Quarterly Economic Review

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OVERVIEW

During the third quarter, domestic economic developments were dominated by the passage of Hurricane Dorian, which disrupted tourism output, as well as the Government's fiscal consolidation efforts. However, several varied-scaled foreign investment projects and post-hurricane rebuilding activity provided a positive construction sector stimulus. In price developments, domestic inflation remained relatively subdued over the review period, reflective of the decline in international oil prices.

Provisional data showed that the Government's overall deficit narrowed during the first quarter of FY2019/20, as the VAT-led increase in aggregate revenue outstripped the rise in total expenditure. Budgetary financing was mainly obtained from internal sources and included a combination of long and short-term debt.

In monetary developments, the expansion in the deposit base outpaced credit growth during the review quarter. Consequently, both bank liquidity and external reserves grew, bolstered by initial re-insurance receipts and foreign currency inflows from real sector activities. Meanwhile, banks' credit quality indicators deteriorated during the third quarter, corresponding with hurricane-related events. Nonetheless, the latest data, for the second quarter of 2019, indicated an improvement in banks' overall profitability, largely on account of a reduction in provisions for bad debts.

In the external sector, the estimated current account deficit narrowed sharply over the review period. This outturn was attributed mainly to re-insurance proceeds following the hurricane, to facilitate private sector rebuilding activities, combined with a decline in net imports. Besides, the estimated surplus on the capital and financial account expanded sharply, partly due to hurricane-related Government borrowings.

REAL SECTOR

TOURISM

Tourism sector output was mildly positive during the third quarter. However, gains were considerably narrowed, owing to the passage of Hurricane Dorian in September, which reduced capacity in Grand Bahama and left Abaco mostly offline. Developments were supported largely by growth in the New Providence market and the unaffected Family Islands, which contributed to the increase in both hotel room capacity and the private rental markets.

Initial data from the Ministry of Tourism revealed that total visitor arrivals grew by 2.3%, markedly lower than the 19.8% growth in 2018. A further breakdown showed that high value-added air arrivals rose by 1.3% to 0.4 million, following a 19.9% expansion in the previous year. Similarly, the dominant sea component increased by 2.5% to 1.2 million visitors, after a gain of 19.8% in 2018.

Disaggregation by major port of entry revealed that total visitor arrivals to New Providence rose by 2.9% to 0.9 million, compared to a 9.6% expansion a year earlier. Underlying this outturn, air arrivals grew by 5.6%, while sea traffic edged up by 1.7%. Further, total visitors to the Family Islands increased by 9.2% to 0.5 million, albeit significantly lower than the 45.1% surge last year, as the 11.7% gain in sea passengers, overshadowed the 7.3% decline in air arrivals. In contrast, reflective of the hurricane-related setback, visitors to Grand Bahama decreased by 23.3% to 0.1 million, vis-à-vis a 13.2% increase in 2018, as both air and sea arrivals registered notable declines of 34.4% and 22.0%, respectively.

In line with the modest growth trends in stopover activity, data from a sample of hotels on New Providence and select Family Islands—obtained from the Bahamas Hotel Association and the Ministry of Tourism—showed that average room revenue grew by 9.3%, although lower than the 35.3% expansion a year earlier. The average hotel occupancy rate increased by 4.1 percentage points to 62.7%, as the average room nights sold strengthened by 7.3%, although a moderation from a 33.3% gain in the previous year. Further, the average daily rate (ADR) firmed by 1.8% at $215.49, after a 0.6% uptick in the prior period.

In the private vacation rental market, data from AirDNA[1] showed that healthy demand for off-resort business persisted during the third quarter, with both average pricing and sales volume improved. Total room nights sold advanced by 24.9%, over the same period in 2018. An analysis by rental category showed that bookings for entire place listings increased by 25.0% year-on-year, and by 23.1% for hotel comparable listings. Further, the average occupancy rate for hotel comparable listings firmed by 3.1 percentage points to 45.0%, relative to the prior year, supplemented by a 5.3% rise in the average daily rate to $177.04. In addition, entire place listings recorded an average occupancy rate of 47.6%, representing a 2.8 percentage point increase over the third quarter of 2018, with the average daily rate decreased by 10.3% to $395.10.

According to the latest statistics from the Nassau Airport Development Company Limited (NAD), departure trends were mostly positive during the review quarter, as total departures rose by 7.1%, albeit a slowdown from a 15.4% expansion in 2018. This outturn was attributed to an 8.1% increase in United States departures, after a 14.9% advance last year. In contrast, the non-United States international component declined by 0.3%, a reversal from the 19.4% expansion in the prior year.

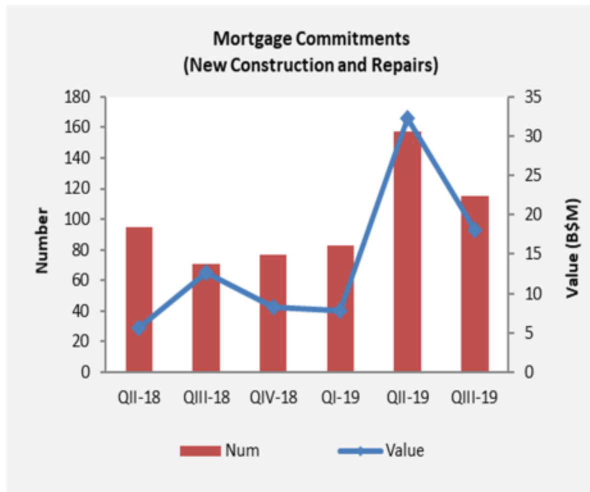
[1] Obtained from listings on Airbnb and HomeAway online vacation rental sites.

Construction

During the review quarter, construction sector output continued to be dominated by a number of ongoing, varied-scaled, foreign investment projects. However, on the domestic front, residential and commercial financing indicators were mixed.

As an indicator of domestic activity, total mortgage disbursements for new construction and repairs—as reported by banks, insurance companies, and the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation—decreased by 12.9% to $26.6 million, a turnaround from the prior year's growth of a 7.0%. The dominant residential component contracted by 16.5% to $24.1 million. Conversely, commercial disbursements grew by $0.8 million to $2.5 million.

Compared to the same period in 2018, mortgage commitments for new buildings and repairs—a forward-looking indicator—increased in number by 4 to 115, while the corresponding value rose by 43.6% to $18.1 million during the third quarter. An analysis by loan category revealed that the number of un-disbursed approvals for the dominant residential component edged up by 1 to 111, with the associated value higher by 34.8% ($4.4 million) at $17.0 million. In addition, 4 commercial commitments were approved, valued at $1.2 million, compared to 1, valued at an estimated $0.04 million last year.



In terms of interest rates, the average financing costs for commercial mortgages firmed by 1.5 percentage points to 7.75%. In contrast, the average rate for residential mortgages narrowed by 20 basis points to 7.00%.

Prices

During the third quarter, domestic consumer price inflation—as measured by changes in the average Retail Price Index (RPI) for The Bahamas—slowed to 0.4%, from 2.4% in the comparative period of 2018, when the VAT rate was raised. An analysis of categories revealed a decline in prices for housing, water, gas electricity & other fuels—the most heavily weighted component—of 1.6%, following an increase of 1.3% last year; and for food & non-alcoholic beverages, of 0.8% after an advance of 3.5% last year. Similarly, average costs decreased for miscellaneous goods & services (0.8%) and furnishing, household equipment & routine household maintenance (0.3%), which both advanced the year earlier. In addition, the average inflation rate moderated for clothing & footwear (4.5%) and alcohol beverages, tobacco & narcotics (2.2%); while prices were relatively stable for communications and transportation items. Providing some offset, inflation rates quickened for health services (11.2%), restaurant & hotels (6.6%) and recreation & culture (3.0%); and for education services (1.0%), which had declined slightly the previous year.

On an annual basis, attributed in part to the rise in the VAT rate and the increase in global oil prices in earlier periods, inflation firmed to 2.8% over the twelve months to September, from 2.0% a year earlier. This also exceeded an average annual rise of 1.5% over the five-year period through 2019. Of note, average prices moved upwards for furnishing, household equipment & routine household maintenance (6.0%) and clothing & footwear (1.4%), after respective declines in 2018. Moreover, price increases accelerated for transportation (9.4%), alcohol beverages, tobacco & narcotics (4.2%), health care (3.3%), miscellaneous goods & services (3.1%) and for restaurant & hotel (5.2%). However, in a partial offset, estimated inflation fell for communication (2.0%), recreation & culture (0.8%) and education (3.3%); as well as for housing, water, gas, electricity & other fuels (1.9%) and for food & non-alcoholic beverages (0.5%).

Retail Price Index

(Annual % Changes; September)

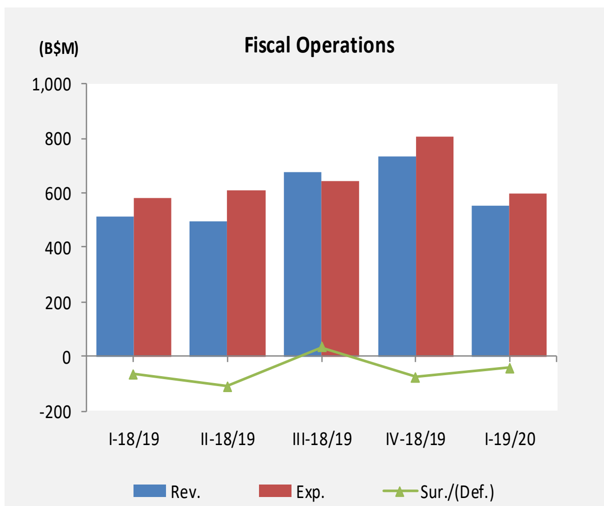
		2018		**2019**	
Items	Weight	Index	%	Index	%
Food & Non-Alcoholic	102.4	108.3	2.7	107.8	-0.5
Alcohol, Tobacco & Narcotics	6.0	114.8	1.9	119.6	4.2
Clothing & Footwear	45.0	107.7	3.1	107.1	-0.5
Housing, Water, Gas,	321.7	103.5	3.1	103.8	0.3
Furn. & Household,	45.7	110.5	6.9	111.9	1.3
Health	44.0	121.2	0.5	135.0	11.4
Transportation	125.0	102.3	7.0	114.4	11.8
Communication	40.9	109.3	-2.1	105.5	-3.4
Rec., & Culture	24.6	116.4	3.9	116.9	0.4
Education	42.4	107.8	-0.7	105.5	-2.1
Restaurant & Hotels	56.8	112.1	4.9	117.7	5.0
Misc. Goods & Svcs.	145.6	107.3	5.6	105.6	-1.5
ALL ITEMS	**1000.0**	106.9	**3.7**	108.8	**1.8**

Domestic energy costs fell during the review quarter. Specifically, during the three-month period, the average prices for gasoline declined by 2.0% to $4.33 per gallon and diesel, by 1.4% to $4.68 per gallon. In comparison to the same period of 2018, average cost for gasoline was lower by 11.9%, although diesel costs were firmed by 1.9%.

FISCAL OPERATIONS

OVERVIEW

Preliminary data on the Government's budgetary operations for the first quarter of FY2019/20, showed that the overall deficit narrowed by $23.3 million (36.0%) to $41.5 million, in comparison to the same period of FY2018/19. Higher VAT collections led a $39.0 million (7.6%), expansion in total revenue to $552.8 million, which outstripped the $15.6 million (2.7%) growth in aggregate expenditure to $594.4 million.



REVENUE

Tax receipts—which comprised 90.2% of total revenue—grew by $26.8 million (5.7%) to $498.6 million. Specifically, VAT collections—which represented 48.2% of total revenue—rose by $66.8 million (33.5%) to $266.2 million, as real estate transactions on which stamp taxes were previously applied, were now assessed VAT. Partly offsetting, proceeds from stamp taxes on financial and realty transactions fell to $10.6 million from $54.4 million in the previous year.

Meanwhile, revenue from excise taxes grew by $4.4 million (6.4%) to $72.9 million, while receipts from specific taxes—primarily gaming—firmed by $2.2 million (35.8%) to $8.4 million.

With regard to the other components, taxes on the use of goods were higher by $6.4 million (47.7%), at $19.7 million, as timing-related factors increased income from business licensing fees more than two-fold to $11.1 million, while company taxes edged up by $0.1 million (4.8%) to $1.9 million. In contrast, motor vehicle taxes decreased by $0.4 million (5.4%) to $6.3 million and marine license fees declined by $0.1 million (31.9%) to $0.3 million.

Government Revenue By Source
(Jul. - Sep.)

	FY18/19		FY19/20	
	B$M	%	B$M	%
Property Tax	12.1	2.4	8.5	1.5
Value Added Tax	199.4	38.8	266.2	48.2
Stamp Taxes (Financial & Realty)	54.4	10.6	10.6	1.9
Excise Tax	68.5	13.3	72.9	13.2
Specific Taxes (Gaming Tax)	6.2	1.2	8.4	1.5
Motor Vehicle Taxes	6.6	1.3	6.3	1.1
Company Taxes	1.9	0.4	1.9	0.4
License to Conduct Specific Bus. Act.	4.4	0.9	11.1	2.0
Marine License Activities	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.1
Bank & Trust Companies	--	--	--	--
Customs & Other Import Duties	82.7	16.1	67.6	12.2
Taxes on Exports	1.4	0.3	2.9	0.5
Departure Taxes	29.8	5.8	39.8	7.2
Other Taxes on Transctions	--	--	--	--
General Stamp Taxes	4.0	0.8	2.1	0.4
Property Income	1.6	0.3	2.0	0.4
Sales of Goods & Services	38.9	7.6	39.8	7.2
Fines, Penalties & Forfeits	1.4	0.3	--	--
Reimbursements & Repayments	--	--	--	--
Misc. & Unidentified Revenue	--	--	12.0	2.2
Sales of Other Non-Financial Assets	--	--	--	--
Grants	--	--	--	--
Capital Revenue	--	--	--	--
Total	**513.7**	**100.0**	**552.3**	**100.0**

Among the remaining categories, taxes on international trade contracted by $3.5 million (3.1%) to $110.3 million, owing to reductions in customs & other import duties, by $15.0 million (18.2%) to $67.6 million, which overshadowed gains in departure taxes of $10.0 million (33.5%) and a more than doubling in export taxes to $2.9 million from $1.4 million in the preceding year. In addition, taxes on property declined by $3.7 million (30.4%) to $8.5 million and general stamp taxes fell by $1.9 million (47.9%) to $2.1 million.

