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# MONETARY AGGREGATES AND MONEY MARKET CONDITIONS 

Prepared for the Federal Open Market Committee

By the Staff
bOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

MONETARY AGGREGATES AND
MONEY MARKET CONDITIONS

## Recent developments

(1) The money stock and reserve aggregates have shown a mixed performance relative to the Comanttee's ranges of tolerance during the January-February target period. For most of the period since the last meeting, $M_{1}$ and RPD's appeared to be growing at rates well below the low ends of their ranges. However, a sharp rise of $M_{1}$ in the First two weeks of February (with the second week based on preliminary and partly estimated data) brought the growth rate back within the range of tolerance. $M_{2}$ remained within its range for most of the period, as growth in consumer-type time and savings deposits was strong, and moved slightly above the top of the range when the preliminary data for the second week of February became available.

Growth of Monetary Aggregates and RPD's in January-February Target Period

## Reserve and Monetary Aggregates (Growth at SAAR in per cent)

RPD's
$\mathrm{M}_{1}$
$\mathrm{M}_{2}$
Memo:
Fed funds rate
(per cent per annum)

Range of Tolerance

| $4-3 / 4--7-3 / 4$ | 3.4 |
| :---: | :--- |
| $3--6$ | 4.0 |
| $6--9$ | 9.6 |

Avg. for Statement

$$
8-3 / 4--10
$$

Latest Estimates 3.4
4.0

| week ending |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Jan. 23 | 9.60 |
| Feb. 13 | 8.93 |

(2) In January, $M_{1}$ declined at a 3.1 per cent annual rate, instead of rising slightly as originally indicated. The sharp rise
of $M_{1}$ in the first two weeks of February suggests a growth rate for the month of around 11 per cent. Some part of this February increase in private balances may be related to a very sharp and considerably greater than anticipated deciine in U.S. Government deposits.
(3) Growth of RPD's in the January-February period appears to be somewhat below the lower end of the Comittee's range of tolerance. As shown in the table below, RPD's supporting private demand deposits are declining substantially--rather than rising slightly as expected-reflecting mainly the impact on required reserves, as lagged two weeks, of changes in the weekly pattern of demand deposit flows. Excess reserves also are running lower than expected, on average, thus reducing the need to supply reserves through open market operations. $C D^{\prime} s$ and other time deposits have been absorbing more RPD's than anticipated.

> Comparison of Projected Changes in RPD's by Use January-February 1974 (In millions of dollars)

Projections as of

January 22, 1974 FOMC meeting

Change in Total RPD's 1/
Change in Category of Use:
Private demand deposits
Time deposits other than large CD's 120
CD's and nondeposit funds -38
Excess -57

Current Projection

1/ Change from December 1973 to February 1974 level consistent with midpoint of Committee's range of tolerance for RPD growth on basis of new estimates of deposit data.
(4) Conditions have eased significantly in the Federal funds market since the last Committee meeting. The funds rate had averaged 9.60 per cent in the statement week of January 23 that encompassed the meeting. Shortly after the meeting, in light of the decision taken by the Committee, the Desk began supplying reserves at a pace consistent with a funds rate in a $9 \frac{1}{2}--9 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent range. Subsequent operations were conditioned by the Treasury financing then in process. Shortfalls in growth rates of $M_{1}$ and RPD relative to the Comnittee's ranges of tolerance led to somewhat more active reserve supplying operations, and the funds rate averaged 8.93 per cent in the week ended February 13. The Desk is currently aiming at a reserve supply consistent with a funds rate of around 9 per cent.
(5) As the funds market has eased in recent weeks, declines in other short-term rates have ranged around 100 basis points and the bank prime loan rate has dropped from $9 \frac{\pi}{4}$ to 9 per cent at some banks. Reductions in market rates have occurred even though the volume of directly placed and dealer placed commercial paper coming to market was exceptionally heavy and a sizable amount of large $C D$ 's was marketed by commercial banks, given large business loan growth and a favorable market atmosphere. Despite the drop in short-term market rates, member bank borrowing at the Fed was maintained, averaging around $\$ 1.1$ billion during the past four weeks, slightly higher than in the previous four weeks.
(6) Yields in all sectors of the bond market have also been subject to downward pressure since the January FOMC meeting, notwithstanding a heavy volume of new corporate and municipal issues brought to market and fairly aggressive lengthening of maturities by the Treasury in its midFebruary refunding. These latest reductions in long-term rates offset a sizable part of the increases recorded in late December and early January.
(7) The Treasury auctioned three new debt issues totaling \$4.05 billion during the last week in January to refinance $\$ 4.5$ billion of publicly held debt maturing in mid-February, The issues-- $\$ 1.5$ billion of a 3 - - year, 6-7/8 per cent note; $\$ 2.25$ billion of a 7 -year, 7 per cent note; and $\$ 300$ million of a $19 \frac{3}{2}$-year, $7 \frac{3}{2}$ per cent bond--were well received by the market. All were sold at premiums; both the 7 -year note and the $19 \frac{1}{2}$-year bond are currently trading at prices above their auction averages, while the price of the $3 \frac{3}{4}$-year note is close to its average. However, dealer awards in the auction were large--amounting to about $\$ 1.6$ billion in total. Dealers have since distributed only about one-fourth of these awards, but they have not been pressing aggressively thus far to market their remaining holdings.
(8) The table on the next page shows (in percentage annual rates of change) selected monetary and financial flows over various recent time periods. Appendix Table III compares money supply growth rates computed on a quarterly-average basis with those computed on a last-month-of-quarter basis.

