First Financial Bancorp

Investor Presentation

Third Quarter 2012

first financial bancorp

Another step on the path to success

FFBC
NASDAQ
GLOBAL SELECT

Forward Looking Statement Disclosure

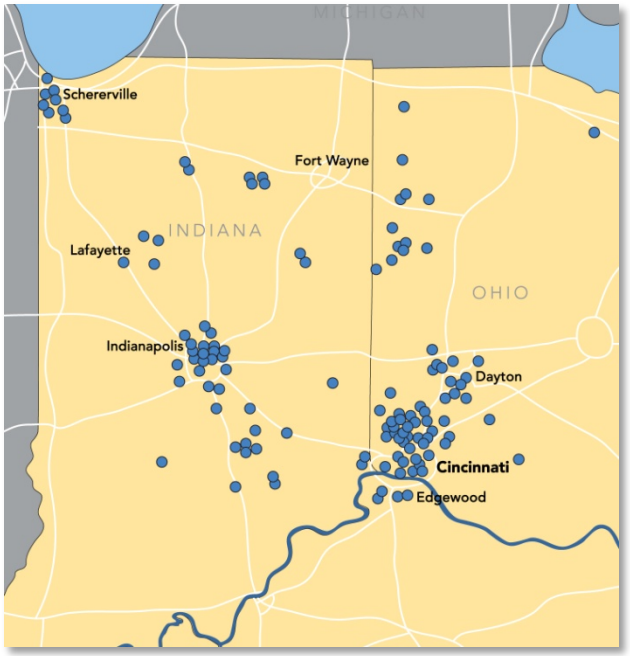
Certain statements contained in this presentation which are not statements of historical fact constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act (the ‘‘Act’’). In addition, certain statements in future filings by First Financial with the SEC, in press releases, and in oral and written statements made by or with the approval of First Financial which are not statements of historical fact constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Act. Examples of forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, projections of revenues, income or loss, earnings or loss per share, the payment or non-payment of dividends, capital structure and other financial items, statements of plans and objectives of First Financial or its management or board of directors, and statements of future economic performances and statements of assumptions underlying such statements. Words such as ‘‘believes,’’ ‘‘anticipates,’’ “likely,” “expected,” ‘‘intends,’’ and other similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements but are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements. Management’s analysis contains forward-looking statements that are provided to assist in the understanding of anticipated future financial performance. However, such performance involves risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially. Factors that could cause actual results to differ from those discussed in the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to:

- management’s ability to effectively execute its business plan;
- the risk that the strength of the United States economy in general and the strength of the local economies in which we conduct operations may continue to deteriorate resulting in, among other things, a further deterioration in credit quality or a reduced demand for credit, including the resultant effect on our loan portfolio, allowance for loan and lease losses and overall financial performance;
- U.S. fiscal debt and budget matters;
- the ability of financial institutions to access sources of liquidity at a reasonable cost;
- the impact of recent upheaval in the financial markets and the effectiveness of domestic and international governmental actions taken in response, and the effect of such governmental actions on us, our competitors and counterparties, financial markets generally and availability of credit specifically, and the U.S. and international economies, including potentially higher FDIC premiums arising from increased payments from FDIC insurance funds as a result of depository institution failures;
- the effect of and changes in policies and laws or regulatory agencies (notably the recently enacted Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act);
- the effect of the current low interest rate environment or changes in interest rates on our net interest margin and our loan originations and securities holdings;
- our ability to keep up with technological changes;
- failure or breach of our operational or security systems or infrastructure, or those of our third party vendors and other service providers;
- our ability to comply with the terms of loss sharing agreements with the FDIC;
- mergers and acquisitions, including costs or difficulties related to the integration of acquired companies and the wind-down of non-strategic operations that may be greater than expected, such as the risks and uncertainties associated with the Irwin Mortgage Corporation bankruptcy proceedings and other acquired subsidiaries;
- the risk that exploring merger and acquisition opportunities may detract from management’s time and ability to successfully manage our company;
- expected cost savings in connection with the consolidation of recent acquisitions may not be fully realized or realized within the expected time frames, and deposit attrition, customer loss and revenue loss following completed acquisitions may be greater than expected;
- our ability to increase market share and control expenses;
- the effect of changes in accounting policies and practices, as may be adopted by the regulatory agencies as well as the Financial Accounting Standards Board and the SEC;
- adverse changes in the securities, debt and/or derivatives markets;
- our success in recruiting and retaining the necessary personnel to support business growth and expansion and maintain sufficient expertise to support increasingly complex products and services;
- monetary and fiscal policies of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Federal Reserve) and the U.S. government and other governmental initiatives affecting the financial services industry;
- our ability to manage loan delinquency and charge-off rates and changes in estimation of the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses; and
- the costs and effects of litigation and of unexpected or adverse outcomes in such litigation.

In addition, please refer to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, as well as our other filings with the SEC, for a more detailed discussion of these risks and uncertainties and other factors. Such forward-looking statements are meaningful only on the date when such statements are made, and First Financial undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which such a statement is made to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

Focused Business Strategy

- Client intimate strategy focused on long-term, profitable relationships with clients
- Strong sales culture across all business lines
- Lines of business
  - Commercial
  - Retail
  - Wealth Management
- Target clients – individuals and small / mid-size businesses located in-market
- Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky
  - 122 locations primarily focused on metro and near-metro markets
- Primary focus and value creation is through organic growth in key regional markets
- Key initiatives for additional revenue growth
  - Mortgage
  - Small business banking



Top SBA Lenders - SBA Fiscal Year 2011
Southwest Ohio [1]

2011 Rank	Name	Number of Loans	Annual Increase (%)	Total Loans ($MM)	Annual Increase (%)
1	Huntington Bank	168	124.0	$ 19.4	65.0
2	**First Financial Bank**	**68**	**106.1**	**26.0**	**278.9**
3	US Bank	40	(20.0)	6.0	34.4
4	Chase	19	35.7	4.2	182.6
5	RiverHills Bank	18	(41.9)	4.1	(19.1)
6	Fifth Third Bank	14	(26.3)	5.8	26.0
6	Key Bank	14	75.0	3.9	153.9
7	PNC Bank	12	100.0	1.2	(28.2)
8	Stock Yards Bank & Trust	11	37.5	2.0	33.8

Source: Small Business Administration; Business Courier
[1] Counties of Butler, Clermont, Hamilton and Warren

Strategy and Execution – Recent History

Franchise Repositioning 2005 – 2008

While the industry was pursuing growth via high-priced acquisitions and real estate lending, First Financial:

- Consolidated 14 charters, implemented one brand and updated IT infrastructure to drive efficiency
- Sold NPAs in a strong pricing environment
- Exited non-strategic business lines such as insurance, indirect auto and mortgage servicing
- Consolidated / sold non-strategic and underperforming branch locations
- Moved headquarters to Cincinnati and expanded operations in this market
- Recruited key additions to management team

FDIC Acquisitions 2009

While the industry was dealing with credit and operational issues, First Financial capitalized on FDIC-assisted acquisitions in a non-competitive environment:

- Completed $103.5 million common equity offering
- Peoples Community
  - Asset discount of approximately 7%
- Irwin Union Bank & Trust / Irwin Union FSB
  - Asset discount of approximately 25%
  - Pre-tax bargain purchase gain of $342.5 million
- Both transactions substantially increased branch presence within strategic operating footprint
- Strategic core deposit retention, covered loan performance and subsequent growth have exceeded initial expectations

Integration / Operational Execution 2010

As competition heated up for FDIC acquisitions and deal pricing increased, First Financial focused internally on operations:

- Completed $96.5 million common equity offering
- Completed the operational integration of the 2009 FDIC-assisted transactions
- Exited non-strategic markets associated with the acquisitions
- Invested in business lines identified for future growth opportunities
- Used liquidity to prepay $232 million of FHLB advances, enhancing net interest margin in future periods
- Implemented efficiency initiatives designed to lower operating costs

Capital Mgmt. / Redeployment 2011 – 2012

While the M&A market remains slow and the industry struggles with capital deployment, First Financial:

- Acquired 16 branches from Liberty Savings Bank, 12 of which are located in the Dayton market
- Acquired 22 branches from Flagstar Bank, 18 of which are located in the Indianapolis market
- Both transactions expected to drive growth across all business lines in strategic metro markets
- Implemented variable dividend / 100% payout ratio
- Announced share repurchase plan target of one million shares annually
- Announced long-term target of returning 60% - 80% of earnings to shareholders through dividends and share buybacks

Franchise Summary Comparison

- **Consistent and solid profitability**
  - LTM ROAA of 1.08% compared to peer median of 0.93%
  - LTM ROAE of 9.65% compared to peer median of 7.93%
  - LTM net interest margin of 4.38% compared to peer median of 3.73%
- **Capital levels extremely robust and have capacity to support significant asset growth**
  - Tangible common equity of 9.99% compared to peer median of 8.91%
  - Total capital ratio of 18.21% compared to peer median of 14.93%
  - Estimated asset growth capacity of approximately $1.5 billion under current regulatory guidelines
- **Dividend payout ratio of 100% and yield of 7.8%**
  - Peer median LTM dividend payout ratio of 40%
  - Peer median dividend yield 2.76%
- **Low risk balance sheet**
  - Risk weighted assets / total assets of 61% compared to peer median of 69%
  - Quarterly return on average risk weighted assets of 1.72% compared to peer median of 1.35%

Peer Group comprised of the component banks within the KBW Regional Bank Index (49 total companies excluding First Financial); peer median data as of September 30, 2012. Dividend valuation data as of November 28, 2012.

