



Monthly Economic and Financial Developments February 2022

In an effort to provide the public with more frequent information on its economic surveillance activities, the Central Bank has decided to release monthly reports on economic and financial sector developments in The Bahamas. The Bank monitors these conditions as part of its monetary policy mandate, to assess whether money and credit trends are sustainable relative to levels of external reserves required to protect the value of the Bahamian dollar and, if not, the degree to which credit policies ought to be adjusted. The main data source for this surveillance is financial institutions' daily reports on foreign exchange transactions and weekly balance sheet statements. Therefore, monthly approximations may not coincide with calendar estimates reported in the Central Bank's quarterly reports. The Central Bank will release its "Monthly Economic and Financial Developments" report on the Monday following its monthly Monetary Policy Committee Meeting.

Future Release Dates:

2022: May 2; May 30; July 4; August 1; August 29; October 3; October 31; November 28; December 26



FEBRUARY 2022 SUMMARY

MONTHLY ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Overall Economic Activity

The domestic economy sustained its growth trajectory during the month of February, despite the ongoing spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the emergence of new strains. As vaccination efforts progressed both locally and internationally, tourism output continued to strengthen, underpinned by ongoing gains in the high value-added air segment and the rebound in sea traffic.

Monetary Sector

Monetary developments registered an expansion in bank liquidity, as the growth in the deposit base outstripped the buildup in domestic credit. Likewise, external reserves increased during the review month, largely attributed to net foreign currency inflows through the private sector.

International Economies

During February, global economic performance was mixed, mainly reflecting ongoing adjustments to pandemic conditions, inflation pressures and rising geopolitical tensions. Accordingly, all major central banks sustained their highly accommodative monetary policy stances, in an effort to maintain financial stability and encourage economic growth.



Monthly Economic and Financial Developments (MEFD)

February 2022

1. Domestic Economic Developments

Overview

During February, indications are that the domestic economy sustained its modest growth momentum, amid continued adjustments to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the emergence of new strains. Tourism output continued to strengthen, underpinned by further improvements in the high value-added air segment and the recovery in sea traffic, in further response to vaccination efforts and easing COVID19 conditions in major source markets. Monetary developments registered a build-up in bank liquidity, as the expansion in the deposit base outweighed the growth in domestic credit. Similarly, external reserves increased during the review month, reflective of the rise in net foreign currency inflows through the private sector.

Real Sector

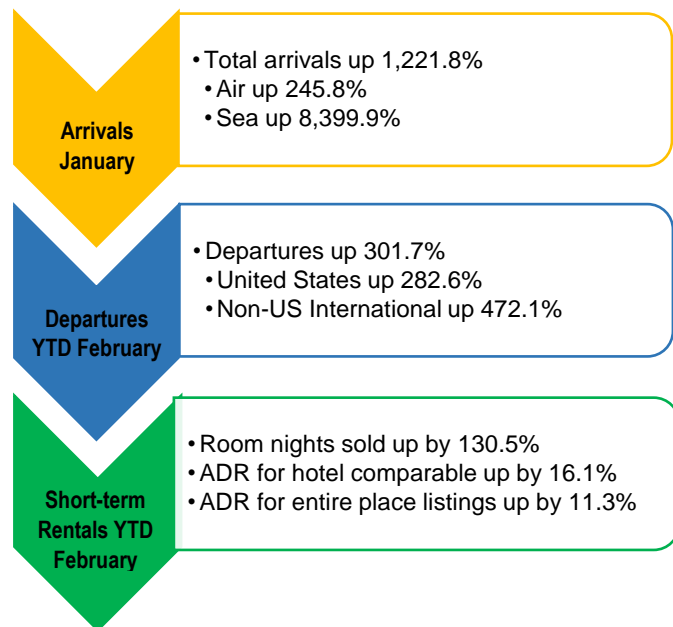
Tourism

Monthly data suggested that tourism maintained its growth trajectory, although with continuing travel sector caution, amid lingering pandemic conditions.

Provisional data from the Ministry of Tourism (MOT) showed that total visitor arrivals by first port of entry advanced to 312,201 in January, from just 23,619 in the comparative 2021 period. Leading this development, air arrivals increased to 71,908 from 20,792 in the previous year—restoring 55.4% of the passengers received in 2019. Sea traffic, also resumed at 240,293 vis-à-vis 2,827 visitors in the prior year.

Disaggregated by major market, total arrivals to New Providence strengthened to 162,654 in January from 13,236 same period last year. Underlying this outturn, the air and sea segments advanced to 53,629 and 109,025 passengers, respectively. Similarly, foreign arrivals to Grand Bahama rose to 9,768, from 1,052 a year earlier, with air and sea outcomes of 1,775 and 7,993, respectively. Likewise, traffic to the Family Islands recovered to 139,779 visitors, extending the volume of just 9,331 in the prior year, attributed to air and sea passenger intakes of 16,504 and 123,275, respectively.

Chart 1: Tourism Indicators at a Glance



Sources: Ministry of Tourism, Nassau Airport Development Co. & AirDNA

The most recent data provided by the Nassau Airport Development Company Limited (NAD) showed that total departures—net of domestic passengers—grew to 80,276 in February, from 16,098 in the corresponding month of 2021. Specifically, U.S. departures moved higher to 69,653 from 15,058 in the prior year; while non-U.S. departures improved to 10,623 from 1,040 in the preceding year. On a year-to-date basis, outward-bound traffic expanded to 157,447 passengers, a recovery from the 86.0% decline same period last year, when borders remained closed to contain the spread of the virus. Reflecting this outturn, U.S. departures rose to 134,853 visitors, a turnaround from the 84.9% falloff a year earlier. Similarly, non-U.S. departures grew to 22,594, a reversal from the 91.3% decrease in 2021.