Non-tax revenue—at 9.8% of the total receipts—rose by $12.1 million (28.7%) to $54.1 million. The outturn was largely associated with Government's receipt of an insurance payout from the Caribbean Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility (CACRIF) following Hurricane Dorian. The latter boosted "miscellaneous" revenue to $12.1 million from less than $1.0 million in the comparative period last year. More muted gains in receipt were recorded from the sale of goods & services, which grew by $0.9 million (2.3%) to $39.8 million, amid a rise in collections from immigration fees, while property income moved higher by $0.4 million (24.7%) to $2.0 million. In contrast, proceeds from fines, penalties and forfeits decreased by $1.1 million (79.3%) to $0.3 million, largely reflecting declines in judicial fines and forfeitures. Further, receipts from reimbursements & repayments and sales of "other" non-financial assets decreased to negligible levels.

EXPENDITURE

The expansion in total expenditure was due primarily to a $16.7 million (43.1%) increase in capital outlays to $55.5 million, which overshadowed the $1.1 million (0.2%) decline in current spending to $538.8 million.

An analysis by economic category, indicated that the reduction in current spending was led by a $26.1 million (19.7%) decline in outlays for the use of goods and services to $106.3 million.

Further, allocations for social assistance benefits fell by $4.4 million (10.5%) to $37.9 million, while grants edged down by $0.02 million (1.4%) to $1.3 million. In a partial offset, other "miscellaneous" payments rose by $13.3 million (33.0%) to $53.7 million, explained by a timing-related rise in insurance premium payments to $8.0 million, from $0.8 million in the previous year. In addition, current transfers advanced by $6.2 million (15.6%) to $45.7 million, as outlays for households increased by $4.3 million (36.6%) to $16.0 million, while other "miscellaneous" current transfers grew by $3.3 million to $5.6 million and allocations for non-profit institutions, by $0.2 million (7.7%) to $3.2 million. Further, subsidies expanded by $11.7 million (15.3%) to $87.8 million, related to higher disbursements for National Health Insurance, Water and Sewerage Corporation and Public Hospitals Authority. Interest payments also firmed by $2.2 million (3.0%) to $75.4 million, owing primarily to a rise in internal payments. In addition, employee compensation outlays increased by $2.3 million (1.3%) to $176.5 million.

Growth in capital expenditure was largely associated with a more than two-fold increase in capital transfers to $17.6 million from $8.6 million in the prior year, attributed to higher disbursements for contingencies to a public corporation and transfers for public private partnership. In addition, acquisition of non-financial assets grew by $7.7 million (25.3%) to $37.9 million, explained by a rise in spending on buildings other than dwellings, other machinery & equipment and other "miscellaneous" assets, which outstripped the decline in other structures and transport equipment.

FINANCING AND THE NATIONAL DEBT

Budgetary financing for the first quarter of FY2019/20 was obtained mainly from internal sources. This consisted of $103.0 million in longer-term securities, $29.7 million in net Treasury bill issues and $3.0 million in loans & advances. Comparatively, external financing amounted to $31.9 million in primarily contingency drawdowns. Debt repayments for the period totaled $98.3 million, with the largest portion (85.1%) being utilized to retire Bahamian dollar debt. As a result of these developments, the Direct Charge on the Government rose by $58.7 million (0.8%) over the three-month period and by $207.3 million (2.8%) on an annual basis, to $7,585.7 million at end-September, 2019. A disaggregation by component, showed that Bahamian dollar debt represented 66.3% of the total, while foreign currency liabilities accounted for the remaining 33.7%.

An analysis by creditor, revealed that banks held the largest share of the local debt (41.2%), followed by "other" private and institutional investors (38.2%), public corporations (11.9%) and the Central Bank (8.7%). A disaggregation by instrument type, showed that Government bonds comprised the majority of the domestic currency debt—at 74.1%—and featured an average maturity of 9.3 years, compared to 8.2 years in 2018. In addition, Treasury bills & notes, and loans & advances accounted for smaller shares of 19.1% and 6.8%, respectively.

The Government's contingent liabilities were lower by $9.3 million (1.3%) over the previous quarter, and by $45.6 million, year-on-year, at $727.0 million. Consequently, the National Debt—inclusive of contingent liabilities—rose by $49.3 million (0.6%) over the three-month period, and by $161.7 million (2.0%), relative to September 2018, to $8,312.7 million.

As a ratio to GDP, the Direct Charge increased by an estimated 50 basis points on a yearly basis, to 59.9% at end-September. However, the National Debt-to-GDP ratio stabilized at an estimated 65.6%, vis-à-vis the same period last year.

Estimates of the Debt-to-GDP Ratios September (%)[1]

	2017p	2018p	2019p*
Direct Charge	56.6	59.4	59.9
National Debt	62.4	65.6	65.6
Total Public Sector Debt	65.4	68.9	68.4

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas and the Department of Statistics

**GDP estimate for 2019 is derived from IMF projections.*

[1] In the absence of actual quaterly GDP data, the ratios presented should be taken as broad estimates of the relevant debt ratios and are therefore subject to revision.

PUBLIC SECTOR FOREIGN CURRENCY DEBT

The public sector's foreign currency debt decreased by $15.0 million (0.4%) to $3,425.6 million during the third quarter, and by $165.4 million (4.6%) relative to the same period last year. In particular, as amortization payments of $36.2 million, outpaced new drawings of $31.9 million. A breakdown by components showed that the Government's liabilities—which accounted for 74.7% of the total—rose by $6.6 million (0.3%) to $2,5594.8 million on a quarterly basis. In contrast, the public corporations' debt stock declined by $21.6 million (2.4%) to $865.8 million.

In comparison to the same period a year earlier, total foreign currency debt service payments contracted by $9.4 million (11.8%) to $70.5 million. The outturn was due largely to a $21.4 million (37.9%) reduction in the Government's component to $35.1 million, as amortization payments fell by $19.8 million (57.5%) to $14.6 million and interest charges declined by $1.6 million (7.2%) to $20.4 million. In contrast, the public corporations' segment rose by $12.0 million (50.9%) to $35.5 million, with amortization payments increasing by $14.9 million to $21.6 million, outweighing the $2.9 million (17.5%) decrease in interest charges to $13.8 million. As a result of these developments, the debt service ratio fell by 30 basis points over the year to 7.5% at end-September, while Government's debt service to revenue ratio stood at 6.5%, approximately 4.5 percentage points lower than in 2018.

Disaggregated by creditor profile, private capital market investors held the largest share of foreign currency debt (48.2%), followed by other non-resident entities (32.0%), banks (8.9%), multilateral institutions (8.8%) and bilateral entities (2.1%). A breakdown by currency type, indicated that the majority of the debt was denominated in United States dollars (86.7%), with the Swiss Franc, euro, and the Chinese Yuan accounting for smaller portions of 6.1%, 5.1%, and 2.1%, respectively. At end-September, the average age of outstanding foreign currency debt stood at 9.0 years, declining from the 10.1 years recorded in 2018.

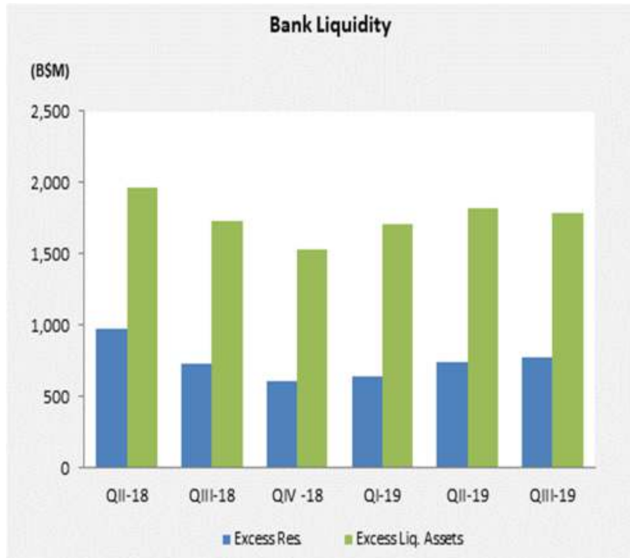
MONEY, CREDIT AND INTEREST RATES

OVERVIEW

During the third quarter, monetary developments featured an expansion in the deposit base, which contrasted with a marked slowdown in the growth in domestic credit. Correspondingly, there was a build-up in both banking system liquidity and external reserves, influenced by re-insurance inflows, and to a lesser extent foreign currency receipts from real sector activities. However, banks' credit quality indicators exhibited some deterioration, associated with hurricane-related events. In addition, the weighted average interest rate spread widened, as the average lending rate increased, while the deposit rate declined. Meanwhile, the latest profitability indicators available for the second quarter of 2019, showed that banks' overall net income grew, owing largely to a reduction in provisioning for bad debt.

LIQUIDITY

Banks' net free cash reserves grew by $29.9 million (4.0%) to $770.5 million during the review quarter, a partial reversal from a $250.0 million (25.6%) contraction in the previous year. At end-September, the ratio of free cash reserves to Bahamian dollar deposit liabilities stood at 11.2%, slightly above the 11.1% recorded in the prior year. Underpinned by a decrease in banks' holdings of Government securities, the broader surplus liquid assets fell by $36.2 million (2.0%) to $1,782.4 million; albeit a moderation from the $235.3 million (12.0%) decline a year earlier. At the end of the third quarter, surplus liquid assets exceeded the statutory minimum by approximately 147.7%, relative to 154.0% in September 2018.



DEPOSITS AND MONEY

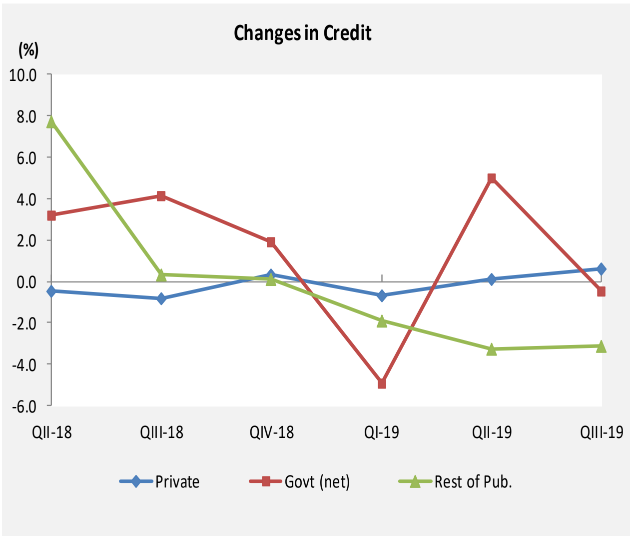
Buoyed by hurricane-related insurance inflows, overall money supply (M3) expanded by $111.5 million (1.5%) to $7,540.9 million, a turnaround from the $40.4 million (0.6%) contraction recorded in the comparable period of 2018. In terms of the components, narrow money (M1) rose by $56.8 million (1.9%), vis-à-vis a $62.0 million (2.2%) reduction in the previous year. Contributing to this development was a private sector-led increase in demand deposits, by $77.6 million (3.2%), which contrasted with a $67.9 million (3.0%) decrease in 2018. In a slight offset, currency in active circulation declined by $6.5 million (2.0%), extending the $5.1 million (1.6%) falloff a year earlier. Similarly, broad money (M2) grew by $1.5 million, after registering a $132.7 million (1.9%) contraction in the prior year, as the reduction in fixed deposits slowed to $32.7 million (1.3%), from $62.3 million (2.4%) last year. In contrast, the decline in savings balances moved higher to $22.7 million (1.5%), relative to $8.3 million (0.6%) in 2018. Further, boosted by re-insurance receipts, the growth in residents' foreign currency deposits strengthened to $110.0 million (27.3%) from $92.3 million (22.6%) a year earlier.

A breakdown by category showed that Bahamian dollar demand deposits constituted the largest share of the money stock at 36.4%, followed by fixed (32.5%) and savings balances (20.1%). The remaining balances were divided between residents' foreign currency deposits (6.8%) and currency in active circulation (4.2%).

DOMESTIC CREDIT

Growth in total domestic credit slowed to $7.2 million (0.1%), from $50.1 million (0.6%) in the corresponding period of 2018; and relative to an average increase of 1.2% over the past five years.

The dominant Bahamian dollar segment—which comprised 96.0% of the total—grew by $14.2 million (0.2%), significantly lower than the Government borrowing-led expansion of $119.8 million (1.4%) last year. Also, the declines in foreign currency credit narrowed to $7.1 million (2.0%) from $69.8 million (15.4%) in 2018.



