Ameris Bancorp Announces Fourth Quarter And Full Year 2020 Financial Results

ATLANTA, Jan. 28, 2021 [PRNewswire] -- Ameris Bancorp (Nasdaq: ABCB) (the "Company") today reported net income of \$94.3 million, or \$1.36 per diluted share, for the quarter ended December 31, 2020, compared with \$61.2 million, or \$0.88 per diluted share, for the quarter ended December 31, 2019. The increase in net income is primarily attributable to increases in mortgage banking activity of \$62.0 million and net interest income of \$8.1 million, partially offset by an increase of \$22.8 million in salaries and employee benefits, compared with the fourth quarter of 2019. The Company reported adjusted net income of \$102.0 million, or \$1.47 per diluted share, for the quarter ended December 31, 2020, compared with \$66.6 million, or \$0.96 per diluted share, for the same period in 2019. Adjusted net income excludes after-tax merger and conversion charges, servicing right valuation adjustments, restructuring charges related to branch consolidations and efficiency initiatives, certain legal expenses, (gain) loss on sale of bank premises and expenses related to natural disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic.

For the year ended December 31, 2020, the Company reported net income of \$262.0 million, or \$3.77 per diluted share, compared with \$161.4 million, or \$2.75 per diluted share, for the year ended December 31, 2019. The Company reported adjusted net income of \$300.5 million, or \$4.33 per diluted share, for the year ended December 31, 2020, compared with \$222.9 million, or \$3.80 per diluted share, for the year ended December 31, 2019. Adjusted net income for the year excludes the same items listed above for the Company's fourth quarter

Commenting on the Company's results, Palmer Proctor, the Company's Chief Executive Officer, said, "Last quarter, I commented on the optimistic outlook for the remainder of 2020 and we delivered on that optimism this quarter. Our team remained focused and we had many successes during the quarter, including reducing our NPAs down to 48bps of total assets, maintaining our margin and continuing to safely grow the balance sheet to over \$20 billion in assets for the first time in our history. While 2020 was not the year that we had anticipated, I am extremely pleased with the adaptability of our Ameris teammates, our ability to serve our customers and our record financial results this year. We are well positioned for 2021 and look forward to our continued success."

Significant items from the Company's results for the fourth quarter of 2020 include the following:

- Net income of \$94.3 million, or \$1.36 per diluted share, compared with \$116.1 million, or \$1.67 per diluted share, for the third quarter of 2020
- Tangible book value growth of \$1.23 per share, or 5.5%, to \$23.69 compared with \$22.46 last quarter
- Successfully negotiated the termination of our remaining loss-share agreements with the FDIC
- Net interest margin stable at 3.64%, compared with the third quarter of 2020
- Reduced exposure to hotel industry by \$87.5 million through the sale of selected notes

 Non-performing assets decreased to 0.48% of total assets at December 31, 2020, compared with 0.82% at September 30, 2020

Highlights of the Company's results for the full year 2020 include the following:

- Growth in net income of \$100.5 million, from \$161.4 million in 2019 to \$262.0 million in 2020
- Adjusted return on average assets of 1.56%, compared with 1.52% in 2019
- Improvement in adjusted efficiency ratio to 52.17% in 2020, compared with 55.67% in 2019 Growth in tangible book value of 13.8%, from \$20.81 at the end of 2019 to \$23.69 at the end of 2020
- Organic growth in loans of \$1.66 billion, or 13.0% (and \$834.8 million, or 6.5%, exclusive of PPP loans)
- Improvement in deposit mix such that noninterest bearing deposits represent 36.27% of total deposits, up from 29.94% at December 31, 2019

Following is a summary of the adjustments between reported net income and adjusted net income:

Adjusted Net Income Reconciliation

	Three Mo Dece	nths En			Ended nber 31	,
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)	2020		2019	2020		2019
Net income available to common shareholders	\$ 94,285	\$	61,248	\$ 261,988	\$	161,441
Adjustment items:						
Merger and conversion charges	_		2,415	1,391		73,105
Restructuring charges	_		_	1,513		245
Servicing right impairment	9,501		366	40,067		507
Gain on BOLI proceeds	_		752	(948)		(3,583)
Expenses related to SEC and DOJ investigation	53		463	3,058		463
Natural disaster and pandemic charges (Note 1)	235		_	3,296		(39)
(Gain) loss on sale of premises	(30)		1,413	624		6,021
Tax effect of adjustment items (Note 2)	(2,049)		(898)	(10,488)		(16,065)
After-tax adjustment items	7,710		4,511	38,513		60,654
Tax expense attributable to merger related compensation and						
acquired BOLI	 		849	 		849
Adjusted net income	 101,995	\$	66,608	\$ 300,501	\$	222,944
Reported net income per diluted share	\$ 1.36	\$	0.88	\$ 3.77	\$	2.75
Adjusted net income per diluted share	\$ 1.47	\$	0.96	\$ 4.33	\$	3.80
Reported return on average assets	1.89 %		1.35 %	1.36 %		1.10 %
Adjusted return on average assets	2.04 %		1.47 %	1.56 %		1.52 %
Reported return on average common equity	14.30 %		9.97 %	10.35 %		8.19 %
Adjusted return on average tangible common equity	25.04 %		18.45 %	19.77 %		18.74 %

Note 1: Pandemic charges include "thank you" pay for certain employees, additional sanitizing expenses at our locations, protective equipment for our employees and branch locations, and additional equipment required to support our remote workforce.

Note 2: A portion of the merger and conversion charges are nondeductible for tax purposes.

Net Interest Income and Net Interest Margin

Net interest income on a tax-equivalent basis for 2020 totaled \$642.9 million, compared with \$509.5 million for 2019. The Company's net interest margin was 3.70% for 2020, down from 3.88% reported for 2019. Accretion income for 2020 increased to \$27.4 million, compared with \$19.9 million for 2019. The decrease in net interest margin is primarily attributable to a decrease in the yield on earning assets resulting from declines in market interest rates, partially offset by a decrease in funding costs.

Net interest income on a tax-equivalent basis for the fourth quarter of 2020 totaled \$164.8 million, compared with \$163.9 million for the third quarter of 2020 and \$156.5 million for the fourth quarter of 2019. The Company's net interest margin was 3.64% for the fourth quarter of 2020, flat compared with 3.64% reported for the third quarter of 2020 and down from 3.86% reported for the fourth quarter of 2019. The stability in net interest margin in the current quarter is primarily attributable to continued focus on management of cost of funds as yields on earning assets decline. Contributing to net interest income for the fourth quarter of 2020 was \$6.3 million related to accelerated fee income on PPP loan forgiveness, partially offset by \$2.3 million in interest reversals related to the sale of certain hotel loans. Accretion income for the fourth quarter of 2020 decreased to \$4.7 million, compared with \$6.5 million for the third quarter of 2020 and \$9.7 million for the fourth quarter of 2019. The decrease in accretion income in the fourth quarter is primarily attributable to decreased accretion on payoffs compared with the third quarter of 2020.

Yields on loans decreased to 4.41% during the fourth quarter of 2020, compared with 4.42% for the third quarter of 2020 and 5.28% reported for the fourth quarter of 2019. Loan production in the banking division during the fourth quarter of 2020 totaled \$784.9 million, with weighted average yields of 3.86%, compared with \$869.0 million and 4.00%, respectively, in the third quarter of 2020 and \$1.1 billion and 4.70%, respectively, in the fourth quarter of 2019. Loan production in the lines of business (including retail mortgage, warehouse lending, SBA and premium finance) amounted to an additional \$7.7 billion during the fourth quarter of 2020, with weighted average yields of 3.25%, compared with \$7.7 billion and 3.33%, respectively, during the third quarter of 2020 and \$4.1 billion and 4.29%, respectively, during the fourth quarter of 2019.

