



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FirstMerit Reports Fourth Quarter and 2008 Full Year Results

4Q08 EPS of \$0.36 and 2008 EPS of \$1.48 Per Share

Akron, Ohio (January 27, 2009) - FirstMerit Corporation (Nasdaq: FMER) today announced fourth quarter 2008 net income of \$29.1 million, or \$0.36 per diluted share. This compares with \$29.8 million, or \$0.37 per diluted share, for the third quarter 2008 and \$31.5 million, or \$0.39 per diluted share, for the fourth quarter 2007. For the full year 2008, the Company reported net income of \$119.5 million, or \$1.48 per diluted share, compared with \$123.0 million, or \$1.53 per diluted share in 2007.

Returns on average common equity ("ROE") and average assets ("ROA") for the fourth quarter 2008 were 12.47% and 1.08%, respectively, compared with 12.73% and 1.12%, respectively, for the third quarter 2008 and 13.87% and 1.21% for the fourth quarter 2007.

"The fourth quarter and full year 2008 financial results reflect the measured steps we have taken to profitably grow our franchise and maintain the strengths of our balance sheet and integrity of our risk management processes," said Paul G. Greig, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of FirstMerit Corporation. "FirstMerit employees are incented to pursue organic growth opportunities and develop business relationships aligned with our highest standards of credit quality. We have also managed our business to ensure our future growth is supported with ample liquidity and capital levels in the face of uncertain challenges in today's economy."

Mr. Greig said, "Our bankers took advantage of growth opportunities in 2008 stemming from severe market disruption in Northeast Ohio and generated robust commercial loan growth. The 11.3% increase in average commercial loans at the end of the fourth quarter of 2008 compared with the prior year quarter was matched with 9.2% growth in our average core deposits for the same time period, highlighting our ability to execute on the super community banking model and to develop deep and profitable banking relationships with new and existing customers."

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Average loans during the fourth quarter of 2008 increased \$83.9 million, or 1.15%, compared with the third quarter of 2008 and increased \$414.7 million, or 5.97%, compared with the fourth quarter of 2007. Increases in the respective periods were due to average commercial loan growth of \$104.2 million, or 2.50%, and \$433.9 million, or 11.30%.

Average deposits were \$7.7 billion during the fourth quarter of 2008, up \$346.2 million, or 4.73%, compared with the third quarter of 2008, and an increase of \$332.7 million, or 4.53%, compared with the fourth quarter of 2007. For the fourth quarter 2008, average core deposits (which are defined as checking accounts, savings accounts and money market savings products) increased \$202.6 million, or 4.41%, compared with the third quarter 2008 and \$403.0 million, or 9.16%, compared with the fourth quarter 2007. Core deposits represented 62.57% of total average deposits, compared with 62.76% for the third quarter 2008 and 59.92% for the fourth quarter 2007. The increase in both periods reflects success stemming from strategic retail and business marketing campaigns for core deposits within the Company's regional banking areas.

The Company's investment portfolio yield increased in the fourth quarter of 2008, to 5.01%, compared with 4.97% in the third quarter of 2008, and increased from 4.99% in the fourth quarter of 2007. The increased investment portfolio yields contributed to net interest margin expansion in both periods.

Net interest margin was 3.82% for the fourth quarter of 2008 compared with 3.78% for the third quarter of 2008 and 3.66% for the fourth quarter of 2007. Lower funding costs supported margin expansion over both periods.

Net interest income on a fully tax-equivalent ("FTE") basis was \$94.9 million in the fourth quarter 2008 compared with \$92.7 million in the third quarter of 2008 and \$87.6 million in the fourth quarter of 2007. The increases in FTE net interest income compared with those two periods resulted from expansion in the net interest margin due to decreased liability costs.

Noninterest income net of securities transactions for the fourth quarter of 2008 was \$51.2 million, an increase of \$4.2 million, or 8.95%, from the third quarter of 2008 and an increase of \$2.4 million, or 4.85%, from the fourth quarter of 2007. In the fourth quarter of 2008 the Company recorded \$5.8 million of other income from the sale of Class B Visa Inc. stock. Noninterest income, net of securities gains, as a percentage of net revenue for the fourth quarter of 2008 was 35.07% compared with 33.67% for third quarter of 2008 and 35.80% for the fourth quarter of 2007. Net revenue is defined as net interest income, on an FTE basis, plus other income, less gains from securities sales.

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Noninterest expense for the fourth quarter of 2008 was \$88.2 million, an increase of \$7.6 million, or 9.47%, from the third quarter of 2008 and an increase of \$4.9 million, or 5.94%, from the fourth quarter of 2007. In the fourth quarter of 2008 the Company recorded \$4.0 million of other expense related to an accrual for litigation, \$0.4 million in severance cost from a reduction in force during the quarter and \$1.1 million related to foreclosed property. For 2008, operating expenses increased \$0.4 million, or 0.12%, compared with 2007, reflecting the success of the Company's strategy to fully rationalize costs throughout the organization. For the fourth quarter of 2008, the efficiency ratio was 60.34%, compared with 57.64% for the third quarter of 2008 and 60.85% for the fourth quarter of 2007.

Net charge-offs totaled \$15.2 million, or 0.82% of average loans, in the fourth quarter of 2008 compared with \$11.8 million, or 0.64% of average loans, in the third quarter 2008 and \$8.9 million, or 0.51% of average loans, in the fourth quarter of 2007.

Nonperforming assets totaled \$57.5 million at December 31, 2008, an increase of \$14.0 million, or 32.27%, compared with September 30, 2008. Nonperforming assets at December 31, 2008 represented 0.77% of period-end loans plus other real estate compared with 0.59% at September 30, 2008.

