

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

Northwest Bancshares, Inc.  
Form 10-K  
March 01, 2011

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

FORM 10-K

Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2010

OR

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.  
For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File No. 001-34582

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 27-0950358 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

100 Liberty Street, Warren, Pennsylvania (Address of Principal Executive Offices) 16365 (Zip Code)  
(814) 726-2140 (Registrant's telephone number)

Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:  
Title of each class Name of each exchange on which registered  
Common Stock, \$0.01 Par Value NASDAQ Stock Market, LLC  
Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:  
None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. YES  NO

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

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 twelve months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such requirements for the past 90 days. YES  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.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data 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 " NO "

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 definition of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large Accelerated Filer  Accelerated Filer "  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 Exchange Act).  
YES " NO

As of February 22, 2011, there were 109,151,550 shares outstanding of the Registrant's Common Stock.

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates of the Registrant, computed by reference to the last sale price on June 30, 2010, as reported by the Nasdaq Global Select Market, was approximately \$1.271 billion.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

- (1) Proxy Statement for the 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Registrant (Part III).
-

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This document contains forward-looking statements, which can be identified by the use of words such as “estimate,” “project,” “believe,” “intend,” “anticipate,” “plan,” “seek,” “expect” and words of similar meaning. These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to:

- statements of our goals, intentions and expectations;
- statements regarding our business plans, prospects, growth and operating strategies;
- statements regarding the asset quality of our loan and investment portfolios; and
- estimates of our risks and future costs and benefits.

These forward-looking statements are based on current beliefs and expectations of our management and are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond our control. In addition, these forward-looking statements are subject to assumptions with respect to future business strategies and decisions that are subject to change.

The following factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in the forward-looking statements:

- changes in laws or government regulations or policies affecting financial institutions, including changes in regulatory fees and capital requirements;
  - general economic conditions, either nationally or in our market areas, that are worse than expected;
    - competition among depository and other financial institutions;
- inflation and changes in the interest rate environment that reduce our margins or reduce the fair value of financial instruments;
  - adverse changes in the securities markets;
  - our ability to enter new markets successfully and capitalize on growth opportunities;
    - our ability to successfully integrate acquired entities, if any;
    - changes in consumer spending, borrowing and savings habits;
- our ability to continue to increase and manage our commercial and residential real estate, multi-family, and commercial and industrial loans;
- possible impairments of securities held by us, including those issued by government entities and government sponsored enterprises;
  - the level of future deposit premium assessments;
- the impact of the recession on our loan portfolio (including cash flow and collateral values), investment portfolio, customers and capital market activities;
  - the impact of the current governmental effort to restructure the U.S. financial and regulatory system;
    - changes in the financial performance and/or condition of our borrowers; and
- the effect of changes in accounting policies and practices, as may be adopted by the regulatory agencies, as well as the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, the Financial Accounting Standards Board and other accounting standard setters.

Because of these and other uncertainties, our actual future results may be materially different from the results indicated by these forward-looking statements. Please see “Item 1.A. Risk Factors.”

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                | Page  |
|----------------|---|
| PART I         |   |
| ITEM 1.        | BUSINESS 2  |
| ITEM 1A.       | RISK FACTORS 16   |
| ITEM 1B.       | UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS 21  |
| ITEM 2.        | PROPERTIES 21   |
| ITEM 3.        | LEGAL PROCEEDINGS 21  |
| ITEM 4.        | RESERVED 21   |
| PART II        |   |
| ITEM 5.        | MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES 22 |
| ITEM 6.        | SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA 24  |
| ITEM 7.        | MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS 26                        |
| ITEM 7A.       | QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK 55   |
| ITEM 8.        | FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA 59  |
| ITEM 9.        | CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE 114                        |
| ITEM 9A.       | CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES 114   |
| ITEM 9B.       | OTHER INFORMATION 114   |
| PART III       |   |
| ITEM 10.       | DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE 114  |
| ITEM 11.       | EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION 114  |
| ITEM 12.       | SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS 114              |
| ITEM 13.       | CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE 115                                   |
| ITEM 14.       | PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES 115  |
| PART IV        |   |
| ITEM 15.       | EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES 115  |
| SIGNATURES 118 |   |
| EX-23          |   |
| EX-31.1        |   |
| EX-31.2        |   |
| EX-32          |   |



ITEM 1.

BUSINESS

Northwest Bancshares, Inc.

Northwest Bancshares, Inc., a Maryland corporation, was incorporated in September 2009 to be the successor corporation to Northwest Bancorp, Inc., the former stock holding company for Northwest Savings Bank, upon completion of the mutual-to-stock conversion of Northwest Bancorp, MHC.

The conversion was completed December 18, 2009. Northwest Bancshares, Inc. sold a total of 68,878,267 shares of common stock at \$10.00 per share in the related offering. Concurrent with the completion of the offering, shares of Northwest Bancorp, Inc. common stock owned by public stockholders were exchanged for 2.25 shares of Northwest Bancshares, Inc.'s common stock. In lieu of fractional shares, shareholders were paid in cash. Northwest Bancshares, Inc. also issued 1,277,565 shares of common stock and contributed \$1.0 million in cash from the offering proceeds to Northwest Charitable Foundation, a charitable foundation that Northwest Bancshares, Inc. established for the benefit of the communities in which Northwest Savings Bank operates. As of December 31, 2010, Northwest Bancshares, Inc. had 110,295,117 shares outstanding and a market capitalization of approximately \$1.3 billion.

Northwest Bancshares, Inc.'s executive offices are located at 100 Liberty Street, Warren, Pennsylvania 16365. Our telephone number at this address is (814) 726-2140.

Northwest Bancshares, Inc.'s website ([www.northwestsavingsbank.com](http://www.northwestsavingsbank.com)) contains a direct link to Northwest Bancshares, Inc.'s and its predecessor Northwest Bancorp, Inc.'s filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including copies of annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to these filings, if any. Copies may also be obtained, without charge, by written request to Shareholder Relations, P.O. Box 128, Warren, Pennsylvania 16365.

Northwest Savings Bank

Northwest Savings Bank is a Pennsylvania-chartered stock savings bank headquartered in Warren, Pennsylvania, which is located in northwestern Pennsylvania. Northwest Savings Bank is a community-oriented financial institution offering traditional deposit and loan products and investment management and trust services. Through a wholly-owned subsidiary, Northwest Consumer Discount Company, it also offers consumer finance services. Northwest Savings Bank's mutual savings bank predecessor was founded in 1896.

As of December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank operated 171 community-banking offices throughout its market area in central and western Pennsylvania, western New York, eastern Ohio, Maryland and southeastern Florida. Northwest Savings Bank, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Northwest Consumer Discount Company, also operates 52 consumer finance offices throughout Pennsylvania. Northwest Savings Bank also offers investment management and trust services and, through wholly-owned subsidiaries, actuarial and benefit plan administration services. Historically, our principle lending activity was the origination of fixed-rate loans secured by first mortgages on owner-occupied, one- to four-family residences. In an effort to reduce interest rate risk and improve profit margins, we also offer shorter term consumer loans. In recent years, we have greatly increased our emphasis on the origination of commercial business and commercial real estate loans.

Our principal sources of funds are deposits, borrowed funds and the principal and interest payments on loans and marketable securities. Our principal source of income is interest received on loans and marketable securities. Our principal expenses are the interest paid on deposits and the cost of employee compensation and benefits.

Northwest Savings Bank's principal executive office is located at 100 Liberty Street, Warren, Pennsylvania, and its telephone number at that address is (814) 726-2140.

## Market Area and Competition

We are headquartered in Warren, Pennsylvania, which is located in northwestern Pennsylvania, and have our highest concentration of deposits and loans in this area of Pennsylvania. Since the early 1990s, we have expanded, primarily through acquisitions, into the southwestern and central regions of Pennsylvania, as well as western New York, eastern Ohio, Maryland and southeastern Florida. As of December 31, 2010, we operated 141 community banking offices and 52 consumer finance offices in Pennsylvania, four community banking offices in Ohio, 18 community banking offices in New York, five community banking offices in Maryland and three community banking offices in Florida. All of the aforementioned market areas are served by a number of competing financial institutions. As a result, we encounter strong competition both in attracting deposits and in originating retail and commercial loans. Our most direct competition for deposits comes from commercial banks, brokerage houses, other thrift institutions and credit unions in our market areas. We expect continued competition from these financial institutions in the foreseeable future. With the continued acceptance of internet banking by our customers and consumers generally, competition for deposits has increased from institutions operating outside of our market area as well as from insurance companies.

**Pennsylvania and Western New York Market Area.** Through our acquisitions and de novo branching strategy we have expanded our retail branch footprint throughout 30 counties in Pennsylvania and five counties in western New York. In addition, through our consumer finance offices we operate in 11 additional counties in Pennsylvania. Our northwestern and southwestern Pennsylvania and western New York markets are fueled by a diverse economy driven by service businesses, technology companies and small manufacturing companies. Our southeastern Pennsylvania market is primarily driven by service businesses and serves as a bedroom community to the cities of Baltimore, Maryland and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Our primary market area has remained a stable banking market.

**Maryland, Ohio and Florida Market Areas.** In addition to operating in Pennsylvania and western New York, we also operate four community banking offices in Ashtabula, Lake and Geauga counties in Ohio, five community banking offices in Baltimore, Howard and Anne Arundel counties in Maryland and three community banking offices in Broward county in Florida. Our Maryland regional economy consists of service businesses, government as well as health care services. The major employment sectors in our Ohio market are similar to our northwestern Pennsylvania market. With the exception of Ashtabula county in Ohio, these markets have an expanding population base as well as higher median household income levels relative to the state and national averages. On January 25, 2011, we announced our intention to exit the Florida market. We anticipate completing our exit by June 30, 2011.

## Lending Activities

**General.** Historically, our principal lending activity has been the origination, for retention in our loan portfolio, of fixed-rate and, to a lesser extent, adjustable-rate mortgage loans collateralized by one- to four-family residential real estate located in our market area. We also originate loans collateralized by multi-family residential and commercial real estate, commercial business loans and consumer loans. Generally, we focus our lending activities in the geographic areas where we maintain offices.

In an effort to manage interest rate risk, we have sought to make our interest-earning assets more interest rate sensitive by originating adjustable-rate loans, such as adjustable-rate residential mortgage loans and home equity lines-of-credit, and by originating short-term and medium-term fixed-rate consumer loans. In recent years we have emphasized the origination of commercial real estate loans and commercial business loans, which generally have adjustable rates of interest and shorter maturities than one- to four-family residential real estate loans. We also purchase mortgage-backed securities and other types of investment securities that generally have short average lives and/or adjustable interest rates. Because we originate a substantial amount of long-term fixed-rate mortgage loans collateralized by one- to four-family residential real estate, when possible, we originate and underwrite loans according to standards that allow us to sell them in the secondary mortgage market for purposes of managing

interest-rate risk and liquidity. We currently sell in the secondary market a limited number of fixed-rate residential mortgage loans with maturities of more than 15 years, and generally retain all adjustable-rate mortgage loans and fixed-rate residential mortgage loans with maturities of 15 years or less. Although we have sold an increased number of the mortgage loans that we originated, we continue to be a portfolio lender and at any one time we hold few loans identified as held-for-sale. We currently retain servicing on the mortgage loans we sell which generates monthly service fee income. We generally retain in our portfolio all consumer loans that we originate while we periodically sell participations in the multi-family residential, commercial real estate or commercial business loans that we originate in an effort to reduce the risk of certain individual credits and the risk associated with certain businesses or industries.

**One- to Four-Family Residential Mortgage Loans.** We currently offer one- to four-family residential mortgage loans with terms typically ranging from 15 to 30 years, with either adjustable or fixed interest rates. Originations of fixed-rate mortgage loans versus adjustable-rate mortgage loans are monitored on an ongoing basis and are affected significantly by such factors as the level of market interest rates, customer preference, our interest rate sensitivity and liquidity position as well as loan products offered by our competitors. Therefore, even when management's strategy is to increase the origination of adjustable-rate mortgage loans, market conditions may be such that there is greater demand for fixed-rate mortgage loans.

Our fixed-rate loans, whenever possible, are originated and underwritten according to standards that permit sale into the secondary mortgage market. Whether we can or will sell fixed-rate loans into the secondary market, however, depends on a number of factors including the yield and the term of the loan, market conditions, and our current liquidity and interest rate sensitivity position. We historically have been primarily a portfolio lender and at any one time we have only a nominal amount of loans as held for sale. Our current strategy is to grow the consumer and commercial loan portfolios by more than we grow our portfolio of long-term fixed-rate residential mortgage loans. With this in mind, we generally retain in our portfolio fixed-rate loans with terms of 15 years or less, and sell a portion of fixed-rate loans (servicing retained) with terms of more than 15 years. Our one- to four-family residential real estate loans are amortized on a monthly basis with principal and interest each due monthly. These loans often remain outstanding for significantly shorter periods than their contractual terms because borrowers may refinance or prepay loans at their option, usually without a prepayment penalty.

We currently offer adjustable-rate mortgage loans with initial interest rate adjustment periods of one, three and five years, based on changes in a designated market index. We determine whether a borrower qualifies for an adjustable-rate mortgage loan based on secondary market guidelines. One- to four-family adjustable-rate residential mortgage loans totaled \$36.4 million, or 0.64% of our gross loan portfolio at December 31, 2010.

Our one- to four-family residential mortgage loans customarily include due-on-sale clauses, which are provisions giving us the right to declare a loan immediately due and payable in the event, among other things, the borrower sells or otherwise disposes of the underlying real property serving as collateral for the loan. Due-on-sale clauses are an important means of adjusting the rates on our fixed-rate mortgage loan portfolio.

Regulations limit the amount that a savings bank may lend relative to the appraised value of the real estate securing the loan, as determined by an appraisal at the time of loan origination. Appraisals are either performed by our in-house appraisal staff or by an appraiser who has been deemed qualified by our chief appraiser. Such regulations permit a maximum loan-to-value ratio of 95% for residential property and 80% for all other real estate loans. We generally limit the maximum loan-to-value ratio on both fixed-rate and adjustable-rate mortgage loans without private mortgage insurance to 80% of the lesser of the appraised value or the purchase price of the real estate that serves as collateral for the loan. We originate a limited amount of one- to four-family residential mortgage loans with loan-to-value ratios in excess of 80%. For one- to four-family residential mortgage loans with loan-to-value ratios in excess of 80%, we generally require the borrower to obtain private mortgage insurance. We require fire and casualty insurance, as well as a title guaranty regarding good title, on all properties securing our real estate loans.

Some financial institutions we have acquired have held loans that are serviced by others and are secured by one- to four-family residences. At December 31, 2010, our portfolio of one- to four-family loans serviced by others totaled \$8.3 million. We currently have no formal plans to enter into new residential loan participations.

Included in our \$2.432 billion portfolio of one- to four-family residential real estate loans are construction loans of \$18.1 million, or 0.75% of our total loan portfolio. We offer fixed-rate and adjustable-rate residential construction loans primarily for the construction of owner-occupied one- to four-family residences in our market area to builders or to owners who have a contract for construction. Construction loans are generally structured to become permanent loans, and are originated with terms of up to 30 years with an allowance of up to one year for construction. Advances are made as construction is completed. In addition, we originate loans within our market area that are secured by individual unimproved or improved lots. Land loans for the construction of owner-occupied residential real estate properties are currently offered with fixed-rates for terms of up to 10 years. The maximum loan-to-value ratio for these loans is 80% of the as-completed appraised value, and the maximum loan-to-value ratio for our construction loans is 95% of the lower of cost or as-completed appraised value.

Construction lending generally involves a greater degree of credit risk than permanent one- to four-family residential mortgage lending. The repayment of the construction loan is often dependent upon the successful completion of the construction project. Construction delays or the inability of the borrower to sell the property once construction is completed may impair the borrower's ability to repay the loan.

**Multi-family Residential and Commercial Real Estate Loans.** Our multi-family residential real estate loans are secured by multi-family residences, such as rental properties. Our commercial real estate loans are secured by nonresidential properties such as hotels, church property, manufacturing facilities and retail establishments. At December 31, 2010, a significant portion of our multi-family residential and commercial real estate loans were secured by properties located within our market area. Our largest multi-family residential real estate loan relationship at December 31, 2010 had a principal balance of \$7.4 million, and was collateralized by multiple residential real estate rental properties. These loans were performing in accordance with their terms as of December 31, 2010. Our largest commercial real estate loan relationship at December 31, 2010, had a principal balance of \$35.6 million and was collateralized by six different mixed use commercial buildings. These loans were performing in accordance with their terms as of December 31, 2010. Multi-family residential and commercial real estate loans are offered with both adjustable interest rates and fixed interest rates. The terms of each multi-family residential and commercial real estate loan are negotiated on a case-by-case basis. We generally originate multi-family residential and commercial real estate loans in amounts up to 80% of the appraised value of the property collateralizing the loan.

Loans secured by multi-family residential and commercial real estate generally involve a greater degree of credit risk than one- to four-family residential mortgage loans and carry larger loan balances. This increased credit risk is a result of several factors, including the concentration of principal in a limited number of loans and borrowers, the effects of general economic conditions on income producing properties, and the increased difficulty of evaluating and monitoring these types of loans. Furthermore, the repayment of loans secured by multi-family residential and commercial real estate is typically dependent upon the successful operation of the related real estate property. If the cash flow from the project is reduced, the borrower's ability to repay the loan may be impaired.

**Home Equity Loans and Lines of Credit.** Generally, our home equity loans and home equity lines of credit are secured by the borrower's principal residence with a maximum loan-to-value ratio, including the principal balances of both the first and second mortgage loans, of 90% or less. Home equity loans are offered on a fixed rate basis with terms of up to 20 years. Home equity lines of credit are offered on an adjustable-rate basis with terms of up to 25 years. At December 31, 2010, the disbursed portion of home equity lines of credit totaled \$278.7 million, or 4.9% of our total loans, with \$280.9 million remaining undisbursed, and our fixed-rate home equity loans totaled \$817.2 million, or 14.4% of our total loans. We generally underwrite home equity loans and lines of credit in a manner similar to our underwriting of one- to four-family residential real estate loans.

**Consumer Loans.** The principal types of consumer loans we offer are automobile loans, sales finance loans, unsecured personal loans, credit card loans, and loans secured by deposit accounts. Consumer loans are typically

offered with maturities of ten years or less.

The underwriting standards we employ for consumer loans include a determination of the applicant's credit history and an assessment of ability to meet existing obligations and payments on the proposed loan. The stability of the applicant's monthly income may be determined by verification of gross monthly income from primary employment, and additionally, from any verifiable secondary income. Creditworthiness of the applicant is of primary consideration; however, the underwriting process also includes a comparison of the value of the collateral in relation to the proposed loan amount.

Consumer loans entail greater credit risk than residential mortgage loans, particularly in the case of consumer loans that are unsecured or secured by assets that depreciate rapidly, such as automobiles, mobile homes, boats, recreation vehicles, appliances and furniture. In such cases, repossessed collateral for a defaulted consumer loan may not provide an adequate source of repayment for the outstanding loan and the remaining deficiency often does not warrant further substantial collection efforts against the borrower. In particular, amounts realizable on the sale of repossessed automobiles may be significantly reduced based upon the condition of the automobiles and the lack of demand for used automobiles.

**Commercial Business Loans.** We offer commercial business loans to finance various activities in our market area, some of which are secured in part by additional real estate collateral. At December 31, 2010 the largest commercial business loan relationship had a principal balance of \$15.6 million, and was secured by all fixed assets of an oil and gas extraction company.

Commercial business loans are offered with both fixed and adjustable interest rates. Underwriting standards we employ for commercial business loans include a determination of the applicant's ability to meet existing obligations and payments on the proposed loan from normal cash flows generated by the applicant's business. The financial strength of each applicant also is assessed through a review of financial statements provided by the applicant.

Commercial business loans generally bear higher interest rates than residential loans, but they also may involve a higher risk of default since their repayment is generally dependent on the successful operation of the borrower's business. We generally obtain personal guarantees from the borrower or a third party as a condition to originating commercial business loans.

**Loan Originations, Solicitation, Processing and Commitments.** Loan originations are derived from a number of sources such as real estate broker referrals, existing customers, borrowers, builders, attorneys and walk-in customers. All of our loan originators are salaried employees, and we do not pay commissions in connection with loan originations. Upon receiving a retail loan application, we obtain a credit report and employment verification to verify specific information relating to the applicant's employment, income, and credit standing. In the case of a real estate loan, an in-house appraiser, or an appraiser we approve, appraises the real estate intended to secure the proposed loan. A loan processor in our loan department checks the loan document file for accuracy and completeness, and verifies the information provided.

For our retail loans, including residential mortgage loans, home equity loans and lines of credit, automobile loans, credit cards and other unsecured loans, we have implemented a credit approval process based on a laddered individual loan authority system. Local loan officers are granted various levels of authority based on their lending experience and expertise. These authority levels are reviewed by the Credit Committee on at least an annual basis.

Our commercial loan policy assigns lending limits for our various commercial loan officers. These individual authorities are established by the Credit Committee. Regional loan committees may approve extensions of credit above those that may be authorized by individual officers, and the Senior Loan Committee may approve extensions of credit in excess of those that may be approved by regional loan committees. The Credit Committee meets quarterly to review the assigned lending limits and to monitor our lending policies, loan activity, economic conditions and concentrations of credit.

The Board of Directors must approve all loans where the total debt relationship exceeds \$7.5 million (\$5.0 million for loans exceeding the maximum loan-to-value ratio or not meeting minimum debt service coverage), or as may be required by Regulation O. Loans exceeding the limits established for the Senior Loan Committee must be approved by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors or by the entire Board of Directors. Our general policy is to make no loans either individually or in the aggregate to one entity in excess of \$15.0 million. Exceptions to this

policy are permitted with the prior approval from the Board of Directors. Fire and casualty insurance is required at the time the loan is made and throughout the term of the loan, and flood insurance is required as determined by regulation. After the loan is approved, a loan commitment letter is promptly issued to the borrower. At December 31, 2010, we had commitments to originate \$135.8 million of loans.

If the loan is approved, the commitment letter specifies the terms and conditions of the proposed loan including the amount of the loan, interest rate, amortization period, maturity, a description of the required collateral and required insurance coverage. The borrower must provide proof of fire and casualty insurance on the property (and, as required, flood insurance) serving as collateral, which insurance must be maintained during the full term of the loan. Property searches are requested, as needed, on all loans secured by real property.

**Loan Origination Fees.** In addition to interest earned on loans, we generally receive loan origination fees. We defer loan origination fees and costs and amortize such amounts as an adjustment of yield over the life of the loan by use of the level yield method. Deferred loan fees are recognized into income immediately upon prepayment or the sale of the related loan. At December 31, 2010, we had \$7.2 million of net deferred loan origination fees. Loan origination fees are volatile sources of income. Such fees vary with the volume and type of loans and commitments originated and purchased, principal repayments, and competitive conditions in the marketplace.

Income from loan origination fees was \$6.6 million, \$7.6 million and \$7.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

**Loans-to-One Borrower.** Savings banks are subject to the same loans-to-one borrower limits as those applicable to national banks, which restrict loans to one borrower to an amount equal to 15% of unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus on an unsecured basis, and an additional amount equal to 10% of unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus if the loan is secured by readily marketable collateral (generally, financial instruments and bullion, but not real estate). We have established our own internal limit of loans to one borrower of \$15.0 million, which may be exceeded only with the approval of the Board of Directors. At December 31, 2010, the largest aggregate amount loaned to one borrower, or related borrowers, totaled \$35.6 million and was secured by six different mixed use commercial buildings. Our second largest lending relationship totaled \$35.1 million and was secured by nine different properties including several hotels and other commercial real estate. Our third largest lending relationship totaled \$16.8 million and was secured by a hotel. Our fourth largest lending relationship totaled \$15.8 million and was secured by all of the assets of an oil and gas extraction company. Our fifth largest lending relationship totaled \$15.0 million and was secured by an oil refinery. All of these loans were performing in accordance with their terms at December 31, 2010.

#### Investment Activities

Our Board of Directors has primary responsibility for establishing and overseeing our investment policy. The board of directors has delegated authority to implement the investment policy to our Chief Financial Officer. The investment policy is reviewed at least annually by the Chief Financial Officer, and any changes to the policy are subject to approval by the full Board of Directors. The overall objectives of the Investment Policy are to maintain a portfolio of high quality and diversified investments, to provide liquidity, and to control interest rate risk while providing an acceptable return. The investment portfolio is also used to provide collateral for borrowings, to provide additional earnings when loan production is low, and to reduce our tax liability. The policy dictates that investment decisions give consideration to the safety of principal, liquidity requirements and potential returns. Either our Chief Financial Officer executes our securities portfolio transactions or our Treasurer executes transactions as directed by the Chief Financial Officer. All purchase and sale transactions are reported to the Board of Directors on a monthly basis.

Our current investment policy does not permit investment in complex securities and derivatives as defined in federal banking regulations and other high-risk securities, nor does it permit additional investments in non-agency mortgage-backed securities, pooled trust preferred securities, or single issuer trust preferred securities.

At the time of purchase, we designate a security as either held to maturity, available-for-sale, or trading, based upon our ability and intent. Securities available-for-sale and trading securities are reported at market value and securities

held to maturity are reported at amortized cost. A periodic review and evaluation of the available-for-sale and held-to-maturity securities portfolios is conducted to determine if the fair value of any security has declined below its carrying value and whether such decline is other-than-temporary. If impairment exists, credit related impairment losses are recorded in earnings while noncredit related impairment losses are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (for available for sale securities). The fair values of our securities are based on published or securities dealers' market values, when available. See the footnotes to the audited financial statements for a detailed analysis and description of our investment portfolio and valuation techniques.

We purchase mortgage-backed securities that generally are issued by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac or Ginnie Mae. Historically, we invested in mortgage-backed securities to achieve positive interest rate spreads with minimal administrative expense and to lower our credit risk as a result of the guarantees provided by Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae or Ginnie Mae. However, in September 2008, the Federal Housing Finance Agency placed Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae into conservatorship. The U.S. Treasury Department has established financing agreements to ensure that Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae meet their obligations to holders of mortgage-backed securities that they have issued or guaranteed. These actions have not materially affected the markets for mortgage-backed securities issued by Freddie Mac or Fannie Mae.

#### Sources of Funds

General. Deposits are the major source of our funds for lending and other investment purposes. In addition to deposits, we derive funds from the amortization and prepayment of loans and mortgage-backed securities, the maturity of investment securities, operations and, if needed, borrowings. Scheduled loan principal repayments are a relatively stable source of funds, while deposit inflows and outflows and loan prepayments are influenced significantly by general interest rates and market conditions. Borrowings may be used on a short-term basis to compensate for reductions in the availability of funds from other sources or on a longer term basis for general business purposes, including to manage interest rate risk.

Deposits. Consumer and commercial deposits are generated principally from our market area by offering a broad selection of deposit instruments including checking accounts, savings accounts, money market deposit accounts, term certificate accounts and individual retirement accounts. While we accept deposits of \$100,000 or more, we do not offer premium rates for such deposits. We accept brokered deposits through the CDARS program, but generally do not solicit funds outside our market area. As of December 31, 2010, we had no deposits through the CDARS program. Deposit account terms vary according to the minimum balance required, the period of time during which the funds must remain on deposit, and the interest rate, among other factors. We regularly execute changes in our deposit rates based upon cash flow requirements, general market interest rates, competition, and liquidity requirements.

Borrowings. Deposits are the primary source of funds for our lending and investment activities and general business purposes. We also rely upon borrowings to supplement our supply of lendable funds and to meet deposit withdrawal requirements. Borrowings from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh typically are collateralized by our stock in the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh and a portion of our real estate loans. In addition to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, we have borrowing facilities with the Federal Reserve Bank, two correspondent banks and we borrow funds, in the form of reverse repurchase agreements, from municipalities and school districts.

The Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh functions as a central reserve bank providing credit for Northwest Savings Bank and other member financial institutions. As a member, Northwest Savings Bank is required to own capital stock in the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh and is authorized to apply for borrowings on the security of such stock and certain of its real estate loans, provided certain standards related to creditworthiness have been met. Borrowings are made pursuant to several different programs. Each credit program has its own interest rate and range of maturities. Depending on the program, limitations on the amount of borrowings are based either on a fixed percentage of a member institution's net worth or on the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh's assessment of the institution's creditworthiness. All of our Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh borrowings currently have fixed interest rates and original maturities of between one day and ten years.

#### Subsidiary Activities

Northwest Bancshares, Inc.'s sole consolidated subsidiary is Northwest Savings Bank. Northwest Bancshares, Inc. also owns all of the common stock of two statutory business trusts: Northwest Bancorp Capital Trust III, a Delaware

statutory business trust, and Northwest Bancorp Statutory Trust IV, a Connecticut statutory business trust (the "Trusts"). The Trusts have issued a total of \$100.0 million of trust preferred securities. The Trusts are not consolidated with Northwest Bancshares, Inc. At December 31, 2010, Northwest Bancshares, Inc.'s investment in the Trusts totaled \$3.1 million, and the Trusts had assets of \$103.1 million at that date.

Northwest Savings Bank has eight wholly-owned subsidiaries – Northwest Settlement Agency, LLC, Great Northwest Corporation, Northwest Financial Services, Inc., Northwest Consumer Discount Company, Inc., Allegheny Services, Inc., Boetger and Associates, Inc., Veracity Benefits Design, Inc. and Northwest Capital Group, Inc. For financial reporting purposes all of these companies are included in the consolidated financial statements of Northwest Bancshares, Inc.

Northwest Settlement Agency, LLC provides title insurance to borrowers of Northwest Savings Bank and other lenders. At December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank had an equity investment in Northwest Settlement Agency, LLC of \$2.0 million. For the year ended December 31, 2010, Northwest Settlement Agency, LLC had net income of \$467,000.

Great Northwest's sole activity is holding equity investments in government-assisted low-income housing projects in various locations throughout our market area. At December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank had an equity investment in Great Northwest of \$6.6 million. For the year ended December 31, 2010, Great Northwest had net income of \$306,000, generated primarily from federal low-income housing tax credits.

Northwest Financial Services' principal activity is the operation of retail brokerage activities. It also owns the common stock of several financial institutions. In addition, Northwest Financial Services holds an equity investment in one government assisted low-income housing project. At December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank had an equity investment in Northwest Financial Services of \$7.2 million, and for the year ended December 31, 2010, Northwest Financial Services had net income of \$103,000.

Northwest Consumer Discount Company operates 52 consumer finance offices throughout Pennsylvania. At December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank had an equity investment in Northwest Consumer Discount Company of \$32.0 million and the net income of Northwest Consumer Discount Company for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$2.4 million.

Allegheny Services, Inc. is a Delaware investment company that holds mortgage loans originated through our wholesale lending operation as well as municipal bonds. In addition, Allegheny Services, Inc. has loans to both Northwest Savings Bank and Northwest Consumer Discount Company. At December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank had an equity investment in Allegheny Services, Inc. of \$672.7 million, and for the year ended December 31, 2010, Allegheny Services, Inc. had net income of \$19.3 million.

Boetger and Associates, Inc. is an actuarial and employee benefits consulting firm that specializes in the design, implementation and administration of qualified retirement plan programs. At December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank had an equity investment of \$1.9 million in Boetger and Associates and for the year ended December 31, 2010, Boetger and Associates had net income of \$221,000.

Veracity Benefits Design, Inc. is an employee benefits firm specializing in services to employer and employee groups. At December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank had an equity investment of \$2.0 million in Veracity Benefits Design and for the year ended December 31, 2010, Veracity Benefits Design had a net loss of \$274,000.

Northwest Capital Group's principal activity is to own, operate and ultimately divest of properties that were acquired in foreclosure. At December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank had an equity investment of \$6.3 million in Northwest Capital Group and reported no net income for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Federal regulations require insured institutions to provide 30 days advance notice to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation before establishing or acquiring a subsidiary or conducting a new activity in a subsidiary. The insured institution must also provide the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation such information as may be required by

applicable regulations and must conduct the activity in accordance with the rules and orders of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. In addition to other enforcement and supervision powers, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation may determine after notice and opportunity for a hearing that the continuation of a savings bank's ownership of or relation to a subsidiary constitutes a serious risk to the safety, soundness or stability of the savings bank, or is inconsistent with the purposes of federal banking laws. Upon the making of such a determination, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation may order the savings bank to divest the subsidiary or take other actions.

## Personnel

As of December 31, 2010, we had 1,722 full-time and 318 part-time employees (including employees of our wholly-owned subsidiaries). None of our employees is represented by a collective bargaining group. We believe we have a good working relationship with our employees.

## SUPERVISION AND REGULATION

### General

Northwest Savings Bank is a Pennsylvania-chartered savings bank and our deposit accounts are insured up to applicable limits by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation under the Deposit Insurance Fund. Northwest Savings Bank is subject to extensive regulation by the Department of Banking of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (the "Department of Banking"), as its chartering agency, and by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, as the insurer of its deposit accounts. Northwest Savings Bank must file reports with the Department of Banking and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation concerning its activities and financial condition in addition to obtaining regulatory approvals prior to entering into certain transactions including, acquisitions of other financial institutions. Northwest Savings Bank is examined periodically by the Department of Banking and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to test Northwest Savings Bank's compliance with various laws and regulations. This regulation and supervision, as well as federal and state law, establishes a comprehensive framework of activities in which Northwest Savings Bank may engage and is intended primarily for the protection of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insurance fund and depositors. The regulatory structure also gives the regulatory authorities extensive discretion in connection with their supervisory and enforcement activities and with their examination policies, including policies with respect to the classification of assets and the establishment of adequate loan loss reserves for regulatory purposes.

Any change in these laws or regulations, whether by the Department of Banking or the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, could have a material adverse impact on Northwest Bancshares, Inc., Northwest Savings Bank and their respective operations.

As a savings and loan holding company, Northwest Bancshares, Inc. is required to comply with the rules and regulations of the Office of Thrift Supervision, and is required to file certain reports with and is subject to examination by, the Office of Thrift Supervision. Northwest Bancshares, Inc. is also subject to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission under the federal securities laws.

Set forth below is a brief description of certain regulatory requirements that are applicable to Northwest Savings Bank and Northwest Bancshares, Inc. The description below is limited to certain material aspects of the statutes and regulations addressed, and is not intended to be a complete description of such statutes and regulations and their effects on Northwest Savings Bank and Northwest Bancshares, Inc.

### Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act

Congress recently enacted the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act"). This new law will significantly change the current bank regulatory structure and affect the lending, deposit, investment, trading and operating activities of financial institutions and their holding companies. The Dodd-Frank Act requires various federal agencies to adopt a broad range of new rules and regulations, and to prepare numerous studies and reports for Congress. The federal agencies are given significant discretion in drafting rules and regulations, and consequently, many of the details and much of the impact of the Dodd-Frank Act may not be known for many months or years.



Certain provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act are expected to have a near term effect on us. For example, the new law provides that the Office of Thrift Supervision, which currently is the primary federal regulator for Northwest Bancshares, Inc., will cease to exist one year from the date of the new law's enactment. The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System will supervise and regulate all savings and loan holding companies that were formerly regulated by the Office of Thrift Supervision, including Northwest Bancshares, Inc.

Also effective one year after the date of enactment is a provision of the Dodd-Frank Act that eliminates the federal prohibitions on paying interest on demand deposits, thus allowing businesses to have interest bearing checking accounts. Depending on competitive responses, this significant change to existing law could have an adverse effect on our interest expense.

The Dodd-Frank Act also broadens the base for Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insurance assessments. Assessments will now be based on the average consolidated total assets less tangible equity capital of a financial institution. The Dodd-Frank Act also permanently increases the maximum amount of deposit insurance for banks, savings institutions and credit unions to \$250,000 per depositor, retroactive to January 1, 2009, and non-interest bearing transaction accounts have unlimited deposit insurance through December 31, 2013.

The Dodd-Frank Act will require publicly traded companies to give stockholders a non-binding vote on executive compensation and so-called "golden parachute" payments, and authorize the Securities and Exchange Commission to promulgate rules that would allow stockholders to nominate their own candidates using a company's proxy materials. The legislation also directs the Federal Reserve Board to promulgate rules prohibiting excessive compensation paid to bank holding company executives, regardless of whether the company is publicly traded or not.

The Dodd-Frank Act creates a new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau with broad powers to supervise and enforce consumer protection laws. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has broad rule-making authority for a wide range of consumer protection laws that apply to all banks and savings institutions, including the authority to prohibit "unfair, deceptive or abusive" acts and practices. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has examination and enforcement authority over all banks and savings institutions with more than \$10 billion in assets. Banks and savings institutions with \$10 billion or less in assets will be examined by their applicable bank regulators. The Dodd-Frank Act also weakens the federal preemption rules that have been applicable for national banks and federal savings associations, and gives state attorneys general the ability to enforce federal consumer protection laws.

It is difficult to predict at this time what specific impact the Dodd-Frank Act and the yet to be written implementing rules and regulations will have on community banks. However, it is expected that at a minimum they will increase our operating and compliance costs and could increase our interest expense.

#### Pennsylvania Savings Bank Law

The Pennsylvania Banking Code of 1965, as amended (the "Banking Code") contains detailed provisions governing the organization, operations, corporate powers, savings and investment authority, branching rights and responsibilities of directors, officers and employees of Pennsylvania savings banks. A Pennsylvania savings bank may locate or change the location of its principal place of business and establish an office anywhere in, or adjacent to, Pennsylvania, with the prior approval of the Department of Banking. The Banking Code delegates extensive rulemaking power and administrative discretion to the Department of Banking in its supervision and regulation of state-chartered savings banks.

The Department of Banking generally examines each savings bank not less frequently than once every two years. Although the Department of Banking may accept the examinations and reports of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in lieu of its own examination, the current practice is for the Department of Banking to conduct individual

examinations. The Department of Banking may order any savings bank to discontinue any violation of law or unsafe or unsound business practice and may direct any trustee, officer, attorney, or employee of a savings bank engaged in an objectionable activity, after the Department of Banking has ordered the activity to be terminated, to show cause at a hearing before the Department of Banking why such person should not be removed.

## Federal Deposit Insurance Reform

The FDIC currently maintains the Deposit Insurance Fund (the “DIF”), which was created in 2006 in the merger of the Bank Insurance Fund and the Savings Association Insurance Fund. The deposit accounts of our subsidiary bank are insured by the DIF to the maximum amount provided by law. This insurance is backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government.

As insurer, the FDIC is authorized to conduct examinations of and to require reporting by DIF-insured institutions. It also may prohibit any DIF-insured institution from engaging in any activity the FDIC determines by regulation or order to pose a serious threat to the DIF. The FDIC also has the authority to take enforcement actions against insured institutions.

Under its current regulations, the FDIC imposes assessments for deposit insurance on an insured institution quarterly according to its ranking in one of four risk categories based upon supervisory and capital evaluations. The assessment rate for an individual institution is determined according to a formula based on a weighted average of the institution’s individual CAMELS component ratings plus either six financial ratios or, in the case of an institution with assets of \$10.0 billion or more, the average ratings of its long-term debt. Well-capitalized institutions (generally those with CAMELS composite ratings of 1 or 2) are grouped in Risk Category I and their initial base assessment rate for deposit insurance is set at an annual rate of between 12 and 16 basis points. The initial base assessment rate for institutions in Risk Categories II, III and IV is set at annual rates of 22, 32 and 50 basis points, respectively. These initial base assessment rates are adjusted to determine an institution’s final assessment rate based on its brokered deposits, secured liabilities and unsecured debt. The adjustments include higher premiums for institutions that rely significantly on excessive amounts of brokered deposits, including CDARS, higher premiums for excessive use of secured liabilities, including Federal Home Loan Bank advances and adding financial ratios and debt issuer ratings to the premium calculations for banks with over \$10 billion in assets, while providing a reduction for all institutions for their unsecured debt. Total base assessment rates after adjustments range from 7 to 24 basis points for Risk Category I, 17 to 43 basis points for Risk Category II, 27 to 58 basis points for Risk Category III, and 40 to 77.5 basis points for Risk Category IV.

In addition, all institutions with deposits insured by the FDIC are required to pay assessments to fund interest payments on bonds issued by the Financing Corporation, a mixed-ownership government corporation established to recapitalize a predecessor to the Deposit Insurance Fund. These assessments will continue until the Financing Corporation bonds mature in 2019.

Insurance of deposits may be terminated by the FDIC upon a finding that the institution has engaged or is engaging in unsafe and unsound practices, is in an unsafe or unsound condition to continue operations or has violated any applicable law, regulation, rule, order or condition imposed by the FDIC or written agreement entered into with the FDIC. The management of the Bank does not know of any practice, condition or violation that might lead to termination of deposit insurance.

On November 12, 2009, the FDIC adopted regulations that required insured depository institutions to prepay on December 30, 2009, their estimated quarterly risk-based assessments for the fourth quarter of 2009 and all of 2010, 2011 and 2012, along with their quarterly risk-based assessment for the fourth quarter of 2009. The FDIC collected our pre-paid assessment amounting to \$32.9 million on December 30, 2009.

Pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Act, the FDIC has established 2.0% as the designated reserve ratio (DRR), that is, the ratio of the DIF to insured deposits. The FDIC has adopted a plan under which it will meet the statutory minimum DRR of 1.35% by September 30, 2020, the deadline imposed by the Dodd-Frank Act. The Dodd-Frank requires the FDIC to offset the effect on institutions with assets less than \$10 billion of the increase in the statutory minimum DRR

to 1.35% from the former statutory minimum of 1.15%. The FDIC has not yet announced how it will implement this offset or how larger institutions will be affected by it. The Dodd-Frank Act requires the FDIC to establish rules setting insurance premium assessments based on an institution's total assets minus its tangible equity instead of its deposits.

On November 9, 2010 and January 18, 2011, the FDIC (as mandated by Section 343 of the Dodd-Frank Act) adopted rules providing for unlimited deposit insurance for traditional noninterest-bearing transaction accounts and IOLTA accounts for two years starting December 31, 2010. This coverage applies to all insured deposit institutions, and there is no separate FDIC assessment for the insurance. Furthermore, this unlimited coverage is separate from, and in addition to, the coverage provided to depositors with respect to other accounts held at an insured depository institution.

#### Capital Requirements

Any savings institution that fails any of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation capital requirements is subject to enforcement action by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Such action may include a capital directive, a cease and desist order, civil money penalties, restrictions on an institution's operations, termination of federal deposit insurance, and the appointment of a conservator or receiver. Certain enforcement actions are required by law. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's capital regulation provides that such action, through enforcement proceedings or otherwise, may require a variety of corrective actions.