Interest expense during the fourth quarter of 2020 decreased to \$15.3 million, compared with \$17.4 million in the third quarter of 2020 and \$38.7 million in the fourth quarter of 2019. The Company's total cost of funds moved five basis points lower to 0.36% in the fourth quarter of 2020 as compared with the third quarter of 2020. Deposit costs decreased eight basis points during the fourth quarter of 2020 to 0.22%, compared with 0.30% in the third quarter of 2020. Costs of interest-bearing deposits decreased during the quarter from 0.47% in the third quarter of 2020 to 0.34% in the fourth quarter of 2020.

Noninterest Income

Noninterest income increased \$248.4 million, or 125.4%, to \$446.5 million for 2020, compared with \$198.1 million for 2019, as a result of increased mortgage banking activity. Mortgage banking activity increased \$254.7 million, or 213.3%, to \$374.1 million for 2020, compared with \$119.4 million for 2019, as a result of a production increase of \$5.44 billion, or 125.9%, over the same period. Gain on sale spreads increased to 3.79% in 2020 compared with 2.75% in 2019.

Noninterest income decreased \$46.9 million, or 29.5%, in the fourth quarter of 2020 to \$112.1 million, compared with \$159.0 million for the third quarter of 2020, primarily as a result of decreased mortgage banking activity.

Mortgage banking activity decreased \$43.4 million, or 31.3%, to \$95.2 million in the fourth quarter of 2020, compared with \$138.6 million for the third quarter of 2020. This decrease was a result of decreased production, increased servicing right impairment and a decline in the retail mortgage open pipeline, partially offset by an expansion in our gain on sale spread. Gain on sale spreads increased to 4.34% in the fourth quarter of 2020 from 3.92% for the third quarter of 2020. Total production in the retail mortgage division decreased to \$2.81 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020, compared with \$2.92 billion for the third quarter of 2020. Mortgage banking activity was negatively impacted during the fourth quarter of 2020 by a \$9.1 million servicing right impairment, compared with an impairment of \$1.1 million for the third quarter of 2020. The retail mortgage open pipeline was \$2.00 billion at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020, compared with \$2.71 billion at September 30, 2020.

Service charge revenue increased \$551,000, or 5.0%, to \$11.5 million in the fourth quarter of 2020, compared with \$10.9 million for the third quarter of 2020, resulting from an increase in volume. Other noninterest income decreased \$3.9 million, or 46.4%, to \$4.5 million for the fourth quarter of 2020, compared with \$8.4 million for the third quarter of 2020, primarily as a result of decreases in the gain on sales of SBA loans and SBA servicing right valuation adjustment of \$2.7 million and \$1.1 million, respectively.

Noninterest Expense

Noninterest expense increased \$126.7 million, or 26.8%, to \$598.6 million in 2020, compared with \$471.9 million in 2019. During 2020, the Company recorded \$9.9 million of charges to earnings, the majority of which related to natural disaster and pandemic charges and certain legal expenses, compared with \$79.8 million in charges in 2019 that were principally related to merger and conversion charges and loss on sale of premises. Excluding these charges, adjusted expenses increased \$196.6 million, or 50.1%, to \$588.7 million in 2020, from \$392.1 million in 2019. The majority of this increase is attributable to the acquisition of Fidelity Bank and variable expenses related to increased mortgage production. The Company continues to focus on its operating efficiency ratio, such that the adjusted efficiency ratio improved from 55.67% in 2019 to 52.17% in 2020.

Noninterest expense decreased \$2.6 million, or 1.7%, to \$151.1 million during the fourth quarter of 2020, compared with \$153.7 million for the third quarter of 2020. During the fourth quarter of 2020, the Company recorded \$258,000 of charges to earnings, related to certain legal expenses, natural disaster and pandemic charges and (gain) loss on sale of premises, compared with \$647,000 in charges in the third quarter of 2020 that were related to the same items, in addition to merger and conversion charges and restructuring charges associated with branch consolidations and efficiency initiatives. Excluding these charges, adjusted expenses decreased approximately \$2.2 million, or 1.4%, to \$150.9 million in the fourth quarter of 2020, from \$153.0 million in the third quarter of 2020. The majority of this decrease is attributable to variable expenses related to decreased mortgage production. Also during the fourth quarter, the Company incurred a \$765,000 expense related to the final termination of the remaining loss-share agreements with the FDIC. The Company made a \$1.0 million donation to the Ameris Bank Foundation as well. The adjusted efficiency ratio was 52.67% in the fourth quarter of 2020, compared with 47.34% in the third quarter of 2020.

Income Tax Expense

The Company's effective tax rate for the fourth quarter of 2020 was 25.2%, compared with 22.7% in the third quarter of 2020. The increased rate for the fourth quarter of 2020 was primarily a result of a large return to provision adjustment when the Company filed its 2019 income tax returns in the fourth quarter of 2020.

Balance Sheet Trends

Total assets at December 31, 2020 were \$20.44 billion, compared with \$18.24 billion at December 31, 2019. Total loans, including loans held for sale, were \$15.65 billion at December 31, 2020, compared with \$14.48 billion at December 31, 2020, compared with \$14.48 billion at December 31, 2019, an increase of \$1.66 billion, or 13.0%. Loan production in the banking division during the fourth quarter of 2020 was down 10% from the third quarter of 2020 and 28% from the fourth quarter of 2019. Loan growth for the year ended December 31, 2020 was driven by PPP loan originations, which totaled \$827.6 million in outstanding balances at December 31, 2020, and increases in commercial real estate and warehouse lending.

At December 31, 2020, total deposits amounted to \$16.96 billion, or 96.8% of total funding, compared with \$14.03 billion and 90.1%, respectively, at December 31, 2019. At December 31, 2020, noninterest-bearing deposit accounts were \$6.15 billion, or 36.3% of total deposits, compared with \$4.20 billion, or 29.9% of total deposits, at December 31, 2019. Non-rate sensitive deposits (including noninterest-bearing, NOW and savings) totaled \$10.23 billion at December 31, 2020, compared with \$7.21 billion at December 31, 2019. These funds represented 60.3% of the Company's total deposits at December 31, 2020, compared with 51.4% at the end of 2019.

Shareholders' equity at December 31, 2020 totaled \$2.65 billion, an increase of \$177.5 million, or 7.2%, from December 31, 2019. The increase in shareholders' equity was primarily the result of earnings of \$262.0 million during 2020, partially offset by the CECL adoption impact of \$56.7 million and dividends declared. Tangible book value per share was \$23.69 at December 31, 2020, compared with \$20.81 at December 31, 2019. Tangible common equity as a percentage of tangible assets was 8.47% at December 31, 2020, compared with 8.40% at the end of the 2019.

Credit Quality

Credit quality remains strong in the Company. During the fourth quarter of 2020, the Company reversed provision for credit losses of \$1.5 million, compared with a provision of \$17.7 million in the third quarter of 2020. This decrease in provision was primarily attributable to improvements in forecast economic conditions, particularly levels of unemployment and GDP, compared with forecast conditions during the third quarter of 2020. The Company has been prudently working with borrowers to support their credit needs during the challenging economic conditions and monitoring the level of modifications on an ongoing basis, such that loans remaining on deferral at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020 equaled approximately 2.9% of total loans, down from approximately 19.0% of total loans at the end of the second quarter of 2020. Nonperforming assets as a percentage of total assets decreased by 34 basis points to 0.48% during the quarter. The decrease in nonperforming assets is primarily attributable to decreased nonaccrual loans in the residential real estate and commercial real estate loan categories. The net charge-off ratio was 70 basis points for the fourth quarter of 2020, compared with 10 basis points in the third quarter of 2020 and nine basis points in the fourth quarter of 2020 and nine basis points in the fourth quarter of 2020 and nine basis points in the fourth quarter of 2019. The increase in net charge-offs for the fourth quarter of 2020 was primarily attributable to approximately \$17.2 million of charge-offs on certain hotel exposures sold during the quarter. The hotel loans sold were selected based on a number of factors, including the level of relationship with the borrower, tier of hotel brand underlying the property and market conditions in the area.

