

THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS:

The Census Bureau reported that privately owned housing starts totaled 1,519,000 units at an annual rate in December, which was a drop of 0.8 percent from November's rate. For the fourth quarter, however, housing starts averaged 1,526,000 units, a 4.8 percent increase over the third quarter and 7.8 percent more than four quarters earlier.

• A 2.3 percent drop in imports, combined with a 1.3 percent fall in exports, resulted in a U.S. goods and services trade deficit of \$8 billion in November. November's deficit, which was the smallest in a year, was also \$1.1 billion less than October's deficit. For the three months ending in September, the trade deficit totaled \$30 billion.

A 3.6 percent decline in output of motor vehicles and parts helped the index of industrial production to slow from a gain of 0.8 percent in November to a gain of 0.5 percent in December. For the fourth quarter of 1997, though, industrial production rose at a strong 7.4 percent annual rate, outstripping the 6 percent rise seen in the third quarter. For the year (December-to-December), total production rose 5.9 percent.

The U.S. dollar's trade-weighted exchange rate index, as calculated by the Board of Governors, averaged 101.0 percent (1973=100) for the week ending Jan. 21, 1998. This was up 5.6 percent from the week ending Nov. 12, 1997, and up 10.6 percent from 52 weeks earlier (see back page).

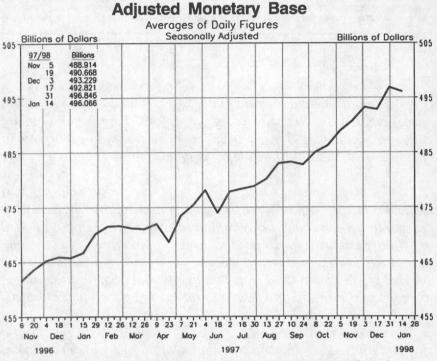
All data are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise indicated.

U.S. Financial Data is published weekly by the Research Division of the Federal Reserve Bank of **St.** Louis. For more information on data, please call (314) 444-8590. To be added to the mailing list, please call (314) 444-8808 or (314) 444-8809.

Information in this publication is also included in the Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED) electronic Digitized for the server at www.stls.frb.org/fred.

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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

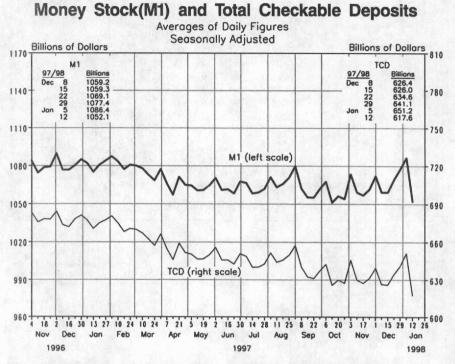
	Compounded annual rates of change, average of two maintenance periods ending:									
To the average of two maintenance periods ending:	1/15/97	4/9/97	6/18/97	7/16/97	8/13/97	9/10/97	10/8/97	11/19/97		
6/18/97	5.0									
7/16/97	5.1	5.3								
8/13/97	5.0	5.0	4.8							
9/10/97	5.6	5.9	6.6	7.0						
10/8/97	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.4	6.1					
11/19/97	.6.0	6.4	7.0	7.3	8.2	7.4				
12/17/97	6.2	6.7	7.3	7.6	8.4	7.9	10.2			
1/14/98	6.5	6.9	7.6	7.8	8.6	8.2	10.0	9.2		

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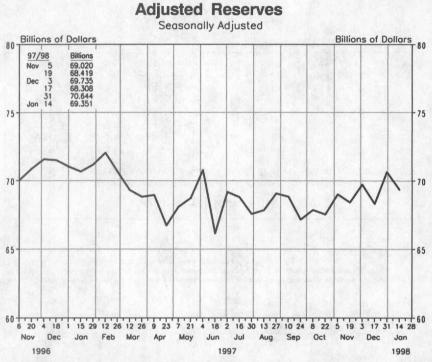




M1 is the sum of currency held by the nonbank public, demand deposits, other checkable deposits and travelers checks. Total checkable deposits is the sum of demand deposits and other checkable deposits at depository institutions. Current data appear in the Federal Reserve Board's H.6 release.

