Presidential \$1 Coin Program

December 2022

Background

Pursuant to section 104 of the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-145), the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board) is required to submit an annual report to the Congress that includes an assessment of the remaining obstacles to the efficient and timely circulation of \$1 coins; consultations with industry representatives, the vending industry, and other coin-accepting organizations to encourage the acceptance of \$1 coins; and recommendations for legislative action that the Board may determine to be appropriate.

Recent Activities

The United States Mint has not produced Presidential \$1 coins for circulation since December 2011, but continues to produce them for collectors. As a result, the Federal Reserve Banks (Reserve Banks) meet depository institution demand with existing \$1 coin inventories. Similar to their feedback in previous years, depository institutions continue to indicate that there are no operational challenges associated with distributing the \$1 coin, and the Board has not received any questions or inquiries on this topic.

\$1 Coin Inventories

Reserve Bank inventories of \$1 coins decreased by \$83 million over the past year, to nearly \$928 million as of June 30, 2022 (see table 1). Inventories are about \$861 million more than the Reserve Banks held before the start of the Presidential \$1 coin program. Assuming current levels of demand continue, Reserve Bank inventories will decrease slowly over time. We estimate that Reserve Banks hold sufficient \$1 coin inventory to meet demand for nearly 16 years.³

¹ US Department of Treasury (Treasury)'s announcement can be found at https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases.

² Beginning in 2008, the Federal Reserve and the United States Mint agreed to meet with their respective coin user groups through normal channels each year of the program and share feedback as appropriate.

³ This calculation reflects how long the current stock of inventory could meet demand, based on average demand over the past five years.

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Table 1. Quarterly Reserve Bank (RB) \$1 coin inventories, Mint orders, receipts, and payments Millions of dollars 2 3 4 5 1 Quarter **Ending RB** RB receipts from RB payments to Beginning RB inventory Mint orders circulation circulation inventory 1+2+3-4 Q1/2012 1,420 0 72 1,434 0 1,432 Q2/2012 1,434 58 60 Q3/2012 1,432 0 60 52 1,440 Q4/2012 1,440 0 50 62 1,428 Q1/2013 1,428 0 54 60 1,422 0 1,422 53 66 1,409 Q2/2013 Q3/2013 1,409 0 50 74 1,385 0 49 55 Q4/2013 1,385 1,379 Q1/2014 1,379 0 49 50 1,378 Q2/2014 1,378 0 50 70 1,358 0 54 54 Q3/2014 1,358 1,358 0 49 Q4/2014 1,358 66 1,341 Q1/2015 1,341 0 48 54 1,335 Q2/2015 1,335 0 44 58 1,321 0 48 67 1,302 Q3/2015 1,321 Q4/2015 1,302 0 46 55 1,293 0 47 Q1/2016 1,293 52 1,288 Q2/2016 1,288 0 40 52 1,276 0 Q3/2016 1,276 45 58 1,263 Q4/2016 1,263 0 45 55 1,254 Q1/2017 1,254 0 46 58 1,241 Q2/2017 1,241 0 42 66 1,217 46 64 1,199 Q3/2017 1,217 0 1,199 0 1,183 Q4/2017 44 60 0 41 59 1,164 Q1/2018 1,183 02/2018 1.164 0 44 53 1.155 45 Q3/2018 1,155 0 58 1,143 0 42 64 1,121 Q4/2018 1,143 Q1/2019 1,121 0 45 52 1,114 1,114 0 41 50 1,105 Q2/2019 Q3/2019 1,105 0 43 49 1,099 1,099 0 43 1,079 Q4/2019 63 Q1/2020 1,079 0 42 43 1,078 0 1,078 15 29 1,064 Q2/2020 Q3/2020 1,064 0 26 39 1,051 0 1,044 Q4/2020 1,051 25 32 1,044 0 25 31 1,038 Q1/2021 1,038 0 20 47 1,011 Q2/2021 0 25 43 993 Q3/2021 1,011 0 979 Q4/2021 993 20 33 Q1/2022 979 0 22 45 956

Note: Reserve Bank payments to circulation do not include the \$1 coins that the United States Mint has issued directly into circulation. The United States Mint has indicated that it issued directly to circulation \$77 million Native American \$1 coins through its Direct Ship program in 2011 and \$1.4 million in 2012. The United States Mint discontinued the Direct Ship program in early 2012.

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Future Reporting and Recommendation for Legislative Action

To ensure compliance with the Presidential \$1 Coin Act, the Federal Reserve will continue to fulfill depository institutions' demand for \$1 coins with existing inventory, while the United States Mint will meet collector demand for new designs through direct sales.

In its 2012 Annual Report on the Presidential \$1 Coin Program, as well as subsequent reports, the Board recommended eliminating the annual reporting requirement of the Presidential \$1 Coin Act by striking 31 U.S.C. § 5112(p)(3)(B). We continue to recommend this action. In 2012, the Treasury secretary suspended production of the Presidential \$1 coins for circulation, and the program ended in 2016, after production of collectors' coins depicting the last eligible president (Ronald Reagan).

The information in this report on Reserve Bank inventory levels, as well as information on Reserve Bank orders, receipts, and payments of \$1 coins, is available on the Board's public website at http://www.federalreserve.gov/paymentsystems/coin_data.htm.