

THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS:

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there was a reporting error in last week's release of the February U.S. goods and services trade data. The corrected numbers, which will be released on Friday, April 25, are expected to lower last week's reported trade deficit (\$11.6 billion) by about \$1.2 billion.

Initial claims for unemployment insurance totaled 324,000 for the week ending April 19, a drop of 8,000 from the previous week, but unchanged from two weeks earlier. Measured from 52 weeks earlier, claims are down 47,000, or 12.7 percent.

The index of U.S. import prices, which are not seasonally adjusted, fell 1.4 percent in March, the third consecutive decline. Consequently, prices fell 2.5 percent in the first quarter, the largest decline in six years. Measured from four quarters earlier, import prices have dropped 1.6 percent.

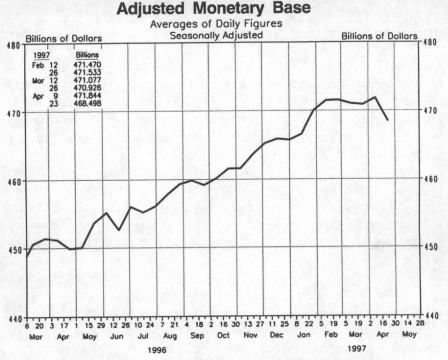
The federal government posted a \$21.3 billion deficit in March, following a \$44 billion shortfall in February. Through the first half of fiscal year 1997 (October 1996 to March 1997), the federal budget deficit measured \$111.3 billion—\$16.4 billion less than that over the same period in fiscal year 1996.

The M2 money stock increased at a 6.2 percent annual rate from the average of the four weeks ending Oct. 14, 1996, to the average of the four weeks ending April 14. This was a modest acceleration from the 2.9 percent growth posted over the prior six-month period (see page 8).

All data are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise indicated.

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The adjusted monetary base is the sum of Federal Reserve deposits and vault cash held by domestic depository institutions, currency held by the public, and an adjustment for the effect of changes in reserve requirement ratios. The monetary base series was recently revised to include Federal Reserve deposits used to satisfy clearing balance contracts. Data are computed by this bank. A detailed description of the adjusted monetary base is available from this bank. Recent data are preliminary.

Adjusted Monetary Base

To the overage of						vo maintena		
two maintenance periods ending:	4/24/96	7/17/96	9/25/96	10/23/96	11/20/96	12/18/96	1/29/97	2/26/97
9/25/96	4.8							
10/23/96	4.6	4.4						
11/20/96	4.7	4.5	4.5					
12/18/96	5.2	5.3	5.8	6.8				
1/29/97	5.2	5.3	5.6	6.2	6.6			
2/26/97	5.5	5.7	6.3	6.8	7.3	6.8		
3/26/97	4.9	4.9	5.1	5.3	5.3	4.4	3.8	
4/23/97	4.4	4.2	4.0	4.1	3.9	2.9	1.7	-1.8

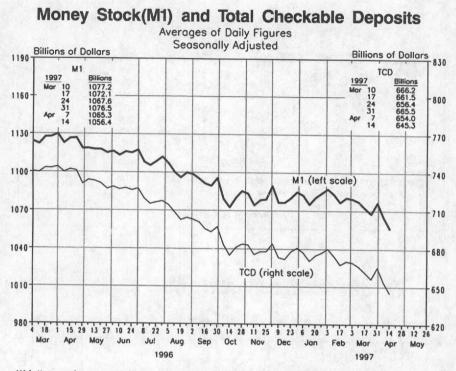
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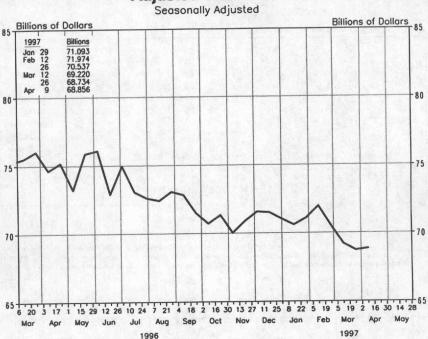




M1 is the sum of currency held by the nonbank public, demand deposits, other checkable deposits and travelers checks. Total checkable deposits is the sum of demand deposits and other checkable deposits of depository institutions. Current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.6 release.

		Mo	oney S	Stock ((M1)			
To the average	Compou	nded annu	ol rates of	change, av	verage of fo	our weeks e	nding:	
of four weeks ending:	4/15/96	7/15/96	9/16/96	10/14/96	11/11/96	12/16/96	1/13/97	2/17/97
9/16/96	-6.3							
10/14/96	-7.4	-9.5						
11/11/96	-7.0	-8.2	-8.8					
12/16/96	-6.0	-6.5	-5.6	-2.0				
1/13/97	-5.4	-5.5	-4.3	-1.4	-0.2			
2/17/97	-4.6	-4.3	-2.9	-0.4	0.7	1.2		
3/17/97	-4.7	-4.5	-3.4	-1.5	-0.9	-1.1	-1.7	
4/14/97	-5.3	-5.4	-4.6	-3.2	-3.1	-3.9	-5.1	-9.3

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Adjusted reserves is the difference between the adjusted monetary base and the currency component of M1. The adjusted monetary base series was recently revised: See the footnote to the monetary base chart for a description of the change.