Northwest Savings Bank is also subject to capital guidelines of the Department of Banking. Although not adopted in regulation form, the Department of Banking requires 6% leverage capital and 10% risk-based capital. The components of leverage and risk-based capital are substantially the same as those defined by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

#### Prompt Corrective Action

Under federal regulations, a bank is considered to be (i) "well capitalized" if it has total risk-based capital of 10.0% or more, Tier 1 risk-based capital of 6.0% or more, Tier I leverage capital of 5.0% or more, and is not subject to any written capital order or directive; (ii) "adequately capitalized" if it has total risk-based capital of 8.0% or more, Tier I risk-based capital of 4.0% or more and Tier I leverage capital of 4.0% or more (3.0% under certain circumstances), and does not meet the definition of "well capitalized"; (iii) "undercapitalized" if it has total risk-based capital of less than 8.0%, Tier I risk-based capital of less than 4.0% or Tier I leverage capital of less than 4.0% (3.0% under certain circumstances); (iv) "significantly undercapitalized" if it has total risk-based capital of less than 6.0%, Tier I risk-based capital less than 3.0%, or Tier I leverage capital of less than 3.0%; and (v) "critically undercapitalized" if its ratio of tangible equity to total assets is equal to or less than 2.0%. Federal regulations also specify circumstances under which a federal banking agency may reclassify a well capitalized institution as adequately capitalized, and may require an adequately capitalized institution to comply with supervisory actions as if it were in the next lower category (except that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation may not reclassify a significantly undercapitalized institution as critically undercapitalized). As of December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank was "well-capitalized" for this purpose.

#### Loans-to-One Borrower Limitation

Under federal regulations, with certain limited exceptions, a Pennsylvania chartered savings bank may lend to a single or related group of borrowers on an "unsecured" basis an amount equal to 15% of its unimpaired capital and surplus. An additional amount may be lent, equal to 10% of unimpaired capital and surplus, if such loan is secured by readily marketable collateral, which is defined to include certain securities and bullion, but generally does not include real estate. Our internal policy, however, is to make no loans either individually or in the aggregate to one entity in excess of \$15.0 million. This limit may be exceeded subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. We currently have five credit relationships that exceed our \$15.0 million internal limit.



### Activities and Investments of Insured State-Chartered Banks

Federal law generally limits the activities and equity investments of state-chartered banks insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to those that are permissible for national banks. Under regulations dealing with equity investments, an insured state bank generally may not, directly or indirectly, acquire or retain any equity investment of a type, or in an amount, that is not permissible for a national bank. An insured state bank is not prohibited from, among other things: (i) acquiring or retaining a majority interest in a subsidiary; (ii) investing as a limited partner in a partnership the sole purpose of which is direct or indirect investment in the acquisition, rehabilitation, or new construction of a qualified housing project, provided that such limited partnership investments may not exceed 2% of the bank's total assets; (iii) acquiring up to 10% of the voting stock of a company that solely provides or reinsures liability insurance for directors, trustees or officers, or blanket bond group insurance coverage for insured depository institutions; and (iv) acquiring or retaining the voting shares of a depository institution if certain requirements are met.

### The USA PATRIOT Act

The USA Patriot Act gives the federal government powers to address terrorist threats through enhanced domestic security measures, expanded surveillance powers, increased information sharing and broadened anti-money laundering requirements. The USA Patriot Act also requires the federal banking agencies to take into consideration the effectiveness of controls designed to combat money-laundering activities in determining whether to approve a merger or other acquisition application of a member institution. Accordingly, if we engage in a merger or other acquisition, our controls designed to combat money laundering would be considered as part of the application process. We have established policies, procedures and systems designed to comply with these regulations.

### Holding Company Regulation

General. Federal law allows a state savings bank, such as Northwest Savings Bank, that qualifies as a "Qualified Thrift Lender," as discussed below, to elect to be treated as a savings association for purposes of the savings and loan company provisions of the Home Owners' Loan Act of 1933, as amended. Such election results in its holding company being regulated as a savings and loan holding company by the Office of Thrift Supervision rather than as a bank holding company by the Federal Reserve Board. Northwest Bancshares, Inc. has made such an election. Therefore, Northwest Bancshares, Inc. is a savings and loan holding company within the meaning of the Home Owners' Loan Act of 1933, as amended. As such, Northwest Bancshares, Inc. is registered with the Office of Thrift Supervision and will be subject to Office of Thrift Supervision regulations, examinations, supervision and reporting requirements. In addition, the Office of Thrift Supervision has enforcement authority over Northwest Bancshares, Inc. and any nonsavings institution subsidiaries of Northwest Bancshares, Inc. Among other things, this authority permits the Office of Thrift Supervision to restrict or prohibit activities that are determined to be a serious risk to the subsidiary savings institution.

As part of the Dodd-Frank Act regulatory restructuring, the OTS' authority over savings and loan holding companies will be transferred to the Federal Reserve Board.

Permissible Activities. The business activities of Northwest Bancshares, Inc. are generally limited to those activities permissible for financial holding companies under Section 4(k) of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended, or for multiple savings and loan holding companies. A financial holding company may engage in activities that are financial in nature, including underwriting equity securities and insurance as well as activities that are incidental to financial activities or complementary to financial activities. A multiple savings and loan holding company is generally limited to activities permissible for bank holding companies under Section 4(c)(8) of the Bank Holding Company Act, subject to the prior approval of the Office of Thrift Supervision, and certain additional activities authorized by Office of Thrift Supervision regulations.



Federal law prohibits a savings and loan holding company, including Northwest Bancshares, Inc., directly or indirectly, or through one or more subsidiaries, from acquiring more than 5% of another savings institution or holding company thereof, without prior written approval of the Office of Thrift Supervision. It also prohibits the acquisition or retention of, with certain exceptions, more than 5% of a nonsubsidiary company engaged in activities that are not closely related to banking or financial in nature, or acquiring or retaining control of an institution that is not federally insured. In evaluating applications by holding companies to acquire savings institutions, the Office of Thrift Supervision must consider the financial and managerial resources, future prospects of the company and institution involved, the effect of the acquisition on the risk to the federal deposit insurance fund, the convenience and needs of the community and competitive factors.

The Office of Thrift Supervision is prohibited from approving any acquisition that would result in a multiple savings and loan holding company controlling savings institutions in more than one state, subject to two exceptions:

- (i) the approval of interstate supervisory acquisitions by savings and loan holding companies; and
- (ii) the acquisition of a savings institution in another state if the laws of the state of the target savings institution specifically permit such acquisition.

The states vary in the extent to which they permit interstate savings and loan holding company acquisitions.

**Qualified Thrift Lender Test.** To be regulated as a savings and loan holding company by the Office of Thrift Supervision (rather than as a bank holding company by the Federal Reserve Board), Northwest Savings Bank must qualify as a Qualified Thrift Lender. To qualify as a Qualified Thrift Lender, Northwest Savings Bank must be a “domestic building and loan association,” as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, or comply with the Qualified Thrift Lender test. Under the Qualified Thrift Lender test, a savings institution is required to maintain at least 65% of its “portfolio assets” (total assets less: (1) specified liquid assets up to 20% of total assets; (2) intangibles, including goodwill; and (3) the value of property used to conduct business) in certain “qualified thrift investments” (primarily residential mortgages and related investments, including certain mortgage-backed and related securities) in at least nine months out of each 12-month period. As of December 31, 2010 Northwest Savings Bank met the Qualified Thrift Lender test.

#### Federal Securities Laws

Shares of our common stock are registered with the SEC under Section 12(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). We are also subject to the proxy rules, tender offer rules, insider trading restrictions, annual and periodic reporting, and other requirements of the Exchange Act.

#### Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 was enacted to increase corporate responsibility, to provide for enhanced penalties for accounting and auditing improprieties at publicly traded companies, and to protect investors by improving the accuracy and reliability of corporate disclosures pursuant to the securities laws. The Sarbanes-Oxley Act generally applies to all companies that file or are required to file periodic reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission, under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act includes specific additional disclosure requirements, requires the Securities and Exchange Commission and national securities exchanges to adopt extensive additional disclosure, corporate governance and other related rules, and mandates further studies of certain issues by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Sarbanes-Oxley Act represents significant federal involvement in matters traditionally left to state regulatory systems,

such as the regulation of the accounting profession, and to corporate law, such as the relationship between a board of directors and management and between a board of directors and its committees.

#### FEDERAL AND STATE TAXATION

Federal Taxation. For federal income tax purposes, Northwest Bancshares, Inc. files a consolidated federal income tax return with its wholly-owned subsidiaries on a calendar year basis. The applicable federal income tax expense or benefit is properly allocated to each subsidiary based upon taxable income or loss calculated on a separate company basis.

We account for income taxes using the asset and liability method which accounts for deferred income taxes by applying the enacted statutory rates in effect at the balance sheet date to differences between the book basis and the tax basis of assets and liabilities. The resulting deferred tax liabilities and assets are adjusted to reflect changes in tax laws.

State Taxation. As a Maryland business corporation, Northwest Bancshares, Inc. is required to file annual tax returns with the State of Maryland. Northwest Bancshares, Inc. is subject to Pennsylvania's corporate net income tax and capital stock tax. Dividends received from Northwest Savings Bank qualify for a 100% dividends received deduction and are not subject to corporate net income tax.

Northwest Savings Bank is subject to a Pennsylvania mutual thrift institutions tax based on Northwest Savings Bank's net income determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, with certain adjustments. The tax rate under the mutual thrift institutions tax is 11.5%. Interest on Pennsylvania and federal obligations is excluded from net income. An allocable portion of interest expense incurred to carry the obligations is disallowed as a deduction. Northwest Savings Bank is also subject to taxes in the other states in which it conducts business. These taxes are apportioned based upon the volume of business conducted in those states as a percentage of the whole. Because a majority of Northwest Savings Bank's affairs are conducted in Pennsylvania, taxes paid to other states are not material.

The subsidiaries of Northwest Savings Bank are subject to a Pennsylvania corporate net income tax and a capital stock tax, and are also subject to other applicable taxes in the states where they conduct business.

#### ITEM 1A.

#### RISK FACTORS

In addition to factors discussed in the description of our business and elsewhere in this report, the following are factors that could adversely affect our future results of operations and financial condition.

We have been negatively affected by current market and economic conditions. A continuation or worsening of these conditions could adversely affect our operations, financial condition and earnings.

The severe economic recession of 2008 and 2009 and the weak economic recovery since then have resulted in continued uncertainty in the financial markets and the expectation of weak general economic conditions, including high levels of unemployment, continuing through 2011. The resulting economic pressure on consumers and businesses has adversely affected our business, financial condition and results of operations. The credit quality of loan and investment securities portfolios has deteriorated at many financial institutions and the values of real estate collateral supporting many commercial loans and home mortgages have declined and may continue to decline. Financial companies' stock prices have been negatively affected, as has the ability of banks and bank holding companies to raise capital or borrow in the debt markets. A continuation or worsening of these conditions could result in reduced loan demand and further increases in loan delinquencies, loan losses, loan loss provisions, costs associated with monitoring delinquent loans and disposing of foreclosed property, and otherwise negatively affect our operations, financial condition and earnings. Further, a decline in the stock market in general, or for stock of financial institutions and their holding companies, could affect our stock performance.

Financial reform legislation recently enacted by Congress will, among other things, eliminate the Office of Thrift Supervision, tighten capital standards, create a new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and result in new laws and regulations that are expected to increase our costs of operations.

Congress recently enacted the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act"). This new law will significantly change the current bank regulatory structure and affect the lending, deposit,

investment, trading and operating activities of financial institutions and their holding companies. The Dodd-Frank Act requires various federal agencies to adopt a broad range of new implementing rules and regulations, and to prepare numerous studies and reports for Congress. The federal agencies are given significant discretion in drafting the implementing rules and regulations, and consequently, many of the details and much of the impact of the Dodd-Frank Act may not be known for many months or years.

Certain provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act are expected to have a near term effect on us. For example, the new law provides that the Office of Thrift Supervision, which currently is the primary federal regulator for Northwest Bancshares, Inc., will cease to exist one year from the date of the new law's enactment. The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System will supervise and regulate all savings and loan holding companies that were formerly regulated by the Office of Thrift Supervision, including Northwest Bancshares, Inc.

Also effective one year after the date of enactment is a provision of the Dodd-Frank Act that eliminates the federal prohibitions on paying interest on demand deposits, thus allowing businesses to have interest bearing checking accounts. Depending on competitive responses, this significant change to existing law could have an adverse effect on our interest expense.

The Dodd-Frank Act also broadens the base for Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insurance assessments. Assessments will now be based on the average consolidated total assets less tangible equity capital of a financial institution. The Dodd-Frank Act also permanently increases the maximum amount of deposit insurance for banks, savings institutions and credit unions to \$250,000 per depositor, retroactive to January 1, 2009, and non-interest bearing transaction accounts have unlimited deposit insurance through December 31, 2013.

The Dodd-Frank Act will require publicly traded companies to give stockholders a non-binding vote on executive compensation and so-called "golden parachute" payments, and authorize the Securities and Exchange Commission to promulgate rules that would allow stockholders to nominate their own candidates using a company's proxy materials. The legislation also directs the Federal Reserve Board to promulgate rules prohibiting excessive compensation paid to bank holding company executives, regardless of whether the company is publicly traded or not.

The Dodd-Frank Act creates a new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau with broad powers to supervise and enforce consumer protection laws. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has broad rule-making authority for a wide range of consumer protection laws that apply to all banks and savings institutions, including the authority to prohibit "unfair, deceptive or abusive" acts and practices. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has examination and enforcement authority over all banks and savings institutions with more than \$10 billion in assets. Banks and savings institutions with \$10 billion or less in assets will be examined by their applicable bank regulators. The Dodd-Frank Act also weakens the federal preemption rules that have been applicable for national banks and federal savings associations, and gives state attorneys general the ability to enforce federal consumer protection laws.

It is difficult to predict at this time what specific impact the Dodd-Frank Act and the yet to be written implementing rules and regulations will have on community banks. However, it is expected that at a minimum they will increase our operating and compliance costs and could increase our interest expense.

Government responses to economic conditions may adversely affect our operations, financial condition and earnings.

Newly enacted financial reform legislation will change the bank regulatory framework, create an independent consumer protection bureau that will assume the consumer protection responsibilities of the various federal banking agencies, and establish more stringent capital standards for banks and bank holding companies. The legislation will also result in new regulations affecting the lending, funding, trading and investment activities of banks and bank holding companies. Bank regulatory agencies also have been responding aggressively to concerns and adverse trends identified in examinations. Ongoing uncertainty and adverse developments in the financial services industry and the domestic and international credit markets, and the effect of new legislation and regulatory actions in response to these conditions, may adversely affect our operations by restricting our business activities, including our ability to originate or sell loans, modify loan terms, or foreclose on property securing loans. These measures are likely to increase our costs of doing business and may have a significant adverse effect on our lending activities, financial performance and operating flexibility. In addition, these risks could affect the performance and value of our loan and investment

securities portfolios, which also would negatively affect our financial performance.

Furthermore, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, in an attempt to help the overall economy, has, among other things, kept interest rates low through its targeted federal funds rate and the purchase of mortgage-backed securities. If the Federal Reserve Board increases the federal funds rate, overall interest rates will likely rise, which may negatively impact the housing markets and the U.S. economic recovery. In addition, deflationary pressures, while possibly lowering our operating costs, could have a significant negative effect on our borrowers, especially our business borrowers, and the values of underlying collateral securing loans, which could negatively affect our financial performance.

Recent health care legislation could increase our expenses or require us to pass further costs on to our employees, which could adversely affect our operations, financial condition and earnings.

Legislation enacted in 2010 requires companies to provide expanded health care coverage to their employees, such as affordable coverage to part-time employees and coverage to dependent adult children of employees. Companies will also be required to enroll new employees automatically into one of their health plans. Compliance with these and other new requirements of the health care legislation will increase our employee benefits expense, and may require us to pass these costs on to our employees, which could give us a competitive disadvantage in hiring and retaining qualified employees.

The corporate governance provisions in our articles of incorporation and bylaws, and the corporate governance provisions under Maryland law, may prevent or impede the holders of our common stock from obtaining representation on our Board of Directors and may impede takeovers of the company that our board might conclude are not in the best interest of us or our stockholders.

Provisions in our articles of incorporation and bylaws may prevent or impede holders of our common stock from obtaining representation on our Board of Directors and may make takeovers of Northwest Bancshares, Inc. more difficult. For example, our Board of Directors is divided into three staggered classes. A classified board makes it more difficult for stockholders to change a majority of the directors because it generally takes at least two annual elections of directors for this to occur. Our articles of incorporation include a provision that no person will be entitled to vote any shares of our common stock in excess of 10% of our outstanding shares of common stock. This limitation does not apply to the purchase of shares by a tax-qualified employee stock benefit plan established by us. In addition, our articles of incorporation and bylaws restrict who may call special meetings of stockholders and how directors may be removed from office. Additionally, in certain instances, the Maryland General Corporation Law requires a supermajority vote of our stockholders to approve a merger or other business combination with a large stockholder, if the proposed transaction is not approved by a majority of our directors.

Changes in interest rates could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

While we strive to control the impact of changes in interest rates on our net income, our results of operations and financial condition could be significantly affected by changes in interest rates. Our results of operations depend substantially on our net interest income, which is the difference between the interest income we earn on our interest-earning assets, such as loans and securities, and the interest expense we pay on our interest-bearing liabilities, such as deposits, borrowings and trust preferred securities. Because it is difficult to perfectly match the maturities and cash flows from our financial assets and liabilities our net income could be adversely impacted by changes in the level of interest rates or the slope of the Treasury yield curve.

Changes in interest rates may also affect the average life of loans and mortgage-related securities. Decreases in interest rates can result in increased prepayments of loans and mortgage-related securities, as borrowers refinance to reduce their borrowing costs. Under these circumstances, we are subject to reinvestment risk to the extent that we are unable to reinvest the cash received from such prepayments at rates that are comparable to the rates on existing loans

and securities. Additionally, increases in interest rates may decrease loan demand and make it more difficult for borrowers to repay adjustable rate loans. Also, increases in interest rates may extend the life of fixed rate assets, which would restrict our ability to reinvest in higher yielding alternatives, and may result in customers withdrawing certificates of deposit early so long as the early withdrawal penalty is less than the interest they could receive as a result of the higher interest rates.

Changes in interest rates also affect the current fair value of our interest-earning securities portfolio. Generally, the value of securities moves inversely with changes in interest rates. At December 31, 2010, the fair value of our investment and mortgage-backed securities portfolio totaled \$1.305 billion. Net unrealized gains on these securities totaled \$1.1 million at December 31, 2010.

At December 31, 2010, our interest rate risk analysis indicated that the market value of our equity would decrease by 16.9% if there was an instant parallel 200 basis point increase in market interest rates. See “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Management of Market Risk.”

If the allowance for credit losses is not sufficient to cover actual loan losses, our earnings could decrease.

Our customers may not repay their loans according to the original terms, and the collateral, if any, securing the payment of these loans may be insufficient to pay any remaining loan balance. We may experience significant loan losses, which may have a material adverse effect on operating results. We make various assumptions and judgments about the collectability of the loan portfolio, including the creditworthiness of borrowers and the value of the real estate and other assets serving as collateral for the repayment of loans. If the assumptions prove to be incorrect, the allowance for credit losses may not be sufficient to cover losses inherent in our loan portfolio, resulting in additions to the allowance. Material additions to the allowance would materially decrease net income.

Our emphasis on originating commercial real estate and commercial loans is one of the more significant factors in evaluating the allowance for loan losses. As we continue to increase the amount of such loans, increased provisions for loan losses may be necessary which would decrease our earnings.

Bank regulators periodically review our allowance for loan losses and may require an increase to the provision for loan losses or further loan charge-offs. Any increase in our allowance for loan losses or loan charge-offs as required by these regulatory authorities may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

We could record future losses on our investment securities portfolio.

During the year ended December 31, 2010, we recognized \$2.7 million of impairment losses on investment securities, of which \$1.2 million was recognized as other comprehensive loss in the equity section of our balance sheet, and \$1.5 million was recognized as a reduction to noninterest income in our income statement. At December 31, 2010, we held corporate debt securities and non-government agency collateralized mortgage obligations with unrealized holding losses of \$7.2 million and \$1.1 million, respectively.

A number of factors or combinations of factors could require us to conclude in one or more future reporting periods that an unrealized loss that exists with respect to these securities constitutes an impairment that is other than temporary, which could result in material losses to us. These factors include, but are not limited to, failure by the issuer to make scheduled interest payments, an increase in the severity of the unrealized loss on a particular security, an increase in the continuous duration of the unrealized loss without an improvement in value or changes in market conditions and/or industry or issuer specific factors that would render us unable to forecast a full recovery in value. In addition, the fair values of securities could decline if the overall economy and the financial condition of some of the issuers continues to deteriorate and there remains limited liquidity for these securities.

See “Item 7 Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Balance Sheet Analysis—Securities” for a discussion of our securities portfolio and the unrealized losses related to the portfolio, as well as the “Marketable Securities” and “Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments” footnotes to the audited financial statements.



Our 2009 contribution to our charitable foundation may not be tax deductible, which could reduce our profits.

The Internal Revenue Service may not grant tax-exempt status to Northwest Charitable Foundation. If the contribution is not deductible, we would not receive any tax benefit from the contribution. The total value of the contribution was \$13.8 million, which resulted in recording an after-tax expense of \$8.3 million. In the event that the Internal Revenue Service does not grant tax-exempt status to the charitable foundation or the contribution to the charitable foundation is otherwise not tax deductible, we would have to recognize additional after-tax expense of up to \$5.5 million.

In addition, even if the contribution is tax deductible, we may not have sufficient taxable income to be able to use the deduction fully. Under the Internal Revenue Code, a corporate entity is generally permitted to deduct charitable contributions in an amount of up to 10% of its taxable income (taxable income before the charitable contributions deduction) in any one year for charitable contributions. Any contribution in excess of the 10% limit may be deducted for federal income tax purposes over the five years following the year in which the charitable contribution was made. Accordingly, a charitable contribution by a corporate entity could, if necessary, be deducted for federal income tax purposes over a six-year period. Our taxable income over this period may not be sufficient to fully use this deduction. If the deduction is not able to be used we would have to recognize up to \$5.5 million of additional after tax expense.

We hold certain intangible assets that could be classified as impaired in the future. If these assets are considered to be either partially or fully impaired in the future, the book values of these assets would have to be written-down and the amount of the write-down would decrease earnings.

We are required to test our goodwill and core deposit intangible assets for impairment on a periodic basis and more regularly if indicators of impairment exist. The impairment testing process considers a variety of factors, including the current market price of our common shares, the estimated net present value of our assets and liabilities and information concerning the terminal valuation of similar insured depository institutions. Future impairment testing may result in a partial or full impairment of the value of our goodwill or core deposit intangible assets, or both. If an impairment determination is made in a future reporting period, our earnings and the book value of these intangible assets will be reduced by the amount of the impairment. However, the recording of such an impairment loss would have no impact on the tangible book value of our shares of common stock or our regulatory capital levels.

Strong competition may limit growth and profitability.

Competition in the banking and financial services industry is intense. We compete with commercial banks, savings institutions, mortgage brokerage firms, credit unions, finance companies, mutual funds, insurance companies, and brokerage and investment banking firms operating locally and elsewhere. Many of these competitors (whether regional or national institutions) have substantially greater resources and lending limits than we have and may offer certain services that we do not or cannot provide. Our profitability depends upon our ability to successfully compete in our market areas.

We operate in a highly regulated environment and may be adversely affected by changes in laws and regulations.

We are subject to extensive regulation, supervision and examination by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Pennsylvania Department of Banking and the Office of Thrift Supervision. Laws and regulations govern the activities in which we may engage, primarily for the protection of depositors and the Deposit Insurance Fund at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. These regulatory authorities have extensive discretion in connection with their supervisory and enforcement activities, including the ability to impose restrictions on a bank's operations, reclassify assets, determine the adequacy of a bank's allowance for loan losses, determine the level of deposit

insurance premiums assessed, and capital levels to be maintained. Any change in such regulation and oversight, whether in the form of regulatory policy, new regulations or legislation or additional deposit insurance premiums could have a material impact on our operations. Because our business is highly regulated, the laws and applicable regulations are subject to frequent change. Any new laws, rules and regulations could make compliance more difficult or expensive or otherwise adversely affect our business, financial condition or prospects.

Future legislative or regulatory actions responding to perceived financial and market problems could impair our ability to foreclose on collateral.

There have been proposals made by members of Congress and others that would reduce the amount distressed borrowers are otherwise contractually obligated to pay under their mortgage loans and limit an institution's ability to foreclose on mortgage collateral. Were proposals such as these, or other proposals limiting our rights as a creditor, to be implemented, we could experience increased credit losses or increased expense in pursuing our remedies as a creditor.

If our investment in the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh becomes impaired, our earnings and stockholders' equity could decrease.

We are required to own common stock of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh to qualify for membership in the Federal Home Loan Bank System and to be eligible to borrow funds under the Federal Home Loan Bank's advance program. The aggregate cost of our Federal Home Loan Bank common stock as of December 31, 2010 was \$60.1 million. Federal Home Loan Bank common stock is not a marketable security and can only be redeemed by the Federal Home Loan Bank.

Federal Home Loan Banks may be subject to accounting rules and asset quality risks that could materially lower their regulatory capital. In an extreme situation, it is possible that the capitalization of a Federal Home Loan Bank, including the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, could be substantially diminished or reduced to zero. Consequently, we believe that there is a risk that our investment in Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh common stock could be deemed impaired at some time in the future, and if this occurs, it would cause our earnings and stockholders' equity to decrease by the amount of the impairment charge.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

Not applicable.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

As of December 31, 2010, we conducted our business through our main office located in Warren, Pennsylvania, 132 other full-service offices and eight free-standing drive-up locations throughout our market area in central and western Pennsylvania, 18 offices in western New York, four offices in eastern Ohio, five offices in Maryland and three offices in south Florida. Northwest Bancshares, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries also operated 52 consumer finance offices located throughout Pennsylvania. At December 31, 2010, our premises and equipment had an aggregate net book value of approximately \$128.1 million.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Northwest Bancshares, Inc. and its subsidiaries are subject to various legal actions arising in the normal course of business. In the opinion of management, the resolution of these legal actions is not expected to have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

ITEM 4. [Reserved]

## PART II

ITEM MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND  
5. ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "NWBI." As of February 22, 2011, we had 31 registered market makers, 14,693 stockholders of record (excluding the number of persons or entities holding stock in street name through various brokerage firms), and 109,151,550 shares outstanding. The following table sets forth market price and dividend information for our common stock, adjusted to reflect the 2.25-for-one stock split in connection with the mutual-to-stock conversion.

| Year Ended<br>December 31, 2010 | High     | Low      | Cash Dividends<br>Declared |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|----------------------------|
| First Quarter                   | \$ 12.04 | \$ 11.15 | \$ 0.10                    |
| Second Quarter                  | \$ 12.79 | \$ 11.10 | \$ 0.10                    |
| Third Quarter                   | \$ 12.30 | \$ 10.55 | \$ 0.10                    |
| Fourth Quarter                  | \$ 11.90 | \$ 10.24 | \$ 0.10                    |

| Year Ended<br>December 31, 2009 | High     | Low     | Cash Dividends<br>Declared |
|---------------------------------|----------|---------|----------------------------|
| First Quarter                   | \$ 9.60  | \$ 5.81 | \$ 0.10                    |
| Second Quarter                  | \$ 9.15  | \$ 7.12 | \$ 0.10                    |
| Third Quarter                   | \$ 10.98 | \$ 8.09 | \$ 0.10                    |
| Fourth Quarter                  | \$ 11.48 | \$ 9.39 | \$ 0.10                    |

Payment of dividends on our shares of common stock is subject to determination and declaration by the Board of Directors and will depend upon a number of factors, including capital requirements, regulatory limitations on the payment of dividends, our results of operations and financial condition, tax considerations and general economic conditions. No assurance can be given that dividends will continue to be declared or, if declared, what the amount of dividends will be.

There were no sales of unregistered securities during the quarter ended December 31, 2010.

The following table discloses information regarding repurchases of shares of common stock during the quarter ended December 31, 2010, and includes the repurchase program announced on November 8, 2010. The repurchase program is for 11,000,000 shares and does not have an expiration date.

| Month    | Number of shares<br>purchased | Average price<br>paid per share | Total number of<br>shares purchased as<br>part of a publicly<br>announced repurchase<br>plan | Maximum number of<br>shares yet to be<br>purchased under the<br>plan |
|----------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| October  | —                             | \$ —                            | —  | —  |
| November | —                             | —                               | —  | —  |
| December | 555,000                       | 11.58                           | 555,000  | 10,445,000   |
|          | 555,000                       | \$ 11.58                        |  |  |



Stock Performance Graph

Set forth hereunder is a stock performance graph comparing (a) the cumulative total return on our Common Stock between December 31, 2005 and December 31, 2010, adjusted to reflect the 2.25-for-one stock split in connection with the mutual-to-stock conversion, (b) the cumulative total return on stocks included in the Total Return Index for the Nasdaq Stock Market (US) over such period, and (c) the cumulative total return on stocks included in the Nasdaq Bank Index over such period. Cumulative return assumes the reinvestment of dividends, and is expressed in dollars based on an assumed investment of \$100.

There can be no assurance that the Company's stock performance will continue in the future with the same or similar trend depicted in the graph. The Company will not make or endorse any predictions as to future stock performance.

|                            | 12/31/05 | 12/31/06 | 12/31/07 | 12/31/08 | 12/18/09 | 12/31/09 | 12/31/10 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Northwest Bancshares, Inc. | 100.00   | 132.86   | 132.54   | 110.33   | 137.79   | 136.82   | 147.93   |
| NASDAQ Composite           | 100.00   | 111.74   | 124.67   | 73.77    | 107.12   | 107.12   | 125.93   |
| NASDAQ Bank                | 100.00   | 114.45   | 88.71    | 71.34    | 62.32    | 62.32    | 75.34    |

## ITEM 6.

## SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

## Selected Financial and Other Data

The summary financial information presented below is derived in part from the consolidated financial statements of Northwest Bancshares, Inc. and subsidiaries after December 18, 2009 (the date of our second-step conversion), and from the consolidated financial statements of Northwest Bancorp, Inc. and subsidiaries prior to December 18, 2009. The following is only a summary and you should read it in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes included elsewhere in this document. The information at December 31, 2010 and 2009 and for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 is derived in part from the audited consolidated financial statements that appear in this document. The information at December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, for the year ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, is derived in part from audited consolidated financial statements that do not appear in this document.

|  | 2010         | 2009      | At December 31,<br>2008 | 2007      | 2006      |
|--|--------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Selected Consolidated Financial Data:</b>                         |              |           |                         |           |           |
| Total assets   | \$ 8,148,155 | 8,025,298 | 6,930,241               | 6,663,516 | 6,527,815 |
| Investment securities held-to-maturity (1)                           | 106,520      | —         | —                       | —         | 465,312   |
| Investment securities available-for-sale                             | 246,985      | 333,522   | 393,531                 | 601,620   | 388,546   |
| Mortgage-backed securities held-to-maturity (1)                      | 251,402      | —         | —                       | —         | 251,655   |
| Mortgage-backed securities available-for-sale                        | 703,698      | 733,567   | 745,639                 | 531,747   | 378,968   |
| <b>Loans receivable net:</b>   |              |           |                         |           |           |
| Real estate (2)  | 4,789,744    | 4,578,235 | 4,508,393               | 4,172,850 | 3,926,859 |
| Consumer   | 249,966      | 267,311   | 261,398                 | 261,598   | 253,490   |
| Commercial   | 417,883      | 383,516   | 372,101                 | 361,174   | 232,092   |
| Total loans receivable, net  | 5,457,593    | 5,229,062 | 5,141,892               | 4,795,622 | 4,412,441 |
| Deposits   | 5,764,336    | 5,624,424 | 5,038,211               | 5,542,334 | 5,366,750 |
| <b>Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank and other borrowed funds</b> |              |           |                         |           |           |
| Shareholders' equity   | 1,307,450    | 1,316,515 | 613,784                 | 612,878   | 604,561   |

(1) In 2007 we divested investment securities that we deemed to have a deteriorating risk profile, including several classified as held-to-maturity, which required us to reclassify all investment securities as available-for-sale until January 1, 2010.

(2) Includes one- to four-family residential mortgage loans, home equity loans and commercial real estate loans.

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|   | For the Year Ended December 31, |         |         |         |         |
|---|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|   | 2010                            | 2009    | 2008    | 2007    | 2006    |
| <b>Selected Consolidated Operating Data:</b>        |                                 |         |         |         |         |
| Total interest income                               | \$ 370,568                      | 364,463 | 388,659 | 396,031 | 368,573 |
| Total interest expense                              | 112,927                         | 135,806 | 169,293 | 211,015 | 191,109 |
| Net interest income                                 | 257,641                         | 228,657 | 219,366 | 185,016 | 177,464 |
| Provision for loan losses                           | 40,486                          | 41,847  | 22,851  | 8,743   | 8,480   |
| Net interest income after provision for loan losses | 217,155                         | 186,810 | 196,515 | 176,273 | 168,984 |
| Noninterest income                                  | 60,398                          | 53,337  | 38,752  | 43,022  | 46,026  |
| Noninterest expense                                 | 196,508                         | 200,494 | 170,128 | 152,742 | 143,682 |
| Income before income tax expense                    | 81,045                          | 39,653  | 65,139  | 66,553  | 71,328  |
| Income tax expense                                  | 23,522                          | 7,000   | 16,968  | 17,456  | 19,792  |
| Net income  | \$ 57,523                       | 32,653  | 48,171  | 49,097  | 51,536  |
| <b>Earnings per share:</b>                          |                                 |         |         |         |         |
| Basic   | \$ 0.53                         | 0.30    | 0.44    | 0.44    | 0.46    |
| Diluted   | \$ 0.53                         | 0.30    | 0.44    | 0.44    | 0.46    |

|  | At or For the Year Ended December 31, |   |        |   |       |   |       |   |       |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--------|---|-------|---|-------|---|-------|---|
|  | 2010                                  |   | 2009   |   | 2008  |   | 2007  |   | 2006  |   |
| <b>Selected Financial Ratios and Other Data:</b> |                                       |   |        |   |       |   |       |   |       |   |
| Return on average assets (1)                     | 0.71                                  | % | 0.46   | % | 0.70  | % | 0.73  | % | 0.79  | % |
| Return on average equity (2)                     | 4.40                                  | % | 4.71   | % | 7.75  | % | 8.18  | % | 8.60  | % |
| Average capital to average assets                | 16.09                                 | % | 9.67   | % | 9.04  | % | 8.96  | % | 9.19  | % |
| Capital to total assets                          | 16.05                                 | % | 16.40  | % | 8.86  | % | 9.20  | % | 9.26  | % |
| Tangible common equity to tangible assets        | 14.19                                 | % | 14.53  | % | 6.36  | % | 6.50  | % | 6.79  | % |
| Net interest rate spread (3)                     | 3.19                                  | % | 3.30   | % | 3.25  | % | 2.74  | % | 2.77  | % |
| Net interest margin (4)                          | 3.52                                  | % | 3.56   | % | 3.57  | % | 3.10  | % | 3.06  | % |
| Noninterest expense to average assets            | 2.42                                  | % | 2.80   | % | 2.48  | % | 2.28  | % | 2.20  | % |
| Efficiency ratio                                 | 61.79                                 | % | 71.10  | % | 65.91 | % | 66.98 | % | 64.29 | % |
| Noninterest income to average assets             | 0.74                                  | % | 0.74   | % | 0.56  | % | 0.64  | % | 0.71  | % |
| Net interest income to noninterest expense       | 1.31                                  | x | 1.14   | x | 1.29  | x | 1.21  | x | 1.24  | x |
| Dividend payout ratio (5)                        | 75.47                                 | % | 130.37 | % | 88.89 | % | 84.85 | % | 67.96 | % |
| Nonperforming loans to net loans receivable      | 2.72                                  | % | 2.38   | % | 1.93  | % | 1.03  | % | 0.92  | % |
| Nonperforming assets to total assets             | 2.08                                  | % | 1.81   | % | 1.67  | % | 0.87  | % | 0.72  | % |
| Allowance for loan losses to nonperforming loans | 51.49                                 | % | 56.49  | % | 55.37 | % | 84.22 | % | 92.92 | % |
|  | 1.40                                  | % | 1.35   | % | 1.07  | % | 0.87  | % | 0.85  | % |

|   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|
| Allowance for loan losses to net loans receivable                       |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |      |   |
| Average interest-earning assets to average interest-bearing liabilities | 1.22 | x | 1.12 | x | 1.10 | x | 1.10 | x | 1.09 | x |
| Number of full-service offices  | 171  |   | 171  |   | 167  |   | 166  |   | 160  |   |
| Number of consumer finance offices                                      | 52   |   | 51   |   | 51   |   | 51   |   | 51   |   |

- 
- (1) Represents net income divided by average total assets.
  - (2) Represents net income divided by average equity.
  - (3) Represents average yield on interest-earning assets less average cost of interest-bearing liabilities.
  - (4) Represents net interest income as a percentage of average interest-earning assets.
  - (5) The dividend payout ratio represents dividends declared per share divided by net income per share.

## ITEM 7.MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

### Overview

Our principal business consists of attracting deposits from the general public and the business community and making loans secured by various types of collateral, including real estate and other consumer assets in the markets in which we operate. Attracting and maintaining deposits is affected by a number of factors, including interest rates paid on competing investments offered by other financial and non-financial institutions, account maturities, fee structures, and levels of personal income and savings. Lending activities are affected by the demand for funds and thus are influenced by interest rates, the number and quality of lenders and regional economic conditions. Sources of funds for lending activities include deposits, borrowings, repayments on loans, cash flows from investment securities and income provided from operations.

Our earnings depend primarily on our level of net interest income, which is the difference between interest earned on our interest-earning assets, consisting primarily of loans and investment securities, and the interest paid on interest-bearing liabilities, consisting primarily of deposits, borrowed funds, and trust-preferred securities. Net interest income is a function of our interest rate spread, which is the difference between the average yield earned on our interest-earning assets and the average rate paid on our interest-bearing liabilities, as well as a function of the average balance of interest-earning assets compared to the average balance of interest-bearing liabilities. Also contributing to our earnings is noninterest income, which consists primarily of service charges and fees on loan and deposit products and services, fees related to insurance and investment management and trust services, and net gains and losses on the sale of assets. Net interest income and noninterest income are offset by provisions for loan losses, general administrative and other expenses, including employee compensation and benefits and occupancy and equipment costs, as well as by state and federal income tax expense.

Our net income was \$57.5 million, or \$0.53 per diluted share, for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to \$32.7 million, or \$0.30 per diluted share, for the year ended December 31, 2009 and \$48.2 million, or \$0.44 per diluted share, for the year ended December 31, 2008. The loan loss provision was \$40.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to \$41.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 and \$22.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. We recorded other-than-temporary impairment charges for securities, which were reflected as a reduction of noninterest income, of \$1.5 million, \$6.1 million and \$16.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

We did not significantly change our underwriting standards in the past several years nor did we add controversial residential loan products. Other than our loans for the construction of one- to four-family residential mortgage loans, we do not offer “interest only” mortgage loans on one- to four-family residential properties (where the borrower pays interest for an initial period, after which the loan converts to a fully amortizing loan). We also do not offer loans that provide for negative amortization of principal, such as “Option ARM” loans, where the borrower can pay less than the interest owed on the loan, resulting in an increased principal balance during the life of the loan. We do not directly offer “subprime loans” (loans that generally target borrowers with FICO scores of less than 660) or Alt-A loans (traditionally defined as loans having less than full documentation). However, a portion of the loans originated by one of our subsidiaries, Northwest Consumer Discount Company (“NCDC”), consists of loans to persons with credit scores that would cause such loans to be considered subprime. NCDC has been in operation for over 25 years and has 52 offices throughout Pennsylvania. NCDC offers a variety of consumer loans for automobiles, appliances and furniture as well as one- to four-family residential real estate loans. At December 31, 2010, NCDC’s total loan portfolio was approximately \$115.1 million with an average loan size of \$4,400, an average FICO score of 621 and an average yield of approximately 17.1%. NCDC’s total delinquency has remained steady at approximately 3.07% of outstanding loans, with loans nonperforming for 90 days or more at 1.20% of loans outstanding. Annual net charge-offs average

approximately \$3.4 million, or 3.0% of outstanding loans, and it maintains an allowance for loan losses of \$5.3 million, or 4.6% of loans. Although loans originated through NCDC have higher average rates of delinquency and charge-offs than similar loans originated directly by Northwest Savings Bank, management believes that the higher yields on loans originated through NCDC compensate for the incremental credit risk exposure.

## Critical Accounting Policies

Certain accounting policies are important to the understanding of our financial condition, since they require management to make difficult, complex or subjective judgments, some of which may relate to matters that are inherently uncertain. Estimates associated with these policies are susceptible to material changes as a result of changes in facts and circumstances, including, but without limitation, changes in interest rates, performance of the economy, financial condition of borrowers and laws and regulations. The following are the accounting policies we believe are critical.

**Allowance for Loan Losses.** We recognize that losses will be experienced on loans and that the risk of loss will vary with, among other things, the type of loan, the creditworthiness of the borrower, general economic conditions and the quality of the collateral for the loan. We maintain an allowance for loan losses for losses inherent in the loan portfolio. The allowance for loan losses represents management's estimate of probable losses based on all available information. The allowance for loan losses is based on management's evaluation of the collectibility of the loan portfolio, including past loan loss experience, known and inherent losses, information about specific borrower situations and estimated collateral values, and current economic conditions. The loan portfolio and other credit exposures are regularly reviewed by management in its determination of the allowance for loan losses. The methodology for assessing the appropriateness of the allowance includes a review of historical losses, peer group comparisons, industry data and economic conditions. As an integral part of their examination process, regulatory agencies periodically review our allowance for loan losses and may require us to make additional provisions for estimated losses based upon judgments different from those of management. In establishing the allowance for loan losses, loss factors are applied to various pools of outstanding loans. Loss factors are derived using our historical loss experience and may be adjusted for factors that affect the collectibility of the portfolio as of the evaluation date. Commercial loans over \$1.0 million that are criticized are evaluated individually to determine the required allowance for loan losses and to evaluate the potential impairment. Although management believes that it uses the best information available to establish the allowance for loan losses, future adjustments to the allowance for loan losses may be necessary and results of operations could be adversely affected if circumstances differ substantially from the assumptions used in making the determinations. Because future events affecting borrowers and collateral cannot be predicted with certainty, there can be no assurance that the existing allowance for loan losses is adequate or that increases will not be necessary should the quality of loans deteriorate as a result of the factors discussed previously. Any material increase in the allowance for loan losses may adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations. The allowance is based on information known at the time of the review. Changes in factors underlying the assessment could have a material impact on the amount of the allowance that is necessary and the amount of provision to be charged against earnings. Such changes could impact future results. Management believes that all known losses as of December 31, 2010 and 2009 have been recorded as of those dates.

