



ConnectOne Bancorp (CNOB)

Updated April 24th, 2026, by Nikolaos Sismanis

Key Metrics

Current Price:	\$29	5 Year Annual Expected Total Return:	11.6%	Market Cap:	\$1.45 B
Fair Value Price:	\$33	5 Year Growth Estimate:	7.0%	Ex-Dividend Date:	05/15/26
% Fair Value:	90%	5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:	2.2%	Dividend Payment Date:	06/01/26
Dividend Yield:	2.7%	5 Year Price Target	\$46	Years Of Dividend Growth:	7
Dividend Risk Score:	B	Sector:	Financials	Rating:	Buy

Overview & Current Events

ConnectOne Bancorp is a modern financial services company operating primarily through its subsidiary, ConnectOne Bank, which serves small to mid-sized businesses and individuals in the New York metropolitan area and South Florida. The bank has placed strong focus on efficiency and emphasizes personalized client service and a range of products, like deposits, loans, and cash management services. It generally operates with a "branch-lite" model backed by technology. Still, its network includes branches in New Jersey, New York City, Long Island, and the Hudson Valley, with a business hub in West Palm Beach. At the end of its most recent quarter, the bank had about \$11.5 billion in deposits. It currently trades at a market cap of \$1.45 million.

On April 23rd, 2026, ConnectOne Bancorp raised its dividend by 8.3% to a quarterly rate of \$0.195.

On the same day, ConnectOne Bancorp announced its Q1 results for the period ending March 31st, 2026. Net income was \$37.8 million, compared to \$39.5 million in Q4 and \$20.2 million last year. EPS was \$0.72 versus \$0.75 last quarter and \$0.49 last year. Return on average assets was 1.10% compared to 1.12% in Q4. Results reflected continued net interest margin expansion, accelerating operating performance, and solid loan and deposit growth, though net income moderated due to higher credit provision, expenses, and taxes. ConnectOne noted 10% annualized growth in loans and deposits, a 12 basis point increase in net interest margin, and ongoing merger synergy realization through efficiency efforts and AI-enabled workflows. We forecast FY2026 EPS of \$3.25.

Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
EPS	\$1.02	\$1.35	\$1.87	\$2.08	\$1.80	\$3.24	\$3.03	\$2.08	\$1.77	\$1.64	\$3.25	\$4.56
DPS	\$0.30	\$0.30	\$0.30	\$0.36	\$0.36	\$0.48	\$0.62	\$0.68	\$0.71	\$0.72	\$0.78	\$1.09
Shares¹	30.4	31.9	32.1	35.2	39.5	39.6	39.3	38.8	38.3	45.4	50.4	60.0

ConnectOne Bancorp's EPS has fluctuated notably over the past decade, highlighting the various economic cycles, and interest rate dynamics. In 2016, EPS came in at just \$1.02 due to compressed net interest margins due to a low-interest-rate environment, as well as continued integration expenses from prior acquisitions. Still, steady organic growth and improved efficiencies drove EPS back up to \$1.35 in 2017. In 2018, EPS increased to \$1.87, buoyed by strong loan growth, disciplined expense management, and the benefits of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which reduced the corporate tax rate.

The acquisition of Bancorp of New Jersey in 2019 further solidified the bank's footprint in northern New Jersey, boosting EPS to \$2.08. This acquisition integrated smoothly and added new markets to the bank's footprint, supporting both loan and deposit growth. However, in 2020, EPS declined to \$1.80 as the COVID-19 pandemic created economic uncertainty, leading to increased provisions for loan losses and margin compression due to the Federal Reserve's rate cuts. A robust economic recovery in 2021 helped EPS rebound to \$3.24, supported by strong loan demand, lower credit loss provisions, and growth in fee-based income. The bank's cost discipline and its ability to capture opportunities in a favorable credit

¹ Share count is in millions.

Disclosure: This analyst has no position in the security discussed in this research report, and no plans to initiate one in the next 72 hours.



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environment were key drivers of this performance. EPS declined from \$3.03 in 2022 amid competitive pressures and slowing loan growth, then fell to \$2.08 in 2023 as higher rates raised funding costs and constrained growth. Weakness persisted through 2024 as interest expense growth outpaced income, and in 2025 EPS remained pressured as margin and scale gains were offset by merger-related charges and share dilution. Moving forward, we believe the company can grow its EPS at rate of 7% per annum. We have applied the same growth rate expectation to the dividend, which the company has raised for seven consecutive years.

Valuation Analysis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Now	2031
Avg. P/E	17.9	16.8	13.4	10.6	10.4	7.5	9.5	10.1	12.0	15.6	9.0	10.0
Avg. Yld.	1.6%	1.3%	1.2%	1.6%	1.9%	2.0%	2.2%	3.2%	3.4%	2.8%	2.7%	2.4%

ConnectOne Bancorp’s P/E has hovered at levels that are more or less similar to those of its industry peers. The sharp drop to 7.5 in 2021 was due to peak EPS driven by loan growth and lower provisions, compressing the multiple. The recovery in 2022 and 2023 shows more normalized earnings and continued market confidence in the bank’s growth potential. However, at 9.0 times earnings today, we believe the stock is undervalued.

Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

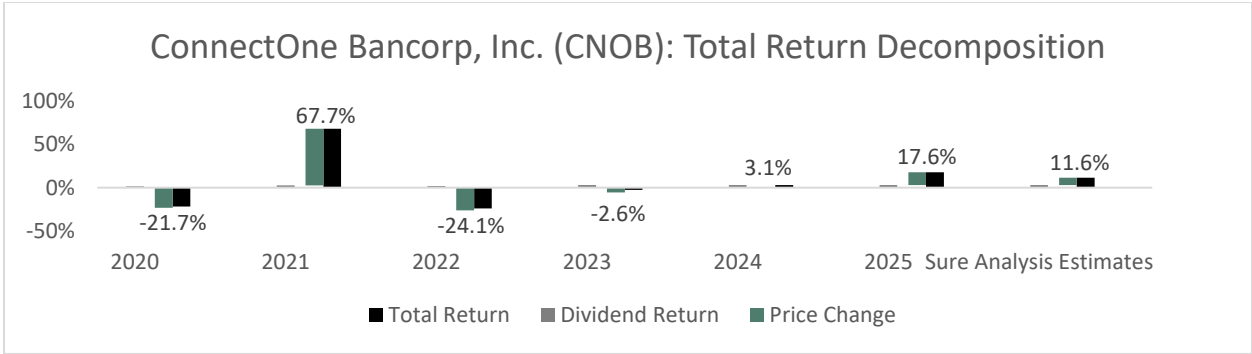
Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
Payout	29%	22%	16%	17%	20%	15%	20%	33%	40%	44%	24%	24%

ConnectOne Bancorp's competitive advantages lie in its "branch-lite" model, leveraging technology to deliver efficient, personalized banking services while keeping operational costs low. This model, combined with its focus on serving small to mid-sized businesses, positions it well against larger competitors, which often lack the same localized focus. However, the bank operates in a highly competitive industry, facing pressure from both larger national players with resources and smaller regional banks with niche market penetration. Moreover, you should consider the banking industry’s inherent susceptibility to economic downturns poses challenges, as recessions often lead to tighter credit conditions and higher loan losses. Nevertheless, it’s worth noting that the bank remained profitable during the Great Financial Crisis while its earnings surge during the pandemic. Its common equity ratio and common equity Tier 1 risk-based ratio also stood at a healthy 10.44% and 12.36%, respectively, at the end of last year as well. We believe ConnectOne’s dividend is safe.

Final Thoughts & Recommendation

ConnectOne is another regional bank with decent prospects. Its earnings have been impacted by fluctuations in rates and slowing loan growth in recent years. However, its focus on small to mid-sized businesses positions it well for steady long-term value creation. We see annualized returns of 11.6% over the medium-term, driven by our growth estimate of 7%, the starting dividend yield of 2.7%, and a tailwind from multiple expansion. Shares earn a buy rating.

Total Return Breakdown by Year



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Income Statement Metrics

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Revenue	140	153	163	194	252	278	315	269	264	680
SG&A Exp.	39	44	48	57	70	68	86	99	100	0
D&A Exp.	4	4	4	4	7	6	6	6	5.7	14
Net Profit	31	43	60	73	71	130	125	87	74	80
Net Margin	22.2%	28.2%	37.1%	37.8%	28.2%	46.9%	39.7%	32.3%	28.0%	11.8%
Free Cash Flow	47	128	87	59	79	199	173	85	57	101
Income Tax	12	25	11	21	19	45	46	30	25	32

Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Assets	4,426	5,108	5,462	6,174	7,547	8,129	9,645	9,856	9,880	14,000
Cash & Equivalents	200	150	172	201	304	266	268	243	356	92
Total Liab.	13	15	18	21	35	34	46	49	---	12430
Accounts Payable	3,895	4,543	4,848	5,443	6,632	7,005	8,466	8,639	8,638	---
Long-Term Debt	531	725	729	629	629	621	1,011	1,013	768	1132
Total Equity	531	565	614	731	915	1,013	1,068	1,106	1,131	1462
LTD/E Ratio	1.00	1.28	1.19	0.86	0.69	0.55	0.86	0.83	0.62	0.72

Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Return on Assets	0.7%	0.9%	1.1%	1.3%	1.0%	1.7%	1.4%	0.9%	0.8%	0.7%
Return on Equity	6.2%	7.9%	10.2%	10.9%	8.7%	12.8%	10.9%	7.3%	6.0%	5.7%
ROIC	2.7%	3.7%	4.6%	5.4%	4.9%	7.9%	6.4%	3.9%	3.5%	3.4%
Shares Out.	30.4	31.9	32.1	35.2	39.5	39.6	39.3	38.8	38.5	45.4
Revenue/Share	4.56	4.75	5.03	5.51	6.37	6.97	7.99	6.91	6.86	14.97
FCF/Share	1.53	3.99	2.69	1.68	1.99	5.00	4.39	2.19	1.47	2.22

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

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