FEDERAL RESERVE statistical release



Z.1

Flow of Funds Accounts of the United States

Flows and Outstandings First Quarter 2000

Flow of Funds Summary Statistics First Quarter 2000

Growth of domestic nonfinancial debt slowed to a 5-1/2 percent annual rate in the first quarter of 2000, owing to a resumption of large paydowns in federal debt after a pause in the fourth quarter. Since its peak in early 1998, federal debt held by the public has dropped about 4-1/2 percent, or \$177 billion.

Meanwhile, household and business borrowing remained brisk. In the first quarter, household debt rose at a 7-3/4 percent pace, somewhat slower than in recent quarters as home mortgage borrowing decreased a bit. Business debt expanded at a 10-1/2 percent annual rate in the first quarter, as firms tapped all major sources of credit in volume. Growth of state and local government

debt, at a 1-1/4 percent annual rate of increase, remained subdued.

The level of domestic nonfinancial debt outstanding was \$17.7 trillion at the end of the first quarter. Debt of nonfederal sectors was \$14.1 trillion, and federal debt was \$3.6 trillion.

Figures for the growth and level of debt are found in tables D.1 through D.3. Tables that show financial flows, amounts outstanding, and selected sector balance sheets are included in the remaining pages of this release.

Growth of Domestic Nonfinancial Debt¹

Percentage changes; quarterly data are seasonally adjusted annual rates

			Nonfederal			
	Total	Federal	Total	Households	Business	State and local govts.
1993	4.9	8.3	3.7	5.3	1.4	6.0
1994	4.6	4.7	4.5	7.6	3.8	-4.0
1995	5.5	4.1	6.0	7.9	6.8	-4.6
1996	5.3	4.0	5.8	7.3	5.8	-0.6
1997	5.6	0.6	7.3	6.5	8.7	5.3
1998	6.8	-1.4	9.5	8.8	10.9	7.2
1999	6.9	-1.9	9.5	9.2	11.0	4.4
1999:Q1	7.9	-2.0	10.9	9.2	13.6	7.3
:Q2	5.3	-3.0	7.8	8.4	8.1	2.9
:Q3	7.0	-2.2	9.6	9.7	10.6	4.6
:Q4	6.5	-0.4	8.4	8.1	10.0	2.5
2000:Q1	5.5	-5.5	8.4	7.8	10.6	1.2

1. Changes shown are on an end-of-period basis and may differ from month-average data in the H.6 release.

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Flow of Funds Accounts, First Quarter 2000

An updated version of the *Guide to the Flow of Funds Accounts* has been published by the Federal Reserve Board to replace the 1993 edition. The 1,200-page *Guide*, in two volumes, explains in detail how the U.S. financial accounts are prepared and the principles underlying the accounts. The *Guide* can be purchased for \$20.00 from the Board's Publications Services at the address shown on the next page; Publications Services accepts orders accompanied by checks as well as credit card orders. The Internet site for this release at the location shown on the next page contains a link to an order form for the *Guide* that can be mailed or faxed to Publications Services.

This publication presents the flow of funds accounts for 2000:Q1.

Table changes. With this release, additional detail is being added to the flow of funds accounts.

- 1. Figures for home equity loans, a component of home mortgages, are now provided on lines 24 through 29 in tables F.218 and L.218. Home equity loans include both the value of home equity lines of credit taken down and home equity loans secured by junior liens. The estimates are based on source data from lenders, each of which is shown separately. Aside from relatively minor revisions the data are consistent with estimates published earlier in *Federal Reserve Bulletin* articles in 1994 and 1998. The quarterly data for home equity loans are available from 1990:Q4 for levels and 1991:Q1 for flows.
- 2. Balance sheet data for households (B.100) and nonfarm nonfinancial corporations (B.102) will now be published at a quarterly frequency. The quarterly estimates combine previously published figures for financial assets and liabilities shown in tables L.100 and L.102, with estimates for tangible assets. Estimates are available for 1952:Q1 onward and can be downloaded via the Internet site.

Data revisions and other changes. The statistics shown in these tables reflect the use of new or revised source data. Most significant revisions appear in recent quarters; however, new source information resulted in changes to data for earlier periods. The revisions include the following:

3. Data for investment and depreciation flows for all sectors have been revised as a result of the release of revised annual estimates for fixed reproducible tangible

wealth by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce (BEA). Saving and investment flows for sectors are flow of funds allocations of totals from the national income and product accounts (NIPA) that reflect the distribution of flows in the tangible wealth data.

- 4. Assets of the nonfarm nonfinancial corporate business sector (tables F.102 and L.102) were revised from 1997:Q1 onward to reflect new data from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) *Statistics of Income* (SOI) for 1997.
- 5. In the nonfarm noncorporate business sector (tables F.103 and L.103), data have been revised for 1997:Q1 onward, owing to benchmark statistics available from the IRS/SOI for 1997.
- 6. Assets of the state and local governments sector (tables F.105 and L.105) were revised from 1998:Q3 onward to reflect data from the comprehensive annual financial reports of state and local governments for 1999:Q2.