**Valuation of Investment Securities.** Our investment securities are classified as either held-to-maturity or available-for-sale. Held-to-maturity securities are carried at amortized cost, while available-for-sale securities are carried at fair value. Unrealized gains or losses, net of deferred taxes, are reported in other comprehensive income as a separate component of shareholders' equity. In general, fair value is based upon quoted market prices of identical assets, when available. If quoted market prices are not available, fair value is based upon valuation models that use cash flow, security structure and other observable information. Where sufficient data is not available to produce a fair valuation, fair value is based on broker quotes for similar assets. Broker quotes may be adjusted to ensure that financial instruments are recorded at fair value. Adjustments may include unobservable parameters, among other things. No adjustments were made to any broker quotes received by us.

We conduct a quarterly review and evaluation of all investment securities to determine if any declines in fair value are other than temporary. In making this determination, we consider the period of time the securities were in a loss position, the percentage decline in comparison to the securities' amortized cost, the financial condition of the issuer, if

applicable, and the delinquency or default rates of underlying collateral. We consider our intent to sell the investment securities evaluated and the likelihood that we will not have to sell the investment securities before recovery of their cost basis. If impairment exists, credit related impairment losses are recorded in earnings while noncredit related impairment losses are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income. Any future deterioration in the fair value of an investment security, or the determination that the existing unrealized loss of an investment security is other-than-temporary, may have a material adverse affect on future earnings.

**Goodwill.** Goodwill is not subject to amortization but must be tested for impairment at least annually, and possibly more frequently if certain events or changes in circumstances arise. Impairment testing requires that the fair value of each reporting unit be compared to its carrying amount, including goodwill. Reporting units are identified based upon analyzing each of our individual operating segments. A reporting unit is defined as any distinct, separately identifiable component of an operating segment for which complete, discrete financial information is available that management regularly reviews. Goodwill is allocated to the carrying value of each reporting unit based on its relative fair value at the time it is acquired. Determining the fair value of a reporting unit requires a high degree of subjective management judgment. With the assistance of an independent third party, we evaluate goodwill for possible impairment using four valuation methodologies including a public market peers approach, a comparable transactions approach, a control premium approach and a discounted cash flow approach. Future changes in the economic environment or the operations of the reporting units could cause changes to these variables, which could give rise to declines in the estimated fair value of the reporting unit. Declines in fair value could result in impairment being identified. We have established June 30 of each year as the date for conducting our annual goodwill impairment assessment. Quarterly, we evaluate if there are any triggering events that would require an update to our previous assessment. The variables are selected as of that date and the valuation model is run to determine the fair value of each reporting unit. We did not identify any individual reporting unit where the fair value was less than the carrying value.

**Deferred Income Taxes.** We use the asset and liability method of accounting for income taxes. Using this method, deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. If current available information raises doubt as to the realization of the deferred tax assets, a valuation allowance is established. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to be applied to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. We exercise significant judgment in evaluating the amount and timing of recognition of the resulting tax liabilities and assets. These judgments require us to make projections of future taxable income. The judgments and estimates we make in determining our deferred tax assets, which are inherently subjective, are reviewed on an ongoing basis as regulatory and business factors change. A reduction in estimated future taxable income could require us to record a valuation allowance. Changes in levels of valuation allowances could result in increased income tax expense, and could negatively affect earnings.

**Pension Benefits.** Pension expense and obligations are dependent on assumptions used in calculating such amounts. These assumptions include discount rates, anticipated salary increases, interest costs, expected return on plan assets, mortality rates, and other factors. In accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, actual results that differ from the assumptions are amortized over average future service and, therefore, generally affect recognized expense. While management believes that the assumptions used are appropriate, differences in actual experience or changes in assumptions may affect our pension obligations and future expense.

In determining the projected benefit obligations for pension benefits at December 31, 2010 and 2009, we used a discount rate of 5.57% and 6.00%, respectively. We use the Citigroup Pension Liability Index rates matching the duration of our benefit payments as of the measurement date to determine the discount rate. Our measurement date is December 31.

#### Balance Sheet Analysis

**Assets.** Our total assets at December 31, 2010 were \$8.148 billion, an increase of \$122.9 million, or 1.5%, from \$8.025 billion at December 31, 2009. This increase in assets was primarily caused by an increase in deposits, which increased to \$5.764 billion at December 31, 2010, an increase of \$139.9 million, or 2.5%, from \$5.624 billion at December 31, 2009.

Cash and Investments. Total cash and investments decreased by \$147.2 million, or 6.8%, to \$2.028 billion at December 31, 2010, from \$2.175 billion at December 31, 2009. This decrease was a result of the deployment of the capital raised during our second-step conversion into the loan portfolio. Management intends to deploy additional cash and investments into loans over a period of time in an effort to improve operating profits. Timing and the amount of this deployment will depend on a number of factors including loan demand, internal deposit growth, economic conditions and the general level of interest rates.

Loans receivable. Net loans receivable increased by \$228.5 million, or 4.4%, to \$5.458 billion at December 31, 2010, from \$5.229 billion at December 31, 2009. Loan demand was strong, with originations of \$2.137 billion for the year ended December 31, 2010. We sold \$205.3 million of one- to four-family residential mortgage loans originated during the year to assist with our interest-rate risk management. We reduced the sale of one- to four-family mortgage loans in 2010 compared to 2009 due to our strong liquidity position. During the year ended December 31, 2010 gross commercial loans increased by \$190.3 million, or 11.2%, gross mortgage loans increased by \$60.4 million, or 2.5% and gross consumer and home equity loans remained flat.

Total loans 30 days or more past due increased by \$15.2 million, or 8.1%, to \$201.7 million at December 31, 2010 from \$186.5 million at December 31, 2009. The December 31, 2010 amount consisted of 3,517 loans, while the December 31, 2009 amount consisted of 3,450 loans. Delinquencies on one- to four-family mortgage loans increased by \$10.8 million, or 16.8%, delinquencies on consumer and home equity loans increased by \$3.2 million, or 12.1% and delinquencies on commercial real estate and commercial business loans increased by \$1.2 million, or 1.2%. Like most financial institutions, we experienced an increase in the amount of delinquencies during the past 24 months due to deteriorating economic conditions.

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

Set forth below are selected data relating to the composition of our loan portfolio by type of loan as of the dates indicated.

|   | 2010               |               | 2009             |               | At December 31,<br>2008 |               | 2007             |               | 2006             |  |
|---|--------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|--|
|   | Amount             | Percent       | Amount           | Percent       | Amount                  | Percent       | Amount           | Percent       | Amount           |  |
| (Dollars in Thousands)                        |                    |               |                  |               |                         |               |                  |               |                  |  |
| <b>Real estate:</b>                           |                    |               |                  |               |                         |               |                  |               |                  |  |
| One- to four-family                           | \$2,432,421        | 42.9 %        | 2,371,996        | 43.8 %        | 2,492,940               | 47.2 %        | 2,430,117        | 48.9 %        | 2,411,024        |  |
| Home equity                                   | 1,095,953          | 19.3          | 1,080,011        | 19.9          | 1,035,954               | 19.6          | 992,335          | 20.0          | 887,352          |  |
| Multi-family and commercial                   | 1,423,021          | 25.1          | 1,292,145        | 23.8          | 1,100,218               | 20.8          | 906,594          | 18.3          | 701,951          |  |
| <b>Total real estate loans</b>                | <b>4,951,395</b>   | <b>87.3</b>   | <b>4,744,152</b> | <b>87.5</b>   | <b>4,629,112</b>        | <b>87.6</b>   | <b>4,329,046</b> | <b>87.2</b>   | <b>4,000,327</b> |  |
| <b>Consumer:</b>                              |                    |               |                  |               |                         |               |                  |               |                  |  |
| Automobile                                    | 88,486             | 1.6           | 101,046          | 1.9           | 102,267                 | 2.0           | 125,298          | 2.5           | 138,401          |  |
| Education loans                               | 21,957             | 0.4           | 32,860           | 0.6           | 38,152                  | 0.7           | 14,551           | 0.3           | 11,973           |  |
| Loans on savings accounts                     | 11,850             | 0.2           | 12,209           | 0.2           | 11,191                  | 0.2           | 10,563           | 0.2           | 10,313           |  |
| Other (1)                                     | 133,483            | 2.3           | 127,750          | 2.4           | 115,913                 | 2.2           | 117,831          | 2.4           | 109,303          |  |
| <b>Total consumer loans</b>                   | <b>255,776</b>     | <b>4.5</b>    | <b>273,865</b>   | <b>5.1</b>    | <b>267,523</b>          | <b>5.1</b>    | <b>268,243</b>   | <b>5.4</b>    | <b>269,990</b>   |  |
| Commercial business                           | 463,006            | 8.2           | 403,589          | 7.4           | 387,145                 | 7.3           | 367,459          | 7.4           | 235,311          |  |
| <b>Total loans receivable, gross</b>          | <b>5,670,177</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>5,421,606</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>5,283,780</b>        | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>4,964,748</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>4,505,628</b> |  |
| Deferred loan fees                            | (7,165 )           |               | (7,030 )         |               | (5,041 )                |               | (4,179 )         |               | (3,027 )         |  |
| Undisbursed loan proceeds                     | (129,007 )         |               | (115,111 )       |               | (81,918 )               |               | (123,163 )       |               | (52,505 )        |  |
| Allowance for loan losses (real estate loans) | (62,371 )          |               | (43,776 )        |               | (33,760 )               |               | (28,854 )        |               | (17,936 )        |  |
| Allowance for loan losses (other loans)       | (14,041 )          |               | (26,627 )        |               | (21,169 )               |               | (12,930 )        |               | (19,719 )        |  |
| <b>Total loans receivable</b>                 | <b>\$5,457,593</b> |               | <b>5,229,062</b> |               | <b>5,141,892</b>        |               | <b>4,795,622</b> |               | <b>4,412,441</b> |  |

net

---

(1) Consists primarily of secured and unsecured personal loans.

30

---

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

The following table sets forth loans by state (based on borrowers' residence) at December 31, 2010.

| State        | One- to four-family mortgage | Percentage (1) | Consumer and home equity | Percentage (2) | Commercial business and commercial real estate | Percentage (3) | Total            | Percentage (4) |
|--------------|------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|--|----------------|------------------|----------------|
|              | (Dollars in thousands)       |                |                          |                |  |                |                  |                |
| Pennsylvania | \$ 1,942,824                 | 81.0 %         | 1,170,012                | 86.6 %         | 1,077,440                                      | 60.4 %         | 4,190,276        | 75.7 %         |
| New York     | 162,367                      | 6.8            | 113,153                  | 8.4            | 381,671  | 21.4           | 657,191          | 11.9           |
| Ohio         | 20,111                       | 0.8            | 15,222                   | 1.1            | 41,834   | 2.4            | 77,167           | 1.4            |
| Maryland     | 194,607                      | 8.1            | 35,248                   | 2.6            | 155,731  | 8.7            | 385,586          | 7.0            |
| Florida      | 30,908                       | 1.3            | 12,487                   | 0.9            | 62,673   | 3.5            | 106,068          | 1.9            |
| Other        | 47,487                       | 2.0            | 5,607                    | 0.4            | 64,623   | 3.6            | 117,717          | 2.1            |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>\$ 2,398,304</b>          | <b>100.0 %</b> | <b>1,351,729</b>         | <b>100.0 %</b> | <b>1,783,972</b>                               | <b>100.0 %</b> | <b>5,534,005</b> | <b>100.0 %</b> |

- (1) Percentage of total mortgage loans.  
(2) Percentage of total consumer loans.  
(3) Percentage of total commercial loans.  
(4) Percentage of total loans.

The following table sets forth the maturity or period of repricing of our loan portfolio at December 31, 2010. Demand loans and loans having no stated schedule of repayments and no stated maturity are reported as due in one year or less. Adjustable and floating-rate loans are included in the period in which interest rates are next scheduled to adjust rather than in which they contractually mature, and fixed-rate loans are included in the period in which the final contractual repayment is due.

| At December 31, 2010:          | Due in one year or less | Due after one year through two years | Due after two years through three years | Due after three years through five years | Due after five years | Total            |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|----------------------|------------------|
|                                | (In Thousands)          |                                      |   |  |                      |                  |
| <b>Real estate loans:</b>      |                         |                                      |   |  |                      |                  |
| One-to four-family residential | \$ 182,035              | 127,637                              | 114,664                                 | 229,917                                  | 1,778,168            | 2,432,421        |
| Multi-family and commercial    | 493,742                 | 188,087                              | 207,462                                 | 470,785                                  | 62,945               | 1,423,021        |
| Consumer loans                 | 347,254                 | 117,903                              | 110,407                                 | 197,893                                  | 578,272              | 1,351,729        |
| Commercial business loans      | 160,648                 | 61,198                               | 67,502                                  | 153,178                                  | 20,480               | 463,006          |
| <b>Total loans</b>             | <b>\$ 1,183,679</b>     | <b>494,825</b>                       | <b>500,035</b>                          | <b>1,051,773</b>                         | <b>2,439,864</b>     | <b>5,670,177</b> |

The following table sets forth at December 31, 2010, the dollar amount of all fixed-rate and adjustable-rate loans due one year or more after the date indicated. Adjustable- and floating-rate loans are included in the table based on the contractual due date of the loan.

| At December 31, 2010:          | Fixed          | Adjustable | Total     |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------------|-----------|
|                                | (In Thousands) |            |           |
| <b>Real estate loans:</b>      |                |            |           |
| One-to four-family residential | \$ 2,250,071   | 44,290     | 2,294,361 |
| Multi-family and commercial    | 506,484        | 744,223    | 1,250,707 |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|                           |             |           |           |
|---------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Consumer loans            | 974,286     | 144,489   | 1,118,775 |
| Commercial business loans | 175,179     | 231,761   | 406,940   |
| Total loans               | \$3,906,019 | 1,164,763 | 5,070,782 |

Investment securities. Investment securities increased by \$241.5 million, or 22.6%, to \$1.309 billion at December 31, 2010 from \$1.067 billion at December 31, 2009. This increase was the result of our deploying the proceeds from our second step conversion into investment securities throughout the year. During the year ended December 31, 2010, we recognized other-than-temporary credit related impairment charges of \$1.5 million on four private label collateralized mortgage obligations, one pooled trust-preferred investment and one common stock issuance.

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the amortized cost and fair value of our investment securities portfolio and mortgage-backed securities portfolio at the dates indicated.

|  | 2010              |                | At December 31,<br>2009 |                | 2008              |                |
|--|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
|  | Amortized<br>Cost | Fair Value     | Amortized<br>Cost       | Fair Value     | Amortized<br>Cost | Fair Value     |
|  | (In Thousands)    |                |                         |                |                   |                |
| <b>Mortgage-backed securities available for sale:</b>      |                   |                |                         |                |                   |                |
| Fixed-rate pass through certificates                       | \$ 111,581        | 118,722        | 145,363                 | 151,756        | 186,659           | 193,099        |
| Variable-rate pass through certificates                    | 167,685           | 174,937        | 231,232                 | 239,041        | 276,121           | 277,183        |
| Fixed-rate CMOs  | 126,308           | 125,864        | 38,913                  | 38,156         | 60,119            | 57,480         |
| Variable-rate CMOs   | 280,305           | 284,175        | 303,473                 | 304,614        | 228,917           | 217,877        |
| <b>Total mortgage-backed securities available for sale</b> | <b>685,879</b>    | <b>703,698</b> | <b>718,981</b>          | <b>733,567</b> | <b>751,816</b>    | <b>745,639</b> |
| <b>Investment securities available for sale:</b>           |                   |                |                         |                |                   |                |
| U.S. Government, agency and GSEs                           | 18,499            | 18,886         | 76,632                  | 77,938         | 97,884            | 108,908        |
| Municipal securities                                       | 214,535           | 208,293        | 235,128                 | 237,456        | 268,616           | 267,548        |
| Corporate debt issues                                      | 26,017            | 18,860         | 27,382                  | 17,001         | 25,165            | 15,961         |
| Equity securities and mutual funds                         | 867               | 946            | 1,054                   | 1,127          | 954               | 1,114          |
| <b>Total investment securities available for sale</b>      | <b>259,912</b>    | <b>246,985</b> | <b>340,196</b>          | <b>333,522</b> | <b>392,619</b>    | <b>393,531</b> |
| <b>Mortgage-backed securities held-to-maturity:</b>        |                   |                |                         |                |                   |                |
| Fixed-rate pass through certificates                       | 29,820            | 30,226         | —                       | —              | —                 | —              |
| Variable-rate pass through certificates                    | 9,853             | 9,932          | —                       | —              | —                 | —              |
| Fixed-rate CMOs  | 186,948           | 186,171        | —                       | —              | —                 | —              |
| Variable-rate CMOs   | 24,781            | 25,174         | —                       | —              | —                 | —              |
| <b>Total mortgage-backed securities held-to-maturity</b>   | <b>251,402</b>    | <b>251,503</b> | <b>—</b>                | <b>—</b>       | <b>—</b>          | <b>—</b>       |
| <b>Investment securities held-to-maturity:</b>             |                   |                |                         |                |                   |                |
| U.S. Government, agency and GSEs                           | 26,500            | 26,536         | —                       | —              | —                 | —              |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|  |            |         |   |   |   |   |
|--|------------|---------|---|---|---|---|
| Municipal securities                         | 80,020     | 76,087  | — | — | — | — |
| Total investment securities held-to-maturity | \$ 106,520 | 102,623 | — | — | — | — |

The following table sets forth information regarding the issuers and the carrying value of our mortgage-backed securities.

|                                    | 2010           | At December 31,<br>2009 | 2008    |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------|
|                                    | (In Thousands) |                         |         |
| <b>Mortgage-backed securities:</b> |                |                         |         |
| Fannie Mae                         | \$ 355,727     | 256,981                 | 288,082 |
| Ginnie Mae                         | 223,768        | 126,164                 | 99,354  |
| Freddie Mac                        | 335,803        | 324,562                 | 320,297 |
| Other (non-agency)                 | 39,802         | 25,860                  | 37,906  |
| Total mortgage-backed securities   | \$ 955,100     | 733,567                 | 745,639 |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

Investment Portfolio Maturities and Yields. The following table sets forth the scheduled maturities, carrying values, amortized cost, market values and weighted average yields for our investment securities and mortgage-backed securities portfolios at December 31, 2010. Adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities are included in the period in which interest rates are next scheduled to adjust.

|   | At December 31, 2010   |                                   |                |                                   |                     |                                   |                                   |                                   |                |            |                                   |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|------------|-----------------------------------|
|   | One Year or Less       | More than One Year or Less        | Five Years     | More than Five Years to Ten Years | More than Ten Years | Total                             | Annualized Weighted Average Yield |                                   |                |            |                                   |
|   | Amortized Cost         | Annualized Weighted Average Yield | Amortized Cost | Annualized Weighted Average Yield | Amortized Cost      | Annualized Weighted Average Yield | Amortized Cost                    | Annualized Weighted Average Yield | Amortized Cost | Fair Value | Annualized Weighted Average Yield |
|   | (Dollars in thousands) |                                   |                |                                   |                     |                                   |                                   |                                   |                |            |                                   |
| Investment securities available for sale            |                        |                                   |                |                                   |                     |                                   |                                   |                                   |                |            |                                   |
| Government sponsored entities                       | \$1,989                | 5.37%                             | —              | —                                 | 6,495               | 5.84%                             | 9,948                             | 0.44%                             | 18,432         | 18,819     | 2.87%                             |
| U.S. Government and agency obligations              | 67                     | 1.21%                             | —              | —                                 | —                   | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 67             | 67         | 1.21%                             |
| Municipal securities                                | —                      | —                                 | 3,382          | 3.82%                             | 37,898              | 4.22%                             | 173,255                           | 4.38%                             | 214,535        | 208,293    | 4.34%                             |
| Corporate debt issues                               | 100                    | 4.00%                             | 500            | 2.91%                             | —                   | —                                 | 25,417                            | 3.33%                             | 26,017         | 18,860     | 3.32%                             |
| Equity securities and mutual funds                  | —                      | —                                 | —              | —                                 | —                   | —                                 | 861                               | 3.67%                             | 861            | 946        | 3.67%                             |
| Total investment securities available for sale      | 2,156                  | 5.17%                             | 3,882          | 3.70%                             | 44,393              | 4.46%                             | 209,481                           | 4.06%                             | 259,912        | 246,985    | 4.13%                             |
| Mortgage-backed securities available for sale:      |                        |                                   |                |                                   |                     |                                   |                                   |                                   |                |            |                                   |
| Pass through certificates                           | 167,692                | 3.92%                             | 5,194          | 4.39%                             | 5,787               | 4.92%                             | 100,593                           | 5.28%                             | 279,266        | 293,659    | 4.44%                             |
| CMOs  | 280,305                | 1.20%                             | —              | —                                 | 71,653              | 2.65%                             | 54,655                            | 3.15%                             | 406,613        | 410,039    | 1.72%                             |
| Total mortgage-backed securities available for sale | 447,997                | 2.22%                             | 5,194          | 4.39%                             | 77,440              | 2.82%                             | 155,248                           | 4.53%                             | 685,879        | 703,698    | 2.82%                             |
| Investment securities held-to-maturity:             |                        |                                   |                |                                   |                     |                                   |                                   |                                   |                |            |                                   |
| Government sponsored entities                       | —                      | —                                 | 26,500         | 1.17%                             | —                   | —                                 | —                                 | —                                 | 26,500         | 26,536     | 1.17%                             |
| Municipal securities                                | —                      | —                                 | —              | —                                 | —                   | —                                 | 80,020                            | 3.98%                             | 80,020         | 76,087     | 3.98%                             |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|   |           |       |        |       |         |       |         |       |           |           |       |
|---|-----------|-------|--------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Total investment securities held-to-maturity      | —         |       | 26,500 | 1.17% | —       |       | 80,020  | 3.98% | 106,520   | 102,623   | 3.28% |
| Mortgage-backed securities held-to-maturity:      |           |       |        |       |         |       |         |       |           |           |       |
| Pass through certificates                         | 9,853     | 2.80% | —      |       | —       |       | 29,820  | 3.69% | 39,673    | 40,158    | 3.47% |
| CMOs  | 24,781    | 1.11% | —      |       | 7,819   | 2.02% | 179,129 | 2.80% | 211,729   | 211,345   | 2.57% |
| Total mortgage-backed securities held-to-maturity | 34,634    | 1.59% | —      |       | 7,819   | 4.85% | 208,949 | 2.93% | 251,402   | 251,503   | 2.72% |
| Total investment securities and mortgage-backed   | \$484,787 | 2.18% | 35,576 | 1.92% | 129,652 | 3.33% | 653,698 | 3.80% | 1,303,713 | 1,304,809 | 3.10% |

The following tables set forth information with respect to gross unrealized holding gains and losses on our portfolio of investment securities as of December 31, 2010.

|   | Gross Unrealized<br>Amortized Cost | Gross Unrealized<br>Holding Gains | Gross Unrealized<br>Holding Losses | Fair Value     |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
|   | (In thousands)                     |                                   |                                    |                |
| <b>Debt issued by the U.S. Government and agencies:</b> |                                    |                                   |                                    |                |
| Due in one year or less                                 | \$67                               | —                                 | —                                  | 67             |
| <b>Debt issued by government-sponsored enterprises:</b> |                                    |                                   |                                    |                |
| Due in greater than one year to five years              | 1,989                              | 93                                | —                                  | 2,082          |
| Due in greater than five years to ten years             | 6,495                              | 347                               | —                                  | 6,842          |
| Due after ten years                                     | 9,948                              | —                                 | (53 )                              | 9,895          |
| Equity securities                                       | 861                                | 86                                | (1 )                               | 946            |
| <b>Municipal securities:</b>                            |                                    |                                   |                                    |                |
| Due in greater than one year to five years              | 3,382                              | 125                               | —                                  | 3,507          |
| Due in greater than five years to ten years             | 37,898                             | 1,023                             | —                                  | 38,921         |
| Due after ten years                                     | 173,255                            | 1,158                             | (8,548 )                           | 165,865        |
| <b>Corporate debt issues:</b>                           |                                    |                                   |                                    |                |
| Due in one year or less                                 | 100                                | —                                 | —                                  | 100            |
| Due in greater than one year to five years              | 500                                | —                                 | —                                  | 500            |
| Due after ten years                                     | 25,417                             | 196                               | (7,353 )                           | 18,260         |
| <b>Residential mortgage-backed securities:</b>          |                                    |                                   |                                    |                |
| Fixed-rate pass-through                                 | 111,581                            | 7,153                             | (12 )                              | 118,722        |
| Variable-rate pass-through                              | 167,685                            | 7,260                             | (8 )                               | 174,937        |
| Fixed-rate non-agency CMO                               | 13,825                             | 91                                | (843 )                             | 13,073         |
| Fixed-rate agency CMO                                   | 112,483                            | 1,067                             | (759 )                             | 112,791        |
| Variable-rate non-agency CMO                            | 3,274                              | —                                 | (379 )                             | 2,895          |
| Variable-rate agency CMO                                | 277,031                            | 4,525                             | (276 )                             | 281,280        |
| <b>Total residential mortgage-backed securities</b>     | <b>685,879</b>                     | <b>20,096</b>                     | <b>(2,277 )</b>                    | <b>703,698</b> |
| <b>Total marketable securities available for sale</b>   | <b>\$945,791</b>                   | <b>23,124</b>                     | <b>(18,232 )</b>                   | <b>950,683</b> |

Gross Unrealized Gross Unrealized  
Amortized Cost Holding Gains Holding Losses Fair Value  
(In thousands)

|  |           |       |          |         |
|--|-----------|-------|----------|---------|
| Debt issued by government-sponsored enterprises: |           |       |          |         |
| Due in greater than one year to five years       | \$26,500  | 36    | —        | 26,536  |
| Municipal securities:                            |           |       |          |         |
| Due after ten years                              | 80,020    | 7     | (3,940 ) | 76,087  |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities:          |           |       |          |         |
| Fixed-rate pass-through                          | 29,820    | 410   | (4 )     | 30,226  |
| Variable-rate pass-through                       | 9,853     | 79    | —        | 9,932   |
| Fixed-rate agency CMO                            | 186,948   | 924   | (1,701 ) | 186,171 |
| Variable-rate agency CMO                         | 24,781    | 393   | —        | 25,174  |
| Total residential mortgage-backed securities     | 251,402   | 1,806 | (1,705 ) | 251,503 |
| Total marketable securities held-to-maturity     | \$357,922 | 1,849 | (5,645 ) | 354,126 |

We review our investment portfolio on a quarterly basis for indications of impairment. This review includes analyzing the length of time and the extent to which the fair value has been lower than the cost, the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer, including any specific events which may influence the operations of the issuer. In addition, management must assert that it does not have the intent to sell the security and that it is more likely than not we will not have to sell the security before recovery of its cost basis. Other investments are evaluated using our best estimate of future cash flows. If our estimate of cash flow determines that it is expected an adverse change has occurred, other-than-temporary impairment would be recognized for the credit loss.

The following table shows the fair value and gross unrealized losses on our investment securities, aggregated by investment category and length of time that the individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position at December 31, 2010.

|   | Less Than 12 Months |                 | 12 Months or Greater |                 | Total      |                 |
|---|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
|   | Fair Value          | Unrealized Loss | Fair Value           | Unrealized Loss | Fair Value | Unrealized Loss |
|   | (In thousands)      |                 |                      |                 |            |                 |
| U.S. Government and agencies                        | \$9,896             | (53 )           | 35                   | (1 )            | 9,931      | (54 )           |
| Municipal securities                                | 188,659             | (11,107 )       | 8,181                | (1,381 )        | 196,840    | (12,488 )       |
| Corporate issuers                                   | —                   | —               | 13,700               | (7,353 )        | 13,700     | (7,353 )        |
| Equities  | 44                  | (1 )            | —                    | —               | 44         | (1 )            |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities – non-agency | 303                 | (301 )          | 10,093               | (921 )          | 10,396     | (1,222 )        |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities – agency     | 212,261             | (2,632 )        | 4,949                | (127 )          | 217,210    | (2,759 )        |
| Total temporarily impaired securities               | \$411,163           | (14,094 )       | 36,958               | (9,783 )        | 448,121    | (23,877 )       |

As of December 31, 2010, we had nine investments in corporate issues with a total book value of \$21.1 million and total fair value of \$13.7 million, where book value exceeded carrying value for more than 12 months. These investments were three single issuer trust preferred investments and six pooled trust preferred investments. The single issuer trust preferred investments were evaluated for other-than-temporary impairment by determining the strength of the underlying issuer. In each case, the underlying issuer was “well-capitalized” for regulatory purposes. None of the issuers have deferred interest payments or announced the intention to defer interest payments. We believe the decline in fair value is related to the spread over three-month LIBOR, on which the quarterly interest payments are based, as the spread over LIBOR is significantly lower than current market spreads. We concluded the impairment of these investments was considered temporary. In making that determination, we also considered the duration and the severity of the losses. The pooled trust preferred investments were evaluated for other-than-temporary impairment considering duration and severity of losses, actual cash flows, projected cash flows, performing collateral, the class of securities we owned and the amount of additional defaults the structure could withstand prior to the security experiencing a disruption in cash flows. None of these investments have experienced a disruption in cash flows nor are we projecting near-term cash flow disruptions. We concluded, based on all facts evaluated, the remaining impairment of these investments, other than the credit related impairment recognized, was considered temporary and management asserts that we do not have the intent to sell these investments and that it is more likely than not we will not have to sell the investments before recovery of their cost basis.

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

The following table provides class, book value, fair value and ratings information for our portfolio of corporate securities that had an unrealized loss as of December 31, 2010.

| Description                   | Class      | Book Value | Total<br>Fair Value<br>(In thousands) | Unrealized<br>Losses | Moody's/Fitch<br>Ratings |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Bank Boston Capital Trust (1) | N/A        | \$ 988     | 702                                   | (286 )               | Baa3/BBB-                |
| Reliance Capital Trust        | N/A        | 1,000      | 838                                   | (162 )               | Not rated                |
| Huntington Capital Trust      | N/A        | 1,422      | 848                                   | (574 )               | Ba1/BBB-                 |
| MM Community Funding I        | Mezzanine  | 105        | 56                                    | (49 )                | Ca/C                     |
| MM Community Funding II       | Mezzanine  | 331        | 29                                    | (302 )               | Baa2/BB                  |
| I-PreTSL I                    | Mezzanine  | 1,500      | 188                                   | (1,312 )             | Not rated/CCC            |
| I-PreTSL II                   | Mezzanine  | 1,500      | 188                                   | (1,312 )             | Not rated/B              |
| PreTSL XIX                    | Senior A-1 | 8,770      | 6,715                                 | (2,055 )             | Baa2/BBB                 |
| PreTSL XX                     | Senior A-1 | 5,437      | 4,136                                 | (1,301 )             | Ba2/BB                   |
|                               |            | \$ 21,053  | 13,700                                | (7,353 )             |                          |

(1)Bank Boston was acquired by Bank of America

The following table provides collateral information, where available, on pooled trust preferred securities included in the previous table as of December 31, 2010.

| Description | Total collateral | Current Deferrals and Defaults<br>(In thousands) | Performing Collateral | Additional Immediate Defaults Before Causing an Interest Shortfall |
|-------------|------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| I-PreTSL I  | \$193,500        | 17,500   | 176,000               | 101,500  |
| I-PreTSL II | 378,000          | —  | 378,000               | 153,000  |
| PreTSL XIX  | 699,981          | 172,400  | 527,581               | 185,000  |
| PreTSL XX   | 576,238          | 176,500  | 399,738               | 109,500  |

Mortgage-backed securities include agency (Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and Ginnie Mae) mortgage-backed securities and non-agency collateralized mortgage obligations. We review our portfolio of agency mortgage-backed securities quarterly for impairment. As of December 31, 2010, we believe that the impairment within our portfolio of agency mortgage-backed securities is temporary. As of December 31, 2010, we had 11 non-agency collateralized mortgage obligations with total book value of \$17.1 million and total fair value of \$16.0 million. During the year ended December 31, 2010, we recognized other-than-temporary credit related impairment of \$1.1 million related to four of these investments. After recognizing the other-than-temporary impairment, our book value on these four investments was \$10.7 million, with a fair value of \$9.6 million. We determined how much of the impairment was credit related and noncredit related by analyzing cash flow estimates, estimated prepayment speeds, loss severity and conditional

default rates. We consider the discounted cash flow analysis to be our primary evidence when determining whether credit related other-than-temporary impairment exists. The impairment on the other seven collateralized mortgage obligations, with book value of \$6.4 million and fair value of \$6.4 million, were also reviewed considering the severity and length of impairment. After this review, we determined that there was no impairment on these seven securities.

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

The following table shows issuer specific information, book value, fair value, unrealized losses and other-than-temporary impairment recorded in earnings for our portfolio of non-agency collateralized mortgage obligations as of December 31, 2010.

| Description        | Book Value | Total<br>Fair Value<br>(In thousands) | Unrealized<br>Losses | Life to-date<br>Impairment<br>Recorded in<br>Earnings |
|--------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| AMAC 2003-6 2A2    | \$604      | 619                                   | —                    | —   |
| AMAC 2003-6 2A8    | 1,250      | 1,277                                 | —                    | —   |
| AMAC 2003-7 A3     | 737        | 748                                   | —                    | —   |
| BOAMS 2005-11 1A8  | 3,580      | 3,441                                 | (139 )               | (146 )  |
| CWALT 2005-J14 A3  | 5,661      | 4,957                                 | (704 )               | (411 )  |
| CFSB 2003-17 2A2   | 1,130      | 1,145                                 | —                    | —   |
| WAMU 2003-S2 A4    | 862        | 885                                   | —                    | —   |
| CMLTI 2005-10 1A5B | 897        | 897                                   | —                    | (2,952 )  |
| FHASI 2003-8 1A24  | 693        | 685                                   | (8 )                 | —   |
| SARM 2005-21 4A2   | 605        | 303                                   | (302 )               | (3,100 )  |
| WFMBS 2003-B A2    | 1,080      | 1,011                                 | (69 )                | —   |
|                    | \$17,099   | 15,968                                | (1,222 )             | (6,609 )  |

Deposits. Deposits increased by \$139.9 million, or 2.5%, to \$5.764 billion at December 31, 2010 from \$5.624 billion at December 31, 2009. Deposit balances increased across all of our products, except certificates of deposit, and all of our regions. We have continued our focus on generating checking accounts and other low cost deposits. Checking accounts increased by \$102.4 million, or 8.2%, to \$1.358 billion at December 31, 2010 from \$1.255 billion at December 31, 2009.

The following table sets forth the dollar amount of deposits in each state indicated as of December 31, 2010.

| State        | Balance<br>(Dollars in thousands) | Percent |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Pennsylvania | \$ 4,684,001                      | 81.3 %  |
| New York     | 662,372                           | 11.4    |
| Ohio         | 66,862                            | 1.2     |
| Maryland     | 292,094                           | 5.1     |
| Florida      | 59,007                            | 1.0     |
| Total        | \$ 5,764,336                      | 100.0 % |

The following table indicates the amount of our certificates of deposit of \$100,000 or more by time remaining until maturity at December 31, 2010.

| Maturity Period                      | Certificates of Deposit<br>(In thousands) |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Three months or less                 | \$ 79,931                                 |
| Over three months through six months | 61,055                                    |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Over six months through twelve months | 120,184    |
| Over twelve months                    | 362,147    |
| Total                                 | \$ 623,317 |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

The following table sets forth the dollar amount of deposits in the various types of accounts we offered at the dates indicated.

|                            | 2010                   |             |          | At December 31,<br>2009 |             |          | 2008      |             |          |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------|
|                            | Balance                | Percent (1) | Rate (2) | Balance                 | Percent (1) | Rate (2) | Balance   | Percent (1) | Rate (2) |
|                            | (Dollars in thousands) |             |          |                         |             |          |           |             |          |
| Savings accounts           | \$ 1,049,194           | 18.2 %      | 0.60 %   | 924,461                 | 16.4 %      | 0.85 %   | 760,245   | 15.1 %      | 1.14 %   |
| Checking accounts          | 1,357,538              | 23.6        | 0.07 %   | 1,255,146               | 22.3        | 0.13 %   | 1,100,131 | 21.8        | 0.37 %   |
| Money market accounts      | 899,688                | 15.6        | 0.52 %   | 820,076                 | 14.6        | 0.91 %   | 720,375   | 14.3        | 1.58 %   |
| Certificates of deposit:   |                        |             |          |                         |             |          |           |             |          |
| Maturing within 1 year     | 1,230,549              | 21.3        | 1.62 %   | 1,545,784               | 27.5        | 2.43 %   | 1,285,695 | 25.5        | 2.88 %   |
| Maturing 1 to 3 years      | 1,011,806              | 17.6        | 2.88 %   | 958,027                 | 17.0        | 3.46 %   | 829,776   | 16.5        | 3.74 %   |
| Maturing more than 3 years | 215,561                | 3.7         | 2.82 %   | 120,930                 | 2.2         | 3.44 %   | 341,989   | 6.8         | 4.11 %   |
| Total certificates         | 2,457,916              | 42.6        | 2.25 %   | 2,624,741               | 46.7        | 2.85 %   | 2,457,460 | 48.8        | 3.34 %   |
| Total deposits             | \$ 5,764,336           | 100.0 %     | 1.13 %   | 5,624,424               | 100.0 %     | 1.58 %   | 5,038,211 | 100.0 %     | 2.08 %   |

(1)

Represents percentage of total deposits.

(2) Represents weighted average nominal rate at year end.

Borrowings. Borrowings decreased by \$6.0 million, or 0.7%, to \$891.3 million at December 31, 2010 from \$897.3 million at December 31, 2009. This decrease resulted from the repayment of \$35.0 million of FHLB borrowings that matured during 2010, which was partially offset by an increase in reverse repurchase agreements of \$30.5 million. During 2010, we restructured \$695.0 million of FHLB borrowings reducing the annual interest cost by 0.22%, while extending the average maturities of these borrowings by approximately 3.5 years. We incurred a penalty of \$52.2 million in conjunction with this restructuring, which will be amortized over the life of the borrowings. Reverse repurchase agreements increased during the year as the average rate of 1.01% during the year exceeded the alternative deposit account rate.

The following table sets forth information concerning our borrowings at the dates and for the periods indicated.

|   | During the Years Ended December 31, |   |           |   |           |   |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|-----------|---|-----------|---|
|   | 2010                                |   | 2009      |   | 2008      |   |
|   | (Dollars in Thousands)              |   |           |   |           |   |
| <b>Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh borrowings:</b> |                                     |   |           |   |           |   |
| Average balance outstanding                             | \$ 769,493                          |   | 844,483   |   | 625,707   |   |
| Maximum outstanding at end of any month during year     | 782,210                             |   | 917,478   |   | 972,018   |   |
| Balance outstanding at end of year                      | 745,651                             |   | 782,221   |   | 972,018   |   |
| Weighted average interest rate during year              | 3.95                                | % | 3.96      | % | 3.89      | % |
| Weighted average interest rate at end of year           | 3.75                                | % | 4.04      | % | 3.49      | % |
| <b>Reverse repurchase agreements:</b>                   |                                     |   |           |   |           |   |
| Average balance outstanding                             | 127,350                             |   | 90,706    |   | 88,349    |   |
| Maximum outstanding at end of any month during year     | 157,582                             |   | 115,342   |   | 98,108    |   |
| Balance outstanding at end of year                      | 145,642                             |   | 115,105   |   | 91,436    |   |
| Weighted average interest rate during year              | 1.01                                | % | 1.35      | % | 1.75      | % |
| Weighted average interest rate at end of year           | 0.74                                | % | 1.55      | % | 1.02      | % |
| <b>Other borrowings:</b>                                |                                     |   |           |   |           |   |
| Average balance outstanding                             | —                                   |   | 1,382     |   | 4,602     |   |
| Maximum outstanding at end of any month during year     | —                                   |   | 4,496     |   | 4,652     |   |
| Balance outstanding at end of year                      | —                                   |   | —         |   | 4,491     |   |
| Weighted average interest rate during year              | —                                   |   | 4.99      | % | 4.99      | % |
| Weighted average interest rate at end of year           | —                                   |   | —         |   | 4.99      | % |
| <b>Total borrowings:</b>                                |                                     |   |           |   |           |   |
| Average balance outstanding                             | \$ 896,843                          |   | 936,571   |   | 718,657   |   |
| Maximum outstanding at end of any month during year     | 905,874                             |   | 1,009,586 |   | 1,067,945 |   |
| Balance outstanding at end of year                      | 891,293                             |   | 897,326   |   | 1,067,945 |   |
| Weighted average interest rate during year              | 3.57                                | % | 3.69      | % | 3.74      | % |
| Weighted average interest rate at end of year           | 3.26                                | % | 3.72      | % | 3.29      | % |

Shareholders' equity. Total shareholders' equity at December 31, 2010 was \$1.307 billion, a decrease of \$9.1 million, or 0.7%, from \$1.317 billion at December 31, 2009. This decrease was a result of the purchase of \$17.2 million of common stock by the ESOP, an increase in other comprehensive loss of \$3.5 million and the payment of dividends of \$43.3 million, all of which were partially offset by net income of \$57.5 million.

Average Balance Sheets

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

The following tables set forth average balance sheets, average yields and costs, and certain other information at and for the periods indicated. All average balances are daily average balances. Non-accrual loans were included in the computation of average balances, but have been reflected in the table as loans carrying a zero yield. The yields set forth below include the effect of deferred fees and discounts and premiums that are amortized or accreted to interest income or expense. The average yield for loans receivable and investment securities are calculated on a fully-taxable equivalent basis.