A sectoral disaggregation revealed that net credit to the Government decreased by $13.2 million (0.5%), contrasting with a growth of $99.1 million (4.1%) in 2018, and leading to an average gain of 13.0% over the past five years. Similarly, credit to the rest of the public sector fell by $14.4 million (3.2%), following an uptick of $1.3 million (0.3%) in the prior year. In contrast, private sector credit grew by $34.8 million (0.6%), a reversal from a $50.3 million (0.8%) contraction in the preceding year.

A decomposition of the various private sector categories, indicated that personal loans—which accounted for the majority (78.2%) of total Bahamian dollar credit—rose by $17.7 million (0.4%), after a $36.3 million (0.7%) decline in 2018. This resulted in an average growth of 0.1% over the last five years. Underpinning this development, consumer loans and residential mortgages grew by $31.3 million (1.4%) and $2.1 million (0.1%), respectively, overshadowing the $31.1 million (57.3%) reduction in overdrafts.

A detailed breakdown of consumer credit showed that net lending expanded for credit cards ($27.0 million), travel ($6.5 million) and education ($3.1 million); with more muted gains of less than $1.0 million recorded for furnishings & domestic appliances, taxis & rented cars, home improvements and "miscellaneous" purposes. In contrast, net repayments were registered for private cars ($3.3 million), land purchases ($1.6 million) and debt consolidation ($1.2 million). Reductions of less than $1.0 million were reported for medical purposes and commercial vehicles.

Distribution of Bank Credit By Sector

(End-Sept.)

	2019		2018	
	B$M	%	B$M	%
Agriculture	3.7	0.1	3.5	0.1
Fisheries	6.9	0.1	4.8	0.1
Mining & Quarrying	1.3	0.0	1.7	0.0
Manufacturing	40.2	0.6	29.3	0.4
Distribution	275.5	4.1	245.7	3.7
Tourism	14.0	0.2	12.3	0.2
Enter. & Catering	49.9	0.7	47.8	0.7
Transport	43.1	0.6	40.2	0.6
Construction	291.2	4.4	285.6	4.3
Government	620.9	9.3	489.2	7.4
Public Corps.	208.4	3.1	247.8	3.8
Private Financial	24.9	0.4	22.0	0.3
Prof. & Other Ser.	46.3	0.7	45.3	0.7
Personal	4,965.1	74.3	5,000.3	75.9
Miscellaneous	92.2	1.4	111.4	1.7
TOTAL	**6,683.6**	**100.0**	**6,586.9**	**100.0**

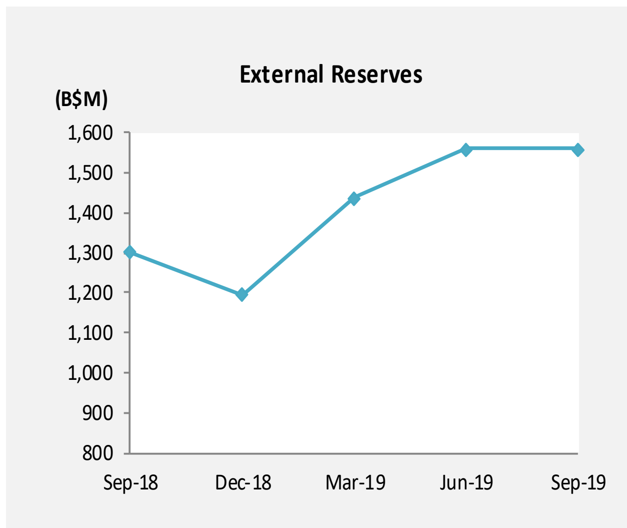
With regard to the remaining private sector categories, net lending rose for professional and "other" services ($5.5 million), construction ($5.2 million), distribution ($5.2 million), fisheries ($4.7 million), tourism ($4.2 million) and transport ($1.3 million). Relatively smaller increases of less than $1.0 million were recorded for private financial institutions and manufacturing. In contrast, net repayments were posted for "miscellaneous" purposes ($8.1 million). Smaller declines of less than $1.0 million were reported for agriculture ($0.5 million), entertainment & catering ($0.4 million) and mining & quarrying ($0.1 million).

MORTGAGES

Data provided by banks, insurance companies and the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation revealed that the total value of mortgages outstanding rose by $5.7 million (0.2%) to $3,050.7 million, a turnaround from last year's $11.1 million (0.4%) contraction. Contributing, residential mortgages—which accounted for 93.9% of the total—moved higher by $1.9 million (0.1%) to $2,864.1 million, contrasting with an $11.7 million (0.4%) decrease a year earlier. Similarly, commercial loans firmed by $3.8 million (2.1%) to $186.7 million, surpassing the $0.6 million (0.3%) increase in the prior year. At end-September, domestic banks held the majority of outstanding mortgages (87.8%), followed by insurance companies (6.7%) and the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation (5.5%).

THE CENTRAL BANK

The Central Bank's net claims on the Government rose by $67.9 million (22.3%) to $372.1 million during the review quarter, surpassing the $48.0 million (13.5%) growth in 2018, owing in large measure to increased holdings of Treasury bills. Meanwhile, the Bank's net liabilities to the rest of the public sector grew further by $7.3 million (21.1%), as compared to $12.1 million (69.6%) in the preceding year. Further, reflective of a notable rise in deposits, the Bank's net liabilities to commercial banks advanced by $74.8 million (6.8%) to $1,181.7 million, contrasting with the prior year's decline of $246.1 million (19.8%).



Given re-insurance inflows and to a lesser extent real sector activities, external reserves rose by $1.1 million (0.1%) to $1,558.8 million, a turnaround from a $271.4 million (17.3%) falloff in 2018. In the underlying developments, the Central Bank's net foreign currency sales reduced sharply to $27.5 million, from $303.1 million last year. Specifically, net purchases from commercial banks and the Government measured $60.4 million and $38.0 million, respectively, a reversal from net sales of $111.1 million and $60.1 million in 2018. Further, net sales to public corporations−primarily for fuel purchases−moderated by $5.9 million to $125.9 million.

At end-September, the stock of external reserves was equivalent to an estimated 24.7 weeks of the current year's merchandise imports (inclusive of oil purchases), relative to 19.1 weeks in the corresponding period of 2018. After adjusting for the 50% statutory requirement on the Central Bank's Bahamian dollar liabilities, "usable" reserves rose by $131.7 million to $748.6 million.

Domestic Banks

Total net foreign liabilities of domestic banks fell by $78.8 million (86.3%) during the third quarter, although notably lower than the $132.9 million (83.5%) reduction in 2018, largely reflecting investment in securities overseas.

Domestic banks' credit contracted by $60.7 million (0.7%), in contrast to a $2.2 million growth in 2018. In particular, attributed to a reduction in holdings of debt securities, net claims on the Government reduced by $81.2 million (3.6%), a reversal from a $51.2 million (2.5%) build-up in the preceding year. In addition, credit to public corporations declined by $14.4 million (3.2%), as opposed to a gain of $1.3 million (0.3%) last year. Providing some offset, private sector credit rose by $34.8 million (0.6%), relative to a $50.3 million (0.8%) falloff a year earlier.

Total deposit liabilities—inclusive of Government balances—rose by $101.7 million (1.4%) to $7,400.8 million, contrasting with the prior year's decline of $58.6 million (0.8%). Specifically, private sector deposits grew by $150.4 million (2.3%), vis-à-vis a $129.7 million (2.0%) falloff a year earlier. Further, the reduction in Government balances slowed to $9.1 million (3.9%), from $11.4 million (5.5%) last year. Conversely, public corporations' deposits fell by $39.7 million (8.9%), following an $82.5 million (20.8%) growth in the previous year.

At end-September, the majority of banks' deposit liabilities were denominated in Bahamian dollars (93.0%), with the US dollars and other "miscellaneous" currencies representing smaller proportions of 6.9% and 0.1%, respectively. An analysis by holder, revealed that private individuals held the bulk (49.5%) of total local currency accounts, followed by business firms (29.7%), the public sector (8.7%), private financial institutions (7.4%) and "other" miscellaneous entities (4.6%).

Disaggregated by account type in local currency, demand deposits represented the largest share (41.6%) of deposits, followed by fixed (36.4%) and savings (22.0%) balances. Analysed by range of value and number, the majority of accounts (88.2%) held Bahamian dollar balances of less than $10,000, but comprised only 6.8% of the total value. Accounts with balances between $10,000 and $50,000 constituted 7.9% of the total number and 10.9% of the overall value, while deposits in excess of $50,000 represented a mere 3.9% of the total, but a dominant 82.4% of the aggregate value.

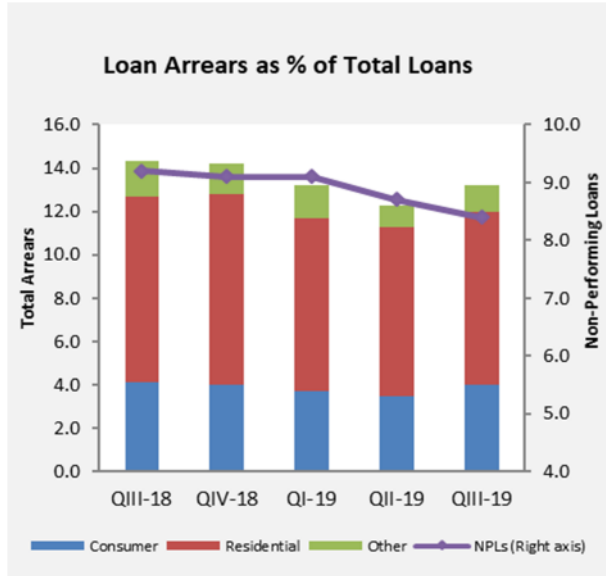
Credit Quality

Banks' credit quality indicators deteriorated over the review quarter, largely on account of a rise in short-term delinquencies. Specifically, total private sector loan arrears rose by $58.5 million (8.5%) to $749.7 million during the third quarter, but contracted on an annual basis by $62.2 million (7.7%). Consequently, the corresponding ratio of arrears to total private sector loans firmed by a 1.0 percentage point over the three-month period, but narrowed by 1.1 percentage points on an annual basis, to 13.2%.

An analysis by the average age of delinquencies, revealed that short-term (31-90 day) arrears grew by $71.8 million (36.0%) to $271.2 million, with the attendant ratio increasing by 1.3 percentage points, to 4.8% of total private sector loans. In contrast, the non-performing segment—arrears in excess of 90 days and on which banks have ceased accruing interest—reduced by $13.3 million

(2.7%) to $478.5 million, resulting in a 28 basis points lowering of the relevant ratio to 8.4% of total private sector loans.

The quarterly growth in total private sector loan arrears was due to increases across loan categories, partly reflecting a decrease in repayments due to hurricane-related events. Specifically, consumer arrears rose by $31.7 million (16.2%) to $227.3 million, with the associated loan ratio moving higher by 1.4 percentage points, to 10.2%. Similarly, the dominant mortgage component—at 60.9% of the total—grew by $17.9 million (4.1%), to $456.7 million, elevating the relevant ratio by 66 basis points, to 17.2%. Further, the commercial segment increased by $8.9 million (15.7%) to $65.7 million, with the attendant ratio firming by a 1.1 percentage points to 8.3%.



CAPITAL ADEQUACY AND PROVISIONS

Banks' capital remained at robust levels during the third quarter. Although the ratio of capital to risk-weighted assets narrowed by 1.8 percentage points to 31.7%, it stayed well in excess of the regulatory prescribed target and trigger ratios of 17.0% and 14.0%, respectively. Banks further reduced their total provisions for loan losses by $15.8 million (3.7%) to $409.7 million during the review quarter. In addition, a proportionately greater increase in arrears resulted in a 6.9 percentage points decrease in the ratio of provisions to total arrears to 54.8%, while the corresponding non-performing loan ratio decreased by 91 basis points to 85.6%. Banks also wrote-off an estimated $27.0 million in delinquent loans and recovered approximately $8.4 million, during the review quarter.

BANK PROFITABILITY

During the second quarter of 2019—the latest available data—banks' overall profitability rose by $21.7 million (45.8 %) to $69.0 million, largely reflecting a contraction in provisions for bad debts. With regard to profitability components, the net interest margin grew by $14.9 million (11.7%) to $142.1 million, amid a 20.0% decline in interest expense to $12.5 million, and an 8.2% increase in interest income to $154.6 million. Similarly, income from commissions and foreign exchange fees moved higher by 23.0% to $9.2 million, contributing to a 12.3% growth in the gross earnings margin to $151.3 million.

In terms of expenditure, total operating outlays expanded by 17.9% to $110.1 million, as other non-staff operating costs—inclusive of professional and rental expenses—rose by 32.2% to $61.9 million; while staff-related expenses edged up by 4.3% to $41.6 million. In contrast, occupancy costs fell by 1.5% to $6.7 million. Further, banks recorded a notable rise in income from "non-core" activities to $27.8 million, compared to $6.0 million in the same period of the prior year, reflecting a more than halving of provisions for bad debts, to $13.7 million from $28.5 million, and a 20.2% increase in other "non-interest" earnings to $45.2 million.

In line with these developments, movements in banks' profitability ratios were mostly positive. As a percentage of average assets, the gross earnings margin ratio rose by 68 basis points to 5.94%, owing largely to a 61 basis point widening in the interest margin to 5.57%, while the commission and foreign exchange ratio increased by 7 basis points to 0.36%. However, the operating cost ratio grew by 68 basis points to 4.32%, while the net earnings margin was unchanged at 1.61%. After accounting for a reduction in bad debt provisions and a rise in other "non-interest" earnings, the net income ratio firmed by 86 basis points to 2.71%.