The allowance for loan losses totaled \$103.8 million at December 31, 2008, an increase of \$1.8 million from September 30, 2008. At December 31, 2008, the allowance for loan losses was 1.40% of period-end loans compared with 1.38% at September 30, 2008. The allowance for credit losses is the sum of the allowance for loan losses and the reserve for unfunded lending commitments. For comparative purposes the allowance for credit losses was 1.49% at December 31, 2008 compared with 1.47% at September 30, 2008. The allowance for credit losses to nonperforming loans was 211.38% at December 31, 2008, compared with 281.28% at September 30, 2008.

FirstMerit's total assets at December 31, 2008 were \$11.1 billion, an increase of \$415.2 million, or 3.89%, compared with September 30, 2008 and an increase of \$699.4 million, or 6.72%, compared with December 31, 2007. Investment securities increased \$322.6 million, or 13.17%, and commercial loans increased \$79.7 million, or 1.86%, compared with September 30, 2008. Commercial loans increased \$446.3 million, or 11.42%, compared with December 31, 2007, contributing to the majority of asset growth over the prior year period.

Total deposits were \$7.6 billion at December 31, 2008, an increase of \$167.1 million, or 2.25%, from September 30, 2008 and an increase of \$265.9 million, or 3.63%, from December 31, 2007. Core deposits totaled \$4.8 billion at December 31, 2008, an increase of \$225.6 million, or 4.91%, from September 30, 2008 and an increase of \$310.9 million, or 6.90%, from December 31, 2007.

Shareholders' equity was \$937.8 million at December 31, 2008, compared with \$926.1 million at September 30, 2008, and \$917.0 million at December 31, 2007. The Company maintained a strong capital position as tangible common equity to assets was 7.27% at December 31, 2008, compared with 7.45% at September 30, 2008 and 7.56% at December 31, 2007. The common dividend per share paid in the fourth quarter 2008 was \$0.29.

On January 9, 2009, FirstMerit completed the sale to the United States Department of the Treasury (the "Treasury") of \$125.0 million of newly issued FirstMerit non-voting preferred shares as part of the Treasury's Troubled Assets Relief Program Capital Purchase Program ("CPP"). All of the proceeds from this sale of the Series A Preferred Shares and the Warrant by FirstMerit to the Treasury will qualify as Tier I capital for regulatory purposes. The additional capital would have increased its Tier 1 capital ratio to 11.49% at December 31, 2008, and increased its total capital ratio to 13.09% at December 31, 2008.

Fourth quarter 2008 Conference Call

FirstMerit will host an earnings conference call today at 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) to provide an overview of fourth quarter results and highlights. To participate in the conference call, please dial (888) 693-3477 ten minutes before start time and provide the reservation number: 79853842. A replay of the conference call will be available at approximately 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time), on January 27, 2009 through February 4, 2009, by dialing (800) 642-1687, and entering the PIN: 79853842.

About FirstMerit

FirstMerit Corporation is a diversified financial services company headquartered in Akron, Ohio, with assets of \$11.1 billion as of December 31, 2008 and 160 banking offices and 182 ATMs in 25 Ohio and Western Pennsylvania counties. FirstMerit provides a complete range of banking and other financial services to consumers and businesses through its core operations. Principal wholly-owned subsidiaries include: FirstMerit Bank, N.A., FirstMerit Mortgage Corporation, FirstMerit Title Agency, Ltd., and FirstMerit Community Development Corporation.

Forward-Looking Statement: This release contains forward-looking statements relating to present or future trends or factors affecting the banking industry, and specifically the financial condition and results of operations, including without limitation, statements relating to the earnings outlook of the Company, as well as its operations, markets and products. Actual results could differ materially from those indicated. Among the important factors that could cause results to differ materially are interest rate changes, continued softening in the economy, which could materially impact credit quality trends and the ability to generate loans, changes in the mix of the Company's business, competitive pressures, changes in accounting, tax or regulatory practices or requirements and those risk factors detailed in the Company's periodic reports and registration statements filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company undertakes no obligation to release revisions to these forward-looking statements or reflect events or circumstances after the date of this release.

FIRSTMERIT CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Financial Highlights

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands)


