



# Community Trust Bancorp (CTBI)

Updated July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by Aristofanis Papadatos

## Key Metrics

<b>Current Price:</b>	\$39	<b>5 Year CAGR Estimate:</b>	12.5%	<b>Market Cap:</b>	\$684 M
<b>Fair Value Price:</b>	\$55	<b>5 Year Growth Estimate:</b>	2.0%	<b>Ex-Dividend Date:</b>	9/13/23 <sup>1</sup>
<b>% Fair Value:</b>	71%	<b>5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:</b>	7.0%	<b>Dividend Payment Date:</b>	9/30/23
<b>Dividend Yield:</b>	4.5%	<b>5 Year Price Target</b>	\$60	<b>Years Of Dividend Growth:</b>	42
<b>Dividend Risk Score:</b>	A	<b>Retirement Suitability Score:</b>	A	<b>Rating:</b>	Buy

## Overview & Current Events

Community Trust Bancorp is a regional bank with 84 branch locations in 35 counties in Kentucky, Tennessee and West Virginia. It is the second-largest bank holding company in Kentucky and has a market cap of \$684 million. Community Trust Bancorp operates with a \$5.5 billion balance sheet. Due to its small market cap, it does not belong to the S&P 500 index and hence it is not considered a Dividend Aristocrat even though it has raised its dividend for 42 consecutive years. In mid-July, Community Trust Bancorp reported (7/19/23) financial results for the second quarter of fiscal 2023. Its net interest income grew 6% over the prior year's quarter thanks to high interest rates but non-interest expense rose 3.5% and loan loss provisions increased from \$0.1 million to \$2.0 million. As a result, earnings-per-share slipped -5%, from \$1.14 to \$1.08, though they exceeded the analyst's consensus by \$0.02. The bank raised its dividend by 10% in 2022. It has thus grown its dividend for 42 consecutive years.

Notably, the stock has declined -17% this year due to the sell-off of regional banks after the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank and Credit Suisse. However, we reiterate that Community Trust Bancorp is a conservatively managed bank, which has proved resilient to all kinds of downturns. Management confirmed that the bank is not facing any issues related to the ongoing turmoil in the financial sector. We view the plunge of the stock as an exceptional investing opportunity.

## Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2028
<b>EPS</b>	\$2.62	\$2.49	\$2.66	\$2.70	\$2.91	\$3.35	\$3.64	\$3.35	\$4.94	\$4.58	<b>\$4.55</b>	<b>\$5.02</b>
<b>DPS</b>	\$1.15	\$1.18	\$1.22	\$1.26	\$1.30	\$1.35	\$1.46	\$1.53	\$1.57	\$1.68	<b>\$1.76</b>	<b>\$2.12</b>
<b>Shares<sup>2</sup></b>	17.2	17.4	17.5	17.6	17.7	17.7	17.8	17.8	17.8	17.9	<b>17.9</b>	<b>18.2</b>

Community Trust Bancorp has grown its earnings-per-share at a 6.4% average annual rate over the last decade and at a 9.5% average annual rate over the last five years. The economy has recovered from the pandemic and the Fed has raised interest rates aggressively in recent quarters. Higher interest rates have enhanced the net interest margin of the bank but they have caused deceleration of the economy, as intended. Moreover, the non-recurring decreases in the tax rate of the bank, which fueled a great portion of the bottom-line growth in 2018 and 2019, will not be growth drivers anymore. As a result, we expect slower growth in the upcoming years. We expect Community Trust Bancorp to grow its earnings-per-share at a 2.0% average annual rate over the next five years.

## Valuation Analysis

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Now	2028
<b>Avg. P/E</b>	13.2	14.3	12.8	13.5	16.3	14.1	11.6	10.3	8.6	9.4	<b>8.6</b>	<b>12.0</b>
<b>Avg. Yld.</b>	3.4%	3.3%	3.6%	3.5%	2.9%	2.9%	3.5%	4.4%	3.7%	3.9%	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>

Due to the ongoing turmoil in the financial sector, Community Trust Bancorp is trading at a nearly 10-year low price-to-earnings ratio of 8.6, which is much lower than its 10-year average price-to-earnings ratio of 12.4. Due to the small

<sup>1</sup> Estimated date.