INTEREST RATES

During the third quarter, commercial banks' weighted average interest rate spread widened by 1.3 percentage points to 11.67 percentage points. The outturn was primarily attributed to a 1.3 percentage point increase in the weighted mean lending rate to 12.19%, while the weighted average deposit rate lessened by 4 basis points to 0.52%.

As banking system operations continued amidst a highly liquid environment, average rates on deposits continued to tighten. Specifically, average returns offered on demand deposits reduced by 13 basis points, to 0.27%. Further, the average range of interest earned on fixed balances narrowed to 0.30% - 0.81%, from 0.34% - 0.91% in the prior quarter. In addition, the mean rate on savings deposits softened by 1 basis point, to 0.34%.

Banking Sector Interest Rates

Period Average (%)

	Qtr. III 2018	Qtr. II 2019	Qtr. III 2019
Deposit Rates			
Demand Deposits	0.25	0.40	0.27
Savings Deposits	0.66	0.35	0.34
Fixed Deposits			
Up to 3 months	0.59	0.34	0.30
Up to 6 months	0.53	0.57	0.49
Up to 12 months	1.06	0.68	0.78
Over 12 months	1.01	0.91	0.81
Weighted Avg. Dep. Rate	**0.82**	**0.56**	**0.52**
Lending Rates			
Residential mortgages	5.35	5.29	5.43
Commercial mortgages	8.71	6.32	7.07
Consumer loans	13.53	13.18	13.61
Other Local Loans	7.35	9.95	11.29
Overdrafts	10.42	10.32	12.02
Weighted Avg. Loan Rate	**11.61**	**10.89**	**12.19**

In terms of lending, the average rate for overdrafts rose by 1.7 percentage points to 12.02%, while average rates on commercial mortgages increased by 75 basis points to 7.07%. In addition, respective average rates for consumer loans and residential mortgages increased, by 43 and 14 basis points, to 13.61% and 5.43%.

In other interest rate developments, the average 90-day Treasury bill moved higher by 4 basis points to 1.60%. Moreover, the Central Bank's Discount rate and commercial banks' Prime rate were unchanged at 4.00% and 4.25%, respectively.

CAPITAL MARKETS DEVELOPMENTS

During the third quarter, indications are that activity on the domestic capital market was relatively subdued. In particular, the volume of shares traded on the Bahamas International Securities Exchange (BISX) decreased sharply, by 55.8% year-on-year, to 1.5 million, following a more than three-fold increase a year earlier. Correspondingly, the aggregate value of shares traded declined by 47.1% to $7.1 million, extending the 35.5% reduction in 2018.

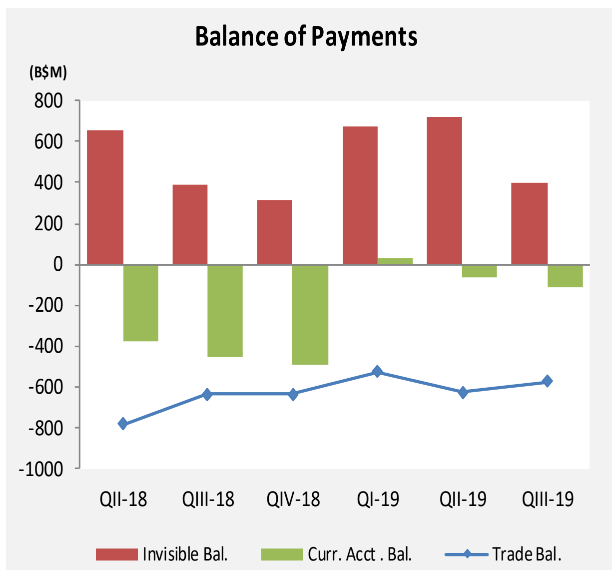
In terms of other key market indicators, the BISX All Share Price Index rose slightly, by 0.5% over the three-month period to 2,171.36 points, vis-à-vis a decrease of a similar magnitude in the previous year. Similarly, market capitalization rose by 6.2% to $5.3 billion, compared to a 0.4% falloff a year earlier.

At end-September, the number of publicly traded securities listed on the exchange declined by 5 to 40, and comprised 19 ordinary shares, 8 preference shares and 13 debt tranches.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND PAYMENTS

The impact of Hurricane Dorian was also evident in the external accounts, with re-insurance funds and Government's external borrowing activity contributing to a boost in inflows. Provisional estimates for the third quarter indicated a marked reduction in the estimated current account deficit to $116.7 million from $451.7 million in the comparative 2018 period. In particular, current transfers reversed to a net inflow from a net outflow, attributed mainly to re-insurance receipts for private sector rebuilding activities. In addition, the merchandise trade deficit narrowed, and the services account surplus expanded. The surplus on the capital and financial account also increased sharply to $63.0 million from $1.7 million a year earlier, due in large measure to hurricane-related Government borrowings.

The estimated merchandise trade deficit narrowed by $59.0 million (9.3%) to $573.1 million. A $103.5 million (13.2%) decline in imports, to $681.9 million, overshadowed the $44.5 million (29.0%) falloff in exports, to $108.8 million. A further disaggregation of trade flows showed that net non-oil imports fell by $53.6 million (11.2%) to $426.7 million and fuel imports were reduced by $13.3 million (6.2%) to $199.2 million. An analysis of the fuel sub-components revealed that the average cost per barrel for aviation gas decreased by 14.3% to $144.40, while propane and motor gases declined, by 12.2% and 4.0%, to $44.11 and $88.23, respectively. In contrast, the respective average prices of jet fuel and gas oil rose by 26.1% and 20.2%, to $89.03 and $85.73 per barrel.



The surplus on the services account rose by an estimated $8.1 million (2.0%) to $401.9 million. The dominant net travel receipts grew by $9.9 million (1.5%) to $663.1 million. Similarly, net payments for transportation services declined by $29.2 million (31.5%) to $63.7 million, attributed primarily to a decrease in disbursements for passenger services and air & sea freight services; net outflows for Government services, by $5.0 million (14.4%) at $29.9 million, largely reflecting a rise in inflows for foreign Government operations; and net outflows for uncategorised services, by $32.9 million (18.9%) to $141.5 million. Providing some offset, net receipts related to offshore companies' local expenses contracted by $55.2 million (61.8%) to $34.2 million; while, net payments for insurance services firmed by $13.4 million (38.0%) to $48.6 million; royalty &

license fees, by $0.4 million (19.2%) to $2.6 million; and net payments for foreign construction services were unchanged at $9.1 million.

Estimated income outflows narrowed by $93.1 million (48.3%) to $99.7 million, owing mainly to a $101.9 million (55.1%) reduction in net investment income repatriation to $82.9 million. This included a more than two-fold decrease in private net interest and dividend payments to $66.2 million from $167.6 million, as both non-banks' and commercial banks' net profit repatriation fell. In addition, net outflows for public debt servicing edged slightly lower, by $0.5 million (2.9%) to $16.8 million, on account of a falloff in Government's expenses on external debt. In a modest offset, net labour income remittances more than doubled to $16.8 million from $7.9 million in 2018.

Current transfers were reversed to a net receipt of $154.2 million, from a $20.6 million net payment in the prior year, due primarily to re-insurance inflows from claims related to Hurricane Dorian. The outturn largely reflected net private receipts (excluding labour income) of $151.8 million, relative to a nearly flat position in the prior year. In addition, net workers' remittances declined by $16.8 million (35.4%) to $30.7 million, while Government's net transfer receipts grew by $6.5 million (24.4%), to $33.1 million.

The capital and financial account surplus increased markedly to $63.0 million, from $1.7 million in the corresponding period of 2018. The outturn was owing in large measure to a reduction in debt related repayments to $1.9 million, from $69.6 million in 2018. Specifically, hurricane-related Government borrowings contributed to a reversal in the public sector's external debt transactions to a net drawing of $6.8 million, vis-à-vis a net repayment of $14.4 million in the prior year. Further, domestic banks repayment of net short-term liabilities tapered to $78.8 million from $132.9 million a year earlier. However, private loan-based financing inflows decreased by $7.6 million (9.8%) to $70.1 million.

In terms of capital and financial flows, net direct investment inflows decreased by $9.0 million (10.5%) to $77.0 million, as net equity financed inflows narrowed by $2.9 million (6.5%) to $41.3 million and net receipts from real estate sales fell by $6.1 million (14.7%) to $35.8 million. Similarly, migrants' net transfers abroad declined by $2.6 million (21.1%) to $9.8 million, while net outward portfolio investments, related to the Bahamas Depository Receipt (BDR) programme stabilized at $2.3 million.

In line with these developments, and after making the relevant adjustments for net errors and omissions, the overall balance, which corresponds to the change in the Central Bank's external reserves, posted a surplus of $1.2 million, a turnaround from a deficit of $271.4 million in the comparable period of 2018.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

The global economy sustained its positive−although modest−growth momentum during the third quarter, as most of the major economies registered real GDP expansions. In this environment, employment conditions continued to gradually improve. Further, inflationary pressures remained well contained, reflecting a falloff in global oil prices over the review period. Against this backdrop, most of the major central banks retained their accommodative monetary policy stance in an attempt to provide further support to their economies.

During the third quarter of 2019, major economies sustained their positive growth trajectories, albeit at a reduced pace. Specifically, real GDP growth in the United States slowed to an annualized 1.9% in the third quarter, from 2.0% in the previous three-month period, owing mainly to a decline in personal consumption expenditure, Federal Government spending and non-residential fixed investment. Similar trends were noted in Asia, as China's quarterly GDP growth moderated to an annualized 6.0% in the three-months to September, from 6.2% in the second quarter, reflective of the ongoing trade tensions with the United States and weak global demand. Further, Japan's economy grew by 0.2% on a quarterly basis, although lower than that 1.8% gain recorded in the prior three-month period, underpinned by a falloff in global demand and a tapering in the growth in private consumption. In contrast, the United Kingdom's economy advanced by 0.3% in the third quarter, a reversal from a 0.2% contraction in the prior quarter, attributed largely to positive contributions from the services and construction sectors. In addition, real output in the euro area increased by 0.2% in the review quarter, following an expansion of the same magnitude in the second quarter.

Reflective of sustained positive developments in the major economies, labour market conditions continued to improve during the review quarter. Specifically, in the United States the jobless rate narrowed by 20 basis points to 3.6% during the third quarter, as total non-farm payrolls rose by an estimated 432,000 persons, led by gains in health care and professional and business services. Similar trends were evident in Europe, as the United Kingdom's unemployment rate declined by 10 basis points to 3.8% over the review quarter, amid an estimated 323,000 increase in the number of employed persons. Further, the jobless rate in the euro area decreased by 10 basis points to 7.5%, with the Czech Republic and Germany recording the lowest rates among member states. Meanwhile, the unemployment rates for China and Japan steadied at 3.6% and 2.4%, respectively, for the September quarter.

On average, inflation in the major economies remained relatively subdued during the third quarter. Specifically, in the United States, average consumer price increases firmed by 10 basis points to an annualized 1.7%, owing largely to higher costs for medical care and used cars & trucks. Similarly, China's year-on-year inflation rate rose by 90 basis points to 3.0%, amid a rise in the cost of food. In addition, average prices in Japan edged up 0.3% over the review period, vis-à-vis a 0.1% decline in the prior period. In contrast, reflecting mainly a decline in motor vehicles and fuel prices, the United Kingdom inflation rate narrowed to 1.7%, from 2.0% in the prior quarter. Similarly, the euro area annualized rate of inflation slowed, by 50 basis points to 0.8%, due to reduced services and food, alcohol & tobacco costs.

In foreign currency market developments, the United States' dollar appreciated against all major currencies over the review quarter. Specifically, reflecting in part the ongoing political uncertainty in Europe, the dollar strengthened relative to the euro, by 4.3%, to €0.92, and the British pounds, by 3.3% to £0.81. In addition, the dollar moved higher vis-à-vis the Chinese yuan, by 4.1% to CNY7.15 and the Swiss franc, by 2.2% to CHF1.00. The dollar recorded smaller gains of 1.1% and 0.2% versus the Canadian dollar and Japanese yen, to CAD$1.32 and ¥108.08, respectively.

Global equity markets performance was mixed during the review quarter, amid fears of a global economic slowdown and on-going trade tensions between the United States and China. In particular, in the United States, the S&P 500 index increased by 1.2%, however, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DIJA) decreased by 6.3%. Similarly, in Europe France's CAC 40 and German's DAX rose by 2.5% and 0.2%, respectively, while the United kingdom's FTSE 100 fell by 0.2%. For Asian markets, Japan's Nikkei 225 grew by 2.3%, however, China's SE composite declined by 2.5%.

Attributed to a reduction in OPEC's crude oil production and geopolitical tensions in the Persian Gulf, average crude oil prices declined by 6.3% to $60.4 per barrel over the three-month period. In contrast, reflecting investors' increased demand for less risky assets, the costs of both silver and gold rose by 10.9% to $18.11 per troy ounce and by 4.5% to $1,512.94 per troy ounce, respectively.

External sector trade balances mostly recorded improvements during the third quarter. In the United States, the trade deficit narrowed by $0.6 billion (1.1%) to $53.8 billion over the prior quarter, as the $1.1 billion reduction in imports outstripped the $0.1 billion falloff in exports. Further, the United Kingdom's trade deficit decreased by £5.0 billion to an estimated £6.4 billion in the third quarter, underpinned by an estimated £8.8 billion expansion in exports—of largely chemicals and machinery & transport equipment—which outpaced the £3.8 billion rise in imports. In addition, bolstered by strong external demand for goods, China's estimated current account surplus widened by US$8.7 billion (18.8%) to US$54.9 billion during the review quarter. In contrast, Japan's trade deficit expanded to ¥508.9 billion in third quarter, from ¥318.0 billion in the second quarter, as slowing global demand contributed to a falloff in exports, which eclipsed the decline in imports. Further, the euro area's trade surplus was lower by €1.1 billion at a projected €58.2 billion in the third quarter, owing primarily to a 6.1% contraction in exports, which outweighed the 4.9% decline in imports.