Conference Call

The Company will host a teleconference at 9:00 a.m. Eastern time on Friday, January 29, 2021, to discuss the Company's results and answer appropriate questions. The conference call can be accessed by dialing 1-877-504-1190 (or 1-855-669-9657 for participants in Canada and 1-412-902-6630 for other international participants). The conference ID name is Ameris Bancorp ABCB. A replay of the call will be available one hour after the end of the conference call until February 12, 2021. To listen to the replay, dial 1-877-344-7529 (or 1-855-669-9658 for participants in Canada and 1-412-317-0088 for other international participants). The conference replay access code is 10151038. The conference call replay and the financial information discussed will also be available on the Investor Relations page of the Ameris Bank website at International Access.

About Ameris Bancorp

Ameris Bancorp is a bank holding company headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia. The Company's banking subsidiary, Ameris Bank, had 164 locations in Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and Alabama at the end of the most recent quarter.

This news release contains forward-looking statements, as defined by federal securities laws, including, among other forward-looking statements, certain plans, expectations and goals. Words such as "may," "believe," "expect." "anticipate," "intend," "will," "should," "plan," "estimate," "predict," "continue" and "potential" or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology, as well as similar expressions, are meant to identify forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements in this news release are based on current expectations and are provided to assist in the understanding of potential future performance. Such forward-looking statements involve numerous assumptions, risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in any such statements, including, without limitation, the following: general competitive, economic, unemployment, political and market conditions and fluctuations, including real estate market conditions, and the effects of such conditions and fluctuations on the creditworthiness of borrowers, collateral values, asset recovery values and the value of investment securities; movements in interest rates and their impacts on net interest margin; expectations on credit quality and performance; legislative and regulatory changes; changes in U.S. government monetary and fiscal policy, including any changes that result from the recent U.S. elections; the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the general economy, our customers and the allowance for loan losses; the benefits that may be realized by our customers from government assistance programs and regulatory actions related to the COVID-19 pandemic; the potential impact of the proposed phase-out of the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") or other changes involving LIBOR; competitive pressures on product pricing and services; the cost savings and any revenue synergies expected to result from acquisition transactions, which may not be fully realized within the expected timef

Financial Highlights Table

		Т	hree Months End	ed		Year	Ended
	Dec	Sep	Jun	Mar	Dec	Dec	Dec
(dollars in thousands except per share data)	2020	2020	2020	2020	2019	2020	2019
EARNINGS Net income	\$ 94,285	\$ 116,145	\$ 32,236	\$ 19,322	\$ 61,248	\$ 261,988	\$ 161,441
Adjusted net income	\$ 94,265 \$ 101,995	\$ 116,145	\$ 42,423	\$ 19,322	\$ 66,608	\$ 300,501	\$ 222,944
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COMMON SHARE DATA							
Earnings per share available to common							
shareholders							
Basic	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.68	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.88	\$ 3.78	\$ 2.76
Diluted	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.67	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.88	\$ 3.77	\$ 2.75
Adjusted diluted EPS Cash dividends per share	\$ 1.47 \$ 0.15	\$ 1.69 \$ 0.15	\$ 0.61 \$ 0.15	\$ 0.56 \$ 0.15	\$ 0.96 \$ 0.15	\$ 4.33 \$ 0.60	\$ 3.80 \$ 0.50
Book value per share (period end)	\$ 38.07	\$ 36.91	\$ 35.42	\$ 35.10	\$ 35.53	\$ 38.07	\$ 35.53
Tangible book value per share (period end)	\$ 23.69	\$ 22.46	\$ 20.90	\$ 20.44	\$ 20.81	\$ 23.69	\$ 20.81
Weighted average number of shares	ψ 25.05	y 22.40	φ 20.50	φ 20.44	φ 20.01	φ 25.05	φ 20.01
Basic	69,252,307	69,230,667	69,191,778	69,247,661	69,429,193	69,256,020	58,462,137
Diluted	69,493,105	69,346,141	69,292,972	69,502,022	69,683,999	69,426,185	58,614,151
Period end number of shares	69,541,481	69,490,546	69,462,782	69,441,274	69,503,833	69,541,481	69,503,833
Market data							
High intraday price	\$ 39.53	\$ 27.81	\$ 29.82	\$ 43.79	\$ 44.90	\$ 43.79	\$ 44.90
Low intraday price	\$ 22.37	\$ 19.91	\$ 17.12	\$ 17.89	\$ 38.34	\$ 17.12	\$ 31.27
Period end closing price	\$ 38.07	\$ 22.78	\$ 23.59	\$ 23.76	\$ 42.54	\$ 38.07	\$ 42.54
Average daily volume	394,641	359,059	470,151	461,692	353,783	420,874	389,112
PERFORMANCE RATIOS							
Return on average assets	1.89 %	2.33 %	0.67 %	0.43 %	1.35 %	1.36 %	1.10
Adjusted return on average assets	2.04 %	2.35 %	0.89 %	0.87 %	1.47 %	1.56 %	1.52
Return on average common equity	14.30 %	18.27 %	5.23 %	3.16 %	9.97 %	10.35 %	8.19
Adjusted return on average tangible common							
equity	25.04 %	30.53 %	11.66 %	10.98 %	18.45 %	19.77 %	18.74
Earning asset yield (TE)	3.98 %	4.02 %	4.32 %	4.56 %	4.82 %	4.21 %	4.88
Total cost of funds	0.36 %	0.41 %	0.52 %	0.91 %	1.00 %	0.54 %	1.05
Net interest margin (TE) Noninterest income excluding securities	3.64 %	3.64 %	3.83 %	3.70 %	3.86 %	3.70 %	3.88
transactions, as a percent of total revenue (TE)	38.37 %	46.72 %	39.35 %	22.83 %	22.02 %	37.90 %	23.60
Efficiency ratio	54.83 %	47.80 %	54.70 %	68.23 %	58.24 %	55.21 %	67.11
Adjusted efficiency ratio (TE)	52.67 %	47.34 %	51.08 %	59.87 %	55.61 %	52.17 %	55.67
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CAPITAL ADEQUACY (period end)							
Shareholders' equity to assets	12.95 %	12.90 %	12.38 %	13.37 %	13.54 %	12.95 %	13.54
Tangible common equity to tangible assets	8.47 %	8.27 %	7.70 %	8.25 %	8.40 %	8.47 %	8.40
EQUITY TO ASSETS RECONCILIATION							
Tangible common equity to tangible assets	8.47 %	8.27 %	7.70 %	8.25 %	8.40 %	8.47 %	8.40
Effect of goodwill and other intangibles	4.48 %	4.63 %	4.68 %	5.12 %	5.14 %	4.48 %	5.14
Equity to assets (GAAP)	12.95 %	12.90 %	12.38 %	13.37 %	13.54 %	12.95 %	13.54
OTHER DATA (manifed and)							
OTHER DATA (period end) Full time equivalent employees							
Banking Division	1.816	1,807	1,832	1,865	1,913	1,816	1,913
Retail Mortgage Division	748	734	692	689	690	748	690
Warehouse Lending Division	12	11	9	9	9	12	9
SBA Division	24	33	42	44	42	24	42
Premium Finance Division	71	71	70	72	68	71	68
Total Ameris Bancorp FTE headcount	2,671	2,656	2,645	2,679	2,722	2,671	2,722
Assets nor Ponking Division FTF	¢ 11.0EE	¢ 10.000	¢ 10.040	¢ 0.770	¢ 0.536	¢ 11.255	¢ 0.530
Assets per Banking Division FTE Branch locations	\$ 11,255 164	\$ 10,998 170	\$ 10,848 170	\$ 9,772 170	\$ 9,536 170	\$ 11,255 164	\$ 9,536 170
Deposits per branch location	\$ 103,401	\$ 94.493	\$ 91.705	\$ 81.439	\$ 82,512	\$ 103,401	\$ 82.512
Deposits per branen location	Ψ 105,401	Ψ 54,455	Ψ 31,703	Ψ 01,733	Ψ 02,312	φ 105, τ 01	Ψ 02,312

