U.S. FINANCIAL DATA

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Week ending: November 16, 1977

Many large corporations have the option of borrowing from commercial banks or borrowing through the commercial paper market. Changes in the differential between the commercial bank prime rate and commercial paper rates indicate changes in the relative attractiveness of borrowing from commercial banks. In this context, the relevant measure of the cost of borrowing at commercial banks depends upon whether a bank loan has a fixed or floating interest rate. On a fixed-rate loan the interest rate remains unchanged while the loan is outstanding. For such loans the relevant comparison of interest rates is between the prevailing prime and commercial paper rates. For bank loans with fixed interest rates, the differential between the prime rate and the interest rate on 90 - 119 day commercial paper has narrowed in recent months. This differential averaged 1.56 percentage points from June of last year through April of this year, and has averaged 1.16 percentage points from May to the present.

On floating-rate loans from commercial banks, interest rates are changed while such loans are outstanding when there is a change in the prime rate. The effective costs of floating-rate loans can be determined only after such loans mature. A comparison of the costs of short-term floating rate loans to the costs of borrowing in the commercial paper market is presented in the chart on the back of this release. The commercial paper rate is the average rate on 90 - 119 day paper for the week ending each Friday. The floating prime rate plotted each week is the average prime rate during 90 calendar days following the Friday of that week. From June of last year through January of this year, the differential between the floating prime rate and the 90 - 119 day commercial paper rate averaged 1.41 percentage points, compared to a spread of 1.58 percentage points from February through the first three weeks of August this year.

Surveys of lending practices indicate that most of the business loans made by large banks have floating interest rates, whereas floating-rate loans are much less common at smaller banks.* Therefore, the effective cost of prime rate loans at most large commercial banks relative to the costs of borrowing through the commercial paper market has actually risen since early this year.

* See the quarterly G.14 release of the Board of Governors.

THIS RELEASE WILL BE MAILED LATER THAN USUAL NEXT WEEK DUE TO A HOLIDAY ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1977.

> Prepared by Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Released: November 18, 1977

MONETARY BASE AVERAGES OF DAILY FIGURES SEASONALLY ADJUSTED BY THIS BANK BILLIONS OF DOLLARS BILLIONS OF DOLLARS 132 132 BILLIONS 1977 130 127.8 128.6 128.5 129.0 129.3 129.8 130 OCT. 12 26 NOV. 128 29 128 16 126 126 124 124 122 1 ?2 120 120 118 118 116 116 114 114 112 112 111 111 111 1111 111 1111 111 111 1111 1111 11 1111 0 0 1 15 29 13 27 10 24 8 22 5 19 2 16 2 16 30 13 27 11 25 8 22 6 20 3 17 31 14 28 12 26 9 23 SEP APR MAY JUL AUG OCT NOV OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR JUN SEP 1977 1976