As trade tensions persisted between the United States and China and global growth weakened, most of the major central banks sustained their accommodative monetary policy stance in the third quarter. Specifically, during the review quarter, the United States' Federal Reserve lowered the target range for the federal funds rate by 50 basis points to 1.75%-2.00%, in an effort to stimulate further economic growth and increase employment. Further, the Bank of England retained its benchmark interest rate at 0.75% and its asset purchase programme at £435.0 billion, while the European Central Bank kept its refinancing interest rate at 0.0%. Similar trends were noted in Asia, as the Bank of Japan held its key policy rate at -0.1%, while the People's Bank of China left its 7-day reverse repo at 2.55% and lowered its reserve requirements for both large and small institutions by 0.5% each, to 13.0% and 11.0%, respectively.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX (TABLES 1-16)

TABLE 1
FINANCIAL SURVEY

Period	2015	2016	2017	2018				2019		
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.
				(B$ Millions)						
Net foreign assets	280.2	678.5	1,152.5	1,376.7	1,412.9	1,274.4	1,071.4	1,387.8	1,464.5	1,543.8
Central Bank	811.9	904.0	1,417.4	1,596.9	1,572.1	1,300.7	1,195.6	1,435.6	1,555.7	1,556.3
Domestic Banks	(531.7)	(225.4)	(265.0)	(220.2)	(159.2)	(26.3)	(124.2)	(47.8)	(91.3)	(12.5)
Net domestic assets	6,093.7	6,251.4	5,884.6	5,766.5	5,846.0	5,945.5	6,037.1	5,827.8	5,964.7	5,996.8
Domestic credit	8,966.2	9,128.4	8,838.3	8,730.9	8,797.5	8,847.5	8,911.2	8,734.4	8,843.5	8,850.6
Public sector	2,666.4	2,957.6	2,855.5	2,767.6	2,875.7	2,976.1	3,025.0	2,891.8	2,997.1	2,969.4
Government (net)	2,198.0	2,551.4	2,383.0	2,318.6	2,391.9	2,490.9	2,539.3	2,415.1	2,536.3	2,523.0
Rest of public sector	468.4	406.3	472.5	449.1	483.9	485.2	485.8	476.6	460.8	446.4
Private sector	6,299.7	6,170.8	5,982.9	5,963.3	5,921.7	5,871.4	5,886.2	5,842.7	5,846.4	5,881.2
Other items (net)	(2,872.4)	(2,877.0)	(2,953.7)	(2,964.4)	(2,951.5)	(2,902.0)	(2,874.1)	(2,906.6)	(2,878.8)	(2,853.8)
Monetary liabilities	6,373.8	6,930.1	7,037.3	7,145.4	7,260.5	7,220.3	7,108.8	7,215.9	7,429.4	7,540.9
Money	2,071.2	2,460.6	2,654.0	2,753.6	2,773.3	2,711.2	2,728.2	2,757.1	3,003.6	3,060.4
Currency	246.6	280.5	292.6	302.0	312.1	306.9	310.4	316.0	321.7	315.2
Demand deposits	1,824.7	2,180.1	2,361.5	2,451.7	2,461.2	2,404.3	2,417.7	2,441.1	2,681.9	2,745.3
Quasi-money	4,302.6	4,469.5	4,383.3	4,391.8	4,487.2	4,509.1	4,380.7	4,458.9	4,425.8	4,480.5
Fixed deposits	2,966.5	2,866.3	2,737.9	2,710.3	2,647.8	2,585.7	2,552.0	2,526.9	2,486.8	2,454.1
Savings deposits	1,148.3	1,295.6	1,371.2	1,395.3	1,431.6	1,423.3	1,427.1	1,476.6	1,536.3	1,513.6
Foreign currency	187.8	307.6	274.1	286.1	407.8	500.1	401.5	455.3	402.7	512.7
				(percentage changes)						
Total domestic credit	1.1	1.8	(3.2)	(1.2)	0.8	0.6	0.7	(2.0)	1.2	0.1
Public sector	6.5	10.9	(3.5)	(3.1)	3.9	3.5	1.6	(4.4)	3.6	(0.9)
Government (net)	8.6	16.1	(6.6)	(2.7)	3.2	4.1	1.9	(4.9)	5.0	(0.5)
Rest of public sector	(2.4)	(13.3)	16.3	(4.9)	7.7	0.3	0.1	(1.9)	(3.3)	(3.1)
Private sector	(1.1)	(2.0)	(3.0)	(0.3)	(0.7)	(0.8)	0.3	(0.7)	0.1	0.6
Monetary liabilities	(0.3)	8.7	1.5	1.5	1.6	(0.6)	(1.5)	1.5	3.0	1.5
Money	3.8	18.8	7.9	3.8	0.7	(2.2)	0.6	1.1	8.9	1.9
Currency	5.9	13.7	4.3	3.2	3.3	(1.6)	1.1	1.8	1.8	(2.0)
Demand deposits	3.5	19.5	8.3	3.8	0.4	(2.3)	0.6	1.0	9.9	2.4
Quasi-money	(2.1)	3.9	(1.9)	0.2	2.2	0.5	(2.8)	1.8	(0.7)	1.2

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

TABLE 2
MONETARY SURVEY

Period	2015	2016	2017	2018				2019		
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.
				(B$ Millions)						
Net foreign assets	360.1	730.5	1,218.0	1,450.2	1,511.4	1,335.3	1,127.5	1,463.7	1,541.9	1,613.3
Central Bank	811.9	904.0	1,417.4	1,596.9	1,572.1	1,300.7	1,195.6	1,435.6	1,555.7	1,556.3
Commercial banks	(451.8)	(173.5)	(199.5)	(146.7)	(60.7)	34.6	(68.1)	28.0	(13.8)	57.0
Net domestic assets	5,956.8	6,131.5	5,742.1	5,631.7	5,654.3	5,792.6	5,910.7	5,690.6	5,815.5	5,858.6
Domestic credit	8,926.2	9,097.0	8,808.7	8,697.6	8,767.2	8,816.7	8,866.4	8,684.1	8,785.9	8,795.5
Public sector	2,653.2	2,941.4	2,841.7	2,753.0	2,863.5	2,961.4	3,009.1	2,875.5	2,972.1	2,951.4
Government (net)	2,187.2	2,535.5	2,369.6	2,304.3	2,380.0	2,476.5	2,523.7	2,399.3	2,511.3	2,505.0
Rest of public sector	466.0	405.9	472.1	448.7	483.5	484.8	485.4	476.3	460.8	446.4
Private sector	6,273.0	6,155.6	5,967.0	5,944.6	5,903.7	5,855.3	5,857.2	5,808.5	5,813.9	5,844.1
Other items (net)	(2,969.4)	(2,965.5)	(3,066.6)	(3,065.9)	(3,112.9)	(3,024.1)	(2,955.7)	(2,993.5)	(2,970.4)	(2,936.9)
Monetary liabilities	6,316.8	6,862.1	6,960.3	7,084.1	7,167.3	7,128.3	7,038.4	7,154.5	7,357.7	7,472.2
Money	2,024.9	2,406.8	2,591.4	2,705.9	2,693.8	2,632.4	2,671.3	2,706.8	2,942.8	3,004.4
Currency	246.6	280.5	292.6	302.0	312.1	307.0	310.5	316.0	321.7	315.2
Demand deposits	1,778.3	2,126.4	2,298.8	2,403.9	2,381.7	2,325.4	2,360.8	2,390.8	2,621.1	2,689.2
Quasi-money	4,291.9	4,455.3	4,368.8	4,378.3	4,473.6	4,495.9	4,367.2	4,447.7	4,414.9	4,467.8
Savings deposits	1,148.3	1,295.0	1,371.2	1,395.3	1,431.6	1,423.3	1,427.1	1,476.6	1,536.3	1,513.6
Fixed deposits	2,955.9	2,854.8	2,725.8	2,699.1	2,636.5	2,574.6	2,540.6	2,516.3	2,476.4	2,442.5
Foreign currency deposits	187.8	305.5	271.9	283.8	405.5	498.0	399.4	454.8	402.2	511.7
				(percentage change)						
Total domestic credit	1.0	1.9	(3.2)	(1.3)	0.8	0.6	0.6	(2.1)	1.2	0.1
Public sector	6.4	10.9	(3.4)	(3.1)	4.0	3.4	1.6	(4.4)	3.4	(0.7)
Government (net)	8.6	15.9	(6.5)	(2.8)	3.3	4.1	1.9	(4.9)	4.7	(0.2)
Rest of public sector	(2.8)	(12.9)	16.3	(4.9)	7.7	0.3	0.1	(1.9)	(3.3)	(3.1)
Private sector	(1.1)	(1.9)	(3.1)	(0.4)	(0.7)	(0.8)	0.0	(0.8)	0.1	0.5
Monetary liabilities	(0.3)	8.6	1.4	1.8	1.2	(0.5)	(1.3)	1.6	2.8	1.6
Money	3.6	18.9	7.7	4.4	(0.4)	(2.3)	1.5	1.3	8.7	2.1
Currency	5.9	13.7	4.3	3.2	3.3	(1.6)	1.1	1.8	1.8	(2.0)
Demand deposits	3.3	19.6	8.1	4.6	(0.9)	(2.4)	1.5	1.3	9.6	2.6
Quasi-money	(2.0)	3.8	(1.9)	0.2	2.2	0.5	(2.9)	1.8	(0.7)	1.2

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

TABLE 3
CENTRAL BANK BALANCE SHEET

(B$ Millions)

Period	2015	2016	2017	2018				2019		
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.
Net foreign assets	811.9	904.0	1,417.4	1,596.9	1,572.1	1,300.7	1,196.3	1,436.9	1,557.6	1,558.8
Balances with banks abroad	206.6	254.8	698.5	783.9	740.0	422.7	375.8	612.2	722.8	688.9
Foreign securities	521.7	550.5	614.7	681.8	705.3	727.5	670.5	675.1	685.1	703.5
Reserve position in the Fund	8.7	25.9	27.5	28.0	27.1	26.9	26.8	26.8	26.8	26.3
SDR holdings	75.0	72.7	76.8	103.2	99.7	123.6	123.2	122.9	123.0	140.1
Net domestic assets	340.6	555.3	209.6	190.8	161.6	181.4	228.4	95.5	49.1	112.9
Net claims on Government	493.7	716.6	390.1	395.4	355.0	403.0	503.6	315.4	304.2	372.1
Claims	523.1	731.9	417.0	415.4	380.0	424.6	525.1	377.8	355.7	441.2
Treasury bills	126.6	223.9	7.2	-	(0.0)	54.9	155.7	68.3	77.5	170.3
Bahamas registered stock	261.1	372.6	274.5	279.8	244.3	248.7	249.0	239.7	263.1	255.8
Loans and advances	135.4	135.4	135.4	135.5	135.7	120.9	120.4	69.8	15.2	15.1
Deposits	(29.4)	(15.3)	(26.9)	(19.9)	(24.9)	(21.6)	(21.6)	(62.4)	(51.5)	(69.1)
In local currency	(29.4)	(15.3)	(26.9)	(19.9)	(24.9)	(21.6)	(21.6)	(62.4)	(51.5)	(69.1)
In foreign currency	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deposits of rest of public sector	(17.3)	(12.6)	(17.2)	(27.5)	(25.2)	(37.4)	(74.6)	(31.9)	(41.7)	(48.9)
Credit to commercial banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Official capital and surplus	(163.7)	(173.1)	(185.1)	(183.7)	(185.3)	(185.7)	(208.0)	(208.1)	(208.0)	(208.2)
Net unclassified assets	19.0	15.4	13.8	(1.5)	9.3	(6.3)	(0.2)	12.8	(12.5)	(9.2)
Loans to rest of public sector	3.7	3.6	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4
Public Corp Bonds/Securities	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	4.7	4.8	4.7
Liabilities To Domestic Banks	(733.5)	(1,011.4)	(1,157.0)	(1,304.6)	(1,246.4)	(1,001.3)	(940.9)	(1,043.3)	(1,111.8)	(1,186.6)
Notes and coins	(142.4)	(145.1)	(145.8)	(101.2)	(95.7)	(99.9)	(149.3)	(101.0)	(111.1)	(114.1)
Deposits	(591.1)	(866.3)	(1,011.2)	(1,203.4)	(1,150.7)	(901.4)	(791.7)	(942.4)	(1,000.7)	(1,072.5)
SDR allocation	(172.4)	(167.3)	(177.4)	(181.1)	(175.3)	(173.9)	(173.3)	(173.0)	(173.3)	(169.9)
Currency held by the private sector	(246.6)	(280.5)	(292.6)	(302.0)	(312.1)	(306.9)	(310.4)	(316.0)	(321.7)	(315.2)

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

TABLE 4
DOMESTIC BANKS BALANCE SHEET

(B$ Millions)