Source: Peer Group median data obtained from SNL Financial

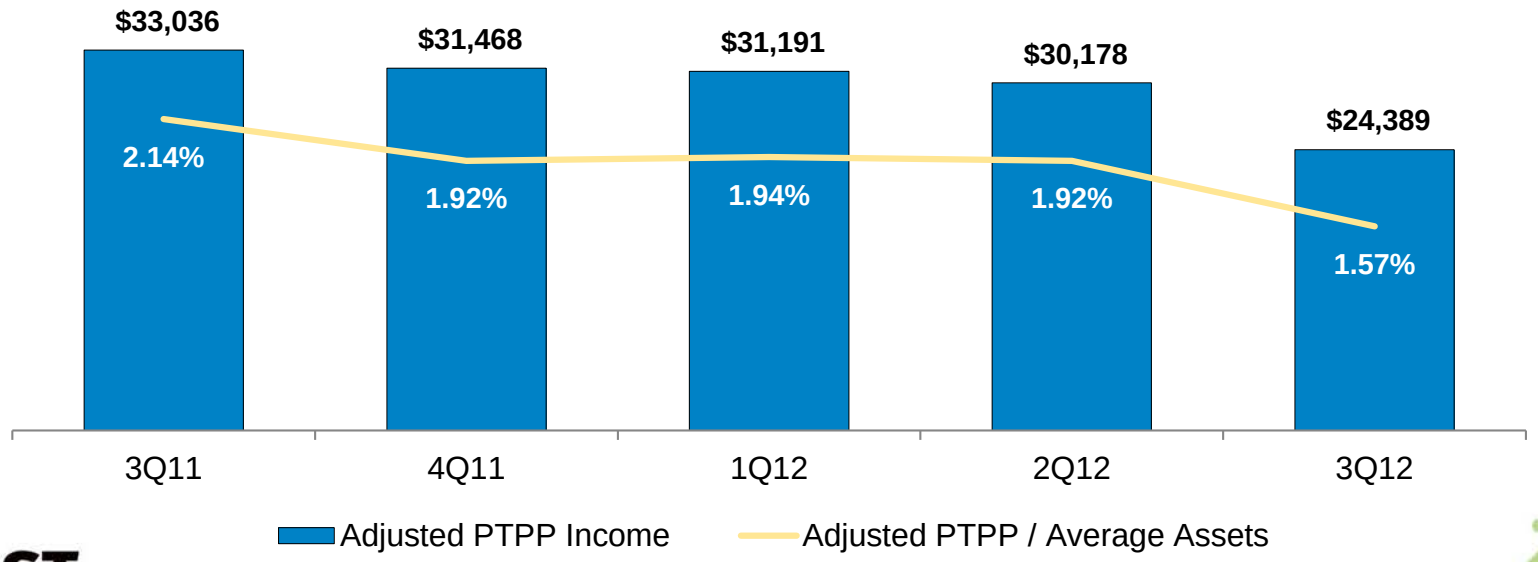
Third Quarter 2012 Financial Highlights

- Quarterly net income of $16.2 million, or $0.28 per diluted common share
- Continued strong profitability
  - Return on average assets of 1.05%
  - Return on average risk-weighted assets of 1.72%
  - Return on average shareholders' equity of 9.01%
- Quarterly net interest margin declined to 4.21% from 4.49% for the linked quarter
  - Decline in yields earned on covered loans and investment securities
  - Cost of deposit funding continues to improve as a result of strategic initiatives
- Marked improvement in asset quality and credit results
  - Nonperforming assets declined $10.9 million, or 11.1%, compared to linked quarter
  - Classified assets declined $12.2 million, or 8.4%, compared to the linked quarter
  - Net charge-offs declined $1.5 million, or 21.6%, during the third quarter
- Uncovered loan balances increased 7.1% on an annualized basis compared to June 30, 2012
  - Solid growth in the C&I and commercial real estate portfolios
  - Specialty finance product lines continue to grow
- Completed a comprehensive efficiency study across all business lines and support functions
  - Identified $17.1 million of annualized cost savings
  - Anticipated 85% realization in 2013; 100% in 2014 and thereafter

Pre-Tax, Pre-Provision Income Trend

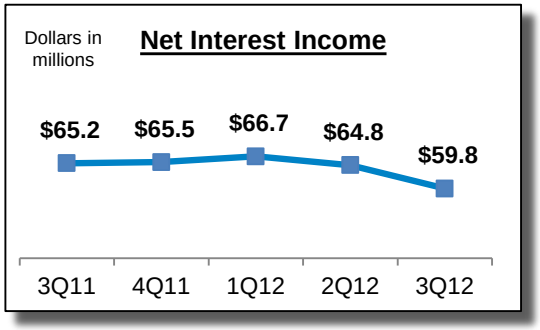
- Adjusted pre-tax, pre-provision income represents income before taxes plus provision for all loans less FDIC loss share income and accelerated discount adjusted for significant nonrecurring items
- The decrease in third quarter 2012 adjusted PTPP income was driven primarily by a decline in net interest income

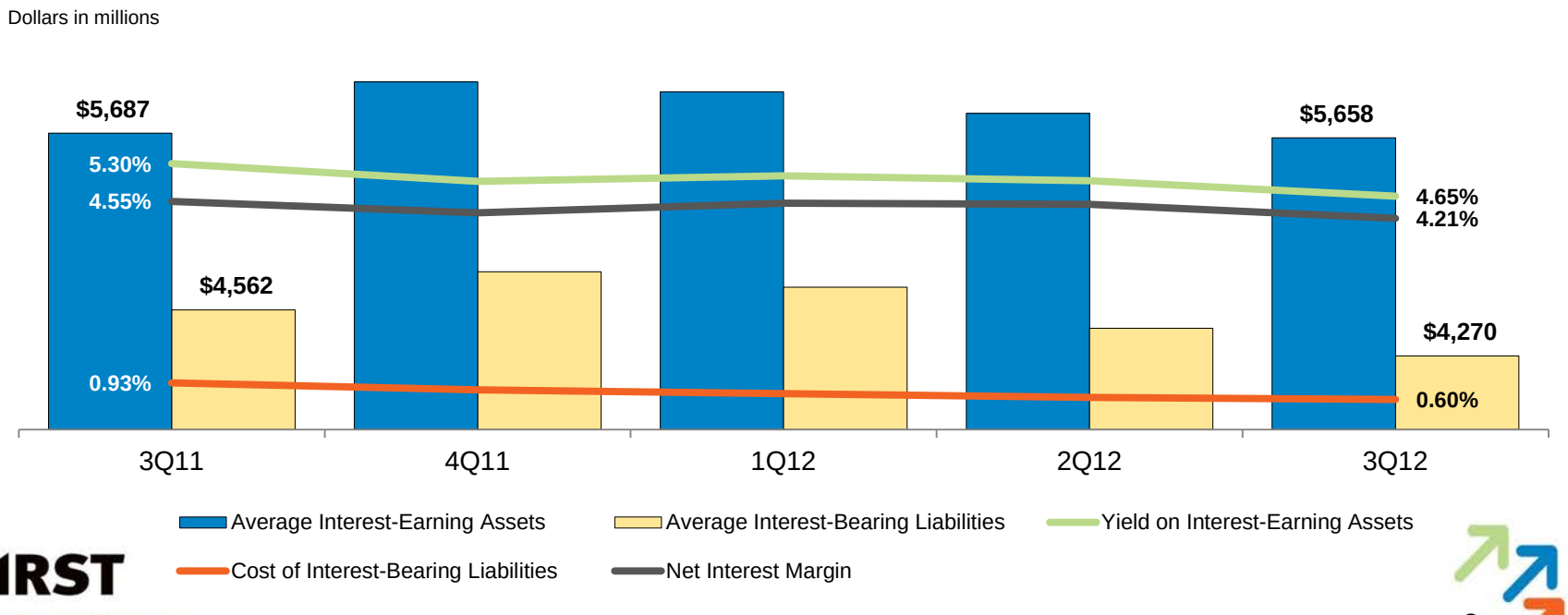
(Dollars in thousands)



Components of Net Interest Income

- Net interest margin decreased 28 bps during the third quarter 2012 to 4.21%
- Yield earned on covered loans declined 59 bps to 10.81%
- Decline in investment portfolio yield due to elevated prepayment and redemption activity
- Cost of interest bearing deposits declined 4 bps to 0.57%





Commercial Lending

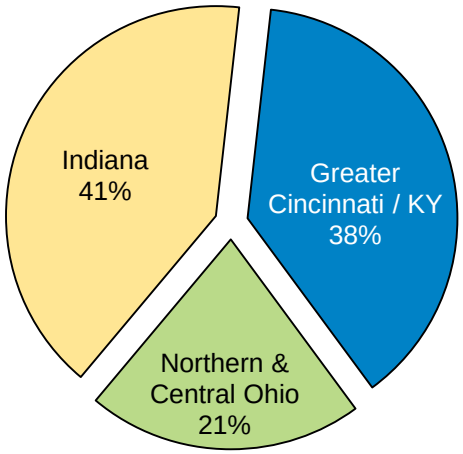
Commercial & Industrial

- Target loan size is $1 million to $15 million
- Increased focus on middle market business clients (generally up to $30 million revenue)
- Specialty finance designed to expand product set and increase client base
- Business banking and SBA lending for smaller businesses

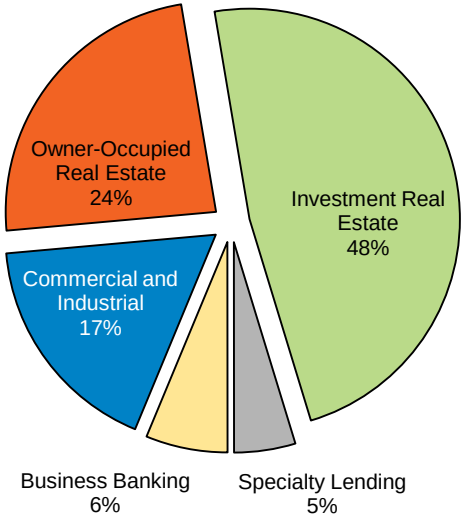
Real Estate

- Target loan size is $1 million to $15 million
- Regional and local developers and investors
- Dedicated ICRE sales team of experts
- Owner occupied real estate is a critical part of relationship building & retention
- Interest rate derivatives

