

Both the discount rate and the prime rate were reduced by 50 basis points effective Friday, July 11. At its new level of 6 percent, the discount rate is lower than it has been since January 1978. The prime rate, now at 8 percent, has not been this low since May 1978. In announcing the discount rate reduction, the Federal Reserve Board stated that the action was taken within the framework of the accommodative policy stance that has prevailed and, in part, conformed to recent declines in market interest rates.

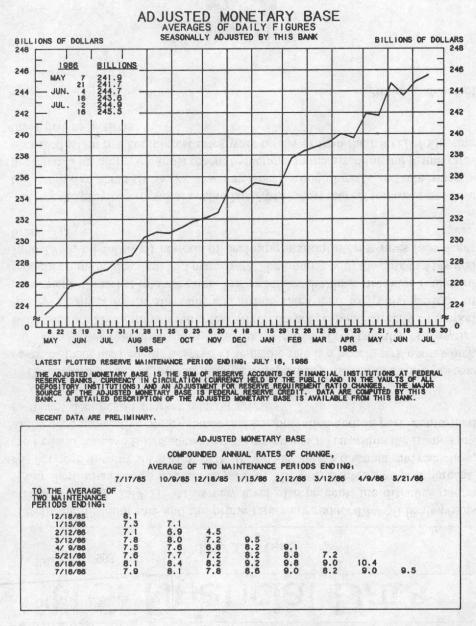
The discount rate is the rate at which depository institutions may borrow reserves from the Federal Reserve. The prime rate is a benchmark upon which banks base rates on short-term loans to their most creditworthy borrowers. Because both are administered rates, which do not respond directly to market forces, changes in the discount and prime rates tend to follow periods of movement in market interest rates. For example, the three previous rounds of reductions in the discount and prime rates, beginning with the cuts in May and June 1985, all followed periods of declining market interest rates (see pages 6 and 7).

After the previous round of cuts in late April, most market interest rates rose for a period of about six weeks, reaching a peak around June 6, and subsequently declined. Therefore, the most recent reductions in the discount and prime rates occurred when market interest rates were no lower than their levels following the April reductions.

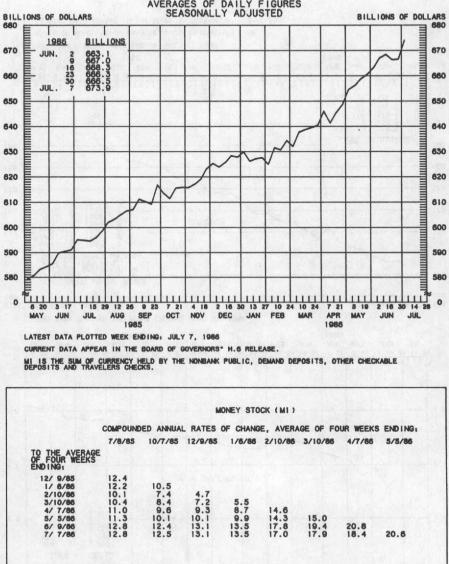
-Philip A. Nuetzel



Views expressed do not necessarily reflect official positions of the Federal Reserve System. Digitized for FRASER http://fraser.stlouisfed.org Federal Reserve Bank of St Louis

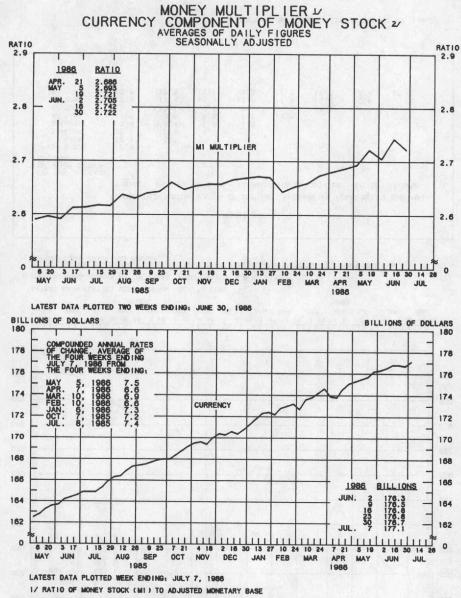


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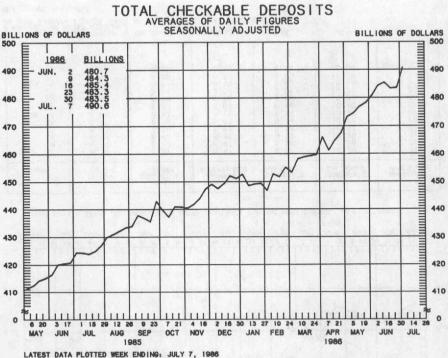
MONEY STOCK (M1) AVERAGES OF DAILY FIGURES SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

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2/ CURRENT DATA APPEAR IN THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS" H.6 RELEASE.

