 4,779,697 and 4,900,576 shares issued and outstanding as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively	47,797	49,006
	Retained earnings	71,831	67,609
	Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	239	(2,126)
	<b>TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY BEFORE NONCONTROLLING INTEREST - PREFERRED STOCK OF SUBSIDIARY</b>	<b>119,867</b>	<b>114,489</b>
	Noncontrolling interest - preferred stock of subsidiary	95	95
	<b>TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY</b>	<b>119,962</b>	<b>114,584</b>
	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 1,230,896</b>	<b>\$ 1,170,995</b>

Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the condensed consolidated financial statements.

## FIRST FARMERS AND MERCHANTS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(unaudited)

Three months ended  
September 30,Nine months ended  
September 30,*(dollars in thousands, except per share data)*

		2015	2014	2015	2014
<b>INTEREST AND</b>	Interest and fees on loans	\$ 7,815	\$ 7,248	\$ 22,604	\$ 21,190
<b>DIVIDEND</b>	Income on investment securities:				
<b>INCOME</b>	Taxable interest	1,422	1,469	4,385	4,230
	Exempt from federal income tax	530	578	1,692	1,867
	Dividends	50	56	160	209
	Total interest income	9,817	9,351	28,841	27,496
<b>INTEREST</b>	Interest on deposits	528	587	1,605	1,798
<b>EXPENSE</b>	Interest on other short-term borrowings	28	18	73	50
	Total interest expense	556	605	1,678	1,848
	Net interest income	9,261	8,746	27,163	25,648
	Provision for loan and lease losses	-	-	-	-
	Net interest income after provision	9,261	8,746	27,163	25,648
<b>NONINTEREST</b>	Gain on loans sold	77	86	190	180
<b>INCOME</b>	Trust department income	619	633	1,911	1,886
	Service fees on deposit accounts	1,695	1,681	4,916	4,845
	Brokerage fees	144	103	442	325
	Earnings on bank owned life insurance	99	104	271	293
	Gain (loss) on sale of securities	135	(7)	405	540
	Gain on foreclosed property	-	475	17	471
	Other noninterest income	138	102	414	379
	Total noninterest income	2,907	3,177	8,566	8,919
<b>NONINTEREST</b>	Salaries and employee benefits	4,654	4,483	13,701	13,380
<b>EXPENSE</b>	Net occupancy expense	566	510	1,638	1,453
	Depreciation expense	377	349	1,114	1,060
	Data processing expense	654	573	1,878	1,734
	Legal and professional fees	213	219	1,032	647
	Stationary and office supplies	68	74	229	229
	Advertising and promotions	307	376	903	1,055
	FDIC insurance premium expense	147	172	426	461
	Other real estate expense	1	17	1	68
	Other noninterest expense	1,537	1,393	4,183	4,202
	Total noninterest expense	8,524	8,166	25,105	24,289
	Income before taxes	3,644	3,757	10,624	10,278
	Provision for income taxes	925	1,031	2,578	2,685
	Net income before non-controlling interest -				
	dividends on preferred stock of subsidiary	2,719	2,726	8,046	7,593
	Non-controlling interest - dividends on				
	preferred stock subsidiary	-	-	8	8
	Net income for common shareholders	\$ 2,719	\$ 2,726	\$ 8,038	\$ 7,585
	Weighted average shares outstanding	4,808,352	4,934,895	4,852,628	4,977,091
	Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.55	\$ 1.66	\$ 1.52

Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the condensed consolidated financial statements.

**FIRST FARMERS AND MERCHANTS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

(Unaudited)  
(Dollars in thousands)

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Net income	\$ 2,719	\$ 2,726	\$ 8,038	\$ 7,585
Other comprehensive income (loss):				
Unrealized holding gains (losses) on securities, net of tax expense (benefit) of \$1,719 and (\$475) for the three months ended and net of tax expense of \$1,683 and \$3,376 for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively	2,745	(759)	2,688	5,393
Reclassification adjustment for realized (gains) losses included in net income, net of tax effect	(83)	4	(249)	(332)
Reclassification adjustment for pension plan obligation included in net income, net of tax effect	(25)	(30)	(74)	(89)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	2,637	(785)	2,365	4,972
Comprehensive income	5,356	1,941	10,403	12,557
Less: comprehensive income attributable to the noncontrolling interest	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income	\$ 5,356	\$ 1,941	\$ 10,403	\$ 12,557

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the condensed consolidated financial statements.



**FIRST FARMERS AND MERCHANTS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(Unaudited)  
(Dollars in thousands)

		<u>Nine months ended September 30,</u>	
		<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>OPERATING</b>	Net income available for common shareholders	\$ 8,038	\$ 7,585
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided		
	by operating activities		
	Provision for depreciation and amortization of		
	premises and equipment	1,114	1,060
	Deferred income tax	345	250
	Net securities gains	(405)	(540)
	Gain on loans sold	(190)	(180)
	Proceeds from sale of mortgage loans held for sale	11,828	7,913
	Funding of mortgage loans held for sale	(11,490)	(9,718)
	Gain on other real estate owned	(17)	(471)
	Loss on sale of assets	-	1
	Amortization of investment security premiums,		
	net of accretion of discounts	874	818
	Increase in cash surrender value of life insurance contracts	(271)	(29)
	Changes in:		
	Other assets	(1,053)	38
	Other liabilities	1,352	2,997
	Net cash provided by operating activities	10,125	9,724
<b>INVESTING</b>	Proceeds from sales of available-for-sale securities	60,449	24,389
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	Proceeds from maturities and calls of available-for-sale securities	24,742	21,878
	Proceeds from maturities and calls of held-to-maturity securities	18,795	3,970
	Purchase of investment securities available-for-sale	(87,194)	(86,924)
	Net increase in loans	(74,922)	(10,543)
	Proceeds from sales of other real estate owned	22	912
	Purchases of premises and equipment	(1,082)	(1,294)
	Purchase of life insurance policy	-	(175)
	Net cash used in investing activities	(59,190)	(47,787)
<b>FINANCING</b>	Net increase in deposits	41,246	18,852
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	Net increase in securities sold under agreements to repurchase	2,102	9,272
	Net increase in federal funds purchased	11,515	-
	Repurchase of common stock	(3,243)	(2,799)
	Cash dividends paid on common stock	(3,594)	(3,685)
	Net cash provided by financing activities	48,026	21,640
	Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(1,039)	(16,423)
	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	30,297	55,408
	Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 29,258	\$38,985
	Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information		
	Cash paid during the period for:		
	Interest paid	\$ 1,780	\$1,768
	Income taxes paid	2,220	1,929

Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

Real estate acquired in settlement of loans

90

5

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of the condensed consolidated financial statements.*

6

---

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

---

**NOTE 1 GENERAL AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

*Nature of Business* First Farmers and Merchants Corporation (the Company) is a \$1.2 billion bank holding company whose principal activity is the ownership and management of its wholly-owned subsidiary, First Farmers and Merchants Bank (the Bank). The Bank is primarily engaged in providing a full range of banking and financial services, including lending, investing of funds, obtaining deposits, trust and wealth management operations and other financing activities to individual and corporate customers in the Middle Tennessee area. The Bank is subject to competition from other financial institutions. The Company and Bank are subject to regulation by certain federal and state agencies and undergo periodic examinations by those regulatory authorities.

*Basis of Presentation* The accompanying consolidated financial statements are presented in accordance with the requirements of Form 10-Q and Regulation S-X and consequently do not include all of the disclosures normally required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) or those normally made in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K. Accordingly, the reader of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q should refer to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 for further information in this regard. The consolidated balance sheet of the Company as of December 31, 2014 has been derived from the audited consolidated balance sheet of the Company as of that date. The results of operations for the period are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full year.

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments that are, in the opinion of management of the Company, necessary to fairly present the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of the Company. Those adjustments consist only of normal recurring adjustments.

*Use of Estimates* The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities as of the balance sheet date and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Material estimates that are particularly susceptible to significant change in the near term include the determination of the allowance for loan and lease losses, any potential impairment of intangible assets, including goodwill and the valuation of deferred tax assets, other real estate owned, and our investment portfolio, including other-than-temporary impairment. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014. There have been no significant changes to the Company's significant accounting policies as disclosed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

*Recent Accounting Standards*

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued *ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, (Topic 606)*. ASU 2014-09 states a company will recognize revenue when it transfers promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the company expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. In doing so, companies will need to use more judgment and make more estimates than under existing guidance. These may include identifying performance obligations in the contract, estimating the amount of variable consideration to include in the transaction price and allocating the transaction price to each separate performance obligation. In August of 2015, the FASB issued *ASU 2015-14, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, (Topic 606): Deferral of the Effective Date*. ASU 2015-14 defers the effective date of Update 2014-09 for all entities by one year. As such, ASU 2014-09 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, including interim periods within that reporting period. The amendments can be applied retrospectively to each prior reporting period or retrospectively with the cumulative effect of initially applying this update recognized at the date of initial application. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting the new guidance on the consolidated financial statements, but the Company does not expect it to have a material impact.

**NOTE 1 GENERAL AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

In June 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-11, *Repurchase-to-Maturity Transactions, Repurchase Financings, and Disclosures*. ASU 2014-11 aligns the accounting for repurchase-to-maturity transactions and repurchase agreements executed as repurchase financings with the accounting for other typical repurchase agreements. Going forward, these transactions would all be accounted for as secured borrowings. The guidance eliminates sale accounting for repurchase-to-maturity transactions and supersedes the guidance under which a transfer of a financial asset and a contemporaneous repurchase financing could be accounted for on a combined basis as a forward agreement, which has resulted in outcomes referred to as off-balance-sheet accounting. The amendments in ASU 2014-11 require a new disclosure for transactions economically similar to repurchase agreements in which the transferor retains substantially all of the exposure to the economic return on the transferred financial assets throughout the term of the transaction. The amendments in ASU 2014-11 also require expanded disclosures about the nature of collateral pledged in repurchase agreements and similar transactions accounted for as secured. The Company adopted the amendments in this ASU 2014-11 effective January 1, 2015. As of September 30, 2015, all of the Company's repurchase agreements were typical in nature (i.e., not repurchase-to-maturity transactions or repurchase agreements executed as a repurchase financing) and are accounted for as secured borrowings. As such, the adoption of ASU 2014-11 did not have a material impact on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

*ASU 2014-14, Receivables - Troubled Debt Restructurings by Creditors (Subtopic 310-40)*. ASU 2014-14 applies to creditors that hold government-guaranteed mortgage loans, including those guaranteed by the FHA and the VA. The amendments in this Update require that a mortgage loan be derecognized and that a separate other receivable be recognized upon foreclosure if the following conditions are met: (1) the loan has a government guarantee that is not separable from the loan before foreclosure. (2) at the time of foreclosure, the creditor has the intent to convey the real estate property to the guarantor and make a claim on the guarantee, and the creditor has the ability to recover under that claim. (3) at the time of foreclosure, any amount of the claim that is determined on the basis of the fair value of the real estate is fixed. Upon foreclosure, the separate other receivable should be measured based on the amount of the loan balance (principal and interest) expected to be recovered from the guarantor. ASU 2014-14 was effective for public business entities for annual periods, and interim periods within those annual periods, beginning after December 15, 2014. The adoption of ASU 2014-14 did not have a material impact on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Reclassifications:** Certain reclassifications considered to be immaterial have been made in the prior year consolidated financial statements to conform to current year presentation. These reclassifications had no effect on net income.