Adjusted	Reserves
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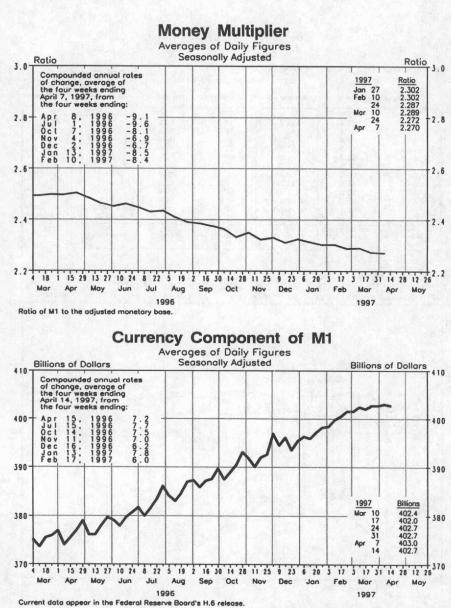
To the average of	Compou							2/12/97
two maintenance periods ending:	4/10/96	7/3/96	9/11/96	10/9/96	11/6/96	12/4/96	1/15/97	2/12/9/
9/11/96	-7.4							
10/9/96	-10.9	-13.4						
11/6/96	-10.4	-12.1	-18.4					
12/4/96	-8.2	-8.4	-9.7	1.1				
1/15/97	-7.7	-7.7	-8.2	-1.5	0.9			
2/12/97	-5.9	-5.2	-4.5	1.7	4.5	2.3		
3/12/97	-7.8	-7.8	-8.2	-4.0	-3.3	-6.8	-8.3	
4/9/97	-8.7	-8.9	-9.6	-6.4	-6.2	-9.5	-11.8	-22.4

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Adjusted Reserves



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Averages of Daily Figures Percent 9.0 9.0 Percent Prime Rote 8.0 8.0 Corporate Add Bonds 7.0 7.0 **Municipal Bonds** 6.0 6.0 Commercial Paper 5.0 - 5.0 4.0 4.0+ 15 29 12 26 10 24 7 21 5 19 2 16 30 13 27 11 25 8 22 6 20 3 17 31 14 28 14 28 11 25 9 23 May Sep Oct Dec Feb Mor Apr Mor Apr May Jun Jul Aug Nov Jan 1997 1996

199	1997 30-Day Commercial 90-Day Paper CDs		90-Day Bankers' Corporate Acceptances Aaa Bond		Corporate Boo Bonds	Municipal Bonds ••	
Jan	31	5.44	5.42	5.33	7.48	8.12	5.73
Feb	7	5.42	5.40	5.32	7.34	7.98	5.70
	14	5.38	5.36	5.29	7.26	7.89	5.62
	21	5.37	5.34	5.27	7.23	7.87	5.56
	28	5.38	5.37	5.28	7.38	8.01	5.65
Mar	7	5.43	5.44	5.35	7.47	8.10	5.70
	14	5.41	5.46	5.35	7.52	8.15	5.75
	21	5.50	5.54	5.44	7.61	8.22	5.78
	28	5.66	5.65	5.58	7.63	8.24	5.81
Apr	4	5.67	5.70	5.60	7.71	8.33	5.88
	11	5.62	5.70	5.62	7.74	8.36	5.88
	18	5.60	5.72	5.62	7.73	8.34	5.87
	25	5.59	5.70	5.60	7.72	8.33	N.A.

Current data are from the Federal Reserve Board's H.15 release, and are averages of rotes available for the week ending on April 25, 1997 •• Band Buyer's Average Index of 20 municipal bonds, Thursday data N.A. – Not Available

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Yields on Selected Securities

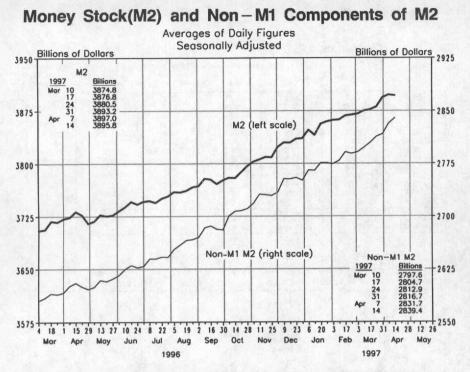
Selected Interest Rates Averages of Daily Figures 8.0 Percent Percent 8.0 30-Year **Treasury Securities** 7.0 7.0 6.0 6.0 Federal **Funds** Rate 5.0 5.0 **Discount Rate** . . 3-Month **Treasury Bill** 4.0-4.0 15 29 12 26 10 24 7 21 19 2 16 30 13 27 11 25 8 22 6 20 3 17 31 14 28 14 28 11 25 9 23 5 Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mor May Apr 1996 1997