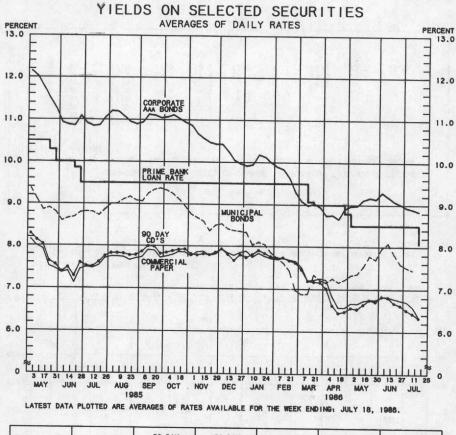
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TOTAL CHECKABLE DEPOSITS IS THE SUM OF DEMAND DEPOSITS AND OTHER CHECKABLE DEPOSITS AT ALL DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS.

			TOTAL	CHECKAB	LE DEPOS	SITS		
	COMPOUND		RATES	OF CHANG	E, AVERA	GE OF FO	UR WEEKS	ENDING
	7/8/85	10/7/85	12/9/85	1/6/86	2/10/86	3/10/86	4/7/86	5/5/86
TO THE AVERAGE OF FOUR WEEKS ENDING:								
12/ 9/85	14.3	1. C. L.						
1/ 6/86 2/10/86	14.1	11.9	3.4					
3/10/86	11.5	8.8	7.1	4.4				
4/ 7/86	12.3	10.4	9.9	8.9	17.7			
5/ 5/86	12.8	11.3	11.3	10.9	17.7	18.6		
6/ 9/86	14.9	14.3	15.4	15.7	22.2	24.3	26.4	25.9
7/ 7/86	15.0	14.5	15.5	15.9	21.1	22.9	23.3	23.9

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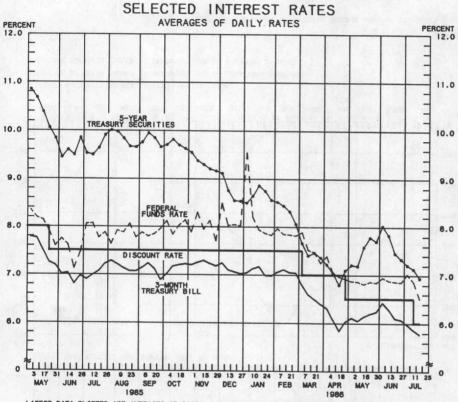


1986	1986 90 DAY CD*S		90-DAY BANKERS* ACCEPTANCES	CORPORATE AAA BONDS	CORPORATE BAA BONDS	MUNICIPAL BONDS #86		
MAY 2 9 16 23 30 JUNE 6 13 20 27 JULY 4 11 18 # 25	6.56 6.53 6.64 6.75 6.81 6.881 6.68 6.682 6.43 6.33	6.67 6.66 6.73 6.75 6.83 6.78 6.78 6.74 6.74 6.74 6.59 6.35	6.47 6.41 6.559 6.653 6.655 6.655 6.555 6.554 6.549 6.333 8.23	8.97 8.98 9.12 9.17 9.29 9.29 9.08 9.01 8.93 8.89 8.84	10.20 10.16 10.29 10.37 10.47 10.43 10.29 10.20 10.15 10.14 10.08	7.33 7.36 7.53 7.78 7.70 7.97 8.08 7.82 7.59 7.51 7.51 7.45 N.A.		

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

N.A. - NOT AVAILABLE

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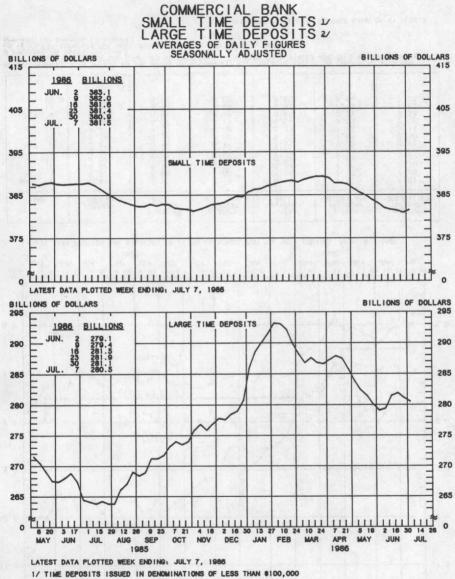


