

**BEST PERFORMING COMMUNITY BANKS IN THE NATION**  
**Bank of Cleveland Ranks in Top 100 of 3,720 Banks,**  
*the Only Tennessee Bank to Make The List.*

S&P Global Market Intelligence's 2023 ranking of the 100 best-performing U.S. community banks under \$3 billion in assets puts Bank of Cleveland at number 78, **the only Tennessee bank earning a spot in the top 100.**

To compile this ranking, S&P Global Market Intelligence calculated scores for each company based on seven metrics: pretax return on average assets, cost of funds, year over year change in operating revenue, net charge-offs to average loans and leases ratio, nonperforming assets and loans 90 days or more past due as a percentage of total deposits, and adjusted tangible common equity to tangible assets ratio.

Based on the criteria, 3,720 banks were eligible for this ranking.

Bank of Cleveland opened its doors in 1987 and was established to provide Bradley County a true, locally owned and operated community bank. Today, Bank of Cleveland is the only locally owned and managed bank headquartered in Bradley County. The Bank has consistently ranked in the top of its peer group regionally and nationally throughout the years due to its stellar performance.

S&P Global Market Intelligence is a division of S&P Global, the world's foremost provider of credit ratings, benchmarks and analytics in the global capital and commodity markets, offering ESG solutions, deep data and insights on critical business factors.

For more information visit [www.bankofcleveland.com](http://www.bankofcleveland.com).



A vertical promotional graphic for Bank of Cleveland. At the top, an orange banner contains the text "BEST PERFORMING COMMUNITY BANKS IN THE NATION" in white, all-caps, sans-serif font. Below this, on a black background, the text "The Only Tennessee Bank In The Top 100!" is written in a large, white, serif font. Underneath the text is the Bank of Cleveland logo, which consists of a green oval with a gold border and the words "BANK OF CLEVELAND" in gold, all-caps, serif font. In the bottom right corner of the graphic, there is a small white logo that says "Member FDIC". At the very bottom, in a small white font, is the text: "100 Best Performing Community Banks in the Nation for 2023 released by S&amp;P Global Market Intelligence in March 2024. Based on the criteria, community banks under \$3 billion in assets, 3,720 were eligible for this ranking. Visit www.bankofcleveland.com for the full report."

# Washington's Security State Bank tops 2023 list of best-performing small banks

FINANCIALS RESEARCH

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By **Zuhaib Gull and Zain Tariq**  
*Market Intelligence*

Centralia, Wash.-based [Security State Bank](#) was 2023's best-performing US community bank with less than \$3 billion in assets.

Established more than 120 years ago, Security State Bank operates out of 12 branches in eight different cities in Washington State.

The company's balance sheet looks different from many banks, yet Security State Bank still bested the top 100 median in five of the ranking metrics, falling behind just barely on the two asset quality metrics.

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## About this analysis

*To compile this ranking, S&P Global Market Intelligence calculated scores for each company based on seven metrics: pretax return on average assets, cost of funds, year-over-year change in operating revenue, net charge-offs to average loans and leases ratio, nonperforming assets and loans 90 days or more past due as a percentage of total assets, gross loans and leases plus held-to-maturity securities as a percentage of total deposits, and adjusted tangible common equity to tangible assets ratio. These ratios were weighted at 25%, 20%, 10%, 10%, 10%, 10% and 15%, respectively, and each company's standard deviation from the industry mean was calculated for every ranking metric, then combined to derive a performance score. To help normalize the data and mitigate the impact of outliers, caps and floors were applied for each metric.*