Period	2015	2016	2017	2018				2019		
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.
Net foreign assets	(531.7)	(225.4)	(265.0)	(220.2)	(159.2)	(26.3)	(124.2)	(47.8)	(91.3)	(12.5)
Net claims on Central Bank	730.0	1,012.4	1,158.0	1,305.5	1,247.3	1,002.2	941.9	1,044.3	1,112.7	1,187.6
Notes and Coins	142.4	145.1	145.8	101.2	95.7	99.9	149.3	101.0	111.1	114.1
Balances	587.5	867.3	1,012.2	1,204.3	1,151.6	902.3	792.6	943.3	1,001.6	1,073.5
Less Central Bank credit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net domestic assets	5,569.8	5,483.7	5,483.6	5,366.3	5,438.9	5,421.4	5,482.2	5,423.0	5,597.6	5,594.3
Net claims on Government	1,704.4	1,834.8	1,992.9	1,923.1	2,036.8	2,088.0	2,035.7	2,099.7	2,232.1	2,150.9
Treasury bills	662.6	531.9	611.4	620.0	720.5	736.9	669.8	773.1	822.3	741.4
Other securities	895.4	987.1	1,137.7	1,105.2	1,095.9	1,058.7	990.9	988.3	1,033.1	1,012.6
Loans and advances	416.8	502.7	442.2	417.1	428.6	489.2	564.4	573.0	609.7	620.9
Less: deposits	270.5	186.9	198.5	219.1	208.2	196.8	189.4	234.6	233.0	224.0
Net claims on rest of public sector	117.6	31.0	113.6	76.9	79.8	(1.4)	54.2	20.8	6.6	31.9
Securities	221.0	163.9	262.6	243.6	231.6	229.5	229.5	228.0	227.6	230.9
Loans and advances	238.4	233.5	201.9	197.6	244.5	247.8	248.6	241.4	226.0	208.3
Less: deposits	341.8	366.4	350.8	364.3	396.2	478.7	423.9	448.6	447.1	407.4
Other net claims	43.9	(2.9)	(2.6)	(5.0)	(1.8)	5.5	(1.0)	1.3	(0.2)	(3.2)
Credit to the private sector	6,299.7	6,170.8	5,982.9	5,963.3	5,921.7	5,871.4	5,886.2	5,842.7	5,846.4	5,881.2
Securities	24.4	19.6	19.1	23.0	21.5	21.5	32.3	30.5	30.5	26.9
Mortgages	3,164.7	3,035.5	2,949.5	2,946.6	2,942.8	2,927.5	2,935.3	2,936.2	2,928.1	2,934.3
Loans and advances	3,110.7	3,115.7	3,014.3	2,993.6	2,957.4	2,922.4	2,918.5	2,875.9	2,887.9	2,920.0
Private capital and surplus	(2,651.2)	(2,594.4)	(2,699.3)	(2,684.1)	(2,647.5)	(2,647.4)	(2,642.6)	(2,607.6)	(2,543.3)	(2,396.8)
Net unclassified assets	55.5	44.5	96.2	92.3	49.8	105.2	149.9	66.1	56.0	(69.7)
Liabilities to private sector	5,768.1	6,270.7	6,376.6	6,451.7	6,527.0	6,397.3	6,299.9	6,419.5	6,619.0	6,769.4
Demand deposits	1,868.3	2,287.4	2,420.1	2,495.1	2,580.4	2,521.8	2,503.6	2,570.8	2,731.6	2,918.4
Savings deposits	1,162.0	1,315.0	1,390.4	1,416.6	1,467.1	1,453.9	1,454.3	1,506.8	1,568.3	1,544.3
Fixed deposits	2,737.8	2,668.3	2,566.1	2,540.0	2,479.5	2,421.6	2,342.0	2,341.8	2,319.2	2,306.8

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

TABLE 5

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS OF BANKS IN THE BAHAMAS*

(B$'000s)

Period	2016	2017	2018	2017				2018				2019	
				Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II
1. Interest Income	615,104	590,158	587,462	148,243	146,844	154,093	140,978	146,250	142,891	154,093	144,228	141,520	154,599
2. Interest Expense	78,359	66,322	55,517	18,688	16,236	16,146	15,252	14,159	15,693	13,537	12,128	12,698	12,549
3. **Interest Margin (1-2)**	536,745	523,836	525,052	129,555	130,608	137,947	125,726	132,091	127,198	133,663	132,100	128,822	142,050
4. Commission & Forex Income	24,842	28,537	29,445	7,417	6,993	6,854	7,273	7,192	7,499	7,193	7,561	7,150	9,221
5. **Gross Earnings Margin (3+4)**	561,587	552,373	554,497	136,972	137,601	144,801	132,999	139,283	134,697	140,856	139,661	135,972	151,271
6. Staff Costs	164,891	160,472	157,021	40,170	39,764	37,717	42,821	39,427	39,830	37,825	39,939	39,990	41,554
7. Occupancy Costs	28,502	26,068	27,725	6,549	6,756	6,824	5,939	7,174	6,810	7,146	6,595	6,365	6,711
8. Other Operating Costs	165,985	190,618	183,609	49,797	42,378	46,814	51,629	45,638	46,781	43,076	48,114	46,534	61,856
9. **Operating Costs (6+7+8)**	359,378	377,158	368,355	96,516	88,898	91,355	100,389	92,239	93,421	88,047	94,648	92,889	110,121
10. **Net Earnings Margin (5-9)**	202,209	175,215	186,142	40,456	48,703	53,446	32,610	47,044	41,276	52,809	45,013	43,083	41,150
11. Depreciation Costs	15,099	15,892	12,774	3,985	3,710	3,943	4,254	3,407	3,061	3,129	3,177	2,671	3,668
12. Provisions for Bad Debt	116,128	113,131	96,701	22,425	51,302	22,236	17,168	25,641	28,480	13,997	28,583	1,318	13,669
13. Other Income	133,175	136,036	152,789	30,470	37,649	30,781	37,136	35,567	37,566	35,379	44,277	44,785	45,153
14. **Other Income (Net) (13-11-12)**	1,948	7,013	47,490	4,060	(17,363)	4,602	15,714	6,519	6,025	22,429	12,517	40,796	27,816
15. **Net Income (10+14)**	204,157	182,228	233,632	44,516	31,340	58,048	48,324	53,563	47,301	75,238	57,530	83,879	68,966
16. **Effective Interest Rate Spread (%)**	7.23	7.11	7.10	6.96	7.04	7.20	7.24	7.12	7.28	7.20	6.80	6.68	7.12
						(Ratios To Average Assets)							
Interest Margin	5.33	5.13	5.13	5.14	5.14	5.34	4.89	5.11	4.96	5.22	5.23	5.09	5.57
Commission & Forex Income	0.25	0.28	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.29	0.28	0.30	0.28	0.36
Gross Earnings Margin	5.57	5.41	5.42	5.43	5.42	5.60	5.18	5.39	5.26	5.50	5.53	5.37	5.94
Operating Costs	3.57	3.69	3.60	3.83	3.50	3.54	3.91	3.57	3.65	3.44	3.75	3.67	4.32
Net Earnings Margin	2.01	1.72	1.82	1.61	1.92	2.07	1.27	1.82	1.61	2.06	1.78	1.70	1.61
Net Income/Loss	2.03	1.78	2.28	1.77	1.23	2.25	1.88	2.07	1.85	2.94	2.28	3.32	2.71

***Commercial Banks and OLFIs with domestic operations**

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

TABLE 6
MONEY SUPPLY

(B$ Millions)

End of Period	2015	2016	2017	2018				2019		
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.
Money Supply (M1)	2,071.2	2,460.6	2,654.0	2,753.6	2,773.3	2,711.2	2,728.2	2,757.1	3,003.6	3,060.4
1) Currency in active circulation	246.6	280.5	292.6	302.0	312.1	306.9	310.4	316.0	321.7	315.2
2) Demand deposits	1,824.7	2,180.1	2,361.5	2,451.7	2,461.2	2,404.3	2,417.7	2,441.1	2,681.9	2,745.3
Central Bank	17.3	12.6	17.2	27.5	25.2	37.4	74.6	31.9	41.7	48.9
Domestic Banks	1,807.3	2,167.6	2,344.2	2,424.2	2,436.0	2,366.9	2,343.1	2,409.2	2,640.2	2,696.3
Factors affecting money (M1)										
1) Net credit to Government	2,198.0	2,551.4	2,383.0	2,318.6	2,391.9	2,490.9	2,539.3	2,415.1	2,536.3	2,523.0
Central Bank	493.7	716.6	390.1	395.4	355.0	403.0	503.6	315.4	304.2	372.1
Domestic banks	1,704.4	1,834.8	1,992.9	1,923.1	2,036.8	2,088.0	2,035.7	2,099.7	2,232.1	2,150.9
2) Other credit	6,768.1	6,577.1	6,455.3	6,412.3	6,405.6	6,356.6	6,371.9	6,319.3	6,307.2	6,327.6
Rest of public sector	468.4	406.3	472.5	449.1	483.9	485.2	485.8	476.6	460.8	446.4
Private sector	6,299.7	6,170.8	5,982.9	5,963.3	5,921.7	5,871.4	5,886.2	5,842.7	5,846.4	5,881.2
3) External reserves	811.9	904.0	1,417.4	1,596.9	1,572.1	1,300.7	1,195.6	1,435.6	1,555.7	1,556.3
4) Other external liabilities (net)	(531.7)	(225.4)	(265.0)	(220.2)	(159.2)	(26.3)	(124.2)	(47.8)	(91.3)	(12.5)
5) Quasi money	4,302.6	4,469.5	4,383.3	4,391.8	4,487.2	4,509.1	4,380.7	4,458.9	4,425.8	4,480.5
6) Other items (net)	(2,872.4)	(2,877.0)	(2,953.7)	(2,964.4)	(2,951.5)	(2,902.0)	(2,874.1)	(2,906.6)	(2,878.8)	(2,853.8)

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

TABLE 7

CONSUMER INSTALMENT CREDIT

(B$' 000)

End of Period	2016	2017	2018	2018				2019		
				Mar.	June	Sept	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept
CREDIT OUTSTANDING										
Private cars	176,178	163,974	146,286	159,105	153,708	148,441	146,286	142,918	140,123	136,824
Taxis & rented cars	777	796	948	855	803	897	948	1,015	1,037	1,094
Commercial vehicles	1,050	1,208	1,036	1,158	1,124	1,062	1,036	1,042	1,209	1,124
Furnishings & domestic appliances	8,302	8,493	8,205	8,238	7,863	8,346	8,205	8,321	8,619	8,999
Travel	41,197	45,457	50,872	43,318	45,909	50,530	50,872	50,660	56,648	63,167
Education	52,245	53,065	43,067	50,684	47,491	48,299	43,067	40,660	39,001	42,116
Medical	12,824	12,025	12,773	12,752	12,857	12,626	12,773	12,857	12,487	12,288
Home Improvements	121,959	113,898	102,022	110,992	107,081	103,146	102,022	99,853	98,696	98,724
Land Purchases	169,847	152,771	139,093	149,817	145,587	141,858	139,093	137,993	136,346	134,722
Consolidation of debt	984,569	951,071	922,138	950,187	955,742	939,570	922,138	914,635	918,987	917,749
Miscellaneous	546,313	564,703	541,719	558,803	537,638	538,144	541,719	533,124	532,740	533,325
Credit Cards	256,166	254,852	249,069	247,113	243,617	246,201	249,069	240,706	240,892	267,913
TOTAL	2,371,427	2,322,313	2,217,228	2,293,022	2,259,420	2,239,120	2,217,228	2,183,784	2,186,785	2,218,045
NET CREDIT EXTENDED										
Private cars	(5,269)	(12,204)	(17,688)	(4,869)	(5,397)	(5,267)	(2,155)	(3,368)	(2,795)	(3,299)
Taxis & rented cars	(249)	19	152	59	(52)	94	51	67	22	57
Commercial vehicles	(448)	158	(172)	(50)	(34)	(62)	(26)	6	167	(85)
Furnishings & domestic appliances	221	191	(288)	(255)	(375)	483	(141)	116	298	380
Travel	4,361	4,260	5,415	(2,139)	2,591	4,621	342	(212)	5,988	6,519
Education	11,128	820	(9,998)	(2,381)	(3,193)	808	(5,232)	(2,407)	(1,659)	3,115
Medical	353	(799)	748	727	105	(231)	147	84	(370)	(199)
Home Improvements	7,694	(8,061)	(11,876)	(2,906)	(3,911)	(3,935)	(1,124)	(2,169)	(1,157)	28
Land Purchases	(23,316)	(17,076)	(13,678)	(2,954)	(4,230)	(3,729)	(2,765)	(1,100)	(1,647)	(1,624)
Consolidation of debt	182,535	(33,498)	(28,933)	(884)	5,555	(16,172)	(17,432)	(7,503)	4,352	(1,238)
Miscellaneous	(93,841)	18,390	(22,984)	(5,900)	(21,165)	506	3,575	(8,595)	(384)	585
Credit Cards	7,002	(1,314)	(5,783)	(7,739)	(3,496)	2,584	2,868	(8,363)	186	27,021
TOTAL	90,171	(49,114)	(105,085)	(29,291)	(33,602)	(20,300)	(21,892)	(33,444)	3,001	31,260

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

TABLE 8
SELECTED AVERAGE INTEREST RATES

(%)