Quarters

	Quarters				
	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007
EARNINGS	4th Qtr	3rd Qtr	2nd Qtr	1st Qtr	4th Qtr
Net interest income FTE (a)	\$ 94,855	\$ 92,659	\$ 88,956	\$ 85,695	\$ 87,647
Provision for loan losses	16,986	15,531	14,565	11,521	9,334
Other income	52,795	47,029	48,758	52,854	49,993
Other expenses	88,240	80,609	80,550	81,234	83,295
FTE adjustment (a)	1,617	1,538	1,425	1,396	1,486
Net income	29,136	29,753	29,153	31,443	31,459
Diluted EPS	0.36	0.37	0.36	0.39	0.39
PERFORMANCE RATIOS					
Return on average assets (ROA)	1.08%	1.12%	1.11%	1.22%	1.21%
Return on average common equity (ROE)	12.47%	12.73%	12.31%	13.56%	13.87%
Net interest margin FTE (a)	3.82%	3.78%	3.69%	3.60%	3.66%
Efficiency ratio	60.34%	57.64%	58.38%	58.69%	60.85%
Number of full-time equivalent employees	2,575	2,614	2,679	2,676	2,688
MARKET DATA					
Book value/common share	\$ 11.58	\$ 11.44	\$ 11.43	\$ 11.59	\$ 11.39
Period-end common share mkt value	20.59	21.00	16.31	20.66	20.01
Market as a % of book	178%	184%	143%	178%	176%
Cash dividends/common share	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.29
Common stock dividend payout ratio	80.56%	78.38%	80.56%	74.36%	74.36%
Average basic common shares	80,972	80,869	80,855	80,655	80,477
Average diluted common shares	80,981	80,896	80,898	80,722	80,595
Period end common shares	80,960	80,974	80,846	80,879	80,482
Common shares repurchased	61,329	42,429	34,380	5,426	6,066
Common stock market capitalization	\$ 1,666,966	\$ 1,700,454	\$ 1,318,598	\$ 1,670,960	\$ 1,610,445
ASSET QUALITY					
Gross charge-offs	\$ 17,932	\$ 14,957	\$ 14,830	\$ 14,669	\$ 11,768
Net charge-offs	15,236	11,763	10,737	11,315	8,940
Allowance for loan losses	103,757	102,007	98,239	94,411	94,205
Reserve for unfunded lending commitments	6,588	6,493	7,310	7,903	7,394
Nonperforming assets (NPAs)	57,526	43,491	41,639	35,301	37,262
Net charge-offs/average loans ratio	0.82%	0.64%	0.60%	0.65%	0.51%
Allowance for loan losses/period-end loans	1.40%	1.38%	1.36%	1.33%	1.35%
Allowance for credit losses/period-end loans	1.49%	1.47%	1.46%	1.45%	1.45%
NPAs/loans and other real estate	0.77%	0.59%	0.57%	0.50%	0.53%
Allowance for loan losses/nonperforming loans	198.76%	264.45%	268.52%	318.89%	299.70%
Allowance for credit losses/nonperforming loans	211.38%	281.28%	288.50%	345.59%	323.22%
CAPITAL & LIQUIDITY					
Period-end tangible equity to assets	7.27%	7.45%	7.52%	7.68%	7.56%
Average equity to assets	8.66%	8.79%	9.06%	8.98%	8.72%
Average equity to loans	12.62%	12.76%	13.34%	13.27%	12.94%
Average loans to deposits	96.01%	99.40%	97.29%	95.82%	94.71%
AVERAGE BALANCES					
Assets	\$ 10,731,029	\$ 10,569,496	\$ 10,520,469	\$ 10,388,359	\$ 10,313,707
Deposits	7,672,560	7,326,364	7,339,506	7,330,097	7,339,827
Loans	7,366,246	7,282,333	7,140,627	7,023,928	6,951,544
Earning assets	9,876,488	9,755,812	9,704,252	9,581,121	9,493,271
Shareholders' equity	929,788	929,495	952,769	932,405	899,624
ENDING BALANCES					
Assets	\$ 11,100,026	\$ 10,684,845	\$ 10,564,752	\$ 10,516,828	\$ 10,400,666
Deposits	7,597,679	7,430,556	7,277,184	7,422,678	7,331,739
Loans	7,425,613	7,381,592	7,240,882	7,072,797	7,001,886
Goodwill	139,245	139,245	139,245	139,245	139,245
Intangible assets	1,403	1,490	1,577	1,754	1,977
Earning assets	10,209,602	9,840,951	9,724,859	9,688,270	9,509,680
Total shareholders' equity	937,843	926,078	924,429	937,439	916,977

NOTES:

(a) - Net interest income on a fully tax-equivalent ("FTE") basis restates interest on tax-exempt securities and loans as if such interest were subject to federal income tax at the statutory rate. Net interest income on an FTE basis is not an accounting principle generally accepted in the United States of America.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

FIRSTMERIT CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

ASSETS	December 31,	
	2008	2007
	(In thousands)	
Cash and due from banks	\$ 178,406	\$ 207,335
Investment securities (at market value) and federal funds sold	2,772,848	2,460,453
Loans held for sale	11,141	47,341
Loans:		
Commercial loans	4,352,730	3,906,448
Mortgage loans	547,125	577,219
Installment loans	1,574,587	1,598,832
Home equity loans	733,832	691,922
Credit card loans	149,745	153,732
Leases	67,594	73,733
Total loans	7,425,613	7,001,886
Allowance for loan losses	(103,757)	(94,205)
Net loans	7,321,856	6,907,681
Premises and equipment, net	133,184	130,469
Goodwill	139,245	139,245
Other intangible assets	1,403	1,977
Accrued interest receivable and other assets	541,943	506,165
Total assets	\$ 11,100,026	\$ 10,400,666
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Deposits:		
Demand-non-interest bearing	\$ 1,637,534	\$ 1,482,480
Demand-interest bearing	666,615	727,966
Savings and money market accounts	2,512,331	2,295,147
Certificates and other time deposits	2,781,199	2,826,146
Total deposits	7,597,679	7,331,739
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	921,390	1,256,080
Wholesale borrowings	1,344,195	705,121
Accrued taxes, expenses, and other liabilities	298,919	190,749
Total liabilities	10,162,183	9,483,689
Commitments and contingencies		
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, without par value:		
authorized and unissued 7,000,000 shares	---	---
Preferred stock, Series A, without par value:		
designated 800,000 shares; none outstanding	---	---
Convertible preferred stock, Series B, without par value:		
designated 220,000 shares; none outstanding	---	---
Common stock, without par value:		
authorized 300,000,000 shares; issued 92,026,350 at		
December 31, 2008 and 2007	127,937	127,937
Capital surplus	94,802	100,028
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(54,080)	(43,085)
Retained earnings	1,053,435	1,027,775
Treasury stock, at cost, 11,066,108 and 11,543,882 shares,		
at December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively	(284,251)	(295,678)
Total shareholders' equity	937,843	916,977
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 11,100,026	\$ 10,400,666