In the short-term vacation rental market, data provided by AirDNA for February revealed positive trends within the market. In particular, total room nights sold increased to 98,389 compared to 50,906 in the comparative 2021 period. In particular, occupancy rates for both entire place and hotel comparable listings rose to 55.2% and 50.7%, respectively, vis-à-vis 43.6% and 38.7% a year earlier. As depicted in Graph 1, price indicators strengthened year-over-year, as the average daily rate (ADR) for hotel comparable listings firmed by 15.1% to \$181.36 and for entire place listings, by 8.3% to \$486.90.

2. Monetary Trends

February 2022 vs. 2021

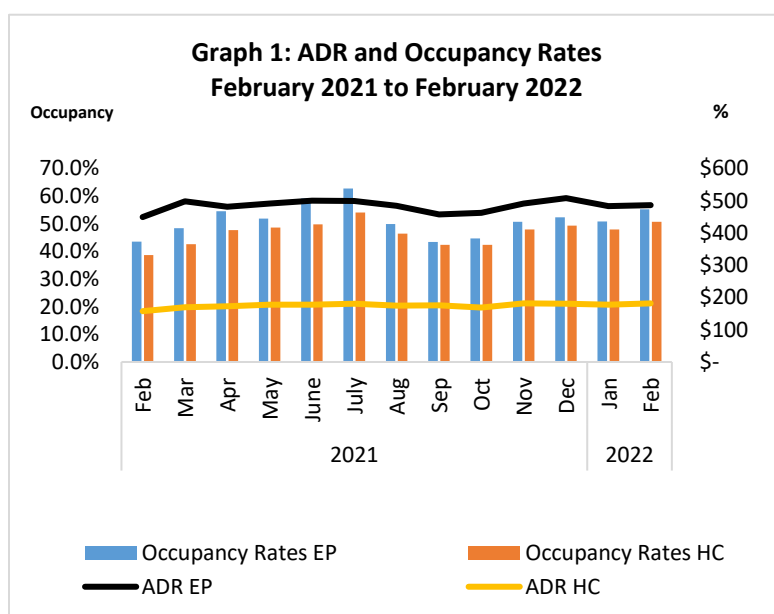
Liquidity

During February, monetary trends featured a growth in bank liquidity, as the expansion in the deposit base outstripped the rise in domestic credit. Specifically, excess reserves—a narrow measure of liquidity—rose by \$38.6 million to \$1,627.1 million, partly reversing a \$97.3 million reduction in the prior year. Similarly, excess liquid assets—the broad measure of liquidity—increased by \$64.3 million to \$2,506.6 million, contrasting with the \$67.7 million decline in 2021.

Table 1: Total Visitor Arrivals January 2022

	New Providence (% Change)		Grand Bahama (% Change)		Family Islands (% Change)	
Arrivals	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
Air	-88.0	325.3	-76.1	164.1	-56.7	119.8
Sea	-99.7	17316.1	-98.9	2003.4	-99.4	6669.6
Total	-96.2	1128.9	-97.2	828.5	-96.9	1398.0

Sources: Ministry of Tourism



Sources: AirDNA

External Reserves

External reserves expanded by \$54.9 million to \$2,470.0 million in February, a reversal from the \$63.6 million reduction in the comparable period of 2021. Contributing to this outturn, the Central Bank's transactions with commercial banks shifted to a net purchase of \$71.1 million, from a net sale of \$15.1 million last year. Further, commercial banks recorded a net intake from their customers of \$84.2 million, vis-à-vis a sale of \$14.8 million a year earlier. Moreover, the Central Bank net foreign currency sale to the public sector moderated to \$17.1 million, from \$48.8 million in the previous year.

Exchange Control Sales

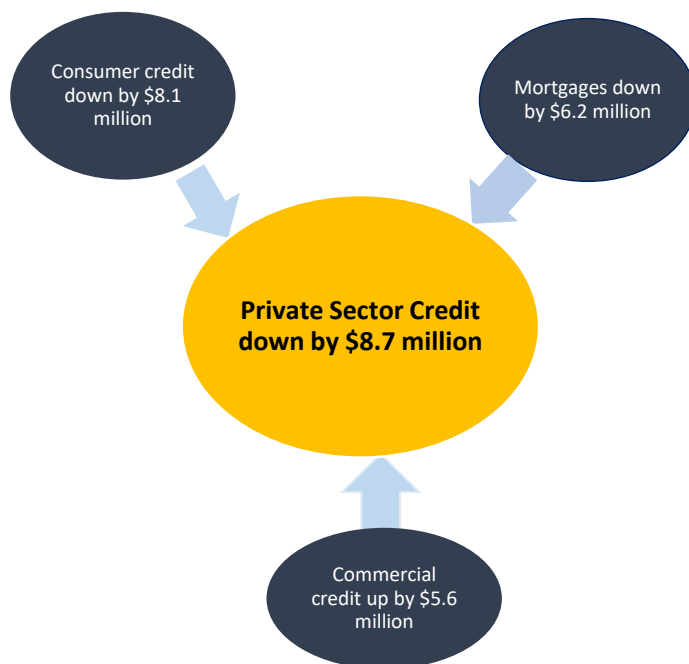
Preliminary data on foreign currency sales for current account transactions revealed a \$49.1 million growth in outflows to \$422.1 million in February, in comparison to the same period last year. The outturn reflected a notable rise in payments for "other" current items (\$37.6 million)—mainly credit and debit card financed imports—and oil imports (\$14.6 million). Foreign currency outflows also rose higher for factor income remittances (\$2.9 million) and travel related transactions (\$2.4 million); whereas reductions were posted for non-oil imports (\$4.6 million) and transfer payments (\$3.9 million).