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

For the Years Ended December 31,

|   | 2010                              |          | 2009                           |                                   |          |                                | 2008                              |          |                                |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
|   | Average<br>Outstanding<br>Balance | Interest | Average<br>Yield/ Cost<br>(11) | Average<br>Outstanding<br>Balance | Interest | Average<br>Yield/ Cost<br>(11) | Average<br>Outstanding<br>Balance | Interest | Average<br>Yield/ Cost<br>(11) |
|   | (Dollars in Thousands)            |          |                                |                                   |          |                                |                                   |          |                                |
| <b>Interest-earning assets:</b>   |                                   |          |                                |                                   |          |                                |                                   |          |                                |
| Loans receivable (includes FTE adjustments of \$1,483, \$1,643 and \$1,559, respectively) (1)(2)(3)   | \$ 5,487,645                      | 330,431  | 6.03%                          | 5,199,829                         | 321,764  | 6.17%                          | 5,016,694                         | 328,687  | 6.50%                          |
| Mortgage-backed securities (5)  | 816,182                           | 25,271   | 3.10%                          | 720,683                           | 27,263   | 3.78%                          | 732,281                           | 34,694   | 4.74%                          |
| Investment securities (includes FTE adjustments of \$6,320, \$5,952 and \$6,597, respectively) (4)(5) | 369,858                           | 20,572   | 5.56%                          | 360,620                           | 22,390   | 6.21%                          | 478,933                           | 29,250   | 6.11%                          |
| Federal Home Loan Bank stock (6)  | 62,688                            | —        | —                              | 63,162                            | —        | —                              | 48,167                            | 1,428    | 2.96%                          |
| Interest-earning deposits   | 805,161                           | 2,097    | 0.26%                          | 297,228                           | 641      | 0.21%                          | 104,895                           | 2,756    | 2.59%                          |
| Total interest-earning assets (includes FTE adjustments of \$7,803 \$7,595 and \$8,156, respectively) | 7,541,534                         | 378,371  | 5.02%                          | 6,641,522                         | 372,058  | 5.59%                          | 6,380,970                         | 396,815  | 6.18%                          |
| Non-interest-earning assets (7)   | 578,317                           |          |                                | 523,038                           |          |                                | 488,579                           |          |                                |
| Total assets  | \$ 8,119,851                      |          |                                | 7,164,560                         |          |                                | 6,869,549                         |          |                                |
| <b>Interest-bearing liabilities:</b>  |                                   |          |                                |                                   |          |                                |                                   |          |                                |
| Savings   | \$ 1,031,362                      | 8,166    | 0.79%                          | 850,707                           | 6,501    | 0.76%                          | 778,341                           | 9,159    | 1.18%                          |
| Interest-bearing demand   | 776,091                           | 1,211    | 0.16%                          | 739,102                           | 2,536    | 0.34%                          | 732,097                           | 6,434    | 0.88%                          |
| Money market  | 888,081                           | 5,977    | 0.67%                          | 752,166                           | 8,471    | 1.13%                          | 720,713                           | 14,726   | 2.04%                          |
| Certificates  | 2,483,481                         | 59,820   | 2.41%                          | 2,546,867                         | 77,886   | 3.06%                          | 2,716,815                         | 106,742  | 3.93%                          |
| Borrowed funds (8)  | 896,843                           | 32,054   | 3.57%                          | 936,571                           | 34,579   | 3.69%                          | 718,657                           | 26,893   | 3.74%                          |
| Junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures  | 103,094                           | 5,699    | 5.45%                          | 105,672                           | 5,834    | 5.45%                          | 108,287                           | 5,339    | 4.86%                          |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|  |              |         |       |           |         |       |           |         |       |
|--|--------------|---------|-------|-----------|---------|-------|-----------|---------|-------|
| Total interest-bearing liabilities   | 6,178,952    | 112,927 | 1.83% | 5,931,085 | 135,806 | 2.29% | 5,774,910 | 169,293 | 2.93% |
| Non-interest-bearing liabilities   | 634,119      |         |       | 540,536   |         |       | 473,410   |         |       |
| Total liabilities  | 6,813,071    |         |       | 6,471,621 |         |       | 6,248,320 |         |       |
| Shareholders' equity   | 1,306,780    |         |       | 692,939   |         |       | 621,229   |         |       |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity                                       | \$ 8,119,851 |         |       | 7,164,560 |         |       | 6,869,549 |         |       |
| Net interest income  |              | 265,444 |       |           | 236,252 |       |           | 227,522 |       |
| Net interest rate spread (9)   |              |         | 3.19% |           |         | 3.30% |           |         | 3.25% |
| Net interest earning assets  |              |         |       |           |         |       |           |         |       |
| Net interest margin (10)   | \$ 1,362,582 |         | 3.52% | 710,437   |         | 3.56% | 606,060   |         | 3.57% |
| Ratio of average interest-earning assets to average interest-bearing liabilities | 1.22         | x       |       | 1.12      | x       |       | 1.10      | x       |       |

(1) Average gross loans receivable includes loans held as available-for-sale and loans placed on nonaccrual status.

(2) Interest income includes accretion/amortization of deferred loan fees/expenses, which were not material.

(3) Interest income on tax-free loans is presented on a taxable equivalent basis including adjustments as indicated.

(4) Interest income on tax-free investment securities is presented on a taxable equivalent basis including adjustments as indicated.

(5) Average balances do not include the effect of unrealized gains or losses on securities held as available-for-sale.

(6) During the quarter ended December 31, 2008, the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh suspended dividends until further notice.

(7) Average balances include the effect of unrealized gains or losses on securities held as available-for-sale.

(8) Average balances include Federal Home Loan Bank advances, securities sold under agreements to repurchase and other borrowings.

(9) Net interest rate spread represents the difference between the average yield on interest-earning assets and the average cost of interest-bearing liabilities.

(10) Net interest margin represents net interest income as a percentage of average interest-earning assets.

(11) Shown on a FTE basis. GAAP basis yields were: Loans – 6.00%, 6.14% and 6.47%, respectively, Investment securities – 3.85%, 4.56% and 4.73%, respectively, interest-earning assets – 4.92%, 5.48% and 6.05%, respectively, GAAP basis net interest rate spreads were 3.09%, 3.19% and 3.12%, respectively, and GAAP basis net interest margins were 3.42%, 3.44% and 3.43%, respectively.

## Rate/Volume Analysis

The following table presents the dollar amount of changes in interest income and interest expense for major components of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to 2009 and for the year ended December 31, 2009 compared to 2008. For each category of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities, information is provided on changes attributable to: (1) changes in volume multiplied by the prior year rate; (2) changes in rate, which are changes in rate multiplied by the prior year volume; and (3) changes not solely attributable to rate or volume, which have been allocated proportionately to the change due to volume and the change due to rate.

|   | Years Ended December 31,<br>2010 vs. 2009 |               |                                 | Years Ended December 31,<br>2009 vs. 2008 |              |                                 |
|---|---|---------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------|---------------------------------|
|   | Increase (Decrease)<br>Due to             |               | Total<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Increase (Decrease)<br>Due to             |              | Total<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|   | Rate                                      | Volume        |                                 | Rate                                      | Volume       |                                 |
| (In Thousands)  |   |               |                                 |   |              |                                 |
| <b>Interest-earning assets:</b>                       |   |               |                                 |   |              |                                 |
| Loans receivable                                      | \$(9,091 )                                | 17,758        | 8,667                           | (18,826 )                                 | 11,903       | (6,923 )                        |
| Mortgage-backed securities                            | (5,605 )                                  | 3,613         | (1,992 )                        | (6,937 )                                  | (494 )       | (7,431 )                        |
| Investment securities                                 | (2,392 )                                  | 574           | (1,818 )                        | 486                                       | (7,346 )     | (6,860 )                        |
| Federal Home Loan Bank stock                          | —   | —             | —                               | (1,873 )                                  | 445          | (1,428 )                        |
| Interest-earning deposits                             | 133                                       | 1,323         | 1,456                           | (7,168 )                                  | 5,053        | (2,115 )                        |
| <b>Total interest-earning assets</b>                  | <b>(16,955 )</b>                          | <b>23,268</b> | <b>6,313</b>                    | <b>(34,318 )</b>                          | <b>9,561</b> | <b>(24,757 )</b>                |
| <b>Interest-bearing liabilities:</b>                  |   |               |                                 |   |              |                                 |
| Savings accounts                                      | 259                                       | 1,406         | 1,665                           | (3,510 )                                  | 852          | (2,658 )                        |
| Interest-bearing demand<br>accounts                   | (1,452 )                                  | 127           | (1,325 )                        | (3,960 )                                  | 62           | (3,898 )                        |
| Money market demand accounts                          | (4,025 )                                  | 1,531         | (2,494 )                        | (6,897 )                                  | 642          | (6,255 )                        |
| Certificate accounts                                  | (16,334 )                                 | (1,732 )      | (18,066 )                       | (22,919 )                                 | (5,937 )     | (28,856 )                       |
| Borrowed funds  | (1,081 )                                  | (1,443 )      | (2,524 )                        | (470 )                                    | 8,155        | 7,685                           |
| Junior subordinated deferrable<br>interest debentures | 8   | (143 )        | (135 )                          | 639                                       | (144 )       | 495                             |
| <b>Total interest-bearing liabilities</b>             | <b>(22,625 )</b>                          | <b>(254 )</b> | <b>(22,879 )</b>                | <b>(37,117 )</b>                          | <b>3,630</b> | <b>(33,487 )</b>                |
| <b>Net change in net interest<br/>income</b>          | <b>\$5,670</b>                            | <b>23,522</b> | <b>29,192</b>                   | <b>2,799</b>                              | <b>5,931</b> | <b>8,730</b>                    |

## Comparison of Results of Operations for the Years Ended December 31, 2010 and 2009

General. Net income for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$57.5 million, or \$0.53 per diluted share, an increase of \$24.8 million, or 76.2%, from \$32.7 million, or \$0.30 per diluted share, for the year ended December 31, 2009. The increase in net income resulted primarily from an increase in net interest income of \$29.0 million, an increase in noninterest income of \$7.1 million and a decrease in noninterest expense of \$4.0 million. These items were partially offset by an increase in income taxes of \$16.5 million. A discussion of each significant change follows.

Net income for the year ended December 31, 2010 represents a 4.40% and 0.71% return on average equity and return on average assets, respectively, compared to 4.71% and 0.46% for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Interest income. Interest income increased by \$6.1 million, or 1.7%, to \$370.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$364.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The increase in interest income was due to an increase in the average balance of interest-earning assets, which was partially offset by a decrease in the average yield on interest-earning assets. The average balance of interest-earning assets increased by \$900.0 million, or 13.6%, to \$7.542 billion for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$6.642 billion for the year ended December 31, 2009. The average rate earned on interest-earnings assets decreased by 0.56%, to 4.92% for the year ended December 31, 2010 from 5.48% for the year ended December 31, 2009. An explanation of the changes in the balances of interest-earnings assets and changes in the yield is discussed in each category below.

Interest income on loans receivable increased by \$8.8 million, or 2.8%, to \$328.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$320.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. This increase was attributable to an increase in the average balance of loans receivable, which was partially offset by a decrease in the average yield. Average loans receivable increased by \$287.8 million, or 5.5%, to \$5.488 billion for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$5.200 billion for the year ended December 31, 2009. This increase was attributable both to our efforts in attracting and maintaining quality retail and commercial loan relationships as well as continued strong loan demand throughout our market area. The average yield on loans receivable decreased by 0.14%, to 6.00% for the year ended December 31, 2010, from 6.14% for the year ended December 31, 2009. This decrease is primarily due to the repricing of variable rate loans and the origination of new loans in a lower interest rate environment.

Interest income on mortgage-backed securities decreased by \$2.0 million, or 7.3%, to \$25.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$27.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. This decrease was attributable to a decrease in the average yield earned on mortgage-backed securities, which was partially offset by an increase in the average balance of mortgage-backed securities. The average yield on mortgage-backed securities decreased by 0.68%, to 3.10% for the year ended December 31, 2010, from 3.78% for the year ended December 31, 2009. This decrease in yield is primarily the result of the generally low interest rate environment throughout 2010 which caused the rates on our variable rate securities to decrease. The average mortgage-backed securities balance increased by \$95.5 million, or 13.3%, to \$816.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$720.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The increase in the average balance was primarily the result of moving overnight funds into mortgage-backed securities.

Interest income on investment securities decreased by \$2.1 million, or 13.3%, to \$14.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$16.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. This decrease was attributable to a decrease in the yield on investment securities, which was partially offset by an increase in the average balance of investment securities. The average yield decreased by 0.71%, to 3.85% for the year ended December 31, 2010, from 4.56% for the year ended December 31, 2009. This decrease in yield resulted from the general decline in market interest rates which caused a decrease in the rates on our variable rate securities. The average balance of investment securities increased by \$9.3 million, or 2.6%, to \$369.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$360.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The increase in the average balance of investment securities is primarily attributable to moving overnight funds into investment securities.

Interest income on interest-earning deposits increased by \$1.5 million, or 227.1%, to \$2.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$641,000 for the year ended December 31, 2009. This increase is the result of an increase in the average balance of interest-earning deposits. Average interest-earning deposits increased to \$805.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$297.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. This increase is a result of the funds received from our second-step common stock offering being held as interest-earning deposits until they can be moved into higher yielding loans and investments.

Interest expense. Interest expense decreased by \$22.9 million, or 16.8%, to \$112.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$135.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. This decrease was attributed to a decrease in the interest rate paid on deposits and borrowings, which was partially offset by an increase in the average balance of interest-bearing deposits. The average rate paid on all deposit accounts, except savings accounts, decreased during the year ending December 31, 2010 due to a decrease in market conditions and competitive rates. Interest-bearing demand deposits decreased from 0.34% for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 0.16% for the year ended December 31, 2010; money market demand accounts decreased from 1.13% for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 0.67% for the year ended December 31, 2010 and certificates of deposit decreased from 3.06% for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 2.41% for the year ended December 31, 2010. Savings accounts increased from 0.76% for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 0.79% for the year ended December 31, 2010 due primarily to new office opening promotions. Also contributing to the decrease in interest expense was a shift in the mix of our deposits

where we increased the balances of savings, interest-bearing checking and money market demand accounts, while decreasing the balance of certificates. The average rate paid on borrowed funds also decreased by 0.12% to 3.57% for the year ended December 31, 2010, from 3.69% for the year ended December 31, 2009 as the average rate on repurchase agreements decreased from 1.35% for the year ended December 31, 2009 to 1.01% for the year ended December 31, 2010. In addition, during September 2010 we refinanced \$695.0 million of FHLB of Pittsburgh borrowings which reduced the average rate by 0.22% and increased the weighted average life by 3.5 years.

Net interest income. Net interest income increased by \$28.9 million, or 12.7%, to \$257.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$228.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. This increase was a result of the factors previously discussed. Our net interest rate spread decreased by 0.10% to 3.09% for the year ended December 31, 2010 from 3.19% for the year ended December 31, 2009 and our net interest margin decreased by 0.02% to 3.42% for the year ended December 31, 2010 from 3.44% for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Provision for loan losses. Management analyzes the allowance for loan losses as described in the section "Allowance for Loan Losses." The provision for loan losses decreased by \$1.3 million, or 3.3%, to \$40.5 million for year ended December 31, 2010 from \$41.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Included in the current year provision is a specific reserve of \$395,000 for a loan secured by a marina in Florida, a specific reserve of \$1.4 million for a loan secured by a hotel in Maryland, a specific reserve of \$501,000 for a loan to a car dealership in northwestern Pennsylvania, a specific reserve of \$449,000 for a land development in Maryland, a specific reserve of \$612,000 for a loan to a recycling company in northwestern Pennsylvania, a specific reserve of \$3.5 million for a residential land development loan in southwestern Pennsylvania, a specific reserve of \$589,000 for a condominium development in western New York, a specific reserve of \$331,000 for a loan secured by retail rental space located in Virginia, a specific reserve of \$3.0 million for a hotel located in Maryland and a specific reserve of \$1.4 million for a loan secured by a hotel in Florida. Loans with payments 90 days or more delinquent and other nonaccrual loans have increased to \$148.4 million at December 31, 2010 from \$124.6 million at December 31, 2009.

In determining the amount of the current period provision, the Company considered the continued economic conditions in our markets, including sustained levels of high unemployment and an increase in bankruptcy filings, and continued softness in the real estate sector. Net loan charge-offs increased by \$8.1 million, or 30.7%, to \$34.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$26.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Annual net charge-offs to average loans increased to 0.63% for the year ended December 31, 2010 from 0.51% for the year ended December 31, 2009. The provision that is recorded is sufficient, in management's judgment, to bring the allowance for loan losses to a level that reflects the losses inherent in the Company's loan portfolio relative to loan mix, economic conditions and historical loss experience. Management believes, to the best of their knowledge, that all known losses as of the balance sheet dates have been recorded.

Noninterest income. Noninterest income increased by \$7.1 million, or 13.2%, to \$60.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$53.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. This increase in noninterest income was due to a number of factors. The noncash net impairment losses of investment securities decreased by \$4.6 million, or 75.4%, to \$1.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, from \$6.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 due to the stabilization of market values. Service charges and fees increased by \$3.1 million, or 8.9%, to \$37.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, from \$34.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 primarily due to an increase in deposit related fees, insurance commission income increased by \$2.5 million, or 95.3%, to \$5.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, from \$2.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 as a result of our January 1, 2010 purchase of Veracity Benefits Design, an employee benefits firm specializing in services to employer and employee groups, loss on real estate owned decreased by \$1.5 million, or 36.6%, to \$2.6 million of the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$4.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 and other operating income increased by \$1.1 million, or 30.4%, to \$4.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Partially offsetting these increases was a decrease in mortgage banking income and a bargain purchase gain recorded in 2009. Mortgage banking income decreased by \$5.2 million, or 70.5%, to \$2.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$7.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 due to less favorable pricing in the secondary mortgage markets. In the prior year we recorded a gain on the purchase of Keystone State Savings Bank of \$3.5 million.



Noninterest expense. Noninterest expense decreased by \$4.0 million, or 2.0%, to \$196.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$200.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. This decrease was primarily due the FDIC special insurance fund assessment of \$3.3 million which was assessed in 2009 and the contribution to the charitable foundation of \$13.8 million which was established in connection with our second step common stock offering in 2009. Partially offsetting these items were increases in all major expense categories, except amortization expense. Compensation and employee benefits increased by \$5.1 million, or 5.4%, to \$100.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$95.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 primarily due to the addition of Veracity Benefits Design and normal merit increases for existing employees. Premises and occupancy costs increased by \$702,000, or 3.2%, to \$22.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$22.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Office operations expense increased by \$917,000, or 7.1%, to \$13.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$12.9 million for the year ended December 31 2009. Processing expenses increase by \$1.9 million, or, 8.6%, to \$23.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$21.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, primarily due to an increase in number of accounts serviced. Marketing expense increased by \$723,000, or 7.9%, to \$9.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$9.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 due to our efforts to increase customer relationships and build brand loyalty. We also recognized \$1.2 million of acquisition related expenses as a result of the termination of the merger agreement to acquire another bank.

Income taxes. Income tax expense increased by \$16.5 million, or 236.0%, to \$23.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from \$7.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. This increase is due to an increase in income before income taxes of \$41.4 million, or 104.4%, and an increase in the effective tax rate from 17.7% to 29.0%. The increase in the effective tax rate was primarily due to a lower ratio of tax exempt income to pretax income.

#### Comparison of Results of Operations for the Years Ended December 31, 2009 and 2008

General. Net income for the year ended December 31, 2009 was \$32.7 million, or \$0.30 per diluted share, a decrease of \$15.5 million, or 32.2%, from \$48.2 million, or \$0.44 per diluted share, for the year ended December 31, 2008. The decrease in net income resulted primarily from an increase in the provision for loan losses of \$19.0 million and an increase in noninterest expense of \$30.4 million. These items were partially offset by an increase in net interest income of \$9.3 million and an increase in noninterest income of \$14.6 million. A discussion of each significant change follows.

Net income for the year ended December 31, 2009 represents a 4.71% and 0.46% return on average equity and return on average assets, respectively, compared to 7.75% and 0.70% for the year ended December 31, 2008.

Interest income. Interest income decreased by \$24.2 million, or 6.2%, to \$364.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$388.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. The decrease in interest income was due to a decrease in the average yield on interest-earning assets, which was partially offset by an increase in the average balance of interest-earning assets. The average rate earned on interest-earnings assets decreased by 0.57%, to 5.48% for the year ended December 31, 2009 from 6.05% for the year ended December 31, 2008. The average balance of interest-earning assets increased by \$260.6 million, or 4.1%, to \$6.642 billion for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$6.381 billion for the year ended December 31, 2008. An explanation of the changes in the balances of interest-earnings assets and changes in the yield is discussed in each category below.

Interest income on loans receivable decreased by \$7.0 million, or 2.1%, to \$320.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$327.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. This decrease was attributable to a decrease in the average yield, which was partially offset by an increase in the average balance of loans receivable. The average yield on loans receivable decreased by 0.33%, to 6.14% for the year ended December 31,

2009, from 6.47% for the year ended December 31, 2008. This decrease is primarily due to the repricing of variable rate loans and the origination of new loans in a lower interest rate environment. Average loans receivable increased by \$183.1 million, or 3.7%, to \$5.200 billion for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$5.017 billion for the year ended December 31, 2008. This increase was attributable both to our efforts in attracting and maintaining quality consumer and commercial loan relationships as well as continued strong loan demand throughout our market area.

Interest income on mortgage-backed securities decreased by \$7.4 million, or 21.4%, to \$27.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$34.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. This decrease was attributable to decreases in both the yield earned on mortgage-backed securities and the average balance of mortgage-backed securities. The average yield on mortgage-backed securities decreased by 0.96%, to 3.78% for the year ended December 31, 2009, from 4.74% for the year ended December 31, 2008. This decrease in yield is primarily the result of the generally low interest rate environment throughout 2009. The average mortgage-backed securities balance decreased by \$11.6 million, or 1.6%, to \$720.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$732.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. The decrease in the average balance was primarily the result of the repayments on mortgage-backed securities exceeding the purchases of new securities in a market where we found our own loan originations to be more attractive than the yield offered on these securities.

Interest income on investment securities decreased by \$7.6 million, or 31.7%, to \$16.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$24.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. This decrease was attributable to a decrease in the average balance of investment securities and a decrease in the yield on investment securities. The average balance of investment securities decreased by \$118.3 million, or 24.7%, to \$360.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$478.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. The decrease in the average balance of investment securities is primarily attributable to investing cash flows from these securities into loans and interest-earning deposits. The average yield decreased by 0.17%, to 4.56% for the year ended December 31, 2009, from 4.73% for the year ended December 31, 2008. This decrease in yield resulted from the general decline in market interest rates.

Interest income on interest-earning deposits decreased by \$2.1 million, or 76.7%, to \$641,000 for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$2.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. This decrease is the result of a decrease in average yield earned on interest-earning deposits, which was partially offset by an increase in the average balance of interest-earning deposits. The average yield decreased by 2.38%, to 0.21% for the year ended December 31, 2009, from 2.59% for the year ended December 31, 2008. This decrease is a result of the rate of overnight deposits being decreased to the Federal Reserve's target rate of between 0% and 0.25%. The interest-earning deposit balance increased by \$192.3 million, or 183.4%, to \$297.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$104.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. This increase in average balance was due to substantial deposit growth during the entire year and was also due to the proceeds of our second-step stock offering being held in overnights funds during the month of December.

Interest expense. Interest expense decreased by \$33.5 million, or 19.8%, to \$135.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$169.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. This decrease was attributed to a decrease in the interest rate paid on all deposits and borrowings, which was partially offset by an increase in the average balance of interest-bearing liabilities. The average rate paid on all deposit accounts decreased during the year ending December 31, 2009 with savings accounts decreasing from 1.18% for the year ended December 31, 2008 to 0.76% for the year ended December 31, 2009; interest-bearing demand deposits decreasing from 0.88% for the year ended December 31, 2008 to 0.34% for the year ended December 31, 2009; money market demand accounts decreasing from 2.04% for the year ended December 31, 2008 to 1.13% for the year ended December 31, 2009 and certificate accounts decreasing from 3.93% for the year ended December 31, 2008 to 3.06% for the year ended December 31, 2009. In addition to the decrease in the rates paid on deposit accounts there was an overall decrease in the average balance of deposit accounts, which decreased by \$59.1 million, or 1.2%, to \$4.889 billion for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$4.948 billion for the year ended December 31, 2008. Also contributing to the decrease in interest expense was a shift in the mix of our deposits where we increased the balances of savings, interest-bearing checking and money market demand accounts, while decreasing the balance of certificates of deposit. The average rate paid on borrowed funds also decreased by 0.05% to 3.69% for the year ended December 31, 2009, from 3.74% for the year ended December 31, 2008. Throughout 2008, we utilized alternative funding sources, including borrowings from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, to extend the maturities of our interest-bearing liabilities while continuing our efforts to control our cost of funds. During 2009, we repaid \$43.8 million of term borrowings with the Federal Home Loan Bank and \$146.0 million of short-term advances from the Federal Reserve Bank.

Net interest income. Net interest income increased by \$9.3 million, or 4.2%, to \$228.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$219.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. This increase was a result of the factors previously discussed, primarily due to the cost of funds decreasing more than the asset yield, contributing to a 0.01% increase in net interest margin to 3.44% for the year ended December 31, 2009 from 3.43% for the year ended December 31, 2008 and a 0.07% increase in net interest rate spread to 3.19% for the year ended December 31, 2009 from 3.12% for the year ended December 31, 2008.



Provision for loan losses. Management analyzes the allowance for loan losses as described in the section “Allowance for Loan Losses.” The provision for loan losses increased by \$18.9 million, or 83.1%, to \$41.8 million for year ended December 31, 2009 from \$22.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. The increase in the provision over the previous year is primarily attributed to increasing the reserve percentages used to calculate the provision for losses due to deteriorating economic factors, increased historical losses, the specific reserves on eight loans to different borrowers and an increase in troubled loans. Increasing the reserve percentages resulted in an increase in the provision for loan losses of \$5.2 million. The increases were made based on historical loss history, delinquency trends and geographical loan stratification. A specific reserve was increased by \$764,000, resulting in reserves of \$951,000 for a loan secured by a strip mall in the state of Indiana. A specific reserve was increased by \$855,000, resulting in reserves of \$1.8 million for a loan secured by a housing development in Delaware. A specific reserve was increased by \$1.8 million, resulting in reserves of \$2.4 million to a moving, storage and automobile sales company in central Pennsylvania. A specific reserve of \$1.1 million was established for a loan to a recycling company in northwestern Pennsylvania. A specific reserve was increased by \$317,000 resulting in a specific reserve of \$477,000 for a property eventually taken into REO located in northern Virginia. A specific reserve of \$393,000 was established for a property located in northern Florida. A specific reserve was established for a condominium project in Gainesville, Florida of \$2.0 million. A specific reserve was established for a hotel in Jacksonville, Florida of \$2.0 million. Loans with payments 90 days or more delinquent and other nonaccrual loans have increased to \$124.6 million at December 31, 2009 from \$99.2 million at December 31, 2008.

In determining the amount of the current period provision, the Company considered the deteriorating economic conditions in our markets, including increases in unemployment and bankruptcy filings, and declines in real estate values. Net loan charge-offs increased by \$16.7 million, or 171.7%, to \$26.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$9.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. Annual net charge-offs to average loans increased to 0.51% for the year ended December 31, 2009 from 0.19% for the year ended December 31, 2008. The provision that is recorded is sufficient, in management’s judgment, to bring the allowance for loan losses to a level that reflects the losses inherent in the Company’s loan portfolio relative to loan mix, economic conditions and historical loss experience. Management believes, to the best of their knowledge, that all known losses as of the balance sheet dates have been recorded.

Noninterest income. Noninterest income increased by \$14.5 million, or 37.6%, to \$53.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$38.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. This increase in noninterest income was primarily due to a decrease in the noncash net impairment losses of investment securities, which decreased by \$9.9 million, or 61.9%, to \$6.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, from \$16.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. In addition, service charges and fees increased by \$2.4 million, or 7.3%, to \$34.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, from \$32.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 primarily due to the increase in deposits and deposit related fees; insurance commission income increased by \$282,000, or 11.9%, to \$2.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, from \$2.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2008; mortgage banking income increased by \$8.9 million to \$7.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, from a loss of \$1.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2008, due to the sale of a majority of our one- to four-family mortgage originations during the current year and a recovery of noncash impairment of mortgage servicing assets of \$1.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 compared to a noncash impairment of mortgage servicing assets of \$2.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 and we recorded a gain on the purchase of Keystone State Savings Bank of \$3.5 million. Partially offsetting these increases were decreases in trust and other financial services income, which decreased by \$411,000, or 6.1%, to \$6.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, from \$6.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 and other operating income, which decreased by \$743,000, or 17.2%, to \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, from \$4.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 and an increase in the loss on real estate owned, which increased by \$3.6 million to \$4.1 million for the year ended December

31, 2009 from \$428,000 for the year ended December 31, 2008. This increase in the loss of real estate owned was primarily attributable to a \$3.9 million write down of vacant land in Florida.

Noninterest expense. Noninterest expense increased by \$30.4 million, or 17.8%, to \$200.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$170.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. This increase was primarily due to a special assessment from the FDIC of \$3.3 million, a contribution to our charitable foundation established in connection with our second-step conversion of \$13.8 million, an increase in compensation and employee benefits of \$4.5 million, an increase in processing expenses of \$2.7 million, an increase in marketing expenses of \$3.7 million and an increase in federal deposit insurance premiums of \$4.4 million. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in amortization of intangible assets of \$1.4 million and the prior year penalty on early extinguishment of debt of \$705,000. The increases in operating expenses were a result of our continued upgrading of personnel and systems to build customer loyalty, improve loan and deposit mix, establish brand loyalty and build our infrastructure to support additional growth.

Income taxes. Income tax expense decreased by \$10.0 million, or 58.7%, to \$7.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from \$17.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2008. This decrease is due to a decrease in income before income taxes of \$25.5 million and a decrease in the effective tax rate from 26.0% to 17.7%. The decrease in the effective tax rate was primarily due to a higher percentage of tax exempt income to pretax income.

#### Asset Quality

We actively manage asset quality through our underwriting practices and collection procedures. Our underwriting practices are focused on balancing risk and return while our collection operatives focus on diligently working with delinquent borrowers in an effort to minimize losses.

Collection procedures. Our collection procedures generally provide that when a loan is five days past due, a computer-generated late notice is sent to the borrower requesting payment. If delinquency continues, at 15 days a delinquent notice, plus a notice of a late charge, is sent and personal contact efforts are attempted, either in person or by telephone, to strengthen the collection process and obtain reasons for the delinquency. Also, plans to establish a payment plan are developed. Personal contact efforts are continued throughout the collection process, as necessary. Generally, if a loan becomes 60 days past due, a collection letter is sent and the loan becomes subject to possible legal action if suitable arrangements for payment have not been made. In addition, the borrower is given information which provides access to consumer counseling services to the extent required by the regulations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. When a loan continues in a delinquent status for 90 days or more, and a payment schedule has not been developed or kept by the borrower, we may send the borrower a notice of intent to foreclose, giving 30 days to cure the delinquency. If not cured, foreclosure proceedings are initiated.

Nonperforming assets. Loans are reviewed on a regular basis and are placed on a nonaccrual status when, in the opinion of management, the collection of additional principal and/or interest is doubtful. Loans are automatically placed on nonaccrual status when either principal or interest is 90 days or more past due. Interest accrued and unpaid at the time a loan is placed on a nonaccrual status is reversed and charged against interest income.

Real estate acquired as a result of foreclosure or by deed in lieu of foreclosure is classified as real estate owned until such time as it is sold. When real estate is acquired through foreclosure or by deed in lieu of foreclosure, it is recorded at the lower of the related loan balance or its fair value as determined by an appraisal, less estimated costs of disposal. If the value of the property is less than the loan, less any related specific loan loss reserve allocations, the difference is charged against the allowance for loan losses. Any subsequent write-down of real estate owned or loss at the time of disposition is charged against earnings.

Loans Past Due and Nonperforming Assets. The following table sets forth information regarding our loans 30 days or more past due, nonaccrual loans 90 days or more past due, and real estate acquired or deemed acquired by foreclosure at the dates indicated. When a loan is delinquent 90 days or more, we fully reserve all accrued interest thereon and cease to accrue interest thereafter.

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|  | At December 31 |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |        |   |
|--|----------------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|--------|---|
|  | 2010           |         | 2009 |         | 2008 |         | 2007 |         | 2006 |        |   |
| Loans past due 30 days to 59 days:   |                |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |        |   |
| One- to four-family residential loans                                      | \$             | 35,329  |      | 27,998  |      | 32,988  |      | 27,270  |      | 24,078 |   |
| Multi-family and commercial real estate loans                              |                | 16,287  |      | 16,152  |      | 18,901  |      | 11,331  |      | 7,975  |   |
| Consumer loans   |                | 12,635  |      | 11,226  |      | 11,295  |      | 10,550  |      | 9,096  |   |
| Commercial business loans  |                | 6,590   |      | 3,293   |      | 7,700   |      | 9,947   |      | 4,325  |   |
| Total loans past due 30 days to 59 days                                    |                | 70,841  |      | 58,669  |      | 70,884  |      | 59,098  |      | 45,474 |   |
| Loans past due 60 days to 89 days:   |                |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |        |   |
| One- to four-family residential loans                                      |                | 9,848   |      | 6,772   |      | 7,599   |      | 6,077   |      | 5,970  |   |
| Multi-family and commercial real estate loans                              |                | 14,365  |      | 5,811   |      | 8,432   |      | 4,984   |      | 3,846  |   |
| Consumer loans   |                | 4,580   |      | 3,029   |      | 2,836   |      | 2,676   |      | 2,833  |   |
| Commercial business loans  |                | 1,678   |      | 2,474   |      | 3,801   |      | 2,550   |      | 501    |   |
| Total loans past due 60 days to 89 days                                    |                | 30,471  |      | 18,086  |      | 22,668  |      | 16,287  |      | 13,150 |   |
| Loans past due 90 days or more: (1)  |                |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |        |   |
| One- to four-family residential loans                                      |                | 29,751  |      | 29,373  |      | 20,435  |      | 12,542  |      | 10,334 |   |
| Multi-family and commercial real estate loans                              |                | 44,965  |      | 49,594  |      | 43,828  |      | 24,323  |      | 18,982 |   |
| Consumer loans   |                | 12,828  |      | 12,544  |      | 9,756   |      | 7,582   |      | 4,578  |   |
| Commercial business loans  |                | 12,877  |      | 18,269  |      | 25,184  |      | 5,163   |      | 6,631  |   |
| Total loans past due 90 days or more                                       |                | 100,421 |      | 109,780 |      | 99,203  |      | 49,610  |      | 40,525 |   |
| Total loans 30 days or more past due                                       | \$             | 201,733 |      | 186,535 |      | 192,755 |      | 124,995 |      | 99,149 |   |
| Total real estate owned  |                | 20,780  |      | 20,257  |      | 16,844  |      | 8,667   |      | 6,653  |   |
| Total loans 90 days or more past due and real estate owned                 |                | 121,201 |      | 130,037 |      | 116,047 |      | 58,277  |      | 47,178 |   |
| Total loans 90 days or more past due to net loans receivable               |                | 1.84    | %    | 2.10    | %    | 1.93    | %    | 1.03    | %    | 0.92   | % |
| Total loans 90 days or more past due and real estate owned to total assets |                | 1.49    | %    | 1.63    | %    | 1.67    | %    | 0.87    | %    | 0.72   | % |
| Troubled debt restructurings   | \$             | 52,605  |      | 13,493  |      | —       |      | —       |      | —      |   |

(1) We classify as nonperforming all loans 90 days or more delinquent.

During the year ended December 31, 2010, gross interest income of approximately \$15.0 million would have been recorded on loans accounted for on a nonaccrual basis if the loans had been current during the year. No interest income on nonaccrual loans was included in income during the year.

The following table sets forth loans 90 or more days past due by state (based on borrowers' residence) at December 31, 2010.

| One- to four- | Percentage family(1) | Consumer and home equity | Percentage (2) | Commercial business and estate | Percentage (3) | Total | Percentage (4) |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------|----------------|
|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------|----------------|

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

(Dollars in thousands)

| State        |          |      |   |        |      |   |        |      |   |         |      |   |  |
|--------------|----------|------|---|--------|------|---|--------|------|---|---------|------|---|--|
| Pennsylvania | \$17,891 | 0.9  | % | 9,673  | 0.8  | % | 33,304 | 3.1  | % | 60,868  | 1.5  | % |  |
| New York     | 1,463    | 0.9  | % | 523    | 0.5  | % | 1,940  | 0.5  | % | 3,926   | 0.6  | % |  |
| Ohio         | 134      | 0.7  | % | 87     | 0.6  | % | —      | 0.0  | % | 221     | 0.3  | % |  |
| Maryland     | 4,573    | 2.3  | % | 1,169  | 3.3  | % | 6,051  | 3.9  | % | 11,793  | 3.1  | % |  |
| Florida      | 4,768    | 15.4 | % | 1,326  | 10.6 | % | 8,145  | 13.0 | % | 14,239  | 13.4 | % |  |
| Other        | 922      | 1.9  | % | 50     | 0.9  | % | 8,402  | 13.0 | % | 9,374   | 8.0  | % |  |
| Total        | \$29,751 | 1.2  | % | 12,828 | 0.9  | % | 57,842 | 3.2  | % | 100,421 | 1.8  | % |  |

- 
- (1) Percentage of mortgage loans in specified geographic area.
  - (2) Percentage of consumer loans in specified geographic area.
  - (3) Percentage of commercial loans in specified geographic area.
  - (4) Percentage of total loans in specified geographic area.

Classification of Assets. Our policies, consistent with regulatory guidelines, provide for the classification of loans considered to be of lesser quality as “substandard,” “doubtful,” or “loss” assets. An asset is considered “substandard” if it is inadequately protected by the current net worth and paying capacity of the obligor or of the collateral pledged, if any. “Substandard” assets include those characterized by the “distinct possibility” that the savings institution will sustain “some loss” if the deficiencies are not corrected. Assets classified as “doubtful” have all of the weaknesses inherent in those classified “substandard” with the added characteristic that the weaknesses present make “collection or liquidation in full,” on the basis of currently existing facts, conditions, and values, “highly questionable and improbable.” Assets classified as “loss” are those considered “uncollectible” so that their continuance as assets without the establishment of a specific loss reserve is not warranted. Assets that do not expose the savings institution to risk sufficient to warrant classification in one of the aforementioned categories, but which possess some weaknesses, are required to be designated “special mention.” At December 31, 2010, we had 301 loans, with an aggregate principal balance of \$96.3 million, designated as special mention.

We regularly review our asset portfolio to determine whether any assets require classification in accordance with applicable regulations. Our largest classified assets generally are also our largest nonperforming assets.

The following table sets forth the aggregate amount of our classified assets at the dates indicated.

|                         | 2010           | At December 31,<br>2009 | 2008    |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------|
|                         | (In Thousands) |                         |         |
| Substandard assets      | \$263,131      | 206,629                 | 155,245 |
| Doubtful assets         | 3,838          | 2,258                   | 3,596   |
| Loss assets             | 1,048          | 473                     | 64      |
| Total classified assets | \$268,017      | 209,360                 | 158,905 |

Allowance for Loan Losses. Our board of directors has adopted an Allowance for Loan Losses Policy designed to provide management with a systematic methodology for determining and documenting the allowance for loan losses each reporting period. This methodology was developed to provide a consistent process and review procedure to ensure that the allowance for loan losses is in conformity with GAAP, our policies and procedures and other supervisory and regulatory guidelines.

On an ongoing basis, the Credit Administration department, as well as loan officers, branch managers and department heads, review and monitor the loan portfolio for problem loans. This portfolio monitoring includes a review of the monthly delinquency reports as well as historical comparisons and trend analysis. On an on-going basis the loan officer along with the Credit Administration department grades or classifies problem loans or potential problem loans based upon their knowledge of the lending relationship and other information previously accumulated. Loans that have been classified as substandard or doubtful are reviewed by the Credit Administration department for possible impairment. A loan is considered impaired when, based on current information and events, it is probable that we will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement including both contractual principal and interest payments. Our loan grading system for problem loans is described above in “—Classification of Assets.”

If an individual loan is deemed to be impaired, we determine the proper measurement of impairment for each loan based on one of three methods: (1) the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan’s effective interest rate; (2) the loan’s observable market price; or (3) the fair value of the collateral if the loan is collateral dependent. If the measure of the impaired loan is more or less than the recorded investment in the loan, we adjust the specific allowance associated with that individual loan accordingly.

If a substandard or doubtful loan is not considered individually for impairment, it is grouped with other loans that possess common characteristics for impairment evaluation and analysis. This segmentation is accomplished by grouping loans of similar product types, risk characteristics and industry concentration into homogeneous pools. Each pool is then analyzed based on the historical delinquency, charge-off and recovery trends over the past three years which are then extended to include the loss realization period during which the event of default occurs, additional consideration is also given to the current economic, political, regulatory and interest rate environment. This adjusted historical net charge-off amount as a percentage of loans outstanding for each group is used to estimate the measure of impairment.

The individual impairment measures along with the estimated losses for each homogeneous pool are consolidated into one summary document. This summary schedule along with the supporting documentation used to establish this schedule is prepared monthly and presented to the Credit Committee on a quarterly basis. The Credit Committee is comprised of members of Senior Management from our various departments, including mortgage, consumer and commercial lending, appraising, administration and finance as well as our President and Chief Executive Officer. The Credit Committee reviews the processes and documentation presented, reviews the concentration of credit by industry and customer, discusses lending products, activity, competition and collateral values, as well as economic conditions in general and in each of our market areas. Based on this review and discussion, the appropriate allowance for loan losses is estimated and any adjustments necessary to reconcile the actual allowance for loan losses with this estimate are determined. In addition, the Credit Committee considers whether any changes to the methodology are needed. The Credit Committee also compares our delinquency trends, nonperforming asset amounts and allowance for loan loss levels to its peer group and to state and national statistics. A similar review is also performed by the Risk Management Committee of the board of directors.

In addition to the reviews by the Credit Committee and the Risk Management Committee, regulators from either the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or Pennsylvania State Department of Banking perform a review on an annual basis of the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses and its conformity with regulatory guidelines and pronouncements. The internal audit department also performs a regular review of the detailed supporting schedules for accuracy and reports their findings to the Audit Committee of the board of directors. Any recommendations or enhancements from these independent parties are considered by management and the Credit Committee and implemented accordingly.

Management acknowledges that this is a dynamic process and consists of factors, many of which are external and beyond management's control, which can change. The adequacy of the allowance for loan losses is based upon estimates using all the information previously discussed as well as current and known circumstances and events. There is no assurance that actual portfolio losses will not be substantially different than those that were estimated. Management believes that all known losses as of December 31, 2010 and 2009 have been recorded.

Management utilizes a consistent methodology each period when analyzing the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses and the related provision for loan losses. As part of the analysis, management considered the deteriorating economic data in our markets such as the continued increases in unemployment and bankruptcies as well as the declines in real estate collateral values. In addition, management considered the negative trend in asset quality, loan charge-offs and the allowance for loan losses as a percentage of nonperforming loans. As a result, we increased the allowance for loan losses during the year by \$6.0 million, or 8.5%, to \$76.4 million, or 1.40% of total loans, at December 31, 2010 from \$70.4 million, or 1.35% of total loans, at December 31, 2009. The increase in the allowance for loan losses and the related provision for loan losses is discussed above in the section "Provision for loan losses."