**NOTE 2 EARNINGS PER SHARE**

*Income per common share* Earnings per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average common shares outstanding for the period. The following is a summary of the basic net income per share calculation for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014:

	For the three months ended		For the nine months ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	(dollars in thousands, except per share data)			
Numerator - Net income available to common shareholders	\$ 2,719	\$ 2,726	\$8,038	\$7,585
Denominator - Weighted average common shares outstanding	4,808,352	4,934,895	4,852,628	4,977,091
Basic net income per common share available to common shareholders	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.55	\$1.66	\$ 1.52

**NOTE 3 RECLASSIFICATIONS FROM ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME ( AOCI )**

Amounts reclassified from AOCI and the affected line items in the statements of income during the periods ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 were as follows:

	Amounts reclassified from AOCI		Affected line item in the Statements of Income
	Three months ended September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	
(dollars in thousands)			
Unrealized gains on available-for-sale securities			
			Realized gains (losses) on sales of available-for-sale securities
	\$ 135	\$(7)	
	(52)	3	Tax (expense) benefit
	83	(4)	Net reclassified amount
Amortization of defined benefit pension items			
	39	48	Total reclassified amount before tax
	(14)	(18)	Tax benefit
	25	30	Net reclassified amount
Total reclassifications out of AOCI	\$ 108	\$26	

Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

**NOTE 3 RECLASSIFICATIONS FROM ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME ( AOCI )**  
(continued)

	Amounts reclassified from AOCI		Affected line item in the Statements of Income
	Nine months ended September 30, 2015	September 30, 2014	
(dollars in thousands)			
Unrealized gains on available-for-sale securities			
			Realized gains on sales of available-for-sale securities
	\$ 405	\$ 540	
	(156)	(208)	Tax expense
	249	332	Net reclassified amount
Amortization of defined benefit pension items			
	122	145	Total reclassified amount before tax
	(48)	(56)	Tax benefit
	74	89	Net reclassified amount
Total reclassifications out of AOCI	\$ 323	\$ 421	

The components of AOCI included in shareholder s equity are as follows:

	September 30, 2015	December 31, 2014
(dollars in thousands)		
Net unrealized losses on available-for-sale securities	\$ (1,552)	\$ (5,517)
Net actuarial gain on unfunded portion of postretirement benefit obligation	1,939	2,062
	387	(3,455)
Income tax (benefit) expense	(148)	1,329
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	\$ 239	\$ (2,126)

**NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

The fair value of an asset or liability is the price that would be received in a sale of that asset or paid to transfer that liability in an orderly transaction occurring in the principal market (or most advantageous market in the absence of a principal market) for such asset or liability. Fair value measurement must maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. In estimating fair value, the Company utilizes valuation techniques that are consistent with the market approach, the income approach and/or the cost approach. Such valuation techniques are consistently applied. Inputs to valuation techniques include the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability. *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (ASC 820)* establishes a fair value hierarchy for valuation inputs that gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs. The fair value hierarchy is as follows:

- *Level 1 Inputs* - Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- *Level 2 Inputs* - Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. These might include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability (such as interest rates, volatilities, market consensus, prepayment speeds, credit risks, etc.) or inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by market data by correlation or other means.
- *Level 3 Inputs* - Unobservable inputs for determining the fair values of assets or liabilities that reflect an entity's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the assets or liabilities.

Transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy are recognized on the actual date of the event or circumstances that caused the transfer, which generally coincides with the Company's monthly and/or quarterly valuation process.

**NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)****Recurring Measurements**

The following table summarizes financial assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, and by the level within the fair value hierarchy utilized to measure fair value:

**Assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of September 30, 2015**

	(dollars in thousands)			
Available-for-sale securities	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
U.S. government agencies	\$ -	\$ 150,837	\$ -	\$ 150,837
U.S. government sponsored agency mortgage-backed securities	-	157,855	-	157,855
States and political subdivisions	-	71,596	-	71,596
Corporate bonds	-	23,078	-	23,078
<b>Total assets at fair value</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 403,366</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 403,366</b>

**Assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2014**

	(dollars in thousands)			
Available-for-sale securities	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
U.S. government agencies	\$ -	\$ 159,254	\$ -	\$ 159,254
U.S. government sponsored agency mortgage-backed securities	-	167,970	-	167,970
States and political subdivisions	-	52,882	-	52,882
Corporate bonds	-	17,780	-	17,780
<b>Total assets at fair value</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 397,886</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 397,886</b>

Below is a description of the valuation methodologies and inputs used for assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis and recognized in the accompanying balance sheets, as well as the general classification of such assets pursuant to the valuation hierarchy. There were no significant changes in the valuation techniques during the nine months ended September 30, 2015.

**Available-for-Sale Securities**

Where quoted market prices are available in an active market, securities are classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy. If quoted market prices are not available, the Company obtains fair value measurements from an independent pricing service, such as Interactive Data, which utilizes pricing models to determine fair value measurement. The Company reviews the pricing quarterly to verify the reasonableness of the pricing. The fair value measurements consider observable data that may include dealer quotes, market spreads, cash flows, the U.S. Treasury yield curve, live trading levels, trade execution data, market consensus prepayment speeds, credit information and the securities terms and conditions, among other factors. U.S. government agencies, state and political subdivisions, U.S. government sponsored agency mortgage-backed securities and corporate bonds are classified as Level 2 inputs.





**NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)****Nonrecurring Measurements**

The following table summarizes financial assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, by the level within the fair value hierarchy utilized to measure fair value:

	(dollars in thousands)			
September 30, 2015	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Impaired loans	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 920	\$ 920
	(dollars in thousands)			
December 31, 2014	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Impaired loans	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,184	\$ 1,184

**Impaired Loans**

The estimated fair value of impaired loans is based on the appraised fair value of the collateral, less estimated cost to sell. Impaired loans are classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

The Company considers the appraisal or evaluation as the starting point for determining fair value and then considers other factors and events that may affect the fair value. Appraisals of the collateral underlying collateral-dependent loans are obtained when the loan is determined to be collateral-dependent and subsequently as deemed necessary by the Company's Chief Credit Officer. Appraisals are reviewed for accuracy and consistency by the Chief Credit Officer. Appraisers are selected from the list of approved appraisers maintained by management. The appraised values are reduced by discounts to consider lack of marketability and estimated cost to sell if repayment or satisfaction of the loan is dependent on the sale of the collateral. These discounts and estimates are developed by the Chief Credit Officer by comparison to historical results.

Loans considered impaired under *ASC 310-35, Impairment of a Loan*, are loans for which, based on current information and events, it is probable that the Company will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement. Impaired loans are subject to nonrecurring fair value adjustments to reflect (1) subsequent write-downs that are based on the observable market price or current appraised value of the collateral or (2) changes in the specific reserve.

**NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)****Unobservable (Level 3) Inputs**

The following table presents quantitative information about unobservable inputs used in nonrecurring Level 3 fair value measurements:

**Quantitative information about Level 3 Fair Value Measurements  
(dollars in thousands)**

	Fair value at September 30, 2015	Valuation technique(s)	Unobservable input	Weighted average
Impaired loans (collateral-dependent)	\$ 920	Discounted appraisals(1)	Appraisal adjustments(2)	33%

**Quantitative information about Level 3 Fair Value Measurements  
(dollars in thousands)**

	Fair value at December 31, 2014	Valuation technique(s)	Unobservable input	Range (weighted average)
Impaired loans (collateral-dependent)	\$ 1,184	Discounted appraisals(1)	Appraisal adjustments(2)	5% to 10% (7%)(3)

(1) Fair value is generally based on appraisals of the underlying collateral.

(2) Appraisals may be adjusted by management for customized discounting criteria, estimated sales costs, and other relevant information based on the type of collateral.

(3) Ranges presented as a percentage of the non-discounted appraisals.

ASC Topic 825, *Financial Instruments*, requires disclosure of the fair value of financial assets and liabilities, including those financial assets and liabilities that are not measured and reported at fair value on a recurring basis or non-recurring basis.

The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instruments for which it was practicable to estimate that value:

*Cash and due from banks* The carrying amount approximates fair value.

*Interest bearing deposits in other banks* The carrying amount approximates fair value.

*Federal Home Loan Bank stock* The carrying value of Federal Home Loan Bank ( FHLB ) stock approximates fair value based on the redemption provisions of the FHLB.

*Federal Reserve Bank stock* The carrying value of Federal Reserve Bank stock approximates fair value based on the redemption provisions of the Federal Reserve Bank.

*Federal funds sold* The carrying amount approximates fair value.

*Securities available-for-sale* The carrying amount approximates fair value.



**NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)**

*Securities held-to-maturity* Fair values are based on quoted market prices, if available. If a quoted price is not available, fair value is estimated using quoted prices for similar securities. The fair value estimate is provided to management from a third party using modeling assumptions specific to each type of security that are reviewed and approved by management. Quarterly sampling of fair values provided by additional third parties supplement the fair value review process.

*Loans held for sale* The fair value is predetermined at origination based on sale price.

*Loans (net of the allowance for loan and leases losses)* The fair value of fixed rate loans and variable rate mortgage loans is estimated by discounting the future cash flows using current rates at which similar loans would be made to borrowers with similar credit ratings and for the same remaining maturities. For other variable rate loans, the carrying amount approximates fair value.

*Accrued interest receivable* The carrying amount approximates fair value.

*Deposits* The fair value of fixed maturity time deposits is estimated by discounting the future cash flows using the rates currently offered for deposits of similar remaining maturities. For deposits, including demand deposits, savings accounts, NOW accounts and certain money market accounts, the carrying value approximates fair value.

*Repurchase agreements* The fair value is estimated by discounting future cash flows using current rates.

*Accrued interest payable* The carrying amount approximates fair value.

*Federal funds purchased* The carrying amount approximates fair value.

*Commitments to extend credit and letters of credit* The fair value of commitments to originate loans is estimated using the fees currently charged to enter into similar agreements, taking into account the remaining terms of the agreements and the present creditworthiness of the counterparties. For fixed-rate loan commitments, fair value also considers the difference between current levels of interest rates and the committed rates. The fair values of letters of credit and lines of credit are based on fees currently charged for similar agreements or on the estimated cost to terminate or otherwise settle the obligations with the counterparties at the reporting date. The fair values of these commitments are not material.

## NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)

The following table presents estimated fair values of the Company's financial instruments as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, and indicates the level within the fair value hierarchy of the valuation techniques:

	Carrying amount	Fair value measurements at September 30, 2015 using		
		Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)
(dollars in thousands)				
<b>Financial assets</b>				
Cash and due from banks	\$ 20,302	\$ 20,302	\$ -	\$ -
Interest-bearing deposits in other banks	8,956	8,956	-	-
Federal Home Loan Bank and Federal Reserve Bank stock	3,879	-	3,879	-
Securities available-for-sale	403,366	-	403,366	-
Securities held-to-maturity	3,210	-	3,240	-
Loans held for sale	881	-	881	-
Loans, net	718,950	-	-	718,568
Accrued interest receivable	4,968	-	4,968	-
<b>Financial liabilities</b>				
Noninterest-bearing deposits	223,380	-	-	223,380
Interest bearing deposits	837,821	-	-	837,797
Repurchase agreements	24,936	-	24,936	-
Accrued interest payable	511	-	511	-
Federal funds purchased	11,515	11,515	-	-
Off-balance sheet credit related instruments:				
Commitments to extend credit and letters of credit	-	-	-	-
<b>Fair value measurements at December 31, 2014 using</b>				
<b>Quoted prices in</b>				
		active markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)
(dollars in thousands)				
<b>Financial assets</b>				
Cash and due from banks	\$ 18,511	\$ 18,511	\$ -	\$ -
Interest-bearing deposits in other banks	10,086	10,086	-	-
Federal funds sold	1,700	1,700	-	-
Federal Home Loan Bank and Federal Reserve Bank	3,879	-	3,879	-

Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

stock				
Securities				
available-for-sale	397,886	-	397,886	-
Securities held-to-maturity	21,985	-	22,263	-
Loans held for sale	354	-	354	-
Loans, net	644,118	-	-	650,770
Accrued interest receivable	4,337	-	4,337	-
Financial liabilities				
Noninterest-bearing deposits				
	204,358	204,358	-	-
Interest bearing deposits	815,597	-	816,022	-
Repurchase agreements	22,834	-	22,834	-
Accrued interest payable	613	-	613	-
Off-balance sheet credit related instruments:				
Commitments to extend credit and letters of credit				
	-	-	-	-

## NOTE 5 SECURITIES

The amortized cost and estimated fair value of securities at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014 were as follows:

	Amortized cost (dollars in thousands)	Gross unrealized Gains	Losses	Fair value
<b>September 30, 2015</b>				
Available-for-sale securities				
U.S. government agencies	\$ 151,100	\$ 540	\$ (803)	\$ 150,837
U.S. government sponsored agency mortgage-backed securities	160,313	106	(2,564)	157,855
States and political subdivisions	70,482	1,423	(309)	71,596
Corporate bonds	23,023	95	(40)	23,078
	\$ 404,918	\$ 2,164	\$ (3,716)	\$ 403,366
Held-to-maturity securities				
States and political subdivisions	\$ 3,210	\$ 30	\$ -	\$ 3,240
<b>December 31, 2014</b>				
Available-for-sale securities				
U.S. government agencies	\$ 162,289	\$ 50	\$ (3,085)	\$ 159,254
U.S. government sponsored agency mortgage-backed securities	172,035	64	(4,129)	167,970
States and political subdivisions	51,374	1,658	(150)	52,882
Corporate bonds	17,705	129	(54)	17,780
	\$ 403,403	\$ 1,901	\$ (7,418)	\$ 397,886
Held-to-maturity securities				
States and political subdivisions	\$ 21,985	\$ 278	\$ -	\$ 22,263

Certain investments in debt securities are reported in the financial statements at an amount less than their historical cost. Total fair value of these investments at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014 was \$221.2 million and \$326.0 million, respectively, which was 54% and 78%, respectively, of the Company's aggregate available-for-sale and held-to-maturity investment portfolio. The Company reviews its investment portfolio on a quarterly basis judging each investment for other-than-temporary impairment ( OTTI ). Management does not have the intent to sell any of the temporarily impaired investments and believes it is more likely than not that the Company will not have to sell any such securities before a recovery of cost. The OTTI analysis focuses on the duration and amount a security is below book value and assesses a calculation for both a credit loss and a non-credit loss for each measured security considering the security's type, performance, underlying collateral, and any current or potential debt rating changes. The OTTI calculation for credit loss is reflected in the income statement while the non-credit loss is reflected in other comprehensive income. As of September 30, 2015, management did not consider any of the investments in its investment portfolio to have OTTI.





**NOTE 5 SECURITIES (continued)**

The following table shows the Company's investments' gross unrealized losses and fair value of the Company's investments with unrealized losses that were not deemed to be other-than-temporarily impaired, aggregated by investment class and length of time that individual securities had been in a continuous unrealized loss position at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014:

<b>September 30, 2015</b>	Less than 12 months		12 months or greater		Total	
	Fair value	Unrealized losses	Fair value	Unrealized losses	Fair value	Unrealized losses
	(dollars in thousands)					
Type of security						
U.S. government agencies	\$ 9,946	\$ (31)	\$ 55,406	\$ (772)	\$ 65,352	\$ (803)
U.S. government sponsored agency mortgage-backed securities	27,016	(291)	94,680	(2,273)	121,696	(2,564)
States and political subdivisions	24,137	(299)	462	(10)	24,599	(309)
Corporate bonds	7,975	(27)	1,612	(13)	9,587	(40)
	\$ 69,074	\$ (648)	\$ 152,160	\$ (3,068)	\$ 221,234	\$ (3,716)
<b>December 31, 2014</b>	Less than 12 months		12 months or greater		Total	
	Fair value	Unrealized losses	Fair value	Unrealized losses	Fair value	Unrealized losses
	(dollars in thousands)					
Type of security						
U.S. government agencies	\$ 46,977	\$ (219)	\$ 104,815	\$ (2,866)	\$ 151,792	\$ (3,085)
U.S. government sponsored agency mortgage-backed securities	21,339	(77)	128,935	(4,052)	150,274	(4,129)
States and political subdivisions	14,539	(142)	1,418	(8)	15,957	(150)
Corporate bonds	4,783	(17)	3,207	(37)	7,990	(54)
	\$ 87,638	\$ (455)	\$ 238,375	\$ (6,963)	\$ 326,013	\$ (7,418)

As shown in the table above, at September 30, 2015, the Company had approximately \$3.7 million in unrealized losses on \$221.2 million of securities. The unrealized loss positions are most significant in three types of securities: U.S. government agencies, U.S. government sponsored agency mortgage-backed securities and states and political subdivisions. The unrealized losses associated with these investment securities are driven by changes in interest rates and the unrealized loss is recorded as a component of equity. These securities will continue to be monitored as a part of our ongoing impairment analysis, but are expected to perform even if the rating agencies reduce the credit rating of the bond issuers. Management evaluates the financial performance of the issuers on a quarterly basis to determine if it is probable that the issuers can make all contractual principal and interest payments. If a shortfall in future cash flows is identified, a credit loss will be deemed to have occurred and will be recognized as a change to earnings and a new cost basis for the security will be established.

**NOTE 5 SECURITIES (continued)**

The amortized cost and fair value of available-for-sale securities and held-to-maturity securities at September 30, 2015, by contractual maturity, are shown below. Expected maturities will differ from contractual maturities because issuers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

September 30, 2015	Available-for-sale		Held-to-maturity	
	Amortized cost	Estimated fair value	Amortized cost	Estimated fair value
	(dollars in thousands)			
Within one year	\$ 4,668	\$ 4,694	\$ 475	\$ 476
One to five years	112,539	113,057	983	1,000
Five to ten years	88,463	88,477	1,752	1,764
After ten years	38,935	39,283	-	-
Mortgage-backed securities	160,313	157,855	-	-
Total	\$ 404,918	\$ 403,366	\$ 3,210	\$ 3,240

December 31, 2014	Available-for-Sale		Held-to-Maturity	
	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value
	(dollars in thousands)			
Within one year	\$ 2,464	\$ 2,481	\$ 6,354	\$ 6,446
One to five years	91,208	90,775	3,558	3,601
Five to ten years	112,329	110,508	12,073	12,216
After ten years	25,367	26,152	-	-
Mortgage-backed securities	172,035	167,970	-	-
Total	\$ 403,403	\$ 397,886	\$ 21,985	\$ 22,263

The carrying value of securities pledged as collateral to secure public deposits and for other purposes was \$249.9 million at September 30, 2015 and \$217.2 million at December 31, 2014. The balance of pledged securities in excess of the pledging requirements was \$29.7 million and \$20.1 million at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

The carrying value of securities sold under agreements to repurchase amounted to \$35.3 million at September 30, 2015 and \$35.0 million at December 31, 2014.

**NOTE 5 SECURITIES (continued)**

The gross realized gains and losses recognized in income are reflected in the following table:

	For the three months ended September 30, 2015          2014 (dollars in thousands)	
Gross gains recognized on sales of securities	\$ 135	\$ 21
Gross losses recognized on sales of securities	-	(28)
Net realized gains on sales of securities available-for-sale	\$ 135	\$ (7)
	For the nine months ended September 30, 2015          2014 (dollars in thousands)	
Gross gains recognized on sales of securities	\$ 450	\$ 626
Gross losses recognized on sales of securities	(45)	(86)
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of securities available-for-sale	\$ 405	\$ 540

Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

**NOTE 6 LOANS**

The following table presents the Corporation's loans by class as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014:

	<b>September 30, 2015</b>	<b>December 31, 2014</b>
	<b>(dollars in thousands)</b>	
<b>Commercial:</b>		
Commercial and industrial	\$ 131,116	\$ 99,788
Non-farm, non-residential real estate	161,091	163,461
Construction and development	49,306	50,424
Commercial loans secured by real estate	32,562	27,937
Other commercial	55,701	41,185
Total commercial	429,776	382,795
<b>Retail:</b>		
Consumer	9,267	9,536
Single family residential	254,462	229,559
Other retail	34,030	30,162
Total retail	297,759	269,257
	727,535	652,052
<b>Less:</b>		
Allowance for possible loan losses	(8,585)	(7,934)
<b>Total net loans</b>	<b>\$ 718,950</b>	<b>\$ 644,118</b>

The amount of capitalized fees and costs calculated in accordance with ASC 310-20 included in the above loan totals were \$1.1 million and \$976,000 at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

*Loan Origination/Risk Management.* The Company has certain lending policies and procedures in place that are designed to maximize loan income within an acceptable level of credit risk. Management reviews and approves these policies and procedures on a regular basis. A reporting system supplements the review process by providing management with frequent reports related to loan production, loan quality, concentrations of credit, loan delinquencies and non-performing, and potential problem loans. Diversification in the loan portfolio is a means of managing risk associated with fluctuations in economic conditions.

Commercial and industrial loans are underwritten after evaluating and understanding a borrower's ability to operate profitably and expand its business prudently. Underwriting standards are designed to promote relationship banking rather than transactional banking. Once it is determined that the borrower's management possesses sound ethics and solid business acumen, the Company's management examines current and projected cash flows to determine the ability of the borrower to repay their obligations as agreed. Commercial and industrial loans are primarily made based on the identified cash flows of the borrower and secondarily on the underlying collateral provided by the borrower. The cash flows of borrowers, however, may not be as expected and the collateral securing these loans may fluctuate in value. Most commercial and industrial loans are secured by the assets being financed or other business assets such as accounts receivable or inventory and may incorporate a personal guarantee; however, some short-term loans may be made on an unsecured basis. In the case of loans secured by accounts receivable, the availability of funds for the repayment of these loans may be substantially dependent on the ability of the borrower to collect amounts due from its customers.



**NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)**

Commercial real estate loans are subject to underwriting standards and processes similar to commercial and industrial loans, in addition to those of real estate loans. These loans are viewed primarily as loans secured by real estate. Commercial real estate lending typically involves higher loan principal amounts and the repayment of these loans is generally largely dependent on the successful operation of the property securing the loan or the business conducted on the property securing the loan. Commercial real estate loans may be more adversely affected by conditions in the real estate markets or in the general economy. Management monitors and evaluates commercial real estate loans based on collateral, geography and risk grade criteria. As a general rule, the Company avoids financing single-purpose projects unless other underwriting factors are present to mitigate risk. The Company also utilizes third-party experts to provide insight and guidance about economic conditions and trends affecting market areas it serves. In addition, management tracks the level of owner-occupied commercial real estate loans versus non-owner occupied loans. At September 30, 2015, approximately 46% of the outstanding principal balance of the Company's commercial real estate loans was secured by owner-occupied properties.