Domestic Credit

Bahamian Dollar Credit

Growth in total Bahamian dollar credit slowed to \$1.3 million in February, from \$74.7 million in the previous year. Of note, the rise in net claims on the Government moderated to \$9.5 million from \$57.8 million in 2021. Further, the increase in credit to public corporations slowed to just \$0.5 million from \$11.9 million a year earlier. Meanwhile, private sector credit decreased by \$8.7 million, offsetting the \$5.0 million uptick in the prior year. In particular, consumer credit reduced by \$8.1 million, relative to a gain of \$0.7 million in the previous year, while the falloff in mortgages deepened to \$6.2 million from \$3.3 million in the preceding year; and the buildup in commercial credit tapered to \$5.6 million from \$7.7 million in 2021.

Chart 2: B\$ Private Sector Credit



Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

Foreign Currency Credit

During the review month, domestic foreign currency credit contracted by \$6.2 million, vis-à-vis a \$0.7 million uptick last year. The private sector component reduced by \$5.7 million, a switch from the \$2.4 million accumulation a year earlier. Specifically, the decrease in mortgages deepened to \$7.0 million from \$0.3 million the prior year, while the increase in commercial credit slowed to \$1.3 million from \$2.6 million in 2021.

Meanwhile, the reduction in net claims on the Government moderated to \$0.5 million from \$1.6 million, and credit to public corporations was approximately unchanged.

Credit Quality

Bank's credit quality indicators improved during the month of February, reflective of declines in both short and long-term arrears. Specifically, total private sector arrears decreased by \$59.8 million (7.6%) to \$725.3 million, corresponding with a 1.1 percentage point narrowing in the relevant ratio to 13.3% of outstanding claims.

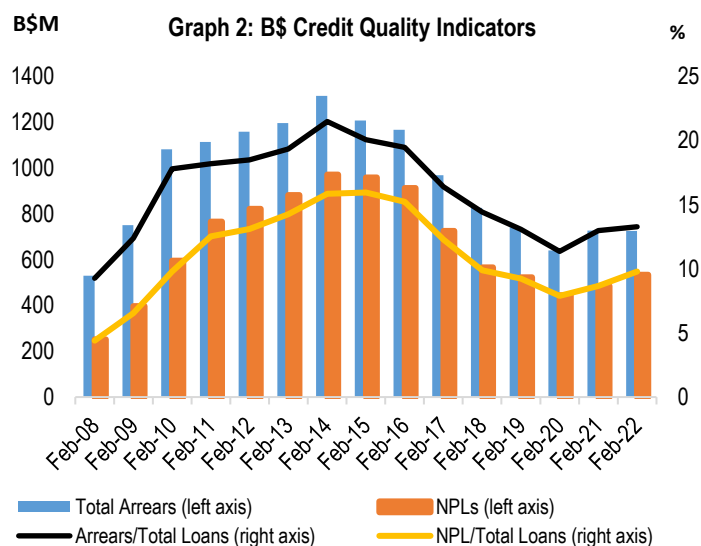
An analysis by average age of delinquency showed that short-term arrears contracted by \$59.3 million (23.7%) to \$190.8 million, resulting in a 1.1 percentage point falloff in the accompanying rate to 3.5%. Similarly, non-performing loans (NPLs) decreased

slightly by \$0.4 million (0.1%) to \$534.5 million, with the attendant ratio remaining unchanged at 9.8%—with a decline in the NPL rate for consumer loans by 10 basis points to 10.1%; meanwhile, commercial loans and mortgage delinquency rates rose by 8 and by 6 basis points, to 5.5% and 11.1%, respectively.

A disaggregation by loan type showed that, mortgage arrears reduced by \$45.4 million (10.2%) to \$398.2 million, as the \$46.3 million (28.5%) retrenchment in the short-term segment, outstripped the \$0.9 million (0.3%) rise in non-accruals. Likewise, total consumer arrears decreased by \$16.1 million (5.8%) to \$262.4 million, owing to respective declines in both short-term arrears and NPLs of \$13.8 million (19.0%) and \$2.3 million (1.1%). In contrast, commercial arrears rose by \$1.7 million (2.7%) to \$64.7 million, after a \$0.9 million (1.9%) rise in the long-term segment, and \$0.8 million (5.5%) uptick in the short-term arrears.

Meanwhile, banks reduced total provisions for loan losses by \$10.3 million (2.0%) to \$509.1 million. Consequently, the ratio of provisions to non-performing loans moved lower by 1.9 percentage points to 95.3%. However, provisions to arrears rose by 4.0 percentage points to 70.2%, while the coverage ratio of specific provisions to non-accruals fell by 1.9 percentage points to 74.2%. During the month of February, banks wrote-off an estimated \$5.7 million in bad loans, and recovered approximately \$4.2 million.

In comparison to February 2021, the total private sector arrears rate firmed by 0.3 percentage points. In particular, the non-accrual segment increased by 1.1 percentage points, while the short-term segment decreased by 0.8 percentage points. By loan type, consumer loan arrears rose by 3.0 percentage points, overshadowing declines in the corresponding rates on mortgages and commercial loans, by 1.5 and by 0.5 percentage points, respectively.



Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

Deposits

The Bahamian dollar deposit base expanded by \$68.5 million in February, a strong rebound from the \$4.4 million decrease in the prior year. Specifically, demand balances rose by \$63.4 million, a shift from last year's \$1.9 million decline. Likewise, saving deposits gains strengthened to \$19.9 million from \$5.8 million, albeit, the contraction in fixed deposits deepened to \$14.8 million from \$8.2 million in 2021. Meanwhile, foreign currency deposits increased by \$0.3 million, following a \$19.6 million reduction in the previous year.

Interest Rates

In interest rates developments, banks' weighted average loan rate firmed during the month by 54 basis points to 10.78%. Similarly, the weighted average deposit rate rose by 29 basis points to 0.72%, with the highest rate of 2.50% offered on fixed balances of over 12 months.

3. Domestic Outlook

Expectations are that the domestic economy will continue to recover during 2022, as tourism output converges progressively closer to pre-COVID-19 levels. However, downside risks to the industry persist, given continued elevated international health and travel sector exposures to disruptions from further mutations of the virus; the potential for rising energy cost to erode travel sector competitiveness; and counter-inflation policies that could dampen source market consumers' capacity to spend on travel. That said, new and ongoing foreign investment-led projects, combined with post-hurricane reconstruction works, are anticipated to provide continued stimulus via the construction sector.

In the labour market, the unemployment rate is expected to remain above pre-pandemic levels, but with further workforce engagement, concentrated largely in the construction sector and rehiring of tourism sector employees. In terms of prices, elevated inflation rate is anticipated, reflective of increased international oil prices, higher costs for other imported goods, and supply chain shortages linked to geopolitical tensions in Eastern Europe.

On the fiscal front, although trending downward, the Government's net financing gap is expected to remain elevated, owing to higher disbursements for health and social welfare associated with COVID-19, and outlays still related to the restoration of key infrastructure following the major 2019 hurricane. Projected revenue shortfalls should continue, but with taxable economic activity improving in line with tourism recovery. Financing of the projected budgetary gap is expected to require a blend of domestic and external borrowings, but with increased sustainability of domestic sources.

Monetary sector developments should continue to feature high banking sector liquidity, as a result of commercial banks' conservative lending posture. Further, external reserves are forecasted to remain buoyant over the year, staying above international benchmarks, underpinned by anticipated foreign currency inflows from tourism, and other net private sector receipts. Consequently, external balances are poised to remain more than adequate to sustain the Bahamian dollar currency peg.

4. Monetary Policy Implications

In light of the prevailing outlook, the Central Bank will sustain its accommodative stance for private sector credit and continue to pursue policies that ensure a favorable outturn for external reserves, and mitigate financial sector disruptions. Further, the Bank will continue to monitor developments within the foreign

exchange market, and if necessary, adopt appropriate measures to support a positive outcome for the foreign reserves.

APPENDIX

International Developments

During the month of February, global economic performance was mixed, mainly reflecting the ongoing spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and new strains of the virus. Through the month however, major central banks retained their highly accommodative monetary policy stances, although the outlook shifted more towards monetary tightening to counter elevated inflation forecasts.

Economic indicators in the United States remained mildly positive over the review period, despite the ongoing spread of COVID-19 cases. In particular, industrial production grew by 0.5% in February, led by heightened activity in the manufacturing sector, while the growth in retail trade slowed to 0.3% from 4.9% in January. Likewise labour market conditions improved in February, as the jobless rate moved lower by 20 basis points to 3.8%, owing to the addition of 678,000 workers to the total non-farm payroll, mainly in leisure & hospitality, professional & business services, health care and construction. Meanwhile, the consumer price index rose 0.8% in February, higher than the 0.6% in the prior month, due to a rise in prices for gasoline, shelter and food. Additionally, the trade deficit expanded by \$7.7 billion (9.4%) to \$89.7 billion in January, occasioned by a \$3.8 billion (1.2%) expansion in imports, coupled with a \$3.9 billion (1.7%) decline in exports. Against this backdrop, the Federal Reserve maintained its benchmark interest rate at a range of 0.00%–0.25%, but signalled that a rate hike was imminent to combat elevated prices.

Trends in European economies were mixed over the review month. The United Kingdom's monthly real GDP grew by 0.8% in January, a turnaround from the 0.2% contraction in the previous month. Similarly, monthly industrial production rose by 0.7% in January, attributed to gains in the production sectors, while the volume of retail sales reversed to an increase of 1.9% in January, following a 4.0% falloff a month earlier, as non-food store and automotive fuel sales trended upwards. In terms of the external sector, the trade deficit widened by £8.6 billion to £21.3 billion in the three months to January, as the £12.2 billion (10.1%) rise in imports, outstripped the £3.6 billion (4.6%) gain in exports. Conversely, in the three months to February, the jobless rate declined by 20 basis points to 3.9%, placing the rate at pre-pandemic levels. In the euro area, consumer prices accelerated to 5.9% during the month of February, compared to 5.1% a month earlier, reflective of an increase in energy and services cost. Meanwhile, the unemployment rate fell by 10 basis points to 6.8% in January. Further, monthly retail sales volume increased by 7.8%, while industrial production declined by 1.3% during the month of January. Additionally, the euro area recorded a €27.2 billion trade deficit in January, a turnaround from a trade surplus of €10.7 billion in the previous year, as imports rose by 44.3%, overshadowing the 18.9% expansion in exports. Given these developments, the Bank of England kept its policy rate at 0.25% and the European Central Bank left its interest rates on the main refinancing operations, marginal lending facility and deposit facility at 0.00%, 0.25% and -0.50%, respectively.

