



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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For more information, contact:

**Eric Skrum**, Wisconsin Bankers Association

608/441-1216 | (c) 608/445-6430 | [eskrum@wisbank.com](mailto:eskrum@wisbank.com)

Twitter: [@wisbank](https://twitter.com/wisbank)

**Statement on the release of first quarter 2017 FDIC numbers from Rose Oswald Poels, president/CEO of the Wisconsin Bankers Association**

“Wisconsin’s banks continued their tradition of steady growth in the first quarter of 2017, according to the latest FDIC quarterly numbers. Helping that growth, farm loans and deposits both grew, by 12.2% and 1.97%, respectively. Overall lending grew to over \$77 billion, a 2.83% increase when compared to the same timeframe in 2016.

All of these factors are evidence of the strength and stability of Wisconsin’s banking industry. The FDIC’s report shows the percentage of unprofitable banks fell by nearly two-thirds compared to the first quarter of 2016. This profitability is partly due to the loan growth fueled by improving credit quality among borrowers, demonstrated by the falling number of noncurrent loans and leases. As the state has seen positive economic growth and an historically large workforce, we’ve seen increased loan activity and improved asset quality.

The latest FDIC numbers continue to highlight the fact that the diversity of Wisconsin’s strong banking industry directly benefits Wisconsin consumers. Wisconsin banks remain committed to helping businesses grow and families prosper, creating thriving communities. Our institutions are healthy, well-capitalized and ready to help keep our economy growing.”

**FDIC Reported WI Numbers\***

	<u>3/31/17</u>	<u>3/31/16</u>	<u>Change</u>
Total Loans & Leases	\$77,058,283	\$74,932,176	+ 2.83
Total Deposits	\$86,553,388	\$84,877,307	+ 1.97
Commercial & Industrial Loans	\$12,520,222	\$13,541,802	- 7.5
Residential Loans	\$22,750,762	\$22,794,397	- 0.2
Farm Loans	\$3,819,501	\$3,403,183	+ 12.2
Farmland Loans	\$3,236,548	\$2,953,664	+ 9.5
Total Assets	\$108,877,609	\$107,297,397	+ 1.5
Noncurrent Loans & Leases	\$801,406	\$914,173	- 12.3

\* \$ in 000's

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*The Wisconsin Bankers Association is the state’s largest financial industry trade association, representing nearly 250 commercial banks and savings institutions, their nearly 2,300 branch offices and 23,000 employees.*