The money stock has risen at a 5.5 per cent annual rate in eleven months from December 1969 to the four weeks ending December 2, 1970 (page 5). This average rate of money growth so far in 1970 consisted of a 6.7 per cent rate in the first five months of the year, and about a 4 per cent rate in the six months since May. The demand deposit component of money (page 4) has increased at a 5.2 per cent rate in the past eleven months. */

Other monetary aggregates such as monetary base which determine the trend growth of the money stock, have increased rapidly since early this year (page 2). The monetary base has risen at a 6.2 per cent annual rate in the past eleven months. The rapid growth of this aggregate has been necessary in order to provide adequate money expansion while accommodating the rapid growth of time deposits in commercial banks since early in the year.

Short-term market interest rates have fallen sharply in 1970, but yields are still relatively high by the historical standards of the past 20 years (pages 10 and 11). The rate of decline of short-term rates has been especially rapid since mid-year. Yields on three-month Treasury bills averaged

[^0]4.95 per cent in the three days ending December 9, down from 7.87 per cent in January, but still substantially higher than 3.95 per cent in 1965 and 2.87 per cent in 1960. Yields on prime four- to six-month commercial paper averaged 5.75 per cent in the three days ending December 9 , down over 3 percentage points since January, yet high compared with 4.38 per cent in 1965 and 3.85 per cent in 1960.

Long-term interest rates generally rose somewhat in the first half of 1970, but have declined since the end of June, particularly in recent weeks (page 10). Long-term government bond rates averaged 5.89 per cent in the three days ending December 9, compared with 6.86 per cent in January and 6.99 per cent in June. Yields on Aaa-rated state and local government bonds were 5.35 per cent on November 26 , compared with 6.38 per cent in January and 6.81 per cent in June. Highest-grade corporate bond rates averaged 7.80 per cent in the three days ending December 9, approximately the same as in January, but down about 70 basis points since June. Yields on intermediate-grade corporate bonds averaged 9.24 per cent in the first three days of this week, about the same as in June, and about 40 basis points higher than January. The spread between these highest- and intermediate grade corporate bonds has widened from about 80 basis points in June to about 145 basis points now.






Averages of Daily Figures
Seasonally Adjusted
Billions of Dollars




YIELDS ON SELECTED SECURITIES





[^0]:    */ For a detailed discussion of the recent revision of the money supply and related series, see this Bank's December 1970 monthly Review.