Analysis of the Allowance For Loan Losses. The following table sets forth the analysis of the allowance for loan losses for the periods indicated.

|  | 2010           | Years Ended December 31, |           |           |           | 2006 |
|--|----------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|
|  |                | 2009                     | 2008      | 2007      | 2006      |      |
|  | (In Thousands) |                          |           |           |           |      |
| Net loans receivable                         | \$5,457,593    | 5,229,062                | 5,141,892 | 4,795,622 | 4,412,441 |      |
| Average loans outstanding                    | 5,487,645      | 5,199,829                | 5,016,694 | 4,660,693 | 4,395,274 |      |
| Allowance for loan losses                    |                |                          |           |           |           |      |
| Balance at beginning of period               | 70,403         | 54,929                   | 41,784    | 37,655    | 33,411    |      |
| Provision for loan losses                    | 40,486         | 41,847                   | 22,851    | 8,743     | 8,480     |      |
| Charge offs:                                 |                |                          |           |           |           |      |
| Real estate loans                            | (21,177 )      | (6,293 )                 | (3,962 )  | (2,042 )  | (1,148 )  |      |
| Consumer loans                               | (6,390 )       | (5,912 )                 | (6,290 )  | (5,175 )  | (5,543 )  |      |
| Commercial loans                             | (9,305 )       | (15,611 )                | (1,358 )  | (973 )    | (926 )    |      |
| Total charge-offs                            | (36,872 )      | (27,816 )                | (11,610 ) | (8,190 )  | (7,617 )  |      |
| Recoveries:                                  |                |                          |           |           |           |      |
| Real estate loans                            | 572            | 155                      | 140       | 250       | 123       |      |
| Consumer loans                               | 1,422          | 1,093                    | 1,060     | 1,073     | 1,214     |      |
| Commercial loans                             | 401            | 195                      | 704       | 134       | 62        |      |
| Total recoveries                             | 2,395          | 1,443                    | 1,904     | 1,457     | 1,399     |      |
| Acquired through acquisitions                | —              | —                        | —         | 2,119     | 1,982     |      |
| Balance at end of period                     | \$76,412       | 70,403                   | 54,929    | 41,784    | 37,655    |      |
| Allowance for loan losses as a percentage    |                |                          |           |           |           |      |
| of net loans receivable                      | 1.40           | % 1.35                   | % 1.07    | % 0.87    | % 0.85    | %    |
| Net charge-offs as a percentage of           |                |                          |           |           |           |      |
| average loans outstanding                    | 0.63           | % 0.51                   | % 0.19    | % 0.14    | % 0.14    | %    |
| Allowance for loan losses as a percentage    |                |                          |           |           |           |      |
| of nonperforming loans                       | 51.49          | % 56.49                  | % 55.37   | % 84.22   | % 92.92   | %    |
| Allowance for loan losses as a percentage    |                |                          |           |           |           |      |
| of nonperforming loans and real estate owned | 45.17          | % 54.14                  | % 47.33   | % 71.70   | % 79.81   | %    |

Allocation of Allowance for Loan Losses. The following tables set forth the allocation of allowance for loan losses by loan category at the dates indicated. The allowance for loan losses allocated to each category is not necessarily indicative of future losses in any particular category. Effective January 1, 2008, we revised our methodology for calculating the allowance for loan losses. Prior to that date, we established the allowance for loan losses based on ranges applicable to various loan categories (as opposed to single amounts applicable to the loan categories), which resulted in our not having an unallocated component of the allowance prior to that date.

|                                       | At December 31, |                         |        |                         |        |                         |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|
|                                       | 2010            |                         | 2009   |                         | 2008   |                         |
|                                       | Amount          | % of Total<br>Loans (1) | Amount | % of Total<br>Loans (1) | Amount | % of Total<br>Loans (1) |
| (Dollars in Thousands)                |                 |                         |        |                         |        |                         |
| Balance at end of year applicable to: |                 |                         |        |                         |        |                         |
| Real estate loans                     | \$ 50,361       | 87.3 %                  | 39,584 | 87.5 %                  | 29,115 | 87.6 %                  |
| Consumer loans                        | 5,810           | 4.5                     | 6,554  | 5.1                     | 6,125  | 5.1                     |
| Commercial business loans             | 15,770          | 8.2                     | 20,073 | 7.4                     | 15,044 | 7.3                     |
| Total allocated allowance             | 71,941          |                         | 66,211 |                         | 50,284 |                         |
| Unallocated                           | 4,471           | —                       | 4,192  | —                       | 4,645  | —                       |
| Total                                 | \$ 76,412       | 100.0 %                 | 70,403 | 100.0 %                 | 54,929 | 100.0 %                 |

|                                       | At December 31, |                         |        |                         |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|
|                                       | 2007            |                         | 2006   |                         |
|                                       | Amount          | % of Total<br>Loans (1) | Amount | % of Total<br>Loans (1) |
| (Dollars in Thousands)                |                 |                         |        |                         |
| Balance at end of year applicable to: |                 |                         |        |                         |
| Real estate loans                     | \$ 28,854       | 87.2 %                  | 17,936 | 88.8 %                  |
| Consumer loans                        | 6,645           | 5.4                     | 16,500 | 6.0                     |
| Commercial business loans             | 6,285           | 7.4                     | 3,219  | 5.2                     |
| Total allocated allowance             | 41,784          |                         | 37,655 |                         |
| Unallocated                           | —               | —                       | —      | —                       |
| Total                                 | \$ 41,784       | 100.0 %                 | 37,655 | 100.0 %                 |

(1) Represents percentage of loans in each category to total loans.

### Liquidity and Capital Resources

Northwest Savings Bank is required to maintain a sufficient level of liquid assets, as determined by management and defined and reviewed for adequacy by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation during their regular examinations. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, however, does not prescribe by regulation a minimum amount or percentage of liquid assets. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation allows us to consider any marketable security, whose sale would not impair our capital adequacy, to be eligible for liquidity. Liquidity is monitored through the use of a standard liquidity ratio of liquid assets to borrowings plus deposits. Using this formula, Northwest Savings Bank's liquidity ratio was 23.7% as of December 31, 2010. We adjust our liquidity level in order to meet funding needs of deposit outflows, repayment of borrowings and loan commitments. We also adjust liquidity as appropriate to meet our asset and liability management objectives. Liquidity needs can also be met by temporarily drawing upon lines-of-credit established for such reasons. As of December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank had \$1.956 billion of additional borrowing capacity available with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh,

including a \$150.0 million overnight line of credit, as well as a \$191.2 million borrowing capacity available with the Federal Reserve Bank and \$80.0 million with correspondent banks.

In addition to deposits, our primary sources of funds are the amortization and repayment of loans and mortgage-backed securities, maturities of investment securities and other short-term investments, and earnings and funds provided from operations. While scheduled principal repayments on loans and mortgage-backed securities are a relatively predictable source of funds, deposit flows and loan prepayments are greatly influenced by general interest rate levels, economic conditions, and competition. We manage the pricing of our deposits to maintain a desired deposit balance. In addition, we invest excess funds in short-term interest earning and other assets, which provide liquidity to meet lending requirements. Short-term interest-earning deposits amounted to \$678.4 million at December 31, 2010. For additional information about our cash flows from operating, financing, and investing activities, see the Statements of Cash Flows included in the Consolidated Financial Statements.

A portion of our liquidity consists of cash and cash equivalents, which are a product of our operating, investing, and financing activities. The primary sources of cash during the current year were net income, principal repayments on loans and mortgage-backed securities and increases in deposit accounts.

Liquidity management is both a daily and long-term function of business management. If we require funds beyond our ability to generate them internally, borrowing agreements exist with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, which provide an additional source of funds. At December 31, 2010 Northwest Savings Bank had advances of \$745.7 million from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh. We borrow from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh to reduce interest rate risk and to provide liquidity when necessary.

At December 31, 2010, our customers had \$345.8 million of unused lines of credit available and \$135.8 million in loan commitments. This amount does not include the unfunded portion of loans in process. Certificates of deposit scheduled to mature in less than one year at December 31, 2010, totaled \$1.231 billion. Management believes that a significant portion of such deposits will remain with us.

The major sources of our cash flows are in the areas of loans, marketable securities, deposits and borrowed funds.

Deposits are our primary source of externally generated funds. The level of deposit inflows during any given period is heavily influenced by factors outside of management's control, such as consumer savings tendencies, the general level of short-term and long-term market interest rates, as well as higher alternative yields that investors may obtain on competing investments such as money market mutual funds. Financial institutions, such as Northwest Savings Bank, are also subject to deposit outflows. Our net deposits increased/(decreased) by \$139.9 million, \$586.2 million and \$(504.1) million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Similarly, the amount of principal repayments on loans and the amount of new loan originations is heavily influenced by the general level of market interest rates. Funds received from loan maturities and principal payments on loans for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 were \$1.648 billion, \$1.650 billion and \$1.284 billion, respectively. Loan originations for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 were \$2.137 billion, \$2.386 billion and \$1.885 billion, respectively. We also sell a portion of the loans we originate, and the cash flows from such sales for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 were \$205.3 million, \$595.3 million and \$212.5 million, respectively.

We experience significant cash flows from our portfolio of marketable securities as principal payments are received on mortgage-backed securities and as investment securities mature. Cash flow from the repayment of principal and the maturity of marketable securities for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 were \$482.0 million, \$297.8 million and \$319.1 million, respectively.

When necessary, we utilize borrowings as a source of liquidity and as a source of funds for long-term investment when market conditions permit. The net cash flow from the receipt and repayment of borrowings was a net increase/(decrease) of \$(6.0) million, \$(170.4) million and \$729.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Other activity with respect to cash flow was the payment of cash dividends on common stock in the amount of \$43.3 million, \$15.8 million and \$15.8 million for the ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

At December 31, 2010, stockholders' equity totaled \$1.307 billion. During 2010 our Board of Directors declared regular quarterly dividends totaling \$0.40 per share of common stock.

Management monitors the capital levels of Northwest Savings Bank to provide for current and future business opportunities and to meet regulatory guidelines for “well capitalized” institutions. Northwest Savings Bank is required by the Pennsylvania State Department of Banking and the FDIC to meet minimum capital adequacy requirements. At December 31, 2010, Northwest Savings Bank exceeded all regulatory minimum capital requirements and is considered to be “well capitalized.” In addition, as of December 31, 2010, management was not aware of any recommendation by a regulatory authority that, if it were implemented, would have a material effect on liquidity, capital resources or operations.

Regulatory Capital Requirements.

Northwest Savings Bank is subject to minimum capital requirements established by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. See “Supervision and Regulation—Capital Requirements” and “—Prompt Corrective Action”. The following table summarizes Northwest Savings Bank’s total shareholder’s equity, regulatory capital, total risk-based assets, and leverage and risk-based regulatory ratios at the dates indicated.

|  | At December 31,        |    |            |   |
|--|------------------------|----|------------|---|
|  | 2010                   |    | 2009       |   |
|  | (Dollars in Thousands) |    |            |   |
| Total shareholder’s equity (GAAP capital)                  | \$1,146,736            |    | 1,086,145  |   |
| Add: accumulated other comprehensive (income)/loss         | 1,132                  |    | 6,509      |   |
| Less: nonqualifying intangible assets                      | (175,824 )             |    | (176,041 ) |   |
| Leverage or Tier 1 capital                                 | 972,044                |    | 916,613    |   |
| Plus: Tier 2 capital (1)                                   | 61,406                 |    | 58,354     |   |
| Total risk-based capital                                   | 1,033,450              |    | 974,967    |   |
| Average total assets for leverage ratio                    | 7,975,485              |    | 7,246,741  |   |
| Net risk-weighted assets including off-balance sheet items | \$4,897,447            |    | 4,654,570  |   |
| Leverage capital ratio                                     | 12.19                  | %  | 12.65      | % |
| Minimum requirement (2)                                    | 3.00%                  | to | 5.00%      |   |
| Risk-based capital ratio                                   | 21.10                  | %  | 20.95      | % |
| Minimum requirement  | 8.00                   | %  | 8.00       | % |

- (1) Tier 2 capital consist of the allowance for loan losses, which is limited to 1.25% of total risk-weighted assets as detailed under regulations of the FDIC, and 45% of pre-tax net unrealized gains on securities available-for-sale.
- (2) The FDIC has indicated that the most highly rated institutions which meet certain criteria will be required to maintain a ratio of 3.00%, and all other institutions will be required to maintain an additional cushion of 100 to 200 basis points.

Northwest Savings Bank is also subject to capital guidelines of the Pennsylvania Department of Banking. Although not adopted in regulation form, the Department of Banking requires 6% leverage capital and 10% risk-based capital. See “Item 1. Business—Supervision and Regulation—Capital Requirements” and “—Prompt Corrective Action”.

Contractual Obligations

We are obligated to make future payments according to various contracts. The following table presents the expected future payments of the contractual obligations aggregated by obligation type at December 31, 2010.

| Contractual Obligations at December 31, 2010 | Payments Due       |                                   |                                     |                       | Total   |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|
|  | Less than one year | One year to less than three years | Three years to less than five years | Five years or greater |         |
|  | (In Thousands)     |                                   |                                     |                       |         |
| Long-term debt (1)                           | \$195,642          | —                                 | 110,065                             | 585,586               | 891,293 |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|                                    |           |       |         |         |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Junior subordinated debentures (2) | —         | —     | —       | 103,094 | 103,094   |
| Operating leases (3)               | 4,013     | 5,741 | 3,852   | 8,382   | 21,988    |
| Total                              | 199,655   | 5,741 | 113,917 | 697,062 | 1,016,375 |
| Commitments to extend credit       | \$135,782 | —     | —       | —       | 135,782   |

(1) See Note 11 to the consolidated financial statements, Borrowed Funds, for additional information.

(2) See Note 22 to the consolidated financial statements, Junior Subordinated Debentures/Trust Preferred Securities, for additional information.

(3) See Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements, Premises and Equipment, for additional information.

## Impact of Inflation and Changing Prices

The Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto, presented elsewhere herein, have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, which require the measurement of financial position and operating results in terms of historical dollars without considering the change in the relative purchasing power of money over time and due to inflation. The impact of inflation is reflected in the increased cost of our operations. Unlike most industrial companies, nearly all of our assets and liabilities are monetary. As a result, interest rates have a greater impact on our performance than do the effects of general levels of inflation. Interest rates do not necessarily move in the same direction or to the same extent as the price of goods and services.

## ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

### Market Risk Management

The matching of assets and liabilities may be analyzed by examining the extent to which such assets and liabilities are “interest rate sensitive” and by monitoring an institution’s interest rate sensitivity “gap.” An asset or liability is said to be interest rate sensitive within a specific time period if it will mature or reprice within that time period. The interest rate sensitivity gap is defined as the difference between the amount of interest-earning assets maturing or repricing within a specific time period and the amount of interest-bearing liabilities maturing or repricing within that same time period. A gap is considered positive when the amount of interest rate sensitive assets exceeds the amount of interest rate sensitive liabilities. A gap is considered negative when the amount of interest rate sensitive liabilities exceeds the amount of interest rate sensitive assets. During a period of rising interest rates, a negative gap would tend to adversely affect net interest income while a positive gap would tend to positively affect net interest income. Similarly, during a period of falling interest rates, a negative gap would tend to positively affect net interest income while a positive gap would tend to adversely affect net interest income.

Our policy is to reduce our exposure to interest rate risk generally by better matching the maturities of our interest rate sensitive assets and liabilities and by increasing the interest rate sensitivity of our interest-earning assets. We (i) purchase adjustable-rate investment securities and mortgage-backed securities which at December 31, 2010 totaled \$520.6 million; and (ii) originate adjustable-rate mortgage loans, adjustable-rate consumer loans, and adjustable-rate commercial loans, which at December 31, 2010, totaled \$1.757 billion or 38.4% of our total loan portfolio. Of our \$7.533 billion of interest-earning assets at December 31, 2010, \$2.558 billion, or 34.0%, consisted of assets with adjustable rates of interest. When market conditions are favorable, we also attempt to reduce interest rate risk by lengthening the maturities of our interest-bearing liabilities by using FHLB advances as a source of long-term fixed-rate funds, and by promoting longer-term certificates of deposit.

At December 31, 2010, total interest-bearing assets maturing or repricing within one year exceeded total interest-earning liabilities maturing or repricing in the same period by \$352.3 million, representing a positive one-year gap ratio of 4.32%. We have an Asset/Liability Committee with members consisting of various individuals from Senior Management. This committee meets monthly in an effort to effectively manage our balance sheet and to monitor activity and set pricing. We also have a Risk Management Committee comprised of certain members of the Board of Directors, which among other things, is responsible for reviewing our level of interest rate risk. The Committee meets quarterly and, as part of their risk management assessment, reviews interest rate risks and trends, our interest sensitivity position and the liquidity and market value of our investment portfolio.

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

The following table sets forth, on a carrying value basis, the amounts of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities outstanding at December 31, 2010, which are expected to reprice or mature, based upon certain assumptions, in each of the future time periods shown. Except as stated below, the amounts of assets and liabilities shown that reprice or mature during a particular period were determined in accordance with the earlier of the term of repricing or the contractual term of the asset or liability. Management believes that these assumptions approximate the standards used in the savings industry and considers them appropriate and reasonable.

|                                    | Within 1<br>Year | Over 1-3<br>Years | Amounts Maturing or Repricing |                    |                     | Over 20<br>Years | Total            |
|------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                    |                  |                   | Over 3-5<br>Years             | Over 5-10<br>Years | Over 10-20<br>Years |                  |                  |
| (Dollars in Thousands)             |                  |                   |                               |                    |                     |                  |                  |
| <b>Rate-sensitive assets:</b>      |                  |                   |                               |                    |                     |                  |                  |
| Interest-earning deposits          | \$ 678,403       | —                 | —                             | —                  | —                   | —                | 678,403          |
| <b>Mortgage-backed securities:</b> |                  |                   |                               |                    |                     |                  |                  |
| Fixed rate                         | 132,869          | 147,912           | 81,985                        | 98,588             | —                   | —                | 461,354          |
| Variable-rate                      | 421,583          | 32,075            | 40,088                        | —                  | —                   | —                | 493,746          |
| Investment securities              | 26,934           | 92,041            | 14,078                        | 220,452            | —                   | —                | 353,505          |
| <b>Real estate loans:</b>          |                  |                   |                               |                    |                     |                  |                  |
| Adjustable rate                    | 49,274           | 646               | —                             | —                  | —                   | —                | 49,920           |
| Fixed-rate                         | 350,109          | 568,081           | 462,981                       | 697,706            | 276,695             | —                | 2,355,572        |
| Home equity lines of credit        | 268,344          | —                 | —                             | —                  | —                   | —                | 268,344          |
| Education loans                    | 21,957           | —                 | —                             | —                  | —                   | —                | 21,957           |
| Other consumer loans               | 300,927          | 447,960           | 221,183                       | 91,360             | —                   | —                | 1,061,430        |
| Commercial loans                   | 999,731          | 601,187           | 182,831                       | 4,538              | —                   | —                | 1,788,287        |
| <b>Total rate-sensitive assets</b> | <b>3,250,131</b> | <b>1,889,902</b>  | <b>1,003,146</b>              | <b>1,112,644</b>   | <b>276,695</b>      | <b>—</b>         | <b>7,532,518</b> |
| <b>Rate-sensitive liabilities:</b> |                  |                   |                               |                    |                     |                  |                  |
| Fixed maturity deposits            | 1,232,716        | 1,010,539         | 175,616                       | 38,971             | 74                  | —                | 2,457,916        |
| Money market deposit accounts      | 879,248          | —                 | —                             | —                  | 20,440              | —                | 899,688          |
| Savings accounts                   | 302,000          | 415,001           | —                             | —                  | 332,193             | —                | 1,049,194        |
| Checking accounts                  | 285,019          | 261,038           | —                             | —                  | —                   | 811,481          | 1,357,538        |
| FHLB advances                      | 50,123           | 246               | 110,202                       | 585,080            | —                   | —                | 745,651          |
| Other borrowings                   | 145,642          | —                 | —                             | —                  | —                   | —                | 145,642          |
| Trust preferred securities         | 3,094            | 25,000            | 25,000                        | 50,000             | —                   | —                | 103,094          |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|  |            |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|--|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total rate-sensitive liabilities   | 2,897,842  | 1,711,824 | 310,818   | 674,051   | 352,707   | 811,481   | 6,758,722 |
| Interest sensitivity gap per period  | \$ 352,289 | 178,078   | 692,328   | 438,593   | (76,012 ) | (811,481) | 773,795   |
| Cumulative interest sensitivity gap  | \$ 352,289 | 530,367   | 1,222,695 | 1,661,288 | 1,585,276 | 773,795   | 773,795   |
| Cumulative interest sensitivity gap as a percentage of total assets                        | 4.32       | % 6.51    | % 15.01   | % 20.39   | % 19.46   | % 9.50    | % 9.50    |
| Cumulative interest-earning assets as a percent of cumulative interest-bearing liabilities | 112.16     | % 111.51  | % 124.85  | 129.69    | % 126.66  | % 111.45  | % 111.45  |

We have an Asset/Liability Committee, consisting of several members of management, which meets monthly to review market interest rates, economic conditions, the pricing of interest earning assets and interest bearing liabilities and our balance sheet structure. On a quarterly basis, this committee also reviews our interest rate risk position and our cash flow projections.

Our Board of Directors has a Risk Management Committee, which meets quarterly and reviews interest rate risks and trends, our interest sensitivity position, our liquidity position and the market risk inherent in our investment portfolio.

In an effort to assess market risk, we use a simulation model to determine the effect of immediate incremental increases and decreases in interest rates on net income and the market value of our equity. Certain assumptions are made regarding loan prepayments and decay rates of passbook and NOW accounts. Because it is difficult to accurately project the market reaction of depositors and borrowers, the effect of actual changes in interest rates on these assumptions may differ from simulated results. We have established the following guidelines for assessing interest rate risk:

Net income simulation. Given a non-parallel shift of 2.00% in interest rates, the estimated net income may not decrease by more than 20% within a one-year period.

Market value of equity simulation. The market value of our equity is the present value of our assets and liabilities. Given a non-parallel shift of 2.00% in interest rates, the market value of equity may not decrease by more than 30% from the computed economic value of current interest rate levels.

The following table illustrates the simulated impact of a non-parallel 1% or 2% upward or 1% or 2% downward movement in interest rates on net income, return on average equity, earnings per share and market value of equity. These analyses were prepared assuming that total interest-earning asset levels at December 31, 2010 remain constant, while \$300.0 million of interest-earning deposits will be deployed to other interest-earning assets over the next 12 months. The impact of the rate movements was computed by simulating the effect of an immediate and sustained shift in interest rates over a twelve-month period from December 31, 2010 levels.

|  | Non-Parallel Shift in Interest Rates |    |       |    |          |    |       |    |
|--|--------------------------------------|----|-------|----|----------|----|-------|----|
|  | Increase                             |    |       |    | Decrease |    |       |    |
| Shift in interest rates over the next 12 months                    | 1.0                                  | %  | 2.0   | %  | 1.0      | %  | 2.0   | %  |
| Projected percentage increase/(decrease) in net income             | 6.0                                  | %  | 10.4  | %  | (6.0     | )% | (14.1 | )% |
| Projected increase/(decrease) in return on average equity          | 5.8                                  | %  | 10.2  | %  | (5.8     | )% | (13.8 | )% |
| Projected increase/(decrease) in earnings per share                | \$0.03                               |    | 0.06  |    | (0.04    | )  | (0.10 | )  |
| Projected percentage increase/(decrease) in market value of equity | (8.5                                 | )% | (16.9 | )% | (3.5     | )% | (9.6  | )% |

The figures included in the tables above represent projections that were computed based upon certain assumptions including prepayment rates and decay rates. These assumptions are inherently uncertain and, as a result, we cannot precisely predict the impact of changes in interest rates. Actual results may differ significantly due to timing, magnitude and frequency of interest rate changes and changes in market conditions.

When assessing our interest rate sensitivity, analysis of historical trends indicates that loans will prepay at various speeds (or annual rates) depending on the variance between the weighted average portfolio rates and the current market rates. In preparing the table above, the following assumptions were used: (i) adjustable-rate mortgage loans will prepay at an annual rate of 7% to 12%; (ii) fixed-rate mortgage loans will prepay at an annual rate of 7% to 12%, depending on the type of loan; (iii) commercial loans will prepay at an annual rate of 10% to 25%; (iv) consumer loans held by Northwest Savings Bank will prepay at an annual rate of 18% to 22%; and (v) consumer loans held by NCDC will prepay at an annual rate of 60% to 65%. In regards to our deposits, it has been assumed that (i) fixed maturity deposits will not be withdrawn prior to maturity; (ii) the significant majority of money market accounts will reprice immediately; (iii) savings accounts will gradually reprice over three years; and (iv) checking accounts will reprice either when the rates on such accounts reprice as interest rate levels change, or when deposit holders withdraw funds from such accounts and select other types of deposit accounts, such as certificate accounts, which may have higher interest rates. For purposes of this analysis, management has estimated, based on historical trends, that \$285.0 million of our checking accounts and \$302.0 million of our savings accounts are interest sensitive and may reprice in one year or less, and that the remainder may reprice over longer time periods.

The above assumptions used by management are annual percentages based on remaining balances and should not be regarded as indicative of the actual prepayments and withdrawals that we may experience. Moreover, certain shortcomings are inherent in the analysis presented by the foregoing table. For example, although certain assets and liabilities may have similar maturities or periods to repricing, they may react in different degrees to changes in market interest rates. Also, interest rates on certain types of assets and liabilities may fluctuate in advance of or lag behind

changes in market interest rates. Additionally, certain assets, such as some adjustable-rate loans, have features that restrict changes in interest rates on a short-term basis and over the life of the asset. Moreover, in the event of a change in interest rates, prepayment and early withdrawal levels would likely deviate significantly from those assumed in calculating the table.

In addition, we regularly measure and monitor the market value of our net assets and the changes therein. While fluctuations are expected because of changes in interest rates, we have established policy limits for various interest rate scenarios. Given interest rate shocks of +/-100 to +/-300 basis points the market value of net assets is not expected to decrease by more than -15% to -35%.

#### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As a financial services provider, we routinely are a party to various financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risks, such as commitments to extend credit and unused lines of credit. While these contractual obligations represent our future cash requirements, a significant portion of commitments to extend credit may expire without being drawn upon. Such commitments are subject to the same credit policies and approval process accorded to loans we make. In addition, we routinely enter into commitments to purchase and sell one- to four-family mortgage loans.

ITEM 8.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, has assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010. In making this assessment, management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission in Internal control – Integrated Framework. Based on such assessment, management concluded that, as of December 31, 2010, the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective based upon those criteria.

KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, has audited the consolidated financial statements included in this Report and has issued a report with respect to the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ William J. Wagner  
William J. Wagner  
Chief Executive Officer

/s/ William W. Harvey, Jr.  
William W. Harvey, Jr.  
Chief Financial Officer

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders  
Northwest Bancshares, Inc.:

We have audited Northwest Bancshares, Inc.'s (the Company) internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated statements of financial condition of Northwest Bancshares, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in shareholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2010, and our report dated March 1, 2011 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

KPMG LLP

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
March 1, 2011

60

---

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders  
Northwest Bancshares, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of financial condition of Northwest Bancshares, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2010. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Northwest Bancshares, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the results of its operations and their cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

As discussed in Note 3 to the financial statements, the Company changed its method of accounting for other-than-temporary impairment for debt securities in 2009, due to the adoption of FASB Staff Position No. 115-2 and 124-2, "Recognition and Presentation of Other-than-Temporary Impairments", codified within FASB ASC Subtopic 320-10.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Northwest Bancshares, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, based on criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), and our report dated March 1, 2011 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of Northwest Bancshares, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting.

KPMG LLP

March 1, 2011

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
 Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition  
 (Amounts in thousands, excluding share data)

|   | December 31        |                  |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
|   | 2010               | 2009             |
| <b>Assets</b>   |                    |                  |
| Cash  | \$40,708           | 69,265           |
| Interest earning deposits in other financial institutions   | 677,771            | 1,037,893        |
| Federal funds sold and other short-term investments   | 632                | 632              |
| Marketable securities available-for-sale (amortized cost of \$945,791 and \$1,059,177)                                  | 950,683            | 1,067,089        |
| Marketable securities held-to-maturity (fair value of \$354,126 and \$—)  | 357,922            | —                |
| Loans receivable, net of allowance for loan losses of \$76,412 and \$70,403   | 5,457,593          | 5,229,062        |
| Accrued interest receivable   | 26,216             | 25,780           |
| Real estate owned, net  | 20,780             | 20,257           |
| Federal Home Loan Bank stock at cost  | 60,080             | 63,242           |
| Premises and equipment, net   | 128,101            | 124,316          |
| Bank-owned life insurance   | 132,237            | 128,270          |
| Goodwill  | 171,882            | 171,363          |
| Other intangible assets   | 3,942              | 4,678            |
| Other assets  | 119,608            | 83,451           |
| <b>Total assets</b>   | <b>\$8,148,155</b> | <b>8,025,298</b> |
| <b>Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>   |                    |                  |
| <b>Liabilities:</b>   |                    |                  |
| Deposits  | \$5,764,336        | 5,624,424        |
| Borrowed funds  | 891,293            | 897,326          |
| Advances by borrowers for taxes and insurance   | 22,868             | 22,034           |
| Accrued interest payable  | 1,716              | 4,493            |
| Other liabilities   | 57,398             | 57,412           |
| Junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures held by trusts that issued guaranteed capital debt securities        | 103,094            | 103,094          |
| <b>Total liabilities</b>  | <b>6,840,705</b>   | <b>6,708,783</b> |
| <b>Commitments and contingent liabilities:</b>  |                    |                  |
| <b>Shareholders' equity:</b>  |                    |                  |
| Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 50,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued                                       | —                  | —                |
| Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 500,000,000 shares authorized; 110,295,117 and 110,641,858, shares issued, respectively | 1,103              | 1,106            |
| Paid-in capital   | 824,164            | 828,195          |
| Retained earnings, substantially restricted   | 523,089            | 508,842          |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net   | (13,497 )          | (9,977 )         |
| Unallocated common stock of Employee Stock Ownership Plan   | (27,409 )          | (11,651 )        |
| <b>Total shareholders' equity</b>   | <b>1,307,450</b>   | <b>1,316,515</b> |
| <b>Total liabilities and shareholders' equity</b>   | <b>\$8,148,155</b> | <b>8,025,298</b> |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Consolidated Statements of Income

(Amounts in thousands, excluding share data)

|   | Years ended December 31 |           |           |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|   | 2010                    | 2009      | 2008      |
| <b>Interest income:</b>   |                         |           |           |
| Loans receivable  | \$ 328,948              | 320,121   | 327,128   |
| Mortgage-backed securities  | 25,271                  | 27,263    | 34,694    |
| Taxable investment securities   | 2,514                   | 5,384     | 11,828    |
| Tax-free investment securities  | 11,738                  | 11,054    | 12,253    |
| Interest-earning deposits   | 2,097                   | 641       | 2,756     |
| Total interest income   | 370,568                 | 364,463   | 388,659   |
| <b>Interest expense:</b>  |                         |           |           |
| Deposits  | 75,174                  | 95,394    | 137,061   |
| Borrowed funds  | 37,753                  | 40,412    | 32,232    |
| Total interest expense  | 112,927                 | 135,806   | 169,293   |
| Net interest income   | 257,641                 | 228,657   | 219,366   |
| Provision for loan losses   | 40,486                  | 41,847    | 22,851    |
| Net interest income after provision for loan losses   | 217,155                 | 186,810   | 196,515   |
| <b>Noninterest income:</b>  |                         |           |           |
| Impairment losses on securities   | (2,734 )                | (12,408 ) | (16,004 ) |
| Noncredit related losses on securities not expected to be sold (recognized in other comprehensive income) | 1,193                   | 6,311     | —         |
| Net impairment losses   | (1,541 )                | (6,097 )  | (16,004 ) |
| Gain on sale of investments, net  | 2,201                   | 403       | 6,037     |
| Service charges and fees  | 37,921                  | 34,811    | 32,432    |
| Trust and other financial services income   | 7,252                   | 6,307     | 6,718     |
| Insurance commission income   | 5,190                   | 2,658     | 2,376     |
| Loss on real estate owned, net  | (2,572 )                | (4,054 )  | (428 )    |
| Income from bank owned life insurance   | 5,080                   | 4,791     | 4,797     |
| Mortgage banking income/ (loss)   | 2,196                   | 7,434     | (1,500 )  |
| Gain on bargain purchase of Keystone State Savings Bank   | —                       | 3,503     | —         |
| Other operating income  | 4,671                   | 3,581     | 4,324     |
| Total noninterest income  | 60,398                  | 53,337    | 38,752    |
| <b>Noninterest expense:</b>   |                         |           |           |
| Compensation and employee benefits  | 100,709                 | 95,594    | 91,129    |
| Premises and occupancy costs  | 22,665                  | 21,963    | 21,924    |
| Office operations   | 13,864                  | 12,947    | 13,237    |
| Processing expenses   | 23,152                  | 21,312    | 18,652    |
| Professional services   | 2,728                   | 2,590     | 2,582     |
| Amortization of intangible assets   | 2,784                   | 3,020     | 4,387     |
| Marketing expenses  | 9,875                   | 9,152     | 5,500     |
| Real estate owned expense   | 2,901                   | 2,461     | 1,959     |
| Federal deposit insurance premiums  | 9,054                   | 8,309     | 3,884     |
| FDIC special assessment   | —                       | 3,288     | —         |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|                                       |          |         |         |
|---------------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|
| Loss on early extinguishment of debt  | —        | —       | 705     |
| Contribution to charitable foundation | —        | 13,822  | —       |
| Acquisition expenses                  | 1,229    | —       | —       |
| Other expenses                        | 7,547    | 6,036   | 6,169   |
| Total noninterest expense             | 196,508  | 200,494 | 170,128 |
| Income before income taxes            | 81,045   | 39,653  | 65,139  |
| Provision for income taxes:           |          |         |         |
| Federal                               | 20,267   | 5,468   | 14,739  |
| State                                 | 3,255    | 1,532   | 2,229   |
| Total provision for income taxes      | 23,522   | 7,000   | 16,968  |
| Net income                            | \$57,523 | 32,653  | 48,171  |
| Basic earnings per share              | \$0.53   | 0.30    | 0.44    |
| Diluted earnings per share            | \$0.53   | 0.30    | 0.44    |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity  
For the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008  
(Amounts in thousands, excluding share data)

|   | Common Stock | Paid-in capital | Retained earnings | Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net | Employee Stock Ownership Plan | Treasury stock | Total Stockholders' Equity |
|---|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2007  | \$ 5,119     | 214,606         | 457,926           | 1,388  | —                             | (66,088 )      | 612,878                    |
| Comprehensive income:   |              |                 |                   |  |                               |                |                            |
| Net income  | —            | —               | 48,171            | —  | —                             | —              | 48,171                     |
| Other comprehensive income, net of tax of \$19,575                                | —            | —               | —                 | (31,963 )  | —                             | —              | (31,963 )                  |
| Total comprehensive income  | —            | —               | 48,171            | (31,963 )  | —                             | —              | 16,208                     |
| Treasury stock repurchases  | —            | —               | —                 | —  | —                             | (3,335 )       | (3,335 )                   |
| Exercise of stock options   | 5            | 995             | —                 | —  | —                             | —              | 1,000                      |
| Stock compensation  | —            | 2,731           | —                 | —  | —                             | —              | 2,731                      |
| Dividends paid (\$0.40 per share)   | —            | —               | (15,771 )         | —  | —                             | —              | (15,771 )                  |
| Balance at December 31, 2008  | 5,124        | 218,332         | 490,326           | (30,575 )  | —                             | (69,423 )      | 613,784                    |
| Effect of adoption of investment impairment accounting rules, net of tax of \$903 | —            | —               | 1,676             | (1,676 )   | —                             | —              | —                          |
| Comprehensive income:   |              |                 |                   |  |                               |                |                            |
| Net income  | —            | —               | 32,653            | —  | —                             | —              | 32,653                     |
| Other comprehensive loss, net of tax of \$(11,696)                                | —            | —               | —                 | 22,274   | —                             | —              | 22,274                     |
| Total comprehensive income  | —            | —               | 32,653            | 22,274   | —                             | —              | 54,927                     |
| Second-step conversion, including net proceeds                                    | (4,021 )     | 607,513         | —                 | —  | —                             | 69,423         | 672,915                    |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|   |          |         |          |          |          |   |           |
|---|----------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---|-----------|
| Exercise of stock options                         | 3        | 210     | —        | —        | —        | — | 213       |
| Stock compensation                                | —        | 2,140   | —        | —        | —        | — | 2,140     |
| Purchase of common stock by ESOP                  | —        | —       | —        | —        | (11,651) | — | (11,651)  |
| Dividends paid (\$0.40 per share)                 | —        | —       | (15,813) | —        | —        | — | (15,813)  |
| Balance at December 31, 2009                      | 1,106    | 828,195 | 508,842  | (9,977)  | (11,651) | — | 1,316,515 |
| Comprehensive income:                             |          |         |          |          |          |   |           |
| Net income  | —        | —       | 57,523   | —        | —        | — | 57,523    |
| Other comprehensive income, net of tax of \$1,948 | —        | —       | —        | (3,520)  | —        | — | (3,520)   |
| Total comprehensive income                        | —        | —       | 57,523   | (3,520)  | —        | — | 54,003    |
| Exercise of stock options                         | 2        | 1,597   | —        | —        | —        | — | 1,599     |
| Share repurchases                                 | (5)      | (6,423) | —        | —        | —        | — | (6,428)   |
| Stock compensation                                | —        | 795     | —        | —        | 1,442    | — | 2,237     |
| Purchase of common stock by ESOP                  | —        | —       | —        | —        | (17,200) | — | (17,200)  |
| Dividends paid (\$0.40 per share)                 | —        | —       | (43,276) | —        | —        | — | (43,276)  |
| Balance at December 31, 2010                      | \$ 1,103 | 824,164 | 523,089  | (13,497) | (27,409) | — | 1,307,450 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Consolidated Statements Of Cash Flows  
(Amounts in thousands)

|   | Years ended December 31 |             |             |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|   | 2010                    | 2009        | 2008        |
| <b>Operating activities:</b>  |                         |             |             |
| Net income  | \$57,523                | 32,653      | 48,171      |
| <b>Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:</b>      |                         |             |             |
| Provision for loan losses   | 40,486                  | 41,847      | 22,851      |
| Net loss/ (gain) on sales of assets   | 810                     | (2,840 )    | (3,468 )    |
| Net depreciation, amortization, and accretion   | 14,771                  | 17,188      | 16,222      |
| Decrease/ (increase) in other assets  | 11,060                  | (43,483 )   | (2,007 )    |
| (Decrease)/ increase in other liabilities   | (5,241 )                | 5,795       | 3,997       |
| Net amortization of discounts on marketable securities  | (130 )                  | (3,854 )    | (6,382 )    |
| Noncash compensation expense related to stock benefit plans                                   | 2,237                   | 2,140       | 2,731       |
| Noncash other-than-temporary impairment of investment securities                              | 1,541                   | 6,097       | 16,004      |
| Noncash impairment of real estate owned   | 1,338                   | 3,862       | —           |
| Noncash charitable contribution   | —                       | 12,822      | —           |
| Noncash impairment/(recovery) of mortgage servicing rights                                    | (505 )                  | (1,840 )    | 2,165       |
| FHLB prepayment penalty   | (52,016 )               | —           | —           |
| Deferred income tax expense/(benefit)   | 431                     | (8,763 )    | (6,480 )    |
| Gain on bargain purchase  | —                       | (3,503 )    | —           |
| Origination of loans held for sale  | (207,272 )              | (574,789 )  | (234,973 )  |
| Proceeds from sales of loans held for sale  | 205,310                 | 595,283     | 212,535     |
| Net cash provided by operating activities   | 70,343                  | 78,615      | 71,366      |
| <b>Investing activities:</b>  |                         |             |             |
| Purchase of marketable securities held-to-maturity  | (485,995 )              | —           | —           |
| Purchase of marketable securities available-for-sale  | (296,576 )              | (222,905 )  | (457,776 )  |
| Proceeds from maturities and principal reductions of marketable securities held-to-maturity   | 126,766                 | —           | —           |
| Proceeds from maturities and principal reductions of marketable securities available-for-sale | 355,195                 | 297,807     | 319,051     |
| Proceeds from sales of marketable securities available-for-sale                               | 56,865                  | 22,346      | 113,484     |
| Loan originations   | (1,929,914)             | (1,811,403) | (1,649,652) |
| Proceeds from loan maturities and principal reductions  | 1,648,005               | 1,650,273   | 1,283,980   |
| Redemption/(purchase) of Federal Home Loan Bank stock   | 3,162                   | —           | (31,839 )   |
| Proceeds from sale of real estate owned   | 12,026                  | 8,044       | 7,176       |
| Sale/(purchase) of real estate owned for investment   | (2,030 )                | (208 )      | 155         |
| Purchase of premises and equipment  | (15,940 )               | (20,421 )   | (15,655 )   |
| Acquisitions, net of cash received  | —                       | 8,668       | —           |
| Net cash used in investing activities   | (528,436 )              | (67,799 )   | (431,076 )  |

(Continued)



NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC AND SUBSIDIARIES  
Consolidated Statements Of Cash Flows  
(Amounts in thousands)

|  | Years ended December 31 |            |            |
|--|-------------------------|------------|------------|
|  | 2010                    | 2009       | 2008       |
| <b>Financing activities:</b>   |                         |            |            |
| Increase/ (decrease) in deposits, net  | \$ 139,912              | 565,388    | (504,123 ) |
| Proceeds from long-term borrowings   | —                       | —          | 645,000    |
| Repayments of long-term borrowings   | (36,564 )               | (39,598 )  | (84,270 )  |
| Net increase/ (decrease) in short-term borrowings  | 30,537                  | (130,831 ) | 168,484    |
| Increase/(decrease) in advances by borrowers for taxes and insurance   | 834                     | (4,161 )   | 2,031      |
| Share repurchases  | (6,428 )                | —          | (3,335 )   |
| Repayment of junior subordinated debentures  | —                       | (5,155 )   | —          |
| Cash dividends paid  | (43,276 )               | (15,813 )  | (15,771 )  |
| Net proceeds from common stock offering  | —                       | 658,660    | —          |
| Purchase of common shares for ESOP   | (17,200 )               | (11,651 )  | —          |
| Proceeds from options exercised, including tax benefit realized  | 1,599                   | 213        | 1,000      |
| Net cash provided by financing activities  | 69,414                  | 1,017,052  | 209,016    |
| Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents   | \$ (388,679 )           | 1,027,868  | (150,694 ) |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>  |                         |            |            |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period   | \$ 1,107,790            | 79,922     | 230,616    |
| Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents   | (388,679 )              | 1,027,868  | (150,694 ) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period   | \$ 719,111              | 1,107,790  | 79,922     |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>  |                         |            |            |
| Cash   | \$ 40,708               | 69,265     | 55,815     |
| Interest earning deposits in other financial institutions  | 677,771                 | 1,037,893  | 16,795     |
| Federal funds sold and other short-term investments  | 632                     | 632        | 7,312      |
| Total cash and cash equivalents  | \$ 719,111              | 1,107,790  | 79,922     |
| <b>Cash paid during the period for:</b>  |                         |            |            |
| Interest on deposits and borrowings (including interest credited to deposit accounts of \$65,481, \$80,648, and \$129,275, respectively) | 115,704                 | 136,507    | 168,455    |
| Income taxes   | 19,715                  | 20,833     | 22,541     |
| <b>Noncash activities:</b>   |                         |            |            |
| <b>Business acquisitions:</b>  |                         |            |            |
| Fair value of assets acquired  | \$ —                    | 12,433     | —          |
| Net cash received  | —                       | 8,668      | —          |
| Liabilities assumed  | \$ —                    | 21,101     | —          |
| <b>Loan foreclosures and repossessions</b>   |                         |            |            |
| Loan foreclosures and repossessions  | \$ 15,121               | 15,511     | 15,780     |
| Loans transferred to held for investment from held for sale  | —                       | —          | 24,827     |
| Sale of real estate owned financed by the Company  | 1,348                   | 3,116      | 614        |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Nature of Operations

Northwest Bancshares, Inc. (Company) is a Maryland corporation that was incorporated in September 2009 to be the successor to Northwest Bancorp, Inc. upon completion of the mutual-to-stock conversion of Northwest Bancorp, MHC, its mutual holding company parent. As a result of the conversion, share information prior to December 18, 2009 has been revised to reflect the 2.25 to 1 conversion rate. Northwest Bancshares, Inc., which is headquartered in Warren, Pennsylvania, is a federal savings and loan holding company for its wholly owned subsidiary, Northwest Savings Bank (Northwest). Northwest, a Pennsylvania chartered savings bank, offers traditional deposit and loan products through its 171 banking locations in Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Maryland, and Florida. Northwest, through its subsidiary Northwest Consumer Discount Company, also offers loan products through 52 consumer finance offices in Pennsylvania.