Explanatory notes for tables D.1, D.2, and D.3.

Domestic debt comprises credit market funds borrowed by U.S. entities from both domestic and foreign sources, while foreign debt represents amounts borrowed by foreign financial and nonfinancial entities in U.S. markets only. Financial sectors consist of government-sponsored enterprises, federally related mortgage pools, and private financial institutions. Credit market debt consists of debt securities, mortgages, bank loans, commercial paper, consumer credit, U.S. government loans, and other loans and advances; it excludes trade debt, loans for the purpose of carrying securities, and funds raised from equity sources.

Growth rates in table D.1 are calculated by dividing seasonally adjusted flows from table D.2 by seasonally adjusted levels at the end of the previous period from table D.3. Seasonally adjusted levels in flow of funds statistics are derived by carrying forward year-end levels by seasonally adjusted flows. Growth rates calculated from changes in unadjusted levels printed in table L.2 can differ from those in table D.1.

Relation of Flows to Outstandings. Estimates of financial assets and liabilities outstanding are linked to data on flows. However, figures on outstandings contain discontinuities or breaks in series that could affect analysis of particular relationships over time. Specifically, outstandings in the flow of funds accounts are related to the flows in the following way:

Outstanding $_{\iota}$ = Outstanding $_{\iota\cdot l}$ + Flow $_{\iota}$ + Discontinuity $_{\iota}$ where "t" is the time period.

Discontinuities result from changes in valuation, breaks in source data, and changes in definitions. For most series, the value of the discontinuity is zero for nearly all time periods. However, in a few instances, the discontinuity is nonzero for almost all time periods, or is quite large in a particular quarter, such as a period when there is a sharp increase or decrease in equity prices or a major break in source data.

The discontinuities in a series can distort estimated rates of growth in assets and liabilities between periods. In order to minimize these distortions, percentage changes in assets and liabilities in flow of funds releases should be calculated as:

Percentage change = (Flow / Outstanding 1.1) * 100

Preliminary Estimates. Figures shown for the most recent quarter in these tables are based on preliminary and incomplete information. A summary list of the principal sources of information available when the latest quarter's data were compiled is provided in a table following this introduction. The distinction between "available" data and "missing" data is not between final and preliminary versions of data, but rather between those source estimates that are fully ready when the latest quarterly publication is compiled and those that are not yet completed. However, the items that are shown as available are, in general, also preliminary in the sense that they are subject to revision by source agencies.

Margins of Uncertainty. Flow of funds statistics are subject to uncertainties resulting from measurement

errors in source data, incompatibilities among data from different sources, potential revisions in both financial and nonfinancial series, and incomplete data in parts of the accounts. The size of these uncertainties cannot be quantified in precise statistical terms, but allowance for them is explicitly made throughout the accounts by the inclusion of "discrepancies" for various sectors and instrument types. A discrepancy for a sector is the difference between its measured sources of funds and its measured uses of funds. For an instrument category, a discrepancy is the difference between measured funds borrowed through the financial instrument and measured funds lent through that instrument. The size of such discrepancies relative to the main asset or liability components is one indication of the quality of source data, especially on an annual basis. For quarterly data, differences in seasonal adjustment procedures for financial and nonfinancial components of the accounts sometimes result in discrepancies that cancel in annual

Availability of Data. Flow of funds statistics are updated about ten weeks following the end of a quarter. This publication—the Z.1 release—is available from the Board's Publications Services. Flow of funds data are also available electronically through the Internet at the following location:

http://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/Z1

The Internet site also provides quarterly data beginning in 1952, organized in compressed files that correspond to the tables published in this release. There are files for quarterly data for seasonally adjusted flows, unadjusted flows, outstandings, balance sheets, and debt (tables D.1, D.2, and D.3). There is a separate file for monthly data from January 1955 onward for the debt aggregate published in the Board's H.6 statistical release, "Money Stock and Debt Measures."

Subscription Information. The Federal Reserve Board charges for subscriptions to all statistical releases. Inquiries for releases should be directed to:

Publications Services, Stop 127
Board of Governors
of the Federal Reserve System
20th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20551
(202) 452-3244