LATEST DATA PLOTTED WEEK ENDING: NOVEMBER 16, 1977

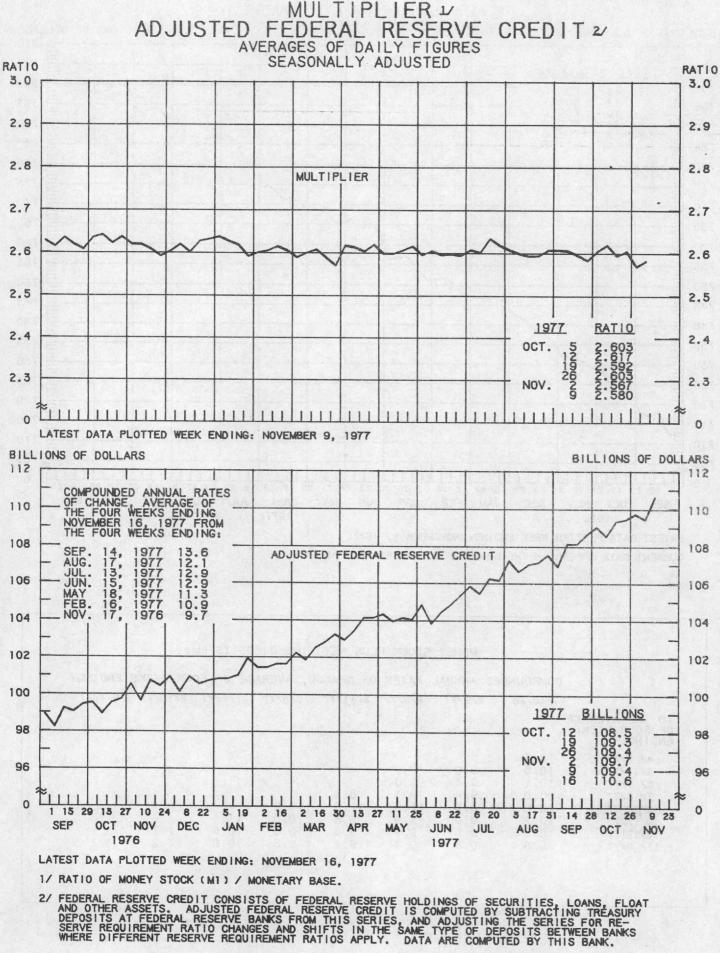
THE MONETARY BASE CONSISTS OF MEMBER BANK RESERVES AT THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AND CURRENCY IN CIRCULATION (CURRENCY HELD BY THE PUBLIC AND IN THE VAULTS OF COMMERCIAL BANKS), ADJUSTED FOR RESERVE REQUIREMENT RATIO CHANGES AND SHIFTS IN THE SAME TYPE OF DEPOSITS BETWEEN BANKS WHERE DIFFERENT RESERVE REQUIREMENT RATIOS APPLY. THE MAJOR SOURCES OF THE MONETARY BASE ARE FEDERAL RESERVE CREDIT AND THE GOLD STOCK. DATA ARE COMPUTED BY THIS BANK. A DETAILED DE-SCRIPTION OF THE MONETARY BASE IS AVAILABLE FROM THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ST. LOUIS.

	MONETARY BASE								
	COMPOUNDED ANNUAL RATES OF CHANGE, AVERAGE OF FOUR WEEKS ENDING:								
	11/17/76	2/16/77	4/13/77	5/18/77	6/15/77	7/13/77	8/17/77	9/14/77	
TO THE AVERAG OF FOUR WEEKS ENDING:									
4/13/77 5/18/77	7.7	9.3 7.5	5.8						
6/15/77 7/13/77 8/17/77	7.1 7.7 8.3	8.4 9.2	7.7	7.1 9.1	12.3				
9/14/77 10/19/77	8.3 8.6	9.1 9.4	8.9 9.3	8.9 9.4	11.1	10.6 10.8	10.0		
11/16/77	8.8	9.6	9.6	9.8	11.3	11.0	10.6	11.4	