Income Statement							Tabl
		T	hree Months En	ded		Year	Ended
(dollars in thousands except per share data)	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	Jun 2020	Mar 2020	Dec 2019	Dec 2020	Dec 2019
Interest income							
Interest and fees on loans	\$ 171,971	\$ 172,351	\$ 175,345	\$ 171,242	\$ 182,391	\$ 690,909	\$ 586,84
Interest on taxable securities	6,398	7,259	9,347	10,082	10,358	33,086	40,13
Interest on nontaxable securities	150	159	157	157	167	623	59
Interest on deposits in other banks	252	153	123	1,211	1,091	1,739	8,13
Interest on federal funds sold	12	12	46	76	69	146	67
Total interest income	178,783	179,934	185,018	182,768	194,076	726,503	636,39
Interest expense							
Interest on deposits	8,870	11,822	14,273	24,102	27,970	59,067	102,53
Interest on other borrowings	6,457	5,574	6,931	10,721	10,755	29,683	28,69
Total interest expense	15,327	17,396	21,204	34,823	38,725	88,750	131,22
Net interest income	163,456	162,538	163,814	147,945	155,351	637,753	505,16
Provision for loan losses	(6,700)	26,692	68,449	37,047	5,693	125,488	19,75
Provision for unfunded commitments	5,481	(10,131)	19,712	4,000	_	19,062	-
Provision for other credit losses	(291)	1,121	_	_	_	830	-
Provision for credit losses	(1,510)	17,682	88,161	41,047	5,693	145,380	19,75
Net interest income after provision for credit losses	164,966	144,856	75,653	106,898	149,658	492,373	485,40
Noninterest income							
Service charges on deposits accounts	11,465	10,914	9,922	11,844	13,567	44,145	50,79
Mortgage banking activity	95,192	138,627	104,925	35,333	33,168	374,077	119,40
Other service charges, commissions and fees	965	1,039	949	961	935	3,914	3,56
Gain (loss) on securities	_	· —	14	(9)	(1)	5	13
Other noninterest income	4,521	8,438	5,150	6,250	7,444	24,359	24,20
Total noninterest income	112,143	159,018	120,960	54,379	55,113	446,500	198,11

Noninterest expense Salaries and employee benefits Occupancy and equipment expenses Data processing and telecommunications expenses	92,466 12,709 11.323	96,698 13,805 12,226	95,168 13,807 10.514	75,946 12,028 11,954	69,642 11,919 11.362	360,278 52,349 46.017	223,93 40,59 38,51
Credit resolution related expenses ⁽¹⁾ Advertising and marketing expenses Amortization of intangible assets	1,156	802	950	2,198	1,098	5,106	4,08
	3,267	966	1,455	2,358	2,250	8,046	7,92
Merger and conversion charges	4,190	4,190	5,601	5,631	5,741	19,612	17,71
	—	(44)	895	540	2,415	1,391	73,10
Other noninterest expenses Total noninterest expense	26,005	25,049	27,378	27,398	18,137	105,830	66,06
	151,116	153,692	155,768	138,053	122,564	598,629	471,93
Income before income tax expense	125,993	150,182	40,845	23,224	82,207	340,244	211,58
Income tax expense	31,708	34,037	8,609	3,902	20,959	78,256	50,14
Net income	\$ 94,285	\$ 116,145	\$ 32,236	\$ 19,322	\$ 61,248	\$ 261,988	\$ 161,44
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.67	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.88	\$ 3.77	\$ 2.7

 $(1) \ \ \text{Includes expenses associated with problem loans and OREO, as well as OREO losses and write downs.}$

AMERIS BANCORP AND SUBSIDIARIES FINANCIAL TABLES

Period End Balance Sheet					Table
			Three Months Ende	ed	
(dollars in thousands) Assets	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	Jun 2020	Mar 2020	Dec 2019
Cash and due from banks	\$ 203.349	\$ 257.026	\$ 292.899	\$ 255.312	\$ 246.234
Federal funds sold and interest-bearing deposits in banks	1,913,957	494.765	428.560	396.844	375.615
Time deposits in other banks	249	249	249	249	249
Investment securities available for sale, at fair value	982,879	1,117,436	1,238,896	1,353,040	1,403,403
Other investments	28,202	47,329	76,453	81,754	66,919
Loans held for sale, at fair value	1,167,659	1,414,889	1,736,397	1,398,229	1,656,711
Loans, net of unearned income	14,480,925	14,943,593	14,503,157	13,094,106	12,818,476
Allowance for credit losses	(199,422)	(231,924)	(208,793)	(149,524)	(38,189)
Loans, net	14,281,503	14,711,669	14,294,364	12,944,582	12,780,287
Other real estate owned	11,880	17,969	23,563	21,027	19,500
Premises and equipment, net	222,890	231,278	230,118	231,347	233,102
Goodwill	928,005	928,005	928,005	931,947	931,637
Other intangible assets, net Cash value of bank owned life insurance	71,974 176.467	76,164 175.605	80,354 175.011	85,955 176.239	91,586 175.270
Deferred income taxes, net	33,314	53,039	56,306	24,196	2,180
Other assets	416,310	348,428	311,454	323,827	259,886
Total assets	\$ 20,438,638	\$ 19,873,851	\$ 19,872,629	\$ 18,224,548	\$ 18,242,579
Liabilities Deposits Noninterest-bearing Interest-bearing Total deposits Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase Other borrowings Subordinated deferrable interest debentures FDIC loss-share payable, net Other liabilities Total liabilities	\$ 6,151,070 10,806,753 16,957,823 11,641 425,155 124,345 272,586 17,791,550	\$ 5,909,316 10,154,490 16,063,806 9,103 875,255 123,860 19,476 217,668 17,309,168	\$ 5,595,868 9,993,950 15,589,818 12,879 1,418,336 123,375 18,903 249,188 17,412,499	\$ 4,226,253 9,618,365 13,844,618 15,160 1,543,371 122,890 18,111 243,248 15,787,398	\$ 4,199,448 9,827,625 14,027,073 20,635 1,398,709 127,560 19,642 179,378 15,772,997
Shareholders' Equity					
Preferred stock		_	_	_	_
Common stock	71,754	71,703	71,674	71,652	71,500
Capital stock	1,913,285 671,510	1,911,031 587,657	1,909,839 481.948	1,908,721 460,153	1,907,108 507,950
Retained earnings Accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax	33,505	37,252	39,613	39,551	17,995
Treasury stock	(42,966)	(42,960)	(42,944)	(42,927)	(34,971)
Total shareholders' equity	2,647,088	2,564,683	2,460,130	2,437,150	2,469,582
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 20,438,638	\$ 19,873,851	\$ 19,872,629	\$ 18,224,548	\$ 18,242,579
Other Data Earning assets Intangible assets Interest-bearing liabilities Average assets	\$ 18,573,871 999,979 11,367,894 19,876,338	\$ 18,018,261 1,004,169 11,162,708 19,810,084	\$ 17,983,712 1,008,359 11,548,540 19,222,181	\$ 16,324,222 1,017,902 11,299,786 18,056,445	\$ 16,321,373 1,023,223 11,374,529 17,998,494
Average assets Average common shareholders' equity	2,622,942	2,529,471	2,478,373	2,456,617	2,437,272
Average common shareholders equity	2,022,342	2,323,4/1	2,470,373	2,430,017	2,431,212

