





THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS:

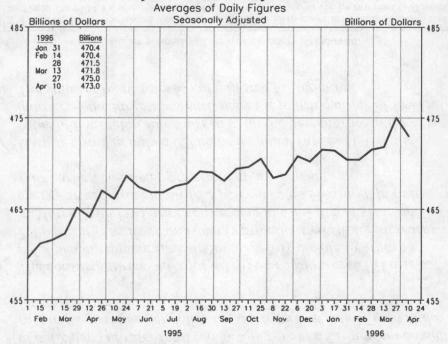
- ✓ Privately owned housing starts fell 3.9 percent in March to an annual rate of 1,447,000 units. After falling 0.4 percent in the fourth quarter of 1995, total housing starts rose 4 percent in the first quarter, paced by a 9.3 percent increase in multi-family starts.
- ✓ Reflecting a strike-induced 14.9 percent drop in motor vehicle output, industrial production fell at a 5.7 percent annual rate in March. Excluding motor vehicles and parts, however, production advanced at a 4.2 percent rate. Total production rose at a 2.7 percent annual rate in the first quarter, following a 0.6 percent rate of gain in the fourth quarter.
- ✓ The consumer price index for all urban consumers (CPI) rose at a 4.7 percent annual rate in March, nearly double February's 2.4 percent rate. Food and energy prices posted strong increases in March, with food prices advancing at a 7.4 percent rate and energy prices rising at an 18.3 percent rate. Measured from a year earlier, consumer prices are up 2.8 percent.
- ✓ Despite rising at only a 0.9 percent annual rate in March, the value of total retail sales surged at an 8.2 percent rate in the first quarter the largest increase since the fourth quarter of 1994. The value of retail sales is not adjusted for inflation.

All data are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise indicated.

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Adjusted Monetary Base

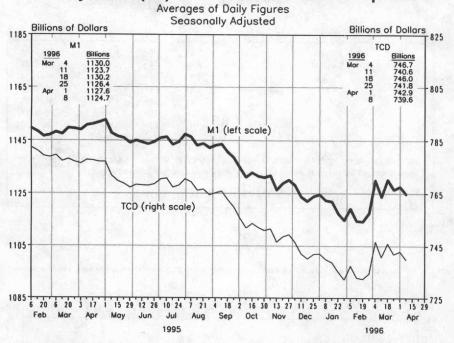


The adjusted monetary base is the sum of reserve occounts of financial institutions at Federal Reserve banks, currency in circulation (currency held by the public and in the vaults of all depository institutions) and an adjustment for reserve requirement ratio changes. The major source of the adjusted monetary base is Federal Reserve credit. Data are computed by this bank. A detailed description of the adjusted monetary base is available from this bank.

Recent doto are preliminary.

	Adjusted Monetary Base										
T- 11	Compounded annual rates of change, average of two maintenance periods ending:										
To the average of two maintenance periods ending:	4/12/95	7/5/95	9/13/95	10/11/95	11/8/95	12/6/95	1/3/96	2/14/96			
9/13/95	2.0										
10/11/95	2.1	2.2									
11/8/95	1.8	1.7	1.3								
12/6/95	1.7	1.5	1.1	0.4							
1/3/96	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.3	2.0						
2/14/96	1.5	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.7					
3/13/96	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.5	0.9				
4/10/96	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.3	2.6	2.5	5.1			

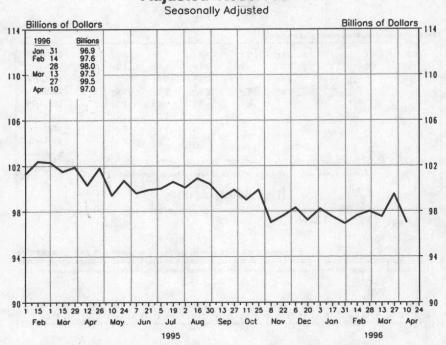
Money Stock(M1) and Total Checkable Deposits



M1 is the sum of currency held by the nonbank public, demand deposits, other checkable deposits and travelers checks. Total checkable deposits is the sum of demand deposits and other checkable deposits at depository institutions. Current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.6 release.