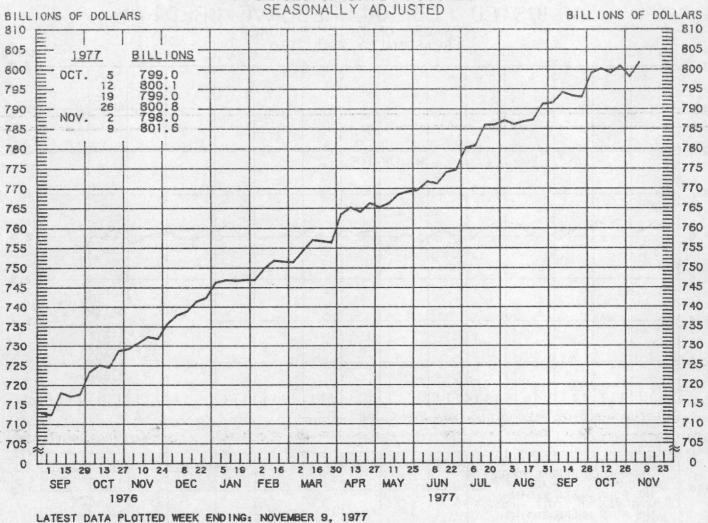
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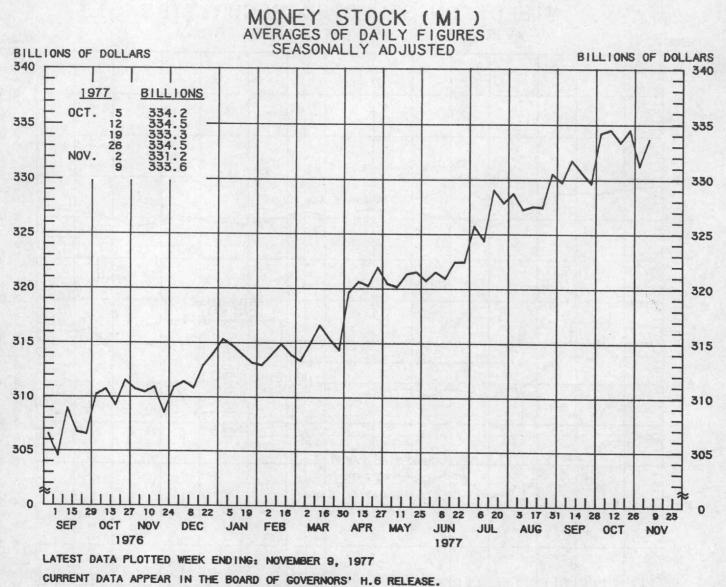


MONEY STOCK PLUS NET TIME DEPOSITS (M2)



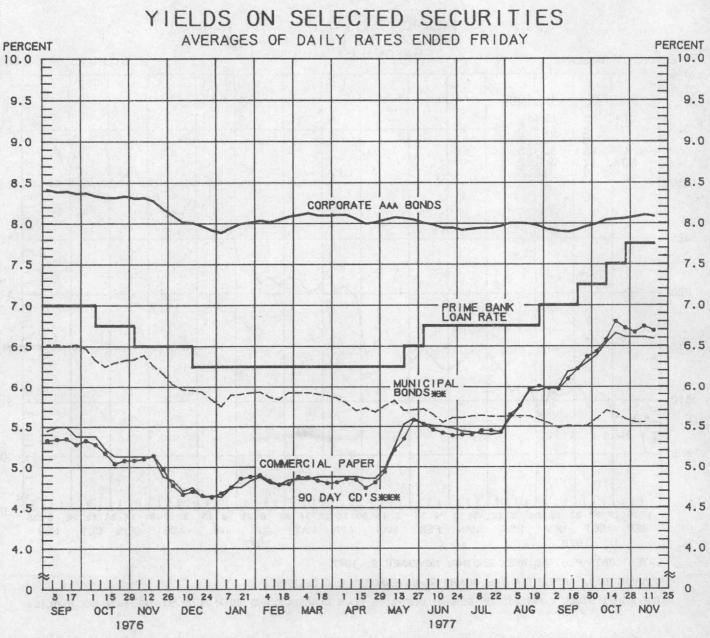
CURRENT DATA APPEAR IN THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS' H.6 RELEASE.

	MONEY STOCK PLUS NET TIME DEPOSITS (M2)								
	COMPOUNDED	ANNUAL	RATES	OF CHANGE	, AVERAG	E OF FO	UR WEEKS	ENDING:	
	11/10/76	2/9/77	4/6/77	5/11/77	6/8/77	7/6/77	8/10/77	9/7/77	
TO THE AVERAGE OF FOUR WEEKS ENDING:									
4/ 6/77 5/11/77	10.5	9.9							
6/ 8/77 7/ 6/77	10.1 10.0	9.4 9.4	9.0 9.1	8.4					
8/10/77 9/ 7/77	10.8	10.6	11.0 9.9	11.3	13.0	11.1			
10/12/77	10.2	9.9	9.9	9.8	10.3	10.6	7.7		-
11/ 9/77	9.8	9.5	9.4	9.2	9.5	9.6	7.2	8.1	



THE MONEY STOCK CONSISTS OF DEMAND DEPOSITS PLUS CURRENCY AND COIN HELD BY THE NONBANK PUBLIC.