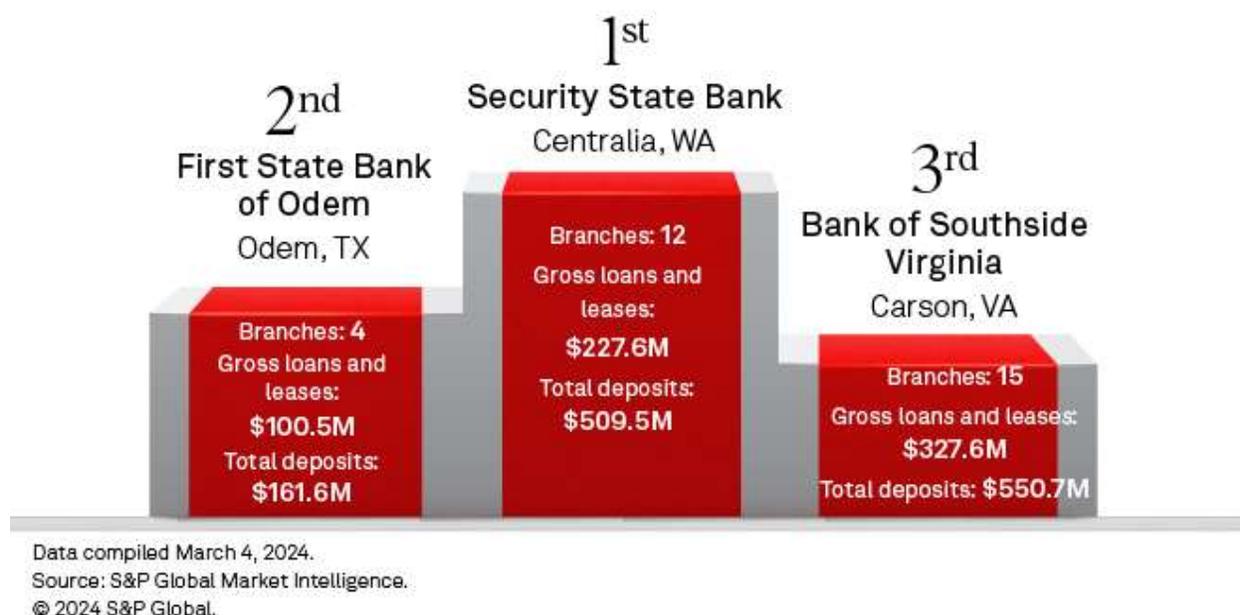
*Criteria for the ranking included gross loans and leases-to-total assets ratio of at least 33%, with no more than half of those loans in credit cards; a leverage ratio of at least 5%; no active severe enforcement actions; a result other than "substantial noncompliance" or "needs to improve" in the bank's most recent CRA exam; a yield on loans and leases of no more than three times the industry median of 5.74%; and no more than half of the entity's revenue coming from nontraditional banking activities. Additionally, industrial banks, nondepository trusts, companies with a bankers' bank certification, and banks with parent companies that have total assets of \$3 billion or more were omitted.*

*Based on the above criteria, 3,720 banks and thrifts were eligible for the ranking.*

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# 3 best-performing US community banks of 2023

Under \$3B in assets



Gross loans and leases plus held-to-maturity securities accounted for only 45.9% of Security State's total deposits at the end of 2023, well below the top 100 median of 71.1%. Interest-bearing balances at depository institutions and securities, of which almost 95% were available-for-sale debt securities, accounted for about 41% and 20%, respectively, of Security State's \$606.1 million in total assets as of Dec. 31, 2023.

The bank earned \$13.7 million in interest income from its loan portfolio in 2023, a 19.0% year-over-year increase. Meanwhile, the interest from its balances at depository institutions doubled year over year to \$13.3 million and its interest on US Treasury and government agency obligations more than tripled to \$3.8 million. Overall, interest income at the bank grew by 59.4% during 2023 to \$31.0 million, while its interest expense was just \$1.4 million. Security State's net interest margin for the year was 5.04%, a 2.2-percentage-point increase over 2022.

The bank's low-cost deposits helped it to post a cost of funds of less than half of the top 100 median while the boost in its interest income contributed toward 39.6% growth in its operating revenue and a 2.96% pretax return on its average assets for 2023.

Odem, Texas-based [First State Bank of Odem](#) was the second-best-performing community bank of 2023 as its total net interest income jumped by 41.1%, driving profitability higher. Like Security State Bank, First State Bank of Odem had previously never placed in the top 100 in an S&P Global Market Intelligence performance ranking.

The bank was established almost 79 years ago and operates out of four brick-and-mortar branches, all in Texas.

