

The spreads between the municipal bond rate and other long-term rates have narrowed since January 1985, as the table on the back page indicates. Changes in interest rate spreads are the result of changes in the demand and supply of various types of debt instruments. These in turn depend on investors' assessments of tax rates and risks, both now and in the future.

The smaller spreads of today appear to be due to an increase in the supply of municipal bonds. Why the increase? A likely cause is the Treasury's proposed change in the tax treatment of municipal bonds, which was released late in 1984. Under the Treasury's tax reform proposal, as well as Reagan's subsequent proposal, municipal bonds issued for public purpose would retain their current tax exempt status. The interest on municipal bonds issued after December 31, 1985, whose proceeds are used by someone other than a state or local government, however, would be taxable.

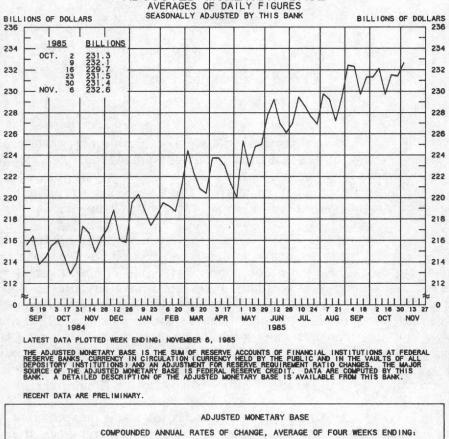
From January to May 1985, the average monthly issuance of municipal bonds was \$10.2 billion, up from \$5.6 billion for the same period in 1984. Since the Reagan tax reform proposal at the end of May 1985, municipal bond issuance has increased further, averaging \$12.9 billion from June to August.

-Richard G. Sheehan

(continued on back page)



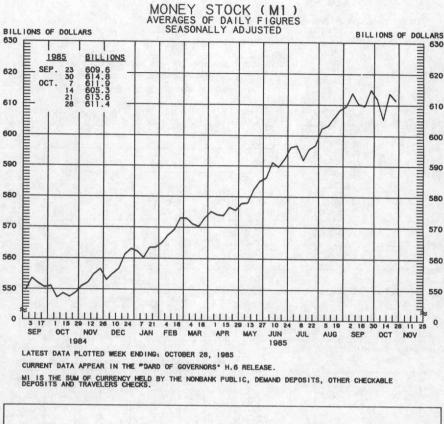
Digitized for the Federal Reserve System. http://fraser.stlouisfed.org Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis



ADJUSTED MONETARY BASE AVERAGES OF DAILY FIGURES

11/7/84 2/6/85 4/3/85 5/8/85 6/5/85 7/3/85 8/7/85 9/4/85 TO THE AVERAGE OF FOUR WEEKS ENDING: 4/ 3/85 8.4 5/ 8/85 7.3 9.5 10.3 9.1 9.0 6/ 5/85 8.5 8.9 7/ 3/85 9.1 15.2 10.8 10.2 9.5 8.2 8.6 8.2 8/ 7/85 8.5 9/ 4/85 8.5 6.0 8.3 6.4 7.6 10/ 9/85 8.7 7 9 7.3 11/ 6/85 6.6 4.4