FIRSTMERIT CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
AVERAGE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS



Quarterly Periods

(Unaudited)					
(Dollars in thousands)	December 31, 2008	September 30, 2008	June 30, 2008	March 31, 2008	December 31, 2007
ASSETS					
Cash and due from banks	\$ 192,804	\$ 171,370	\$ 173,044	\$ 171,028	\$ 175,164
Investment securities/fed funds sold	2,501,346	2,461,431	2,515,546	2,508,125	2,494,975
Loans held for sale	8,896	12,048	48,079	49,068	46,752
Loans:					
Commercial loans	4,273,123	4,168,951	4,069,305	3,941,573	3,839,242
Mortgage loans	555,713	569,293	577,178	584,000	581,370
Installment loans	1,596,053	1,617,265	1,584,825	1,587,267	1,615,035
Home equity loans	722,466	709,365	692,567	686,603	696,259
Credit card loans	150,133	147,924	147,242	150,575	149,466
Leases	68,758	69,535	69,510	73,910	70,172
Total loans	<u>7,366,246</u>	<u>7,282,333</u>	<u>7,140,627</u>	<u>7,023,928</u>	<u>6,951,544</u>
Less allowance for loan losses	<u>100,898</u>	<u>98,091</u>	<u>94,002</u>	<u>93,804</u>	<u>92,667</u>
Net loans	7,265,348	7,184,242	7,046,625	6,930,124	6,858,877
Total earning assets	9,876,488	9,755,812	9,704,252	9,581,121	9,493,271
Premises and equipment, net	130,511	127,267	126,488	128,185	132,129
Accrued interest receivable and other assets	<u>632,124</u>	<u>613,138</u>	<u>610,687</u>	<u>601,829</u>	<u>605,810</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 10,731,029</u>	<u>\$ 10,569,496</u>	<u>\$ 10,520,469</u>	<u>\$ 10,388,359</u>	<u>\$ 10,313,707</u>
LIABILITIES					
Deposits:					
Demand-non-interest bearing	\$ 1,607,901	\$ 1,545,427	\$ 1,518,841	\$ 1,446,889	\$ 1,435,358
Demand-interest bearing	658,208	678,803	709,922	702,115	699,675
Savings and money market accounts	2,534,702	2,373,995	2,366,296	2,318,899	2,262,818
Certificates and other time deposits	<u>2,871,749</u>	<u>2,728,139</u>	<u>2,744,447</u>	<u>2,862,194</u>	<u>2,941,976</u>
Total deposits	7,672,560	7,326,364	7,339,506	7,330,097	7,339,827
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	1,168,438	1,504,011	1,312,436	1,310,364	1,517,241
Wholesale borrowings	<u>766,358</u>	<u>634,226</u>	<u>711,132</u>	<u>618,572</u>	<u>369,685</u>
Total funds	9,607,356	9,464,601	9,363,074	9,259,033	9,226,753
Accrued taxes, expenses and other liabilities	<u>193,885</u>	<u>175,400</u>	<u>204,626</u>	<u>196,921</u>	<u>187,330</u>
Total liabilities	9,801,241	9,640,001	9,567,700	9,455,954	9,414,083
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY					
Preferred stock	-	-	-	-	-
Common stock	127,937	127,937	127,937	127,937	127,937
Capital surplus	93,761	93,381	92,313	96,048	99,749
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income	(62,018)	(54,000)	(40,757)	(32,170)	(60,430)
Retained earnings	1,053,992	1,048,452	1,059,840	1,032,036	1,028,170
Treasury stock	<u>(283,884)</u>	<u>(286,275)</u>	<u>(286,564)</u>	<u>(291,446)</u>	<u>(295,802)</u>
Total shareholders' equity	<u>929,788</u>	<u>929,495</u>	<u>952,769</u>	<u>932,405</u>	<u>899,624</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	<u>\$ 10,731,029</u>	<u>\$ 10,569,496</u>	<u>\$ 10,520,469</u>	<u>\$ 10,388,359</u>	<u>\$ 10,313,707</u>

AVERAGE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)
Fully-tax Equivalent Interest Rates and Interest Differential