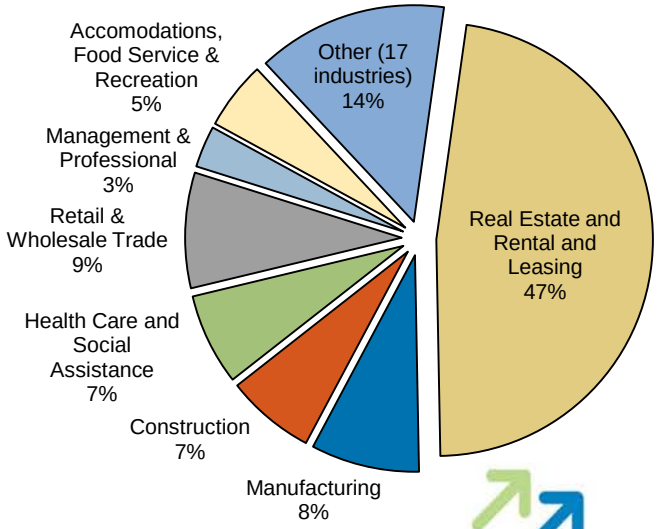
Loan Portfolio by Geography



Loan Composition



Loan Portfolio by Industry



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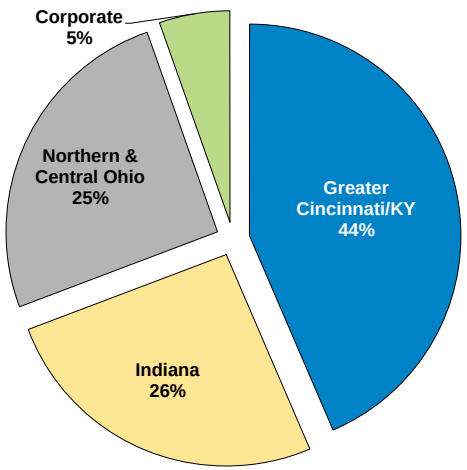
Chart data based on strategic balances which include both covered and uncovered loans

"By Industry" graph excludes equipment leasing

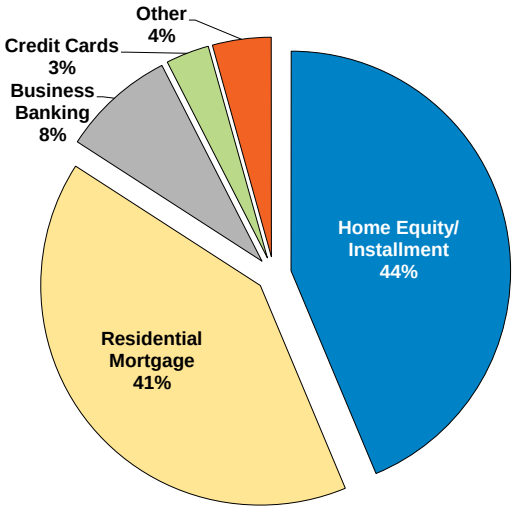
Retail Lending

- $1.1 billion in total strategic loans, including home equity, mortgage, business banking and credit cards
- Mortgage loan originators located across footprint with concentrations in Cincinnati, Dayton and Indianapolis
- Business banking sales managers located in sales centers
- Serving retail households in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky markets

Loan Portfolio by Geography



Loan Composition



Revenue Contribution

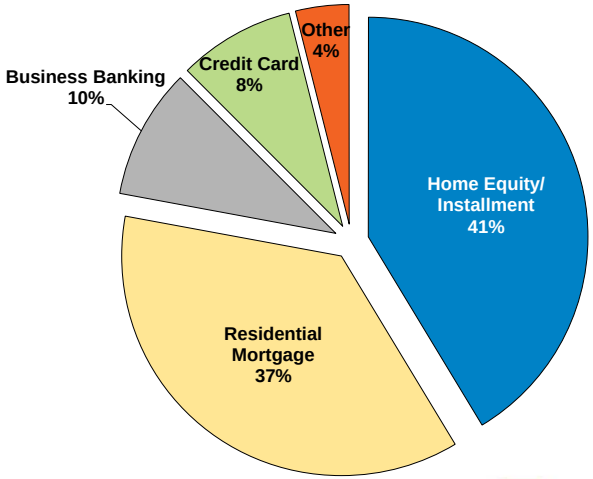
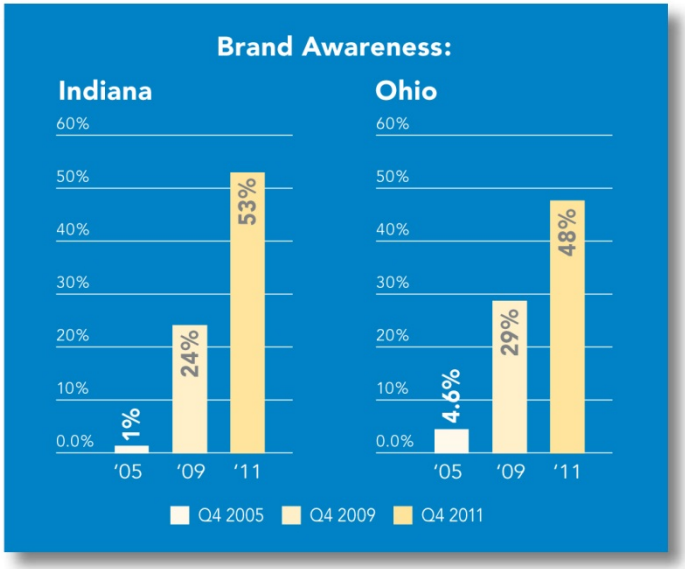


Chart data based on strategic balances which include both covered and uncovered loans

Building the "fIRST" Brand

- Significant growth in brand awareness
- Award-winning sales center prototype
- Proactive marketing and media relations
- Expands presence and market share
- Deeper relationships and differentiated client experience



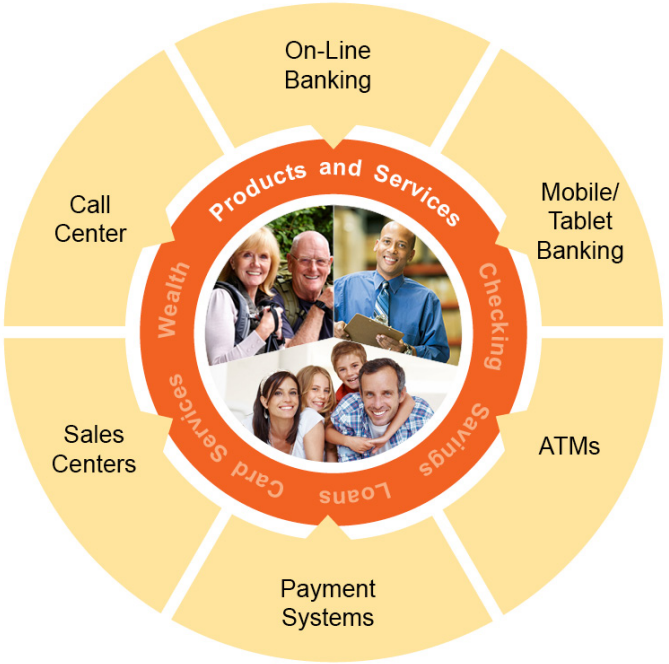




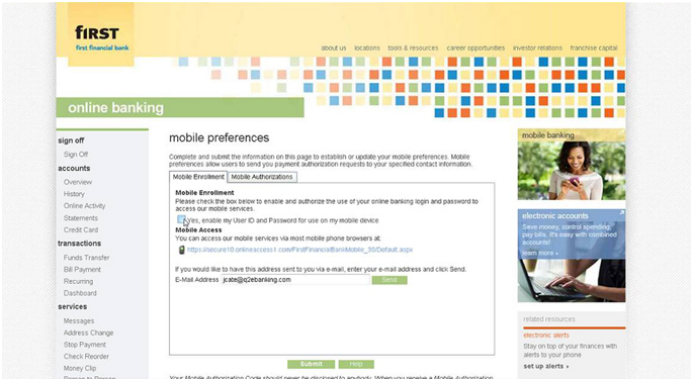
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Delivery Channels and Product Innovation

- Launched new online banking platform
- Enhanced mobile apps to accommodate client preferences
- Sales centers focused on relationship vs. transactions
- Deploying image-capture ATMs
- Deliver a consistent brand experience in a cost-effective manner







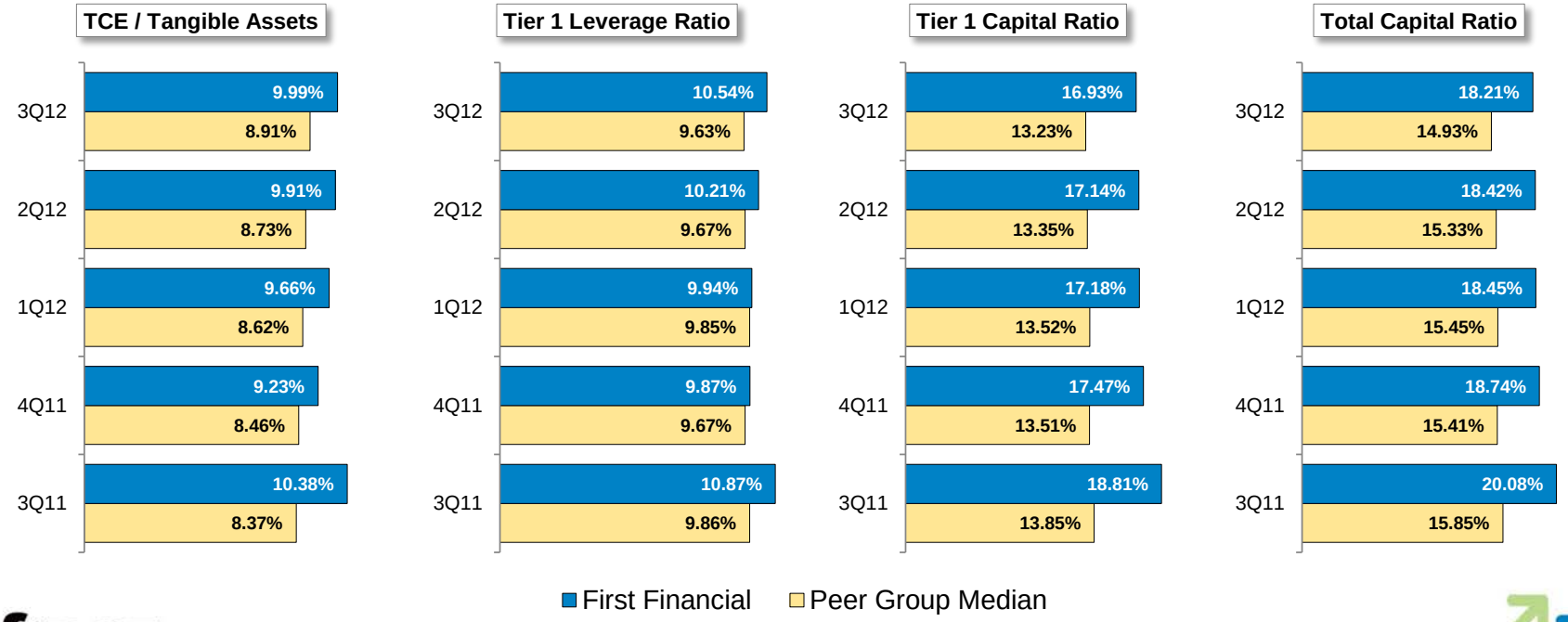
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Capital Management