	Money Stock (M1)									
To the overes	Compounded annual rates of change, average of four weeks ending:									
To the average of four weeks ending:	4/10/95	7/10/95	9/11/95	10/9/95	11/6/95	12/11/95	1/8/96	2/5/96		
9/11/95	-1.3									
10/9/95	-2.3	-3.1								
11/6/95	-2.7	-3.5	-6.3							
12/11/95	-2.8	-3.6	-5.3	-4.2						
1/8/96	-3.1	-3.8	-5.3	-4.5	-4.3					
2/5/96	-3.3	-4.0	-5.3	-4.7	-4.7	-5.3				
3/11/96	-2.7	-3.1	-3.8	-3.1	-2.6	-2.2	-0.9			
4/8/96	-2.0	-2.1	-2.4	-1.6	-1.0	-0.1	1.4	4.7		

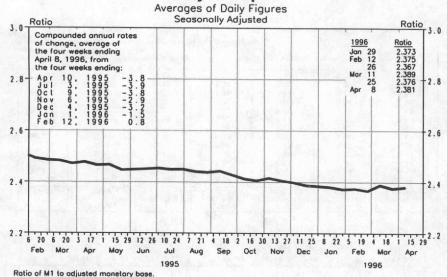
Adjusted Reserves



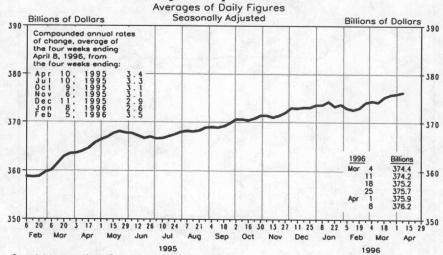
Adjusted reserves is the difference between the adjusted monetary base and the currency component of M1.

Adjusted Reserves										
	Compounded annual rates of change, average of two maintenance periods ending:									
To the overage of two maintenance periods ending:	4/12/95	7/5/95	9/13/95	10/11/95	11/8/95	12/6/95	1/3/96	2/14/96		
9/13/95	-3.0									
10/11/95	-3.1	-1.8		1						
11/8/95	-4.4	-4.3	-8.2							
12/6/95	-4.7	-4.7	-7.6	-9.4						
1/3/96	-4.6	-4.5	-6.7	-7.6	-5.2					
2/14/96	-4.4	-4.4	-5.8	-6.3	-4.5	-3.7				
3/13/96	-3.5	-3.2	-4.0	-4.0	-2.0	-0.8	0.5			
4/10/96	-2.8	-2.2	-2.6	-2.4	-0.5	0.9	2.3	6.9		

Money Multiplier



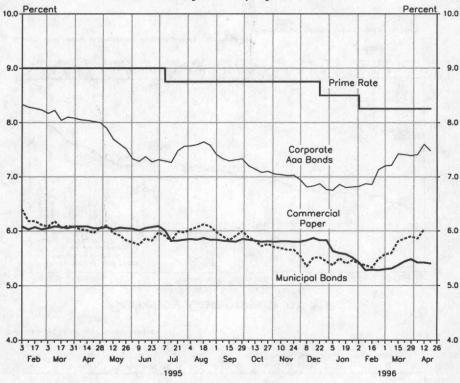
Currency Component of M1



Current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.6 release.