			Three Months En	ded		Year	r Ended
(dollars in thousands)	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	Jun 2020	Mar 2020	Dec 2019	Dec 2020	D 20
Allowance for Credit Losses Balance at beginning of period	\$ 260,417	\$ 246,295	\$ 167,315	\$ 39,266	\$ 36,607	\$ 39,266	\$ 28
CECL adoption impact on allowance for loan losses CECL adoption impact on allowance for unfunded	_	_	_	78,661	_	78,661	
commitments	_	_	_	12,714	_	12,714	
Total CECL adoption impact	_			91,375	_	91,375	-
Acquired allowance for unfunded commitments	_	_	_	_	_	_	1,

Provision for loan losses Provision for unfunded commitments Provision for other credit losses	(6,700) 5,481 (291)	26,692 (10,131) 1,121	68,449 19,712 —	37,047 4,000 —	5,693 — —	125,488 19,062 830	19
Provision for credit losses	(1,510)	17,682	88,161	41,047	5,693	145,380	19
Charge-offs Recoveries Net charge-offs	29,094 3,292 25,802	7,370 3,810 3,560	11,282 2,101 9,181	6,718 2,345 4,373	5,664 2,630 3,034	54,464 11,548 42,916	19 9 10
Ending balance	\$ 233,105	\$ 260,417	\$ 246,295	\$ 167,315	\$ 39,266	\$ 233,105	\$ 39
Allowance for loan losses Allowance for unfunded commitments Allowance for other credit losses T otal allowance for credit losses	\$ 199,422 32,853 830 \$ 233,105	\$ 231,924 27,372 1,121 \$ 260,417	\$ 208,793 37,502 — \$ 246,295	\$ 149,524 17,791 — \$ 167,315	\$ 38,189 1,077 — \$ 39,266	\$ 199,422 32,853 830 \$ 233,105	\$ 38 1 \$ 39
Net Charge-off Information							
Charge-offs Commercial, financial and agricultural Consumer installment Indirect automobile Premium Finance Real estate - construction and development Real estate - commercial and farmland Real estate - residential Total charge-offs	\$ 5,960 2,861 658 2,240 17,284 91 29,094	\$ 1,715 677 697 1,158 9 2,977 137 7,370	\$ 486 962 1,016 1,904 74 6,315 525 11,282	\$ 2,486 1,142 1,231 831 —————————————————————————————————	\$ 1,813 1,586 939 899 146 181 100 5,664	\$ 10,647 5,642 3,602 6,133 83 27,504 853 54,464	\$ 3, 5, 1, 4, 3, 19,
Recoveries Commercial, financial and agricultural Consumer installment Indirect automobile Premium Finance Real estate - construction and development	754 480 637 605 125	470 516 317 1,224 182	303 436 359 676 168	362 321 344 684 342	934 461 241 358 430	1,889 1,753 1,657 3,189 817	1, 1, 2, 1,
Real estate - commercial and farmland Real estate - residential	439 252	904 197	21 138	85 207	140 68	1,449 794	
Total recoveries	3,292	3,810	2,101	2,345	2,632	11,548	9
Net charge-offs	\$ 25,802	\$ 3,560	\$ 9,181	\$ 4,373	\$ 3,032	\$ 42,916	\$ 10
Non-Performing Assets Nonaccrual loans Other real estate owned Repossessed assets Accruing loans delinquent 90 days or more Total non-performing assets	\$ 76,457 11,880 544 8,326 \$ 97,207	\$ 138,163 17,969 258 7,003 \$ 163,393	\$ 77,745 23,563 1,348 15,127 \$ 117,783	\$ 77,866 21,027 783 11,969 \$ 111,645	\$ 75,124 19,500 939 5,754 \$ 101,317	\$ 76,457 11,880 544 8,326 \$ 97,207	\$ 75 19 5 \$ 101
Asset Quality Ratios Non-performing assets as a percent of total assets Net charge-offs as a percent of average loans	0.48 %	0.82 %	0.59 %	0.61 %	0.56 %	0.48 %	
(annualized)	0.70 %	0.10 %	0.27 %	0.14 %	0.09 %	0.31 %	

Loan Information										Table 5
		Dec		Sep		Jun		Mar		Dec
(dollars in thousands)		2020		2020		2020		2020		2019
Loans by Type										
Commercial, financial and agricultural	\$	1,627,477	\$	1,879,788	\$	1,839,921	\$	827,392	\$	802,171
Consumer installment		306,995		450,810		575,782		520,592		498,577
Indirect automobile		580,083		682,396		739,543		937,736		1,061,824
Mortgage warehouse		916,353		995,942		748,853		547,328		526,369
Municipal		659,403		725,669		731,508		749,633		564,304
Premium Finance		687,841		710,890		690,584		661,845		654,669
Real estate - construction and development		1,606,710		1,628,255		1,641,744		1,628,367		1,549,062
Real estate - commercial and farmland		5,300,006		5,116,252		4,804,420		4,516,451		4,353,039
Real estate - residential		2,796,057		2,753,591		2,730,802		2,704,762		2,808,461
Total loans	\$	14,480,925	\$	14,943,593	\$_	14,503,157	\$	13,094,106	\$	12,818,476
Troubled Debt Restructurings										
Accruing troubled debt restructurings										
Commercial, financial and agricultural	\$	521	\$	459	\$	591	\$	575	\$	516
Consumer installment		32		36		42		4		8
Indirect automobile		2,277		2,689		_		_		_
Mortgage warehouse		_		_		_		_		_
Municipal		_		_		_		_		_
Premium Finance		_		_		_		159		156
Real estate - construction and development		506		510		919		925		936
Real estate - commercial and farmland		36,707		56,417		5,252		5,587		6,732
Real estate - residential		38,800		28,777		30,253		22,775		21,261
Total accruing troubled debt restructurings	\$	78,843	\$	88,888	\$	37,057	\$	30,025	\$	29,609
Nonaccrual troubled debt restructurings										
Commercial, financial and agricultural	\$	849	\$	1,002	\$	1,034	\$	334	\$	335
Consumer installment		56		64		67		105		107
Indirect automobile		461		482		_		_		_
Mortgage warehouse		_		_		_		_		_
Municipal		_		_		_		_		_
Premium Finance		_		_		_		_		_
Real estate - construction and development		707		709		307		289		253
Real estate - commercial and farmland		1,401		19,942		1,878		2,415		2,071
Real estate - residential		2,671		4,477		2,231		3,078		2,857
Total nonaccrual troubled debt restructurings	\$	6,145	\$	26,676	\$	5,517	\$	6,221	\$	5,623
Total troubled debt restructurings	\$	84,988	\$	115,564	\$	42,574	\$	36,246	\$	35,232
Loans by Risk Grade										
Grade 1 - Prime credit	\$	1,368,661	\$	1,845,900	\$	1,789,709	\$	774,956	\$	587.877
Grade 2 - Strong credit	Ψ	869.581	ب	838.267	ب	801,273	Ψ	785.770	Ψ	840.372
Grade 3 - Good credit		6,624,154		6,189,269		5,784,754		5,772,834		6,034,398
Grade 5 - Good Credit		0,024,134		0,109,209		3,704,734		3,112,034		0,054,550

Grade 4 - Satisfactory credit Grade 5 - Fair credit	^{4,794,672}	4,989,617	^{5,643,133}	4;353;738	4,884,541
Grade 6 - Other assets especially mentioned	108,541	151,501	108,704	106,885	86,412
Grade 7 - Substandard	262,947	285,537	162,917	168,561	151,846
Grade 8 - Doubtful	19	_	_	239	8
Grade 9 - Loss	_	_	_	_	2
Total loans	\$ 14 480 925	\$ 14 943 593	\$ 14 503 157	\$ 13 094 106	\$ 12 818 476