Period	2015	2016	2017	2018				2019		
				Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III
DOMESTIC BANKS										
Deposit rates										
Demand deposits	0.30	0.28	0.27	0.25	0.28	0.25	0.29	0.31	0.40	0.27
Savings deposits	0.83	0.82	0.72	0.71	0.67	0.66	0.50	0.54	0.35	0.34
Fixed deposits										
Up to 3 months	1.14	0.97	0.78	0.67	0.56	0.59	0.58	0.47	0.34	0.30
Up to 6 months	1.09	0.99	0.64	0.62	0.58	0.53	0.74	0.77	0.57	0.49
Up to 12 months	1.71	1.58	1.21	0.94	1.07	1.06	0.79	0.85	0.68	0.78
Over 12 months	1.57	1.87	1.61	1.41	1.52	1.01	1.10	0.88	0.91	0.81
Weighted average rate	1.41	1.24	1.00	0.91	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.73	0.56	0.52
Lending rates										
Residential mortgages	6.48	6.22	5.76	5.50	5.46	5.35	5.33	5.18	5.29	5.43
Commercial mortgages	7.95	7.76	6.87	7.52	6.74	8.71	7.38	6.75	6.32	7.07
Consumer loans	14.26	14.03	13.61	13.58	13.49	13.53	13.35	12.64	13.18	13.61
Overdrafts	10.36	11.13	10.62	10.47	10.04	10.42	9.65	9.88	10.32	12.02
Weighted average rate	12.29	12.49	11.75	11.40	11.25	11.61	11.11	10.28	10.89	12.19
Other rates										
Prime rate*	4.75	4.75	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25
Treasury bill (90 days)	0.68	1.64	1.83	1.78	1.78	1.62	1.59	1.59	1.56	1.60
Treasury bill re-discount rate	1.18	2.14	2.33	2.28	2.28	2.12	2.09	2.09	2.14	2.13
Bank rate (discount rate)*	4.50	4.46	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas
***Reflects end of period rates.**

TABLE 9

SELECTED CREDIT QUALITY INDICATORS OF DOMESTIC BANKS

(%)

Period	2015R	2016R	2017R	2018 R				2019		
				Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. I	Qtr. III
Loan Portfolio										
Current Loans (as a % of total loans)	**79.7**	**82.2**	**85.1**	**84.9**	**85.6**	**85.7**	**85.7**	**86.8**	**87.8**	**86.8**
Arrears (% by loan type)			0							
Consumer	5.0	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.0	3.7	3.5	4.0
Mortgage	11.6	9.0	8.8	9.0	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.0	7.8	8.0
Commercial	3.7	4.0	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.0	1.2
Total Arrears	**20.3**	**17.8**	**14.9**	**15.1**	**14.4**	**14.3**	**14.3**	**13.2**	**12.2**	**13.2**
Total B$ Loan Portfolio	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Loan Portfolio			0							
Current Loans (as a % of total loans)	**79.7**	**82.2**	**85.1**	**84.9**	**85.6**	**85.7**	**85.7**	**86.8**	**87.8**	**86.8**
Arrears (% by days outstanding)			0							
30 - 60 days	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.7	3.0	3.0	3.3	2.7	2.3	3.1
61 - 90 days	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.5	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.4	1.2	1.7
90 - 179 days	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2
over 180 days	13.4	10.9	8.3	8.3	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.5	7.2
Total Arrears	**20.3**	**17.8**	**14.9**	**15.1**	**14.4**	**14.3**	**14.3**	**13.2**	**12.2**	**13.2**
Total B$ Loan Portfolio	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Non Accrual Loans (% by loan type)			0							
Consumer	22.2	23.6	27.8	28.0	28.3	27.4	25.8	26.7	25.5	25.8
Mortgage	57.4	50.3	60.8	60.2	60.5	61.7	65	63.2	64.6	63.8
Other Private	20.4	26.1	11.4	11.8	11.3	10.9	9.2	10.2	10.0	10.4
Total Non Accrual Loans	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Provisions to Loan Portfolio			0							
Consumer	7.1	7.8	6.1	6.8	7.3	6.7	5.5	6.8	6.5	6.6
Mortgage	9.9	9.0	8.3	7.8	7.5	7.9	7.6	8.8	8.7	8.3
Other Private	10.2	11.7	8.0	8.0	7.8	8.5	14.4	7.2	6.5	5.3
Total Provisions to Total Private Sector Loans	8.8	8.9	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.7	7.8	7.5	7.2
Total Provisions to Total Non-performing Loans	58.5	70.6	74.7	74.9	77.6	81.0	84.8	86.4	86.5	85.6
Total Non-performing Loans to Total Private Sector Loan:	15.1	12.3	9.9	9.9	9.6	9.2	9.1	9.1	8.7	8.4

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

Figures may not sum to total due to rounding.

R = Revised table to capture lending activity to the private sector effective 31st March, 2019.

TABLE 10
SUMMARY OF BANK LIQUIDITY

(B$ Millions)

Period	2015	2016	2017	2018				2019		
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.
I. Statutory Reserves										
Required reserves	316.9	325.1	336.9	338.6	342.9	340.8	331.1	331.9	345.3	348.5
Average Till Cash	123.0	130.4	125.8	106.7	97.1	102.6	124.9	108.5	107.8	115.6
Average balance with central bank	598.7	945.1	1,030.3	1,165.4	1,224.3	966.7	808.6	863.4	978.0	1,003.5
Free cash reserves (period ended)	404.9	750.5	819.2	933.5	978.5	728.6	602.5	639.9	740.6	770.6
II. Liquid Assets (period)										
A. Minimum Required Liquid Assets	1,044.6	1,098.6	1,128.9	1,143.7	1,152.2	1,122.6	1,115.6	1,148.4	1,196.1	1,206.4
B. Net Eligible Liquid Assets	2,361.6	2,579.9	2,956.2	3,074.9	3,112.3	2,851.6	2,649.0	2,852.0	3,014.7	2,988.8
i) Balance with Central Bank	587.5	867.3	1,012.2	1,204.3	1,150.7	902.3	792.6	943.3	1,001.6	1,073.5
ii) Notes and Coins	142.9	145.6	146.3	101.7	96.2	100.4	149.8	101.5	111.6	114.6
iii) Treasury Bills	662.6	531.9	611.4	620.0	720.5	736.9	669.8	773.1	822.3	741.4
iv) Government registered stocks	895.4	987.1	1,137.7	1,105.2	1,095.7	1,058.7	990.9	988.3	1,033.1	1,012.6
v) Specified assets	55.6	51.0	50.8	50.6	50.3	48.5	48.4	46.9	46.6	49.8
vi) Net Inter-bank dem/call deposits	17.4	(3.0)	(2.2)	(7.0)	(1.0)	4.7	(2.5)	(1.0)	(0.5)	(3.1)
vii) Less: borrowings from central bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
C. Surplus/(Deficit)	1,316.9	1,481.3	1,827.3	1,931.2	1,960.1	1,729.0	1,533.4	1,703.6	1,818.6	1,782.4

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas
Figures may not sum to total due to rounding.

TABLE 11
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND FINANCING

(B$ Millions)

Period	2016/17p	2017/18p	Budget		2016/17p		2017/18p				2018/19p
			2017/18	2018/19	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I
Total Revenue & Grants	2,060.5	2,034.1	2,139.0	2,637.6	605.9	602.8	452.2	426.4	587.4	568.2	513.9
Current expenditure	2,339.7	2,180.4	2,231.9	2,578.4	505.3	829.5	486.9	515.8	546.2	631.5	527.8
Capital expenditure	390.2	268.7	230.9	299.3	75.0	162.7	74.4	56.7	52.5	85.2	38.8
Net lending	0.0	(0.2)	(2.4)	(2.5)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.1)	(0.0)	-
Overall balance	**(669.3)**	**(414.9)**	**(321.3)**	**(237.6)**	**25.6**	**(389.3)**	**(109.1)**	**(146.0)**	**(11.3)**	**(148.4)**	**(52.7)**
FINANCING (I+II-III+IV+V)	669.3	414.9	321.3	237.6	(25.6)	389.3	109.1	146.0	11.3	148.4	52.7
I. Foreign currency borrowing	**43.3**	**1,369.3**	**9.5**	**50.4**	**4.0**	**13.6**	**355.4**	**954.6**	**59.2**	**0.1**	**1.1**
External	43.3	1,369.3	9.5	50.4	4.0	13.6	355.4	954.6	59.2	0.1	1.1
Domestic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
II. Bahamian dollar borrowing	**1,132.1**	**617.7**	**743.5**	**896.6**	**86.6**	**292.7**	**97.6**	**232.7**	**111.6**	**175.7**	**281.7**
i)Treasury bills	337.7	111.7	-	-	11.6	217.7	8.6	0.7	1.6	100.7	71.7
ii)Long-term securities	545.0	492.0	-	-	75.0	75.0	75.0	232.0	110.0	75.0	110.0
iii)Loans and Advances	249.5	14.0	-	-	-	-	14.0	-	-	-	100.0
III. Debt repayment	**595.1**	**1,302.6**	**426.2**	**709.4**	**88.5**	**94.8**	**140.8**	**884.9**	**155.4**	**121.5**	**142.9**
Domestic	557.1	798.2	388.6	620.9	75.2	87.7	125.9	427.2	131.4	113.8	108.5
Bahamian dollars	557.1	798.2	388.6	620.9	75.2	87.7	125.9	427.2	131.4	113.8	108.5
Internal foreign currency	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
External	38.1	504.4	37.6	88.5	13.3	7.1	14.9	457.7	24.1	7.7	34.4
IV.Net Sale of Shares & Other Equity	**(120.2)**	**(20.0)**	**-**	**-**	**(17.7)**	**-**	**(10.0)**	**(3.8)**	**(3.8)**	**(2.4)**	**(45.8)**
V.Cash balance change	**227.6**	**(15.7)**	**-**	**-**	**22.7**	**16.7**	**(2.1)**	**(7.7)**	**(13.7)**	**7.8**	**12.9**
VI.Other Financing	**(18.4)**	**(233.8)**	**(5.5)**	**-**	**(32.8)**	**161.1**	**(191.1)**	**(144.8)**	**13.4**	**88.8**	**(54.3)**

Source: Treasury Monthly Printouts. Data compiled according to the International Monetary Fund's Government Finance Statistics format.

TABLE 12
NATIONAL DEBT

(B$ '000s)

Period	2016	2017	2018	2018 Mar.	2018 Jun.	2018 Sept.	2018 Dec.	2019 Mar.	2019 Jun.	2019 Sept.
TOTAL EXTERNAL DEBT	1,745,483	2,616,225	2,593,818	2,661,198	2,637,108	2,599,118	2,593,818	2,557,139	2,553,176	2,559,787
By Instrument										
Government Securities	900,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000
Loans	845,483	966,225	943,818	1,011,198	987,108	949,118	943,818	907,139	903,176	909,787
By Holder										
Commercial Banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Offshore Financial Institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multilateral Institutions	216,959	213,730	207,483	219,610	211,941	210,273	207,483	205,780	201,030	231,115
Bilateral Institutions	80,846	90,688	79,609	90,419	85,894	79,719	79,609	78,418	76,651	70,660
Private Capital Markets	900,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	1,650,000
Other Financial Institutions	547,678	661,807	656,726	701,169	689,273	659,126	656,726	622,941	625,495	608,012
TOTAL INTERNAL DEBT	4,570,098	4,563,864	4,905,099	4,544,155	4,606,087	4,779,238	4,905,099	4,919,740	4,973,870	5,025,915
By Instrument										
Foreign Currency	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government Securities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loans	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bahamian Dollars	4,570,098	4,563,864	4,905,099	4,544,155	4,606,087	4,779,238	4,905,099	4,919,740	4,973,870	5,025,915
Advances	134,657	134,657	119,657	134,657	134,657	119,657	119,657	69,657	14,957	14,900
Treasury Bills	793,896	655,749	875,746	657,395	758,108	829,542	875,746	877,429	938,156	959,858
Government Securities	3,314,783	3,492,283	3,536,654	3,506,709	3,488,709	3,518,709	3,536,654	3,601,654	3,675,354	3,725,354
Loans	326,762	281,175	373,042	245,394	224,613	311,330	373,042	371,000	345,403	325,803
By Holder										
Foreign Currency	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commercial Banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Local Financial Institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bahamian Dollars	4,570,098	4,563,864	4,905,099	4,544,155	4,606,087	4,779,238	4,905,099	4,919,740	4,973,870	5,025,915
The Central Bank	727,531	413,570	518,721	408,966	374,086	417,080	518,721	372,250	350,203	436,667
Commercial Banks	1,789,051	1,975,909	1,983,549	1,915,333	1,990,281	2,055,874	1,983,549	2,083,906	2,145,017	2,040,377
Other Local Financial Iinstitutions	17,208	27,162	11,085	28,037	25,461	27,984	11,085	22,638	31,850	32,230
Public Corporations	600,691	602,287	586,572	600,352	602,992	582,118	586,572	597,893	600,404	597,242
Other	1,435,617	1,544,936	1,805,172	1,591,467	1,613,267	1,696,182	1,805,172	1,843,053	1,846,396	1,919,399
TOTAL FOREIGN CURRENCY DEBT	1,745,483	2,616,225	2,593,818	2,661,198	2,637,108	2,599,118	2,593,818	2,557,139	2,553,176	2,559,787
TOTAL DIRECT CHARGE	6,315,581	7,180,089	7,498,917	7,205,353	7,243,195	7,378,356	7,498,917	7,476,879	7,527,046	7,585,702
TOTAL CONTINGENT LIABILITIES	734,602	704,191	752,251	703,229	700,619	772,680	752,251	738,970	736,371	727,034
TOTAL NATIONAL DEBT	7,050,183	7,884,280	8,251,168	7,908,582	7,943,814	8,151,036	8,251,168	8,215,849	8,263,417	8,312,736

Source: Treasury Accounts & Treasury Statistical Summary Printouts
Public Corporation Reports
Creditor Statements, Central Bank of The Bahamas