19	97	Federal Funds ++	3-Month Treosury Bill	1-Yeor Treosury Bill	5-Year Treasury Securities	10-Year Treasury Securities	30-Year Treasury Securities
Jan	31	5.18	5.04	5.30	6.36	6.62	6.89
Feb	7	5.30	4.99	5.24	6.20	6.46	6.74
	14	5.05	5.00	5.20	6.14	6.37	6.65
	21	5.22	4.97	5.18	6.13	6.33	6.60
	28	5.16	5.05	5.29	6.31	6.50	6.75
Mar	7	5.36	5.09	5.39	6.42	6.59	6.85
	14	5.19	5.08	5.40	6.46	6.63	6.89
	21	5.26	5.17	5.48	6.58	6.73	6.97
	28	5.40	5.25	5.59	6.66	6.79	7.00
Apr	4	5.86	5.17	5.65	6.75	6.90	7.10
	11	5.37	5.14	5.65	6.78	6.92	7.12
	18	5.48	5.16	5.64	6.78	6.89	7.10
	25 •	5.48	5.20	5.63	6.76	6.87	7.08

Current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.15 release. • Averages of rates available

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

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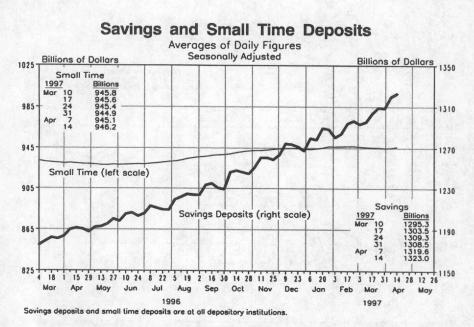


M2 is the sum of M1, savings (including money market deposit accounts), small time deposits and retail money funds. Current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.6 release.

		Mo	oney S	Stock ((M2)			
T. Ibe	Compou	nded cnnu	al rates of	change, av	erage of fo	our weeks e	nding:	
To the overage of four weeks ending:	4/15/96	7/15/96	9/16/96	10/14/96	11/11/96	12/16/96	1/13/97	2/17/97
9/16/96	3.1							
10/14/96	2.9	3.4						
11/11/96	3.5	4,4	4.5					
12/16/96	4.0	5.0	5.4	7.3				
1/13/97	4.2	5.1	5.5	6.8	6.5			
2/17/97	4.4	5.3	5.7	8.7	6.5	6.2		
3/17/97	4.3	5.1	5.4	6.1	5.8	5.3	5.1	
4/14/97	4.5	5.2	5.5	6.2	5.9	5.6	5.5	4.9

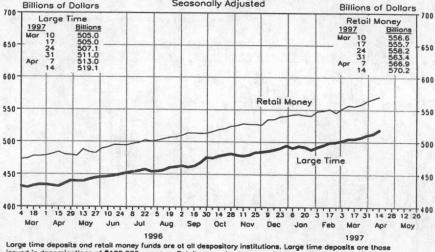
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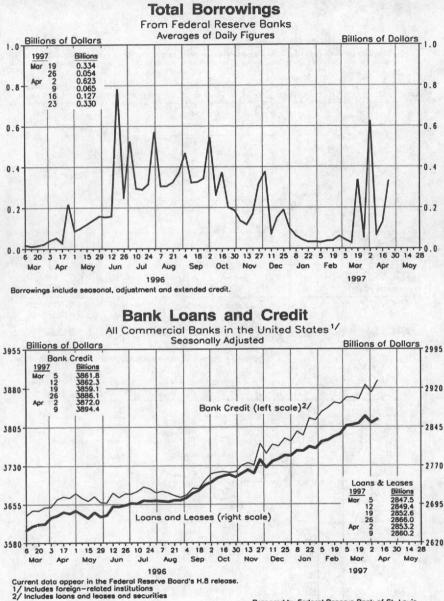
Large Time Deposits and Retail Money Funds Averages of Daily Figures

Seasonally Adjusted



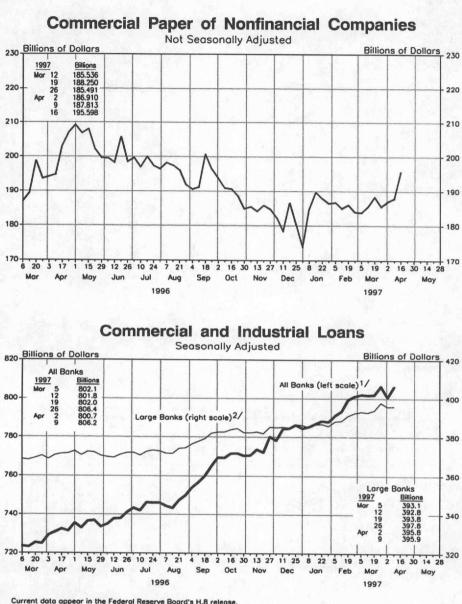
issued in denominations of \$100,000 or more. Retail money funds were originally called general purpose and broker/dealer money market funds. Prepared by Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

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Current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.8 release. 1/ Includes foreign-related institutions 2/ Weekly reporting, domestically chartered banks

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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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