AMERIS BANCORP AND SUBSIDIARIES FINANCIAL TABLES

-			Three Months Ende	ed		Year	Ended
(dollars in thousands)	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	Jun 2020	Mar 2020	Dec 2019	Dec 2020	Dec
Earning Assets							
Federal funds sold	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,004	\$ 24,265	\$ 27,380	\$ 23,104	\$ 22,896	\$ 31
Interest-bearing deposits in banks	879,481	467,188	398,284	419,260	304,427	541,776	358
Time deposits in other banks	249	249	249	249	401	249	3
Investment securities - taxable	1,024,335	1,160,585	1,281,980	1,359,651	1,426,062	1,206,014	1,341
Investment securities - nontaxable	20,112	21,619	21,576	22,839	23,580	21,533	21
Other investments	31,552	64,656	79,143	73,972	64,852	62,253	37
Loans held for sale	1,281,762	1,507,481	1,614,080	1,587,131	1,537,648	1,497,051	667
Loans	14,752,664	14,688,317	13,915,406	12,712,997	12,697,912	14,018,582	10,666
Total Earning Assets	\$ 18,010,155	\$ 17,930,099	\$ 17,334,983	\$ 16,203,479	\$ 16,077,986	\$ 17,370,354	\$ 13,128
Deposits							
Noninterest-bearing deposits	\$ 5,970,672	\$ 5,782,163	\$ 5,061,578	\$ 4,080,920	\$ 4,124,872	\$ 5,227,399	\$ 3,364
NOW accounts	2,968,596	2,718,315	2,441,305	2,287,947	2,204,666	2,605,349	1,831
MMDA	4,534,243	4,273,899	4,221,906	4,004,644	3,953,717	4,259,467	3,280
Savings accounts	793,414	749,314	692,382	643,422	649,118	719,916	529
Retail CDs	2,109,600	2,274,150	2,471,134	2,624,209	2,721,829	2,368,802	2,348
Brokered CDs	1,140	1,933	2,043	61,190	249,644	16,494	347
Total Deposits	16,377,665	15,799,774	14,890,348	13,702,332	13,903,846	15,197,427	11,702
Non-Deposit Funding							
Federal funds purchased and securities sold							
under agreements to repurchase	9,929	10,483	12,452	15,637	17,088	12,115	14
FHLB advances	127,797	799,034	1,212,537	1,267,303	1,080,516	849,546	483
Other borrowings	376,295	272,443	269,300	269,454	234,001	297,023	18€
Subordinated deferrable interest debentures	124,091	123,604	123,120	127,731	127,292	124,632	110
Total Non-Deposit Funding	638,112	1,205,564	1,617,409	1,680,125	1,458,897	1,283,316	794
	\$ 17.015.777						\$ 12,497

AMERIS BANCORP AND SUBSIDIARIES FINANCIAL TABLES

Interest Income and Interest Expense (TE)										Table 7
			hree	Months En	ded				Ende	ed
	Dec	Sep		Jun		Mar	Dec	Dec		Dec
(dollars in thousands)	 2020	 2020		2020		2020	 2019	 2020		2019
Interest Income										
Federal funds sold	\$ 13	\$ 13	\$	45	\$	76	\$ 69	\$ 147	\$	676
Interest-bearing deposits in banks	251	152		122		1,210	1,089	1,735		8,068
Time deposits in other banks	1	1		1		1	2	4		71
Investment securities - taxable	6,398	7,260		9,346		10,082	10,358	33,086		40,138
Investment securities - nontaxable (TE)	190	202		198		199	212	789		751
Loans held for sale	9,705	10,365		14,053		13,637	14,330	47,760		25,003
Loans (TE)	163,532	163,352		162,617		158,636	169,119	648,137		566,037
Total Earning Assets	\$ 180,090	\$ 181,345	\$	186,382	\$	183,841	\$ 195,179	\$ 731,658	\$	640,744
Accretion income (included above)	\$ 4,688	\$ 6,525	\$	9,576	\$	6,562	\$ 9,727	\$ 27,351	\$	19,935
Interest Expense										
Interest-Bearing Deposits										
NOW accounts	\$ 1,091	\$ 1,394	\$	1,265	\$	2,774	\$ 2,728	\$ 6,524	\$	9,940
MMDA	2,326	2,823		3,764		9,748	11,311	18,661		42,439
Savings accounts	143	112		94		210	233	559		669
Retail CDs	5,301	7,484		9,136		11,064	12,220	32,985		41,040
Brokered CDs	 9	 9	_	14		306	 1,478	 338		8,445
Total Interest-Bearing Deposits	8,870	11,822		14,273		24,102	27,970	59,067		102,533
Non-Deposit Funding										
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under										
agreements to repurchase	8	9		25		40	41	82		86
FHLB advances	245	661		1,686		5,109	5,241	7,701		10,044
Other borrowings	4,635	3,558		3,487		3,511	3,358	15,191		11,127
Subordinated deferrable interest debentures	 1,569	 1,346		1,733		2,061	 2,115	 6,709		7,438
Total Non-Deposit Funding	 6,457	 5,574		6,931		10,721	 10,755	 29,683		28,695
Total Interest-Bearing Funding	\$ 15,327	\$ 17,396	\$	21,204	\$	34,823	\$ 38,725	\$ 88,750	\$	131,228
Net Interest Income (TE)	\$ 164,763	\$ 163,949	\$	165,178	\$	149,018	\$ 156,454	\$ 642,908	\$	509,516

Yields ⁽¹⁾							Table 8	
		Thre	e Months E	nded		Year	Ended	
	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	Jun 2020	Mar 2020	Dec 2019	Dec 2020	Dec 2019	
Earning Assets								
Federal funds sold	0.26 %	0.26 %	0.75 %	1.12 %	1.18 %	0.64 %	2.17 %	
Interest-bearing deposits in banks	0.11 %	0.13 %	0.12 %	1.16 %	1.42 %	0.32 %	2.25 %	
Time deposits in other banks	1.60 %	1.60 %	1.62 %	1.62 %	1.98 %	1.61 %	1.92 %	
Investment securities - taxable	2.48 %	2.49 %	2.93 %	2.98 %	2.88 %	2.74 %	2.99 %	
Investment securities - nontaxable (TE)	3.76 %	3.72 %	3.69 %	3.50 %	3.57 %	3.66 %	3.46 %	
Loans held for sale	3.01 %	2.74 %	3.50 %	3.46 %	3.70 %	3.19 %	3.75 %	
Loans (TE)	4.41 %	4.42 %	4.70 %	5.02 %	5.28 %	4.62 %	5.31 %	