- Current dividend policy consists of a 100% payout ratio comprised of two components:
  - Regular dividend based on stated payout of between 40% - 60% of quarterly earnings; currently $0.15 per share
  - Variable dividend based on the remainder of quarterly EPS; $0.13 per share based on third quarter 2012 results
  - Variable dividend will continue through 2013 unless the Company's capital position changes materially or capital deployment opportunities arise
- Announced a share repurchase plan targeting one million shares annually to begin during the fourth quarter 2012
- Share repurchase plan is not expected to impact the variable dividend; as a result, the return of capital to shareholders is expected to exceed 100% of earnings through 2013
- On a long term basis, expectation is to return to shareholders a target range of 60% - 80% of earnings through combination of the regular dividend and share repurchases
- Despite strong capital return levels, the Company expects to maintain capital ratios that exceed internal target thresholds, current regulatory requirements and proposed requirements under Basel III – while retaining capital to support growth opportunities
- Stated capital thresholds include a tangible equity ratio of 7%, tier 1 leverage ratio of 8% and total capital ratio of 13%

Capitalization

- Primary component of capital is common equity
- Capital ratios varied slightly from prior quarter due to decrease in total tangible assets but increase in risk-weighted assets
- Capitalization levels still remain among industry leaders and provide ability to support $1.5 billion in additional assets under stated capital thresholds and current regulatory guidelines



Peer Group comprised of the component banks within the KBW Regional Bank Index (49 total companies excluding First Financial); based on most recent financial information as of November 28, 2012.

Source: Peer Group median data obtained from SNL Financial

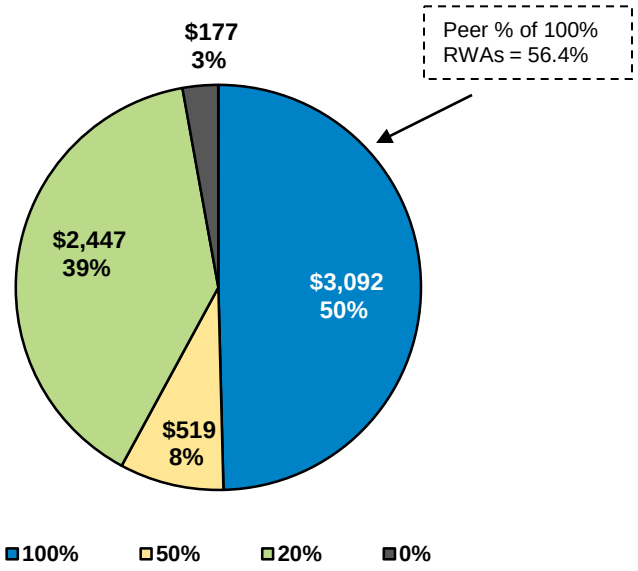
Low Risk Balance Sheet

- Only 50% of First Financial's total assets are 100% risk-weighted assets compared to the peer group median of 56%
- First Financial's percentage of total risk-weighted assets to total assets is 60.8% compared to the peer group median of 69.1%
- The lower percentages are driven by the meaningful balance of high-yielding loans covered under loss share agreements with the FDIC
- Return on risk-weighted assets significantly exceeds peer median performance
- ***First Financial generates higher returns on a lower risk balance sheet relative to the peer group***

Total Assets by Risk Weighting %

As of September 30, 2012

(Dollars in millions)



- Return on Avg. Risk Weighted Assets = 1.72% (Peer Median = 1.35%)
- Risk Weighted Assets / Total Assets = 60.8% (Peer Median = 69.1%)

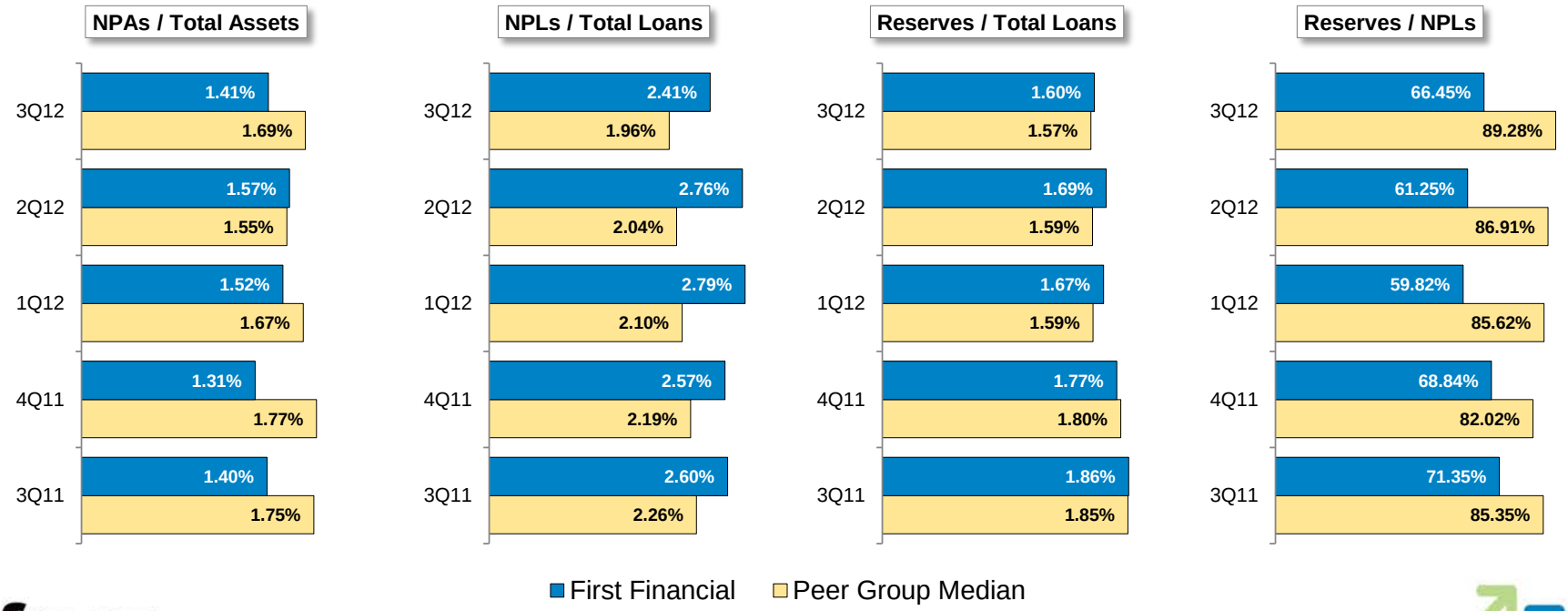
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Peer Group comprised of the component banks within the KBW Regional Bank Index (49 total companies excluding First Financial); based on financial information as of September 30, 2012

Source: Peer Group median data obtained from SNL Financial

Credit Quality (Excluding Covered Assets)

- Classified assets totaled $133.4 million as of September 30, 2012, declining 8.4% compared to the linked quarter and 22.7% compared to September 30, 2011
- Third quarter 2012 provision for loan losses decreased $4.8 million, or 56.8%, compared to the linked quarter
- Nonperforming assets declined $10.9 million, or 11.1%, compared to the linked quarter



Peer Group comprised of the component banks within the KBW Regional Bank Index (49 total companies excluding First Financial); based on most recent financial information as of November 28, 2012.

Source: Peer Group median data obtained from SNL Financial

Selective Acquisitions

- Supplements organic growth strategy through expansion in strategic markets
- Transactions met all internal criteria for acquisitions
- Loss sharing arrangements provide significant protection on acquired loans
- Developed scalable covered asset and loss share management team comprised of credit, legal, accounting and finance

Peoples (FDIC)
July 31, 2009

- 19 banking centers
- $521mm deposits
- $331mm in loss share covered loans[1]
- No first loss position

Irwin (FDIC)
September 18, 2009

- 27 banking centers
- $2.5B deposits
- $1.8B in loss share covered loans[1]
- No first loss position

Flagstar Banking Centers
December 2, 2011

- 22 banking centers
- $342mm retail deposits
- $123mm government deposits

Loan Portfolio
June 30, 2009

- $145 mm select performing commercial and consumer loans

Banking Centers
August 28, 2009

- Three banking centers in Indiana
- $85mm deposits
- $41mm in select performing commercial and consumer loans

Liberty Banking Centers
September 23, 2011

- 16 banking centers
- $342mm deposits
- $127mm in select in-market performing loans

[1] Estimated fair market value of loans

We will continue to evaluate opportunities but never lose sight of the core franchise

Core philosophy and strategy remain unchanged

Franchise Highlights

1. Strong operating fundamentals – 88 consecutive quarters of profitability
2. Strong capital levels
3. Dividend yield in excess of 7.5% combined with share repurchase plan
4. Low risk balance sheet
5. Credit metrics have remained strong throughout the economic downturn
6. Solid market share in strategic operating markets
7. Platform for growth in commercial and CRE business lines and building scale in specialty finance product offerings
8. Continual focus on improving efficiency, operating processes and service delivery

Appendix

Investor Presentation

Third Quarter 2012

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Another step on the path to success