Money Stock (M1)										
	Compou	Compounded annual rates of change, average of four weeks ending:								
To the overage of four weeks ending:	1/13/97	4/14/97	6/9/97	7/14/97	8/11/97	9/15/97	10/13/97	11/10/97		
6/9/97	-3.7									
7/14/97	-3.3	-1.7								
8/11/97	-2.7	-1.0	-0.3							
9/15/97	-1.9	0.0	1.0	2.4						
10/13/97	-2.6	-1.5	-1.4	-1.3	-2.5					
11/10/97	-2.2	-1.0	-0.8	-0.5	-1.1	-3.7				
12/15/97	-1.8	-0.6	-0.2	0.1	-0.2	-1.5	2.2			
1/12/98	-0.9	0.5	1.1	1.6	1.7	1.2	4.7	5.9		

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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										
To the sussess of	Compounded annual rates of change, average of two maintenance periods ending:									
To the average of two maintenance periods ending:	1/15/97	4/9/97	6/18/97	7/16/97	8/13/97	9/10/97	10/8/97	11/19/97		
6/18/97	-7.8									
7/16/97	-5.2	0.6								
8/13/97	-7.6	-4.9	-7.1							
9/10/97	-4.1	0.3	3.1	-0.3						
10/8/97	-6.4	-3.9	-4.5	-9.0	-1.8					
11/19/97	-3.5	-0.4	0.9	-1.1	5.7	-1.8				
12/17/97	-2.8	0.3	1.6	0.1	5.8	0.3	12.2			
1/14/98	-1.2	2.1	3.9	2.9	8.2	4.4	14.4	12.7		

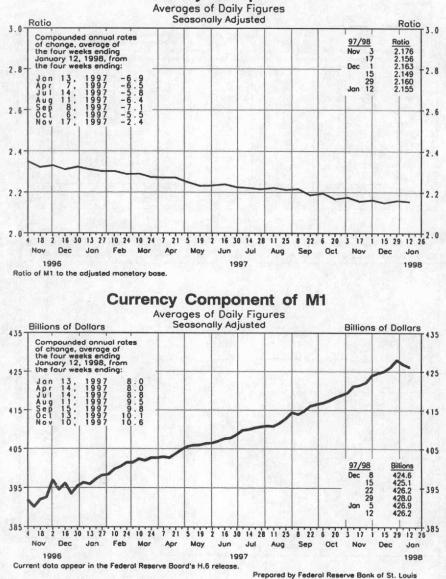
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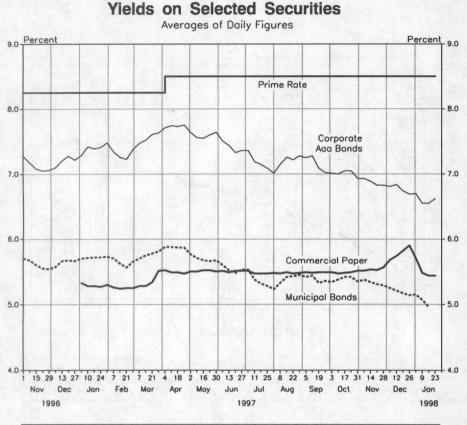




Money Multiplier



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1997	7/98	30-Day Commercial Poper	90-Doy CDs	90–Day Bankers' Acceptances	Corporate Aaa Bonds	Corporate Baa Bonds	Municipol Bonds ••
Oct	31	5.51	5.67	5.58	6.93	7.49	5.35
Nov	7	5.51	5.68	5.57	6.93	7.47	5.38
	14	5.53	5.76	5.69	6.89	7.44	5.34
	21	5.52	5.76	5.67	6.83	7.38	5.31
	28	5.56	5.78	5.72	6.83	7.38	5.29
Dec	5	5.68	5.81	5.77	6.81	7.36	5.25
	12	5.74	5.81	5.78	6.84	7.39	5.21
	19	5.82	5.80	5.77	6.74	7.30	5.17
	26	5.90	5.82	5.76	6.69	7.26	5.14
Jon	2	5.71	5.74	5.62	6.70	6.91	5.15
	9	5.48	5.58	5.52	6.55	7.13	5.07
	16	5.44	5.50	5.47	6.55	7.14	4.96
	23	5.44	5.51	5.44	6.62	7.21	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 January 23, 1998. Beginning September 2, 1997, the commercial paper rate reflects new source data, which is currently available only back to the first of the year. • Bond Buyer's Average Index of 20 municipal bands, Thursday data

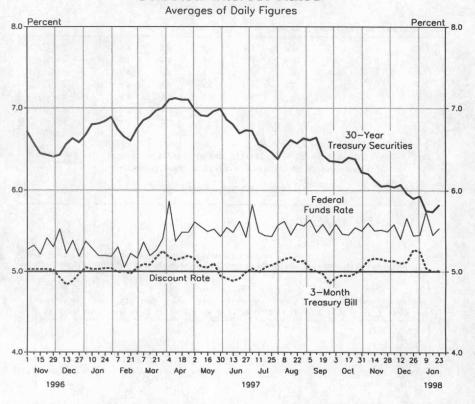
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Selected Interest Rates