Financial information presented is derived in part from the consolidated financial statements of Northwest Bancshares, Inc. and subsidiaries after December 18, 2009, and from the consolidated financial statements of Northwest Bancorp, Inc. and subsidiaries prior to December 18, 2009.

(b) Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries after elimination of all intercompany accounts and transactions.

(c) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash and amounts due from depository institutions, interest-bearing deposits in other financial institutions, federal funds sold, and other short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less.

(d) Investment Securities

We classify marketable securities at the time of purchase as held-to-maturity, available-for-sale, or trading securities. Securities for which management has the intent and we have the ability to hold until their maturity are classified as held-to-maturity and are carried at cost, adjusted for amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts on a level yield basis. If it is management's intent at the time of purchase to hold securities for an indefinite period of time and/or to use such securities as part of its asset/liability management strategy, the securities are classified as available-for-sale and are carried at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses reported as accumulated other comprehensive income, a separate component of shareholders' equity, net of tax. Securities classified as available-for-sale include securities that may be sold in response to changes in interest rates, resultant prepayment risk, or other market factors. Securities that are bought and held principally for the purpose of selling them in the near term are classified as trading and are reported at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses included in earnings. The cost of securities sold is determined on a specific identification basis. The Company held no securities classified as

trading at or for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009.

The Company regularly reviews its investment securities for declines in value below amortized cost that might be considered "other than temporary." We consider our intent to sell the investment securities evaluated and the likelihood that we will not have to sell the investment securities before recovery of their cost basis. If impairment exists on investment securities, credit related impairment losses are recorded in earnings while noncredit related impairment losses are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income, if we do not intend to sell and it is not more likely than not we will be required to sell. Otherwise, the entire unrealized loss is recorded in earnings.

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

Federal law requires a member institution of the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) system to hold stock of its district FHLB according to a predetermined formula. This stock is recorded at cost and may be pledged to secure FHLB advances.

(e) Loans Receivable

Loans are stated at their unpaid principal balance net of any deferred origination fees or costs and the allowance for estimated loan losses. Interest income on loans is credited to income as earned. Interest earned on loans for which no payments were received during the month is accrued at month end. Accrued interest on loans more than 90 days delinquent is reversed, and such loans are placed on nonaccrual status.

Loans are placed on nonaccrual status when principal or interest is 90 days or more delinquent, or when there is reasonable doubt that interest or principal will not be collected in accordance with the contractual terms. Interest receipts on nonaccrual and impaired loans are recognized as interest revenue or are applied to principal when collectability of principal is in doubt. Nonaccrual loans generally are restored to an accrual basis when principal and interest become current (and a period of performance has been established in accordance with the contractual terms, typically six months).

A loan is considered to be a troubled debt restructured loan ("TDR") when the terms have been renegotiated to a below market condition to provide a reduction or deferral of principal or interest as a result of the deteriorating financial position of the borrower. Troubled debt restructurings are determined on the contractual terms as specified by the original loan agreement of the most recent modification.

The Company has identified certain residential loans, which will be sold prior to maturity, as loans held for sale. These loans are recorded at the lower of amortized cost or fair value less estimated cost to sell and at December 31, 2010 and 2009 were \$11.4 million and \$1.2 million, respectively.

Loan fees and certain direct loan origination costs are deferred, and the net deferred fee or cost is then recognized using the level-yield method over the contractual life of the loan as an adjustment to interest income.

(f) Allowance for Loan Losses and Provision for Loan Losses

Provisions for estimated loan losses and the amount of the allowance for loan losses are based on losses inherent in the loan portfolio that are both probable and reasonably estimable at the date of the financial statements. Management believes, to the best of their knowledge, that all known losses as of the statement of condition dates have been recorded.

Management considers a loan to be impaired when it is probable that the Company will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement. In evaluating whether a loan is impaired, management considers not only the amount that the Company expects to collect but also the timing of collection. Generally, if a delay in payment is insignificant (e.g., less than 30 days), a loan is not deemed to be impaired.

When a loan is considered to be impaired, the amount of impairment is measured based on the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's effective interest rate, the loan's market price, or fair value of the collateral, less cost to sell, if the loan is collateral dependent. Larger loans are evaluated individually for impairment. Smaller balance, homogeneous loans (e.g., primarily consumer and residential mortgages) are evaluated collectively for impairment. Impairment losses are included in the allowance for loan losses. Impaired loans are charged off when management believes that the ultimate collectability of a loan is not likely.

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

Interest income on impaired loans is recognized using the cash basis method. Such interest ultimately collected is credited to income in the period of recovery or applied to reduce principal if there is sufficient doubt about the collectability of principal.

The allowance for loan losses is shown as a valuation allowance to loans. The accounting policy for the determination of the adequacy of the allowance requires us to make numerous complex and subjective estimates and assumptions relating to amounts which are inherently uncertain. The allowance for loan losses is maintained to absorb losses inherent in the loan portfolio as of the balance sheet date based on our judgment. The methodology used to determine the allowance for loan losses is designed to provide procedural discipline in assessing the appropriateness of the allowance for loan losses. Losses are charged against the allowance for loan losses and recoveries are added to the allowance for loan losses. The allowance for loan losses consists of four elements:

- An allowance for impaired loans;
- An allowance for homogenous loans based on historical losses;
- An allowance for homogenous loans based on judgmental factors; and
- An unallocated allowance based on general economic conditions and risk factors in our individual markets.

The first element, impaired loans, is based on individual analysis of all nonperforming loans over \$1.0 million. The allowance is measured by the difference between the recorded value of impaired loans and their impaired value. Impaired value is either the present value of the expected future cash flows from the borrower, the market value of the loan, or the fair value of the collateral.

The second element is a rolling three year average of actual losses incurred, adjusted for a loss realization period (the period of time from the event of loss to loss realization), applied to homogenous pools of loans categorized by similar risk characteristics.

The third element augments the historical loss factors for changes in economic conditions, lending policies and procedures, the nature and volume of the loan portfolio, management, delinquency trends, loan administration, underlying collateral and concentrations of credit.

The fourth element, the unallocated allowance, is based on our judgment regarding economic conditions, collateral values, specific loans and industry conditions and results of bank regulatory and internal credit exams.

The allocation of the allowance for loan losses is inherently judgmental, and the entire allowance for loan losses is available to absorb loan losses regardless of the nature of the loss.

(g) Real Estate Owned

Real estate owned is comprised of property acquired through foreclosure or voluntarily conveyed by delinquent borrowers. These assets are recorded on the date acquired at the lower of the related loan balance or fair value of the collateral less disposition cost with the fair value being determined by an appraisal. Subsequently, foreclosed assets

are valued at the lower of the amount recorded at acquisition date or the current fair value, less estimated disposition costs. Gains or losses realized from the disposition of such property are credited or charged to noninterest income.

(h) Premises and Equipment

Premises and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Depreciation is accumulated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the related assets. Estimated lives range from three to thirty years. Amortization of leasehold improvements is accumulated on a straight-line basis over the terms of the related leases or the useful lives of the related assets, whichever is shorter.

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

(i) Goodwill

Goodwill is generated from the premium paid for an acquisition and is allocated to reporting units, which are either the Company's reportable segments or one level below. Goodwill is not subject to amortization but is tested for impairment at least annually, and possibly more frequently if certain events or changes in circumstances arise. Impairment testing requires that the fair value of each reporting unit be compared to its carrying amount, including goodwill. Reporting units are identified based upon analyzing each individual operating segment. A reporting unit is defined as any distinct, separately identifiable component of an operating segment for which complete, discrete financial information is available that management regularly reviews. Determining the fair value of a reporting unit requires a high degree of subjective management judgment, including developing cash flow projections, selecting appropriate discount rates, identifying relevant market comparables, incorporating general economic and market conditions and selecting an appropriate control premium. The selection and weighting of the various fair value techniques may result in a higher or lower fair value. Judgment is applied in determining the weightings that are most representative of fair value. We have established June 30th of each year as the date for conducting our annual goodwill impairment assessment. As of June 30, 2010, we, through the assistance of an external third party, performed an impairment test on goodwill. We valued each reporting unit by using a weighted average of four valuation methodologies; comparable transaction approach, control premium approach, public market peers approach and discounted cash flow approach. Declines in fair value could result in impairment being identified. At June 30, 2010, we did not identify any individual reporting unit where the fair value was less than the carrying value and no other events or changes have occurred since that date that would warrant an updated valuation. Future changes in the economic environment or the operations of the operating units could cause changes to the variables used, which could give rise to declines in the estimated fair value of the reporting units. We have performed the required goodwill impairment tests and have determined that goodwill is not impaired as of December 31, 2010 and 2009.

(j) Core Deposit Intangibles

The Company, through the assistance of an independent third party, analyzes and prepares a core deposit study for all acquisitions. This study reflects the cumulative present value benefit of acquiring deposits versus an alternative source of funding. Based upon this analysis, the amount of the premium related to the core deposits of the business purchased is calculated along with the estimated life of the acquired deposits. The core deposit intangible, which is recorded in other intangible assets, is then amortized to expense on an accelerated basis over an approximate life of seven years.

(k) Bank-Owned Life Insurance

The Company owns insurance on the lives of a certain group of key employees and directors. The policies were purchased to help offset the increase in the costs of various fringe benefit plans, including healthcare, as well as the directors deferred compensation plan. The cash surrender value of these policies is included as an asset on the consolidated statements of financial condition, and any increases in the cash surrender value are recorded as noninterest income on the consolidated statements of income. In the event of the death of an insured individual under these policies, after distribution to the insured's beneficiaries the Company would receive a death benefit, which would

be recorded as noninterest income.

(l) Deposits

Interest on deposits is accrued and charged to expense monthly and is paid or credited in accordance with the terms of the accounts.

70

---

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

(m) Pension Plans

The Company maintains multiple noncontributory defined benefit pension plans for substantially all of our employees. The net periodic pension cost has been calculated using service cost, interest cost, expected returns on plan assets and net amortization. The Company changed its measurement date to December 31 from October 31 for its defined benefit pension plans effective December 31, 2008 as required by a change in accounting standards.

(n) Income Taxes

The Company joins with its wholly owned subsidiaries in filing a consolidated federal income tax return. In accordance with an intercompany tax allocation agreement, the applicable federal income tax expense or benefit is allocated to each subsidiary based upon taxable income or loss calculated on a separate company basis. Each subsidiary is responsible for payment of its own federal income tax liability or receives reimbursement of federal income tax benefit. In addition, deferred taxes are calculated and maintained on a separate company basis.

The Company accounts for income taxes using the asset and liability method. The objective of the asset and liability method is to establish deferred tax assets and liabilities for temporary differences between the financial reporting and tax basis of the Company's assets and liabilities based on the tax rates expected to be in effect when such amounts are realized or settled.

(o) Stock Related Compensation

The Company determines the fair value of each option award, estimated on the grant date, using the Black-Scholes-Merton option-pricing model. During the year ended December 31, 2010 the Company awarded 484,576 stock options to employees and 54,000 stock options to directors. Option awards are generally granted with an exercise price equal to the market price of the Company's stock at the grant date and options generally vest over a five-year to seven-year period from the grant date. Expected volatilities are based on historical volatility of the Company's stock. The expected term of options is based upon exercise and forfeiture experience in previous option grants. The risk-free rate is based on yields on U.S. Treasury securities of a similar maturity to the expected term of the options. New shares are issued when options granted.

Stock-based employee compensation expense related to the Company's recognition and retention plan of \$237,000, \$911,000 and \$1.1 million was included in income before income taxes during the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The effect on net income for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 was a reduction of \$154,000, \$592,000 and \$710,000, respectively. Total compensation expense for unvested stock options of \$1.4 million has yet to be recognized as of December 31, 2010. The weighted average period over which this remaining stock option expense will be recognized is approximately 2.10 years.

The fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes-Merton option-pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions: (1) dividend yields ranging from 1.6% to 5.1% based on historical dividends and market prices; (2) expected volatility of 17% to 33% based on historical volatility; (3)

risk-free interest rates ranging from 2.2% to 6.5%; and (4) expected lives of seven to eight years based on previous grants.

(p) Segment Reporting

The Company has two reportable segments, Community Banking and Consumer Finance. See note 21 for related disclosures.

71

---

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

(q) Derivative financial instruments – interest rate swaps

The Company recognizes all derivative financial instruments as either assets or liabilities in the balance sheet and measures those instruments at fair value. The accounting for changes in the fair value of a derivative depends on the intended use of the derivative and the resulting designation. An entity that elects to use hedge accounting is required, at inception, to establish the method it will use for assessing the effectiveness of the hedging derivative and the measurement approach for determining the ineffective aspect of the hedge. Those methods must be consistent with the Company's approach to managing risk.

The Company utilizes interest rate swap agreements as part of the management of interest rate risk to hedge the interest rate risk on the Company's trust preferred debentures. Amounts receivable or payable are recognized as accrued under the terms of the agreements and the differential is recorded as an adjustment to interest expense. The interest rate swaps are designated as cash flow hedges, with the effective portion of the derivative's unrealized gain or loss recorded as a component of other comprehensive income. The ineffective portion of the unrealized gain or loss, if any, would be recorded in other expense. See note 22 for related disclosures.

(r) Off-Balance-Sheet Instruments

In the normal course of business, the Company extends credit in the form of loan commitments, undisbursed lines of credit, and standby letters of credit. These off-balance-sheet instruments involve, to various degrees, elements of credit and interest rate risk not reported in the consolidated statement of financial condition. We utilize the same underwriting standards for these instruments as other extensions of credit.

(s) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The estimates and assumptions that we deem important to our financial statements relate to the allowance for loan losses, the accounting treatment and valuation of our investment securities portfolio, the analysis of the carrying value of goodwill and income taxes. These estimates and assumptions are based on management's best estimates and judgment and we evaluate them using historical experience and other factors, including the current economic environment. We adjust our estimates and assumptions when facts and circumstances dictate. As future events cannot be determined, actual results could differ significantly from our estimates.

(t) Reclassification of Prior Years' Statements

Certain items previously reported have been reclassified to conform with the current year's reporting format.

(2) Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In January 2010, the FASB issued ASU No. 2010-06, “Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (Topic 820) – Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements.” This guidance improves disclosures about fair value of financial instruments and requires additional disclosures regarding fair value measurements. Specifically, the guidance requires entities to disclose the amounts and reasons for significant transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy, to disclose reasons for any transfers in or out of Level 3 and to separately disclose information in the reconciliation of recurring Level 3 measurements about purchases, sales, issuances and settlements. In addition, the guidance also clarifies certain existing fair value measurement disclosure requirements. Except for the requirement to disclose information about purchases, sales, issuances and settlements in the reconciliation of recurring Level 3 measurements separately, the amendments are effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009. The adoption of these provisions did not have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements. The requirement to separately disclose purchases, sales, issuances and settlements of recurring Level 3 measurements is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2010. The adoption of the remaining provisions at December 31, 2010 is not expected to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

In July 2010, FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2010-20, "Receivables (Topic 310): Disclosures about the Credit Quality of Financing Receivables and the Allowance for Credit Losses." The objective of this guidance is to provide financial statement users with greater transparency about an entity's allowance for credit losses and the credit quality of its financing receivables by providing additional information to assist financial statement users in assessing an entity's credit risk exposures and evaluating the adequacy of its allowance for credit losses. For public entities, the disclosures as of the end of a reporting period are effective for interim and annual reporting periods ending on or after December 15, 2010. The disclosures about activity that occurs during a reporting period are effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning on or after December 15, 2010. The Company adopted the provisions of the standard as of December 31, 2010. See footnote 4 for the required disclosures.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

## (3) Marketable Securities

Marketable securities available-for-sale at December 31, 2010 are as follows:

|   | Amortized<br>Cost | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Holding<br>Gains | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Holding<br>Losses | Fair Value |
|---|-------------------|---|--|------------|
| <b>Available-for-sale:</b>              |                   |   |  |            |
| U.S. government and agencies:           |                   |   |  |            |
| Due in one year or less                 | \$67              | —                                       | —  | 67         |
| Government sponsored enterprises:       |                   |   |  |            |
| Due in one year – five years            | 1,989             | 93                                      | —  | 2,082      |
| Due in five years – ten years           | 6,495             | 347                                     | —  | 6,842      |
| Due after ten years                     | 9,948             | —                                       | (53 )                                    | 9,895      |
| Equity securities                       | 861               | 86                                      | (1 )                                     | 946        |
| Municipal securities:                   |                   |   |  |            |
| Due in one year – five years            | 3,382             | 125                                     | —  | 3,507      |
| Due in five years – ten years           | 37,898            | 1,023                                   | —  | 38,921     |
| Due after ten years                     | 173,255           | 1,158                                   | (8,548 )                                 | 165,865    |
| Corporate debt issues:                  |                   |   |  |            |
| Due in one year or less                 | 100               | —                                       | —  | 100        |
| Due in one year – five years            | 500               | —                                       | —  | 500        |
| Due after ten years                     | 25,417            | 196                                     | (7,353 )                                 | 18,260     |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities: |                   |   |  |            |
| Fixed rate pass-through                 | 111,581           | 7,153                                   | (12 )                                    | 118,722    |
| Variable rate pass-through              | 167,685           | 7,260                                   | (8 )                                     | 174,937    |
| Fixed rate non-agency CMO               | 13,825            | 91                                      | (843 )                                   | 13,073     |
| Fixed rate agency CMO                   | 112,483           | 1,067                                   | (759 )                                   | 112,791    |
| Variable rate non-agency CMO            | 3,274             | —                                       | (379 )                                   | 2,895      |
| Variable rate agency CMO                | 277,031           | 4,525                                   | (276 )                                   | 281,280    |
| Total mortgage-backed securities        | 685,879           | 20,096                                  | (2,277 )                                 | 703,698    |
| Total securities available-for-sale     | \$945,791         | 23,124                                  | (18,232 )                                | 950,683    |

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

Marketable securities held to maturity at December 31, 2010 are as follows:

|   | Amortized<br>Cost | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Holding<br>Gains | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Holding<br>Losses | Fair Value |
|---|-------------------|---|--|------------|
| <b>Held-to-maturity:</b>                |                   |   |  |            |
| Government sponsored enterprises:       |                   |   |  |            |
| Due in one year or less                 | \$26,500          | 36                                      | —  | 26,536     |
| Municipal securities:                   |                   |   |  |            |
| Due after ten years                     | 80,020            | 7                                       | (3,940 )                                 | 76,087     |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities: |                   |   |  |            |
| Fixed rate pass-through                 | 29,820            | 410                                     | (4 )                                     | 30,226     |
| Variable rate pass-through              | 9,853             | 79                                      | —  | 9,932      |
| Fixed rate agency CMO                   | 186,948           | 924                                     | (1,701 )                                 | 186,171    |
| Variable rate agency CMO                | 24,781            | 393                                     | —  | 25,174     |
| Total mortgage-backed securities        | 251,402           | 1,806                                   | (1,705 )                                 | 251,503    |
| Total securities held-to-maturity       | \$357,922         | 1,849                                   | (5,645 )                                 | 354,126    |

Marketable securities at December 31, 2009 are as follows:

|   | Amortized<br>Cost | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Holding<br>Gains | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Holding<br>Losses | Fair Value |
|---|-------------------|---|--|------------|
| <b>Available-for-sale:</b>              |                   |   |  |            |
| U.S. government and agencies:           |                   |   |  |            |
| Due in one year or less                 | \$76              | —                                       | (1 )                                     | 75         |
| Government sponsored enterprises:       |                   |   |  |            |
| Due in one year – five years            | 1,977             | 153                                     | —  | 2,130      |
| Due in five years – ten years           | 21,912            | 524                                     | —  | 22,436     |
| Due after ten years                     | 52,667            | 1,128                                   | (498 )                                   | 53,297     |
| Equity securities                       | 1,054             | 191                                     | (118 )                                   | 1,127      |
| Municipal securities:                   |                   |   |  |            |
| Due in one year – five years            | 3,146             | 68                                      | —  | 3,214      |
| Due in five years – ten years           | 41,170            | 1,163                                   | —  | 42,333     |
| Due after ten years                     | 190,812           | 2,774                                   | (1,677 )                                 | 191,909    |
| Corporate debt issues:                  |                   |   |  |            |
| Due in one year – five years            | 500               | —                                       | —  | 500        |
| Due after ten years                     | 26,882            | 168                                     | (10,549 )                                | 16,501     |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities: |                   |   |  |            |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|                                     |             |        |           |           |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Fixed rate pass-through             | 145,363     | 6,440  | (47 )     | 151,756   |
| Variable rate pass-through          | 231,232     | 7,894  | (85 )     | 239,041   |
| Fixed rate non-agency CMO           | 18,919      | 48     | (1,788 )  | 17,179    |
| Fixed rate agency CMO               | 19,994      | 982    | —         | 20,976    |
| Variable rate non-agency CMO        | 9,075       | —      | (1,170 )  | 7,905     |
| Variable rate agency CMO            | 294,398     | 2,642  | (330 )    | 296,710   |
| Total mortgage-backed securities    | 718,981     | 18,006 | (3,420 )  | 733,567   |
| Total securities available-for-sale | \$1,059,177 | 24,175 | (16,263 ) | 1,067,089 |

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The following table presents information regarding the issuers and the carrying values of the Company's mortgage-backed securities at December 31, 2010 and 2009:

|  | December 31 |         |
|--|-------------|---------|
|  | 2010        | 2009    |
| <b>Residential mortgage backed securities:</b> |             |         |
| FNMA   | \$ 355,727  | 256,981 |
| GNMA   | 223,768     | 126,164 |
| FHLMC  | 335,803     | 324,562 |
| Other (including non-agency)                   | 39,802      | 25,860  |
| Total residential mortgage-backed securities   | \$ 955,100  | 733,567 |

Marketable securities having a carrying value of \$759.6 million at December 31, 2010, were pledged under collateral agreements. During the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 the Company sold marketable securities classified as available-for-sale for \$56.9 million, \$22.3 million and \$113.5 million, respectively with gross realized gains of \$2.3 million, \$403,000 and \$6.0 million, respectively and gross realized losses of \$147,000, \$0 and \$0, respectively. During the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 the Company recognized non-cash other-than-temporary credit related impairment in its investment portfolio resulting in write-downs of \$1.5 million, \$6.1 million and \$16.0 million, respectively.

The following table shows the fair value and gross unrealized losses on investment securities, aggregated by investment category and length of time that the individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position at December 31, 2010:

|   | Less than 12 months |                   | 12 months or more |                   | Total      |                   |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
|   | Fair Value          | Unrealized Losses | Fair Value        | Unrealized Losses | Fair Value | Unrealized Losses |
| U.S. government and agencies                        | \$ 9,896            | (53 )             | 35                | (1 )              | 9,931      | (54 )             |
| Municipal securities                                | 188,659             | (11,107)          | 8,181             | (1,381 )          | 196,840    | (12,488 )         |
| Corporate issues                                    | —                   | —                 | 13,700            | (7,353 )          | 13,700     | (7,353 )          |
| Equities  | 44                  | (1 )              | —                 | —                 | 44         | (1 )              |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities – non-agency | 303                 | (301 )            | 10,093            | (921 )            | 10,396     | (1,222 )          |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities – agency     | 212,261             | (2,632 )          | 4,949             | (127 )            | 217,210    | (2,759 )          |
| Total temporarily impaired securities               | \$ 411,163          | (14,094)          | 36,958            | (9,783 )          | 448,121    | (23,877)          |

The decline in the fair value of securities primarily resulted from changes in interest rates and the illiquidity in the marketplace. Regularly, the Company performs an assessment to determine whether there have been any events or

economic circumstances to indicate that a security which has an unrealized loss is impaired other-than-temporarily. The assessment considers many factors including the severity and duration of the impairment; recent events specific to the issuer or industry; and for debt securities, external credit ratings, underlying collateral position and recent downgrades. For asset backed securities, the Company evaluates current characteristics of each security such as delinquency and foreclosure levels, credit enhancement and projected losses and coverage. It is possible that the underlying collateral of these securities will perform worse than current expectations, which may lead to adverse changes in cash flows on these securities and potential future other-than-temporary impairment losses. Events that may trigger material declines in fair values for these securities in the future would be, but are not limited to; deterioration of credit metrics, significantly higher levels of default and severity of loss on the underlying collateral, deteriorating credit enhancement and loss coverage ratios, or further illiquidity. For debt securities, credit related other-than-temporary impairment is recognized in earnings, while noncredit related other-than-temporary impairment on securities not expected to be sold is recognized in other comprehensive income. The Company asserts that it does not have the intent to sell these securities and it is more likely than not that it will not have to sell these securities before a recovery of its cost basis. For these reasons, the Company considers the unrealized losses to be temporary impairment losses. There are approximately 242 positions that are temporarily impaired at December 31, 2010. The aggregate carrying amount of cost-method investments, including both held-to-maturity and available-for-sale, at December 31, 2010 was \$1.309 billion of which all were evaluated for impairment.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

As of December 31, 2010, we had nine investments in corporate issues with total book value of \$21.1 million and total fair value of \$13.7 million, where book value exceeded carrying value for more than 12 months. These investments were three single issuer trust preferred investments and six pooled trust preferred investments. The single issuer trust preferred investments were evaluated for other-than-temporary impairment by determining the strength of the underlying issuer. In each case, the underlying issuer was “well-capitalized” for regulatory purposes. None of the issuers have deferred interest payments or announced the intention to defer interest payments. We believe the decline in fair value is related to the spread over three-month LIBOR, on which the quarterly interest payments are based, as the spread over LIBOR is significantly lower than current market spreads. We concluded the impairment of these investments was considered temporary. In making that determination, we also considered the duration and the severity of the losses. The pooled trust preferred investments were evaluated for other-than-temporary impairment considering duration and severity of losses, actual cash flows, projected cash flows, performing collateral, the class of securities we owned and the amount of additional defaults the structure could withstand prior to the security experiencing a disruption in cash flows. None of these investments are projecting near-term cash flow disruptions, nor have any of the investments experienced a cash flow disruption.

We concluded, based on all facts evaluated, the remaining impairment of these investments, other than the credit related impairment recognized, was considered temporary and management asserts that we do not have the intent to sell these investments and that it is more likely than not we will not have to sell the investments before recovery of their cost basis.

The following table provides class, book value and ratings information for our portfolio of corporate investments that had an unrealized loss as of December 31, 2010:

| Description                   | Class      | Book Value | Total Fair Value | Unrealized Losses | Moody's/<br>Fitch Ratings |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Bank Boston Capital Trust (1) | N/A        | \$ 988     | 702              | (286 )            | Baa3/ BBB-                |
| Reliance Capital Trust        | N/A        | 1,000      | 838              | (162 )            | Not rated                 |
| Huntington Capital Trust      | N/A        | 1,422      | 848              | (574 )            | Ba1/ BBB-                 |
| MM Community Funding I        | Mezzanine  | 105        | 56               | (49 )             | Ca/ C                     |
| MM Community Funding II       | Mezzanine  | 331        | 29               | (302 )            | Baa2/ BB                  |
| I-Pre TSL I                   | Mezzanine  | 1,500      | 188              | (1,312 )          | Not rated/CCC             |
| I-Pre TSL II                  | Mezzanine  | 1,500      | 188              | (1,312 )          | Not rated/ B              |
| Pre TSL XIX                   | Senior A-1 | 8,770      | 6,715            | (2,055 )          | Baa2/ BBB                 |
| Pre TSL XX                    | Senior A-1 | 5,437      | 4,136            | (1,301 )          | Ba2/ BB                   |
|                               |            | \$ 21,053  | 13,700           | (7,353 )          |                           |

(1) Bank Boston was acquired by Bank of America



## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The following table provides collateral information on pooled trust preferred investments included in the previous table as of December 31, 2010:

|              | Total<br>Collateral | Current<br>Deferrals<br>and Defaults | Performing<br>Collateral | Additional<br>Immediate<br>Defaults<br>before<br>Causing an<br>Interest<br>Shortfall |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| I-Pre TSL I  | \$ 193,500          | 17,500                               | 176,000                  | 101,500  |
| I-Pre TSL II | 378,000             | —                                    | 378,000                  | 153,000  |
| Pre TSL XIX  | 699,981             | 172,400                              | 527,581                  | 185,000  |
| Pre TSL XX   | 576,238             | 176,500                              | 399,738                  | 109,500  |

Mortgage-backed securities include agency (Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and Ginnie Mae) mortgage-backed securities and non-agency collateralized mortgage obligations. We review our portfolio of agency backed mortgage-backed securities quarterly for impairment. As of December 31, 2010, we believe that the impairment within our portfolio of agency mortgage-backed securities is temporary. As of December 31, 2010, we had 11 non-agency collateralized mortgage obligations with total book value of \$17.1 million and total fair value of \$16.0 million. During the year ended December 31, 2010, we recognized other-than-temporary credit related impairment of \$1.1 million related to four of these investments. After recognizing the other-than-temporary impairment, our book value on these four investments was \$10.7 million, with a fair value of \$9.6 million. We determined how much of the impairment was credit related and noncredit related by analyzing cash flow estimates, estimated prepayment speeds, loss severity and conditional default rates. We consider the discounted cash flow analysis to be our primary evidence when determining whether credit related other-than-temporary impairment exists. The impairment on the other seven collateralized mortgage obligations, with book value of \$6.4 million and fair value of \$6.4 million, were also reviewed considering the severity and length of impairment. After this review, we determined that the impairment on these seven securities was temporary.

The following table shows issuer specific information, book value, fair value, unrealized losses and other-than-temporary impairment recorded in earnings for our portfolio on non-agency collateralized mortgage obligations as of December 31, 2010:

| Description     | Book Value | Total<br>Fair Value | Unrealized<br>Losses | Life to Date<br>Impairment<br>Recorded in<br>Earnings |
|-----------------|------------|---------------------|----------------------|---|
| AMAC 2003-6 2A2 | \$604      | 619                 | —                    | —   |
| AMAC 2003-6 2A8 | 1,250      | 1,277               | —                    | —   |
| AMAC 2003-7 A3  | 737        | 748                 | —                    | —   |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|                    |          |        |          |          |
|--------------------|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| BOAMS 2005-11 1A8  | 3,580    | 3,441  | (139 )   | (146 )   |
| CWALT 2005-J14 A3  | 5,661    | 4,957  | (704 )   | (411 )   |
| CFSB 2003-17 2A2   | 1,130    | 1,145  | —        | —        |
| WAMU 2003-S2 A4    | 862      | 885    | —        | —        |
| CMLTI 2005-10 1A5B | 897      | 897    | —        | (2,952 ) |
| FHASI 2003-8 1A24  | 693      | 685    | (8 )     | —        |
| SARM 2005-21 4A2   | 605      | 303    | (302 )   | (3,100 ) |
| WFMBS 2003-B A2    | 1,080    | 1,011  | (69 )    | —        |
|                    | \$17,099 | 15,968 | (1,222 ) | (6,609 ) |

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The follow table sets forth the categories of investment securities at December 31, 2010 on which other-than-temporary impairment charges have been recorded in earnings:

| Category                     | Book Value | Total Fair Value | Unrealized Gain/ (Loss) | Accumulated Impairment Charges |
|------------------------------|------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Freddie Mac preferred shares | \$76       | 97               | 21                      | (7,424 )                       |
| Trust preferred investments  | 15,924     | 12,705           | (3,219 )                | (8,838 )                       |
| Non-agency CMOs              | 10,743     | 9,598            | (1,145 )                | (6,609 )                       |
| Equity securities            | 135        | 135              | —                       | (94 )                          |
|                              | \$26,878   | 22,535           | (4,343 )                | (22,965 )                      |

The table below shows a cumulative roll forward of credit losses recognized in earnings for debt securities held and not intended to be sold:

|   | December 31 |        |
|---|-------------|--------|
|   | 2010        | 2009   |
| Beginning balance as of January 1,  | \$ 13,998   | 7,901  |
| Credit losses on debt securities for which other-than-temporary impairment was not previously recognized        | —           | 6,057  |
| Additional credit losses on debt securities for which other-than-temporary impairment was previously recognized | 1,447       | 40     |
| Ending balance as of December 31,   | \$ 15,445   | 13,998 |

The following table shows the fair value and gross unrealized losses on investment securities, aggregated by investment category and length of time that the individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position at December 31, 2009:

|   | Less than 12 months |                   | 12 months or more |                   | Total      |                   |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
|   | Fair Value          | Unrealized Losses | Fair Value        | Unrealized Losses | Fair Value | Unrealized Losses |
| U.S. government and agencies                        | \$ 17,051           | (490 )            | 266               | (8 )              | 17,317     | (498 )            |
| Municipal securities                                | 43,897              | (598 )            | 10,505            | (1,079 )          | 54,402     | (1,677 )          |
| Corporate issues                                    | —                   | —                 | 12,058            | (10,549 )         | 12,058     | (10,549 )         |
| Equities  | 452                 | (118 )            | —                 | —                 | 452        | (118 )            |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities – non-agency | 1,194               | (2 )              | 19,451            | (2,957 )          | 20,645     | (2,959 )          |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|   |           |          |        |          |         |          |
|---|-----------|----------|--------|----------|---------|----------|
| Residential mortgage-backed securities – agency | 25,752    | (181 )   | 43,067 | (281 )   | 68,819  | (462 )   |
| Total temporarily impaired securities           | \$ 88,346 | (1,389 ) | 85,347 | (14,874) | 173,693 | (16,263) |

79

---

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The following table provides class, book value and ratings information for our portfolio of corporate investments that had an unrealized loss as of December 31, 2009:

| Description                   | Class      | Book Value | Total Fair Value | Unrealized Losses | Moody's/<br>Fitch Ratings |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| North Fork Capital (1)        | N/A        | \$ 1,009   | 892              | (117 )            | Baa2/ BBB                 |
| Bank Boston Capital Trust (2) | N/A        | 988        | 670              | (318 )            | Baa3/ BB                  |
| Reliance Capital Trust        | N/A        | 1,000      | 814              | (186 )            | Not rated                 |
| Huntington Capital Trust      | N/A        | 1,420      | 586              | (834 )            | Baa3/ BB+                 |
| MM Community Funding I        | Mezzanine  | 467        | 30               | (437 )            | Ca/ CCC                   |
| MM Community Funding II       | Mezzanine  | 385        | 40               | (345 )            | BBB/ BBB                  |
| I-Pre TSL I                   | Mezzanine  | 1,500      | 225              | (1,275 )          | Not rated/ BB             |
| I-Pre TSL II                  | Mezzanine  | 1,500      | 225              | (1,275 )          | Not rated/ BB             |
| Pre TSL XIX                   | Senior A-1 | 8,853      | 5,125            | (3,728 )          | A3/ AA                    |
| Pre TSL XX                    | Senior A-1 | 5,485      | 3,451            | (2,034 )          | Baa1/ A                   |
|                               |            | \$ 22,607  | 12,058           | (10,549 )         |                           |

(1) North Fork Bank was acquired by Capital One Financial Corporation

(2) Bank Boston was acquired by Bank of America

The following table provides collateral information on pooled trust preferred investments included in the previous table as of December 31, 2009:

|              | Total Collateral | Current Deferrals and Defaults | Performing Collateral | Additional Immediate Defaults before Causing an Interest Shortfall |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| I-Pre TSL I  | \$193,500        | 17,500                         | 176,000               | 97,500   |
| I-Pre TSL II | 378,000          | —                              | 378,000               | 153,000  |
| Pre TSL XIX  | 700,535          | 115,000                        | 585,535               | 234,000  |
| Pre TSL XX   | 550,154          | 139,000                        | 411,154               | 141,500  |

Effective April 1, 2009, we adopted recently issued accounting standards which requires that credit related other-than-temporary impairment on debt securities be recognized in earnings while noncredit related other-than-temporary impairment on debt securities, not expected to be sold, be recognized in other comprehensive income.

Noncredit related other-than-temporary impairment losses recognized in prior periods have been reclassified as a cumulative effect adjustment that increased retained earnings and increased accumulated other comprehensive loss as of April 1, 2009. In 2008, \$16,004,000 of other-than-temporary impairment charges was recognized, of which \$2,579,000 related to noncredit impairment on debt securities. Therefore, the cumulative effect adjustment to retained earnings recorded April 1, 2009 totaled \$1,676,000, after tax.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The following table shows issuer specific information, book value, fair value, unrealized losses and other-than-temporary impairment recorded in earnings for our portfolio on non-agency collateralized mortgage obligations as of December 31, 2009:

| Description        | Book Value | Total<br>Fair Value | Unrealized<br>Losses | Life to Date<br>Impairment<br>Recorded in<br>Earnings |
|--------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------------|---|
| AMAC 2003-6 2A2    | \$995      | 1,002               | —                    | —   |
| AMAC 2003-6 2A8    | 2,058      | 2,083               | —                    | —   |
| AMAC 2003-7 A3     | 1,196      | 1,194               | (2 )                 | —   |
| BOAMS 2005-11 1A8  | 5,276      | 4,809               | (467 )               | —   |
| CWALT 2005-J14 A3  | 6,460      | 5,144               | (1,316 )             | (348 )  |
| CFSB 2003-17 2A2   | 1,596      | 1,593               | (3 )                 | —   |
| WAMU 2003-S2 A4    | 1,338      | 1,354               | —                    | —   |
| CMLTI 2005-10 1A5B | 1,588      | 1,112               | (476 )               | (2,724 )  |
| CSFB 2003-21 1A13  | 250        | 244                 | (6 )                 | —   |
| FHASI 2003-8 1A24  | 3,753      | 3,541               | (212 )               | —   |
| SARM 2005-21 4A2   | 2,080      | 1,717               | (363 )               | (2,451 )  |
| WFMBS 2003-B A2    | 1,404      | 1,291               | (113 )               | —   |
|                    | \$27,994   | 25,084              | (2,958 )             | (5,523 )  |

## (4) Loans Receivable

Loans receivable at December 31, 2010 and 2009 are summarized in the table below:

|                               | December 31 |           |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
|                               | 2010        | 2009      |
| Real estate loans:            |             |           |
| One-to-four family            | \$2,432,421 | 2,371,996 |
| Home equity                   | 1,095,953   | 1,080,011 |
| Multi-family and commercial   | 1,423,021   | 1,292,145 |
| Total real estate loans       | 4,951,395   | 4,744,152 |
| Consumer loans:               |             |           |
| Automobile                    | 88,486      | 101,046   |
| Education                     | 21,957      | 32,860    |
| Loans on savings accounts     | 11,850      | 12,209    |
| Other                         | 133,483     | 127,750   |
| Total consumer loans          | 255,776     | 273,865   |
| Commercial loans              | 463,006     | 403,589   |
| Total loans receivable, gross | 5,670,177   | 5,421,606 |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|   |             |            |
|---|-------------|------------|
| Deferred loan fees                            | (7,165 )    | (7,030 )   |
| Allowance for loan losses                     | (76,412 )   | (70,403 )  |
| Undisbursed loan proceeds (real estate loans) | (129,007 )  | (115,111 ) |
| Total Loan receivable, net                    | \$5,457,593 | 5,229,062  |

At December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, we serviced loans for others approximating \$1.310 billion, \$1.401 billion and \$1.100 billion, respectively. These loans serviced for others are not our assets and are not included in our financial statements.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

At December 31, 2010 and 2009, approximately 76% and 78%, respectively, of our loan portfolio was secured by properties located in Pennsylvania. We do not believe we have significant concentrations of credit risk to any one group of borrowers given our underwriting and collateral requirements.

Loans receivable at December 31, 2010 and 2009 include \$1.757 billion and \$1.612 billion, respectively, of adjustable rate loans and \$3.913 billion and \$3.810 billion, respectively, of fixed rate loans.

Our exposure to credit loss in the event of nonperformance by the other party to off-balance-sheet financial instruments is represented by the contract amount of the financial instrument. We use the same credit policies in making commitments for off-balance-sheet financial instruments as we do for on-balance-sheet instruments. Financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk as of December 31, 2010 and 2009 are presented in the following table:

|                             | December 31 |         |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---------|
|                             | 2010        | 2009    |
| Loan commitments            | \$ 135,782  | 134,620 |
| Undisbursed lines of credit | 345,838     | 298,459 |
| Standby letters of credit   | 61,485      | 44,283  |
|                             | \$ 543,105  | 477,362 |

Commitments to extend credit are agreements to lend to a customer as long as there is no violation of any condition established in the contract. Commitments generally have fixed expiration dates or other termination clauses and may require payment of a fee. We evaluate each customer's creditworthiness on a case-by-case basis. The amount of collateral we obtain upon extension of credit is based on management's credit evaluation of the counterparty. Collateral held varies but generally may include cash, marketable securities, real estate and other property.

Outstanding loan commitments at December 31, 2010, for fixed rate loans, were \$42.0 million. The interest rates on these commitments approximate market rates at December 31, 2010. Outstanding loan commitments at December 31, 2010 for adjustable rate loans were \$93.8 million. The fair values of these commitments are affected by fluctuations in market rates of interest.

We issue standby letters of credit in the normal course of business. Standby letters of credit are conditional commitments issued to guarantee the performance of a customer to a third party. Standby letters of credit generally are contingent upon the failure of the customer to perform according to the terms of the underlying contract with the third party. We are required to perform under a standby letter of credit when drawn upon by the guaranteed third party in the case of nonperformance by our customer. The credit risk associated with standby letters of credit is essentially the same as that involved in extending loans to customers and is subject to normal credit policies. Collateral may be obtained based on management's credit assessment of the customer. As of December 31, 2010, the maximum potential amount of future payments we could be required to make under these standby letters of credit is \$61.5 million, of which \$60.2 million is fully collateralized. A liability (which represents deferred income) of \$812,000 and \$355,000 has been recognized for the obligations as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and there are no recourse provisions that would enable us to recover any amounts from third parties.