With respect to loans to developers and builders (construction and development) that are secured by non-owner occupied properties that the Company may originate from time to time, the Company generally requires the borrower to have had an existing relationship with the Company and have a proven record of success. Construction loans are underwritten utilizing feasibility studies, independent appraisal reviews, sensitivity analysis of absorption and lease rates and financial analysis of the developers and property owners. Construction loans are generally based upon estimates of costs and value associated with the complete project. These estimates may be inaccurate. Construction loans often involve the disbursement of substantial funds with repayment substantially dependent on the success of the ultimate project. Sources of repayment for these types of loans may be pre-committed permanent loans from approved long-term lenders, sales of developed property or an interim loan commitment from the Company until permanent financing is obtained. These loans are closely monitored by on-site inspections and are considered to have higher risks than other real estate loans because of their ultimate repayment being sensitive to interest rate changes, governmental regulation of real property, general economic conditions and the availability of long-term financing.

The Company originates consumer retail loans utilizing a computer-based credit scoring analysis to supplement the underwriting process. To monitor and manage consumer retail loan risk, policies and procedures are developed and modified, as needed, jointly by line and staff personnel. This activity, coupled with relatively small loan amounts that are spread across many individual borrowers, minimizes risk. Additionally, trend and outlook reports are reviewed by management on a regular basis. Underwriting standards for home equity loans are heavily influenced by statutory requirements, which include, but are not limited to, a maximum loan-to-value percentage of 80%, collection remedies, the number of such loans a borrower can have at one time and documentation requirements.

The Company contracts with a third party vendor to perform loan reviews. The Company reviews and validates the credit risk program on an annual basis. Results of these reviews are presented to management. The loan review process complements and reinforces the risk identification and assessment decisions made by lenders and credit personnel, as well as the Company's policies and procedures.

A concentration of credit occurs when obligations, direct or indirect, of the same or affiliated interests represent 15% or more of the Company's capital structure. The Company's geographic market area imposes some limitations regarding loan diversification and lending to qualified borrowers within the Company's market area will naturally cause concentrations of real estate loans in the primary communities served and loans to employees of major employers in the area.

**NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)**

All closed-end commercial loans (excluding loans secured by real estate) are charged off no later than 90 days delinquent. If a loan is considered uncollectable, it is charged off earlier than 90 days delinquent. When a commercial loan secured by real estate is past due, a current assessment of the value of the real estate is made. If the balance of the loan exceeds the fair value of the property, the loan is placed on nonaccrual with a specific reserve equal to the difference between book value and fair value assigned to the credit until such time as the property has been foreclosed upon. When the foreclosed property has been legally assigned to the Company, a charge-off is taken with the remaining balance, which reflects the fair value less estimated costs to sell, transferred to other real estate owned.

All closed-end consumer loans (excluding conventional 1-4 family residential loans and installment and revolving loans secured by real estate) are charged off no later than 120 days (five monthly payments) delinquent. If a loan is considered uncollectable, it is charged off earlier than 120 days delinquent. For conventional 1-4 family residential loans and installment and revolving loans secured by real estate, when a loan is 90 days past due, a current assessment of the value of the real estate is made. If the balance of the loan exceeds the fair value of the property, the loan is placed on nonaccrual and foreclosure proceedings are initiated. When the foreclosed property has been legally assigned to the Company, a charge-off is taken with the remaining balance reflecting the fair value less estimated costs to sell transferred to other real estate owned.

*Nonaccrual and Past Due Loans.* Loans are considered past due if the required principal and interest payments have not been received as of the date such payments were due. Loans are placed on nonaccrual status when (i) principal or interest has been in default for a period of 90 days or more or (ii) full payment of principal and interest is not expected. Loans may be placed on nonaccrual status regardless of whether or not such loans are considered past due. When interest accrual is discontinued, all unpaid accrued interest is reversed. Interest income on nonaccrual loans is recognized only to the extent that cash payments are received in excess of principal due. A loan may be returned to accrual status when all the principal and interest amounts contractually due are brought current and future principal and interest amounts contractually due are reasonably assured, which is typically evidenced by a sustained period (three to six months) of repayment performance by the borrower. Loans that were 90 days or more past due that were not included in nonaccrual loans were \$143,000 and \$97,000, as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.



Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)

The following tables provide details regarding the aging of the Company's loan portfolio as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014:

	September 30, 2015			December 31, 2014		
	30 - 59 days past due	60 - 89 days past due	90 days and greater past due	Total past due	Current	Total loans
	(dollars in thousands)					
<b>Retail:</b>						
Consumer	\$ 24	\$ 5	\$ 2	\$ 31	\$ 9,236	\$9,267
Single family residential	276	484	209	969	253,493	254,462
Other retail	19	47	-	66	33,964	34,030
Retail total	319	536	211	1,066	296,693	297,759
<b>Commercial:</b>						
Commercial and industrial	\$ 561	\$ -	\$ 39	\$ 600	\$ 130,516	\$131,116
Non-farm, non-residential real estate	-	-	126	126	160,965	161,091
Construction and development	1	-	-	1	49,305	49,306
Commercial loans secured by real estate	8	54	167	229	32,333	32,562
Other commercial	-	-	-	-	55,701	55,701
Commercial total	570	54	332	956	428,820	429,776
<b>Total</b>	\$ 889	\$590	\$543	\$2,022	\$ 725,513	\$727,535
<b>Retail:</b>						
Consumer	\$ 72	\$ 7	\$ 42	\$ 121	\$ 9,415	\$9,536
Single family residential	2,361	395	464	3,220	226,339	229,559
Other retail	-	-	-	-	30,162	30,162
Retail total	2,433	402	506	3,341	265,916	269,257
<b>Commercial:</b>						
Commercial and industrial	\$ 263	\$ 63	\$ 1,428	\$ 1,754	\$ 98,034	\$99,788
Non-farm, non-residential real estate	413	145	330	888	162,573	163,461
Construction and development	-	-	-	-	50,424	50,424
Commercial loans secured by real estate	91	56	172	319	27,617	27,936
Other commercial	10	-	1,092	1,102	40,083	41,185
Commercial total	777	264	3,022	4,063	378,731	382,794
<b>Total</b>	\$ 3,210	\$ 666	\$3,528	\$ 7,404	\$ 644,647	\$652,051



Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)

The following tables summarize the impaired loans by loan type as of September 30, 2015, December 31, 2014 and September 30, 2014:

	Unpaid contractual principal balance	Recorded investment with no allowance	Recorded investment with allowance	Total recorded investment	Related allowance	Average recorded investment year to date	Interest received	Interest accrued
--	--------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------	--	-------------------	------------------

September 30, 2015

Commercial:

Commercial and industrial	\$ 352	\$ 61	\$ 245	\$ 306	\$ 30	\$ 326	\$ 11	\$ 13
Non-farm, non-residential real estate	399	365	-	365	-	383	10	15
Commercial loans secured by real estate	194	-	167	167	29	171	3	10
Other commercial	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commercial total	945	412	426	838	59	880	24	38

Retail:

Single family residential	1,409	594	718	1,312	114	1,183	54	56
Other retail	16	15	-	15	-	15	1	-
Retail total	1,425	594	733	1,327	114	1,198	55	56
<b>Total</b>	\$ 2,370	\$ 1,006	\$ 1,159	\$ 2,165	\$ 173	\$ 2,078	\$ 79	\$ 94

	Unpaid contractual principal balance	Recorded investment with no allowance	Recorded investment with allowance	Total recorded investment	Related allowance	Average recorded investment year to date	Interest received	Interest accrued
--	--------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------	--	-------------------	------------------

December 31, 2014

Commercial:

Commercial and industrial	\$ 3,760	\$ 2,734	\$ 217	\$ 2,951	\$ 9	\$ 3,230	\$ 97	\$ 207
Non-farm, non-residential real estate	3,720	3,241	-	3,241	-	3,570	213	212
Commercial loans secured by real estate	1,053	564	166	730	33	826	67	77
Other commercial	1,256	1,092	-	1,092	-	1,171	89	84
Commercial total	9,789	7,631	383	8,014	42	8,797	466	580

Retail:

Single family residential	1,094	539	439	978	10	786	44	42
Other retail	425	411	-	411	-	369	17	19
Retail total	1,519	950	439	1,389	10	1,155	61	61
<b>Total</b>	\$ 11,308	\$ 8,581	\$ 822	\$ 9,403	\$ 52	\$ 9,952	\$ 527	\$ 641

	Unpaid contractual principal balance	Recorded investment with no allowance	Recorded investment with allowance	Total recorded investment	Related allowance	Average recorded investment year to date	Interest received	Interest accrued
--	--------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------	--	-------------------	------------------

September 30, 2014

Commercial:

Commercial and industrial	\$ 2,819	\$ 1,745	\$ 444	\$ 2,189	\$ 163	\$ 2,246	\$ 39	\$ 122
Non-farm, non-residential real estate	3,874	3,413	-	3,413	-	3,648	161	163
Construction and development	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

Other commercial	2,871	2,452	169	2,621	27	2,802	130	132
Commercial total	9,564	7,610	613	8,223	190	8,696	330	417
<b>Retail:</b>								
Single family residential	2,129	1,064	719	1,783	145	1,563	68	72
Retail total	2,129	1,064	719	1,783	145	1,563	68	72
<b>Total</b>	\$ 11,693	\$ 8,674	\$ 1,332	\$ 10,006	\$ 335	\$ 10,259	\$ 398	\$ 489

**NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)**

The following table summarizes the nonaccrual loans by loan type as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014:

	September 30, 2015	December 31, 2014
(dollars in thousands)		
<b>Retail:</b>		
Consumer	\$ 15	\$ 42
Single family residential	1,132	2,237
<b>Retail total</b>	<b>1,147</b>	<b>2,279</b>
<b>Commercial:</b>		
Commercial and industrial	306	1,428
Non-farm, non-residential real estate	365	409
Commercial loans secured by real estate	167	172
Other commercial	-	1,092
<b>Commercial total</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>3,101</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,985</b>	<b>\$ 5,380</b>

*Impaired Loans.* Loans are considered impaired when, based on current information and events, it is probable the Company will be unable to collect all amounts due in accordance with the original contractual terms of the loan agreement, including scheduled principal and interest payments. Impairment is evaluated in total for smaller-balance loans of a similar nature and on an individual loan basis for other loans. If a loan is impaired, a specific valuation allowance is allocated, if necessary, so that the loan is reported net, at the present value of estimated future cash flows using the loan's existing rate or at the fair value of collateral if repayment is expected solely from the collateral. Interest payments on impaired loans are typically applied to principal unless collectability of the principal amount is reasonably assured, in which case interest is recognized on a cash basis. Impaired loans, or portions thereof, are charged off when deemed uncollectible.