Pre-Tax, Pre-Provision Income

(Dollars in thousands)	For the three months ended				
	September 30, 2012	June 30, 2012	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	September 30, 2011
Pre-tax, pre-provision income [1]	$ 26,894	$ 32,636	$ 30,020	$ 33,015	$ 31,814
Less: accelerated discount on covered loans	3,798	3,764	3,645	4,775	5,207
Plus: loss share and covered asset expense [2]	3,559	4,317	3,043	2,521	3,755
Pre-tax, pre-provision income, net of accelerated discount and loss on covered OREO	26,655	33,189	29,418	30,761	30,362
Less: gain on sales of investment securities	2,617	-	-	2,541	-
Less: gain on sales of non-mortgage loans [3]	-	171	66	290	700
Less: gain related to litigation settlement	-	5,000	-	-	-
Plus: acceleration of deferred swap fees associated with trust preferred redemption	-	-	-	-	-
Plus: One-time expenses related to branch acquisitions	-	-	-	1,037	1,791
Plus: One-time other employee benefit, exit and and retention costs	351	2,160	-	2,501	1,583
Plus: One-time pension, trust and other costs	-	-	1,839	-	-
Adjusted pre-tax, pre-provision income	$ 24,389	$ 30,178	$ 31,191	$ 31,468	$ 33,036

[1] Represents income before taxes plus provision for all loans less FDIC loss sharing income
[2] Reimbursements related to losses on covered OREO and other credit-related costs are included in FDIC loss sharing income, which is excluded from the pre-tax, pre-provision income above
[3] Represents gain on sale of loans originated by franchise finance business

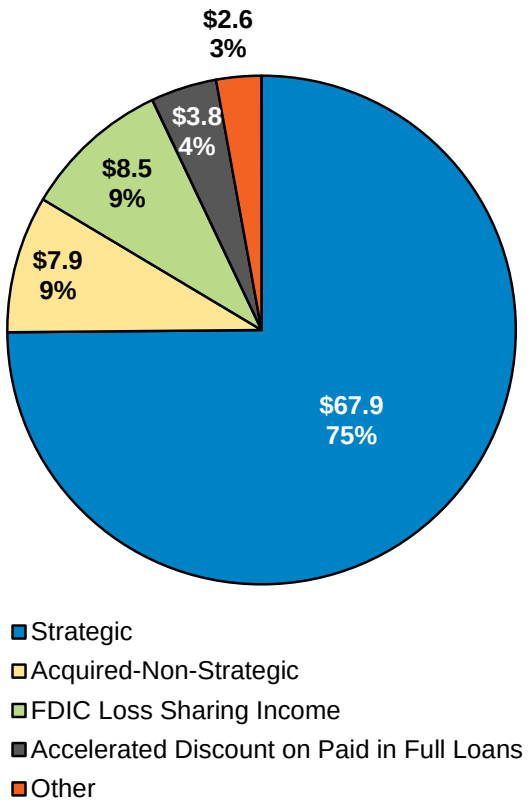
Revenue by Source

- **Strategic** – Elements of the business that either existed prior to the acquisitions or were acquired with the intent to retain and grow. On a reported basis, approximately 75% of total revenue is derived from strategic businesses. Not including the FDIC loss sharing income and other non-recurring items, strategic operations represents 85% of total revenue.
- **Acquired-Non-Strategic** – Elements of the business that the Company intends to exit but will continue to support to obtain maximum economic value. No growth or replacement is expected. Revenue will decrease over time as loans and deposits will not be renewed when they mature.
- **FDIC Loss Sharing Income** – In accordance with guidance provided by the SEC, amounts recoverable from the FDIC related to credit losses on covered loans under loss sharing agreements are recorded as noninterest income
- **Accelerated Discount on Loan Prepayments and Dispositions** – The acceleration of the unrealized valuation discount. Noninterest income results from the prepayment or sale of covered loans. This item will be ongoing but diminishing as covered loan balances decline over time.

Total Revenue – $90.7 million

For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2012

(Dollars in millions)

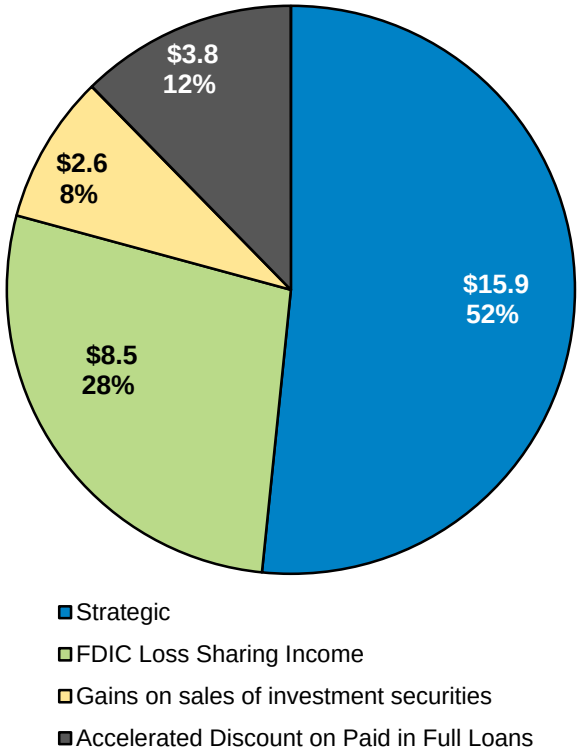


Noninterest Income and Expense

Components of Noninterest Income

For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2012

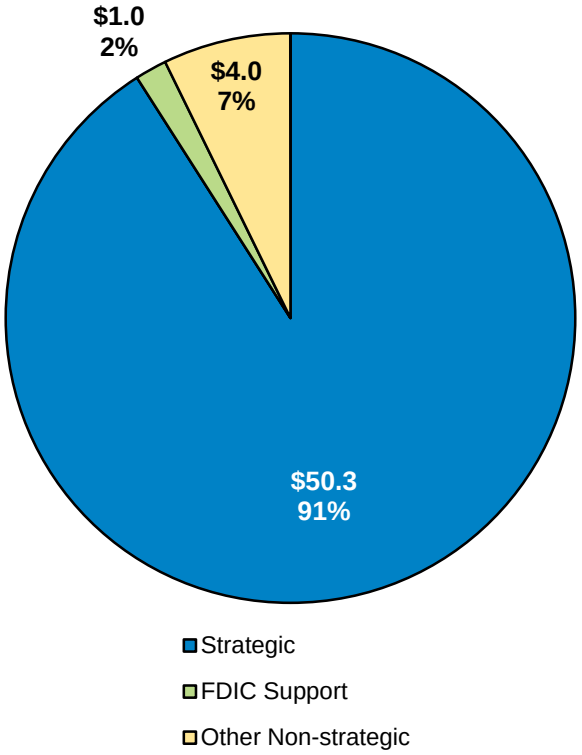
(Dollars in millions)



Components of Noninterest Expense

For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2012

(Dollars in millions)

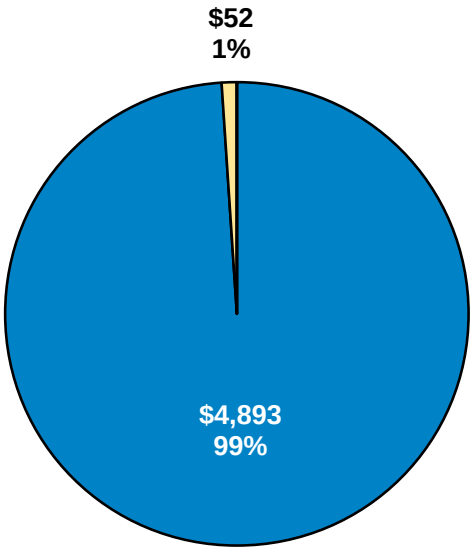


Deposit and Loan Composition

Total Deposits – $4.9 billion

As of September 30, 2012

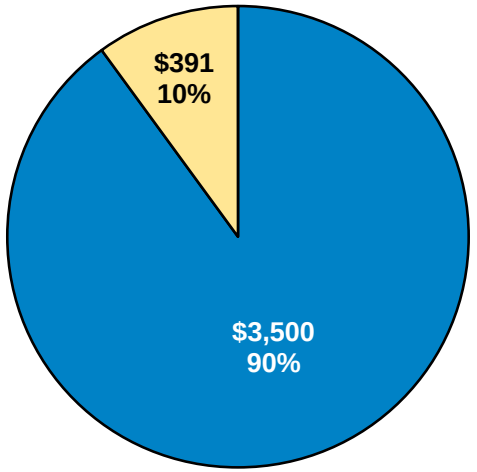
(Dollars in millions)



Gross Loans – $3.9 billion

As of September 30, 2012

(Dollars in millions)



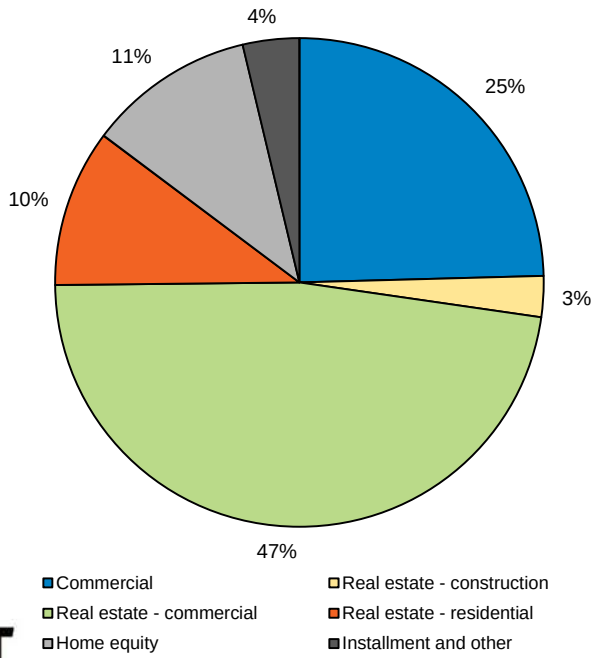
Strategic Acquired-Non-Strategic

- Market exits are complete; acquired-non-strategic deposits consist primarily of time deposits in Western, Michigan and Louisville markets and brokered CDs.