Developments also varied in the Asian economies, over the review period. In China, industrial output accelerated to 7.5% in the first two months of 2022, while retail sales grew by 6.7% year-over-year, in the midst of rising demand during the Lunar New Year holidays and Winter Olympics. On the external front, the trade surplus strengthened to \$116.0 billion for the January-February period, vis-à-vis \$97.1 billion in the same period last year, as the 16.3% growth in exports, outpaced the 15.5% gain in imports. Further, the annual inflation rate firmed by 0.9% in February, underpinned by a rise in non-food prices, while China's jobless rate firmed by 20 basis points to 5.5%. During the month of February, Japan's average consumer prices were higher by 0.9%, while the unemployment rate rose to 2.8% in January, relative to the prior month. Meanwhile, for the month of January, retail sales advanced by 1.6% driven by accretions to sales of fuels and general merchandise. However, industrial production fell by 1.3%, from a month earlier attributed to a forced shutdown in parts of Japan, due to rising cases of the omicron variant. The trade deficit widened by ¥668.26 billion, explained by the 34.0% growth in imports, which eclipsed the 19.1% increase in exports. In this environment, the Bank of Japan sustained its policy rate at -0.1%, while the People's Bank of China lowered its reverse repo rate by 10 basis points to 2.10%.

The major equity markets reported mostly negative movements during the month of February. In the United States, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) and the S&P 500 decreased by 3.5% and by 3.1%, respectively. Similarly, in Europe, the respective German DAX, the French CAC 40, and the United Kingdom's FTSE 100 declined by 6.5%, 4.9%, and 0.1%. In Asia, Japan's Nikkei 225 declined by 1.8%; however, China's SE Composite rose by 3.0%.

In currency market developments, the US dollar depreciated relative to most of the major currencies during the review month. In particular, the US dollar weakened against the Swiss Franc, by 1.1% to CHF0.9168, the Chinese Renminbi, by 0.8% to CNY6.3092, the Canadian Dollar, by 0.3% to CAD\$1.2675 and the Japanese Yen by 0.1% to ¥115.00. By contrast, the US dollar strengthened against the British Pound, by 0.2% to £0.7452 and the euro, by 0.1% to €0.8913.

Amid heightened geopolitical tensions, with the war in Eastern Europe, commodity prices increased during the review month. In particular, the cost of crude oil grew by 10.5% to \$100.85 per barrel, although OPEC crude oil production rose by 0.4 million of barrels per day (mb/d) over the prior month, to an average 28.5 mb/d in February. In addition, the prices of both silver and gold advanced by 6.8% to \$24.45 and by 6.2% to \$1908.99 per troy ounce, respectively.

Recent Monetary and Credit Statistics

(B\$ Millions)

February					
Value		Change		Change YTD	
2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022

1.0 LIQUIDITY & FOREIGN ASSETS

1.1 Excess Reserves	1,353.61	1,627.14	-97.33	38.59	-82.65	86.83
1.2 Excess Liquid Assets	2,158.33	2,506.60	-67.65	64.25	-71.39	72.86
1.3 External Reserves	2,256.32	2,469.96	-63.56	54.85	-124.28	10.80
1.4 Bank's Net Foreign Assets	-83.51	174.97	-17.54	-4.24	14.40	90.01
1.5 Usable Reserves	1,172.91	1,249.49	-44.85	47.95	-82.27	-15.87

2.0 DOMESTIC CREDIT

2.1 Private Sector	5,727.08	5,561.95	7.31	-14.36	-6.97	-26.37
a. B\$ Credit	5,582.96	5,446.37	4.95	-8.65	-5.93	-14.55
of which: Consumer Credit	2,027.19	1,870.83	0.65	-8.10	-9.66	-19.94
Mortgages	2,786.09	2,735.13	-3.34	-6.19	-8.75	-10.98
Commercial and Other Loans B\$	769.68	840.41	7.65	5.64	12.49	16.38
b. F/C Credit	144.12	115.59	2.35	-5.72	-1.04	-11.82
of which: Mortgages	63.64	61.21	-0.28	-6.99	0.37	-7.82
Commercial and Other Loans F/C	80.48	54.38	2.63	1.28	-1.41	-4.00
2.2 Central Government (net)	2,618.33	2,973.49	56.18	9.04	89.69	28.11
a. B\$ Loans & Securities	2,796.01	3,156.20	62.59	1.48	65.42	3.88
Less Deposits	347.94	285.49	4.77	-8.01	-24.36	-87.64
b. F/C Loans & Securities	174.13	106.33	0.03	0.00	0.03	-63.63
Less Deposits	3.87	3.56	1.67	0.45	0.12	-0.22
2.3 Rest of Public Sector	334.74	315.93	11.91	0.45	11.50	-0.69
a. B\$ Credit	287.66	285.93	11.91	0.45	11.50	-0.69
b. F/C Credit	47.08	30.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.4 Total Domestic Credit	8,680.15	8,851.37	75.40	-4.88	94.22	1.06
a. B\$ Domestic Credit	8,318.69	8,603.01	74.69	1.29	95.35	76.29
b. F/C Domestic Credit	361.46	248.36	0.71	-6.17	-1.13	-75.23