**FIRSTMERIT CORPORATION AND
SUBSIDIARIES**

	Three months ended			Year ended			Three months ended		
	December 31, 2008			December 31, 2007			December 31, 2007		
	Average Balance	Interest	Average Rate	Average Balance	Interest	Average Rate	Average Balance	Interest	Average Rate
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>									
ASSETS									
Cash and due from banks	\$ 192,804			\$ 178,164			\$ 175,164		
Investment securities and federal funds sold:									
U.S. Treasury securities and U.S. Government agency obligations (taxable)	1,971,257	23,984	4.84%	1,955,049	85,544	4.38%	1,977,627	22,949	4.60%
Obligations of states and political subdivisions (tax exempt)	316,220	4,804	6.04%	255,461	15,595	6.10%	276,989	4,249	6.09%
Other securities and federal funds sold	213,869	2,720	5.06%	244,749	17,127	7.00%	240,359	4,154	6.86%
Total investment securities and federal funds sold	2,501,346	31,508	5.01%	2,455,259	118,266	4.82%	2,494,975	31,352	4.99%
Loans held for sale	8,896	100	4.47%	56,036	3,050	5.44%	46,752	760	6.45%
Loans	7,366,246	105,390	5.69%	6,971,464	521,172	7.48%	6,951,544	127,343	7.27%
Total earning assets	9,876,488	136,998	5.52%	9,482,759	642,488	6.78%	9,493,271	159,455	6.66%
Allowance for loan losses	(100,898)			(92,662)			(92,667)		
Other assets	762,635			750,527			737,939		
Total assets	\$ 10,731,029			\$ 10,318,788			\$ 10,313,707		
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY									
Deposits:									
Demand - non-interest bearing	\$ 1,607,901	--	--	\$ 1,408,726	--	--	\$ 1,435,358	--	--
Demand - interest bearing	658,208	370	0.22%	733,410	6,824	0.93%	699,675	1,352	0.77%
Savings and money market accounts	2,534,702	6,764	1.06%	2,266,070	54,166	2.39%	2,262,818	12,667	2.22%
Certificates and other time deposits	2,871,749	23,816	3.30%	3,045,715	146,559	4.81%	2,941,976	35,290	4.76%
Total deposits	7,672,560	30,950	1.60%	7,453,921	207,549	2.78%	7,339,827	49,309	2.67%
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	1,168,438	3,752	1.28%	1,471,785	71,298	4.84%	1,517,241	16,994	4.44%
Wholesale borrowings	766,358	7,441	3.86%	326,460	20,601	6.31%	369,685	5,505	5.91%
Total interest bearing liabilities	7,999,455	42,143	2.10%	7,843,440	299,448	3.82%	7,791,395	71,808	3.66%
Other liabilities	193,885			191,096			187,330		
Shareholders' equity	929,788			875,526			899,624		
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 10,731,029			\$ 10,318,788			\$ 10,313,707		
Net yield on earning assets	\$ 9,876,488	94,855	3.82%	\$ 9,482,759	343,040	3.62%	\$ 9,493,271	87,647	3.66%
Interest rate spread			3.42%			2.96%			3.00%

Note: Interest income on tax-exempt securities and loans has been adjusted to a fully-taxable equivalent basis.
Nonaccrual loans have been included in the average balances

AVERAGE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)
Fully-tax Equivalent Interest Rates and Interest Differential

**FIRSTMERIT CORPORATION AND
SUBSIDIARIES**

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	Twelve months ended			Twelve months ended		
	December 31, 2008			December 31, 2007		
	Average Balance	Interest	Average Rate	Average Balance	Interest	Average Rate
ASSETS						
Cash and due from banks	\$ 177,089			178,164		
Investment securities and federal funds sold:						
U.S. Treasury securities and U.S. Government agency obligations (taxable)	1,985,026	94,260	4.75%	1,955,049	85,544	4.38%
Obligations of states and political subdivisions (tax exempt)	294,724	17,910	6.08%	255,461	15,595	6.10%
Other securities and federal funds sold	216,794	11,326	5.22%	244,749	17,127	7.00%
Total investment securities and federal funds sold	2,496,544	123,496	4.95%	2,455,259	118,266	4.82%
Loans held for sale	29,419	1,602	5.45%	56,036	3,050	5.44%
Loans	7,203,946	434,704	6.03%	6,971,464	521,172	7.48%
Total earning assets	9,729,909	559,802	5.75%	9,482,759	642,488	6.78%
Allowance for loan losses	(96,714)			(92,662)		
Other assets	739,158			750,527		
Total assets	\$ 10,549,442			10,318,788		
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY						
Deposits:						
Demand - non-interest bearing	\$ 1,530,021	--	--	1,408,726	--	--
Demand - interest bearing	687,160	2,514	0.37%	733,410	6,824	0.93%
Savings and money market accounts	2,398,778	29,839	1.24%	2,266,070	54,166	2.39%
Certificates and other time deposits	2,801,623	105,853	3.78%	3,045,715	146,559	4.81%
Total deposits	7,417,582	138,206	1.86%	7,453,921	207,549	2.78%
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	1,343,441	31,857	2.37%	1,471,785	71,298	4.84%
Wholesale borrowings	663,109	27,574	4.16%	326,460	20,601	6.31%
Total interest bearing liabilities	7,894,111	197,637	2.50%	7,843,440	299,448	3.82%
Other liabilities	189,222			191,096		
Shareholders' equity	936,088			875,526		
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 10,549,442			10,318,788		
Net yield on earning assets	\$ 9,729,909	362,165	3.72%	9,482,759	343,040	3.62%
Interest rate spread			3.25%			2.96%

Note: Interest income on tax-exempt securities and loans has been adjusted to a fully-taxable equivalent basis.
Nonaccrual loans have been included in the average balances.