|  | -5- |  |  |  | Past Month |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Past } 3 \\ \text { Calendar Years } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Past } \\ 12 \\ \text { Months } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Past } \\ 6 \\ \text { Months } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Past } \\ 3 \\ \text { Months } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec. }{ }^{173} \\ \text { over } \\ \text { Dec. } 170 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. }{ }^{1} 74 \\ \text { over } \\ \text { Jan. } 173 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. }{ }^{174} \\ \text { over } \\ \text { Jul. ' } 73 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan. }{ }^{174} \\ \text { over } \\ \text { Oct. } 173 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan. }{ }^{174} \\ & \text { over } \\ & \text { Dec. ' } 73 \end{aligned}$ |
| Total reserves | 9.0 | 8.4 | 10.2 | 14.3 | 35.8 |
| Nonborrowed reserves | 8.0 | 9.1 | 16.7 | 20.0 | 45.9 |
| Reserves available to support private nonbank deposits | 9.2 | 8.5 | 5.9 | 3.4 | 7.0 |
| Concepts of Money |  |  |  |  |  |
| $M_{1} \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { (currency plus } \\ & \text { demand deposits) } \end{aligned}$ | 1/ 7.4 | 5.1 | 2.5 | 4.8 | -3.1 |
| $M_{2} \quad\left(M_{1}\right.$ plus time deposi at commercial be other than large CD's) | ```sits banks ge 11.4``` | 8.3 | 7.9 | 8.7 | 6.5 |
| $M_{3}$ (M2 plus deposits at thrift institutions) | at | 8.2 | 7.0 | 8.4 | 6.7 |

Bank Credit
Total member banks deposits (bank credit proxy adj.)
11.7
10.9
7.6
6.9
12.3

Loans and investmente
of commercial banks 2/ 14.5
12.5
8.4
7.5
15.8

Short-term market paper
(Monthly avg, change in billions)

| Large CD's | 1.0 | 1.7 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 2.7 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Nonbank commercial paper | 0.1 | 0.6 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 2.7 |

1/ Other than interbank and U.S. Government.
2/ Based on month-end figures. Includes loans sold to affiliates and branches.

NOIE: All items are based on averages of daily figures, except for data on total loans and investments of commercial banks, commercial paper, and thrift institutions--which are derived from either end-of-month or last Wednesday-ofmonth figures. Growth rates for reserve measures in this and subsequent tables are adjusted to remove the effect of discontinuities from breaks in the series when reserve requirements are changed.

## Prospective developments

(9) Three policy alternatives axe summarized below for Committee consideration (with more detailed figures shown in the table on p. 6a).

$$
\text { Alt. A Alt. B } \quad \text { Alt. C }
$$

## Targets (lst \& 2nd qtrs.

 combined)$\mathrm{M}_{1}$
$\mathrm{M}_{2}$
Credit proxy
ciated ranges for
bruary-March

| RPD | $5 \frac{1}{2}--7 \frac{1}{2}$ | $4 \frac{1}{2}--6 \frac{1}{2}$ | $3 \frac{3}{2}--5 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| $M_{1}$ | $8 \frac{1}{4}--10 \frac{1}{4}$ | $7 \frac{3}{2}--9 \frac{1}{2}$ | $6 \frac{3}{4}--8 \frac{3}{4}$ |
| $M_{2}$ | $11--13$ | $10 \frac{1}{2}--12 \frac{1}{2}$ | $10--12$ |
| nds rate range | $7 \frac{3}{2}--8 \frac{3}{4}$ | $8 \frac{3}{4}--9 \frac{3}{2}$ | $8 \frac{3}{4}--10$ |

(10) Alternative $B$ includes the $5 \frac{3}{4}$ per cent annual growth rate for $M_{1}$ for the period from December to June adopted by the Comittee at its last meeting, which is depicted in the chart on the following page. The longer-run growth of $M_{2}$ implied by this alternative is around 10 per cent, about 2 percentage points higher than indicated at the last Comittee meeting. $1 /$ The increase in $M_{2}$ growth reflects the greater than expected strength of recent net inflows of consumer-type time deposits at banks and the lower average level of market interest rates that has already developed and is assumed to continue into the months ahead under this alternative. Alternatives $A$ and $C$ contemplate faster and slower rates of monetary growth, respectively.

