
DISCOUNT AND ADVANCE RATES -- Requests by eleven Reserve Banks to maintain the existing rate and request by one Reserve Bank to increase the primary credit rate.

Existing rate maintained.
April 8, 2013.

Subject to review and determination by the Board of Governors, the directors of the Federal Reserve Banks of Cleveland, Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, and San Francisco had voted on March 28, 2013, and the directors of the Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Richmond, St. Louis, and Minneapolis had voted on April 4 to reestablish the existing rate for discounts and advances (3/4 percent) under the primary credit program (primary credit rate). The directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City had voted on March 28 to establish a rate of 1 percent (an increase from 3/4 percent). At its meeting on March 18, the Board had taken no action on a similar request by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City to increase the primary credit rate.

At today's meeting, no sentiment was expressed in favor of considering the primary credit rate, and the existing rate was maintained.

Participating in this determination: Chairman Bernanke, Vice Chair Yellen, and Governors Duke, Raskin, and Powell.

Background: Office of the Secretary memorandum, April 5, 2013.

Implementation: Transmissions from Mr. Frierson to the Reserve Banks, April 8, 2013.

DISCOUNT AND ADVANCE RATES -- Renewal by twelve Reserve Banks of the formulas for calculating the secondary and seasonal credit rates.

Approved.
April 8, 2013.

The Board approved renewal by the Federal Reserve Banks of Cleveland, Atlanta, Chicago, Kansas City, Dallas, and San Francisco on March 28, 2013, and by

the Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Richmond, St. Louis, and Minneapolis on April 4 of the formulas for calculating the rates applicable to discounts and advances under the secondary and seasonal credit programs.

Voting for this action: Chairman Bernanke, Vice Chair Yellen, and Governors Duke, Raskin, and Powell.

Background: Office of the Secretary memorandum, April 5, 2013.

Implementation: Transmissions from Mr. Frierson to the Reserve Banks, April 8, 2013.

DISCOUNT AND ADVANCE RATES -- Requests by eleven Reserve Banks to maintain the existing rate and request by one Reserve Bank to increase the primary credit rate.

Existing rate maintained.
April 29, 2013.

Subject to review and determination by the Board of Governors, the directors of the Federal Reserve Banks of New York, Philadelphia, and St. Louis had voted on April 18, 2013, and the directors of the Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, Minneapolis, Dallas, and San Francisco had voted on April 25 to reestablish the existing rate for discounts and advances (3/4 percent) under the primary credit program (primary credit rate). The directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City had voted on April 25 to establish a rate of 1 percent (an increase from 3/4 percent). At its meeting on April 8, the Board had taken no action on a similar request by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City to increase the primary credit rate.

In general, Federal Reserve Bank directors continued to view the pace of economic expansion as moderate. Several directors noted that recent data on economic activity had been mixed. Many directors noted further improvements in the housing sector. Job growth was described as modest, on balance, and the unemployment rate remained elevated. Overall, directors continued to see downside risks to the outlook, and they expressed concern that unresolved fiscal issues could be restraining hiring and economic growth more broadly. Inflation was seen as subdued, and longer-term inflation expectations generally had remained stable. Against this backdrop, most directors recommended that the current primary credit rate be maintained.

However, some directors supported increasing the primary credit rate by 25 basis points (to 1 percent) at this time as a step toward restoring the pre-crisis discount rate structure. Such an action would result in a 75-basis-point spread between the primary credit rate and the upper end of the Federal Open Market Committee's target range for the federal funds rate. These directors favored a move toward normalization of the primary credit rate in light of current and anticipated economic conditions.

Today, Board members considered the primary credit rate and discussed, on a preliminary basis, their individual assessments of the appropriate rate and its communication, which would be discussed at the meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee this week. No sentiment was expressed for changing the primary credit rate before the Committee's meeting, and the existing rate was maintained. Thereafter, a discussion of economic and financial developments and issues related to possible policy actions took place.

Participating in this determination: Chairman Bernanke, Vice Chair Yellen, and Governors Duke, Tarullo, Raskin, Stein, and Powell.

Background: Office of the Secretary memorandum, April 26, 2013.

Implementation: Transmissions from Mr. Frierson to the Reserve Banks, April 29, 2013.

DISCOUNT AND ADVANCE RATES -- Renewal by twelve Reserve Banks of the formulas for calculating the secondary and seasonal credit rates.

Approved.
April 29, 2013.

The Board approved renewal by the Federal Reserve Banks of New York, Philadelphia, and St. Louis on April 18, 2013, and by the Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Dallas, and San Francisco on April 25 of the formulas for calculating the rates applicable to discounts and advances under the secondary and seasonal credit programs.

Voting for this action: Chairman Bernanke, Vice Chair Yellen, and Governors Duke, Tarullo, Raskin, Stein, and Powell.

Background: Office of the Secretary memorandum, April 26, 2013.

Implementation: Transmissions from Mr. Frierson to the Reserve Banks, April 29, 2013.