TABLE 13
PUBLIC SECTOR FOREIGN CURRENCY DEBT OPERATIONS

(B$ '000s)

Period	2016	2017	2018	2018				2019		
				Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.
Outstanding Debt at Beginning of Period	2,574,001	2,646,751	3,484,245	3,484,245	3,526,682	3,497,538	3,590,981	3,510,146	3,461,968	3,440,604
Government	1,677,825	1,745,483	2,616,225	2,616,225	2,661,198	2,637,108	2,599,118	2,593,818	2,557,139	2,553,176
Public Corporations	896,176	901,268	868,020	868,020	865,484	860,430	991,863	916,328	904,829	887,428
Plus: New Drawings	282,333	1,347,128	256,635	62,479	3,457	139,304	51,395	175	3,028	31,878
Government	166,786	1,327,674	65,330	59,191	64	1,152	4,923	175	2,953	31,878
Public corporations	115,547	19,454	191,305	3,288	3,393	138,152	46,472	-	75	-
Less: Amortization	193,524	545,717	216,894	29,906	16,153	41,125	129,710	45,624	25,184	36,233
Government	83,071	493,003	73,906	24,080	7,709	34,409	7,708	34,121	7,708	14,616
Public corporations	110,453	52,714	142,988	5,826	8,444	6,716	122,002	11,503	17,476	21,617
Other Changes in Debt Stock	(16,059)	36,083	(13,840)	9,864	(16,448)	(4,736)	(2,520)	(2,729)	792	(10,652)
Government	(16,057)	36,071	(13,831)	9,862	(16,445)	(4,733)	(2,515)	(2,733)	792	(10,652)
Public corporations	(2)	12	(9)	2	(3)	(3)	(5)	4	-	-
Government	1,745,483	2,616,225	2,593,818	2,661,198	2,637,108	2,599,118	2,593,818	2,557,139	2,553,176	2,559,786
Public corporations	901,268	868,020	916,328	865,484	860,430	991,863	916,328	904,829	887,428	865,811
Interest Charges	143,735	152,815	220,950	38,680	74,256	38,812	69,202	37,266	67,063	34,285
Government	87,477	92,969	154,701	23,850	57,842	22,030	50,979	22,000	51,208	20,445
Public corporations	56,258	59,846	66,249	14,830	16,414	16,782	18,223	15,266	15,855	13,840
Debt Service	337,259	698,532	437,844	68,586	90,409	79,937	198,912	82,890	92,247	70,518
Government	170,548	585,972	228,607	47,930	65,551	56,439	58,687	56,121	58,916	35,061
Public corporations	166,711	112,560	209,237	20,656	24,858	23,498	140,225	26,769	33,331	35,457
Debt Service ratio	8.7	6.5	10.0	6.1	7.5	7.8	15.3	6.3	6.5	7.5
Government debt Service/ Government revenue (%)	9.0	6.5	10.5	8.1	11.5	11.0	11.8	8.3	8.0	6.5
MEMORANDUM										
Holder distribution (B$ Mil):										
Commercial banks	297.8	267.7	332.1	264.5	260.6	335.6	332.1	329.2	317.1	304.0
Offshore Financial Institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multilateral Institutions	285.8	285.6	284.0	291.2	281.8	286.4	284.0	282.1	275.3	305.1
Bilateral Institutions	80.8	90.7	79.6	90.4	85.9	79.7	79.6	78.4	76.7	70.7
Other	1,082.3	1,190.2	1,164.4	1,230.5	1,219.3	1,239.2	1,164.4	1,122.3	1,121.6	1,095.7
Private Capital Markets	900.0	1,650.0	1,650.0	1,650.0	1,650.0	1,650.0	1,650.0	1,650.0	1,650.0	1,650.0

Source: Treasury Accounts, Treasury Statistical Printouts and Quarterly Reports from Public Corporations, Central Bank of The Bahamas.

TABLE 14

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SUMMARY*

(B$ Millions)

Period	2015	2016	2017	2018 Qtr. I	2018 Qtr. II	2018 Qtr. III	2018 Qtr. IV	2019 Qtr. I	2019 Qtr. II	2019 Qtr. III
A. Current Account Balance (I+II+III+IV)	**(1,610.2)**	**(710.8)**	**(1,508.6)**	**(164.0)**	**(377.7)**	**(451.7)**	**(494.4)**	**26.9**	**(65.1)**	**(116.2)**
I. Merchandise (Net)	**(2,433.5)**	**(2,150.2)**	**(2,537.9)**	**(624.6)**	**(782.0)**	**(632.1)**	**(636.3)**	**(523.7)**	**(625.5)**	**(573.1)**
Exports	520.5	481.4	570.5	122.5	214.6	153.3	151.3	154.3	277.8	108.8
Imports	2,954.0	2,631.6	3,108.4	747.1	996.6	785.4	787.7	678.0	903.3	681.9
II. Services (Net)	**1,280.5**	**1,564.3**	**1,445.2**	**577.7**	**656.9**	**393.8**	**309.7**	**668.9**	**722.9**	**402.3**
Transportation	(258.1)	(288.7)	(383.4)	(106.4)	(112.6)	(92.9)	(99.7)	(109.8)	(103.6)	(63.3)
Travel	2,264.7	2,745.3	2,625.2	845.5	848.5	653.2	676.3	1,000.5	976.5	663.1
Insurance Services	(144.8)	(156.6)	(114.0)	(35.9)	(37.9)	(35.2)	(44.9)	(36.8)	(34.9)	(48.6)
Offshore Companies Local Expenses	165.7	168.8	130.1	57.8	51.2	89.4	51.1	58.5	52.4	34.2
Other Government	(73.2)	(208.7)	(105.8)	(30.6)	(1.8)	(34.9)	(29.6)	(66.0)	(22.6)	(29.9)
Other Services	(673.8)	(695.8)	(706.8)	(152.7)	(90.3)	(185.7)	(243.4)	(177.4)	(144.8)	(153.2)
III. Income (Net)	**(362.9)**	**(439.9)**	**(360.7)**	**(99.4)**	**(243.9)**	**(192.7)**	**(146.2)**	**(115.3)**	**(172.2)**	**(99.7)**
1. Compensation of Employees	(67.9)	(38.9)	(38.7)	(6.6)	(2.8)	(7.9)	(11.7)	(11.7)	(14.3)	(16.8)
2. Investment Income	(295.0)	(401.0)	(321.9)	(92.8)	(241.2)	(184.8)	(134.6)	(103.5)	(157.9)	(82.9)
IV. Current Transfers (Net)	**(94.3)**	**315.1**	**(55.2)**	**(17.7)**	**(8.7)**	**(20.6)**	**(21.6)**	**(3.1)**	**9.7**	**154.2**
1. General Government	130.0	117.4	114.0	38.1	39.7	26.6	28.4	41.3	42.0	33.1
2. Private Sector	(224.3)	197.6	(169.2)	(55.8)	(48.5)	(47.2)	(50.0)	(44.4)	(32.3)	121.1
B. Capital and Financial Account (I+II) (excl. Reserves)	**640.9**	**778.0**	**1,572.0**	**142.3**	**308.9**	**1.7**	**156.2**	**11.5**	**167.8**	**93.5**
I. Capital Account (Net Transfers)	**(20.2)**	**(13.8)**	**(26.1)**	**(3.3)**	**(2.3)**	**(12.4)**	**(2.6)**	**(2.4)**	**(6.6)**	**20.7**
II. Financial Account (Net)	**661.0**	**791.8**	**1,598.1**	**145.6**	**311.2**	**14.2**	**158.8**	**13.9**	**174.4**	**72.8**
1. Direct Investment	374.0	390.4	304.6	64.5	295.2	86.0	45.7	71.9	89.0	77.0
2. Portfolio Investment	(12.4)	(21.7)	(16.7)	(3.5)	(1.8)	(2.3)	(4.1)	(1.8)	(2.0)	(2.3)
3. Other Investments	299.4	423.1	1,310.2	84.6	17.8	(69.6)	117.2	(56.3)	87.3	(1.9)
Central Gov't Long Term Capital	94.7	118.5	834.7	35.1	(7.6)	(32.9)	(2.8)	(33.9)	(4.8)	12.3
Other Public Sector Capital	6.5	100.4	(9.8)	(1.0)	(2.7)	18.5	(54.6)	(4.5)	(6.2)	(5.5)
Banks	29.6	(306.3)	39.5	(44.8)	(61.0)	(132.9)	97.9	(76.4)	43.5	(78.8)
Other	168.6	510.5	445.8	95.2	89.2	77.7	76.6	58.6	54.8	70.1
C. Net Errors and Omissions	**841.5**	**24.8**	**446.7**	**222.0**	**43.9**	**178.5**	**234.0**	**201.9**	**18.1**	**54.4**
D. Overall Balance (A+B+C)	**(127.8)**	**92.0**	**510.0**	**200.3**	**(24.9)**	**(271.4)**	**(104.2)**	**240.3**	**120.7**	**31.6**
E. Financing (Net)	**(24.3)**	**(92.0)**	**(509.4)**	**(182.8)**	**24.9**	**271.4**	**104.2**	**(240.3)**	**(120.7)**	**(1.2)**
Change in SDR holdings	3.5	2.3	(3.3)	(26.3)	3.5	(23.9)	0.2	0.6	(0.1)	(17.2)
Change in Reserve Position with the IMF	0.4	(17.3)	(1.5)	(0.6)	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.0	(0.0)	0.5
Change in Ext. Foreign Assets ( ) = Increase	(28.1)	(77.0)	(504.6)	(155.9)	20.5	295.1	103.9	(241.0)	(120.6)	15.5

Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

* Figures may not sum to total due to rounding

TABLE 15
EXTERNAL TRADE

(B$ '000s)

Period	2016	2017	2018	2018				2019	
				Qtr. I	Qtr. II	Qtr. III	Qtr. IV	Qtr. I	Qtr. II
I. OIL TRADE									
i) Exports	45,510	72,692	101,558	26,569	19,774	26,898	28,317	22,287	22,480
ii) Imports	402,526	552,863	583,402	145,498	102,957	233,644	101,302	127,670	170,258
II. OTHER MERCHANDISE									
Domestic Exports									
Crawfish	34,435	46,025	58,684	17,502	6,922	6,254	28,006	15,984	22,008
Fish Conch & other Crustacea	33,783	2,653	2,770	367	1,435	618	350	1,045	1,437
Coral &Similar Materials & Sponges	884	496	450	123	9	141	177	190	271
Fruits & Vegetables	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aragonite	2,040	1,828	2,816	535	735	849	697	607	873
Other Natural Sands	349	460	531	47	153	260	71	77	95
Rum, Other Beverages & Vinegar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crude Salt	4,099	4,560	13,218	5,147	2,152	1,784	4,135	3,602	1,157
Polystrene Products	80,010	75,471	80,956	16,548	19,691	23,130	21,587	25,792	17,651
Other	46,589	36,337	78,016	7,628	24,880	24,250	21,258	10,283	24,048
i) Total Domestic Exports	202,190	224,783	237,441	47,897	55,977	57,286	76,281	57,580	67,540
ii) Re-Exports	155,016	171,827	172,859	34,664	87,606	30,263	20,326	40,906	145,357
iii) Total Exports (i+ii)	357,206	396,610	410,301	82,561	143,583	87,549	96,608	98,486	212,897
iv) Imports	2,529,125	2,874,959	2,938,015	705,378	875,255	657,741	699,641	581,257	811,272
v) Retained Imports (iv-ii)	2,374,109	2,703,132	2,765,156	670,714	787,649	627,478	679,315	540,351	665,915
vi) Trade Balance (i-v)	(2,171,919)	(2,478,349)	(2,527,715)	(622,817)	(731,672)	(570,192)	(603,034)	(482,771)	(598,375)

Source: Department of Statistics Quarterly Statistical Summaries

TABLE 16
SELECTED TOURISM STATISTICS

Period	2016	2017	2018	2018 Qtr. I	2018 Qtr. II	2018 Qtr. III	2018 Qtr. IV	2019 Qtr. I	2019 Qtr. II	2019 Qtr. III
Visitor Arrivals	6,265,019	6,135,839	6,622,015	1,775,380	1,627,490	1,519,086	1,700,059	1,994,296	1,888,129	1,553,311
Air	1,391,813	1,335,613	1,558,086	411,308	435,037	356,427	355,314	482,626	498,300	361,194
Sea	4,873,206	4,800,226	5,063,929	1,364,072	1,192,453	1,162,659	1,344,745	1,511,670	1,389,829	1,192,117
Visitor Type										
Stopover	1,498,869	1,441,927	1,631,717	429,049	454,390	386,253	362,025	519,522	n.a.	n.a.
Cruise	4,690,260	4,626,259	4,877,596	1,326,394	1,130,596	1,104,573	1,316,033	1,474,573	1,330,506	1,154,397
Day/Transit	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Tourist Expenditure(B$ 000's)	2,610,097	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Stopover	2,312,191	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Cruise	294,005	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Day	3,901	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Number of Hotel Nights	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Average Length of Stay	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Average Hotel Occupancy Rates (%)										
New Providence	68.0	61.0	62.0	64.0	68.0	59.0	56.0	78.0	75.0	62.7
Grand Bahama	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Other Family Islands	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Average Nightly Room Rates ($)										
New Providence	234.69	232.11	244.72	268.98	240.61	211.71	257.59	295.07	261.98	215.49
Grand Bahama	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Other Family Islands	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Source: The Ministry of Tourism, The Bahamas Hotel & Tourism Association