3.0 DEPOSIT BASE

3.1 Demand Deposits	3,139.80	3,547.98	-1.94	63.35	31.55	141.88
a. Central Bank	43.05	42.44	4.69	-20.47	-9.18	-18.93
b. Banks	3,096.75	3,505.54	-6.63	83.82	40.74	160.80
3.2 Savings Deposits	1,789.09	1,899.78	5.80	19.93	4.48	18.97
3.3 Fixed Deposits	2,254.96	2,148.69	-8.24	-14.82	4.59	-32.11
3.4 Total B\$ Deposits	7,183.85	7,596.45	-4.38	68.45	40.63	128.73
3.5 F/C Deposits of Residents	418.57	545.01	-19.55	0.26	-8.77	12.03
3.6 M2	7,550.66	7,972.17	2.90	73.58	30.27	115.21
3.7 External Reserves/M2 (%)	29.88	30.98	-0.85	0.41	-1.77	-0.32
3.8 External Reserves/Base Money (%)	111.28	106.42	1.64	0.30	-1.10	-7.52
3.9 External Reserves/Demand Liabilities (%)	104.13	101.19	-1.12	1.68	-1.63	-1.81
	Value		Year To Date		Change	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	Month	YTD

4.0 FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

4.1 Central Bank Net Purchase/(Sale)	-63.88	54.06	-126.52	10.75	117.93	137.27
a. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Banks	-15.07	71.12	-47.87	119.31	86.19	167.18
i. Sales to Banks	17.50	21.30	53.60	78.20	3.80	24.60
ii. Purchase from Banks	2.43	92.42	5.73	197.51	89.99	191.78
b. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Others	-48.81	-17.06	-78.65	-108.56	31.75	-29.91
i. Sales to Others	89.25	78.08	135.49	212.03	-11.17	76.54
ii. Purchase from Others	40.45	61.02	56.84	103.47	20.58	46.63
4.2 Banks Net Purchase/(Sale)	-14.75	84.21	-10.18	157.89	98.96	168.07
a. Sales to Customers	314.56	431.05	635.90	973.66	116.49	337.76
b. Purchase from Customers	299.81	515.26	625.72	1131.55	215.46	505.83

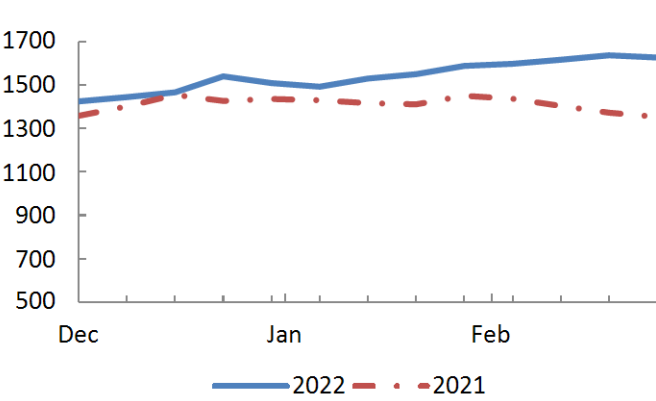
5.0 EXCHANGE CONTROL SALES

5.1 Current Items	373.04	422.12	711.08	978.36	49.08	267.28
of which Public Sector	61.76	35.98	87.55	82.07	-25.78	-5.48
a. Nonoil Imports	136.34	131.72	240.06	287.05	-4.62	46.99
b. Oil Imports	33.56	48.19	41.96	100.68	14.63	58.71
c. Travel	7.76	10.18	18.01	23.59	2.42	5.58
d. Factor Income	21.62	24.52	39.74	66.06	2.91	26.32
e. Transfers	13.51	9.67	34.97	29.71	-3.85	-5.26
f. Other Current Items	160.24	197.83	336.33	471.26	37.60	134.93
5.2 Capital Items	32.75	43.27	39.94	146.18	10.52	106.24
of which Public Sector	28.83	22.16	32.79	109.51	-6.67	76.72

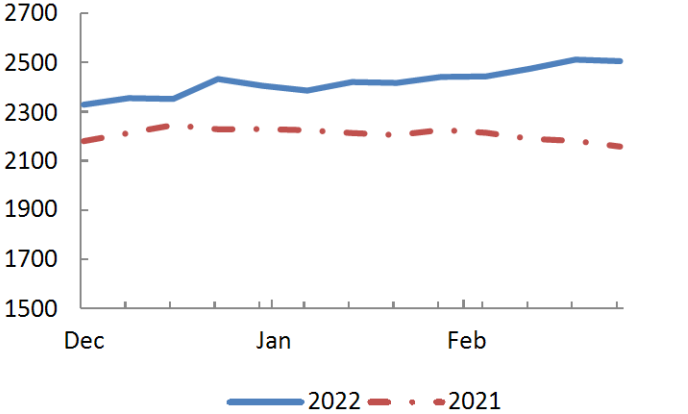
SELECTED MONEY AND CREDIT INDICATORS

(B\$ Millions)