Carson, Va.-based [Bank of Southside Virginia](#) rounded out the top three after its total net interest income surged 33.7% year over year to \$26.3 million, and its total noninterest income rose 37.9% during 2023 to \$9.1 million. Much of the gain was attributable to a more than doubling of interest income on consumer loans, as well as a 46.3% increase in interest earned on total securities. Bank of Southside Virginia, which was established more than 110 years ago, is a solely owned subsidiary of [Bank of Southside Virginia Corp.](#) and operates out of 15 offices in Virginia.

### Best-performing US community banks of 2023 under \$3B in assets

Based on financials for the year ended Dec. 31, 2023

Rank	Company (top-level ticker)	City, state	Total assets (\$M)	Ranking metrics (%)							Gross loans and leases + HTM securities/total deposits	Adj. tangible common equity/tangible assets <sup>2</sup>
				ROAA before tax and extra <sup>1</sup>	Cost of funds	YOY change in operating revenue	NCOs/avg. loans and leases	NPAs and loans 90+ PD/total assets				
1	Security State Bank	Centralia, WA	606.1	2.96	0.23	39.6	0.01	0.14	45.9	15.31		
2	First State Bank of Odem	Odem, TX	189.5	3.11	0.35	37.4	0.03	0.01	64.3	15.74		
3	Bank of Southside Virginia (BSSC)	Carson, VA	679.1	2.96	0.16	34.8	0.05	0.04	71.0	15.49		
4	Settlers Bank	Marietta, OH	129.5	2.31	0.44	36.3	-0.21	0.22	69.4	16.13		
5	CentreBank	Veedersburg, IN	103.3	2.74	0.54	42.9	0.00	0.14	72.9	16.15		
6	West Central Georgia Bank	Thomaston, GA	145.4	2.37	0.35	21.6	0.00	0.03	56.7	24.77		
7	First National Bank	Hamilton, AL	370.9	2.62	0.25	34.3	0.23	0.15	46.0	14.35		
8	Farmers State Bank	Lincolnton, GA	170.8	2.73	0.36	26.0	-0.02	0.05	55.4	13.00		
9	Garden Plain State Bank	Wichita, KS	138.7	2.45	0.83	36.4	-0.04	0.00	40.7	14.56		
10	Farmers & Merchants Bank	Salisbury, NC	916.5	3.30	0.26	29.3	-0.21	0.28	81.4	12.83		
11	Magnolia State Bank	Eastman, GA	208.0	2.52	0.31	38.5	-0.60	1.19	48.4	11.86		
12	American Interstate Bank	Elkhorn, NE	113.7	4.00	0.46	37.9	-0.01	0.00	100.8	24.79		
13	Community Bank of Easton	Easton, IL	39.4	3.88	0.71	17.0	0.00	0.00	67.4	26.08		
14	Summit Bank (SMAL)	Oakland, CA	318.5	2.32	0.53	30.4	-0.03	0.11	70.4	15.96		
15	Wayland State Bank	Mount Pleasant, IA	129.6	2.28	0.61	19.5	0.00	0.01	54.9	17.18		
16	First National Bank and Trust Co. of Miami	Miami, OK	214.6	2.75	0.13	64.3	0.06	0.03	61.4	9.51		
17	Community Bank of Missouri	Richmond, MO	75.4	2.47	0.40	36.2	0.00	0.35	74.1	14.72		
18	Edison National Bank	Fort Myers, FL	445.0	2.09	0.20	57.6	-0.45	0.00	48.6	7.37		
19	State Bank	La Junta, CO	124.0	2.33	0.57	21.9	0.02	0.23	56.5	16.87		
20	First National Bank of Gordon	Gordon, NE	322.3	3.00	0.89	46.1	-0.02	0.27	42.5	12.10		
21	First National Bank of Waynesboro	Waynesboro, GA	2071	2.90	0.73	22.4	0.04	0.16	71.8	16.52		
22	Trust Bank	Lenox, GA	47.2	3.19	0.34	15.4	0.01	0.60	45.0	12.65		
23	Durden Banking Co. Inc.	Twin City, GA	273.8	2.70	0.45	25.6	0.07	0.10	74.0	14.03		
24	Wheeler County State Bank	Alamo, GA	133.0	2.40	0.76	38.4	-0.03	0.14	86.4	17.27		
25	State Bank of Canton	Canton, KS	33.4	1.63	0.55	33.9	0.00	0.00	47.4	21.35		
26	South Georgia Banking Co.	Tifton, GA	598.3	2.93	0.34	41.1	0.00	0.20	62.5	9.87		