	MONEY STOCK (M1)									
	COMPOUNDED	ANNUAL	RATES	OF CHANGE	, AVERA	GE OF FO	UR WEEKS	ENDING:		
	11/10/76	2/9/77	4/6/77	5/11/77	6/8/77	7/6/77	8/10/77	9/7/77		
THE AVERAGE FOUR WEEKS										
4/ 6/77	4.9									
5/11/77	6.7	9.5								
6/ 8/77	6.1	7.8	9.1							
7/ 6/77	6.2	7.6	8.3	4.5						
8/10/77	7.7	9.6	11.1	9.7	13.1					
9/ 7/77	7.2	8.6	9.4	7.9	9.7	11.0				
10/12/77	7.6	9.0	9.8	8.7	10.1	11.1	7.2			
11/ 9/77	7.3	8.5	9.0	7.9	9.0	9.5	6.2	8.0		

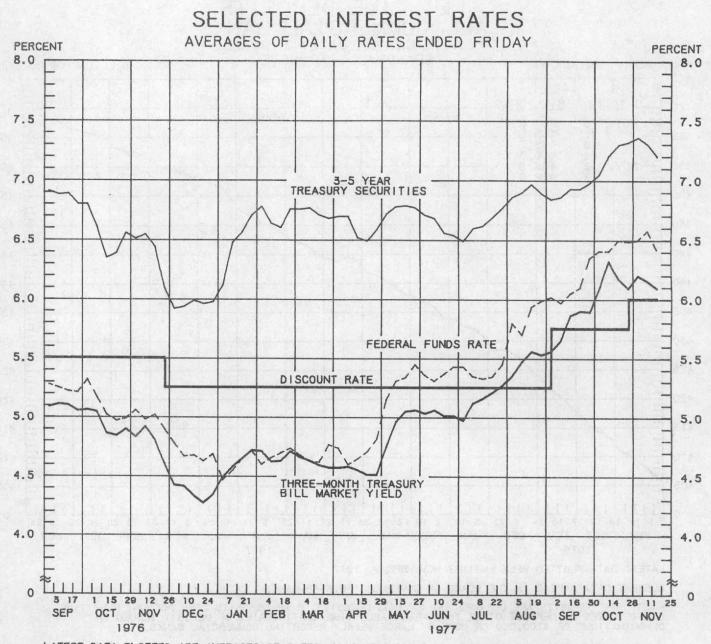


LATEST DATA PLOTTED ARE AVERAGES OF RATES AVAILABLE FOR THE WEEK ENDING: NOVEMBER 18, 1977

1977	90 DAY CD'S MONOME	PRIME COMMERCIAL PAPER 4-6 MONTH	PRIME BANKERS' ACCEPTANCES	CORPORATE AAA BONDS	MUNICIPAL. BONDS 34846
SEP. 2 9 16 23 30 0CT. 7 14 21 28 NOV. 4 11 18 * 25	5.98 5.97 6.10 6.22 6.37 6.43 6.58 6.80 6.72 6.67 6.67 6.69	6.00 5.99 6.19 6.22 6.30 6.39 6.54 6.66 6.61 6.61 6.61 6.59	5.93 5.98 6.19 6.22 6.30 6.48 6.64 6.64 6.62 6.53 6.69 6.66 6.58	7.92 7.90 7.89 7.92 7.96 7.99 8.04 8.05 8.06 8.06 8.08 8.10 8.08	5.54 5.48 5.51 5.50 5.51 5.60 5.70 5.67 5.59 5.55 5.55 5.55 N.A.