<sup>2</sup> In millions.

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market cap of the stock, we prefer to be somewhat conservative and assume a price-to-earnings ratio of 12.0 by 2028. In such a case, the stock would enjoy a 7.0% annualized gain thanks to the expansion of its valuation level until 2028.

## Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2028
Payout	43.9%	47.4%	45.9%	46.7%	44.7%	40.3%	40.1%	45.7%	31.8%	36.7%	<b>38.7%</b>	<b>42.2%</b>

Community Trust Bancorp proved that it was well managed in the Great Recession. In the worst financial crisis of the last 80 years, when most banks cut their dividends, this bank remained profitable and continued raising its dividend.

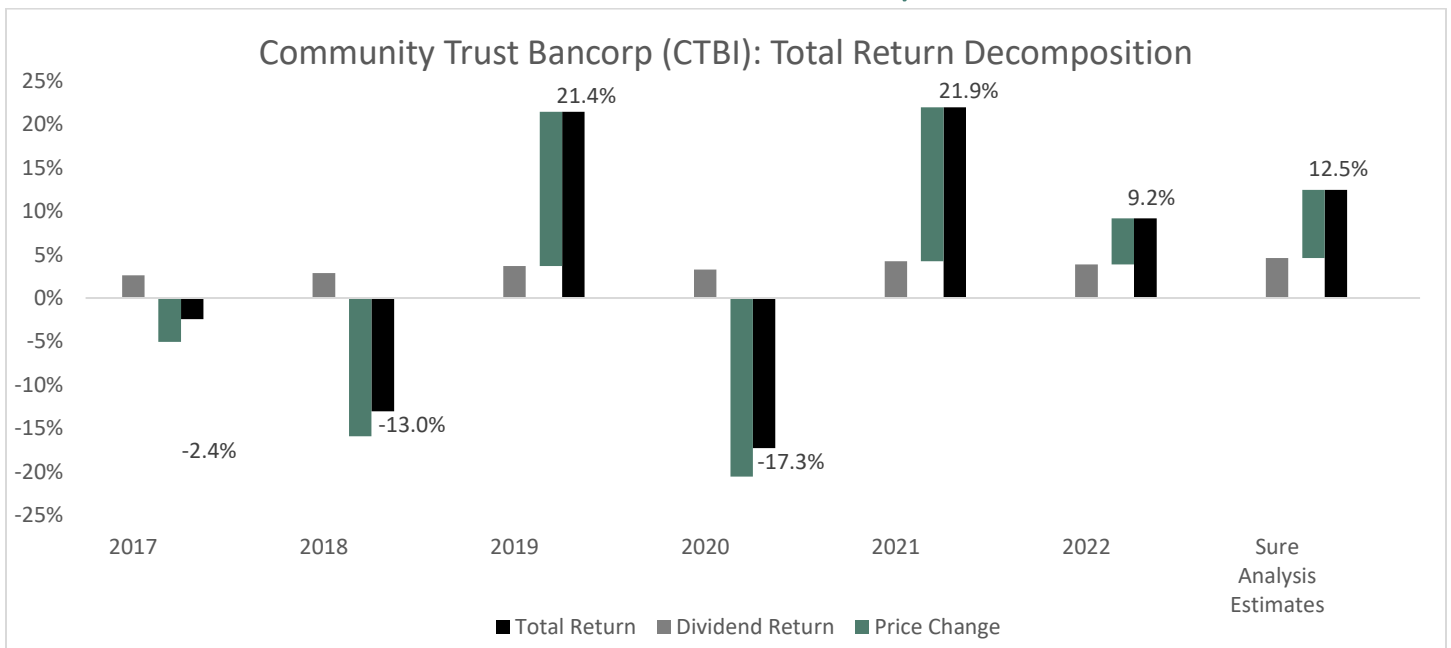
The recession from the pandemic in 2020 caused an -8% decrease in the earnings-per-share of Community Trust Bancorp, but this business performance is superior to that of most other banks thanks to the conservative loan portfolio. To provide a perspective, the bank has reported average net loan charge-offs of only 0.04% in the last four quarters.