1/ For $M_{3}$, the implied growth rate is $9 \frac{3}{4}$ per cent, about $1 \frac{1}{2}$ percentage points higher than indicated at the last meeting.

## MONEY SUPPLY AND LONGER RUN TARGET PATH


-6a-
Alternative Longer-Run Targets for Key Monetary Aggregates

|  |  | $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ |  |  | $\mathrm{M}_{2}$ |  |  | $\mathrm{M}_{3}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | A1t. A | Alt. B | Alt. C | Alt. A | Alt. B | Alt. C | Alt. A | Alt. B | Alt. C |
| 1973 | Dec. | 270.4 | 270.4 | 270.4 | 570.7 | 570.7 | 570.7 | 893.2 | 893.2 | 893.2 |
| 1974 | Jan. | 269.7 | 269.7 | 269.7 | 573.8 | 573.8 | 573.8 | 898.2 | 898.2 | 898.2 |
|  | Feb. | 272.2 | 272.2 | 272.1 | 579.8 | 579.8 | 579.8 | 906.2 | 906.1 | 906.0 |
|  | Mar. | 273.9 | 273.5 | 273.2 | 585.4 | 584.8 | 584.2 | 914.9 | 913.9 | 912.7 |
|  | June | 279.2 | 278.2 | 277.2 | 601.6 | 599.8 | 596.0 | 940.0 | 936.9 | 930.7 |
| Quarters: |  |  |  |  | Rates of Growth |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1974 | 1st Q. | 5.2 | 4.6 | 4.1 | 10.3 | 9.9 | 9.5 | 9.7 | 9.3 | 8.7 |
|  | 2nd C . | 7.7 | 6.9 | 5.9 | 11.1 | 10.3 | 8.1 | 11.0 | 10.1 | 7.9 |
| Months: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Feb. | 11.1 | 11.1 | 10.7 | 12.5 | 12.5 | 12.5 | 10.7 | 10.6 | 10.4 |
|  | Mar . | 7.5 | 5.7 | 4.9 | 11.6 | 10.3 | 9.1 | 11.5 | 10.3 | 8.9 |
|  |  | Adjusted Credit Proxy |  |  | Total Reserves |  |  | RPD |  |  |
|  |  | Alt. A | Alt. B | Alt. C | A1t. A | Alt. B | Alt. C | Alt. A | Alt. B | Alt. C |
| 1973 | Dec. | 449.6 | 449.6 | 449.6 | 35,105 | 35,105 | 35,105 | 32,912 | 32,912 | 32,912 |
| 1974 | Jan. | 454.2 | 454.2 | 454.2 | 35,852 | 35,852 | 35,852 | 32,802 | 32,802 | 32,802 |
|  | Feb. | 454.6 | 454.6 | 454.6 | 35,132 | 35,131 | 35,130 | 32,800 | 32,799 | 32,798 |
|  | Mar. | 457.9 | 457.5 | 457.1 | 34,839 | 34,781 | 34,727 | 33,153 | 33,096 | 33,041 |
|  | June | 470.5 | 469.4 | 467.8 | 35,812 | 35,662 | 35,528 | 33,791 | 33,643 | 33,514 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1974 | 1st Q. | 7.4 | 7.0 | 6.7 | 0.4 | -0.3 | 0.9 | 6.6 | 5.9 | 5.2 |
|  | 2nd Q. | 11.0 | 10.4 | 9.4 | 11.2 | 10.1 | 9.2 | 7.7 | 6.6 | 5.7 |
| Months: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Month | Feb. | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | -24.1 | -24.1 | -24.2 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.1 8.9 |
|  | Mar. | 8.7 | 7.7 | 6.6 | -10.0 | -12.0 | -13.8 | 12.9 | 10.9 | 8.9 |