FIRSTMERIT CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(Unaudited)	Quarters ended		Twelve months ended	
(In thousands except per share data)	December 31,		December 31,	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Interest income:				
Interest and fees on loans, including held for sale	\$ 105,463	\$ 128,078	\$ 436,194	\$ 524,103
Interest and dividends on investment securities and federal funds sold	29,918	29,891	117,632	112,891
Total interest income	<u>135,381</u>	<u>157,969</u>	<u>553,826</u>	<u>636,994</u>
Interest expense:				
Interest on deposits:				
Demand-interest bearing	370	1,352	2,514	6,824
Savings and money market accounts	6,764	12,667	29,839	54,166
Certificates and other time deposits	23,816	35,290	105,853	146,559
Interest on securities sold under agreements to repurchase	3,752	16,994	31,857	71,298
Interest on wholesale borrowings	7,441	5,505	27,574	20,601
Total interest expense	<u>42,143</u>	<u>71,808</u>	<u>197,637</u>	<u>299,448</u>
Net interest income	<u>93,238</u>	<u>86,161</u>	<u>356,189</u>	<u>337,546</u>
Provision for loan losses	16,986	9,334	58,603	30,835
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	<u>76,252</u>	<u>76,827</u>	<u>297,586</u>	<u>306,711</u>
Other income:				
Trust department income	5,291	5,896	22,127	23,245
Service charges on deposits	15,450	17,067	62,862	67,374
Credit card fees	11,667	12,012	47,054	46,502
ATM and other service fees	2,613	3,055	10,894	12,621
Bank owned life insurance income	2,451	3,283	12,008	13,476
Investment services and insurance	1,949	3,121	10,503	11,241
Investment securities gains, net	1,555	1,122	2,126	1,123
Loan sales and servicing income	2,294	1,551	6,940	10,311
Gain on Visa Inc.	5,768	-	13,666	-
Other operating income	3,757	2,886	13,256	11,030
Total other income	<u>52,795</u>	<u>49,993</u>	<u>201,436</u>	<u>196,923</u>
Other expenses:				
Salaries, wages, pension and employee benefits	46,991	43,087	179,463	170,457
Net occupancy expense	5,950	6,284	24,649	25,679
Equipment expense	6,139	6,239	24,137	25,401
Stationery, supplies and postage	2,458	2,388	9,372	9,436
Bankcard, loan processing and other costs	7,359	7,482	29,456	29,781
Professional services	3,261	3,588	11,695	15,865
Amortization of intangibles	87	222	573	889
Other operating expense	15,995	14,005	51,288	52,718
Total other expenses	<u>88,240</u>	<u>83,295</u>	<u>330,633</u>	<u>330,226</u>
Income before federal income tax expense	<u>40,807</u>	<u>43,525</u>	<u>168,389</u>	<u>173,408</u>
Federal income tax expense	11,671	12,066	48,904	50,381
Net income	<u>\$ 29,136</u>	<u>\$ 31,459</u>	<u>\$ 119,485</u>	<u>\$ 123,027</u>
Other comprehensive income, net of taxes				
Unrealized securities' holding gain, net of taxes	\$ 30,296	\$ 11,271	\$ 10,808	\$ 22,716
Unrealized hedging gain (loss), net of taxes	209	(340)	1,342	(1,249)
Minimum pension liability adjustment, net of taxes	(24,384)	13,065	(21,763)	15,686
Less: reclassification adjustment for securities' gain realized in net income, net of taxes	1,011	729	1,382	730
Total other comprehensive income (loss), net of taxes	<u>5,110</u>	<u>23,267</u>	<u>(10,995)</u>	<u>36,423</u>
Comprehensive income	<u>\$ 34,246</u>	<u>\$ 54,726</u>	<u>\$ 108,490</u>	<u>\$ 159,450</u>
Net income applicable to common shares	<u>\$ 29,136</u>	<u>\$ 31,459</u>	<u>\$ 119,485</u>	<u>\$ 123,027</u>
Net income used in diluted EPS calculation	<u>\$ 29,136</u>	<u>\$ 31,463</u>	<u>\$ 119,490</u>	<u>\$ 123,043</u>
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding - basic	<u>80,972</u>	<u>80,477</u>	<u>80,839</u>	<u>80,372</u>
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding - diluted	<u>80,981</u>	<u>80,595</u>	<u>80,876</u>	<u>80,510</u>
Basic earnings per share	<u>\$ 0.36</u>	<u>\$ 0.39</u>	<u>\$ 1.48</u>	<u>\$ 1.53</u>
Diluted earnings per share	<u>\$ 0.36</u>	<u>\$ 0.39</u>	<u>\$ 1.48</u>	<u>\$ 1.53</u>
Dividend per share	<u>\$ 0.29</u>	<u>\$ 0.29</u>	<u>\$ 1.16</u>	<u>\$ 1.16</u>

FIRSTMERIT CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME---LINKED QUARTERS



(Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands, except share data)