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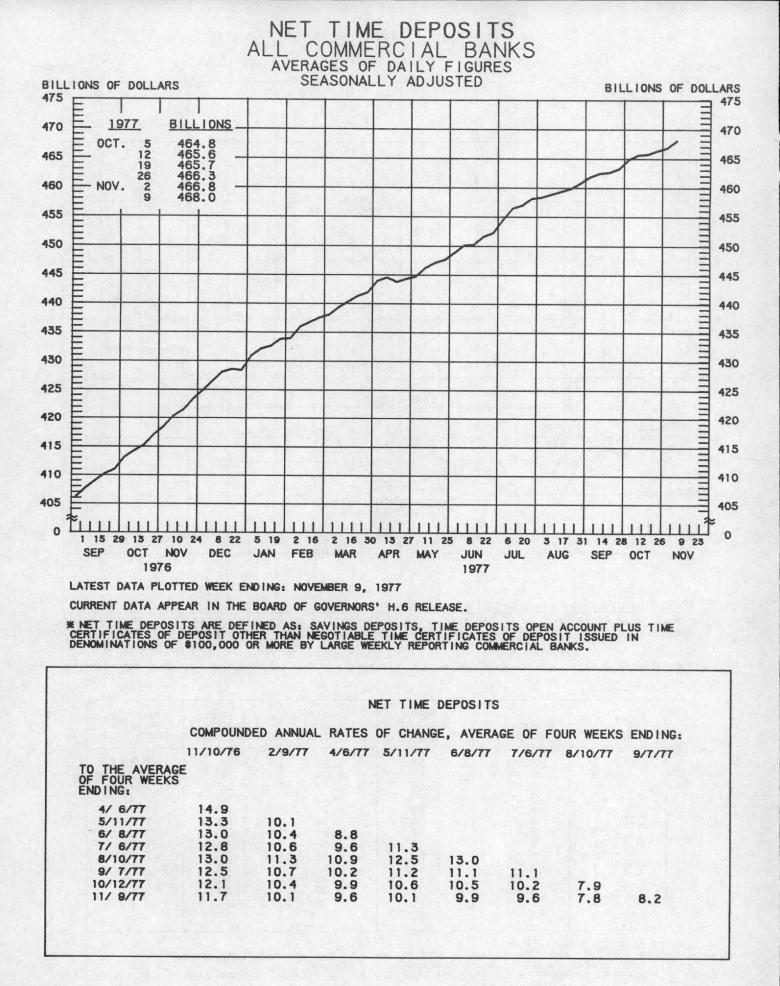


LATEST DATA PLOTTED ARE AVERAGES OF RATES AVAILABLE FOR THE WEEK ENDING: NOVEMBER 18, 1977

1977	FEDERAL FUNDS X8K	3-MONTH TREASURY BILLS	1-YEAR TREASURY BILL	3-5 YEAR TREASURY SECURITIES	LONG-TERM TREASURY SECURITIES
SEP. 2 9 16 23 30 0CT. 7 14 21 28 NOV. 4 11 18 * 25	6.02 5.97 6.05 6.10 6.35 6.41 6.41 6.50 6.49 6.50 6.58 6.42	5.56 5.65 5.86 5.90 5.89 6.09 6.32 6.17 6.09 6.20 6.15 6.09	5.98 6.04 6.14 6.15 6.21 6.38 6.61 6.59 6.49 6.60 6.55 6.50	6.84 6.93 6.93 6.93 7.05 7.21 7.30 7.32 7.36 7.30 7.20	7.40 7.41 7.45 7.47 7.53 7.61 7.62 7.64 7.70 7.71 7.67