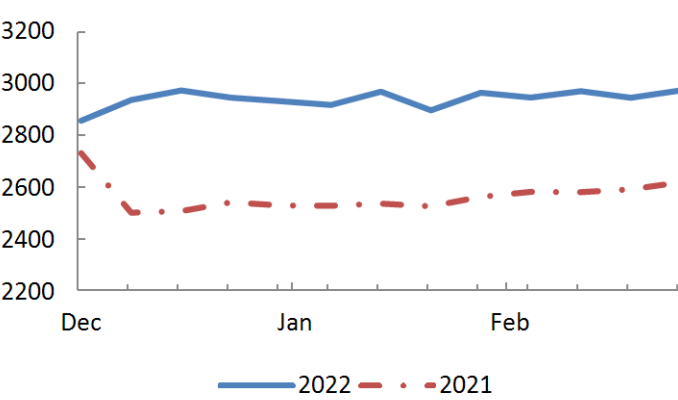
Excess Reserves



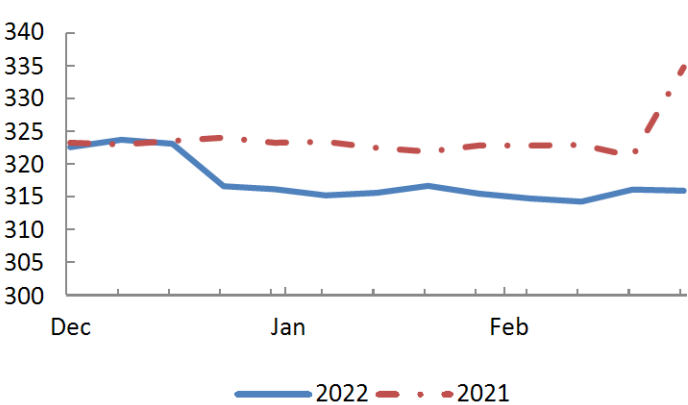
Excess Liquid Assets



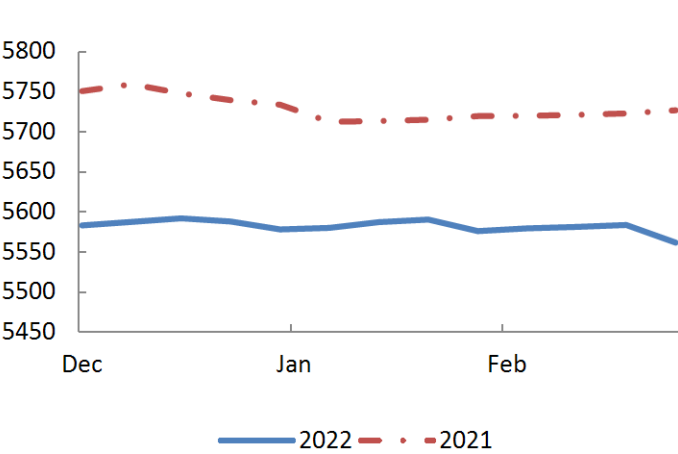
Central Govt. Credit (Net)



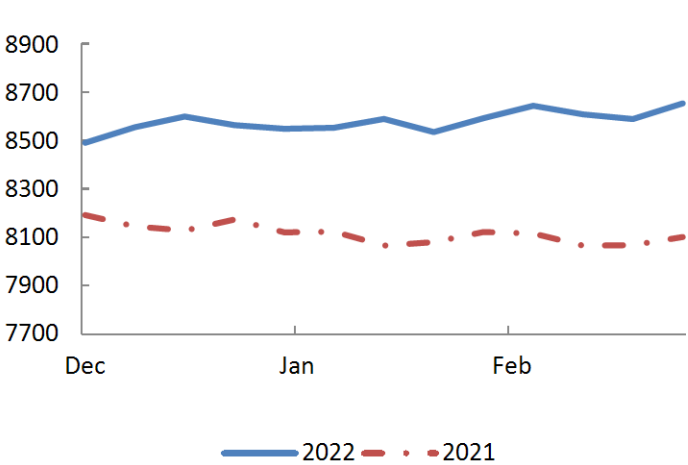
Rest of Public Sector Credit



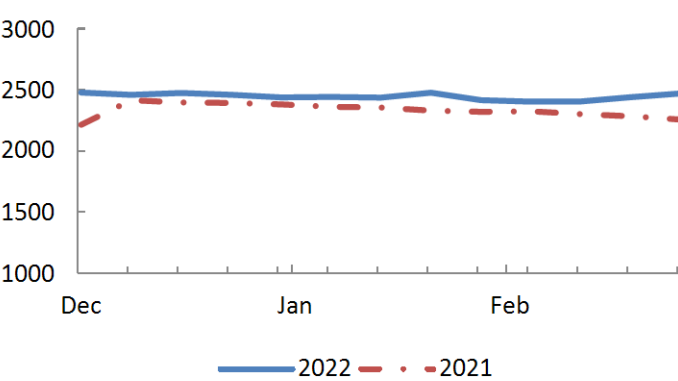
Private Sector Credit



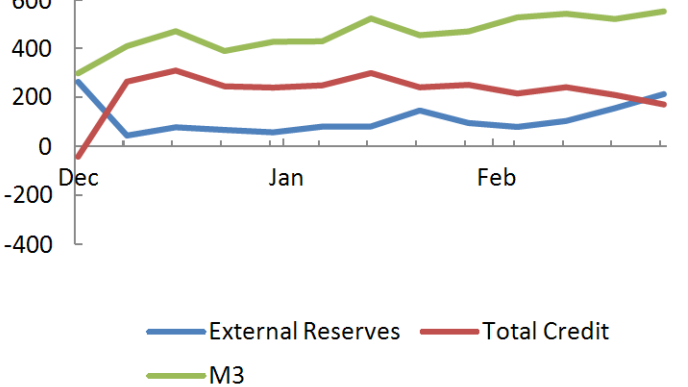
M3



External Reserves



Changes in Money, Credit & Ext. Reserves



Selected International Statistics

A: Selected Macroeconomic Projections (Annual % Change and % of labor force)						
	Real GDP		Inflation Rate		Unemployment	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
Bahamas	-14.5	2.0	1.2	5.0	25.6	21.5
United States	-3.5	6.4	1.2	4.3	8.1	5.8
Euro-Area	-6.3	5.0	0.3	2.2	7.9	8.0
Germany	-4.6	3.1	0.4	2.9	3.8	3.7
Japan	-4.6	2.4	0.0	-0.2	2.8	2.8
China	2.3	8.0	2.4	1.1	4.2	3.8
United Kingdom	-9.8	6.8	0.9	2.2	4.5	5.0
Canada	-5.3	5.7	0.7	3.2	9.6	7.7
<i>Source: IMF World Economic Outlook October 2021.</i>						