	Quarterly Results				
	2008 4th Q	2008 3rd Q	2008 2nd Q	2008 1st Q	2007 4th Q
Interest and fees on loans, including held for sale	\$ 105,463	\$ 107,927	\$ 106,516	\$ 116,288	\$ 128,078
Interest and dividends - securities and federal funds sold	29,918	29,223	29,255	29,236	29,891
Total interest income	<u>135,381</u>	<u>137,150</u>	<u>135,771</u>	<u>145,524</u>	<u>157,969</u>
Interest on deposits:					
Demand-interest bearing	370	589	591	964	1,352
Savings and money market accounts	6,764	6,932	6,500	9,643	12,667
Certificates and other time deposits	23,816	23,463	26,587	31,987	35,290
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	3,752	8,244	8,319	11,542	16,994
Wholesale borrowings	7,441	6,801	6,243	7,089	5,505
Total interest expense	<u>42,143</u>	<u>46,029</u>	<u>48,240</u>	<u>61,225</u>	<u>71,808</u>
Net interest income	<u>93,238</u>	<u>91,121</u>	<u>87,531</u>	<u>84,299</u>	<u>86,161</u>
Provision for loan losses	16,986	15,531	14,565	11,521	9,334
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	<u>76,252</u>	<u>75,590</u>	<u>72,966</u>	<u>72,778</u>	<u>76,827</u>
Other income:					
Trust department income	5,291	5,562	5,824	5,450	5,896
Service charges on deposits	15,450	16,648	16,028	14,736	17,067
Credit card fees	11,667	12,084	12,146	11,157	12,012
ATM and other service fees	2,613	2,717	2,770	2,794	3,055
Bank owned life insurance income	2,451	3,139	3,217	3,201	3,283
Investment services and insurance	1,949	2,899	2,790	2,865	3,121
Investment securities gains (losses), net	1,555	-	47	524	1,122
Loan sales and servicing income	2,294	1,370	1,885	1,391	1,551
Gain on Visa Inc.	5,768	-	-	7,898	-
Other operating income	3,757	2,610	4,051	2,838	2,886
Total other income	<u>52,795</u>	<u>47,029</u>	<u>48,758</u>	<u>52,854</u>	<u>49,993</u>
Other expenses:					
Salaries, wages, pension and employee benefits	46,991	45,043	44,364	43,065	43,087
Net occupancy expense	5,950	5,741	6,204	6,754	6,284
Equipment expense	6,139	5,962	5,842	6,194	6,239
Stationery, supplies and postage	2,458	2,347	2,242	2,325	2,388
Bankcard, loan processing and other costs	7,359	7,497	7,356	7,244	7,482
Professional services	3,261	3,966	2,581	1,887	3,588
Amortization of intangibles	87	86	177	223	222
Other operating expense	15,995	9,967	11,784	13,542	14,005
Total other expenses	<u>88,240</u>	<u>80,609</u>	<u>80,550</u>	<u>81,234</u>	<u>83,295</u>
Income before income tax expense	40,807	42,010	41,174	44,398	43,525
Federal income taxes	11,671	12,257	12,021	12,955	12,066
Net income	<u>\$ 29,136</u>	<u>\$ 29,753</u>	<u>\$ 29,153</u>	<u>\$ 31,443</u>	<u>\$ 31,459</u>
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of taxes	5,110	(7,756)	(19,858)	11,509	23,267
Comprehensive income	<u>\$ 34,246</u>	<u>\$ 21,997</u>	<u>\$ 9,295</u>	<u>\$ 42,952</u>	<u>\$ 54,726</u>
Net income applicable to common shares	<u>\$ 29,136</u>	<u>\$ 29,753</u>	<u>\$ 29,153</u>	<u>\$ 31,443</u>	<u>\$ 31,459</u>
Adjusted net income used in diluted EPS calculation	<u>\$ 29,136</u>	<u>\$ 29,753</u>	<u>\$ 29,154</u>	<u>\$ 31,447</u>	<u>\$ 31,463</u>
Weighted-average common shares - basic	<u>80,972</u>	<u>80,869</u>	<u>80,855</u>	<u>80,655</u>	<u>80,477</u>
Weighted-average common shares - diluted	<u>80,981</u>	<u>80,896</u>	<u>80,898</u>	<u>80,722</u>	<u>80,595</u>
Basic net income per share	<u>\$ 0.36</u>	<u>\$ 0.37</u>	<u>\$ 0.36</u>	<u>\$ 0.39</u>	<u>\$ 0.39</u>
Diluted net income per share	<u>\$ 0.36</u>	<u>\$ 0.37</u>	<u>\$ 0.36</u>	<u>\$ 0.39</u>	<u>\$ 0.39</u>

FIRSTMERIT CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
ASSET QUALITY INFORMATION



(Unaudited, except December 31, 2007 annual period which is derived from the audited financial statements)
(Dollars in thousands, except ratios)

	Quarterly Periods					Annual Period
	Dec 31 2008	Sept 30 2008	Jun 30 2008	Mar 31 2008	Dec 31 2007	Dec 31 2007
Allowance for Credit Losses						
Allowance for loan losses, beginning of period	\$ 102,007	\$ 98,239	\$ 94,411	\$ 94,205	\$ 93,811	\$ 91,342
Provision for loan losses	16,986	15,531	14,565	11,521	9,334	30,835
Charge-offs	17,932	14,957	14,830	14,669	11,768	44,148
Recoveries	2,696	3,194	4,093	3,354	2,828	16,176
Net charge-offs	15,236	11,763	10,737	11,315	8,940	27,972
Allowance for loan losses, end of period	\$ 103,757	\$ 102,007	\$ 98,239	\$ 94,411	\$ 94,205	\$ 94,205
Reserve for unfunded lending commitments, beginning of period	\$ 6,493	\$ 7,310	\$ 7,903	\$ 7,394	\$ 7,409	\$ 6,294
Provision for credit losses	95	(817)	(593)	509	(15)	1,100
Reserve for unfunded lending commitments, end of period	\$ 6,588	\$ 6,493	\$ 7,310	\$ 7,903	\$ 7,394	\$ 7,394
Allowance for Credit Losses	\$ 110,345	\$ 108,500	\$ 105,549	\$ 102,314	\$ 101,599	\$ 101,599
Ratios						
Provision for loan losses as a % of average loans	0.92%	0.85%	0.82%	0.66%	0.53%	0.44%
Provision for credit losses as a % of average loans	0.01%	-0.04%	-0.03%	0.03%	0.00%	0.02%
Net charge-offs as a % of average loans	0.82%	0.64%	0.60%	0.65%	0.51%	0.40%
Allowance for loan losses as a % of period-end loans	1.40%	1.38%	1.36%	1.33%	1.35%	1.35%
Allowance for credit losses as a % of period-end loans	1.49%	1.47%	1.46%	1.45%	1.45%	1.45%
Allowance for loan losses as a % of nonperforming loans	198.76%	264.45%	268.52%	318.89%	299.70%	299.70%
Allowance for credit losses as a % of nonperforming loans	211.38%	281.28%	288.50%	345.59%	323.22%	323.22%
Asset Quality						
Impaired loans:						
Nonaccrual	\$ 40,195	\$ 29,245	\$ 26,702	\$ 19,777	\$ 21,513	\$ 21,513
Other nonperforming loans:						
Nonaccrual	12,007	9,328	9,884	9,829	9,920	9,920
Total nonperforming loans	52,202	38,573	36,586	29,606	31,433	31,433
Other real estate ("ORE")	5,324	4,918	5,053	5,695	5,829	5,829
Total nonperforming assets ("NPAs")	\$ 57,526	\$ 43,491	\$ 41,639	\$ 35,301	\$ 37,262	\$ 37,262
NPAs as % of period-end loans + ORE	0.77%	0.59%	0.57%	0.50%	0.53%	0.53%
Past due 90 days or more & accruing interest	\$ 23,928	\$ 16,241	\$ 10,654	\$ 10,931	\$ 11,702	\$ 11,702