Yields on Selected Securities

Averages of Daily Figures



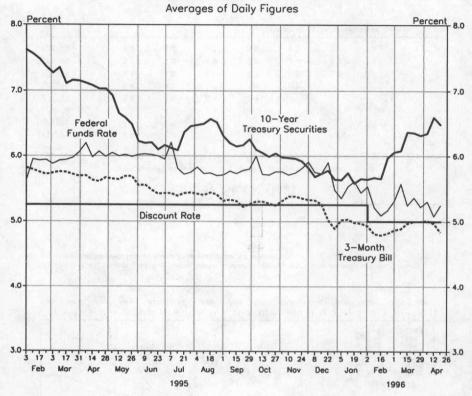
199	96	30-Day Commercial Paper	90-Doy CDs	90-Day Bankers' Acceptances	Corporate Aaa Bonds	Corporate Boa Bonds	Municipal Bonds **
Jan	26	5.51	5.36	5.28	6.81	7.47	5.46
Feb	2	5.42	5.23	5.14	6.82	7.46	5.40
	9	5.28	5.15	5.06	6.87	7.50	5.37
	16	5.29	5.13	5.05	6.86	7.50	5.33
	23	5.28	5.14	5.07	7.13	7.77	5.48
Mar	1	5.30	5.16	5.09	7.20	7.86	5.57
	8	5.31	5.19	5.11	7.21	7.90	5.59
	15	5.37	5.31	5.23	7.42	8.10	5.81
	22	5.44	5.33	5.26	7.41	8.10	5.86
	29	5.48	5.34	5.26	7.39	8.09	5.90
Apr	5	5.42	5.34	5.26	7.41	8.12	5.86
	12	5.42	5.39	5.31	7.60	8.30	6.03
	19	5.40	5.37	5.28	7.48	8.18	N.A.

Current data are from the Federal Reserve Board's H.15 release, and are averages of rates available for the week ending on April 19, 1996.

- Bond Buyer's Average Index of 20 municipal bonds, Thursday data
N.A. - Not Available



Selected Interest Rates



1996	Federal Funds ••	3-Month Treosury Bill	1-Year Treasury Bill	5-Year Treasury Securities	10-Year Treasury Securities	Long-Term Treasury Securities
Jan 26	5.44	4.97	4.79	5.35	5.65	6.00
Feb 2	5.53	4.93	4.69	5.28	5.64	6.00
9	5.21	4.81	4.61	5.27	5.67	6.04
16	5.09	4.79	4.57	5.20	5.65	6.03
23	5.17	4.82	4.78	5.52	5.97	6.35
Mor 1	5.31	4.87	4.87	5.65	6.06	6.43
8	5.57	4.89	4.89	5.71	6.08	6.46
15	5.24	4.97	5.13	6.06	6.37	6.72
22	5.36	5.00	5.15	6.08	6.36	6.72
29	5.22	5.00	5.13	6.08	6.32	6.70
Apr 5	5.30	5.01	5.18	6.14	6.35	6.74
12	5.08	4.97	5.31	6.42	6.60	6.96
19 •	5.24	4.84	5.19	6.29	6.49	6.87

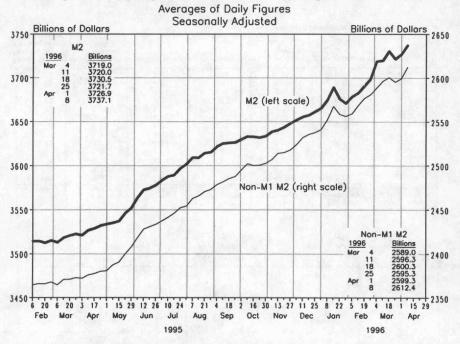
Except for long—term Treasury securities, which are computed by this Bank, current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.15 release. Reserve Board of rates available

•• Averages of rates available

•• Seven—day averages for week ending two days earlier than date shown

Prepared by Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

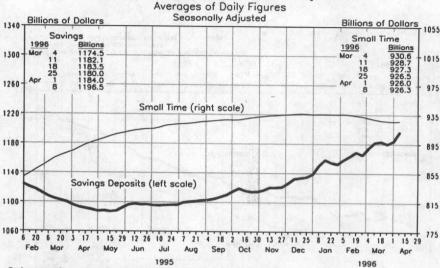
Money Stock(M2) and Non-M1 Components of M2



M2 is the sum of M1, savings (including money market deposit accounts), small time deposits and retail money funds. Current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.6 release.

