FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/ Form 10-Q May 09, 2011

FORM 10-Q UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington D.C. 20549

x QUARTERLY REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended

March 31, 2011

OR

"TRANSITION REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from ______ to _____

Commission file number 0-12379

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP.

31-1042001

(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

45202

(Zip Code)

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

201 East Fourth Street, Suite 1900 Cincinnati, Ohio (Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (877) 322-9530

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes $x = No^{-1}$

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Date File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer xAccelerated filer "Non-accelerated filer "Smaller reporting company "

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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Class Common stock, No par value Outstanding at May 5, 2011 58,252,838

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP.

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PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION ITEM I - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Dollars in thousands, except per share data)

March 31, December 31, 2011 2010 (Unaudited) ASSETS Cash and due from banks \$96,709 \$ 105,981 Interest-bearing deposits with other banks 387,923 176,952 Investment securities available-for-sale, at market value (cost \$1,011,416 at March 31, 2011 and \$904,546 at December 31, 2010) 1,024,684 919,110 Investment securities held-to-maturity (market value \$17,217 at March 31, 2011 and \$18,066 at December 31, 2010) 17,406 16,780 Other investments 78,689 78,689 Loans held for sale 29,292 6,813 Loans: Commercial 794,821 800,253 Real estate-construction 145,355 163,543 Real estate-commercial 1,131,306 1,139,931 Real estate-residential 268,746 269,173 Installment 66,028 69,711 Home equity 339,590 341,310 Credit card 28,104 29,563 Lease financing 7,147 2,609 Total loans, excluding covered loans 2,781,097 2,816,093 Less: Allowance for loan losses 53,645 57,235 Net loans - uncovered 2,727,452 2,758,858 Covered loans 1,336,015 1,481,493 Less: Allowance for loan losses 31,555 16,493 Net loans - covered 1,304,460 1,465,000 Net loans 4,031,912 4,223,858 Premises and equipment 115,873 118,477 Goodwill 51,820 51,820 Other intangibles 5,227 5,604 FDIC indemnification asset 207.359 222,648 Accrued interest and other assets 300,388 290,692 TOTAL ASSETS \$6,314,481 \$ 6,250,225

LIABILITIES

Deposits:		
Interest-bearing	\$1,136,219	\$ 1,111,877
Savings	1,628,952	1,534,045
Time	1,702,294	1,794,843
Total interest-bearing deposits	4,467,465	4,440,765
Noninterest-bearing	749,785	705,484
Total deposits	5,217,250	5,146,249

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Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase	87,973	59,842
Long-term debt	102,976	128,880
Other long-term debt	20,620	20,620
Total borrowed funds	211,569	209,342
Accrued interest and other liabilities	177,698	197,240
TOTAL LIABILITIES	5,606,517	5,552,831
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Common stock - no par value		
Authorized - 160,000,000 shares Issued - 68,730,731 shares in 2011 and 68,730,731		
shares in 2010	576,992	580,097
Retained earnings	320,515	310,271
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(12,332)	(12,044
Treasury stock, at cost, 10,443,841 shares in 2011 and 10,665,754 shares in 2010	(177,211)	(180,930
TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	707,964	697,394
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$6,314,481	\$ 6,250,225

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Dollars in thousands, except per share data) (Unaudited)

	Three m	Three months ended	
	Ma	March 31,	
	2011	2010	
Interest income			
Loans, including fees	\$74,016	\$79,338	