(11) A longer-run $5 \frac{3}{4}$ per cent growth path for $M_{1}$ is associated with lower interest rates than in the previous blue book mainly because of the downward revision in nominal GNP expansion projected by the staff. At the time of the last Comittee meeting, economic activity at current prices was projected to expand at a $6 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent annual rate in the first half of the year, whereas a $5 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent expansion is now projected. This would be expected to lower transactions demands for money and therefore to reduce the interest rates associated with a given growth in the money supply.
(12) With short-term interest rates having declined by around one percentage point since the last meeting, market rates have already moved close to levels that now seem consistent with a $5 \frac{3}{4}$ per cent $M_{1}$ growth. Thus, little or no further decline would be expected under alternative $B$. The Federal funds rate range for that alternative is indicated at $8 \frac{1}{4}--9 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent, centering close to the recently prevailing level.
(13) Recent interest rate declines will be working to sustain money demand in the months ahead, including demand for both cash balances and interest-earning deposits. In the February-March period, $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ growth in a $7 \frac{1}{2}-9 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent annual rate range is indicated under alternative $B$. Because of the sizable shortfall of $M_{1}$ in January, such a rate of increase is needed to restore $M_{1}$ to the desired longer-run growth path. Growth of $M_{1}$ in February may be particularly large, reflecting perhaps a decline in U.S. Government deposits between January and February that is virtually unprecedented in size. The Treasury redeemed $\$ 800$ million of maturing debt in mid-February and the cash deficit for February also seems to be a little larger than seasonal.
(16) Growth in consumer-type time and savings deposits at banks is likely to continue generally strong, perhaps bolstered by a builaup in precautionary balances by consumers. The growth, however, will probably slacken a little from that of January, when net inflows (as in October) may have been enlarged somewhat by an increased amount of interest crediting (taking place on the final day of quarters) resulting from the higher ceiling rates. Under alternative $A$, growth in consumertype time deposits would probably be even more rapid for a while-at least until further declines in market rates lead banks to begin reducing offering rates for consumer-type deposits. The expected rise of interest rates under alternative $C$ would reduce the relative attractiveness of consumer-type time deposits, though, judging from recent experience, the effect of higher market rates might be more marked on the specialized thrift institutions than on commercial banks.
(17) With funds available in volume through consumer-type time deposita, banks are not expected to be aggressive issuers of large $C D$ 's in the weeks ahead. Business loan demand at banks may not moderate substantially from the January pace until the rate of overall business inventory accumulation slackens, as is projected for the spring. However, mortgage and consumer credit demands are likely to be quite modest in the period immediately ahead, given the weakness in home buying and in sales of cars, mobile homes, and recreational equipment.
(18) In time, the recent removal of capital controls and large international funds flows stemming from the rise in oil prices may come to have an appreciable effect on domestic banking aggregates and market
-9-
conditions. Thus far, however, discernible effects have been minor, and have ineluded mainly reports of offerings of longer-term dollar-denominated CD's to U.S. investors by foreign affiliates of U.S. banks, and reports of strong interest by U.S. and foreign corporations in shifting longer-term borrowing from the Euro-dollar market to U.S. capital markets. The potential for investment in the United States of funds from the oll-exporting countries is even more dramatic, but here too there has been little indication of sizable money-flows. Under the circumstances, we have not yet made any special allowance for the effects of international financial developments on domestic markets and aggregates.

## Proposed directive

(19) Presented below are three alternative formulatione for the operational paxagraph of the directive, which are intended to correspond to the similarly lettered policy alternatives discussed in the preceding section. In all three alternatives, it is proposed to delete the reference to Treasury financing because the quarterly refunding announced on January 30 has been virtually completed.

## Alternative A

To implement this policy, while taking account of-the fertheaming-Treasury-玍nameing-and of international and domestic financial market developments, the Committee seeks to achieve bank reserve and money market conditions consistent with mederate SOMEWHAT GREATER growth in monetary aggregates over the months ahead.

## Alternative B

To implement this policy, while taking account ef-the fertheeming-treasury-finaneing-and of international and domestic financial market developments, the Committee seeks to achieve bank reserve and money market conditions consistent with moderate growth in monetary aggregates over the months ahead.

## Alternative $\mathbf{C}$

To implement this policy, while taking account ef-the fertheaming-Treasury-finanetng-and of international and domestic financial market developments, the Committee seeks to achieve bank reserve and money market conditions consistent with QUITE moderate growth in monetary aggregates over the months ahead.

## RESERVES AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT PRIVATE NONBANK DEPOSITS



[^1]
## MONETARY AGGREGATES

## revised series



## MONETARY AGGREGATES



## MONEY MARKET CONDITIONS AND INTEREST RATES


(ACTUAL AND CURRENT PROJECTIONS)


NOTE: dATA ShOWN in parentheses are current projections. at the fome meeting of januäry 22, 1974 THE COMMITTEE AGREED ON A RPD RANGE OF 4.75 TO 7.75 PERCENT FOR THE JAN-FEB PERIOD.