Total Earning Assets	3.98	%	4.02	%	4.32	%	4.56	%	4.82	%	4.21	-%	4.88	-%
Interest-Bearing Deposits														
NOW accounts	0.15	%	0.20	%	0.21	%	0.49	%	0.49	%	0.25	%	0.54	%
MMDA	0.20	%	0.26	%	0.36	%	0.98	%	1.14	%	0.44	%	1.29	%
Savings accounts	0.07	%	0.06	%	0.05	%	0.13	%	0.14		0.08	%	0.13	%
Retail CDs	1.00	%	1.31	%	1.49	%	1.70	%	1.78	%	1.39	%	1.75	%
Brokered CDs	3.14	%	1.85	%	2.76	%	2.01	%	2.35	%	2.05	%	2.43	%
Total Interest-Bearing Deposits	0.34	%	0.47	%	0.58	%	1.01	%	1.13	%	0.59	%	1.23	%
Non-Deposit Funding														
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to														
repurchase	0.32	%	0.34	%	0.81	%	1.03	%	0.95	%	0.68		0.61	%
FHLB advances	0.76	%	0.33	%	0.56	%	1.62	%	1.92	%	0.91	%	2.08	%
Other borrowings	4.90	%	5.20	%	5.21	%	5.24	%	5.69	%	5.11	%	5.96	%
Subordinated deferrable interest debentures	5.03	%	4.33	%	5.66	%	6.49	%	6.59	%	5.38	%	6.75	%_
Total Non-Deposit Funding	4.03	%	1.84	%	1.72	%	2.57	%	2.92	%	2.31	%	3.61	%
Total Interest-Bearing Liabilities	0.55	%	0.62	%	0.75	%	1.24	%	1.37	%	0.79	%	1.44	%
Net Interest Spread	3.43	%	3.40	%	3.57	%	3.32	%	3.45	%	3.42	%	3.44	%
Net Interest Margin ⁽²⁾	3.64	%	3.64	%	3.83	%	3.70	%	3.86	%	3.70	%	3.88	%
Total Cost of Funds (3)	0.36	%	0.41	%	0.52	%	0.91	%	1.00	%	0.54	%	1.05	%

(1) Interest and average rates are calculated on a tax-equivalent basis using an effective tax rate of 21%.
(2) Rate calculated based on average earning assets.

(3) Rate calculated based on total average funding including noninterest-bearing deposits.

AMERIS BANCORP AND SUBSIDIARIES FINANCIAL TABLES

Non-GAAP Reconciliations

Adjusted Net Income

							Thre	ee Months E	nde	d							
(dollars in thousands except per share data)		Dec 2020			Sep 2020			Jun 2020			Mar 2020			Dec 2019			Dec 2020
Net income available to common shareholders	\$	94,285		\$	116,145		\$	32,236		\$	19,322		\$	61,248		\$	261,98
Adjustment items:																	
Merger and conversion charges		_			(44)			895			540			2,415			1,39
Restructuring charges		_			50			1,463			_			_			1,51
Servicing right impairment		9,501			412			7,989			22,165			366			40,0€
(Gain) loss on BOLI proceeds		_			(103)			(845)			_			752			(94
Expenses related to SEC/DOJ Investigation		53			268			1,294			1,443			463			3,05
Natural disaster and pandemic charges (Note 1)		235			470			2,043			548			_			3,29
(Gain) loss on sale of premises		(30)			(97)			281			470			1,413			62
Tax effect of adjustment items (Note 2)		(2,049)			(222)			(2,933)			(5,283)			(898)			(10,48
After tax adjustment items		7,710			734			10,187			19,883			4,511		-	38,51
Tax expense attributable to acquisition related compensation and acquired BOLI		_			_			_			_			849			
Adjusted net income	\$	101,995		\$	116,879		\$	42,423		\$	39,205		\$	66,608		\$	300,50
Weighted average number of shares - diluted		69.493.105			69.346.141			69.292.972			69.502.022			69.683.999			69.426.18
Net income per diluted share	\$	1.36		\$	1.67		\$	0.47		\$	0.28		\$	0.88		\$	3.7
Adjusted net income per diluted share	\$	1.47		\$	1.69		\$	0.61		\$	0.56		\$	0.96		\$	4.3
Average assets Return on average assets Adjusted return on average assets	\$	19,876,338 1.89 2.04	% %	\$	19,810,084 2.33 2.35	% %	\$	19,222,181 0.67 0.89		\$	18,056,445 0.43 0.87	% %	\$	17,998,494 1.35 1.47	% %	\$	19,240,49 1.5 1.5
Average common equity Average tangible common equity Return on average common equity Adjusted return on average tangible common	\$ \$	2,622,942 1,620,742 14.30	%	\$ \$	2,529,471 1,523,066 18.27	%	\$ \$	2,478,373 1,462,871 5.23	%	\$	_,	%	\$ \$	2,437,272 1,432,081 9.97	%	\$ \$	2,531,41 1,520,30 10.3
equity		25.04	%		30.53	%		11.66	%		10.98	%		18.45	%		19.7

Note 1: Pandemic charges include "thank you" pay for certain employees, additional sanitizing expenses at our locations, protective equipment for our employees and branch locatio equipment required to support our remote workforce.

Note 2: A portion of the merger and conversion charges for 1Q20, 4Q19 and both year-to-date periods are nondeductible for tax purposes.

AMERIS BANCORP AND SUBSIDIARIES FINANCIAL TABLES

Non-GAAP Reconciliations (continued)

Adjusted Efficiency Ratio (TE)

		Three Months Ended													
(dollars in thousands)		Dec 2020		Sep 2020		Jun 2020		Mar 2020		Dec 2019		Dec 2020			
Adjusted Noninterest Expense															
Total noninterest expense	\$	151,116	\$	153,692	\$	155,768	\$	138,053	\$	122,564	\$	598,629			
Adjustment items:															
Merger and conversion charges		_		44		(895)		(540)		(2,415)		(1,391)			
Restructuring charges		_		(50)		(1,463)		_		_		(1,513)			
Expenses related to SEC/DOJ Investigation		(53)		(268)		(1,294)		(1,443)		(463)		(3,058)			
Natural disaster and pandemic charges		(235)		(470)		(2,043)		(548)		_		(3,296)			
Gain (loss) on sale of premises		30		97		(281)		(470)		(1,413)		(624)			
Adjusted noninterest expense	\$	150,858	\$	153,045	\$	149,792	\$	135,052	\$	118,273	\$	588,747			
Total Revenue															
Net interest income	\$	163,456		162,538	\$	163,814	\$	147,945	\$	155,351	\$	637,753			
Noninterest income		112,143		159,018		120,960		54,379		55,113		446,500			
Total revenue	\$	275,599	\$	321,556	\$	284,774	\$	202,324	\$	210,464	\$	1,084,253			

Adjusted Total Revenue Net interest income (TE) Noninterest income Total revenue (TE) Adjustment items:	\$ 164,763	\$ 163,949	\$ 165,178	\$ 149,018	\$ 156,454	\$ 642,908
	112,143	\$ 159,018	120,960	54,379	55,113	446,500
	276,906	\$ 322,967	286,138	203,397	211,567	1,089,408
(Gain) loss on securities (Gain) loss on BOLI proceeds Servicing right impairment	 9,501	(103) 412	(14) (845) 7,989	9 — 22,165	(1) 752 366	(5) (948) 40,067
Adjusted total revenue (TE)	\$ 286,407	\$ 323,276	\$ 293,268	\$ 225,571	\$ 212,684	\$ 1,128,522
Efficiency ratio	54.83 %	47.80 %	54.70 %	68.23 %	58.24 %	55.21 %
Adjusted efficiency ratio (TE)	52.67 %	47.34 %	51.08 %	59.87 %	55.61 %	52.17 %

	Three Months Ended									
(dollars in thousands except per share data)	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	Jun 2020	Mar 2020	Dec 2019	Dec 2020				
Total shareholders' equity Less:	\$ 2,647,088	\$ 2,564,683	\$ 2,460,130	\$ 2,437,150	\$ 2,469,582	\$ 2,647,088				
Goodwill	928,005	\$ 928,005	928,005	931,947	931,637	928,005				
Other intangibles, net	71,974	\$ 76,164	80,354	85,955	91,586	71,974				
Total tangible shareholders' equity	\$ 1,647,109	\$ 1,560,514	\$ 1,451,771	\$ 1,419,248	\$ 1,446,359	\$ 1,647,109				
Period end number of shares	69,541,481	69,490,546	69,461,968	69,441,274	69,503,833	69,541,481				
Book value per share (period end)	\$ 38.07	\$ 36.91	\$ 35.42	\$ 35.10	\$ 35.53	\$ 38.07				
Tangible book value per share (period end)	\$ 23.69	\$ 22.46	\$ 20.90	\$ 20.44	\$ 20.81	\$ 23.69				