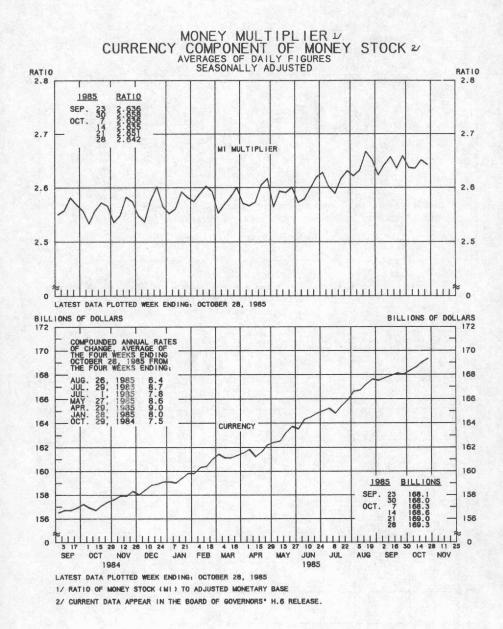
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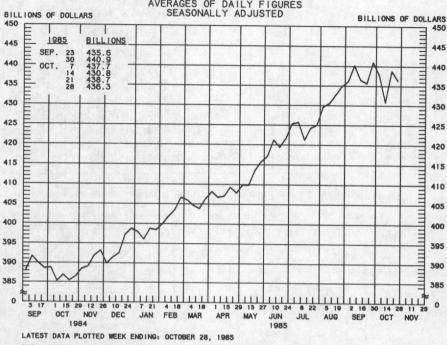
MONEY	STOCK	(MI)
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COMPOUNDED ANNUAL RATES OF CHANGE, AVERAGE OF FOUR WEEKS ENDING: 10/29/84 1/28/85 3/25/85 4/29/85 5/27/85 7/1/85 7/29/85 8/26/85 TO THE AVERAGE OF FOUR WEEKS ENDING: 3/25/85 11.1 10.1 10.6 9.3 10.4 13.0 12.0 13.5 13.4 4/29/85 9.3 13.9 12.3 14.2 14.0 5/27/85 18.7 14.9 16.8 16.0 12.8 7/ 1/85 12.2 7/29/85 15.3 17.7 16.4 12.6 11.6 8/26/85 12.7 14.7 9/30/85 12.7 14.1 9.8 17.6 10/28/85 11.4 11.6 11.6 10.8 5.7

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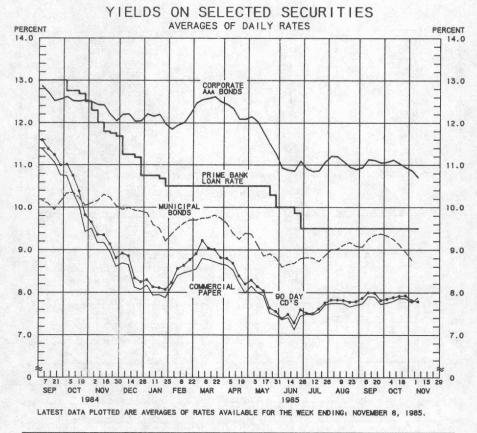


TOTAL CHECKABLE DEPOSITS AVERAGES OF DAILY FIGURES SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

TOTAL CHECKABLE DEPOSITS IS THE SUM OF DEMAND DEPOSITS AND OTHER CHECKABLE DEPOSITS AT ALL DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS.

	COMPOUND	ED ANNUA	RATES	OF CHANG	E, AVERA	GE OF FO	UR WEEKS	SENDING:
	10/29/84	1/28/85	3/25/85		5/27/85		7/29/85	8/26/85
O THE AVERAGE F FOUR WEEKS NDING:	E							
3/25/85 4/29/85 5/27/85 7/ 1/85 7/29/85 8/26/85 9/30/85 10/28/85	12.8 11.6 12.1 14.1 13.3 14.6 14.8 12.9	10.3 11.5 14.9 13.6 15.3 15.5 13.0	10.4 16.2 14.0 16.3 16.3 13.0	21.9 17.0 19.3 18.7 14.3	17.7 20.5 19.4 14.1	16.4 16.5 10.5	21.1	5.5

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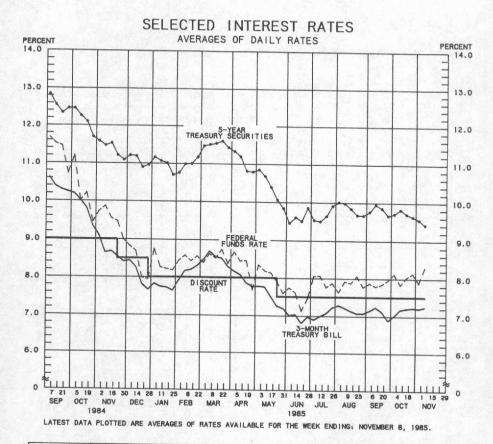