*Troubled Debt Restructurings.* Included in certain categories of impaired loans are certain loans that have been modified in a troubled debt restructuring where economic concessions have been granted to borrowers who have experienced financial difficulties. These concessions typically result from our loss mitigation activities and could include reductions in the interest rate, payment extensions, forgiveness of principal, forbearance or other actions. Modifications of terms for our loans and their inclusion as troubled debt restructurings are based on individual facts and circumstances. Loan modifications that are included as troubled debt restructurings may involve either an increase or reduction of the interest rate, extension of the term of the loan, or deferral of principal or interest payments, regardless of the period of the modification. All of the loans identified as troubled debt restructuring were modified as a result of financial stress of the borrower. In order to determine if a borrower is experiencing financial difficulty, an evaluation is performed to determine the probability that the borrower will be in payment default on any of its debt in the foreseeable future with the modification. This evaluation is performed under the Company's internal underwriting policy.

When the Company modifies loans in a troubled debt restructuring, the Company evaluates any possible impairment similar to other impaired loans based on the present value of expected future cash flows, discounted at the contractual interest rate of the original loan or lease agreement, or use the current fair value of the collateral, less selling costs for collateral dependent loans. If the Company determines that the value of the modified loan is less than the recorded investment in the loan, impairment is recognized through an allowance estimate or a charge-off to the allowance. In periods subsequent to modification, the Company evaluates all troubled debt restructuring, including those that have payment defaults, for possible impairment and recognize impairment through the allowance.

**NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)**

During the three months ended September 30, 2015, there were no loans modified in troubled debt restructurings, where economic concessions were granted to borrowers consisting of reductions in the interest rates, payment extensions, forgiveness of principal, or forbearances. In addition, there were no troubled debt restructuring loans that subsequently defaulted during the nine months ended September 30, 2015, 2014 and year ended December 31, 2014, that have been restructured within the past 12 months.

Presented below, segregated by class of loans, are troubled debt restructurings that occurred during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, 2014 and year ended December 31, 2014:

	<b>Three months ended September 30, 2015</b>		
	<b>Number of loans</b>	<b>Post-modification outstanding balance</b>	<b>Net charge-offs resulting from modifications</b>
	<b>(dollars in thousands)</b>		
<b>Retail:</b>			
Single family residential	1	\$ 78	\$ -
<b>Total troubled debt restructurings</b>	1	\$ 78	\$ -
	<b>Nine months ended September 30, 2015</b>		
	<b>(dollars in thousands)</b>		
	<b>Number of loans</b>	<b>Post-modification outstanding balance</b>	<b>Net charge-offs resulting from modifications</b>
<b>Retail:</b>			
Single family residential	2	\$ 111	\$ -
<b>Total troubled debt restructurings</b>	2	\$ 111	\$ -
	<b>Year ended December 31, 2014</b>		
	<b>(dollars in thousands)</b>		
	<b>Number of loans</b>	<b>Post-modification outstanding balance</b>	<b>Net charge-offs resulting from modifications</b>
<b>Commercial:</b>			
Nonfarm nonresidential	1	\$ 4,357	\$ -
<b>Retail:</b>			
Single family residential	1	316	3
<b>Total troubled debt restructurings</b>	2	\$ 4,673	\$ 3



## NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)

	Three months ended September 30, 2014		
	Number of	Post- modification outstanding balance	Net charge-offs resulting from modifications
	loans		
	(dollars in thousands)		
<b>Commercial:</b>			
Nonfarm nonresidential	1	\$ 321	\$ -
<b>Total troubled debt restructurings</b>	1	\$ 321	\$ -
	Nine months ended September 30, 2014		
	Number of	Post- modification outstanding balance	Net charge-offs resulting from modifications
	loans		
	(dollars in thousands)		
<b>Commercial:</b>			
Nonfarm nonresidential	1	\$ 4,357	\$ -
<b>Retail:</b>			
Single family residential	1	321	3
<b>Total troubled debt restructurings</b>	2	\$ 4,678	\$ 3

The loan's accrual status is assessed at the time of its modification. As a result of the assessment, the accrual status may be modified. Commercial and retail loans modified in a troubled debt restructuring are closely monitored for delinquency as an early indicator of possible future default. If loans modified in a troubled debt restructuring subsequently default, the Company evaluates the loan for possible further impairment. The Company has had no loans modified in a troubled debt restructuring that have subsequently defaulted. The allowance for loan and lease losses ( ALLL ) may be increased, adjustments may be made in the allocation of the allowance or partial charge-offs may be taken to further write-down the carrying value of the loan. The Company considers a loan in default when it is 90 days or more past due and still accruing or transferred to nonaccrual status.

As of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, the Company had no consumer mortgage loans secured by residential real estate properties for which formal proceedings are in process according to location requirement of the applicable jurisdiction.

*Credit Quality Indicators.* As part of the ongoing monitoring of the credit quality of the Company's loan portfolio, management tracks certain credit quality indicators including trends related to (i) the weighted-average risk grade of commercial loans, (ii) the level of classified commercial loans, (iii) net charge-offs, (iv) non-performing loans and (v) the general economic conditions in the State of Tennessee.



**NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)**

The Company uses a risk grading matrix to assign a risk grade to each of its commercial loans. Loans are graded on a scale of 1 through 8. A description of the general characteristics of the eight risk grades is as follows:

**Risk Rating 1 Minimal Risk** Loans in this category are secured by a cash deposit and are substantially risk free.

**Risk Rating 2 Modest Risk** Loans in this category have borrowers that show profitability, liquidity, and capitalization better than industry norms and a strong market position in the region. The borrower of these loans have a proven history of profitability and financial stability, along with an abundance of financeable assets available to protect the Bank's position.

**Risk Rating 3 Average Risk** Loans in this category have borrowers that show a stable earnings history and financial condition in line with industry norms. The borrower's liquidity and leverage are in line with industry norms. The credit extension is considered sound, however, elements may be present which suggest the borrower may not be free from temporary impairments in the future.

**Risk Rating 4 Acceptable Risk** Loans in this category have sound risk profiles, in which the borrower shows satisfactory asset quality and liquidity, good debt capacity and coverage and good management in critical positions.

**Risk Rating 5 Pass/Watch** Loans in this category require a heightened level of supervision. The borrower may exhibit declining earnings, strained cash flow, increasing leverage or weakening market positions that indicate a trend toward an unacceptable risk. The borrower's liquidity, leverage and earnings performance is below or trending below industry norms.

**Risk Rating 6 Special Mention** Loans in this category are not currently adequate. These loans have potential weaknesses that deserve management's close attention. If left uncorrected, these potential weaknesses may result in deterioration of the repayment prospects for the asset or in the institution's credit position at some future date. Special mention loans are not adversely classified and do not expose an institution to sufficient risk to warrant adverse classification.

**Risk Rating 7 Substandard** Loans in this category are inadequately protected by the current sound worth and paying capacity of the obligor or of the collateral pledged, if any. Loans so classified must have a well-defined weakness, or weaknesses, that jeopardize the liquidation of the debt. They are characterized by the distinct possibility that the Bank will sustain some loss if the deficiencies are not corrected.

**Risk Rating 8 Doubtful** Loans in this category have all the weaknesses inherent in one classified substandard with the added characteristic that the weaknesses make collection or liquidation in full, on the basis of currently existing facts, conditions, and values, highly questionable and improbable.

**NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)**

The following tables present risk grades and classified loans by class of commercial loan in the Company's portfolios as of September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014:

**September 30, 2015**

Commercial loan portfolio: Credit risk profile by internally assigned grade	Commercial and industrial (dollars in thousands)	Non-farm, non-residential real estate	Construction and development	Commercial loans secured by real estate	Other commercial	Commercial loan totals
Risk rating 1 - minimal risk	\$ 1,302	\$ 319	\$ -	\$ 106	\$ 95	\$ 1,822
Risk rating 2 - modest risk	3,810	300	-	-	44,234	48,344
Risk rating 3 - average risk	52,722	47,260	19,528	2,548	6,455	128,513
Risk rating 4 - acceptable risk	68,320	100,753	29,211	29,282	4,755	232,321
Risk rating 5 - pass/watch	4,639	11,547	567	487	-	17,240
Risk rating 6 - special mention	-	275	-	44	162	481
Risk rating 7 - substandard	323	637	-	95	-	1,055
Risk rating 8 - doubtful	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 131,116</b>	<b>\$ 161,091</b>	<b>\$ 49,306</b>	<b>\$ 32,562</b>	<b>\$ 55,701</b>	<b>\$ 429,776</b>

Retail loan portfolio: Credit risk profiles based on delinquency status classification	Consumer	Single family residential**	Other retail	Retail loan totals
Performing - risk ratings 1 - 6	\$ 9,252	\$ 252,506	\$ 33,981	\$ 295,739
Nonperforming - risk rating 7*	15	1,956	49	2,020
Risk rating 8 - doubtful	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 9,267</b>	<b>\$ 254,462</b>	<b>\$ 34,030</b>	<b>\$ 297,759</b>

(dollars in thousands)

\*Loans are classified as nonperforming loans and are automatically placed on nonaccrual status once they reach 90 days past due. For the purposes of this table all nonperforming loans are included in risk rating 7.

\*\*Single family residential loans includes first mortgages, closed-end second mortgages, residential construction loans, and home equity lines of credit (HELOCs).

Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)

December 31, 2014

Commercial loan portfolio: Credit risk profile by internally assigned grade	Commercial and industrial	Non-farm, non-residential real estate	Construction and development	Commercial loans secured by real estate	Other commercial	Commercial loan totals
	(dollars in thousands)					
Risk rating 1 - minimal risk	\$ 1,004	\$ 466	\$ -	\$ 113	\$ 1	\$ 1,584
Risk rating 2 - modest risk	3,908	314	-	-	30,408	34,630
Risk rating 3 - average risk	47,047	46,784	18,903	4,700	5,712	123,146
Risk rating 4 - acceptable risk	42,116	101,809	29,808	21,682	3,802	199,217
Risk rating 5 - pass/watch	3,143	9,763	1,713	1,115	-	15,734
Risk rating 6 - special mention	-	958	-	-	170	1,128
Risk rating 7 - substandard	2,570	3,367	-	327	1,092	7,356
Risk rating 8 - doubtful	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 99,788</b>	<b>\$ 163,461</b>	<b>\$ 50,424</b>	<b>\$ 27,937</b>	<b>\$ 41,185</b>	<b>\$ 382,795</b>

Retail loan portfolio: Credit risk profiles based on delinquency status classification

	Consumer	Single family residential**	Other retail	Retail loan totals
	(dollars in thousands)			
Risk ratings 1 - 6	\$ 9,494	\$ 226,637	\$ 29,683	\$ 265,814
Nonperforming - risk rating 7*	42	2,922	479	3,443
Risk rating 8 - doubtful	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 9,536</b>	<b>\$ 229,559</b>	<b>\$ 30,162</b>	<b>\$ 269,257</b>

\*Loans are classified as nonperforming loans and are automatically placed on nonaccrual status once they reach 90 days past due. For the purposes of this table all nonperforming loans are included in risk rating 7.

\*\*Single family residential loans includes first mortgages, closed-end second mortgages, residential construction loans, and home equity lines of credit (HELOCs).