AMERIS BANCORP AND SUBSIDIARIES FINANCIAL TABLES

Segment Reporting														Table 10
				1	hree	Months End	ded					Year	Ende	d
		Dec		Sep		Jun		Mar		Dec		Dec		Dec
(dollars in thousands)		2020		2020		2020		2020		2019		2020		2019
Banking Division														
Net interest income	\$	112,964	\$	119,562	\$	120,330	\$	118,375	\$	124,957	\$	471,231	\$	419,013
Provision for credit losses		1,847		487		86,805		35,997		4,741		125,136		12,654
Noninterest income		15,659		15,265		14,468		17,773		18,632		63,165		69,005
Noninterest expense														
Salaries and employee benefits		38,668		39,718		40,423		41,621		38,180		160,430		130,134
Occupancy and equipment expenses		10,958		11,955		11,679		10,347		10,216		44,939		35,281
Data processing and telecommunications expenses		9,608		9,716		8,919		10,797		10,156		39,040		34,934
Other noninterest expenses		25,806		21,517		27,997		30,645		23,176		105,965		149,919
Total noninterest expense		85,040		82,906		89,018		93,410		81,728		350,374		350,268
Income (loss) before income tax expense		41,736	_	51,434	_	(41,025)		6,741		57,120		58,886		125,096
Income tax expense (benefit)		13,992		13,453		(8,582)		275		15,412	_	19,138		31,609
Net income (loss)	\$	27,744	\$	37,981	\$	(32,443)	\$	6,466	\$	41,708	\$	39,748	\$	93,487
Retail Mortgage Division														
Net interest income	\$	19,908	\$	20,393	\$	24,302	\$	17,756	\$	18,223	\$	82,359	\$	44,552
Provision for credit losses		(1,621)		15,051		423		1,997		1,237		15,850		3,472
Noninterest income		94,109		137,583		104,195		34,369		33,335		370,256		118,188
Noninterest expense														
Salaries and employee benefits		50,165		53,500		50,003		31,097		28,233		184,765		82,470
Occupancy and equipment expenses		1,577		1,676		1,953		1,504		1,544		6,710		4,666
Data processing and telecommunications expenses		1,534		2,349		1,406		986		1,034		6,275		2,418
Other noninterest expenses		7,442		7,889		6,949		5,875		4,553		28,155		12,536
Total noninterest expense		60,718		65,414		60,311		39,462		35,364		225,905		102,090
Income before income tax expense		54.920		77.511		67.763		10.666		14,957		210.860		57.178
Income tax expense		11,535		16,112		14,231		2,408		3,371		44,286		12,202
Net income	\$	43.385	\$	61,399	- \$		\$	8.258	\$	11,586	\$	166,574	\$	44,976
	<u> </u>	.5,505	<u> </u>	02,555		33,332	<u> </u>	0,230	<u> </u>	11,000		200,07.	<u> </u>	,,,,,
Warehouse Lending Division														
Net interest income	\$	9,017	\$	6,546	\$		\$	3,302	\$	3,771	\$	23,891	\$	12,617
Provision for credit losses		1,673		495		403		(9)		67		2,562		67
Noninterest income		1,113		1,064		727		960		610		3,864		1,999
Noninterest expense														
Salaries and employee benefits		296		266		209		210		325		981		934
Occupancy and equipment expenses		1		1		1		1		1		4		5
Data processing and telecommunications expenses		101		73		55		41		47		270		156
Other noninterest expenses		26		28		88		34		53		176		223
Total noninterest expense		424		368		353		286		426		1,431		1,318
Income before income tax expense		8,033		6,747		4,997		3,985		3,888		23,762		13,231
Income tax expense		1,687		1,431		1,049		837		816		5,004		2,778
Net income	\$	6,346	\$	5,316	\$	3,948	\$	3,148	\$	3,072	\$	18,758	\$	10,453
			_											

Segment Reporting (continued)														Table 10
					Year Ended									
(dollars in thousands)		Dec 2020		Sep 2020		Jun 2020		Mar 2020	Dec 2019		Dec 2020			Dec 2019
SBA Division														
Net interest income	\$	14,909	\$	8,966	\$	7,034	\$	2,181	\$	2,190	\$	33,090	\$	7,031
Provision for credit losses		(2,997)		4,297		2,322		(903)		150		2,719		544
Noninterest income		1,247		5,106		1,570		1,277		2,536		9,200		8,915
Noninterest expense														
Salaries and employee benefits		1,233		1,572		2,612		1,476		1,336		6,893		4,783
Occupancy and equipment expenses		100		97		97		97		79		391		269
Data processing and telecommunications expenses		1		4		15		13		5		33		32
Other noninterest expenses		363		595		359		515		402		1,832		1,651
Total noninterest expense		1,697		2,268		3,083		2,101		1,822		9,149		6,735
Income before income tax expense		17,456		7,507		3,199	-	2,260		2,754		30,422		8,667
Income tax expense		3,666		1,577		671		475		578		6,389		1,820
Net income	\$	13,790	\$	5,930	\$	2,528	\$	1,785	\$	2,176	\$	24,033	\$	6,847

Premium Finance Division							
Net interest income	\$ 6,658	\$ 7,071	\$ 7,122	\$ 6,331	\$ 6,210	\$ 27,182	\$ 21,953
Provision for credit losses	(412)	(2,648)	(1,792)	3,965	(502)	(887)	3,021
Noninterest income	15	· · · —		· —	· <u>-</u>	15	6
Noninterest expense							
Salaries and employee benefits	2,104	1,642	1,921	1,542	1,568	7,209	5,617
Occupancy and equipment expenses	73	76	77	79	79	305	375
Data processing and telecommunications expenses	79	84	119	117	120	399	973
Other noninterest expenses	981	934	886	1,056	1,457	3,857	4,561
Total noninterest expense	3,237	2,736	3,003	2,794	3,224	11,770	11,526
Income (loss) before income tax expense	3,848	6,983	5,911	(428)	3,488	16,314	7,412
Income tax expense (benefit)	828	1,464	1,240	(93)	782	3,439	1,734
Net income (loss)	\$ 3,020	\$ 5,519	\$ 4,671	\$ (335)	\$ 2,706	\$ 12,875	\$ 5,678
Total Consolidated							
Net interest income	\$ 163,456	\$ 162,538	\$ 163.814	\$ 147,945	\$ 155,351	\$ 637,753	\$ 505,166
Provision for credit losses	(1,510)	\$ 102,336 17.682	88,161	41,047	5,693	145,380	19,758
Noninterest income	112,143	159,018	120,960	54,379	55,113	446,500	198,113
Noninterest expense	112,143	139,016	120,900	34,379	33,113	440,300	190,113
Salaries and employee benefits	92,466	96.698	95,168	75,946	69,642	360,278	223,938
Occupancy and equipment expenses	12,709	13,805	13,807	12,028	11,919	52,349	40,596
Data processing and telecommunications expenses	11,323	12,226	10,514	11,954	11,362	46,017	38,513
Other noninterest expenses	34,618	30,963	36,279	38,125	29,641	139,985	168,890
Total noninterest expense	151,116	153,692	155,768	138,053	122,564	598,629	471,937
Income before income tax expense	125,993	150.182	40,845	23,224	82,207	340,244	211,584
Income tax expense	31,708	34,037	8,609	3,902	20,959	78,256	50,143
Net income	\$ 94,285	\$ 116,145	\$ 32,236	\$ 19,322	\$ 61,248	\$ 261,988	\$ 161,441

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 ${\color{blue} https://newsroom.amerisbank.com/2021-01-28-Ameris-Bancorp-Announces-Fourth-Ouarter-And-Full-Year-2020-Financial-Results}$

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