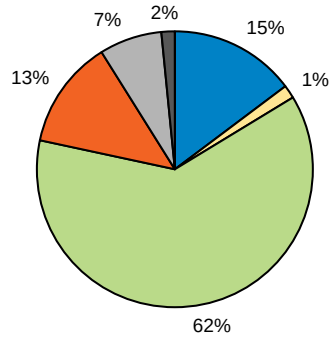
Loan Composition

- In-house lending limit of $15 million – significantly below legal limit
- 21.2% of total loans covered under FDIC loss share agreements
- Total uncovered loans increased $53.4 million, or 7.1% on an annualized basis, compared to the linked quarter driven by growth in commercial, CRE and specialty finance product lines

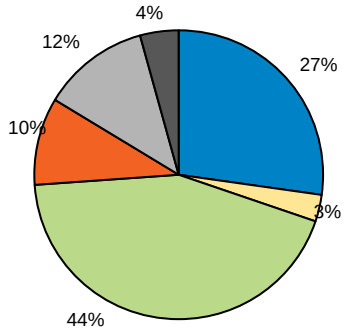
Total Loan Portfolio – $3.9 billion
September 30, 2012



Covered Loans - $0.8 billion



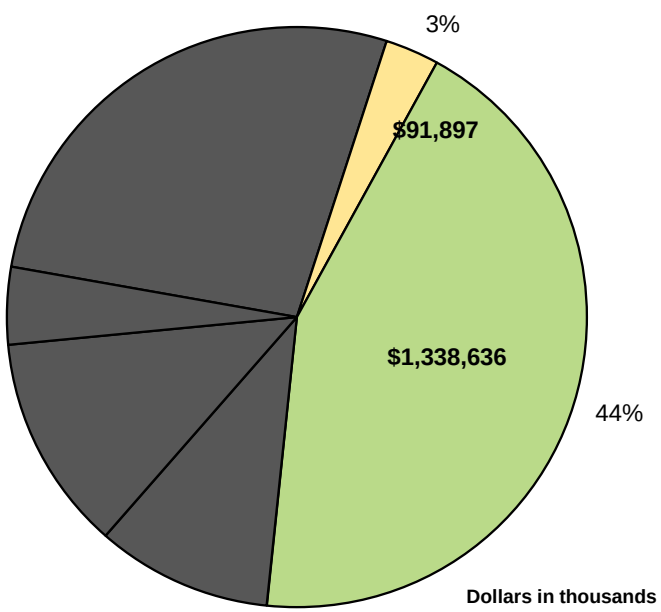
Uncovered Loans - $3.1 billion

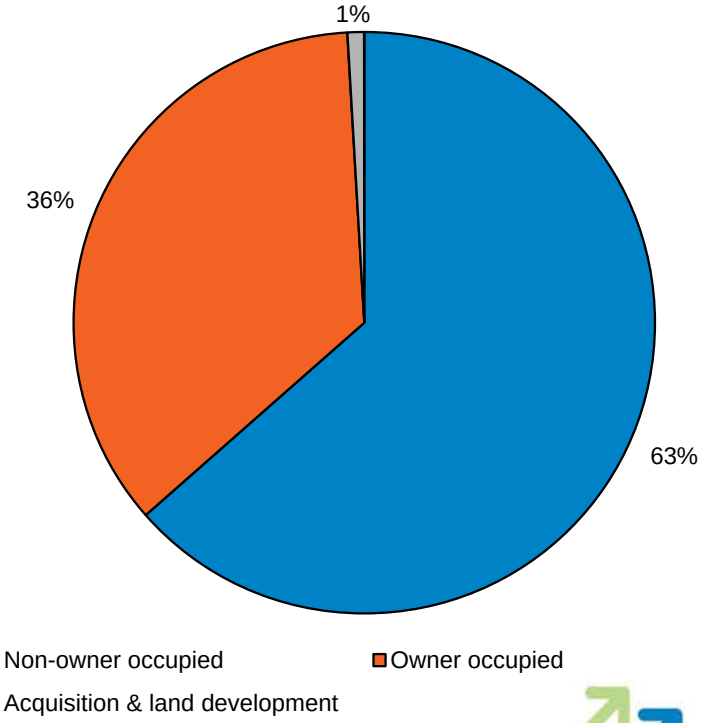


Uncovered Loans – Real Estate Collateral

- Construction and acquisition and land development loans represent small portion of overall portfolio
- Commercial real estate and constructions loans located primarily in Ohio and Indiana markets

Total Uncovered Loan Portfolio – $3.1 billion
September 30, 2012





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Investment Portfolio

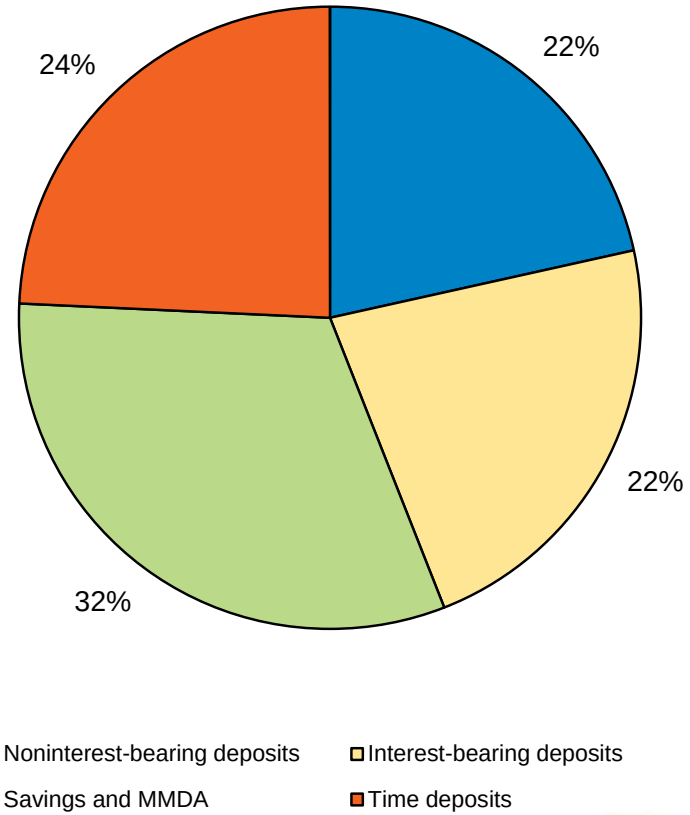
- Investment portfolio represents 25.4% of total assets
- Average balance of investments decreased $107.2 million, or 6.3%, during the third quarter 2012
- Yield earned on portfolio was 2.09% during the third quarter 2012

	As of September 30, 2012					
(Dollars in thousands)	Securities HTM	Securities AFS	Other Investments	Total Securities	Percent of Portfolio	Tax Equiv. Yield
Agencies	$ 20,844	$ 26,163	$ -	$ 47,007	3.0%	3.61%
CMO - fixed rate	505,288	202,218	-	707,506	44.7%	2.17%
CMO - variable rate	-	221,640	-	221,640	14.0%	0.70%
MBS - fixed rate	121,698	150,567	-	272,265	17.2%	2.50%
MBS - variable rate	172,597	56,207	-	228,804	14.4%	1.94%
Municipal	1,892	6,478	-	8,370	0.5%	3.45%
Corporate	-	14,552	-	14,552	0.9%	4.36%
Other AFS securities	-	11,855	-	11,855	0.7%	2.48%
Regulatory stock	-	-	71,492	71,492	4.5%	3.59%
	$ 822,319	$ 689,680	$ 71,492	$ 1,583,491	100.0%	2.13%

Deposit Composition

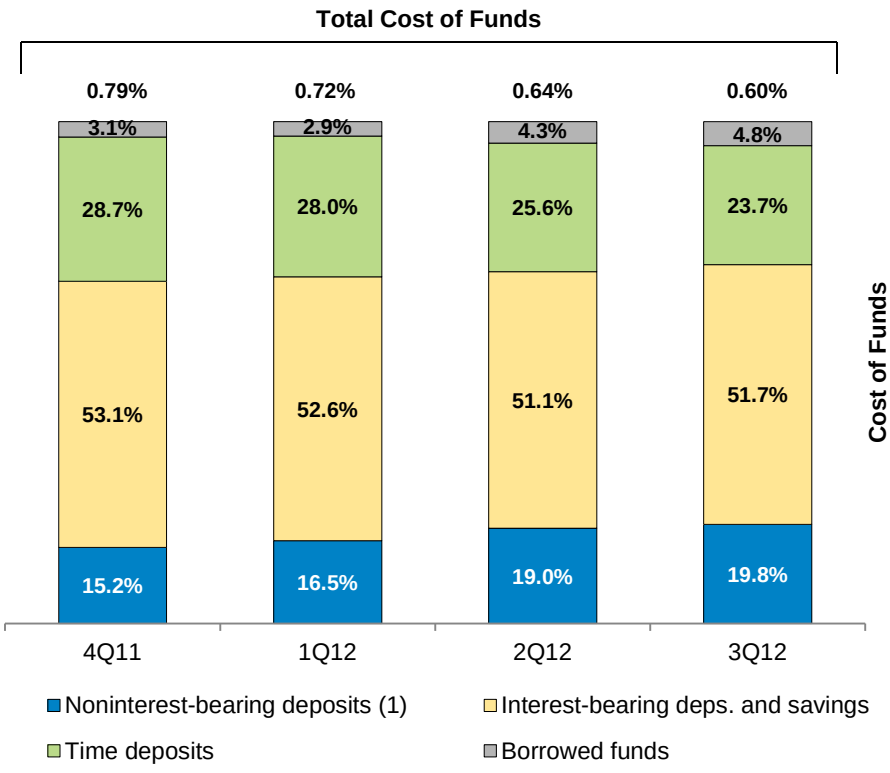
- Non-time deposit balances declined $24.7 million during the third quarter 2012, driven by a $37.7 million decrease in public fund balances
- Offsetting the decline in public fund balances was an increase of $29.2 million in core business and commercial accounts
- Time deposit balances decreased $132.5 million during the third quarter 2012 as a result of the continued focus on reducing non-core relationship deposits
- Deposit rationalization strategies related to deposit pricing continued to have a positive impact as the total costs of deposit funding declined to 45 bps, or 8.2%, compared to the second quarter 2012
- Rationalization strategies are improving the quality of the deposit base and resulting in a stronger, core-funded balance sheet