Table 3
RESERVE EFFECTS OF
OPFN MARKET OPERATIONS AND OTHER RESERVE FACTORS
(Millions of dollars, not sessonally adjusted)

$\frac{1}{2}^{\prime}$ Represents change in System s portfolio from end-of-period to end-of-period; includes redemptions in regular bill auctions.
$\frac{2}{3}$ Represents change in daily average level frotn preceding period.
3/ Tncludes matched sale-purchase transactions as well es RP's.
4) Sum of changes in vait cash, currency in circulation, Treasury operations, F, R, flost, gold and foreign accounts, and other F. R. accounts
$\overline{5}$ / Reserves to support private nonbank deposits. Target change for January and February reflects the target adopted at the January 22 , 1974 FomG meeting. rarget change for previous months reflects the bluebook pattern riat are consiatent with target ranget that were adopted during the month.

TABLE 4
SEGIRTTY DEALER POSITIONS AND BANK POSITIONS
Millions of dollars

 ments maring in 16 days or more, are indicators of dealer holdings available for sale over the near-term, other security dealer positions are debt
issues sili in syndicate, excluding trading positions. The basic reserve deficit is excess reserves less borrowing at Federal Reserve less net issues silil in syndicate, excluding trading positions. The basic reserve deficit is excess reserves less borrowing at Federal Reserve less net Federal funds purchases. Weekly data are daily averages for statement weeks, except for corporate and manicipal issues in syndicate which are Friday figures.

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** Begithing with Jahuary 1973, monthly averages for excess reserves and borrowings are weighted averages of atatement week figures.
table 5
selected interest rates
Per cent


Notes: Weekly data for columis 1 to 4 are statement week averages of daily data. Columins 5 and 6 hre one-day Wadnesday quotes. For Columns 7 , 8 and 10 the statement week. Column 11 gives FNita auction data for the Monday preceding the end of the atatement week. The FNMA auction yield is the average yield in the bi-weekly auction for short-term forward conmitments for Government underwritten mortgages.

p-Preliminary
NOTE: Reaerve Requirements on Eurodollar borrawings are included begianing actaber 16, 1969, and requirementa on bank-relaced commercial paper are included begianing $1 /$ Growth rat 1, 1970 .

Append Ix Table 11
RESERVES AND MONEIARY VARIABLESS



P-Preliminary
Reserve requirements on Eurodolhar borrowinga are ancluded begianiag octuber 16, 1969, and requirementa on bank-reldad comareial paper are inchuded beginning borrowings of $u$. Ad justed credit proxy includes mannly total wenber bank lepusits subject to reserve requirements, bank-related cuamercial papar and Eurodoliar
Escimated monthly dverage levels derived by aver,

|  |  |  |  | ix Tab |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Growt cen | in Mo ge at | Supp1 <br> annual |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | M | 0 | M | Q | M | 0 |
| 1972 | I | 9.0 | 5.3 | 12.3 | 11.0 | 14.6 | 13.2 |
|  | II | 6.2 | 8.2 | 8.9 | 9.8 | 10.9 | 12.0 |
|  | III | 8.7 | 8.2 | 10.8 | 10.8 | 12.8 | 12.6 |
|  | IV | 9.9 | 8.4 | 10.6 | 10.2 | 11.8 | 11.8 |
| 1973 | I | 3.8 | 7.0 | 6.9 | 8.8 | 9.4 | 10.7 |
|  | II | 11.5 | 7.5 | 11.1 | 8.7 | 10.4 | 9.1 |
|  | III | -0.2 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 7.9 | 4.5 | 7.2 |
|  | IV | 7.5 | 3.9 | 10.1 | 8.5 | 9.2 | 7.3 |

[^2]
[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ In some cases, original copies needed to be photocopied before being scanned into electronic format. All scanned images were deskewed (to remove the effects of printer- and scanner-introduced tilting) and lightly cleaned (to remove dark spots caused by staple holes, hole punches, and other blemishes caused after initial printing).
    ${ }^{2}$ A two-step process was used. An advanced optical character recognition computer program (OCR) first created electronic text from the document image. Where the OCR results were inconclusive, staff checked and corrected the text as necessary. Please note that the numbers and text in charts and tables were not reliably recognized by the OCR process and were not checked or corrected by staff.

[^1]:    * Break in Series, Actual Level of RPD After Changes in Reserve Requirements

[^2]:    $M=$ Annual rates of growth calculated from average levels in the final months of the quarters.
    $Q=$ Annual rates calculated from average levels in all three months of the quarters.