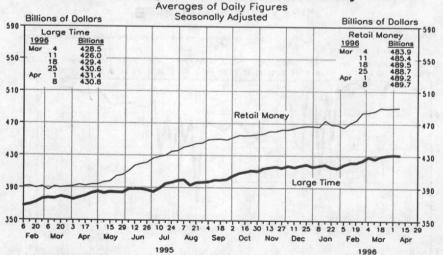
		Mo	oney S	tock (M2)				
T- 11	Compounded annual rates of change, average of four weeks ending:								
To the overage of four weeks ending:	4/10/95	7/10/95	9/11/95	10/9/95	11/6/95	12/11/95	1/8/96	2/5/96	
9/11/95	6.6								
10/9/95	6.1	5.5							
11/6/95	5.5	4.6	2.8						
12/11/95	5.4	4.6	3.4	3.4					
1/8/96	5.4	4.7	3.9	4.0	5.0				
2/5/96	5.4	4.8	4.1	4.3	5.0	5.3			
3/11/96	5.7	5.3	4.9	5.2	5.9	6.4	6.9		
4/8/96	5.9	5.6	5.3	5.6	6.3	6.8	7.2	8.2	

Savings and Small Time Deposits



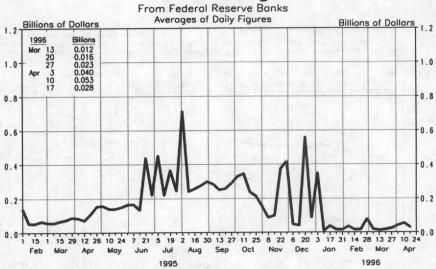
Savings deposits and small time deposits are at all depository institutions.

Large Time Deposits and Retail Money Funds



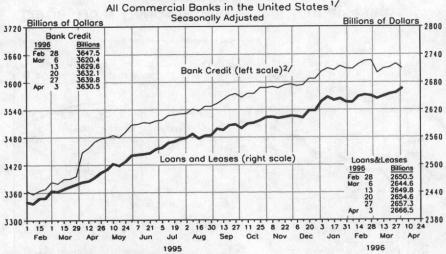
Large time deposits and retail money funds are at all despository institutions. Large time deposits are those issued in denominations of \$100,000 or more. Retail money funds were originally called general purpose and broker/dealer money market funds.

Total Borrowings



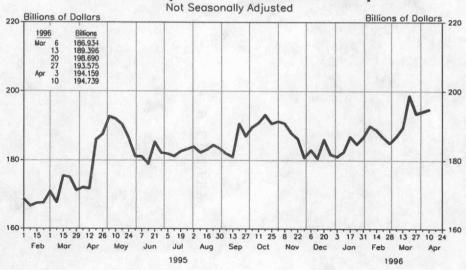
Borrowings include seasonal, adjustment and extended credit.

Bank Loans and Credit

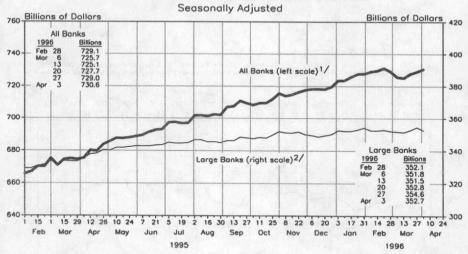


Current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.8 release. 1/includes foreign—related institutions 2/includes loans and leases and securities

Commercial Paper of Nonfinancial Companies



Commercial and Industrial Loans

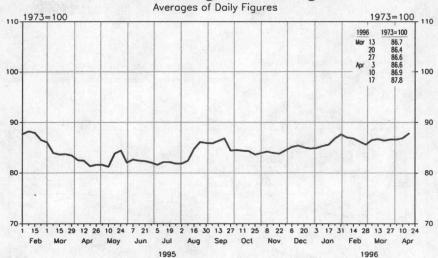


Current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.8 release.

1/ Includes foreign—related institutions

2/ Weekly reporting, domestically chartered banks

Dollar's Trade - Weighted Exchange Index



Current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.10 release. Data are weighted averages of the foreign-currency price of the U.S. dollar, computed using 10 industrial country currencies.

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