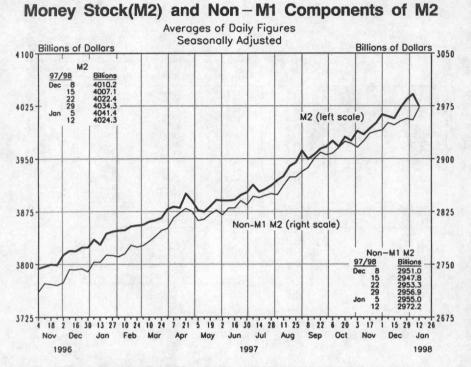


1997	/98	Federal Funds ••	3-Month Treasury Bill	1-Year Treasury Bill	5-Year Treasury Securities	10-Year Treasury Securities	30-Year Treasury Securities
Oct	31	5.50	5.04	5.07	5.78	5.90	6.22
Nov	7	5.60	5.14	5.15	5.81	5.92	6.20
	14	5.50	5.16	5.15	5.81	5.88	6.12
	21	5.51	5.15	5.18	5.79	5.84	6.05
	28	5.49	5.13	5.21	5.82	5.86	6.06
Dec	5	5.58	5.13	5.25	5.82	5.86	6.04
	12	5.40	5.10	5.23	5.83	5.87	6.07
	19	5.66	5.12	5.20	5.74	5.77	5.96
	26	5.44	5.27	5.26	5.72	5.74	5.90
Jon	2	5.45	5.24	5.23	5.71	5.75	5.93
	9	5.74	5.04	4.99	5.38	5.49	5.75
	16	5.45	5.00	4.92	5.32	5.45	5.74
	23 •	5.53	5.01	4.97	5.43	5.56	5.82

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.

Money Stock (M2)										
	Compou	nded annua	I rates of	change, av	erage of fo	ur weeks e	ending:			
To the overage of four weeks ending:	1/13/97	4/14/97	6/9/97	7/14/97	8/11/97	9/15/97	10/13/97	11/10/97		
6/9/97	4.0									
7/14/97	4.0	2.9								
8/11/97	4.0	3.1	4.1							
9/15/97	4.9	4.7	6.3	7.4						
10/13/97	4.9	4.8	6.0	6.8	8.0					
11/10/97	4.9	4.8	5.8	6.3	7.0	5.0				
12/15/97	5.1	5.1	6.0	6.4	6.9	5.7	5.8			
1/12/98	5.3	5.3	6.2	6.6	7.1	6.1	6.4	7.2		

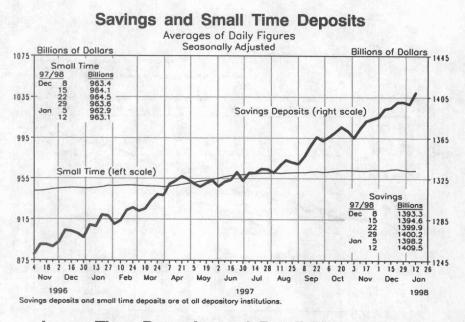
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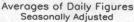
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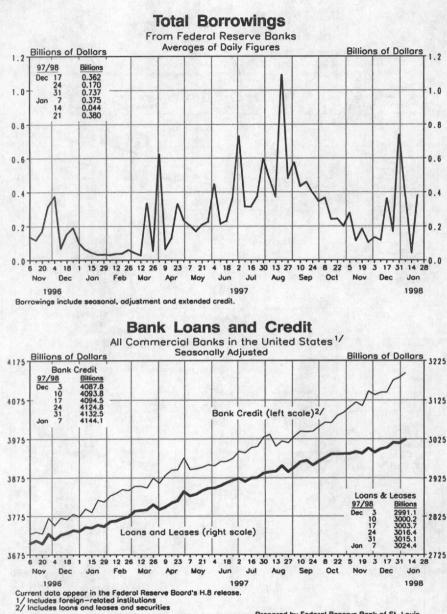
Large Time Deposits and Retail Money Funds





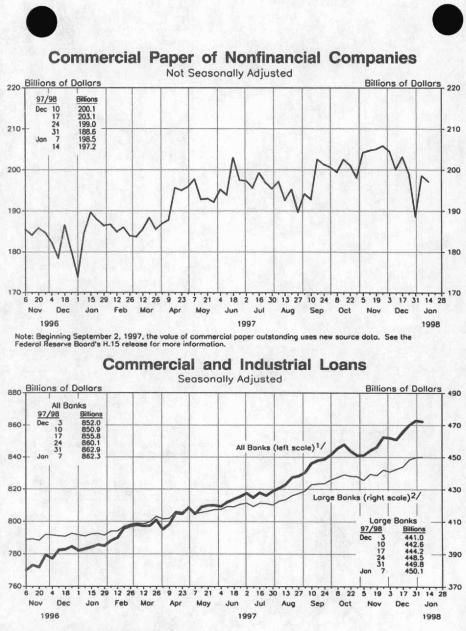
issued in denominations of \$100,000 or more. Retail money funds were originally called general purpose and broker/dealer money market funds. Prepared by Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

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