Nonaccrual loans at December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 were \$148.4 million, \$124.6 million and \$99.2 million, respectively. Impaired loans at December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 were \$205.5 million, \$124.6 million and \$99.2 million, respectively. Average impaired loans during the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 were \$136.8 million, \$115.4 million and \$72.4 million, respectively. Specific allowances allocated to impaired loans were \$22.4 million and \$19.1 million at December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The following table provides information related to the loan portfolio as of December 31, 2010:

|   | Residential<br>Mortgage | Home<br>Equity | Other<br>Consumer | Commercial<br>Real Estate | Commercial | Total     |
|---|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Recorded investment in loan   | \$ 2,398,304            | 1,095,953      | 255,776           | 1,350,319                 | 433,653    | 5,534,005 |
| Allowance for loan losses   | 6,854                   | 7,675          | 5,810             | 35,832                    | 15,770     | 71,941    |
| Recorded investment in loans on nonaccrual  | 29,528                  | 11,348         | 1,704             | 67,305                    | 38,506     | 148,391   |
| Recorded investment in loans past due 90 days or more and still accruing                    | —                       | —              | —                 | 1,067                     | —          | 1,067     |
| Loans collectively evaluated for impairment   | 2,398,304               | 1,095,953      | 255,776           | 1,244,884                 | 389,614    | 5,384,531 |
| Loans individually evaluated for impairment   | —                       | —              | —                 | 105,435                   | 44,039     | 149,474   |
| Loans individually evaluated for impairment for which there is a related impairment reserve | —                       | —              | —                 | 78,849                    | 37,758     | 116,607   |
| Related impairment reserve  | —                       | —              | —                 | 13,291                    | 9,103      | 22,394    |
| Loans individually evaluated for impairment for which there is no related reserve           | —                       | —              | —                 | 26,586                    | 6,281      | 32,867    |
| TDRs  | —                       | —              | —                 | 24,966                    | 27,639     | 52,605    |

The following table provides information related to the allowance for loan losses as of December 31, 2010:

|                             | Residential<br>Mortgage | Home<br>Equity | Other<br>Consumer | Commercial<br>Real Estate | Commercial | Unallocated | Total     |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| Beginning balance           | \$ 9,349                | 6,293          | 6,554             | 23,942                    | 20,073     | 4,192       | 70,403    |
| Current period of provision | 1,826                   | 5,404          | 4,224             | 24,152                    | 4,601      | 279         | 40,486    |
| Charge-offs                 | (4,497 )                | (4,104 )       | (6,390 )          | (12,576 )                 | (9,305 )   | —           | (36,872 ) |
| Recoveries                  | 176                     | 82             | 1,422             | 314                       | 401        | —           | 2,395     |
| Ending balance              | \$ 6,854                | 7,675          | 5,810             | 35,832                    | 15,770     | 4,471       | 76,412    |

Credit quality indicators: We categorize loans into risk categories based on relevant information about the ability of borrowers to service their debt such as: current financial information, historical payment experience, credit documentation, public information, and current economic trends, among other factors. We analyze loans individually by classifying the loans by credit risk. Loans classified as special mention or substandard are reviewed quarterly for further deterioration or improvement to determine if the loan is appropriately classified. We use the following definitions for risk ratings other than pass:

Special mention – Loans classified as special mention have specific, well-defined risk issues, which create a high level of uncertainty regarding the long-term viability of the business. Loans in this class are considered to have high-risk characteristics. A special mention loan exhibits material negative financial trends due to company-specific or systemic conditions. If these potential weaknesses are not mitigated, they threaten the borrower’s capacity to meet its debt obligations. Special mention loans still demonstrate sufficient financial flexibility to react to and positively address the root cause of the adverse financial trends without significant deviations from their current business strategy. Their potential weaknesses deserve our close attention and warrant enhanced monitoring.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

Substandard – Loans classified as substandard are inadequately protected by the current net worth and payment capacity of the obligor or of the collateral pledged, if any. Loans so classified have a well-defined weakness or weaknesses that jeopardize the liquidation of the debt. They are characterized by the distinct possibility that we will sustain some loss if the deficiencies are not corrected.

Doubtful – Loans classified as doubtful have all the weaknesses inherent in those classified as substandard. In addition, those weaknesses make collection or liquidation in full highly questionable and improbable. A loan classified as doubtful exhibits discernible loss potential, but a complete loss seems very unlikely. The possibility of a loss on a doubtful loan is high, but because of certain important and reasonably specific pending factors that may strengthen the loan, its classification as an estimated loss is deferred until a more exact status can be determined.

Loss – Loans classified as loss are considered uncollectible and of such value that the continuance as a loan is not warranted. A loss classification does not mean that the loan has no recovery or salvage value; instead, it means that it is not practical or desirable to defer writing off all or a portion of a basically worthless loan even though partial recovery may be effected in the future.

The following table sets forth information about credit quality indicators as of December 31, 2010:

|                 | Residential<br>Mortgage | Home<br>Equity | Other<br>Consumer | Commercial<br>Real Estate | Commercial | Total     |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Pass            | \$ 2,368,776            | 1,084,605      | 254,072           | 1,112,955                 | 349,232    | 5,169,640 |
| Special Mention | —                       | —              | —                 | 70,638                    | 25,710     | 96,348    |
| Substandard     | 28,763                  | 11,348         | 1,704             | 163,050                   | 58,266     | 263,131   |
| Doubtful        | 56                      | —              | —                 | 3,346                     | 436        | 3,838     |
| Loss            | 709                     | —              | —                 | 330                       | 9          | 1,048     |
|                 | \$ 2,398,304            | 1,095,953      | 255,776           | 1,350,319                 | 433,653    | 5,534,005 |

Mortgage servicing assets are recorded when the underlying loan is sold. Upon sale, the mortgage servicing right (“MSR”) is established, which represents the then fair value of future net cash flows expected to be realized for performing the servicing activities. The fair value of the MSRs are estimated by calculating the present value of estimated future net servicing cash flows, taking into consideration actual and expected mortgage loan prepayment rates, discount rates, servicing costs and other economic factors, which are determined based on current market conditions. In determining the fair value of the MSRs, mortgage interest rates, which are used to determine prepayment rates and discount rates, are held constant over the estimated life of the portfolio. MSRs are amortized against mortgage banking income in proportion to, and over the period of, the estimated future net servicing income of the underlying mortgage loans.

Capitalized MSRs are evaluated for impairment based on the estimated fair value of those rights. The MSRs are stratified by certain risk characteristics, primarily loan term and note rate. If temporary impairment exists within a risk stratification tranche, a valuation allowance is established through a charge to income equal to the amount by which the carrying value exceeds the fair value. If it is later determined all or a portion of the temporary impairment

no longer exists for a particular tranche, the valuation allowance is reduced.

84

---

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The following table shows changes in MSRs as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010:

|                              | Servicing<br>Rights | Valuation<br>Allowance | Net Carrying<br>Value and<br>Fair Value |
|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| Balance at December 31, 2009 | \$8,570             | (540 )                 | 8,030                                   |
| Additions/ (reductions)      | 1,783               | 505                    | 2,288                                   |
| Amortization                 | (4,384 )            | —                      | (4,384 )                                |
| Balance at December 31, 2010 | \$5,969             | (35 )                  | 5,934                                   |

The following table shows changes in MSRs as of and for the year ended December 31, 2009:

|                              | Servicing<br>Rights | Valuation<br>Allowance | Net Carrying<br>Value and<br>Fair Value |
|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| Balance at December 31, 2008 | \$8,660             | (2,380 )               | 6,280                                   |
| Additions/ (reductions)      | 4,912               | 1,840                  | 6,752                                   |
| Amortization                 | (5,002 )            | —                      | (5,002 )                                |
| Balance at December 31, 2009 | \$8,570             | (540 )                 | 8,030                                   |

## (5) Accrued Interest Receivable

Accrued interest receivable as of December 31, 2010 and 2009 is presented in the following table:

|                            | December 31 |        |
|----------------------------|-------------|--------|
|                            | 2010        | 2009   |
| Investment securities      | \$3,162     | 2,815  |
| Mortgage-backed securities | 2,438       | 2,362  |
| Loans receivable           | 20,616      | 20,603 |
|                            | \$26,216    | 25,780 |

## (6) Allowance for Loan Losses

Changes in the allowance for losses on loans receivable for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 are presented in the following table:

|                            | Years ended December 31, |           |           |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                            | 2010                     | 2009      | 2008      |
| Balance, beginning of year | \$70,403                 | 54,929    | 41,784    |
| Provision                  | 40,486                   | 41,847    | 22,851    |
| Charge-offs                | (36,872 )                | (27,816 ) | (11,610 ) |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|                      |          |        |        |
|----------------------|----------|--------|--------|
| Recoveries           | 2,395    | 1,443  | 1,904  |
| Balance, end of year | \$76,412 | 70,403 | 54,929 |

While management uses available information to provide for losses, future additions to the allowance may be necessary based on changes in economic conditions. Current economic conditions have increased the uncertainty inherent in our estimates and assumptions. In addition, various regulatory agencies, as an integral part of their examination process, periodically review our allowance for loan losses. Such agencies may require us to recognize additions to the allowance based on their judgments about information available to them at the time of their examination. Management believes, to the best of their knowledge, that all known losses as of the balance sheet dates have been recorded.

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

(7) Federal Home Loan Bank Stock

Our banking subsidiary is a member of the Federal Home Loan Bank system. As a member, we are required to maintain an investment in the capital stock of the FHLB, at cost, in an amount not less than 4.6% of borrowings outstanding plus 0.35% of member asset value, as defined by FHLB and 1.6% of certain letters of credit. During the quarter ended December 31, 2008, the FHLB suspended the payment of dividends on its capital stock as well as the regular repurchase of excess stock owned by its members. The FHLB is not routinely repurchasing excess stock, but they have repurchased \$6.2 million of our excess stock since October 2010.

(8) Premises and Equipment

Premises and equipment at December 31, 2010 and 2009 are summarized by major classification in the following table:

|  | December 31 |            |
|--|-------------|------------|
|  | 2010        | 2009       |
| Land and land improvements                     | \$ 16,469   | 16,382     |
| Office buildings and improvements              | 126,185     | 116,439    |
| Furniture, fixtures and equipment              | 97,573      | 91,626     |
| Leasehold improvements                         | 11,080      | 10,920     |
| Total, at cost                                 | 251,307     | 235,367    |
| Less accumulated depreciation and amortization | (123,206 )  | (111,051 ) |
| Premises and equipment, net                    | \$ 128,101  | 124,316    |

Depreciation and amortization expense for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 was \$12.6 million, \$12.1 million and \$12.0 million, respectively.

Premises used by certain of our branches and offices are occupied under formal operating lease arrangements. The leases expire on various dates through 2027. Minimum annual rentals by fiscal year are summarized in the following table:

|            |          |
|------------|----------|
| 2011       | \$4,013  |
| 2012       | 3,104    |
| 2013       | 2,637    |
| 2014       | 2,167    |
| 2015       | 1,685    |
| Thereafter | 8,382    |
|            | \$21,988 |

Rental expense for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 was \$4.9 million, \$4.9 million and \$5.0 million, respectively.



## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

## (9) Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

The following table provides information for intangible assets subject to amortization for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009:

|   | December 31 |           |
|---|-------------|-----------|
|   | 2010        | 2009      |
| Amortized intangible assets:                |             |           |
| Core deposit intangibles – gross            | \$ 30,578   | 30,275    |
| Acquisitions                                | —           | 303       |
| Less accumulated amortization               | (28,301 )   | (26,108 ) |
| Core deposit intangibles – net              | \$ 2,277    | 4,470     |
| Customer contract intangible assets – gross | \$ 1,731    | 1,731     |
| Acquisitions                                | 2,048       | —         |
| Less accumulated amortization               | (2,114 )    | (1,523 )  |
| Customer contract intangible assets, net    | \$ 1,665    | 208       |

The following information shows the actual aggregate amortization expense for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 as well as the estimated aggregate amortization expense, based upon current levels of intangible assets, for each of the five succeeding fiscal years:

|                             |         |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| For the year ended 12/31/08 | \$4,387 |
| For the year ended 12/31/09 | 3,020   |
| For the year ended 12/31/10 | 2,784   |
| For the year ended 12/31/11 | 1,730   |
| For the year ended 12/31/12 | 1,019   |
| For the year ended 12/31/13 | 647     |
| For the year ended 12/31/14 | 296     |
| For the year ended 12/31/15 | 140     |

The following table provides information for the changes in the carrying amount of goodwill:

|                              | Community<br>Banks | Consumer<br>Finance | Total   |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Balance at December 31, 2008 | \$ 170,050         | 1,313               | 171,363 |
| Goodwill acquired            | —                  | —                   | —       |
| Impairment losses            | —                  | —                   | —       |
| Balance at December 31, 2009 | 170,050            | 1,313               | 171,363 |
| Goodwill acquired            | 219                | 300                 | 519     |
| Impairment losses            | —                  | —                   | —       |

|                              |            |       |         |
|------------------------------|------------|-------|---------|
| Balance at December 31, 2010 | \$ 170,269 | 1,613 | 171,882 |
|------------------------------|------------|-------|---------|

We have performed the required goodwill impairment tests and have determined that goodwill is not impaired as of December 31, 2010 and 2009.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

## (10) Deposits

Deposit balances at December 31, 2010 and 2009 are shown in the table below:

|                                       | December 31  |           |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
|                                       | 2010         | 2009      |
| Savings accounts                      | \$ 1,049,194 | 924,461   |
| Interest-bearing checking accounts    | 782,257      | 768,110   |
| Noninterest-bearing checking accounts | 575,281      | 487,036   |
| Money market deposit accounts         | 899,688      | 820,076   |
| Certificates of deposit               | 2,457,916    | 2,624,741 |
|                                       | \$ 5,764,336 | 5,624,424 |

The aggregate amount of certificates of deposit with a minimum denomination of \$100,000 at December 31, 2010 and 2009 was \$623.3 million and \$628.9 million, respectively. Generally, deposits in excess of \$250,000 are not federally insured.

It is not our practice to solicit brokered deposits. We are a registered participant in the CDARS program and have no customers currently participating.

The following table summarizes the contractual maturity of the certificate accounts at December 31, 2010 and 2009:

|                              | December 31  |           |
|------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
|                              | 2010         | 2009      |
| Due within 12 months         | \$ 1,230,549 | 1,545,784 |
| Due between 12 and 24 months | 803,502      | 365,729   |
| Due between 24 and 36 months | 208,304      | 592,298   |
| Due between 36 and 48 months | 50,791       | 58,821    |
| Due between 48 and 60 months | 124,825      | 47,323    |
| After 60 months              | 39,945       | 14,786    |
|                              | \$ 2,457,916 | 2,624,741 |

The following table summarizes the interest expense incurred on the respective deposits for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008:

|                                    | Years ended December 31, |        |         |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------|---------|
|                                    | 2010                     | 2009   | 2008    |
| Savings accounts                   | \$ 8,166                 | 6,501  | 9,159   |
| Interest-bearing checking accounts | 1,211                    | 2,536  | 6,434   |
| Money market deposit accounts      | 5,977                    | 8,471  | 14,726  |
| Certificate accounts               | 59,820                   | 77,886 | 106,742 |

|  |           |        |         |
|--|-----------|--------|---------|
|  | \$ 75,174 | 95,394 | 137,061 |
|--|-----------|--------|---------|

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

## (11) Borrowed Funds

Borrowed funds at December 31, 2010 and 2009 are presented in the following table:

|  | 2010       |           | December 31 |           | 2009   |           |
|--|------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|--------|-----------|
|  | Amount     | Avg. Rate | Amount      | Avg. Rate | Amount | Avg. Rate |
| Term notes payable to the FHLB of Pittsburgh:                      |            |           |             |           |        |           |
| Due within one year  | \$ 50,000  | 4.87 %    | 36,506      | 4.35 %    |        |           |
| Due between one and two years                                      | —          | —         | 160,000     | 4.11 %    |        |           |
| Due between two and three years                                    | —          | —         | 145,000     | 3.90 %    |        |           |
| Due between three and four years                                   | 65         | 1.75 %    | 125,000     | 3.85 %    |        |           |
| Due between four and five years                                    | 110,000    | 2.53 %    | 125,085     | 4.03 %    |        |           |
| Due between five and ten years                                     | 585,586    | 3.88 %    | 190,630     | 4.17 %    |        |           |
|  | 745,651    |           | 782,221     |           |        |           |
| Revolving line of credit, FHLB of Pittsburgh                       | —          | —         | —           | —         |        |           |
| Securities sold under agreement to repurchase, due within one year | 145,642    | 0.74 %    | 115,105     | 1.55 %    |        |           |
| Total borrowed funds   | \$ 891,293 |           | 897,326     |           |        |           |

Borrowings from the FHLB of Pittsburgh are secured by our residential first mortgage loans and other qualifying loans. Certain of these borrowings are subject to restrictions or penalties in the event of prepayment. During 2010, we restructured \$695.0 million of FHLB of Pittsburgh borrowings reducing the annual cost by 0.22%, while extending the average maturities of these borrowings by 3.5 years. We incurred a penalty of \$52.2 million in conjunction with this restructuring, which will be amortized over the life of the borrowings into interest expense.

The revolving line of credit with the FHLB of Pittsburgh carries a commitment of \$150.0 million maturing on December 7, 2011. The rate is adjusted daily by the FHLB of Pittsburgh, and any borrowings on this line may be repaid at any time without penalty.

The securities sold under agreements to repurchase are collateralized by various securities held in safekeeping by the FHLB of Pittsburgh. The market value of such securities exceeds the value of the securities sold under agreements to repurchase. The average amount of agreements outstanding in the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 was \$127.4 million, \$90.7 million and \$88.3 million, respectively. The maximum amount of security repurchase agreements outstanding during the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 was \$157.6 million, \$115.3 million and \$98.1 million, respectively.



## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

## (12) Income Taxes

Total income tax was allocated for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 as follows:

|   | Years ended December 31, |        |          |
|---|--------------------------|--------|----------|
|   | 2010                     | 2009   | 2008     |
| Income before income taxes  | \$23,522                 | 7,000  | 16,968   |
| Goodwill for prior acquisition  | —                        | —      | (251 )   |
| Shareholders' equity for unrealized (loss)/ gain on securities available-for-sale               | (1,173 )                 | 5,116  | (5,916 ) |
| Shareholders' equity for tax benefit for excess of fair value above cost of stock benefit plans | (369 )                   | (17 )  | (349 )   |
| Shareholders' equity for pension adjustment   | 758                      | 4,626  | (9,099 ) |
| Shareholders' equity for swap fair value adjustment   | (1,534 )                 | 2,857  | (4,590 ) |
|   | \$21,204                 | 19,582 | (3,237 ) |

Income tax expense (benefit) applicable to income before taxes consists of:

|          | Years ended December 31, |          |          |
|----------|--------------------------|----------|----------|
|          | 2010                     | 2009     | 2008     |
| Current  | \$23,091                 | 15,763   | 23,448   |
| Deferred | 431                      | (8,763 ) | (6,480 ) |
|          | \$23,522                 | 7,000    | 16,968   |

A reconciliation of the expected federal statutory income tax rate to the effective rate, expressed as a percentage of pretax income for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, is as follows:

|  | Years ended December 31, |    |       |    |      |    |
|--|--------------------------|----|-------|----|------|----|
|  | 2010                     |    | 2009  |    | 2008 |    |
| Expected tax rate                        | 35.0                     | %  | 35.0  | %  | 35.0 | %  |
| Tax-exempt interest income               | (5.9                     | )% | (11.6 | )% | (7.4 | )% |
| State income tax, net of federal benefit | 2.7                      | %  | 2.5   | %  | 2.2  | %  |
| Bank-owned life insurance                | (2.2                     | )% | (4.2  | )% | (2.6 | )% |
| Non-taxable gain on bargain purchase     | —                        |    | (3.1  | )% | —    |    |
| Other                                    | (0.6                     | )% | (0.9  | )% | (1.2 | )% |
| Effective tax rate                       | 29.0                     | %  | 17.7  | %  | 26.0 | %  |

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities at December 31, 2010 and 2009 are presented below:

|  | December 31      |               |
|--|------------------|---------------|
|  | 2010             | 2009          |
| <b>Deferred tax assets:</b>                      |                  |               |
| Deferred fee income                              | \$ 538           | 538           |
| Deferred compensation expense                    | 3,010            | 2,072         |
| Net operating loss carryforwards                 | 1,048            | 1,284         |
| Bad debts  | 19,334           | 19,466        |
| Accrued postretirement benefit cost              | 699              | 688           |
| Stock benefit plans                              | 318              | 292           |
| Writedown of investment securities               | 8,005            | 7,498         |
| Reserve for uncollected interest                 | 5,376            | 3,591         |
| Pension expense                                  | 521              | 587           |
| Pension and postretirement benefits              | 6,675            | 7,434         |
| Unrealized loss on the fair value of derivatives | 3,267            | 1,733         |
| Charitable contribution carryforward             | 1,022            | 3,965         |
| Other  | 363              | 376           |
|  | <b>50,176</b>    | <b>49,524</b> |
| <b>Deferred tax liabilities:</b>                 |                  |               |
| Marketable securities available for sale         | 1,865            | 3,038         |
| Purchase accounting                              | 1,183            | 1,659         |
| Intangible asset                                 | 14,488           | 12,760        |
| Mortgage servicing rights                        | 2,077            | 2,811         |
| Fixed assets                                     | 6,561            | 6,828         |
| Other  | 728              | 671           |
|  | <b>26,902</b>    | <b>27,767</b> |
| Net deferred tax asset/ (liability)              | <b>\$ 23,274</b> | <b>21,757</b> |

We have determined that no valuation allowance is necessary for the deferred tax assets because it is more likely than not that these assets will be realized through carryback to taxable income in prior years, future reversals of existing temporary differences, and through future taxable income. We will continue to review the criteria related to the recognition of deferred tax assets on a regular basis.

Under provisions of the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"), Northwest has approximately \$2.9 million of federal net operating losses, which expire in years 2026 through 2029. These net operating losses, which were acquired as part of previous acquisitions, are subject to annual carryforward limitations imposed by IRC code section 382. We also have \$1.0 million of charitable contribution carryforwards, which will expire in 2014. We believe the limitations will not prevent the carryforward benefits from being utilized.



NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

We utilize a comprehensive model to recognize, measure, present and disclose in our financial statements uncertain tax positions that the company has taken or expects to take on a tax return. At December 31, 2010 there were no unrecognized tax benefits that, if recognized, would favorably affect the effective income tax rate. We recognize interest accrued and penalties (if any) related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense. During the year ended December 31, 2010, we did not accrue any interest. At December 31, 2010, we had no amount accrued for interest or the payment of penalties.

We are subject to routine audits of our tax returns by the Internal Revenue Service as well as all states in which we conduct business. During 2009, the Internal Revenue Service completed an examination of our federal income tax returns for the year ended June 30, 2005, the six-month period ended December 31, 2005 and the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2007 which began in 2008. There was no material change to our financial position due to the settlement of this audit. We are subject to audit by the Internal Revenue Service for the tax periods ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 and subject to audit by any state in which we conduct business for the tax periods ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007.

(13) Shareholders' Equity

Retained earnings are partially restricted in connection with regulations related to the insurance of deposit accounts, which requires Northwest to maintain certain statutory reserves. Northwest may not pay dividends on or repurchase any of its common stock if the effect thereof would reduce retained earnings below the level of adequate capitalization as defined by federal and state regulators.

In tax years prior to fiscal 1997, Northwest was permitted, under the IRC, to deduct an annual addition to a reserve for bad debts in determining taxable income, subject to certain limitations. Bad debt deductions for income tax purposes are included in taxable income of later years only if the bad debt reserve is used subsequently for purposes other than to absorb bad debt losses. Because Northwest does not intend to use the reserve for purposes other than to absorb losses, no deferred income taxes have been provided prior to fiscal 1987. Retained earnings at December 31, 2010 and 2009 include approximately \$39.1 million representing such bad debt deductions for which no deferred income taxes have been provided.

(14) Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings per common share ("EPS") is computed by dividing net income available to common shareholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period, without considering any dilutive items. Diluted EPS reflects the potential dilution that could occur if securities or other contracts to issue common stock were exercised or converted into common stock or resulted in the issuance of common stock that then shared in our earnings. For the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, there were 4,500, 1,321,203 and 1,321,203 options outstanding, respectively, with a weighted average strike price of \$12.48, \$11.32 and \$11.32 per share, respectively, that were excluded from the calculation of earnings per share because they were anti-dilutive. The computation of basic and diluted earnings per share for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 follows:

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|  | Years ended December 31, |         |         |
|--|--------------------------|---------|---------|
|  | 2010                     | 2009    | 2008    |
| Net income available to common shareholders                        | \$57,523                 | 32,653  | 48,171  |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding                         | 108,309                  | 109,078 | 108,817 |
| Dilutive potential shares due to effect of stock options           | 622                      | 382     | 529     |
| Total weighted average common shares and dilutive potential shares | 108,931                  | 109,460 | 109,346 |
| Basic earnings per share   | \$0.53                   | 0.30    | 0.44    |
| Diluted earnings per share   | \$0.53                   | 0.30    | 0.44    |

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

## (15) Employee Benefit Plans

## (a) Pension Plans

We maintain noncontributory defined benefit pension plans covering substantially all employees and the members of its board of directors. Retirement benefits are based on certain compensation levels, age, and length of service. Contributions are based on an actuarially determined amount to fund not only benefits attributed to service to date but also for those expected to be earned in the future. In addition, we have an unfunded Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (“SERP”) to compensate those executive participants eligible for the defined benefit pension plan whose benefits are limited by Section 415 of the IRC.

We also sponsor a retirement savings plan in which substantially all employees participate. We provide a matching contribution of 50% of each employee’s contribution to a maximum of 6% of the employee’s compensation.

Total expense for all retirement plans, including defined benefit pension plans, was approximately \$7.4 million, \$9.1 million and \$6.0 million, for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Components of net periodic pension cost and other amounts recognized in other comprehensive income:

The following tables set forth the net periodic pension cost for the defined benefit pension plans for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008:

|                                | Years ended December 31, |          |          |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|----------|
|                                | 2010                     | 2009     | 2008     |
| Service cost                   | \$5,590                  | 5,292    | 5,022    |
| Interest cost                  | 5,331                    | 4,794    | 4,559    |
| Expected return on plan assets | (5,517 )                 | (3,866 ) | (4,988 ) |
| Net amortization and deferral  | 711                      | 1,677    | 175      |
| Net periodic pension cost      | \$6,115                  | 7,897    | 4,768    |

The following table sets forth other changes in the defined benefit pension plans’ plan assets and benefit obligations recognized in other comprehensive income:

|  | Years ended December 31, |           |          |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|----------|
|  | 2010                     | 2009      | 2008     |
| Net loss (gain)  | \$(2,087 )               | (11,922 ) | 25,675   |
| Prior service cost (credit)  | —                        | —         | (2,184 ) |
| Amortization of prior service cost   | 160                      | 154       | (51 )    |
| Total recognized in other comprehensive income                                       | \$(1,927 )               | (11,768 ) | 23,440   |
| Total recognized in net periodic pension cost and other comprehensive income/ (loss) | \$4,188                  | (3,871 )  | 28,208   |

The estimated net loss and prior service cost for the defined benefit pension plan that will be amortized from accumulated other comprehensive income into net periodic cost over the next year is \$676,000 and \$160,000, respectively.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The following table sets forth information for the defined benefit pension plans' funded status at December 31, 2010 and 2009:

|  | December 31 |           |
|--|-------------|-----------|
|  | 2010        | 2009      |
| <b>Change in benefit obligation:</b>           |             |           |
| Benefit obligation at beginning of year        | \$89,816    | 80,769    |
| Service cost                                   | 5,590       | 5,292     |
| Interest cost                                  | 5,331       | 4,794     |
| Actuarial (gain) loss                          | 783         | 1,264     |
| Benefits paid                                  | (2,370 )    | (2,303 )  |
| Benefit obligation at end of year              | \$99,150    | 89,816    |
| <b>Change in plan assets:</b>                  |             |           |
| Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year | \$69,769    | 49,036    |
| Actual return on plan assets                   | 7,516       | 15,221    |
| Employer contributions                         | 6,304       | 7,815     |
| Benefits paid                                  | (2,370 )    | (2,303 )  |
| Fair value of plan assets at end of period     | \$81,219    | 69,769    |
| Funded status at end of year                   | \$(17,931 ) | (20,047 ) |

The following table sets forth the assumptions used to develop the net periodic pension cost:

|   | Years ended December 31, |   |      |   |      |   |
|---|--------------------------|---|------|---|------|---|
|   | 2010                     |   | 2009 |   | 2008 |   |
| Discount rate                               | 6.00                     | % | 6.00 | % | 6.25 | % |
| Expected long-term rate of return on assets | 8.00                     | % | 8.00 | % | 8.00 | % |
| Rate of increase in compensation levels     | 4.00                     | % | 4.00 | % | 4.00 | % |

The following table sets forth the assumptions used to determine benefit obligations at the end of each period:

|   | Years ended December 31, |   |      |   |      |   |
|---|--------------------------|---|------|---|------|---|
|   | 2010                     |   | 2009 |   | 2008 |   |
| Discount rate                               | 5.57                     | % | 6.00 | % | 6.00 | % |
| Expected long-term rate of return on assets | 7.50                     | % | 8.00 | % | 8.00 | % |
| Rate of increase in compensation levels     | 3.00                     | % | 4.00 | % | 4.00 | % |

The expected long-term rate of return on assets is based on the expected return of each of the asset categories, weighted based on the median of the target allocation for each category. We use the Citigroup Pension Liability Index rates matching the duration of our benefit payments as of the measurement date to determine the discount rate.

The accumulated benefit obligation for the funded defined benefit pension plan was \$76.9 million, \$64.3 million and \$57.1 million at December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The accumulated benefit obligation for all unfunded defined benefit plans was \$4.2 million, \$4.0 million and \$3.8 million at December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The following table sets forth certain information related to our pension plans:

|                                | December 31 |        |
|--------------------------------|-------------|--------|
|                                | 2010        | 2009   |
| Projected benefit obligation   | \$99,150    | 89,816 |
| Accumulated benefit obligation | 81,123      | 68,242 |
| Fair value of plan assets      | 81,219      | 69,769 |

We anticipate making a contribution to our defined benefit pension plan between \$4.0 million and \$8.0 million during the year ending December 31, 2011.

The investment policy as established by the Plan Administrative Committee, to be followed by the Trustee, is to invest assets based on the target allocations shown in the table below. To meet target allocation ranges set forth by the Plan Administrative Committee, periodically, the assets are reallocated by the Trustee. The investment policy is reviewed periodically to determine if the policy should be changed. Pension assets are conservatively invested with the goal of providing market or better returns with below market risks. Assets are invested in a balanced portfolio composed primarily of equities, fixed income, and cash or cash equivalent investments. The Trustee tries to maintain an approximate asset mix position of 30% to 60% equities and 20% to 50% bonds.

A maximum of 10% may be invested in any one stock, including the stock of Northwest Bancshares, Inc. The objective of holding equity securities is to provide capital appreciation consistent with the ownership of the common stocks of medium to large companies. Acceptable bond investments are direct or agency obligations of the U.S. Government or investment grade corporate bonds. The average maturity of the bond portfolio shall not exceed 10 years.

The following table sets forth the weighted average asset allocation of defined benefit plans:

|                   | Target     | December 31 |       |
|-------------------|------------|-------------|-------|
|                   | Allocation | 2010        | 2009  |
| Debt securities   | 20 – 50 %  | 29 %        | 26 %  |
| Equity securities | 30 – 60 %  | 33 %        | 62 %  |
| Other             | 5 – 50 %   | 38 %        | 12 %  |
| Total             |            | 100 %       | 100 % |

All of the assets held by the defined benefit pension plan are measured and recorded at estimated fair value on our balance sheet on a recurring basis as level 1 assets, as defined by the fair value hierarchy defined in Footnote 16.

The following table sets forth the pension plan assets as of December 31, 2010 and 2009:

|                       |          |        |
|-----------------------|----------|--------|
| Mutual funds – debt   | \$24,003 | 18,277 |
| Mutual funds – equity | 26,702   | 43,370 |

|      |        |       |
|------|--------|-------|
| Cash | 30,514 | 8,122 |
|------|--------|-------|

The benefits expected to be paid in each year from 2011 to 2015 are \$2.5 million, \$2.7 million, \$3.0 million, \$3.2 million and \$3.6 million,, respectively. The aggregate benefits expected to be paid in the five years from 2016 to 2020 are \$23.8 million. The expected benefits to be paid are based on the same assumptions used to measure our benefit obligations at December 31, 2010 and include estimated future employee service.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

## (b) Postretirement Healthcare Plan

In addition to pension benefits, we provide postretirement healthcare benefits for certain employees who were employed as of October 1, 1993 and were at least 55 years of age on that date. We use the accrual method of accounting for postretirement benefits other than pensions.

Components of net periodic benefit cost and other amounts recognized in other comprehensive income:

The following tables set forth the net periodic benefit cost for the postretirement healthcare benefits plan for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008:

|                          | Years ended December 31, |      |      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------|------|
|                          | 2010                     | 2009 | 2008 |
| Service cost             | \$—                      | —    | —    |
| Interest cost            | 96                       | 101  | 98   |
| Amortization of net loss | 52                       | 58   | 43   |
| Net period benefit cost  | \$148                    | 159  | 141  |

The following table sets forth other changes in the postretirement healthcare plan's plan assets and benefit obligations recognized in other comprehensive income:

|  | Years ended December 31, |       |      |
|--|--------------------------|-------|------|
|  | 2010                     | 2009  | 2008 |
| Net loss (gain)  | \$(17 )                  | (94 ) | 204  |
| Total recognized in other comprehensive income                               | \$(17 )                  | (94 ) | 204  |
| Total recognized in net periodic benefit cost and other comprehensive income | \$131                    | 65    | 345  |

The estimated net loss for the postretirement healthcare benefit plan that will be amortized from accumulated other comprehensive income into net periodic benefit cost over the next year is \$52,000.

The following table sets forth the funded status of the postretirement healthcare benefit plan at December 31, 2010 and 2009:

|   | December 31 |       |
|---|-------------|-------|
|   | 2010        | 2009  |
| Change in benefit obligation:           |             |       |
| Benefit obligation at beginning of year | \$1,677     | 1,767 |
| Service cost                            | —           | —     |
| Interest cost                           | 96          | 101   |
| Actuarial (gain) loss                   | 35          | (37 ) |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|  |         |        |
|--|---------|--------|
| Benefits paid                                  | (183 )  | (154 ) |
| Benefit obligation at end of year              | 1,625   | 1,677  |
| Change in plan assets:                         |         |        |
| Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year | \$—     | —      |
| Employer contributions                         | 183     | 154    |
| Benefits paid                                  | (183 )  | (154 ) |
| Fair value of plan assets at end of year       | \$—     | —      |
| Funded status at year end                      | \$1,625 | 1,677  |

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The assumptions used to develop the preceding information for postretirement healthcare benefits are as follows:

|  | Years ended December 31, |   |      |   |      |   |
|--|--------------------------|---|------|---|------|---|
|  | 2010                     |   | 2009 |   | 2008 |   |
| Discount rate  | 6.00                     | % | 6.00 | % | 6.00 | % |
| Monthly cost of healthcare insurance per beneficiary (1) | \$ 327                   |   | 322  |   | 305  |   |
| Annual rate of increase in healthcare costs              | 4.00                     | % | 4.00 | % | 4.00 | % |

(1) Not in thousands

If the assumed rate of increase in healthcare costs was increased by one percentage point to 5% from the level of 4% presented above, the interest cost component of net periodic postretirement healthcare benefit cost would increase by \$10,000 and the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation for healthcare benefits would increase by \$66,000.

The following table sets forth amounts recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income:

|                  | Years ended December 31, |       |      |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------|------|
|                  | 2010                     | 2009  | 2008 |
| Net loss/ (gain) | \$(17 )                  | (94 ) | 204  |

The following table sets forth information for plans with an accumulated benefit obligation in excess of plan assets:

|                                | December 31 |       |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------|
|                                | 2010        | 2009  |
| Projected benefit obligation   | \$ 1,625    | 1,677 |
| Accumulated benefit obligation | 1,625       | 1,677 |
| Fair value of plan assets      | —           | —     |

## (c) Employee Stock Ownership Plan

We have an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) for employees who have attained age 21 and who have completed a 12-month period of employment during which they worked at least 1,000 hours.

ESOP compensation expense was \$1.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. We made a contribution of \$3.1 million to purchase 280,623 shares during the year ended December 31, 2009. No contributions were made and no expense was recognized during the year ended December 31, 2008.

In addition to the aforementioned contribution, in 2009 we re-leveraged the ESOP, purchasing 2,525,610 shares of common stock using the proceeds of a loan from the Company of \$28.9 million. The common stock was purchased in the open market between December 18, 2009 and February 1, 2010. The effective date of the leveraged ESOP is

January 1, 2010. In order for the ESOP to repay the loan, we are expected to make annual cash contributions to the ESOP until 2029 when the loan matures. At December 31, 2010, the loan balance was \$27.8 million.

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

Shares of common stock are held by the ESOP and will be allocated to eligible participants annually based upon a percentage of each participant's eligible compensation. Shares are scheduled for release as the loan is repaid based on the interest method. The amortization schedule calls for 126,280 shares to be released each December 31. At December 31, 2010, 2,399,330 shares of common stock remained unallocated. The fair value of unallocated common stock held by the ESOP at December 31, 2010 was \$28.3 million.

Compensation expense related to the ESOP will be recognized at an amount equal to the number of common shares committed to be released by the ESOP to participant's accounts multiplied by the average fair value of the common stock during the reporting period. The difference between the fair value of the shares of the common stock committed to be allocated by the ESOP to participants' accounts for the period and the average cost of those common shares is recorded as an adjustment to either additional paid-in capital or retained earnings.

(d) Recognition and Retention Plan

On November 17, 2004, we established a Recognition and Retention Plan for Employees and Outside Directors (RRP) with 652,995 shares authorized. The objective of the RRP is to enable the Company to provide directors, officers, and employees with a proprietary interest in the Company. On March 16, 2005, 626,020 shares were issued with a weighted average grant date fair value per share of \$9.52 (total market value of \$6.0 million at issuance). Total common shares forfeited were 22,743, of which, 162 shares were forfeited during the year ended December 31, 2010, 3,856 shares were forfeited during the year ended December 31, 2009 and 1,625 shares were forfeited during the year ended December 31, 2008. During 2007, 9,675 shares were issued with a weighted average grant date fair value per share of \$12.02 (total market value of \$116,000 at issuance). Shares of common stock granted pursuant to the RRP were in the form of restricted stock and generally vest over a five-year period at the rate of 20% per year, commencing one year after the award date. As of December 31, 2010, all of the March 16, 2005 issuance vested and 60% of the 2007 issuances have vested. Once shares have vested, they are no longer restricted. Compensation expense, in the amount of the fair market value of the common stock at the date of the grant, will be recognized pro rata over the five years during which the shares vest. While restricted, the recipients are entitled to all voting and other shareholder rights, except that the shares may not be sold, pledged, or otherwise disposed of and are required to be held in a trust.

(e) Stock Option Plans

On May 21, 2008, we established the 2008 Stock Option Plan. This Plan authorized the grant of stock options and limited stock rights for 3,937,500 shares of our common stock. On November 19, 2008 we granted 54,000 nonstatutory stock options to outside directors and 454,653 incentive stock options to employees at an exercise price of \$9.79 per share. On February 19, 2009 we granted 54,000 nonstatutory stock options to outside directors and 440,458 incentive stock options to employees at an exercise price of \$7.48 per share. On January 20, 2010, we granted 54,000 nonstatutory stock options to outside directors and 484,576 incentive stock options to employees at an exercise price of \$11.49 per share. These options are exercisable for a period of ten years from the grant date with each recipient vesting over a seven year period, with the first vesting date being one year from the grant date.



## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The following table summarizes the activity in our option plans during the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008:

|                              | Years ended December 31, |  |               |  |                |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--|---------------|--|----------------|--|
|                              | 2010                     |  | 2009          |  | 2008           |  |
|                              | Number                   | Weighted<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price | Number        | Weighted<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price | Number         | Weighted<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price |
| Balance at beginning of year | 4,019,562                | \$9.25                                   | 3,599,478     | 9.39                                     | 2,781,806      | 8.87                                     |
| Granted                      | 538,576                  | 11.49                                    | (a) 494,458   | 7.48                                     | (a) 939,998    | 10.40                                    |
| Exercised                    | (211,115 )               | 7.86                                     | (b) (74,374 ) | 4.14                                     | (b) (122,326 ) | 5.42                                     |
| Forfeited                    | —                        | —  | —             | —  | —              | —  |
| Balance at end of year       | 4,347,023                | 9.59                                     | 4,019,562     | 9.25                                     | 3,599,478      | 9.39                                     |
| Exercisable at end of year   | 2,534,791                | 9.23                                     | 2,538,079     | 9.08                                     | 1,919,626      | 8.39                                     |

(a) Weighted average fair value of options at grant date: \$1.95, \$0.65 and \$1.36, respectively.

(b) The total intrinsic value of options exercised was \$784,000, \$324,000 and \$692,000, respectively.