FIRSTMERIT CORPORATION
NONINTEREST INCOME AND NONINTEREST EXPENSE DETAIL



(Unaudited)
(Dollars in thousands)

QUARTERLY OTHER INCOME DETAIL	2008 4th Qtr	2008 3rd Qtr	2008 2nd Qtr	2008 1st Qtr	2007 4th Qtr
Trust department income	\$ 5,291	\$ 5,562	\$ 5,824	\$ 5,450	\$ 5,896
Service charges on deposits	15,450	16,648	16,028	14,736	17,067
Credit card fees	11,667	12,084	12,146	11,157	12,012
ATM and other service fees	2,613	2,717	2,770	2,794	3,055
Bank owned life insurance income	2,451	3,139	3,217	3,201	3,283
Investment services and insurance	1,949	2,899	2,790	2,865	3,121
Investment securities gains (losses), net	1,555	-	47	524	1,122
Loan sales and servicing income	2,294	1,370	1,885	1,391	1,551
Gain on Visa Inc.	5,768	-	-	7,898	-
Other operating income	3,757	2,610	4,051	2,838	2,886
Total Other Income	\$ 52,795	\$ 47,029	\$ 48,758	\$ 52,854	\$ 49,993

QUARTERLY OTHER EXPENSES DETAIL	2008 4th Qtr	2008 3rd Qtr	2008 2nd Qtr	2008 1st Qtr	2007 4th Qtr
Salaries, wages, pension and employee benefits	\$ 46,991	\$ 45,043	\$ 44,364	\$ 43,065	\$ 43,087
Net occupancy expense	5,950	5,741	6,204	6,754	6,284
Equipment expense	6,139	5,962	5,842	6,194	6,239
Taxes, other than federal income taxes	1,463	1,714	1,701	1,702	1,274
Stationery, supplies and postage	2,458	2,347	2,242	2,325	2,388
Bankcard, loan processing and other costs	7,359	7,497	7,356	7,244	7,482
Advertising	1,863	2,476	2,489	2,666	2,989
Professional services	3,261	3,966	2,581	1,887	3,588
Telephone	978	956	994	1,019	1,006
Amortization of intangibles	87	86	177	223	222
Other operating expense	11,691	4,821	6,600	8,155	8,736
Total Other Expenses	\$ 88,240	\$ 80,609	\$ 80,550	\$ 81,234	\$ 83,295

FIRSTMERIT CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
ALLOWANCE FOR LOAN LOSSES - Net Charge-off Detail



(Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands)

	Quarters ended		Year ended	
	December 31,		December 31,	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Allowance for loan losses - beginning of period	\$ 102,007	\$ 93,811	\$ 94,205	\$ 91,342
Loans charged off:				
Commercial	5,591	2,969	16,318	7,856
Mortgage	1,025	958	4,696	5,026
Installment	7,276	4,745	24,740	18,343
Home equity	707	758	4,153	4,151
Credit cards	2,506	2,104	9,821	8,497
Leases	6	-	26	41
Overdrafts	821	234	2,634	234
Total	<u>17,932</u>	<u>11,768</u>	<u>62,388</u>	<u>44,148</u>
Recoveries:				
Commercial	402	357	2,388	4,351
Mortgage	35	36	76	44
Installment	1,473	1,705	7,071	8,021
Home equity	125	182	851	1,265
Credit cards	376	390	1,831	1,842
Manufactured housing	77	71	247	323
Leases	7	43	104	286
Overdrafts	201	44	769	44
Total	<u>2,696</u>	<u>2,828</u>	<u>13,337</u>	<u>16,176</u>
Net charge-offs	15,236	8,940	49,051	27,972
Provision for loan losses	16,986	9,334	58,603	30,835
Allowance for loan losses - end of period	<u>\$ 103,757</u>	<u>\$ 94,205</u>	<u>\$ 103,757</u>	<u>\$ 94,205</u>
Average loans outstanding	<u>\$ 7,366,246</u>	<u>\$ 6,951,544</u>	<u>\$ 7,203,946</u>	<u>\$ 6,971,464</u>
Ratio to average loans:				
(Annualized) net charge-offs	<u>0.82%</u>	<u>0.51%</u>	<u>0.68%</u>	<u>0.40%</u>
Provision for loan losses	<u>0.92%</u>	<u>0.53%</u>	<u>0.81%</u>	<u>0.44%</u>
Loans outstanding - period-end	<u>\$ 7,425,613</u>	<u>\$ 7,001,886</u>	<u>\$ 7,425,613</u>	<u>\$ 7,001,886</u>
Allowance for credit losses:	<u>\$ 110,345</u>	<u>\$ 101,599</u>	<u>\$ 110,345</u>	<u>\$ 101,599</u>
As a multiple of (annualized) net charge-offs	<u>1.82</u>	<u>2.86</u>	<u>2.25</u>	<u>3.63</u>
Allowance for loan losses:				
As a percent of period-end loans outstanding	<u>1.40%</u>	<u>1.35%</u>	<u>1.40%</u>	<u>1.35%</u>
As a multiple of (annualized) net charge-offs	<u>1.71</u>	<u>2.66</u>	<u>2.12</u>	<u>3.37</u>