27	Northeast Georgia Bank	Lanonia, GA	640.9	2.56	0.56	29.9	0.02	0.05	51.5	10.75		
28	Citizens Trust Bank (CZBS)	Atlanta, GA	741.4	2.67	0.30	31.8	0.08	0.31	57.3	10.61		
29	First Bank	Erick, OK	96.6	4.40	0.70	18.7	-0.08	0.01	91.4	15.29		
30	First State Bank of Bedias	Bedias, TX	200.1	3.02	0.69	24.2	0.14	0.27	72.1	16.80		
31	State Bank of Cochran	Cochran, GA	264.4	2.64	0.47	49.3	0.00	0.92	78.4	18.34		
32	Cumberland Security Bank Inc.	Somerset, KY	330.7	3.47	0.57	23.8	0.02	0.03	95.3	15.23		
33	Farmers and Merchants Bank	Maysville, OK	23.1	3.35	0.17	30.0	-0.03	0.16	70.9	8.66		
34	Citizens Bank of Charleston	Charleston, MO	173.7	2.81	1.05	34.1	0.01	0.30	81.2	18.50		
35	First National Bank USA	Boutte, LA	203.7	2.57	0.68	31.6	0.00	0.10	74.7	12.78		
36	First National Bank and Trust Co. of Bottineau	Bottineau, ND	164.6	2.36	0.95	45.8	0.04	0.02	59.0	13.27		
37	Grant County State Bank	Carson, ND	43.6	3.33	1.32	52.8	0.00	0.00	73.4	14.77		
38	Twin River Bank	Lewisville, ID	132.8	3.05	0.57	28.8	0.00	0.00	86.6	12.57		
39	Hill Dodge Banking Co.	Warsaw, IL	55.7	1.95	0.79	36.0	-0.04	0.06	47.9	14.20		
40	Texas Community Bank	Laredo, TX	1,930.6	3.21	1.28	39.7	0.02	0.03	62.4	13.59		
41	Utah Independent Bank	Salina, UT	131.7	2.95	0.83	34.1	0.07	0.25	72.9	13.86		
42	First National Bank of South Padre Island	South Padre Island, TX	79.6	2.18	0.24	48.0	-0.01	0.82	42.4	10.40		
43	United Bank	Zebulon, GA	2,231.3	3.60	0.36	36.2	0.26	0.25	46.5	9.80		
44	United Bank (UBAB)	Atmore, AL	1,182.8	2.82	0.53	67.1	0.13	0.21	75.4	11.77		
45	Bank of Hazlehurst	Hazlehurst, GA	125.2	2.08	0.19	35.8	-0.09	0.62	45.9	9.30		
46	McGehee Bank	McGehee, AR	167.7	3.13	1.46	75.4	-0.23	0.54	93.1	18.17		
47	Eagle Bank	Polson, MT	134.4	2.82	0.89	40.4	0.02	0.08	67.6	10.92		
48	Community National Bank	Midland, TX	2,122.7	1.92	0.83	35.3	0.10	0.22	77.5	11.93		
49	Bank of Bearden	Bearden, AR	62.2	2.42	0.42	40.7	0.03	0.00	68.3	9.10		
50	First National Bank of Burleson	Burleson, TX	271.3	3.19	0.54	46.5	0.00	0.00	72.4	8.22		
51	Gunnison Bank and Trust Co.	Gunnison, CO	230.2	2.82	0.57	20.2	-0.01	0.00	79.7	11.61		
52	Security State Bank of Kenyon	Kenyon, MN	72.3	4.09	0.47	58.5	-0.46	2.10	81.1	11.15		
53	GENU BANK	Las Vegas, NV	167.7	1.92	0.83	35.3	0.00	0.00	68.1	20.31		
54	Scribner Bank	Scribner, NE	83.0	2.87	1.18	31.2	-0.03	0.19	70.4	13.57		
55	Jackson County Bank	McKee, KY	164.2	2.08	0.48	14.2	0.02	0.22	74.4	26.50		
56	First Security Bank - Canby	Canby, MN	83.0	1.77	0.41	7.8	-0.63	0.00	52.8	11.54		
57	Richland State Bank	Bruce, SD	47.6	4.21	0.88	13.7	0.00	0.00	48.1	10.68		
58	Pavillion Bank	Richardson, TX	69.6	2.72	0.51	23.1	0.21	0.22	65.7	16.53		
59	Citizens Bank of Edina	Edina, MO	97.5	3.07	0.88	38.2	0.08	0.12	75.5	12.33		
60	Pioneer Community Bank Inc.	Jaeger, WV	163.2	2.72	0.67	67.2	0.12	0.39	85.0	13.21		
61	FFB Bank (FFBB)	Fresno, CA	1,362.4	3.60	0.47	47.2	0.16	0.54	80.9	12.52		
62	Capitol National Bank	Lansing, MI	184.1	2.49	0.92	19.5	-0.07	0.26	82.9	15.15		
63	State Bank Northwest	Spokane Valley, WA	224.4	2.29	0.30	32.0	0.01	0.30	82.2	12.00		
64	Tejas Bank	Monahans, TX	221.8	2.94	0.08	31.2	0.28	0.01	61.3	8.60		
65	First National Bank Northwest Florida	Panama City, FL	172.4	2.15	1.10	18.1	0.00	0.00	50.1	15.03		