Total Deposits – $4.9 billion
September 30, 2012

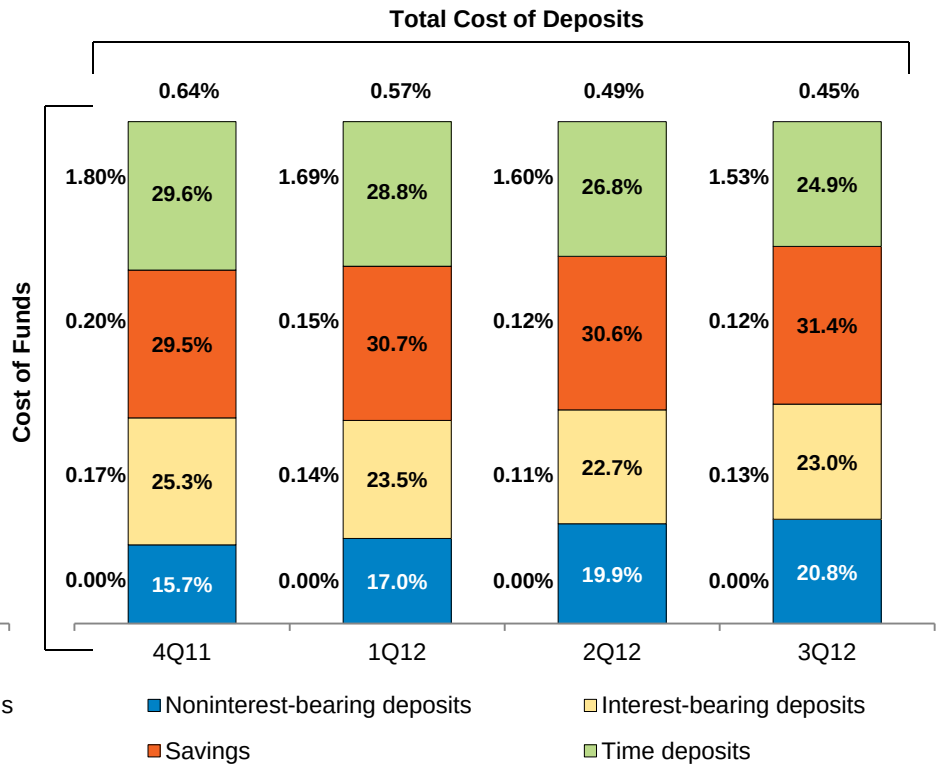


Funding Structure and Cost of Funds

Average Balances – Total Interest Bearing Liability Composition



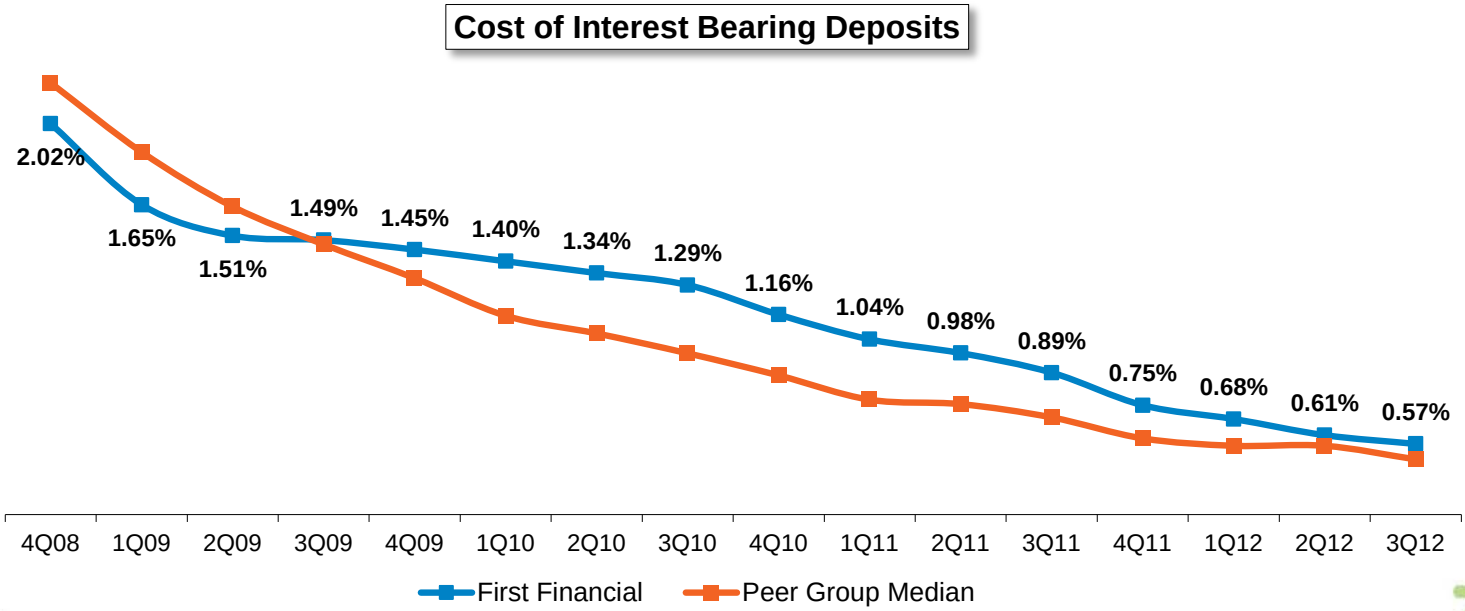
Average Balances – Deposit Composition



(1) Not included in cost of funds calculation

Cost of Interest Bearing Deposits

- Cost of interest-bearing deposits declined 4 basis points to 0.57% as a result of rationalization strategies
- Approximately 30% of total time deposits represent single service relationships with a weighted average cost of 1.78%
- Retained single service time deposits are renewing at rates no higher than 35 basis points



Peer Group comprised of the component banks within the KBW Regional Bank Index (49 total companies excluding First Financial); based on most recent financial information as of November 28, 2012.

Source: Peer Group median data obtained from SNL Financial

Covered Loan Activity

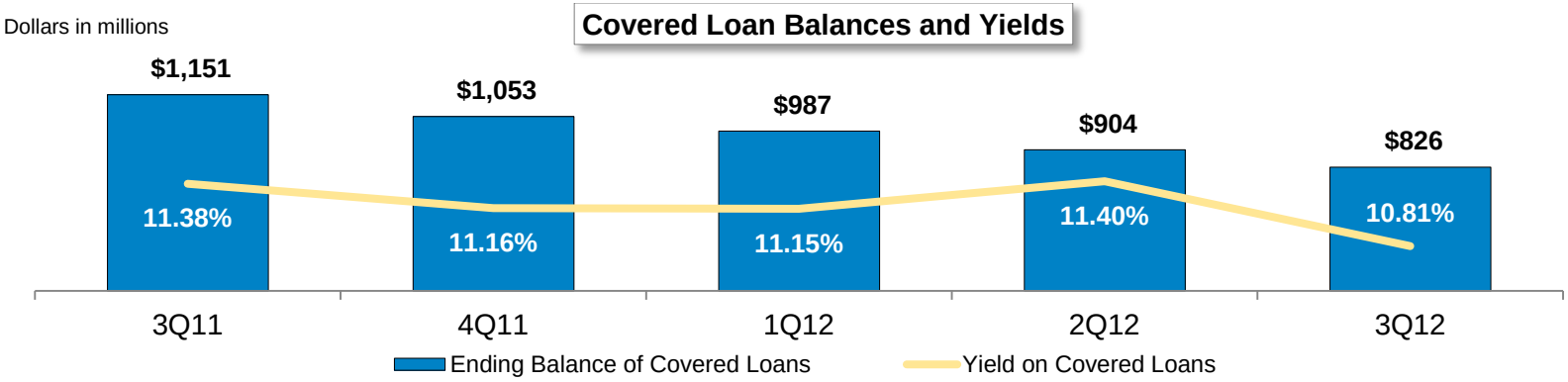
- The majority of the loans acquired as part of the FDIC-assisted transactions are accounted for under ASC Topic 310-30 which requires the Company to periodically update its forecast of expected cash flows from these loans.
- As of September 30, 2012, the allowance for loan and lease losses attributed to valuation of loans accounted for under ASC Topic 310-30 was $48.9 million, an increase of $0.6 million from the second quarter 2012. Expected payments from the FDIC, in the form of FDIC loss sharing income, offset approximately 80% of the recorded impairment and charge-offs.
- Covered loans continue to maintain yields significantly higher than the Company's uncovered loan portfolio.

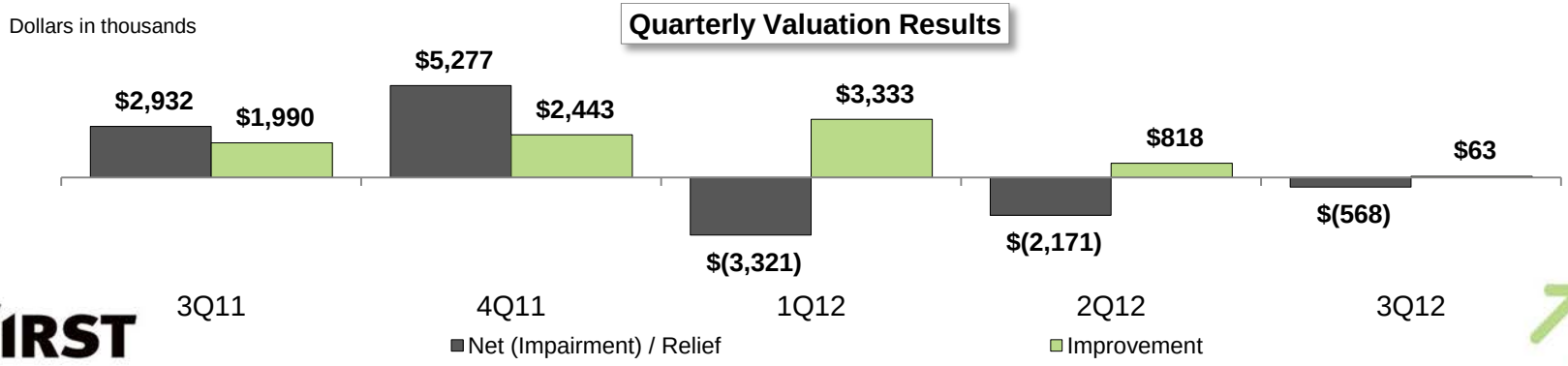
		Third Quarter 2012 Results					
(Dollars in thousands)	Balance as of Sep. 30, 2012	Current Period Impairment	Impairment Recapture / Relief	Net Current Period Impairment	Improvement	Projected Wtd. Avg. Rate	Life-to-Date Avg. Rate	Day 1 Projected Rate
Total loans	$ 759,681	$ 5,287	$ (4,719)	$ 568	$ 63	10.72% [1]		
Allowance for loan and lease losses	(48,895)	-	-	-	-	0.74%		
Total net loans	$ 710,786	$ 5,287	$ (4,719)	$ 568 [3]	$ 63	11.46% [2]	10.83%	9.10%
FDIC indemnification asset	$ 130,476	NA	NA	NA	NA	(5.19%)	0.79%	6.50%
				Weighted average yield		8.88%	9.43%	8.75%

[1] The actual yield realized may be different than the projected yield due to activity that occurs after the periodic valuation.
[2] Accretion rates are applied to the net carrying value of the loan which includes the allowance for loan and lease losses.
[3] Covered loan provision expense of $6.6 million was comprised of net charge-offs during the period of $6.1 million and net impairment / (relief) of $0.6 million.