1985	90 DAY CD*S	30-DAY COMMERCIAL PAPER	90-DAY BANKERS* ACCEPTANCES	CORPORATE AAA BONDS	CORPORATE BAA BONDS	MUNICIPAL BONDS NOK
SEP. 6 13 20 27 0CT. 4 11 18 25 NOV. 1 8 * 15 22 29	7.87 8.00 7.99 7.82 7.85 7.89 7.92 7.93 7.82 7.79	7.74 7.91 7.90 7.73 7.76 7.80 7.87 7.86 7.86 7.77 7.86	7.80 7.92 7.90 7.68 7.72 7.81 7.81 7.81 7.80 7.71 7.69	10.94 11.13 11.11 11.05 11.07 11.12 11.03 10.94 10.87 10.71	12.41 12.52 12.51 12.47 12.46 12.39 12.38 12.31 12.24 12.15	9.07 9.26 9.35 9.33 9.25 9.12 8.95 8.76 N.A.

NOTE: CURRENT DATA APPEAR IN THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS" H.15 RELEASE. W AVERAGES OF RATES AVAILABLE WW BOND BUYER'S AVERAGE INDEX OF 20 MUNICIPAL BONDS, THURSDAY DATA

N.A. - NOT AVAILABLE

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1985	FEDERAL FUNDS HER	3-MONTH TREASURY BILL	6-MONTH TREASURY BILL HUBK	1-YEAR TREASURY BILL	5-YEAR TREASURY SECURITIES	LONG-TERM TREASURY SECURITIES
SEP. 6 13 20 27 OCT. 4 11 18 25 NOV. 1 8 * 15 29	7.88 7.80 7.85 7.96 8.12 7.84 8.03 8.14 7.89 8.30	7.14 7.23 7.12 6.89 7.01 7.17 7.20 7.22 7.20 7.24	7.30 7.39 7.05 7.24 7.32 7.36 7.32 7.36 7.32 7.37 7.30	7.49 7.62 7.55 7.34 7.41 7.49 7.44 7.47 7.41 7.38	9.76 9.95 9.85 9.66 9.71 9.70 9.70 9.63 9.55 9.42	10.68 10.87 10.80 10.73 10.73 10.81 10.67 10.57 10.48 10.33

NOTE: CURRENT DATA APPEAR IN THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS" H.15 RELEASE EXCLUDING LONG-TERM TREASURY WE AVERAGES OF RATES WHICH ARE COMPUTED BY THIS BANK. TREASURY BILL YIELDS ARE ON A DISCOUNT BASIS. WWW SEVEN-DAY AVERAGES FOR WEEK ENDING TWO DAYS EARLIER THAN DATE SHOWN WHW AUCTION AVERAGES FOR WEEK ENDING TWO DAYS EARLIER THAN DATE SHOWN

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7

COMMERCIAL BANK MALL TIME DEPOSITS V ARGE TIME DEPOSITS 2/ AVERAGES OF DAILY FIGURES SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SMALL BILLIONS OF DOLLARS BILLIONS OF DOLLARS 410 410 T 1985 BILLIONS 382.6 383.0 382.7 381.9 381.7 381.3 SEP. 23 OCT. 400 400 14 21 28 SMALL TIME DEPOSITS 390 390 ų, 380 380 370 370 111 111 111 111 111 111 111 0 0 LATEST DATA PLOTTED WEEK ENDING: OCTOBER 28, 1985 BILLIONS OF DOLLARS BILLIONS OF DOLLARS 285 285 1985 BILLIONS 273.4 274.0 276.8 277.3 276.1 275.8 SEP. 23 280 280 LARGE TIME DEPOSITS OCT. . 14 21 28 275 275 270 270 265 265 260 260 -255 255 1111 111 1111 111 111 111 1111 111 1111 T1 1111 111 0 0 1 15 29 12 26 10 24 7 21 4 18 4 18 1 15 29 13 27 10 24 8 22 5 19 2 16 30 14 28 11 25 OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV 3 17 SEP 1984 1985 LATEST DATA PLOTTED WEEK ENDING: OCTOBER 28, 1985 1/ TIME DEPOSITS ISSUED IN DENOMINATIONS OF LESS THAN \$100,000 2/ TIME DEPOSITS ISSUED IN DENOMINATIONS OF \$100,000 OR MORE