66	Cottonport Bank	Cottonport, LA	486.0	2.57	0.85	29.9	-0.09	0.56	70.6	12.15		
67	First Security Bank of Nevada	Las Vegas, NV	255.1	2.92	0.83	9.6	0.00	0.00	99.4	26.16		
68	Bank of Commerce	Chelsea, OK	191.8	2.43	0.43	25.4	0.05	0.01	76.7	11.19		
69	Minden Exchange Bank & Trust Co.	Minden, NE	191.3	1.91	0.84	23.7	0.00	0.03	66.7	17.77		
70	Bank of Eastern Oregon (BEOB)	Happner, OR	860.7	2.38	0.30	35.3	-0.01	0.38	68.4	9.02		
71	Fulton Savings Bank	Fulton, NY	460.9	1.88	0.57	78.5	0.02	0.59	78.8	24.05		
72	Oak Valley Community Bank (OVLV)	Oakdale, CA	1,842.3	2.14	0.28	24.4	-0.01	0.00	61.6	9.42		
73	First National Bank of Anson	Anson, TX	72.9	2.76	0.23	17.7	0.00	0.35	69.0	8.58		
74	PEK Bank Inc.	Stanford, KY	150.5	2.54	0.54	19.0	0.05	0.37	71.2	12.39		
75	Security State Bank	McRae-Helena, GA	55.4	2.02	0.56	27.3	0.09	0.00	79.9	15.35		
76	First Bank and Trust Co.	Clinton, OK	60.3	2.31	0.31	18.9	0.21	0.30	43.2	11.30		
77	Amistad Bank	Del Rio, TX	43.9	3.10	0.69	11.6	0.01	0.00	101.7	14.90		
78	Bank of Cleveland	Cleveland, TN	365.2	2.51	0.90	11.2	0.00	0.16	88.5	16.54		
79	Bank of Lake Village	Lake Village, AR	85.8	2.44	1.16	23.2	0.00	0.13	66.1	14.26		
80	Martinsville First Savings Bank	Martinsville, VA	32.4	2.04	0.95	30.6	-0.14	1.08	61.8	17.92		
81	Fort Davis State Bank	Fort Davis, TX	175.4	1.88	0.94	376.0	0.02	0.11	49.5	12.95		
82	Titan Bank N.A.	Mineral Wells, TX	478.5	2.97	0.74	39.9	0.03	0.20	80.3	10.00		
83	Citizens National Bank	Crockett, TX	99.4	1.67	0.18	27.3	0.02	0.00	41.2	9.83		
84	First National Bank of Dublin	Dublin, TX	133.7	2.79	0.60	33.4	0.24	0.13	71.7	11.41		
85	Mission Bank (MSBC)	Bakersfield, CA	1,643.0	2.61	0.71	19.6	-0.03	0.02	84.3	11.40		
86	LimeBank	Bolivar, MO	107.5	2.54	1.25	93.2	0.00	0.05	107.6	18.15		
87	Citizens State Bank and Trust Co.	Hiawatha, KS	99.5	1.53	0.40	25.3	0.00	0.00	76.0	15.87		
88	Western Bank Artesia New Mexico	Artesia, NM	333.4	2.74	0.14	39.5	0.56	0.00	56.0	6.86		
89	Texas Exchange Bank	Crowley, TX	2,722.4	5.91	1.61	120.7	0.36	0.00	51.0	16.02		
90	First Piedmont FS&LA of Gaffney	Gaffney, SC	573.6	2.46	0.41	20.5	0.00	0.39	129.9	25.99		
91	Buckholts State Bank	Buckholts, TX	116.4	2.87	0.75	22.2	0.00	0.04	110.1	14.45		
92	City National Bank of Taylor	Taylor, TX	254.2	2.22	0.20	10.7	-0.09	0.38	61.3	9.69		
93	Community State Bank	Coffeyville, KS	180.3	2.11	0.83	20.5	-0.10	0.01	54.9	11.01		
94	Bank of Monticello	Monticello, GA	149.9	2.79	0.68	23.0	0.02	0.35	78.4	11.51		
95	Bank of Grain Valley	Kansas City, MO	111.6	2.02	0.67	8.0	0.00	0.00	80.9	20.35		
96	Legends Bank	Linn, MO	514.0	2.35	0.83	18.8	0.03	0.32	89.4	16.79		
97	Freedom Bank	Alamo, TX	197.0	3.81	1.89	183.7	0.02	0.00	81.2	16.57		
98	American Momentum Bank	College Station, TX	2,584.4	2.78	0.84	20.1	0.03	0.61	91.0	15.40		
99	SunMark Community Bank	Perry, GA	398.9	2.44	0.69	17.4	0.00	0.04	80.6	12.23		
100	Peoples State Bank	Elair, OK	16.7	3.10	0.15	18.7	0.79	0.00	74.9	11.93		
<b>Top 100 median</b>				<b>2.68</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>13.58</b>		
<b>Median for all 3,720 banks</b>				<b>1.12</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.27</b>	<b>83.3</b>	<b>9.29</b>		