The aggregate intrinsic value of all options expected to vest and fully vested options at December 31, 2010 is \$3.0 million and \$6.5 million, respectively. The following table summarizes the number of options outstanding, number of options exercisable, and weighted average remaining life of all option grants as of December 31, 2010:

|  | Exercise<br>Price | Exercise<br>Price | Exercise<br>Price | Exercise<br>Price | Exercise<br>Price | Exercise<br>Price |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | \$4.35            | \$5.91            | \$7.37            | \$7.48            | \$9.79            | \$9.86            |
| <b>Options outstanding:</b>                      |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Number of options                                | 245,591           | 194,590           | 290,796           | 493,957           | 508,112           | 341,587           |
| Weighted average remaining contract life (years) | 0.75              | 1.75              | 2.75              | 8.25              | 8.00              | 5.00              |
| <b>Options exercisable:</b>                      |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Number of options                                | 245,591           | 194,590           | 290,796           | 71,134            | 145,322           | 271,014           |
| Weighted average remaining contract life (years) | 0.75              | 1.75              | 2.75              | 8.25              | 8.00              | 5.00              |
|  | Exercise<br>Price | Exercise<br>Price | Exercise<br>Price | Exercise<br>Price | Exercise<br>Price | Exercise<br>Price |
|  | \$10.19           | \$11.12           | \$11.33           | \$11.49           | \$11.51           | \$12.48           |
|  |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   | \$9.59            |

|  |         |         |         |         |         |       |           |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-----------|
| Options outstanding:                             |         |         |         |         |         |       |           |
| Number of options                                | 446,453 | 428,474 | 455,054 | 538,576 | 399,333 | 4,500 | 4,347,023 |
| Weighted average remaining contract life (years) |         |         |         |         |         |       |           |
|  | 4.00    | 7.00    | 4.00    | 9.25    | 6.00    | 6.50  | 5.79      |
| Options exercisable:                             |         |         |         |         |         |       |           |
| Number of options                                | 446,453 | 172,537 | 455,054 | —       | 239,600 | 2,700 | 2,534,791 |
| Weighted average remaining contract life (years) |         |         |         |         |         |       |           |
|  | 4.00    | 7.00    | 4.00    | 9.25    | 6.00    | 6.50  | 4.04      |

## (16) Disclosures About Fair Value of Financial Instruments

We are required to disclose fair value information about financial instruments whether or not recognized in the consolidated statement of financial condition. Fair value information of certain financial instruments and all nonfinancial instruments is not required to be disclosed. Accordingly, the aggregate fair value amounts presented do not represent the underlying value of the Company. The carrying amounts reported in the consolidated statement of financial condition approximate fair value for the following financial instruments: cash on hand, interest-earning deposits in other institutions, federal funds sold and other short-term investments, accrued interest receivable, accrued interest payable, and marketable securities available-for-sale.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The following table sets forth the carrying amount and estimated fair value of our financial instruments included in the consolidated statement of financial condition as of December 31, 2010 and 2009:

|                               | December 31     |                      |                 |                      |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
|                               | 2010            |                      | 2009            |                      |
|                               | Carrying Amount | Estimated Fair Value | Carrying Amount | Estimated Fair Value |
| <b>Financial assets:</b>      |                 |                      |                 |                      |
| Cash and equivalents          | \$719,111       | 719,111              | 1,107,790       | 1,107,790            |
| Securities available-for-sale | 950,683         | 950,683              | 1,067,089       | 1,067,089            |
| Securities held-to-maturity   | 357,922         | 354,126              | —               | —                    |
| Loans receivable, net         | 5,457,593       | 5,837,866            | 5,229,062       | 5,509,279            |
| Accrued interest receivable   | 26,216          | 26,216               | 25,780          | 25,780               |
| FHLB stock                    | 60,080          | 60,080               | 63,242          | 63,242               |
| Total financial assets        | \$7,571,605     | 7,948,082            | 7,492,963       | 7,773,180            |
| <b>Financial liabilities:</b> |                 |                      |                 |                      |
| Savings and checking          | \$3,306,420     | 3,306,420            | 2,999,683       | 2,999,683            |
| Time deposits                 | 2,457,916       | 2,504,527            | 2,624,741       | 2,689,898            |
| Borrowed funds                | 891,293         | 903,569              | 897,326         | 893,749              |
| Trust-preferred securities    | 103,094         | 112,463              | 103,094         | 108,051              |
| Cash flow hedges – swaps      | 9,349           | 9,349                | 4,957           | 4,957                |
| Accrued interest payable      | 1,716           | 1,716                | 4,493           | 4,493                |
| Total financial liabilities   | \$6,769,788     | 6,838,044            | 6,634,294       | 6,700,831            |

Fair value estimates are made at a point-in-time, based on relevant market data and information about the instrument. The following methods and assumptions were used in estimating the fair value of financial instruments at December 31, 2010 and 2009.

## Marketable Securities

Where available, market values are based on quoted market prices, dealer quotes, and prices obtained from independent pricing services. See the Fair Value Measurements section of this footnote for further detail on how fair values of marketable securities are determined. Refer to note 3 for the detail of the types of investment securities.

## Loans Receivable

Loans with comparable characteristics including collateral and repricing structures were segregated for valuation purposes. Each loan pool was separately valued utilizing a discounted cash flow analysis. Projected monthly cash flows were discounted to present value using a market rate for comparable loans, which is not considered an exit price. Characteristics of comparable loans included remaining term, coupon interest, and estimated prepayment

speeds. Delinquent loans were evaluated separately, given the impact delinquency has on the projected future cash flow of the loan and the approximate discount or market rate.

100

---

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

Deposit Liabilities

The estimated fair value of deposits with no stated maturity, which includes demand deposits, money market, and other savings accounts, is the amount payable on demand. Although market premiums paid for depository institutions reflect an additional value for these low-cost deposits, accounting standards prohibit adjusting fair value for any value expected to be derived from retaining those deposits for a future period of time or from the benefit that results from the ability to fund interest-earning assets with these deposit liabilities. The fair value estimates of deposit liabilities do not include the benefit that results from the low-cost funding provided by these deposits compared to the cost of borrowing funds in the market. Fair values for time deposits are estimated using a discounted cash flow calculation that applies contractual cost currently being offered in the existing portfolio to current market rates being offered locally for deposits of similar remaining maturities. The valuation adjustment for the portfolio consists of the present value of the difference of these two cash flows, discounted at the assumed market rate of the corresponding maturity.

Borrowed Funds

The fixed rate advances were valued by comparing their contractual cost to the prevailing market cost.

Trust-Preferred Securities

The fair value of the trust-preferred securities is calculated using the discounted cash flows at the prevailing rate of interest as affected by the interest rate swap.

Cash flow hedges – Interest rate swap agreements (“swaps”)

The fair values of the swaps is the amount we would have expected to pay to terminate the agreements and is based upon the present value of the expected future cash flows using the LIBOR swap curve, the basis for the underlying interest rate.

Off-Balance Sheet Financial Instruments

These financial instruments generally are not sold or traded, and estimated fair values are not readily available. However, the fair value of commitments to extend credit and standby letters of credit is estimated using the fees currently charged to enter into similar agreements. Commitments to extend credit issued by us are generally short-term in nature and, if drawn upon, are issued under current market terms. At December 31, 2010 and 2009, there was no significant unrealized appreciation or depreciation on these financial instruments.

Fair Value Measurements

To determine the fair value of financial assets and liabilities recognized or disclosed at fair value on a recurring basis and certain financial assets and liabilities on a non-recurring basis the Company utilizes a three-level hierarchy of valuation techniques based on whether the inputs to those valuation techniques are observable or unobservable. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices with readily available independent data in active

markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable market inputs (Level 3). When various inputs for measurement fall within different levels of the fair value hierarchy, the lowest level input that has a significant impact on fair value measurement is used.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

Financial assets and liabilities are categorized based upon the following characteristics or inputs to the valuation techniques:

- Level 1 – Financial assets and liabilities for which inputs are observable and are obtained from reliable quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in actively traded markets. This is the most reliable fair value measurement and includes, for example, active exchange-traded equity securities.
- Level 2 – Financial assets and liabilities for which values are based on quoted prices in markets that are not active or for which values are based on similar assets or liabilities that are actively traded. Level 2 also includes pricing models in which the inputs are corroborated by market data, for example, matrix pricing.
- Level 3 – Financial assets and liabilities for which values are based on prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement. Level 3 inputs include the following:
  - o Quotes from brokers or other external sources that are not considered binding;
  - o Quotes from brokers or other external sources where it can not be determined that market participants would in fact transact for the asset or liability at the quoted price;
  - o Quotes and other information from brokers or other external sources where the inputs are not deemed observable.

We are responsible for the valuation process and as part of this process may use data from outside sources in establishing fair value. We perform due diligence to understand the inputs used or how the data was calculated or derived. The Company corroborates the reasonableness of external inputs in the valuation process.

The following table represents assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2010:

|   | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total Assets<br>at Fair Value |
|---|---------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Equity securities                       | \$726   | —       | 220     | 946                           |
| Debt securities:                        |         |         |         |                               |
| U.S. government and agencies            | —       | 67      | —       | 67                            |
| Government sponsored enterprises        | —       | 18,819  | —       | 18,819                        |
| States and political subdivisions       | —       | 208,293 | —       | 208,293                       |
| Corporate                               | —       | 9,651   | 9,209   | 18,860                        |
| Total debt securities                   | —       | 236,830 | 9,209   | 246,039                       |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities: |         |         |         |                               |
| GNMA                                    | —       | 56,266  | —       | 56,266                        |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|                                     |       |          |       |          |
|-------------------------------------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| FNMA                                | —     | 141,414  | —     | 141,414  |
| FHLMC                               | —     | 95,239   | —     | 95,239   |
| Other (including non agency)        | —     | 740      | —     | 740      |
| Collateralized mortgage obligation: |       |          |       |          |
| GNMA                                | —     | 47,143   | —     | 47,143   |
| FNMA                                | —     | 108,617  | —     | 108,617  |
| FHLMC                               | —     | 215,216  | —     | 215,216  |
| Other (including non agency)        | —     | 39,063   | —     | 39,063   |
| Total mortgage-backed securities    | —     | 703,698  | —     | 703,698  |
| Interest rate swaps                 | —     | (9,349 ) | —     | (9,349 ) |
| Total assets                        | \$726 | 931,179  | 9,429 | 941,334  |

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The following table represents assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2009:

|   | Level 1 | Level 2   | Level 3 | Total Assets<br>at Fair Value |
|---|---------|-----------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Equity securities                       | \$907   | —         | 220     | 1,127                         |
| Debt securities:                        |         |           |         |                               |
| U.S. government and agencies            | —       | 75        | —       | 75                            |
| Government sponsored enterprises        | —       | 77,863    | —       | 77,863                        |
| States and political subdivisions       | —       | 237,456   | —       | 237,456                       |
| Corporate                               | —       | 9,616     | 7,385   | 17,001                        |
| Total debt securities                   | —       | 325,010   | 7,385   | 332,395                       |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities: |         |           |         |                               |
| GNMA                                    | —       | 71,673    | —       | 71,673                        |
| FNMA                                    | —       | 178,147   | —       | 178,147                       |
| FHLMC                                   | —       | 140,203   | —       | 140,203                       |
| Other (including non agency)            | —       | 774       | —       | 774                           |
| Collateralized mortgage obligation:     |         |           |         |                               |
| GNMA                                    | —       | 54,492    | —       | 54,492                        |
| FNMA                                    | —       | 78,834    | —       | 78,834                        |
| FHLMC                                   | —       | 184,360   | —       | 184,360                       |
| Other (including non agency)            | —       | 25,084    | —       | 25,084                        |
| Total mortgage-backed securities        | —       | 733,567   | —       | 733,567                       |
| Interest rate swaps                     | —       | (4,957 )  | —       | (4,957 )                      |
| Total assets                            | \$907   | 1,053,620 | 7,605   | 1,062,132                     |

Debt securities – available for sale – Generally, debt securities are valued using pricing for similar securities, recently executed transactions and other pricing models utilizing observable inputs. The valuation for most debt securities is classified as Level 2. Securities within Level 2 include corporate bonds, municipal bonds, mortgage-backed securities and US government obligations. Certain debt securities which were AAA rated at purchase do not have an active market and as such we have used an alternative method to determine the fair value of these securities. The fair value has been determined using a discounted cash flow model using market assumptions, which generally include cash flow, collateral and other market assumptions. As such, securities which otherwise would have been classified as level 2 securities if an active market for those assets or similar assets existed are included herein as level 3 assets. Other debt securities, pooled trust preferred securities rated below AA at purchase, have a fair value based on a discounted cash flow model using similar assumptions to those noted above and accordingly are classified as level 3 assets.

Equity securities – available for sale – Level 1 securities include publicly traded securities valued using quoted market prices. Level 3 securities include investments in two financial institutions that provide financial services only to investor banks received as part of previous acquisitions without observable market data to determine the investment’s fair values. These securities can only be sold back to the issuing financial institution at cost.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

Interest rate swap agreements (Swaps) – The fair value of the swaps was the amount we would have expected to pay to terminate the agreements and is based upon the present value of the expected future cash flows using the LIBOR swap curve, the basis for the underlying interest rate.

The table below presents a reconciliation of all assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the year ended December 31, 2010:

|  | Equity Securities | Debt Securities |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| Balance at January 1, 2010   | \$ 220            | 7,385           |
| Total net realized investment gains/ (losses) and net change in unrealized appreciation/ (depreciation): |                   |                 |
| Included in net income as OTTI   | —                 | (362 )          |
| Included in other comprehensive income   | —                 | 2,186           |
| Purchases and sales  | —                 | —               |
| Net transfers in (out) of Level 3  | —                 | —               |
| Balance at December 31, 2010   | \$ 220            | 9,209           |

The table below presents a reconciliation of all assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the year ended December 31, 2009:

|  | Equity Securities | Debt Securities |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| Balance at January 1, 2009   | \$ 220            | 5,937           |
| Total net realized investment gains/ (losses) and net change in unrealized appreciation/ (depreciation): |                   |                 |
| Included in net income as OTTI   | —                 | (573 )          |
| Included in other comprehensive income   | —                 | 2,021           |
| Purchases and sales  | —                 | —               |
| Net transfers in (out) of Level 3  | —                 | —               |
| Balance at December 31, 2009   | \$ 220            | 7,385           |

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

Certain assets and liabilities are measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis after initial recognition such as loans held for sale, loans measured for impairment and mortgage servicing rights. The following table represents the fair market measurement for only those nonrecurring assets that had a fair market value below the carrying amount as of December 31, 2010:

|                               | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total Assets<br>at Fair Value |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Loans measured for impairment | \$—     | —       | 94,213  | 94,213                        |
| Real estate owned             | —       | —       | 20,780  | 20,780                        |
| Mortgage servicing rights     | —       | —       | 1,219   | 1,219                         |
| Total assets                  | \$—     | —       | 116,212 | 116,212                       |

The following table represents the fair market measurement for only those nonrecurring assets that had a fair market value below the carrying amount as of December 31, 2009:

|                               | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total Assets<br>at Fair Value |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Loans measured for impairment | \$—     | —       | 75,933  | 75,933                        |
| Real estate owned             | —       | —       | 20,257  | 20,257                        |
| Mortgage servicing rights     | —       | —       | 2,650   | 2,650                         |
| Total assets                  | \$—     | —       | 98,840  | 98,840                        |

Loans measured for impairment – A loan is considered to be impaired as described in Footnote 1 (f). We classify impaired loans as nonrecurring Level 3.

Real estate owned – Real estate owned is comprised of property acquired through foreclosure or voluntarily conveyed by delinquent borrowers. These assets are recorded on the date acquired at the lower of the related loan balance or fair value, less estimated disposition costs, with the fair value being determined by appraisal. Subsequently, foreclosed assets are valued at the lower of the amount recorded at acquisition date or fair value, less estimated disposition costs. We classify real estate owned as nonrecurring Level 3.

Mortgage servicing rights – Mortgage servicing rights represent the value associated with servicing residential mortgage loans, when the mortgage loans have been sold into the secondary market and the related servicing has been retained by us. The value is determined through a discounted cash flow analysis, which uses interest rates, prepayment speeds and delinquency rate assumptions as inputs. All of these assumptions require a significant degree of management judgment. Servicing rights and the related mortgage loans are segregated into categories or homogeneous pools based upon common characteristics. Adjustments are made when the estimated discounted future cash flows are less than the carrying value, as determined by individual pool. As such, mortgage servicing rights are classified as nonrecurring Level 3.



## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

## (17) Regulatory Capital Requirements

Our banking subsidiary is subject to various regulatory capital requirements administered by the federal and state banking agencies. Failure to meet minimum capital requirements can initiate certain mandatory – and possibly additional discretionary – actions by the regulators that, if undertaken, could have a direct material effect on our financial statements. Under capital adequacy guidelines and the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action, specific capital guidelines that involve quantitative measures of assets, liabilities, and certain off-balance sheet items as calculated under regulatory accounting practices must be met. The capital amounts and classification are also subject to qualitative judgments by the regulators about components, risk weightings, and other factors.

Quantitative measures established by regulation to ensure capital adequacy require our banking subsidiary to maintain minimum amounts and ratios (set forth in the table below) of total and Tier I capital (as defined in the regulations) to risk-weighted assets (as defined) and of Tier I capital to average assets (as defined). At December 31, 2010 and 2009, our banking subsidiary exceeded all capital adequacy requirements to which they were subject. At December 31, 2010, the maximum amount available for dividend payments by Northwest to us, while maintaining its “well capitalized” status, was approximately \$132,855,000.

As of December 15, 2010, the most recent notification from the FDIC categorized Northwest as “well capitalized” under the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action. To be categorized as “well capitalized,” the bank must maintain total risk-based, Tier 1 risk-based, and Tier 1 leverage ratios as set forth in the table. There are no conditions or events since that notification that management believes have changed the bank’s categories.

The actual, required, and well capitalized levels as of December 31, 2010 and 2009 were as follows:

|   | Actual      |       | December 31, 2010<br>Minimum Capital<br>Requirements |         |      | Well Capitalized<br>Requirements |         |       |   |
|---|-------------|-------|--|---------|------|----------------------------------|---------|-------|---|
|   | Amount      | Ratio | Amount   | Ratio   | %    | Amount                           | Ratio   | %     |   |
| Total capital (to risk weighted assets)       | \$1,033,450 | 21.10 | %  | 391,796 | 8.00 | %                                | 489,745 | 10.00 | % |
| Tier I capital (to risk weighted assets)      | 972,044     | 19.85 | %  | 195,897 | 4.00 | %                                | 293,847 | 6.00  | % |
| Tier I capital (leverage) (to average assets) | 972,044     | 12.19 | %  | 239,265 | 3.00 | %*                               | 398,774 | 5.00  | % |

  

|  | Actual |       | December 31, 2009<br>Minimum Capital<br>Requirements |       |   | Well Capitalized<br>Requirements |       |   |
|--|--------|-------|--|-------|---|----------------------------------|-------|---|
|  | Amount | Ratio | Amount   | Ratio | % | Amount                           | Ratio | % |

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|   |           |       |   |         |      |    |         |       |   |
|---|-----------|-------|---|---------|------|----|---------|-------|---|
| Total capital (to risk weighted assets)       | \$974,967 | 20.95 | % | 372,366 | 8.00 | %  | 465,457 | 10.00 | % |
| Tier I capital (to risk weighted assets)      | 916,613   | 19.69 | % | 186,183 | 4.00 | %  | 279,274 | 6.00  | % |
| Tier I capital (leverage) (to average assets) | 916,613   | 12.65 | % | 217,402 | 3.00 | %* | 362,337 | 5.00  | % |

---

\*The FDIC has indicated that the most highly rated institutions, which meet certain criteria, will be required to maintain a ratio of 3%, and all other institutions will be required to maintain an additional capital cushion of 100 to 200 basis points. As of December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009, we had not been advised of any additional requirements in this regard.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

## (18) Contingent Liabilities

We and our subsidiaries are subject to a number of asserted and unasserted claims encountered in the normal course of business. Management believes that the aggregate liability, if any, that may result from such potential litigation will not have a material adverse effect on our financial statements.

## (19) Components of Comprehensive Income

The following table sets forth changes in the components of comprehensive income for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008:

|  | Years ended December 31, |        |           |
|--|--------------------------|--------|-----------|
|  | 2010                     | 2009   | 2008      |
| Unrealized (loss) gain on marketable securities available-for-sale, net of tax of \$1,239, \$(1,205) and \$3,809, respectively | \$(1,975 )               | 3,915  | (5,957 )  |
| Reclassification adjustment for gains included in net income, net of tax of \$473, \$238 and \$2,035, respectively             | (878 )                   | (443 ) | (3,183 )  |
| Change in fair value of interest rate swaps, net of tax of \$1,537, \$(2,857) and \$4,590 respectively                         | (2,855 )                 | 5,302  | (8,524 )  |
| Other-than-temporary impairment on securities recorded in net income, net of tax of \$(539), \$(3,246) and \$0, respectively   | 1,002                    | 6,265  | —         |
| Defined benefit plans:   |                          |        |           |
| Net (loss)/ gain, net of tax of \$(814), \$(4,680) and \$9,161, respectively   | 1,290                    | 7,335  | (14,330 ) |
| Amortization of prior service costs, net of tax of \$56, \$54 and \$(20), respectively   | (104 )                   | (100 ) | 31        |
| Other comprehensive income   | \$(3,520 )               | 22,274 | (31,963 ) |

The following table sets forth the components of accumulated other comprehensive income as of December 31, 2010 and 2009:

|  | December 31 |           |
|--|-------------|-----------|
|  | 2010        | 2009      |
| Unrealized (loss) gain on marketable securities available-for-sale | \$3,021     | 4,872     |
| Fair value of interest rate swaps                                  | (6,077 )    | (3,222 )  |
| Defined benefit pension plans                                      | (10,441 )   | (11,627 ) |
| Other comprehensive income   | \$(13,497 ) | (9,977 )  |

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

## (20) Parent Company Only Financial Statements - Condensed

## Statements of Financial Condition

|   | December 31        |                  |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
|   | 2010               | 2009             |
| <b>Assets</b>                                     |                    |                  |
| Cash and cash equivalents                         | \$260,784          | 334,984          |
| Marketable securities available-for-sale          | 83                 | 75               |
| Investment in bank subsidiary                     | 1,146,762          | 1,082,197        |
| Other assets                                      | 12,404             | 7,704            |
| <b>Total assets</b>                               | <b>\$1,420,033</b> | <b>1,424,960</b> |
| <b>Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>       |                    |                  |
| <b>Liabilities:</b>                               |                    |                  |
| Debentures payable                                | \$103,094          | 103,094          |
| Other liabilities                                 | 9,489              | 5,351            |
| <b>Total liabilities</b>                          | <b>112,583</b>     | <b>108,445</b>   |
| <b>Shareholders' equity</b>                       | <b>1,307,450</b>   | <b>1,316,515</b> |
| <b>Total liabilities and shareholders' equity</b> | <b>\$1,420,033</b> | <b>1,424,960</b> |

## Statements of Income

|  | Years ended December 31, |               |               |
|--|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|  | 2010                     | 2009          | 2008          |
| <b>Income:</b>   |                          |               |               |
| Interest income  | \$3,068                  | 285           | 359           |
| Other income   | 362                      | 89            | —             |
| Dividends from bank subsidiary                                   | —                        | 16,000        | 39,000        |
| Undistributed earnings from equity investment in bank subsidiary | 59,421                   | 29,471        | 12,722        |
| <b>Total income</b>  | <b>62,851</b>            | <b>45,845</b> | <b>52,081</b> |
| <b>Expense:</b>  |                          |               |               |
| Compensation and benefits  | 452                      | 439           | 380           |
| Other expense  | 201                      | 13,822        | 105           |
| Interest expense   | 5,699                    | 5,834         | 5,339         |
| <b>Total expense</b>   | <b>6,352</b>             | <b>20,095</b> | <b>5,824</b>  |
| Income before income taxes                                       | 56,499                   | 25,750        | 46,257        |
| Federal and state income taxes                                   | (1,024 )                 | (6,903 )      | (1,914 )      |
| <b>Net income</b>  | <b>\$57,523</b>          | <b>32,653</b> | <b>48,171</b> |



## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

## Statements of Cash Flows

|  | Years ended December 31, |            |           |
|--|--------------------------|------------|-----------|
|  | 2010                     | 2009       | 2008      |
| <b>Operating activities:</b>   |                          |            |           |
| Net income   | \$57,523                 | 32,653     | 48,171    |
| <b>Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:</b> |                          |            |           |
| Undistributed earnings of subsidiary   | (59,421 )                | (29,471 )  | (12,722 ) |
| Noncash stock benefit plan compensation expense  | 2,237                    | 2,140      | 2,731     |
| Noncash charitable contribution  | —                        | 12,822     | —         |
| Net change in other assets and liabilities   | (11,317 )                | (13,024 )  | (2,997 )  |
| Net cash (used in)/ provided by operating activities                                     | (10,978 )                | 5,120      | 35,183    |
| <b>Investing activities:</b>   |                          |            |           |
| Investment in subsidiary   | —                        | (329,000 ) | —         |
| Acquisition/ purchase of land  | —                        | (1,908 )   | —         |
| Acquisitions, net of cash received   | —                        | 8,668      | —         |
| Net cash used in investing activities  | —                        | (322,240 ) | —         |
| <b>Financing activities:</b>   |                          |            |           |
| Cash dividends paid  | (43,276 )                | (15,813 )  | (15,771 ) |
| Share repurchases  | (6,429 )                 | —          | (3,335 )  |
| Proceeds from common stock offering  | —                        | 658,660    | —         |
| Purchase of ESOP shares  | (17,200 )                | (11,651 )  | —         |
| Repayment of loan to ESOP  | 2,084                    | —          | —         |
| Proceeds from options exercised  | 1,599                    | 213        | 1,000     |
| Net cash (used in)/ provided by financing activities                                     | (63,222 )                | 631,409    | (18,106 ) |
| Net increase/ (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents                                    | \$(74,200 )              | 314,289    | 17,077    |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year   | 334,984                  | 20,695     | 3,618     |
| Net increase/ (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents                                    | \$(74,200 )              | 314,289    | 17,077    |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year   | \$260,784                | 334,984    | 20,695    |

(21)

## Business Segments

We have identified two reportable business segments based upon the operating approach currently used by management. The Community Banking segment includes our savings bank subsidiary, Northwest Savings Bank, as well as the subsidiaries of the savings bank that provide similar products and services. The savings bank is a community-oriented institution that offers a full array of traditional deposit and loan products, including mortgage, consumer, and commercial loans as well as trust, investment management, actuarial and benefit plan administration, and brokerage services typically offered by a full service financial institution. The Consumer Finance segment is comprised of Northwest Consumer Discount Company, a subsidiary of Northwest Savings Bank. This subsidiary complements the services of the bank by offering personal installment loans for a variety of consumer and real estate

products. This activity is funded primarily through its intercompany borrowing relationship with Allegheny Services, Inc. Net income is primarily used by management to measure segment performance. The following tables provide financial information for these segments. The All Other column represents the parent company, other nonbank subsidiaries, and elimination entries necessary to reconcile to the consolidated amounts presented in the financial statements.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

| At or for the year ended<br>December 31, 2010 | Community<br>Banking | Consumer<br>Finance | All Other* | Consolidated |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|
| External interest income                      | \$348,498            | 21,137              | 933        | 370,568      |
| Intersegment interest income                  | 3,202                | —                   | (3,202 )   | —            |
| Interest expense                              | 109,313              | 3,202               | 412        | 112,927      |
| Provision for loan losses                     | 36,750               | 3,736               | —          | 40,486       |
| Noninterest income                            | 58,262               | 2,083               | 53         | 60,398       |
| Noninterest expense                           | 184,079              | 12,134              | 295        | 196,508      |
| Income tax expense (benefit)                  | 22,824               | 1,722               | (1,024 )   | 23,522       |
| Net income                                    | \$56,996             | 2,426               | (1,899 )   | 57,523       |
| Total assets                                  | \$8,008,297          | 117,687             | 22,171     | 8,148,155    |

| At or for the year ended<br>December 31, 2009 | Community<br>Banking | Consumer<br>Finance | All Other* | Consolidated |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|
| External interest income                      | \$343,717            | 20,728              | 18         | 364,463      |
| Intersegment interest income                  | 3,188                | —                   | (3,188 )   | —            |
| Interest expense                              | 130,087              | 3,264               | 2,455      | 135,806      |
| Provision for loan losses                     | 38,600               | 3,247               | —          | 41,847       |
| Noninterest income                            | 51,088               | 2,173               | 76         | 53,337       |
| Noninterest expense                           | 174,466              | 11,855              | 14,173     | 200,494      |
| Income tax expense (benefit)                  | 12,022               | 1,882               | (6,904 )   | 7,000        |
| Net income                                    | \$42,818             | 2,653               | (12,818 )  | 32,653       |
| Total assets                                  | \$7,895,854          | 116,250             | 13,194     | 8,025,298    |

| At or for the year ended<br>December 31, 2008 | Community<br>Banking | Consumer<br>Finance | All Other* | Consolidated |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|
| External interest income                      | \$368,201            | 20,452              | 6          | 388,659      |
| Intersegment interest income                  | 4,959                | —                   | (4,959 )   | —            |
| Interest expense                              | 163,922              | 5,186               | 185        | 169,293      |
| Provision for loan losses                     | 19,500               | 3,351               | —          | 22,851       |
| Noninterest income                            | 36,324               | 2,269               | 159        | 38,752       |
| Noninterest expense                           | 158,652              | 10,990              | 486        | 170,128      |
| Income tax expense (benefit)                  | 17,646               | 1,236               | (1,914 )   | 16,968       |
| Net income                                    | \$49,764             | 1,958               | (3,551 )   | 48,171       |
| Total assets                                  | \$6,792,735          | 115,463             | 22,043     | 6,930,241    |

\* Eliminations consist of intercompany interest income and interest expense.

(22) Guaranteed Preferred Beneficial Interests in Company's Junior Subordinated Deferrable Interest Debentures (Trust-Preferred Securities) and Interest Rate Swap Agreements

We have two statutory business trusts: Northwest Bancorp Capital Trust III, a Delaware statutory business trust, and Northwest Bancorp Statutory Trust IV, a Connecticut statutory business trust (the Trusts). These trusts exist solely to issue preferred securities to third parties for cash, issue common securities to the Company in exchange for capitalization of the Trusts, invest the proceeds from the sale of trust securities in an equivalent amount of debentures of the Company, and engage in other activities that are incidental to those previously listed. The aforementioned trusts are not consolidated. Northwest Bancorp Capital Trust III issued 50,000 cumulative trust preferred securities in a private transaction to a pooled investment vehicle on December 5, 2005 (liquidation value of \$1,000 per preferred security or \$50,000,000) with a stated maturity of December 30, 2035 and a floating rate of interest, which is reset quarterly, equal to three-month LIBOR plus 1.38%. Northwest Bancorp Statutory Trust IV issued 50,000 cumulative trust preferred securities in a private transaction to a pooled investment vehicle on December 15, 2005 (liquidation value of \$1,000 per preferred security or \$50,000,000) with a stated maturity of December 15, 2035 and a floating rate of interest, which is reset quarterly, equal to three-month LIBOR plus 1.38%.

NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

The Trusts have invested the proceeds of the offerings in junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures issued by the Company. The structure of these debentures mirrors the structure of the trust-preferred securities. Northwest Bancorp Capital Trust III holds \$51,547,000 of the Company's junior subordinated debentures due December 30, 2035 with a floating rate of interest, reset quarterly, of three-month LIBOR plus 1.38%. The rate in effect at December 31, 2009 was 1.67%. Northwest Bancorp Statutory Trust IV holds \$51,547,000 of the Company's junior subordinated debentures due December 15, 2035 with a floating rate of interest, reset quarterly, of three-month LIBOR plus 1.38%. The rate in effect at December 31, 2009 was 1.68%.

Cash distributions on the trust securities are made on a quarterly basis to the extent interest on the debentures is received by the Trusts. The Company has the right to defer payment of interest on the subordinated debentures at any time, or from time-to-time, for periods not exceeding five years. If interest payments on the subordinated debentures are deferred, the distributions on the trust securities also are deferred. Interest on the subordinated debentures and distributions on the trust securities is cumulative. The Company obligation constitutes a full, irrevocable, and unconditional guarantee on a subordinated basis of the obligations of the trust under the preferred securities.

The Trusts must redeem the preferred securities when the debentures are paid at maturity or upon an earlier redemption of the debentures to the extent the debentures are redeemed. All or part of the debentures may be redeemed at any time on or after December 31, 2010. Also, the debentures may be redeemed at any time if existing laws or regulations, or the interpretation or application of these laws or regulations, change causing:

- the interest on the debentures to no longer be deductible by the Company for federal income tax purposes;
- the trust to become subject to federal income tax or to certain other taxes or governmental charges;
- the trust to register as an investment company; and
- the Company to become subject to capital requirements and the preferred securities do not qualify as Tier I capital.

The Company may, at any time, dissolve any of the Trusts and distribute the debentures to the trust security holders, subject to receipt of any required regulatory approval(s).

During the quarter ended September 30, 2008, the Company entered into four interest rate swap agreements (swaps). The Company designated each swap as a cash flow hedge and they are intended to protect against the variability of cash flows associated with Trust III and Trust IV. The first two swaps hedge the interest rate risk of Trust III, wherein the Company receives interest of LIBOR from a counterparty and pays a fixed rate of 4.20% to the same counterparty calculated on a notional amount of \$25.0 million and the Company receives interest of LIBOR from a counterparty and pays a fixed rate of 4.61% to the same counterparty calculated on a notional amount of \$25.0 million. The terms of these two swaps are five years and ten years, respectively. The second two swaps hedge the interest rate risk of Trust IV, wherein the Company receives interest of LIBOR from a counterparty and pays a fixed rate of 3.85% to the same counterparty calculated on a notional amount of \$25.0 million and the Company receives interest of LIBOR from a counterparty and pays a fixed rate of 4.09% to the same counterparty calculated on a notional amount of \$25.0

million. The terms of these two swaps are seven years and ten years, respectively. The swap agreements were entered into with a counterparty that met the Company's credit standards and the agreements contain collateral provisions protecting the at-risk party. The Company believes that the credit risk inherent in the contracts is not significant.

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

At December 31, 2010, the fair value of the swap agreements was \$(9.3 million) and was the amount we would have expected to pay if the contracts were terminated. There was no material hedge ineffectiveness for this swap.

| Liability Derivatives (Included in Other Liabilities) | December 31, |         |
|---|--------------|---------|
|   | 2010         | 2009    |
| Cash flow hedges – swaps:                             |              |         |
| Fair value  | \$9,349      | 4,957   |
| Notional amount                                       | 100,000      | 100,000 |
| Collateral posted                                     | 9,349        | 4,957   |

The following table sets forth a summary of guaranteed capital debt securities and junior subordinated deferrable interest debentures held by the trusts as of December 31, 2010 and 2009.

|                                      | Capital Debt Securities | December 31, |         |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------|
|                                      |                         | 2010         | 2009    |
| Northwest Bancorp Capital Trust III  | \$ 50,000               | 51,547       | 51,547  |
| Northwest Bancorp Statutory Trust IV | 50,000                  | 51,547       | 51,547  |
| Total                                | \$ 100,000              | 103,094      | 103,094 |

## (23) Selected Quarterly Financial Data - Unaudited

|                            | Three months ended                    |         |              |             |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|--------------|-------------|
|                            | March 31                              | June 30 | September 30 | December 31 |
|                            | (In thousands, except per share data) |         |              |             |
| 2010:                      |                                       |         |              |             |
| Interest income            | \$91,138                              | 92,404  | 94,009       | 93,017      |
| Interest expense           | 31,104                                | 28,677  | 27,359       | 25,787      |
| Net interest income        | 60,034                                | 63,727  | 66,650       | 67,230      |
| Provision for loan losses  | 8,801                                 | 7,896   | 9,871        | 13,918      |
| Noninterest income         | 15,857                                | 15,545  | 13,828       | 15,168      |
| Noninterest expenses       | 48,604                                | 48,157  | 49,048       | 50,699      |
| Income before income taxes | 18,486                                | 23,219  | 21,559       | 17,781      |
| Income taxes               | 5,333                                 | 7,078   | 6,068        | 5,043       |
| Net income                 | \$13,153                              | 16,141  | 15,491       | 12,738      |
| Basic earnings per share   | \$0.12                                | 0.15    | 0.14         | 0.12        |
| Diluted earnings per share | \$0.12                                | 0.15    | 0.14         | 0.12        |

## NORTHWEST BANCSHARES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008

(All dollar amounts presented in tables are in thousands)

|                                    | Three months ended                    |         |              |             |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|--------------|-------------|
|                                    | March 31                              | June 30 | September 30 | December 31 |
|                                    | (In thousands, except per share data) |         |              |             |
| <b>2009:</b>                       |                                       |         |              |             |
| Interest income                    | \$92,192                              | 90,966  | 90,428       | 90,877      |
| Interest expense                   | 34,826                                | 34,561  | 33,586       | 32,833      |
| Net interest income                | 57,366                                | 56,405  | 56,842       | 58,044      |
| Provision for loan losses          | 5,781                                 | 11,736  | 9,830        | 14,500      |
| Noninterest income                 | 10,075                                | 11,982  | 13,985       | 17,295      |
| Noninterest expenses               | 44,266                                | 47,004  | 44,987       | 64,237      |
| Income/ (loss) before income taxes | 17,394                                | 9,647   | 16,010       | (3,398 )    |
| Income taxes/ (benefit)            | 5,092                                 | 2,356   | 3,956        | (4,404 )    |
| Net income                         | \$12,302                              | 7,291   | 12,054       | 1,006       |
| Basic earnings per share           | \$0.11                                | 0.07    | 0.11         | 0.01        |
| Diluted earnings per share         | \$0.11                                | 0.07    | 0.11         | 0.01        |

|                            | Three months ended                    |         |              |             |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|--------------|-------------|
|                            | March 31                              | June 30 | September 30 | December 31 |
|                            | (In thousands, except per share data) |         |              |             |
| <b>2008:</b>               |                                       |         |              |             |
| Interest income            | \$96,821                              | 97,152  | 97,519       | 97,167      |
| Interest expense           | 48,387                                | 43,423  | 39,819       | 37,664      |
| Net interest income        | 48,434                                | 53,729  | 57,700       | 59,503      |
| Provision for loan losses  | 2,294                                 | 3,395   | 6,950        | 10,212      |
| Noninterest income         | 12,891                                | 11,644  | 4,952        | 9,265       |
| Noninterest expenses       | 42,427                                | 41,488  | 42,739       | 43,474      |
| Income before income taxes | 16,604                                | 20,490  | 12,963       | 15,082      |
| Income taxes               | 3,982                                 | 6,048   | 3,140        | 3,798       |
| Net income                 | \$12,622                              | 14,442  | 9,823        | 11,284      |
| Basic earnings per share   | \$0.12                                | 0.13    | 0.09         | 0.10        |
| Diluted earnings per share | \$0.12                                | 0.13    | 0.09         | 0.10        |

ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

Not Applicable

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, the principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that, as of the end of the period covered by this report, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that the Company files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms.

There were no significant changes made in our internal controls during the quarter ended December 31, 2010 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

See Management's Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting - filed herewith under Part II, Item 7, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data."

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

Not Applicable.

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The "Proposal I—Election of Directors" section of the Company's definitive proxy statement for the Company's 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "2011 Proxy Statement") is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The "Proposal I—Election of Directors" section of the Company's 2011 Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The "Proposal I—Election of Directors" section of the Company's 2011 Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

The Company does not have any equity compensation program that was not approved by stockholders, other than its employee stock ownership plan.



Set forth below is certain information as of December 31, 2010 regarding equity compensation plans that have been approved by stockholders.

| Equity compensation plans approved by stockholders | Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options and rights | weighted average exercise price | Number of securities remaining available for issuance under plan |
|--|---|---------------------------------|--|
| 2000 Stock Option Plan                             | 1,186,031   | 8.02                            | -  |
| 2004 Stock Option Plan                             | 1,620,347   | 10.70                           | -  |
| 2008 Stock Option Plan                             | 1,540,645   | 9.64                            | 2,395,813  |
| Total  | 4,347,023   | \$ 9.59                         | 2,395,813  |

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The “Transactions with Certain Related Persons” section of the Company’s 2011 Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

The “Proposal II – Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm” Section of the Company’s 2011 Proxy Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a)(1) Financial Statements

The following documents are filed as part of this Form 10-K.

- (A) Management’s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting
- (B) Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting
- (C) Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
- (D) Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition - at December 31, 2010 and 2009
- (E) Consolidated Statements of Income – Years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008
- (F) Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders’ Equity – Years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008
- (G) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows – Years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008
- (H) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

(a)(2) Financial Statement Schedules

None.

## (a)(3) Exhibits

| Regulation<br>S-K Exhibit<br>Number | Document   | Reference to Prior Filing<br>or Exhibit Number<br>Attached Herto |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| 2                                   | Plan of acquisition, reorganization,<br>arrangement, liquidation or succession   | None   |
| 3                                   | Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws   | **   |
| 4                                   | Instruments defining the rights of<br>security holders, including indentures   | **   |
| 9                                   | Voting trust agreement   | None   |
| 10.1                                | Amendment and Restatement of<br>Deferred Compensation Plan for Outside<br>Directors Of Northwest Savings Bank<br>and Eligible Affiliates | ***  |
| 10.2                                | Retirement Plan for Outside Directors<br>of Northwest Savings Bank and Eligible<br>Affiliates  | ***  |
| 10.3                                | Amended and Restated Northwest<br>Savings Bank Nonqualified<br>Supplemental Retirement Plan  | ***  |
| 10.4                                | Employee Stock Ownership Plan  | *  |
| 10.5                                | Northwest Bancorp, Inc. 2004 Stock<br>Option Plan  | *****  |
| 10.6                                | Northwest Bancorp, Inc.<br>2004 Recognition and Retention Plan   | *****  |
| 10.7                                | Management Bonus Plan  | ***  |
| 10.8                                | Northwest Bancorp, Inc. 2008 Stock<br>Option Plan  | *****  |
| 10.9                                | Amended and Restated Northwest<br>Savings Bank and Affiliates Upper<br>Managers Bonus Deferred Compensation<br>Plan                      | ***  |
| 10.10                               | Employment Agreement for William J.<br>Wagner  | *****  |

10.11            Employment Agreement for William W.    \*\*\*\*\*  
                  Harvey, Jr.

10.12            Employment Agreement for Steven G.    \*\*\*\*\*  
                  Fisher

116

---

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

|       |  |              |
|-------|--|--------------|
| 10.13 | Employment Agreement for Gregory C. LaRocca  | *****        |
| 10.15 | Employment Agreement for Timothy A. Huber  | *****        |
| 11    | Statement re: computation of per share earnings  | None         |
| 12    | Statement re: computation of ratios  | Not required |
| 16    | Letter re: change in certifying accountant   | None         |
| 18    | Letter re: change in accounting principles   | None         |
| 21    | Subsidiaries of Registrant   | ***          |
| 22    | Published report regarding matters submitted to vote of security holders   | None         |
| 23    | Consent of experts and counsel   | 23           |
| 24    | Power of Attorney  | Not Required |
| 28    | Information from reports furnished to State insurance regulatory authorities   | None         |
| 31.1  | Certification pursuant to Rule 13a-14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Amended, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 | 31.1         |
| 31.2  | Certification pursuant to Rule 13a-14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as Amended, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 | 31.2         |
| 32    | Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002   | 32           |

---

\*Incorporated by reference to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-31687), originally filed with the SEC on July 21, 1997, as amended on October 9, 1997 and November 4, 1997.

\*\*Incorporated by reference to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-161805), filed with the SEC on September 9, 2009.

\*\*\*

Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

Incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K (File No. 000-23817), filed with the SEC on March 4, 2009.

\*\*\*\* Incorporated by reference to the Definitive Proxy Statement for the 2004 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (File No. 000-23817), filed with the SEC on October 6, 2004.

\*\*\*\*\* Incorporated by reference to the Definitive Proxy Statement for the 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (File No. 000-23817), filed with the SEC on April 11, 2008.

\*\*\*\*\* Incorporated by reference to the Periodic Report on Form 8-K (File No. 000-23817), filed with the SEC on September 19, 2007.

\*\*\*\*\* Incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K (File No. 001-34582), filed with the SEC on March 16, 2010.



Edgar Filing: Northwest Bancshares, Inc. - Form 10-K

Date: March 1, 2011

By: /s/ Richard E. McDowell  
Richard E. McDowell, Director

Date: March 1, 2011

By: /s/ Philip M. Tredway  
Philip M. Tredway, Director

118

---