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**FEDERAL RESERVE** statistical release

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*Z.1*

# *Flow of Funds Accounts of the United States*

*Flows and Outstandings  
First Quarter 2001*

## Flow of Funds Summary Statistics First Quarter 2001

Domestic nonfinancial debt grew at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5-1/4 percent in the first quarter of 2001. Growth of household and business debt slowed from the previous quarter while growth of state and local government debt increased. Federal government debt contracted slightly in the first quarter.

Household debt expanded at a 7-3/4 percent rate in the first quarter. Growth of mortgage debt slowed slightly, and growth of consumer credit continued at a high rate. In the nonfinancial business sector, debt grew at a 5 percent rate in the first quarter, the lowest rate in more than four years. Despite a surge in net issuance of bonds, business debt growth was held down by continued run-offs in commercial paper and sluggish bank loan growth. State and local

government debt increased at a 7 percent rate in the first quarter, with robust borrowing for new capital projects and substantial issuance of bonds to raise funds that will be used to retire outstanding securities as they mature in the future.

The level of domestic nonfinancial debt outstanding was \$18.5 trillion at the end of the first quarter. Debt of nonfederal sectors was \$15.1 trillion, and federal debt was \$3.4 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 Debt<sup>1</sup>

Percentage changes; quarterly data are seasonally adjusted annual rates

	Total	Federal	Nonfederal			
			Total	Households	Business	State and local govts.
1992	4.6	10.9	2.6	4.8	0.3	2.2
1993	4.9	8.3	3.7	5.5	1.1	6.0
1994	4.5	4.7	4.4	7.6	3.5	-4.0
1995	5.5	4.1	6.0	8.0	6.6	-4.6
1996	5.3	4.0	5.8	7.3	5.7	-0.6
1997	5.6	0.6	7.3	6.5	8.9	5.3
1998	6.6	-1.4	9.3	8.5	10.7	7.2
1999	6.7	-1.9	9.3	8.8	10.9	4.4
2000	5.0	-8.0	8.5	8.6	9.6	2.2
2000:Q1	5.3	-5.9	8.3	7.9	10.4	0.3
:Q2	5.4	-11.4	9.8	9.5	11.8	1.7
:Q3	4.2	-6.2	6.8	8.0	6.4	1.9
:Q4	4.6	-9.6	8.0	8.1	8.5	4.8
2001:Q1	5.3	-0.3	6.6	7.8	5.1	7.0

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 2001

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This publication presents the flow of funds accounts for 2001:Q1.

**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:

1. For all sectors, data for investment and depreciation flows have been revised to reflect updated annual estimates of reproducible tangible wealth published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce.

2. Assets of the nonfarm nonfinancial corporate business sector (tables F.102 and L.102) were revised for 1998:Q1 forward to reflect data from the Internal Revenue Service *Statistics of Income* for 1998.

3. For the personal sector (table F.10), residential fixed investment (lines 18, 23, and 27) now includes residential fixed investment by the noncorporate business sector. Previously, such investment was in other fixed assets (lines 19, 24, and 28).

4. In the state and local government employee retirement fund sector (tables F.120 and L.120), the composition of net purchases of financial assets and the value of total assets were revised for 1988:Q3 forward. The revisions generally lowered net purchases of corporate equity in the sector and raised net purchases of miscellaneous assets; net purchases of total financial assets were unchanged. In addition, the value of corporate equities and total assets held by the sector was generally revised down.

5. Supplementary tables (F.225.i and L.225.i) showing households' assets in Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) have been added to the release. The data are available on an annual basis for 1982 forward.

6. The components of equity held indirectly, shown on the balance sheet of the household and nonprofit organization sector with equity detail (table B.100.e, line 8), have been changed to include the

value of equity held in defined benefit pension plans. Previously, the value of equity in defined benefit plans was in the other assets category (line 16). The value of equity shares of the household and nonprofit organization sector excluding defined benefit pension plans is shown as a memo item (line 19).

### **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:

$$\text{Outstanding}_t = \text{Outstanding}_{t-1} + \text{Flow}_t + \text{Discontinuity}_t$$

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:

$$\text{Percentage change}_t = (\text{Flow}_t / \text{Outstanding}_{t-1}) * 100$$

**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 data.

**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."

A Guide to the Flow of Funds Accounts is available. 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. Publications Services accepts orders accompanied by checks as well as credit card orders. The Internet site for this release at the location shown above contains a link to an order form for the Guide that can be mailed or faxed to Publications Services.

