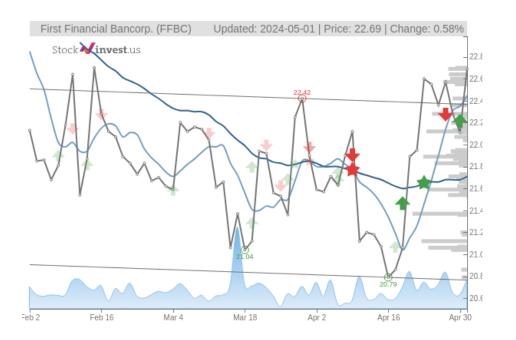
First Financial Bancorp. (Wed, May 01, 2024)

Buy candidate since Apr 29, 2024 Gain 1.84%



StockInvest.us Gyneju st. 14, "ROCKIT" Vilnius, LT-01109 Lithuania

> score: **0.787** #5047/ 30053

rend:	Hold
IV Long:	Buy
IV Short:	Buy
Pivot:	Buy
olume:	Buy
IACD:	Buy

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Tech commentaries:

The First Financial Bancorp. stock price gained 2.62% on the last trading day (Wednesday, 1st May 2024), rising from \$22.11 to \$22.69. During the last trading day the stock fluctuated 3.38% from a day low at \$22.21 to a day high of \$22.96. The price has risen in 6 of the last 10 days and is up by 8.77% over the past 2 weeks. Volume has increased on the last day along with the price, which is a positive technical sign, and, in total, 140 thousand more shares were traded than the day before. In total, 387 thousand shares were bought and sold for approximately \$8.78 million.

The stock has broken the horizontal trend up. Breaks like this are often followed by swift and strong movements, and any correction down to the breakline at approximately. **\$22.37** is considered to be a "second chance" to hit a potential runner. It is, however, important that volume does follow the price as false breaks may appear and it may move back into the horizontal trend. Based on the rectangle-formation theory the stock is predicted to reach **\$23.97** sometime during the next 3 months.

The **First Financial Bancorp.** stock holds buy signals from both short and long-term Moving Averages giving a positive forecast for the stock. Also, there is a general buy signal from the relation between the two signals where the short-term average is above the long-term average. On corrections down, there will be some support from the lines at **\$22.45** and **\$21.71**. A breakdown below any of these levels will issue sell signals. A buy signal was issued from a pivot bottom point on **Tuesday**, **April 16**, **2024**, and so far it has risen 9.14%. Further rise is indicated until a new top pivot has been found. Furthermore, there is a buy signal from the 3 month Moving Average Convergence Divergence (MACD). Volume is rising along with the price. This is considered to be a good technical signal.

First Financial Bancorp. finds support from accumulated volume at \$21.89 and this level may hold a buying opportunity as an upwards reaction can be expected when the support is being tested. On the upside the stock meets some resistance just above today's level from accumulated volume at **\$22.70**.

This stock has average movements during the day and with good trading volume, the risk is considered to be medium. During the last day, the stock moved **\$0.750** between high and low, or **3.38%**. For the last week, the stock has had daily average volatility of **2.42%**.

First Financial Bancorp. holds several positive signals, but we still don't find these to be enough for a buy candidate. At the current level, it should be considered as a hold candidate (hold or accumulate) in this position whilst awaiting further development.

Risk: Medium

Evaluation: Hold/Accumulate

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