Covered Loan Performance

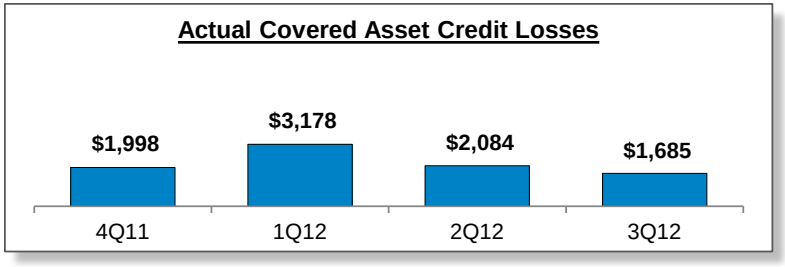
- While covered loans continue to decline, better than expected performance has resulted in a consistently high yield on the portfolio
- Improvement and impairment result from quarterly re-estimation of cash flows expectations; net present value of expected cash flows are influenced by the amount and timing of such cash flows





Components of Covered Asset Credit Losses

(Dollars in thousands)	For the three months ended September 30, 2012	Description
Net incremental impairment for period	$568	Reduction in expected cash flows related to certain loan pools net of prior period impairment relief / recapture
Net charge-offs	6,054	Represents actual net charge-offs of the recorded investment in covered loans during the period [1]
Provision for loan and lease losses - covered	6,622	
Loss on sale - covered OREO	(25)	
Other credit-related expenses	3,584	
Total gross credit losses	$10,181	
FDIC loss share income (Noninterest income)	$8,496	Represents receivable due from FDIC on estimated credit losses; calculated as approximately 80% of gross credit losses related to covered assets
	$1,685	Difference between these two amounts represents actual credit costs for the period



[1] Investment in covered loans originally recorded at less than unpaid principal balance to reflect anticipated credit losses at time of acquisition

Reinvestment of Covered Loan Proceeds

Dollars in thousands	As of September 30, 2012
Recorded investment [1]	$825,515
Unamortized discount	110,101
Unpaid principal balance	$935,616

[1] Total balance of loans covered under loss share agreements.

What happens when the covered loan portfolio pays down?

If all covered loans repaid today at 100% UPB, this is the amount of cash that would be received and reinvested in other interest-earning assets

Interest Income Comparison

- *The "Bear Case" assumes cash proceeds from repayment of covered loans are used to purchase investment securities. The "Bull Case" assumes proceeds are used to fund loan growth.*

Dollars in thousands	Covered Loans	FDIC Indemn. Asset	"Bear Case" Reinvested in Investments	"Bull Case" Reinvested in New Loans
Balance	$825,515	$130,476	$935,616	$935,616
Yield on asset [2]	10.81%	(5.01%)	1.65%	3.95%
Annualized interest income			$15,438	$36,957
Annualized after-tax interest income per diluted share [3]			**$0.17**	**$0.41**

[2] Based on current or prospective asset yields as of the date of this presentation; "Bear Case" investment yield assumes purchases of securities consistent with current portfolio

[3] Based on third quarter 2012 average diluted common shares outstanding of 58,940,179; tax rate of 35% applied

Comparison of Financial Impact

The tables below present a comparison of the impact on diluted earnings per share under various scenarios

Extreme Cases

- If all acquired loans were to prepay immediately, diluted EPS would benefit by **$0.47** per share as of the third quarter 2012
- The absolute worst case scenario – a 100% loss on all acquired loans – would negatively impact diluted EPS by **$1.17** per share as of the third quarter 2012

Best Estimate

If only ASC Topic 310-30 loans were to pay as expected, the benefit to after-tax revenue per diluted share would be **$2.68**, earned over the *remaining* life of the portfolio. Current *weighted average* life is approximately 3.4 years.

Extreme Scenarios - All Acquired Loans

Recognition of Noninterest Income
Assumes All Acquired Loans Prepay Immediately

	As of	
Dollars in millions	9/30/12	6/30/12
Unamortized discount	$110	$133
FDIC indemnification asset [1]	(116)	(121)
Allowance for loan losses - covered	49	48
Discount net of indemnification asset and allowance	$43	$60

Estimated Maximum Credit Loss Exposure
Assumes 100% Loss on Total UPB

	As of	
Dollars in millions	9/30/12	6/30/12
FFBC share of stated loss threshold	$107	$109
FFBC share of max. additional losses	42	48
Maximum possible credit loss	149	157
FDIC indemnification asset [1]	116	121
Unamortized discount	(110)	(133)
Allowance for loan losses - acquired	(49)	(48)
Adjusted max. possible credit loss	$106	$97

Payment as Expected

Recognition of Interest Income
Assumes Loans Amortize Over Expected Life

	As of	
Dollars in millions	9/30/12	6/30/12
Total expected cash flows	$1,013	$1,120
Recorded investment	762	837
Total accretable difference	251	283
FDIC indemnification asset [3]	(8)	(8)
Total net accretable difference	$243	$275

Impact of immediate recognition of unamortized discount on after-tax diluted earnings per share [2]	**$0.47**	**$0.66**
Impact of immediate recognition of additional credit losses on after-tax diluted earnings per share [2]	**($1.17)**	**($1.07)**
Impact of accretable difference on after-tax revenue per diluted share over the expected life of the loans [2]	**$2.68**	**$3.03**

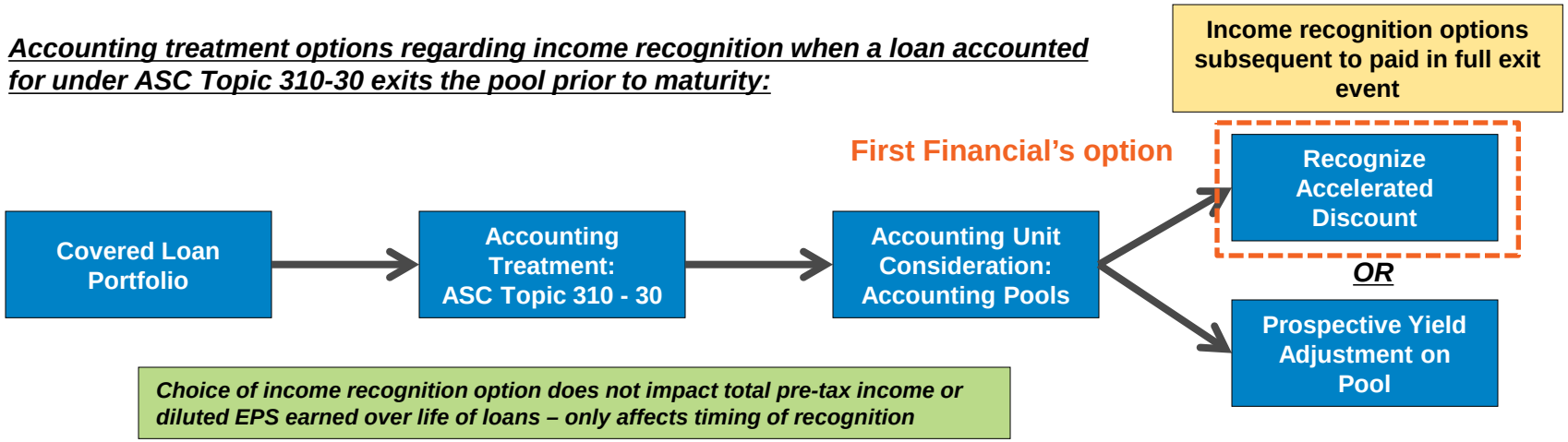
[1] Represents the amount presented on the balance sheet less claims submitted to the FDIC but not yet received and FDIC indemnification related to OREO

[2] Based on third quarter 2012 average diluted common shares outstanding of 58,940,179 and second quarter 2012 average diluted common shares outstanding of 58,958,279; tax rate of 35% applied

[3] Projected amortization of FDIC indemnification asset over average expected life of portfolio

Accounting for Covered Loans

Accounting treatment options regarding income recognition when a loan accounted for under ASC Topic 310-30 exits the pool prior to maturity:



Estimated net interest margin and diluted earnings per share assuming accelerated discount was recognized as a prospective yield adjustment on accounting pools:

	Pro Forma Net Interest Margin		Pro Forma Diluted Earnings Per Share			
			Second Quarter 2012		Third Quarter 2012	
Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts	Second Quarter 2012	Third Quarter 2012	Pre-Tax	EPS [2]	Pre-Tax	EPS [2]
Actual	**4.49%**	**4.21%**		**$0.30**		**$0.28**
Incremental interest income [1]	$4,078	$4,357	$4,078	0.04	$4,357	0.03
Recognized accelerated discount	-	-	(3,764)	(0.04)	(3,798)	(0.02)
Average earning assets	5,813,267	5,658,059	-	-	-	-
Incremental net interest margin	0.28%	0.31%				
Pro forma	**4.77%**	**4.52%**		**$0.30**		**$0.29**

[1] Assumes accelerated discount recognized to date is added back to the accounting pools and accreted into income based on the weighted average life of the pools as of the applicable quarter the accelerated discount was recorded

[2] Earnings per share impact based on the applicable period's average diluted shares outstanding; tax rate of 35% applied

First Financial Bancorp

Investor Presentation

Third Quarter 2012

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Another step on the path to success

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