Availability of Data for Latest Quarter

Available at time of publication **Major items missing** 1. National income and Preliminary estimates, seasonally Unadjusted flows since 1998. product accounts (NIPA) adjusted, for 2000:Q1; revised unadjusted flows. 2. Households and nonprofit Estimates for this sector are largely residuals and are derived from data for organizations sector other sectors. Availability of data depends on schedules for other sectors. Data for consumer credit, which are estimated directly, are available (tables F.100 and L.100) through 2000:Q1. The source for nonprofit organizations data (tables F.100.a and L.100.a) is the Internal Revenue Service Statistics of Income. Data for nonprofit organizations are available for 1987 through 1996. 3. Nonfarm nonfinancial Quarterly Financial Report (QFR) of Statistics of Income data since 1997; QFR data for 2000:Q1. corporate business the Census Bureau through 1999:Q4; (tables F.102 and L.102) Internal Revenue Service Statistics of Income data through 1997; securities offerings, mortgages, bank loans, commercial paper, and other loans through 2000:Q1. 4. Nonfarm noncorporate Internal Revenue Service Statistics of Statistics of Income data since Income data through 1997; bank and 1997. business (tables F.103 and L.103) finance company loans and mortgage borrowing through 2000:Q1. 5. Farm business Mortgages, bank loans, loans from Revised data for consumption of (tables F.104 and L.104) government-sponsored enterprises, fixed capital and undistributed U.S. government loans to farms, and profits since 1998. equity in government-sponsored enterprises through 2000:Q1; preliminary data for checkable deposits and currency and trade

payables through 1999.

6. State and local governments (tables F.105 and L.105)	Gross offerings and retirements of municipal securities, deposits at banks, and nonmarketable U.S. government securities issues through 2000:Q1; selected financial assets through 1999:Q2 from the comprehensive annual financial reports of state and local governments that account for most of the holdings of the sector, and data from Standard & Poor's on local government investment pools.	Selected financial asset items since 1999:Q2.
7. Federal government (tables F.106 and L.106)	Data from the <i>Monthly Treasury</i> Statement of Receipts and Outlays through 2000:Q1; data from the Federal Financing Bank through 1999:Q4; Treasury data for loan programs through 1999:Q4.	Federal Financing Bank data and Treasury data for loan programs for 2000:Q1.
8. Rest of the world (U.S. international transactions) (tables F.107 and L.107)	Balance of payments data through 1999:Q4; NIPA estimates, data from bank Reports of Condition, and Treasury International Capital System data through 2000:Q1.	Selected series from the balance of payments for 2000:Q1.
9. Monetary authority (tables F.108 and L.108)	All data through 2000:Q1.	None.
10. Commercial banking (tables F.109 through F.113 and tables L.109 through L.113)	All data through 2000:Q1 for U.Schartered commercial banks, foreign banking offices in the U.S., bank holding companies, and commercial banks in U.Saffiliated areas.	Data since 1998 for branches of domestic commercial banks located in U.Saffiliated areas.
11. Savings institutions (tables F.114 and L.114)	All data through 2000:Q1.	None.
12. Credit unions (tables F.115 and L.115)	All data through 2000:Q1.	None.
13. Bank personal trusts and estates (tables F.116 and L.116)	All data through 1998.	Data since 1998:Q4.
14. Life insurance companies (tables F.117 and L.117)	All data through 1999:Q3; preliminary data for 1999:Q4.	Final data since1999:Q4.
15. Other insurance companies (tables F.118 and L.118)	All data through 1999:Q3; preliminary data for 1999:Q4.	Final data since1999:Q4.

16. Private pension funds (including FERS Thrift Savings Plan) (tables F. 119 and L.119)	Quarterly data through 2000:Q1; Internal Revenue Service/Department of Labor/Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Form 5500 data through 1995.	Form 5500 data since 1995.
17. State and local government employee retirement funds (tables F.120 and L.120)	All data through 1999:Q4.	Data for 2000:Q1.
18. Money market mutual funds (tables F.121 and L.121)	All data through 2000:Q1.	None.
19. Mutual funds (tables F.122 and L.122)	All data through 2000:Q1.	None.
20. Closed-end funds (tables F.123 and L.123)	All data through 1999.	Data since 1999.
21. Government-sponsored enterprises (tables F.124 and L.124)	Balance sheet data for FHLBs, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, FCS, FICO, REFCORP, and Sallie Mae through 2000:Q1.	None.
22. Federally related mortgage pools (tables F.125 and L.125)	All data through 2000:Q1.	None.
23. Issuers of asset-backed securities (ABSs) (tables F.126 and L.126)	All data from Trepp/PSA Information Services of the Muller Data Corporation and data for private mortgage pools, consumer credit, business loans, student loans, consumer leases, and trade credit securitization through 2000:Q1.	None.
24. Finance companies (tables F.127 and L.127)	All data through 2000:Q1.	None.
25. Mortgage companies (tables F.128 and L.128)	Mortgage data through 1998:Q1.	Data since 1998:Q1.
26. Real estate investment trusts (REITs) (tables F.129 and L.129)	Data from SNL REIT DataSource through 2000:Q1.	None.
27. Security brokers and dealers (tables F.130 and L.130)	Data for firms filing FOCUS and FOGS reports through 2000:Q1.	None.
28. Funding corporations (tables F.131 and L.131)	Estimates for this sector are largely resother sectors.	iduals and are derived from data for