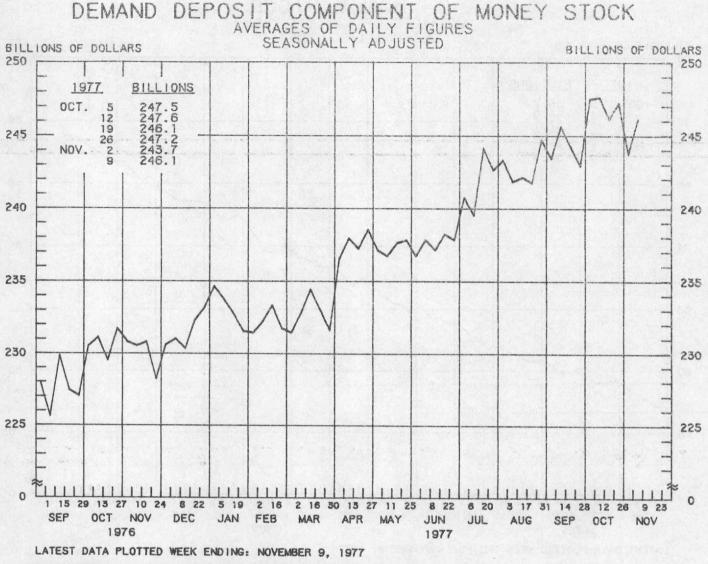
* AVERAGES OF RATES AVAILABLE. *0* SEVEN-DAY AVERAGES FOR WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY TWO DAYS EARLIER THAN DATE SHOWN. CURRENT DATA APPEAR IN THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS' H.9 RELEASE. RATES ON LONG-TERM TREASURY SECURITIES ARE COMPUTED BY THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ST. LOUIS. TREASURY BILL YIELDS ON DISCOUNT BASIS.

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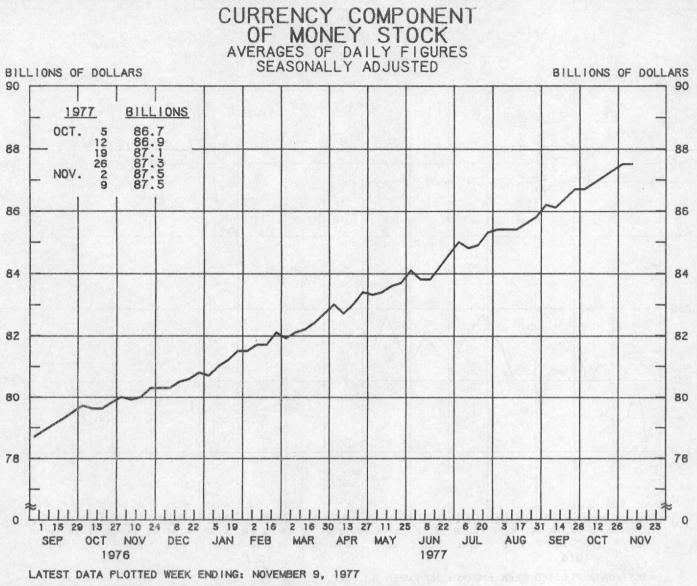
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CURRENT DATA APPEAR IN THE BOARD OF GOVERNO	RS' H.6	RELEASE.
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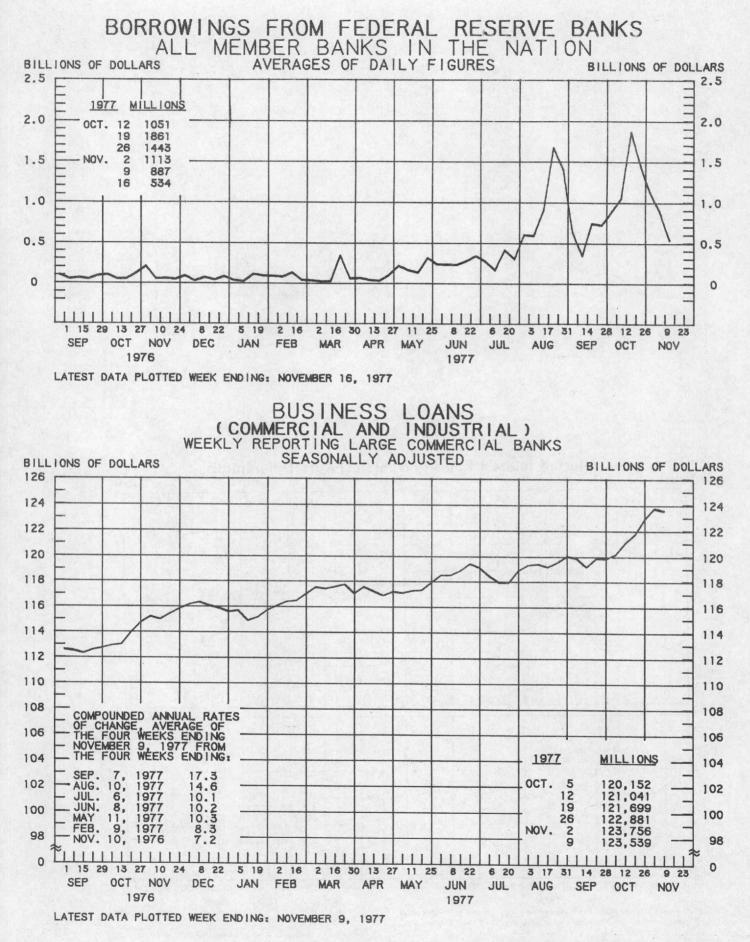
		DEMAIND	DEFUSI	I COMPONE	ENT UP M	ONEY STOCK	
	COMPOUNDED	ANNUAL	RATES	OF CHANGE	E, AVERA	GE OF FOUR WEEKS	ENDING:
	11/10/76	2/9/77	4/6/77	5/11/77	6/8/77	7/6/77 8/10/77	9/7/77
TO THE AVERAG							
4/ 6/77 5/11/77 6/ 8/77 7/ 6/77	3.6 6.0 5.2 5.3	9.6 7.4 7.1	9.2 8.1	3.1			
8/10/77 9/ 7/77	7.2	9.7	11.7	9.8 7.4	14.1	11.4	
10/12/77	7.1 6.6	8.8	9.9 8.7	8.4 7.2	10.2	11.5 6.3 9.1 4.7	6.8