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## Availability of Data for Latest Quarter

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	<u>Available at time of publication</u>	<u>Major items missing</u>
1. National income and product accounts (NIPA)	Preliminary estimates, seasonally adjusted, for 2001:Q1.	Unadjusted flows since 1999.
2. Households and nonprofit organizations sector (tables F.100 and L.100)	Estimates for this sector are largely residuals and are derived from data for other sectors. Availability of data depends on schedules for other sectors. Data for consumer credit, which are estimated directly, are available through 2001:Q1. The source for nonprofit organizations data (tables F.100.a and L.100.a) is the Internal Revenue Service <i>Statistics of Income</i> . Data for nonprofit organizations are available for 1987 through 1997.	
3. Nonfarm nonfinancial corporate business (tables F.102 and L.102)	<i>Quarterly Financial Report</i> (QFR) of the Census Bureau through 2000:Q4; Internal Revenue Service <i>Statistics of Income</i> data through 1998; securities offerings, mortgages, bank loans, commercial paper, and other loans through 2001:Q1.	<i>Statistics of Income</i> data since 1998; QFR data for 2001:Q1.
4. Nonfarm noncorporate business (tables F.103 and L.103)	Internal Revenue Service <i>Statistics of Income</i> data through 1997; bank and finance company loans and mortgage borrowing through 2001:Q1.	<i>Statistics of Income</i> data since 1997.
5. Farm business (tables F.104 and L.104)	Mortgages, bank loans, loans from government-sponsored enterprises, U.S. government loans to farms, and equity in government-sponsored enterprises through 2001:Q1; preliminary data for checkable deposits and currency and trade payables through 1999.	Revised data for consumption of fixed capital and undistributed profits since 1999.

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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 security issues through 2001: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 Statement of Receipts and Outlays</i> through 2001:Q1; Treasury data for loan programs through 2001:Q1.	None.
8. Rest of the world (U.S. international transactions) (tables F.107 and L.107)	Balance of payments data through 2000:Q4; NIPA estimates; data from bank Reports of Condition and Treasury International Capital System through 2001:Q1.	Balance of payments data for 2001:Q1.
9. Monetary authority (tables F.108 and L.108)	All data through 2001:Q1.	None.
10. Commercial banking (tables F.109 through F.113 and tables L.109 through L.113)	All data through 2001:Q1 for U.S.-chartered commercial banks, foreign banking offices in the U.S., bank holding companies, and commercial banks in U.S.-affiliated areas.	Data since 1999 for branches of domestic commercial banks located in U.S.-affiliated areas.
11. Savings institutions (tables F.114 and L.114)	All data through 2001:Q1.	None.
12. Credit unions (tables F.115 and L.115)	All data through 2001:Q1.	None.
13. Bank personal trusts and estates (tables F.116 and L.116)	All data through 1999.	Data since 1999.
14. Life insurance companies (tables F.117 and L.117)	All data through 2000:Q3. Preliminary data for 2000:Q4.	Data for 2001:Q1.
15. Other insurance companies (tables F.118 and L.118)	All data through 2000:Q3. Preliminary data for 2000:Q4.	Data for 2001:Q1.

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16. Private pension funds (including FERS Thrift Savings Plan) (tables F. 119 and L.119)	Quarterly data through 2001:Q1; Internal Revenue Service/Department of Labor/Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Form 5500 data through 1997.	Form 5500 data since 1997.
17. State and local government employee retirement funds (tables F.120 and L.120)	All data through 2000:Q4.	Data for 2001:Q1.
18. Money market mutual funds (tables F.121 and L.121)	All data through 2001:Q1.	None.
19. Mutual funds (tables F.122 and L.122)	All data through 2001:Q1.	None.
20. Closed-end funds (tables F.123 and L.123)	All data through 2000.	Data for 2001:Q1.
21. Government-sponsored enterprises (tables F.124 and L.124)	Data for FHLBs, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, FCS, FICO, REFCORP, and Sallie Mae through 2001:Q1.	None
22. Federally related mortgage pools (tables F.125 and L.125)	All data through 2001:Q1.	None.
23. Issuers of asset-backed securities (ABSs) (tables F.126 and L.126)	All data for private mortgage pools, consumer credit, business loans, student loans, consumer leases, and trade credit securitization through 2001:Q1.	None.
24. Finance companies (tables F.127 and L.127)	All data through 2001: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 2001:Q1.	None
27. Security brokers and dealers (tables F.130 and L.130)	Data for firms filing FOCUS and FOGS reports through 2001:Q1.	None.
28. Funding corporations (tables F.131 and L.131)	Estimates for this sector are largely residuals and are derived from data for other sectors.	