LATEST DATA PLOTTED ARE AVERA	ES OF	RATES	AVAILABLE FOR	THE	WEEK	END ING:	JULY	18,	1986	
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1986	1986 FEDERAL FUNDS HER		6-MONTH TREASURY BILL HONOR	1-YEAR TREASURY BILL	5-YEAR TREASURY SECURITIES	LONG-TERM TREASURY SECURITIES	
MAY 2 9 16 23 30 JUNE 6 20 27 JULY 4 11 18 # 25	6.88 6.87 6.82 6.85 6.95 6.89 6.89 6.89 6.89 6.87 6.86 7.02 6.87 6.51	6.11 6.05 6.14 6.20 6.24 6.42 6.29 6.10 6.07 5.97 5.86 5.77	6.14 6.09 6.28 6.21 6.41 6.39 6.18 6.13 5.96 5.85 5.80	6.17 6.24 6.33 6.37 6.55 6.43 6.21 6.14 5.98 5.92 5.83	7.21 7.19 7.58 7.78 7.70 8.02 7.83 7.45 7.33 7.21 7.13 6.94	7.81 7.80 8.10 8.26 8.24 8.61 8.50 8.14 7.95 7.83 7.83 7.73	

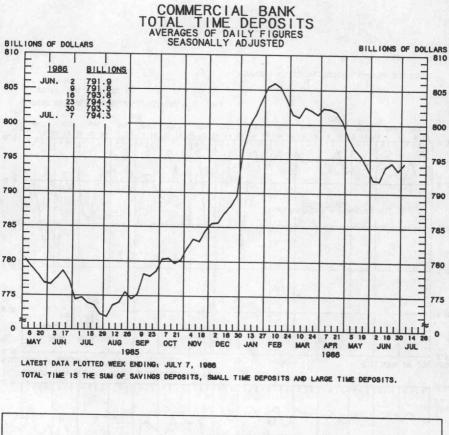
NOTE: CURRENT DATA APPEAR IN THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS' H.15 RELEASE EXCLUDING LONG-TERM TREASURY SECURITIES WHICH ARE COMPUTED BY THIS BANK. TREASURY BILL YIELDS ARE ON A DISCOUNT BASIS. HAVERAGES OF RATES AVAILABLE HOW SEVEN-DAY AVERAGES FOR WEEK ENDING TWO DAYS EARLIER THAN DATE SHOWN HOMEM AUCTION AVERAGE (DISCOUNT)

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2/ TIME DEPOSITS ISSUED IN DENOMINATIONS OF \$100,000 OR MORE

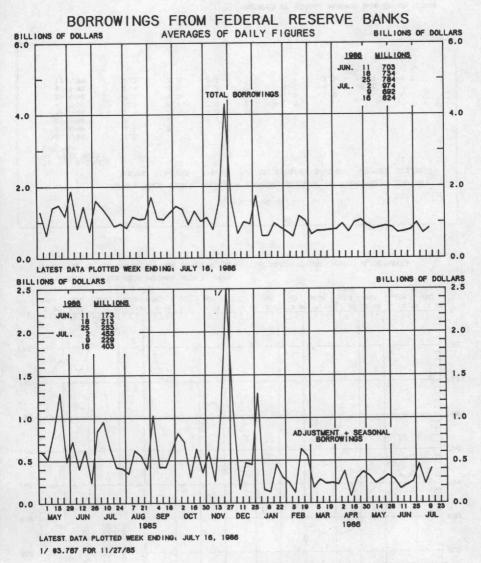
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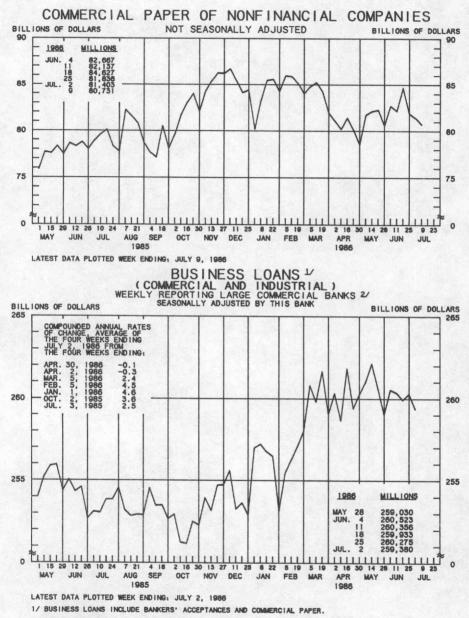
TOTAL TIME DEPOSITS

	7/8/85	10/7/85	12/9/85	1/6/86	2/10/86	3/10/86	4/7/86	5/5/86
TO THE AVERAGE OF FOUR WEEKS ENDING:								
12/ 9/85	2.6							
1/ 6/86	3.7	6.1						
2/10/86	6.1	9.7	15.2					
3/10/86	5.1	7.5	9.6	9.5				
4/ 7/86	4.5	6.1	6.9	6.1	-1.6			
5/ 5/86	3.8	4.9	5.1	4.0	-1.8	-1.8		
6/ 9/86 7/ 7/86	2.4	2.8	2.2	0.9	-4.1	-4.7	-6.2	
17 1700	2.3	2.6	2.1	0.9	-3.1	-3.3	-3.9	-4.7

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

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