### Edgar Filing: FIRST MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-K

## FIRST MERCHANTS CORP Form 10-K March 17, 2008

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K [Mark One]

[X] ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007

OR

Commission file number 0-17071

FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Indiana
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

35-1544218 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

200 East Jackson Muncie, Indiana

47305-2814 (Zip Code)

(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (765) 747-1500

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: None

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12 (g) of the Act:

Common Stock, \$.125 stated value per share

(Title of class)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes  $[\ ]$  No [X]

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes  $[\ ]$  No [X]

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  $[\ ]$ 

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. [X]

#### Edgar Filing: FIRST MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-K

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definition of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer, "and "smaller reporting company". Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. Large accelerated filer [] Accelerated filer[X] Non-accelerated filer[] Smaller Reporting Company []

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

The aggregate market value (not necessarily a reliable indication of the price at which more than a limited number of shares would trade) of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was \$439,397,000 as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter (June 30, 2007).

As of February 20, 2008 there were 18,551,275 outstanding common shares, without par value, of the registrant.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Documents
Part of Form 10-K
into which incorporated
Portions of the Registrant's Definitive
Proxy Statement for Annual Meeting of
Shareholders to be held April 29, 2008
Part III (Items 10 through 14)

Page 1

TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION Five-Year Summary of Selected Financial Data 3 Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements 4 PART I Item 1. Business 5 Item 1A. Risk Factors Unresolved Staff Comments 21 Item 1B. 2.4 Item 2. Properties 2.5 Item 3. Legal Proceedings 25 Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders 25 Supplemental Information -Executive Officers of the Registrant 2.6 PART II Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Item 5. Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities 27 Item 6. Selected Financial Data 29 Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations 30 Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure about Market Risk 41 Financial Statements and Supplementary Data 42 Item 8. Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial

# Edgar Filing: FIRST MERCHANTS CORP - Form 10-K

		Item Item		Disclosure Controls and Procedures Other Information	71 71 72
PART	III				
		Item	10.	Directors, Executive Officers and	
				Corporate Governance	73
		Item	11.	Executive Compensation	73
		Item	12.	Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial	
				Owners and Management and Related	
				Stockholder Matters	73
		Item	13.	Certain Relationships and Related	
				Transactions	73
		Item	14.	Principal Accountant Fees and Services	73
PART	IV				
		Item	15.	Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules	74

Page 2

(Dollars in Thousands, except share data)	2007	2006	2005
	=========		
Operations			
Net Interest Income			
Fully Taxable Equivalent (FTE) Basis		\$ 114,076	\$ 114,9
Less Tax Equivalent Adjustment	4,127	3,981	3,7
Net Interest Income	113,120	110,095	111,1
Provision for Loan Losses	8,507	·	8,3
Net Interest Income			
After Provision for Loan Losses	104,613	103,837	102,7
Total Other Income	40,551	34,613	34,7
Total Other Expenses	102,182	96 <b>,</b> 057	93,9
Income Before Income Tax Expense	42,982	42,393	43,5
-	11,343	·	13,2