On the other hand, whenever the market incurs a meaningful correction, Community Trust Bancorp tends to underperform its sector due to its low market cap and its resultant low trading liquidity. Only investors who can remain focused on the fundamentals and ignore pressure on the stock price should consider this security.

## Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Community Trust Bancorp is an exceptionally well-managed bank. It accelerated its growth pattern in 2018 and 2019 thanks to higher interest rates and its reduced tax rate. It also posted record earnings in 2021 thanks to the reversion of provisions for loan losses, as the economy recovered from the pandemic, though it has decelerated due to the absence of that growth driver. The stock has declined -17% this year due to the sell-off of regional banks but we are confident that this conservative bank will easily endure the ongoing crisis. We thus view the stock as extremely cheap at its current price. We expect the stock to offer a 12.5% average annual return over the next five years thanks to 2.0% earnings-per-share growth, its 4.5% dividend and a 7.0% annualized valuation tailwind. The stock maintains its buy rating. It also has a healthy payout ratio, so it has ample room to keep raising its dividend and thus it is eligible for income-oriented investors.

## Total Return Breakdown by Year



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## Income Statement Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Revenue</b>	184	177	179	181	186	194	195	206	224	227
<b>SG&amp;A Exp.</b>	63	67	66	68	70	72	74	78	86	74
<b>D&amp;A Exp.</b>	5	4	4	4	4	4	6	5	5	5
<b>Net Profit</b>	45	43	46	47	51	59	65	60	88	82
<b>Net Margin</b>	24.6%	24.4%	25.9%	26.1%	27.7%	30.5%	33.1%	28.9%	39.3%	36.1%
<b>Free Cash Flow</b>	89	55	53	58	60	63	81	61	113	93
<b>Income Tax</b>	20	19	19	19	17	11	7	11	23	19

## Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Total Assets</b>	3,582	3,724	3,904	3,932	4,136	4,202	4,366	5,139	5,418	5,380
<b>Cash &amp; Equivalents</b>	108	109	191	145	185	144	265	338	312	51
<b>Goodwill &amp; Int. Ass.</b>	70	69	69	69	69	69	69	70	72	65
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	3,169	3,276	3,428	3,432	3,606	3,637	3,751	4,484	4,720	4,752
<b>Long-Term Debt</b>	63	123	162	62	60	60	58	58	58	0
<b>Shareholder's Equity</b>	412	448	476	501	531	564	615	655	698	628
<b>LTD/E Ratio</b>	0.15	0.27	0.34	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.09	0.09	0.08	0

## Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Return on Assets</b>	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.3%	1.7%	1.5%
<b>Return on Equity</b>	11.1%	10.1%	10.1%	9.7%	10.0%	10.8%	10.9%	9.4%	13.0%	12.3%
<b>ROIC</b>	9.6%	8.3%	7.7%	7.9%	8.9%	9.8%	10.0%	9.0%	12.0%	11.8%
<b>Shares Out.</b>	17.2	17.4	17.5	17.6	17.7	17.7	17.8	17.8	17.8	17.9
<b>Revenue/Share</b>	10.67	10.18	10.24	10.33	10.53	10.96	11.00	11.58	12.56	12.71
<b>FCF/Share</b>	5.14	3.19	3.02	3.30	3.40	3.54	4.56	3.43	6.37	5.24

Note: All figures in millions of U.S. Dollars unless per share or indicated otherwise.

### Disclaimer

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