*Allowance for Loan and Lease Losses.* The allowance for loan and lease losses, ALLL, is a reserve established through a provision for loan and lease losses charged to expense, which represents management's best estimate of probable losses that have been incurred within the existing portfolio of loans. The allowance, in the judgment of management, is necessary to reserve for estimated loan losses and risks inherent in the loan portfolio. The Company's ALLL methodology includes allowance allocations calculated in accordance with ASC Topic 310, *Receivables* (ASC Topic 310) and allowance allocations calculated in accordance with ASC Topic 450, *Contingencies* (ASC Topic 450). Accordingly, the methodology is based on historical loss experience by type of credit and internal risk grade, specific homogeneous risk pools and specific loss allocations, with adjustments for current events and conditions. The Company's process for determining the appropriate level of the ALLL is designed to account for credit deterioration as it occurs. The provision for loan and lease losses reflects loan quality trends, including the levels of and trends related to nonaccruals loans, past due loans, potential problem loans, criticized loans and net charge-offs or recoveries, among other factors. The provision for loan and lease losses also reflects the totality of actions taken on all loans for a particular period. Therefore, the amount of the provision reflects not only the necessary increases in the ALLL related to newly identified criticized loans, but it also reflects actions taken related to other loans including, among other things, any necessary increases or decreases in required allowances for specific loans or loan pools.



**NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)**

The level of the allowance reflects management's continuing evaluation of industry concentrations, specific credit risks, loan loss experience, current loan portfolio quality, present economic, political and regulatory conditions and unidentified losses inherent in the current loan portfolio. Portions of the allowance may be allocated for specific credits; however, the entire allowance is available for any credit that, in management's judgment, should be charged off. While management utilizes its best judgment and information available, the ultimate adequacy of the allowance is dependent upon a variety of factors beyond the Company's control, including, among other things, the performance of the loan portfolio, the economy, and changes in interest.

The Company's ALLL consists of three elements: (i) specific valuation allowances determined in accordance with ASC Topic 310 based on probable losses on specific loans; (ii) historical valuation allowances determined in accordance with ASC Topic 450 based on historical loan loss experience for loans with similar characteristics and trends, adjusted, as necessary, to reflect the impact of current conditions; and (iii) general valuation allowances determined in accordance with ASC Topic 450 based on general economic conditions and other qualitative risk factors both internal and external to the Company.

The allowances established for probable losses on specific loans are based on a regular analysis and evaluation of problem loans. Loans are classified based on an internal credit risk grading process that evaluates, among other things: (i) the obligor's ability to repay; (ii) the underlying collateral, if any; and (iii) the economic environment and industry in which the borrower operates. This analysis is performed at the relationship manager level for all commercial loans. When a loan has an assigned risk rating of 8 (Doubtful) or higher, a special assets officer analyzes the loan to determine whether the loan is impaired and, if impaired, the need to specifically allocate a portion of the ALLL to the loan. Specific valuation allowances are determined by analyzing the borrower's ability to repay amounts owed, collateral deficiencies, the relative risk grade of the loan and economic conditions affecting the borrower's industry, among other things.

Historical valuation allowances are calculated based on the historical loss experience of specific types of loans and the internal risk grade of such loans at the time they were charged-off. The Company calculates historical loss ratios for pools of similar loans with similar characteristics based on the proportion of actual charge-offs experienced to the total population of loans in the pool. The historical loss ratios are updated quarterly based on actual charge-off experience. A historical valuation allowance is established for each pool of similar loans based upon the product of the historical loss ratio and average balance of the loans in the pool. The Company's pools of similar loans include similarly risk-graded groups of commercial and industrial loans, commercial real estate loans, consumer real estate loans and consumer and other loans.

The components of the general valuation allowance include (i) the additional reserves allocated to specific loan portfolio segments as a result of applying an environmental risk adjustment factor to the base historical loss allocation and (ii) the additional reserves that are not allocated to specific loan portfolio segments including allocations for groups of similar loans with risk characteristics that exceed certain concentration limits established by management.

Included in the general valuation allowances are allocations for groups of similar loans with risk characteristics that exceed certain concentration limits established by management. Concentration risk limits have been established, among other things, for certain industry concentrations, large balance and highly leveraged credit relationships that exceed specified risk grades, and loans originated with policy exceptions that exceed specified risk grades.

The ALLL is maintained at a level considered adequate to provide for the losses that can be reasonably anticipated. Management's periodic evaluation of the adequacy of the allowance is based on the Company's past loan loss experience, known and inherent risks in the portfolio, adverse situations that may affect the borrower's ability to repay, the estimated value of any underlying collateral, composition of the loan portfolio, current economic conditions and other relevant factors. This evaluation is inherently subjective as it requires material estimates that may be susceptible to change.

Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

**NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)**

The following tables summarize the allocation in the ALLL by loan segment for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 and the year ended December 31, 2014:

<b>Three months ended September 30, 2015</b>	Commercial	Single family residential	Consumer and other retail	Totals
(dollars in thousands)				
Beginning balance	\$ 7,384	\$ 1,045	\$ 164	\$ 8,593
Less: charge-offs	-	(18)	(7)	(25)
Add: recoveries	9	2	6	17
Add: provisions	-	-	-	-
Ending balance	\$ 7,393	\$ 1,029	\$ 163	\$ 8,585

<b>Nine months ended September 30, 2015</b>	Commercial	Single family residential	Consumer and other retail	Totals
(dollars in thousands)				
Beginning balance	\$ 6,719	\$ 1,053	\$ 162	\$ 7,934
Less: charge-offs	-	(34)	(13)	(47)
Add: recoveries	674	10	14	698
Add: provisions	-	-	-	-
Ending balance	\$ 7,393	\$ 1,029	\$ 163	\$ 8,585

<b>December 31, 2014</b>	Commercial	Single family residential	Consumer and other retail	Totals
(dollars in thousands)				
Beginning balance	\$ 7,359	\$ 1,084	\$ 152	\$ 8,595
Less: charge-offs	(739)	(41)	(11)	(791)
Add: recoveries	99	10	21	130
Add: provisions	-	-	-	-
Ending balance	\$ 6,719	\$ 1,053	\$ 162	\$ 7,934

## NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)

Three months ended September 30, 2014	Commercial (dollars in thousands)	Single family residential	Consumer and other retail	Totals	
Beginning balance	\$ 7,395	\$ 1,082	\$ 158	\$	8,635
Less: charge-offs	(372)	(37)	(4)		(413)
Add: recoveries	33	1	1		35
Add: provisions	-	-	-		-
Ending balance	\$ 7,056	\$ 1,046	\$ 155	\$	8,257

  

Nine months ended September 30, 2014	Commercial (dollars in thousands)	Single family residential	Consumer and other retail	Totals	
Beginning balance	\$ 7,359	\$ 1,084	\$ 152	\$	8,595
Less: charge-offs	(372)	(41)	(10)		(423)
Add: recoveries	69	3	13		85
Add: provisions	-	-	-		-
Ending balance	\$ 7,056	\$ 1,046	\$ 155	\$	8,257

**NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)**

The following tables detail the amount of the ALLL allocated to each portfolio segment as of September 30, 2015, December 31, 2014 and September 30, 2014, disaggregated on the basis of the Corporation's impairment methodology:

<b>September 30, 2015</b>	Commercial	Single family residential	Consumer and other retail	Totals
	(dollars in thousands)			
Loans individually evaluated for impairment	\$ 59	\$ 114	\$ -	\$ 173
Loans collectively evaluated for impairment	7,334	915	163	8,412
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,393</b>	<b>\$ 1,029</b>	<b>\$ 163</b>	<b>\$ 8,585</b>
<b>December 31, 2014</b>	Commercial	Single family residential	Consumer and other retail	Totals
	(dollars in thousands)			
Loans individually evaluated for impairment	\$ 42	\$ 10	\$ -	\$ 52
Loans collectively evaluated for impairment	6,677	1,043	162	7,882
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,719</b>	<b>\$ 1,053</b>	<b>\$ 162</b>	<b>\$ 7,934</b>
<b>September 30, 2014</b>	Commercial	Single family residential	Consumer and other retail	Totals
	(dollars in thousands)			
Loans individually evaluated for impairment	\$ 190	\$ 145	\$ -	\$ 335
Loans collectively evaluated for impairment	6,866	901	155	7,922
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,056</b>	<b>\$ 1,046</b>	<b>\$ 155</b>	<b>\$ 8,257</b>



**NOTE 6 LOANS (continued)**

The following tables show loans related to each balance in the ALLL by portfolio segment and disaggregated on the basis of the Corporation's impairment methodology:

<b>September 30, 2015</b>	Commercial	Single family residential (dollars in thousands)	Consumer and other retail	Totals
Loans individually evaluated for impairment	\$ 838	\$ 1,312	\$ 15	\$ 2,165
Loans collectively evaluated for impairment	428,938	253,150	43,282	725,370
Ending balance	\$ 429,776	\$ 254,462	\$ 43,297	\$ 727,535
<b>December 31, 2014</b>	Commercial	Single family residential	Consumer and other retail	Totals
	(dollars in thousands)			
Loans individually evaluated for impairment	\$ 8,014	\$ 978	\$ 411	\$ 9,403
Loans collectively evaluated for impairment	374,781	228,170	39,698	642,649
Ending balance	\$ 382,795	\$ 229,148	\$ 40,109	\$ 652,052
<b>September 30, 2014</b>	Commercial	Single family residential	Consumer and other retail	Totals
	(dollars in thousands)			
Loans individually evaluated for impairment	\$ 8,223	\$ 1,783	\$ -	\$ 10,006
Loans collectively evaluated for impairment	342,486	225,211	39,263	606,960
Ending balance	\$ 350,709	\$ 226,994	\$ 39,263	\$ 616,966

**NOTE 7 SECURITIES SOLD UNDER AGREEMENTS TO REPURCHASE**

The Company enters into agreements under which it sells securities subject to an obligation to repurchase the same or similar securities. Under these arrangements, the Company may transfer legal control over the assets but still retain effective control through an agreement that both entitles and obligates the Company to repurchase the assets. As a result, these repurchase agreements are accounted for as secured borrowings and not as a sale and subsequent repurchase of securities. The obligation to repurchase the securities is reflected as a liability in the Company's consolidated statements of condition, while the securities underlying the repurchase agreements remain in the respective investment securities asset accounts. As a result, there is no offsetting or netting of the investment securities assets with the repurchase agreement liabilities. In addition, as the Company does not enter into reverse repurchase agreements, there is no such offsetting to be done with the repurchase agreements.

The right of offset for a repurchase agreement resembles a secured borrowing, whereby the collateral pledged by the Company would be used to settle the fair value of the repurchase agreement should the Company be in default (e.g., fails to make an interest payment to the counterparty). For private institution repurchase agreements, if the private institution counterparty were to default (e.g., declare bankruptcy), the Company could cancel the repurchase agreement (i.e., cease payment of principal and interest), and attempt collection on the amount of collateral value in excess of the repurchase agreement fair value. The collateral is held by a third party financial institution in the counterparty's custodial account. The Company has the right to sell or repledge the investment securities. The Company is required by the counterparty to maintain adequate collateral levels. In the event the collateral fair value falls below stipulated levels, the Company will pledge additional securities. The Company closely monitors collateral levels to ensure adequate levels are maintained, while mitigating the potential risk of over-collateralization in the event of counterparty default.

The following table presents the remaining contractual maturities of the Company's repurchase agreements as of September 30, 2015, disaggregated by the class of collateral pledged.