Data compiled March 4, 2024.

ROAA = return on average assets; NCO = net charge-off; NPA = nonperforming asset; PD = past due; HTM = held to maturity. S&P Global Market Intelligence used seven diverse weighted metrics to identify top-performing US community banks under \$3 billion in total assets. The mean for each metric was identified across the dataset, and standard deviations from these means were calculated for each metric for each institution and aggregated to determine a relative performance score. Scores for each metric were also capped to help normalize the data. Criteria for the ranking included a gross loans and leases-to-total assets ratio of at least 33% with no more than half of those loans in credit cards; a leverage ratio of at least 5%; no active severe enforcement action for the institution; a result other than "substantial noncompliance" or "needs to improve" in the bank's most recent CRA exam; a yield on loans and leases of no more than three times the industry median of 6.74%; and no more than half of the entity's revenue coming from nontraditional banking activities. Additionally, industrial banks, nondpository trusts, companies with a bankers' bank certification, and banks with parent companies that have total assets of \$2 billion or more were omitted.

<sup>1</sup> Return on average assets before taxes and extraordinary item adjustments is net of dividends on preferred stock.

<sup>2</sup> Adjusted tangible common equity to tangible assets ratio is calculated as tangible common equity + unrealized gain or loss from held to maturity securities + loss reserves - nonperforming assets - loans 90 or more days delinquent + still accruing interest divided by tangible assets.

Rankings are based on regulatory filings. All ranking metrics must have been reported for company to be included.

Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence.

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