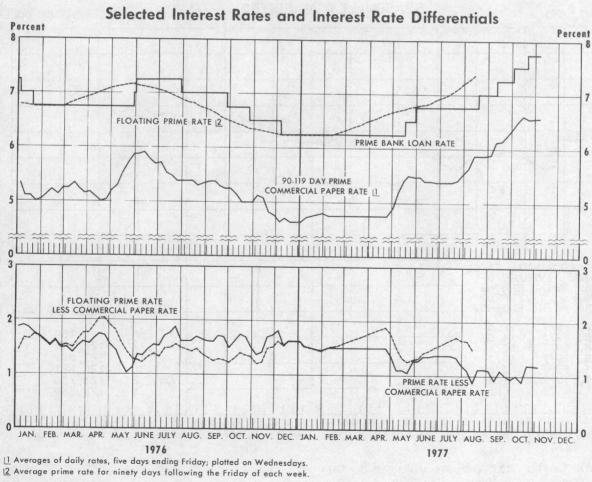
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CURRENT DATA APPEAR IN THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS' H.6 RELEASE.

	CURRENCY									
	COMPOUNDE	D ANNUAL	RATES	OF CHANGE	, AVERA	GE OF FO	UR WEEKS	ENDING:		
	11/10/76	2/9/77	4/6/77	5/11/77	6/8/77	7/6/77	8/10/77	9/7/77		
TO THE AVERAGE OF FOUR WEEKS ENDING:	E									
4/ 6/77 5/11/77 6/ 8/77 7/ 6/77	8.9 9.0 8.8 8.9	9.1 8.9 9.0	8.7 9.0	8.9						
8/10/77 9/ 7/77 10/12/77	9.3 9.2 9.4	9.5 9.3 9.6	9.7 9.4 9.8	10.0 9.5 9.9	10.8 9.9 10.3	10.0	9.9			
11/ 9/77	9.5	9.8	9.9	10.1	10.5	10.6	10.2	11.3		





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