<b>September 30, 2015</b>	<b>Overnight &amp; Continuous</b>	
(dollars in thousands)		
<b>Class of collateral pledged:</b>		
U.S. government agencies	\$	24,936
U.S. government sponsored agency mortgage backed securities		-
States and political subdivisions		-
Corporate bonds		-
	\$	24,936

**Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

**Forward-Looking Statements.** Certain statements contained in this report may not be based on historical facts and are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). These forward-looking statements may be identified by, among other things, the use of forward-looking terminology such as could, would, expect, believe, intend, may, will, can, or should or future or conditional verb tenses, and various negatives of such terms. These forward-looking statements include, without limitation, those relating to the Company's valuation methodologies, contributions to the Company's post-retirement benefit plan and returns on the plan's assets, characterization of accrual and nonaccrual loans, concessions granted for troubled debt restructurings, impairment of securities, repayment of loans, loan portfolio concentrations, fair value of impaired loans, satisfaction of capital adequacy requirements, risk rating classifications of loans, calculation of our allowance for loan and lease losses (ALLL), adequacy of traditional sources of cash generated from operating activities to meet liquidity needs, the impact of various factors on net interest income and the realization of deferred income tax assets. We caution you not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements in this report because results could differ materially from those anticipated due to a variety of factors. These factors include, but are not limited to, conditions in the financial market, liquidity, the sufficiency of our ALLL, economic conditions in the communities in the State of Tennessee where the Company does business, the impact of government regulation and supervision, interest rate risk, including changes in monetary policy and fluctuating interest rates, the Company's ability to attract and retain key personnel, competition from other financial services providers, recent legislation and regulations impacting service fees, the Company's ability to pay dividends, the availability of additional capital on favorable terms, the Company's ability to adapt its products and services to evolving industry standards and consumer preferences, security breaches and other disruptions and other factors detailed from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). We undertake no obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that occur after the date of this report.



**Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (continued)**

**General.** First Farmers and Merchants Corporation (the Company) is a \$1.2 billion bank holding company whose principal activity is the ownership and management of its wholly-owned subsidiary, First Farmers and Merchants Bank (the Bank). The Bank, through its 19 banking locations, is primarily engaged in providing a full range of banking and financial services, including lending, investing of funds, deposits, trust and wealth management operations, and other financing activities to individual and corporate customers in the Middle Tennessee area.

**Critical Accounting Policies.** The accounting principles we follow and our methods of applying these principles conform with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and with general practices within the banking industry. There have been no significant changes to our critical accounting policies as described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

**Comparison of Financial Condition at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014**

**General.** At September 30, 2015, the consolidated total assets of the Company were \$1.231 billion, its consolidated gross loans were \$727.5 million, its total deposits were \$1.061 billion and its total shareholders' equity was \$120.0 million. The Company's loan portfolio at September 30, 2015 reflected an increase of \$75.5 million, or 11.6%, compared to December 31, 2014. Total deposits increased \$41.2 million, or 4.0%, and shareholders' equity increased by \$5.4 million, or 4.7% during the first nine months of 2015.

**Securities.** Available-for-sale securities are an integral part of the asset/liability management process of the Company. Accordingly, they represent an important source of liquidity available to fund loans and accommodate asset reallocation strategies dictated by changes in the Company's operating and tax plans, shifting yield spread relationships and changes in the yield curve. At September 30, 2015, the Company's investment securities portfolio had \$403.4 million of available-for-sale securities, which are valued at fair market value, and \$3.2 million of held-to-maturity securities, which are valued at amortized cost on the balance sheet. These compare to \$397.9 million of available-for-sale securities and \$22.0 million of held-to-maturity securities as of December 31, 2014.

**Loans and Loan Losses.** The loan portfolio is the largest component of earning assets for the Company and, consequently, provides the largest amount of revenue for the Company. The loan portfolio also contains the highest exposure to risk as a result of the possibility of unexpected deterioration in the credit quality of borrowers. When analyzing potential loans, management of the Company assesses both interest rate objectives and credit quality objectives in determining whether to make a given loan and the appropriate pricing for that loan. All loans are expected to be repaid from cash flow or proceeds from the sale of selected assets of the borrowers. Collateral requirements for the loan portfolio are based on credit evaluation of the borrowers. The goal of the Company is to diversify loans to avoid a concentration of credit in a specific industry, person, entity, product, service, or any area vulnerable to a tax law change or an economic event.

Total loans outstanding increased by \$75.5 million, or 11.6%, to \$727.5 million at September 30, 2015 compared to December 31, 2014. More specifically, commercial loans increased by \$47.0 million, or 12.3%, for the first nine months of 2015, and retail loans increased by \$28.5 million, or 10.6% for the same period. Loan demand has remained strong during the first nine months of 2015, specifically in the commercial and industrial and single family residential portfolios.

The ALLL is a reserve established through a provision for loan and lease losses charged to expense, which represents management's best estimate of probable losses that have been incurred within the existing portfolio of loans. Loans identified with losses by management are promptly charged off, and consumer loan accounts are charged off automatically based on regulatory requirements. The allowance, in the judgment of management, is necessary to reserve for estimated loan losses and risks inherent in the loan portfolio. The Company's ALLL methodology includes allowance allocations calculated in accordance with ASC Topic 310 and ASC Topic 450. Accordingly, the methodology is based on historical loss experience by type of credit and internal risk grade, specific homogeneous risk pools and specific loss allocations, with adjustments for current events and conditions. The Company's process for determining the appropriate

**Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (continued)**

level of the ALLL is designed to account for credit deterioration as it occurs. The provision for loan and lease losses reflects loan quality trends, including the levels of and trends related to nonaccruals loans, past due loans, potential problem loans, classified and criticized loans and net charge-offs or recoveries, among other factors. The provision for loan and lease losses also reflects the totality of actions taken on all loans for a particular period. In other words, the amount of the provision reflects not only the necessary increases in the ALLL related to newly identified criticized loans, but it also reflects actions taken related to other loans including, among other things, any necessary increases or decreases in required allowances for specific loans or loan pools. At September 30, 2015, the ALLL represented 1.18% of total loans outstanding compared to 1.22% at December 31, 2014. See Note 6 to the Condensed Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in this Form 10-Q for additional information.

**Delinquencies and Nonperforming Loans.** The Company follows a formal process to provide control over the underwriting of loans and to monitor loan collectability. This process includes education and training of personnel about the Company's loan policies and procedures, assignment of credit analysts to support lenders, timely identification of loans with adverse characteristics, control of corrective actions and objective monitoring of loan reviews. The Company's special assets department identifies and monitors assets that need special attention. At September 30, 2015, this process identified loans totaling \$481,000 that were classified as other assets especially mentioned compared to loans totaling \$1.1 million at December 31, 2014. Loans totaling \$3.0 million were classified as substandard at September 30, 2015, compared to loans totaling \$10.8 million at December 31, 2014. There were no loans classified as doubtful at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014.

Loans having a recorded balance of \$2.2 million and \$9.4 million at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively, have been identified as impaired. Nonaccrual loans amounting to \$2.0 million and \$5.4 million at September 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively, were not accruing interest.

**Deposits.** The Company does not have any foreign offices and all deposits are serviced in its 19 banking locations. The Company's total deposits increased \$41.2 million, or 4.0%, during the first nine months of 2015. Total noninterest-bearing deposits were 21.0% of total deposits at September 30, 2015, contributing to the Company's low cost of deposits, compared to 20.0% at December 31, 2014.

**Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (continued)**

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

The Company is required to have enough cash and investments that qualify as liquid assets in order to maintain sufficient liquidity to ensure a safe and sound operation. Liquidity may increase or decrease depending upon the availability of funds and comparative yields on investments in relation to the return on loans. Historically, we have maintained liquid assets above levels believed to be adequate to meet the requirements of normal operations, including potential deposit outflows. Cash flow projections are regularly reviewed and updated to assure that adequate liquidity is maintained. Most of the capital needs of the Company historically have been met with retained earnings.

The Company and the Bank are subject to Tennessee statutes and regulations that impose restrictions on the amount of dividends that may be declared. Furthermore, any dividend payments are subject to the continuing ability of the Company to maintain its compliance with minimum federal regulatory capital requirements and to retain its characterization under federal regulations as a well-capitalized institution. The Company's Board of Directors has adopted a liquidity policy that outlines specific liquidity target balances. Compliance with this policy is reviewed quarterly by the Company's Asset/Liability Committee (ALCO) and results are reported to the Company's Board of Directors.

The Company's formal asset and liability management process is used to manage interest rate risk and assist management in maintaining reasonable stability in the gross interest margin as a result of changes in the level of interest rates and/or the spread relationships among interest rates. The Company uses an earnings simulation model to evaluate the impact of different interest rate scenarios on the gross margin. Each quarter, the ALCO monitors the relationship of rate sensitive earning assets to rate sensitive interest-bearing liabilities (interest rate sensitivity), which is the principal factor in determining the effect that fluctuating interest rates will have on future net interest income. Rate sensitive earning assets and interest bearing liabilities are financial instruments that can be re-priced to current market rates within a defined time period.

Management believes that the Company's traditional sources of cash generated from operating activities are adequate to meet the liquidity needs for normal ongoing operations; however, the Company also has access to additional liquidity, if necessary, from lines of credit extended to us from our correspondent banks and/or the FHLB. At September 30, 2015, the Company has \$127.8 million of borrowing capacity with the FHLB with no outstanding advances. The Company has additional sources of borrowings, which include \$40 million in federal funds lines of credits with various correspondent banks, \$80.6 million in available Federal Reserve discount window lines of credit, and a borrowing line with the Federal Reserve Bank, for which certain commercial and industrial loans of \$108.2 million are pledged.

The consolidated statements of cash flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 detail cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities. At September 30, 2015, net cash provided by financing and operating activities was \$48.0 million and \$10.1 million, respectively, most of which was offset by net cash used in investing activities of \$59.2 million, resulting in a net decrease in cash and due from banks of \$1.0 million to \$29.3 million.

**Regulatory Requirement for Capital**

The Company and the Bank are subject to federal regulatory risk-based capital adequacy standards. Failure to meet capital adequacy requirements can initiate certain mandatory and possibly additional discretionary actions by regulators that could have a material adverse effect on the operating results and financial condition of the Company and the Bank. The applicable regulations require the Bank to meet specific capital adequacy guidelines that involve quantitative measures of assets, liabilities and certain off-balance-sheet items as calculated under regulatory accounting practices. The capital classification is also subject to qualitative judgments by the regulators about components, risk weightings and other factors.





Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

**Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (continued)**

Under capital adequacy guidelines and the BASEL III regulatory capital framework, the Company and the Bank must meet specific capital guidelines that involve quantitative measures of the assets, liabilities, and certain off-balance sheet items as calculated under regulatory accounting practices. Actual capital amounts and ratios are presented in the table below. Management believes, as of September 30, 2015, that the Company and the Bank met the guidelines to which they were subject.