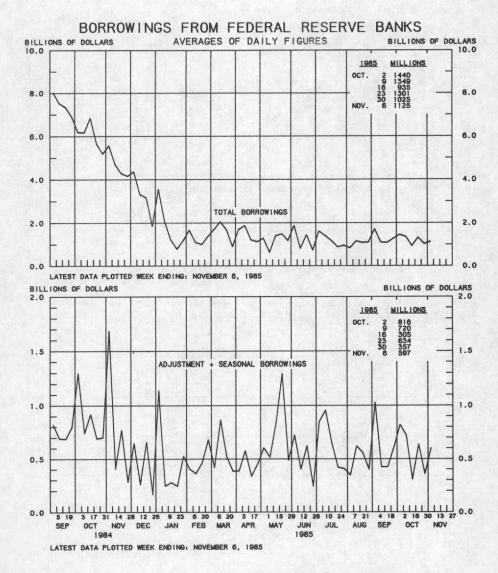
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TOTAL TIME IS THE SUM OF SAVINGS DEPOSITS, SMALL TIME DEPOSITS AND LARGE TIME DEPOSITS.

			TO	TAL TIME	DEPOSIT	S		
	COMPOUND		L RATES	OF CHANG	E, AVERA	GE OF FO	OUR WEEKS	ENDING:
	10/29/84	1/28/85	3/25/85	4/29/85	5/27/85	7/1/85	7/29/85	8/26/85
TO THE AVERAGI OF FOUR WEEKS ENDING:								
3/25/85	0.1							
4/29/85 5/27/85	2.4	6.1 5.6	8.8					
7/ 1/85	1.8	3.6	4.4	0.0				
7/29/85	1.1	2.3	2.3	-1.4	-3.7			
8/26/85	0.7	1.5	1.3	-1.8	-3.6	-3.9		
9/30/85	1.3	2.2	2.3	0.0	-0.8	0.1	2.1	
10/28/85	1.6	2.6	2.7	0.8	0.3	1.3	3.1	6.1

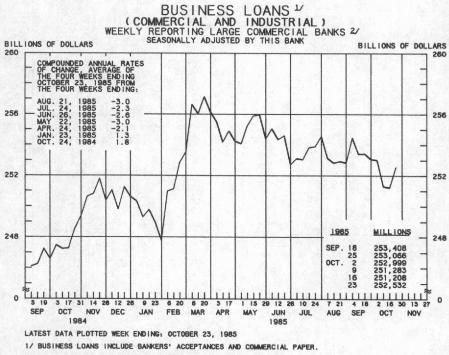
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MMDAS, MMMFS AND SUPER NOWS (BILLIONS OF DOLLARS, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

September	2	\$319.5	\$239.8	\$59.1
ocpreater	9	321.3	239.1	61.1
	16	321.9	239.0	60.5
	23	320.5	239.0	59.2
	30	321.1	238.4	58.7
October	7	322.7	238.5	61.1
	14	324.0	240.8	61.0
	21	324.3	240.5	61.0
	28	325.1	240.0	60.2
N		counts at comme		



2/ BANKS WITH DOMESTIC ASSETS GREATER THAN \$1.4 BILLION

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Basis-Point Spread Between the Municipal Bond Rate and Rates on Selected Securities

1985	Corporate <u>Aaa bonds</u>	Long-term Treasury securities
January	257	196
June	225	179
October	194	158