(Dollars in thousands) At September 30, 2015		Actual		Minimum capital requirement		Minimum to be well capitalized	
		Amount	Ratio	Amount	Ratio	Amount	Ratio
Common equity Tier 1 (to Risk weighted assets)		\$					
	Consolidated	110,610	13.4%	\$37,339	4.5%	-	-
	Bank	107,514	13.1%	37,137	4.5%	53,642	6.5%
Total capital (to Risk weighted assets)							
	Consolidated	119,195	14.4%	65,927	8.0%	-	-
	Bank	116,098	14.1%	66,021	8.0%	82,526	10.0%
Tier 1 capital (to Risk weighted assets)							
	Consolidated	110,610	13.4%	49,445	6.0%	-	-
	Bank	107,514	13.1%	49,343	6.0%	66,021	8.0%
Tier 1 capital (to Average assets)							
	Consolidated	110,610	9.1%	48,693	4.0%	-	-
	Bank	107,514	8.9%	48,514	4.0%	60,642	5.0%

**Comparison of Operating Results for the Three and Nine Month Periods ended September 30, 2015 and 2014**

**General.** During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, net income was \$2.7 million and \$8.0 million, respectively, compared to \$2.7 million and \$7.6 million, respectively, for the same periods in 2014. Earnings per share for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 was \$0.57 and \$1.66, respectively, compared to \$0.55 and \$1.52, respectively, for the same periods in 2014. The improvement in operating results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 compared to the same periods in 2014 was primarily driven by improved interest income on loans and securities offset in part by growth in noninterest expense.

**Interest Income.** Total interest income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 was \$9.8 million and \$28.8 million, respectively, compared to \$9.4 million and \$27.5 million, respectively, for the same periods in 2014. The increase was driven by growth in average interest-earning assets. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, interest and fees earned on loans were \$7.8 million and \$22.6 million, respectively, an increase of \$567,000 and \$1.4 million, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2014. Increased loan volume, driven by growth in the northern Tennessee counties within the Company's footprint, as well as more competitive pricing was the primary reason for higher interest income. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, interest earned on investment securities and other earning assets was \$2.0 million and \$6.2 million, respectively, a decrease of \$101,000 and \$69,000, respectively compared to the same periods in 2014. The decrease in interest earned on investment securities was primarily due to a reduction in the weighted average yield on investments.

**Interest Expense.** Total interest expense in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 was \$556,000 and \$1.7 million, respectively, a decrease of \$49,000 and \$170,000, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2014. The Company has been successful in managing and maintaining a low cost of funding.

**Provision for Loan Losses.** No additions were made to the provision for loan and lease losses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively, driven by continued improvement in charge-off trends coupled with improved credit quality metrics. For further information on the loan portfolio and allowance for loan losses,



**Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (continued)**

see Delinquencies and Nonperforming Loans of this section and Note 6 of the Condensed Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in this Form 10-Q.

**Noninterest Income.** During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, noninterest income was \$2.9 million and \$8.6 million, respectively, a decrease of \$270,000 and \$353,000, respectively compared to the same periods in 2014. The decline in noninterest income was primarily driven by a reductions in the gain on sale of foreclosed property for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 of \$475,000 and \$454,000, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2014.

**Noninterest Expense.** During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, noninterest expense was \$8.5 million and \$25.1 million, respectively, an increase of \$358,000 and \$816,000, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2014. The increase in noninterest expense for the three months ended September 30, 2015 was primarily driven by increased salaries and employee benefits of \$171,000 compared to the same period in 2014. The increase in noninterest expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 was primarily driven by increased legal and professional fees and salaries and employee benefits of \$385,000 and \$321,000, respectively, compared to the same period in 2014 driven by our continued investment in our expanding banking footprint.

**Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

The Company is a party to financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk in the normal course of business to meet the financing needs of its customers. These financial instruments include commitments to extend credit and stand-by letters of credit. These instruments involve, to varying degrees, elements of credit risk in excess of the amount recognized in the balance sheet. The contract or notional amounts of those instruments reflect the extent of involvement the Company has in those financial instruments. Loan commitments are agreements to lend to a customer as long as there is not a violation of any condition established in the loan commitment contract. Stand-by letters of credit are conditional commitments issued by the Company to guarantee the performance of a customer to a third party. Those guarantees are primarily issued to support public and private borrowing arrangements, including commercial paper, bond financing and similar transactions. The credit risk involved in issuing letters of credit is essentially the same as that involved in making a loan.

The total outstanding balance of loan commitments and stand-by letters of credit in the normal course of business at September 30, 2015 were \$191.4 million and \$8.4 million, respectively. At September 30, 2015, the Company and the Bank did not have any off-balance sheet arrangements other than commitments to extend credit and stand-by letters of credit.



**Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

**Asset and Liability Management and Market Risk**

Interest rates play a major part in the net interest income of a financial institution. The sensitivity to rate changes is known as interest rate risk. The repricing of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities can influence the changes in net interest income. The Company's asset liability committee (ALCO) reviews the actual dollar change in net interest income for different interest rate movements. ALCO has oversight over the asset-liability management of the Company. This committee regularly reviews interest rate risk by forecasting the impact of alternative interest rate environments on net income and the market value of portfolio equity.

The Company uses simulation analysis to monitor changes in net interest income due to changes in market interest rates. The simulation of rising, declining and flat interest rate scenarios allows management to monitor and adjust interest rate sensitivity to minimize the impact of market interest rate swings. The impact on net interest income over a twelve-month period of a shock of a 100, 200, and 300 basis point increase or decrease in market rates is analyzed on a quarterly basis. The Company also monitors regulatory required interest rate risk analysis, which simulates more dramatic changes to rates.

The following table shows the results of our projections as of September 30, 2015 for net interest income expressed as a percentage change over net interest income in a flat rate scenario for an immediate change or shock in market interest rates over a twelve month period. Due to the historically low level of interest rates, the Company does not believe downward shocks greater than 100 basis points are relevant.

<u>Market Rate Change</u>	<b>Effect on Net Interest Income</b>	
+300	(8.6)	%
+200	(5.4)	%
+100	(2.7)	%
(100)	(6.5)	%

Net interest income of the Company on a fully taxable equivalent basis is influenced primarily by changes in:

- (1) the volume and mix of earning assets and sources of funding;
- (2) market rates of interest; and
- (3) income tax rates.

The impact of some of these factors can be controlled by management policies and actions. External factors also can have a significant impact on changes in net interest income from one period to another. Some examples of such factors are:

- (1) the strength of credit demands by customers;
- (2) Federal Reserve Board monetary policy; and
- (3) fiscal and debt management policies of the federal government, including changes in tax laws.



**Quarterly Financial Summary Unaudited**

The following table presents condensed information relating to quarterly periods presented.

	<b>Five Quarter Comparison</b>				
	<b>9/30/2015</b>	<b>6/30/2015</b>	<b>3/31/2015</b>	<b>12/31/2014</b>	<b>9/30/2014</b>
	(dollars in thousands, except per share data)				
<b>Results of operations:</b>					
Interest income	\$ 9,817	\$ 9,720	\$ 9,303	\$ 9,284	\$ 9,351
Interest expense	556	556	565	580	605
Net interest income	9,261	9,164	8,738	8,704	8,746
Provision for possible loan losses, net	-	-	-	-	-
Noninterest income	2,907	2,774	2,885	2,808	3,177
Noninterest expense	8,524	8,559	8,030	7,984	8,166
Income before income taxes	3,644	3,379	3,593	3,528	3,757
Income taxes	925	677	976	871	1,031
Net income for common shareholders	\$ 2,719	\$ 2,702	\$ 2,617	\$ 2,657	\$ 2,726
<b>Per share data:</b>					
Earnings per share	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.56	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.55
Weighted average shares outstanding					
per quarter	4,808,352	4,853,265	4,897,245	4,909,910	4,934,895
<b>Financial condition data:</b>					
Total securities	\$ 406,576	\$ 427,874	\$ 440,314	\$ 419,871	\$ 402,191
Loans, net of deferred fees	727,535	685,402	675,015	652,052	616,966
Allowance for loan and lease losses	(8,585)	(8,593)	(7,944)	(7,934)	(8,257)
Total assets	1,230,896	1,213,250	1,219,287	1,170,995	1,130,684
Total deposits	1,061,201	1,056,717	1,063,822	1,019,955	976,189
<b>Asset quality data and ratios:</b>					
Total non-performing assets	\$ 2,218	\$ 2,493	\$ 5,229	\$ 5,483	\$ 6,429
Non-performing assets to total assets	0.18%	0.21%	0.43%	0.47%	0.57%
Allowance for loan and lease losses to total loans	1.18%	1.25%	1.18%	1.22%	1.34%
Net (recoveries) charge-offs to average loans (annualized)	(0.12%)	(0.19%)	(0.01%)	0.10%	0.07%

**Item 4. Controls and Procedures.**

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures. The Company, with the participation of its management, including the Company's Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (principal financial officer), carried out an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of its disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15e and 15d-15e under the Exchange Act) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation and as of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company's Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (principal financial officer) concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective in ensuring that information required to be disclosed in its reports that the Company files or submits to the SEC under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported on a timely basis.





(b) Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. There has been no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the third quarter of 2015 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

**PART II - OTHER INFORMATION**

**Item 1. Legal Proceedings**

Various legal proceedings to which the Company or a subsidiary of the Company is a party arise from time to time in the normal course of business. There are no material pending legal proceedings to which the Company or any subsidiary of the Company is a party or of which any of their property is the subject.

**Item 1A. Risk Factors.**

There have been no material changes in the risk factors previously disclosed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

**Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.**

The following table provides information regarding purchases of the Company's common stock made by the Company during the third quarter of 2015:

**COMPANY'S PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Total Number of Shares Purchased</b>	<b>Average Price Paid per Share</b>	<b>Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs</b>	<b>Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs</b>
July				113,143
August				113,143
September	34,022*	\$27.00		79,121
Total	34,022*	\$27.00		79,121

\*Purchased through negotiated transactions with several third-party sellers.

**Item 3. Defaults upon Senior Securities**

Not applicable.

**Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures**

Not applicable.

**Item 5. Other Information**

None.



## Edgar Filing: FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-Q

### Item 6. Exhibits.

EXHIBIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
3.1	Charter. (1)
3.2	Articles of Amendment to Charter. (1)
3.3	Third Amended and Restated Bylaws. (2)
10.1	Settlement and General Release Agreement by and between First Farmers and Merchants Bank and Patricia P. Bearden. (3)
10.2	Change in Control Agreement between Robert E. Krimmel and First Farmers and Merchants Bank. (4)
31.1	Certification of the Chief Executive Officer of First Farmers and Merchants Corporation Pursuant to Rule 13a-14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification of the Chief Financial Officer of First Farmers and Merchants Corporation Pursuant to Rule 13a-14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32	Certification of the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of First Farmers and Merchants Corporation Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document.
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Calculation Linkbase Document.
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Definition Linkbase Document.
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Label Linkbase Document.
101.PRE XBRL	Taxonomy Presentation Linkbase Document.

(1) Incorporated by reference from the First Farmers and Merchants Corporation Amendment No. 1 to the Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2003, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 7, 2004 (File Number 000-10972).

(2) Incorporated by reference from the First Farmers and Merchants Corporation Annual Report on Form 10-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 5, 2015 (File Number 000-10972).

(3) Incorporated by reference from the First Farmers and Merchants Corporation Form 10-Q, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 11, 2015 (File Number 000-10972).

(4) Incorporated by reference from the First Farmers and Merchants Corporation Form 8-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 1, 2015 (File Number 000-10972).



**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 thereunto duly authorized.

FIRST FARMERS AND MERCHANTS CORPORATION

(Registrant)

Date: November 6, 2015

By: /s/ T. Randy Stevens  
T. Randy Stevens  
Chief Executive Officer  
*(Principal Executive Officer)*

Date: November 6, 2015

By: /s/ Robert E. Krimmel  
Robert E. Krimmel  
Chief Financial Officer  
*(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)*