B: Official Interest Rates – Selected Countries (%)					
<i>With effect from</i>	CBOB	ECB (EU)	Federal Reserve (US)		Bank of England
	Bank Rate	Refinancing Rate	Primary Credit Rate	Target Funds Rate	Repo Rate
November 2019	4.00	0.00	2.25	1.50-1.75	0.75
December 2019	4.00	0.00	2.25	1.50-1.75	0.75
January 2020	4.00	0.00	2.25	1.50-1.75	0.75
February 2020	4.00	0.00	2.25	0.00-0.25	0.25
March 2020	4.00	0.00	1.02	0.00-0.25	0.10
April 2020	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
May 2020	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
June 2020	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
July 2020	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
August 2020	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
September 2020	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
October 2020	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
November 2020	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
December 2020	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
January 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
February 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
March 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
April 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
May 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
June 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
July 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
August 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
September 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
October 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
November 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.10
December 2021	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.25
January 2022	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.25
February 2022	4.00	0.00	0.25	0.00-0.25	0.50

Selected International Statistics

C. Selected Currencies (Per United States Dollars)						
Currency	Feb-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change	12-Mth% Change
Euro	0.8282	0.890076	0.8913	0.14	1.35	7.63
Yen	106.57	115.11	115.00	-0.10	-0.07	7.91
Pound	0.7177	0.74366	0.7451	0.20	0.83	3.82
Canadian \$	1.2738	1.2708	1.2675	-0.26	0.30	-0.49
Swiss Franc	0.9085	0.9272	0.9168	-1.12	0.43	0.91
Renminbi	6.4734	6.3612	6.3092	-0.82	-0.74	-2.54
Source: Bloomberg as of February 28 th , 2022						

D. Selected Commodity Prices (\$)					
Commodity	Feb-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change
Gold / Ounce	1734.04	1797.17	1908.99	6.222005	4.3620162
Silver / Ounce	26.67	22.8986	24.45	6.775087	4.898255
Oil / Barrel	55.88	91.29	100.85	10.47212	27.33586
Source: Bloomberg as of February 28 th , 2022					

E. Equity Market Valuations –February 28 th , 2022 (% change)								
	BISX	DJIA	S&P 500	FTSE 100	CAC 40	DAX	Nikkei 225	SE
1 month	2.23	-3.53	-3.14	-0.08	-4.86	-6.53	-1.76	3.00
3 month	4.55	-1.71	-4.23	5.65	-0.93	-4.23	-4.65	-2.85
YTD	0.84	-6.73	-8.23	1.00	-6.91	-8.96	-7.87	-4.88
12-month	14.19	9.57	14.77	15.04	16.76	4.89	-8.42	-1.33
Sources: Bloomberg and BISX								

F: Short Term Deposit Rates in Selected Currencies (%)			
	USD	GBP	EUR
o/n	0.1350	0.4750	-0.6000
1 Month	0.3600	0.5800	-0.5250
3 Month	0.5600	0.7550	-0.5300
6 Month	0.8300	1.1300	-0.4600
9 Month	1.1100	1.2950	-0.3500
1 year	1.2600	1.5850	-0.3400
Source: Bloomberg as of February 28 th , 2022			

Summary Accounts of the Central Bank
(B\$ Millions)

	VALUE								CHANGE							
	Jan. 12	Jan. 19	Jan. 26	Feb. 02	Feb. 09	Feb. 16	Feb. 23	Mar. 02	Jan. 12	Jan. 19	Jan. 26	Feb. 02	Feb. 09	Feb. 16	Feb. 23	Mar. 02
I. External Reserves	2,441.65	2,435.97	2,476.17	2,415.11	2,403.29	2,404.88	2,439.61	2,469.96	3.80	(5.68)	40.20	(61.06)	(11.82)	1.58	34.73	30.34
II. Net Domestic Assets (A + B + C + D)	(258.05)	(229.95)	(256.55)	(139.32)	(123.95)	(107.39)	(119.77)	(149.00)	(23.01)	28.11	(26.60)	117.23	15.37	16.57	(12.38)	(29.23)
A. Net Credit to Gov't (I + ii + iii -iv)	440.21	449.55	453.98	541.11	556.39	551.86	540.20	525.79	(10.81)	9.35	4.43	87.14	15.28	(4.53)	(11.66)	(14.41)
i) Advances	265.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ii) Registered Stock	336.84	342.07	333.74	333.69	333.85	328.54	329.29	322.22	0.32	5.23	(8.33)	(0.05)	0.17	(5.31)	0.75	(7.07)
iii) Treasury Bills	13.89	13.89	30.61	30.61	30.61	32.28	18.16	15.85	(0.00)	-	16.73	-	-	1.67	(14.12)	(2.32)
iv) Deposits	175.52	171.40	175.38	88.19	73.07	73.96	72.26	77.29	11.13	(4.12)	3.97	(87.19)	(15.11)	0.89	(1.70)	5.03
B. Rest of Public sector (Net) (i+ii-iii)	(70.57)	(51.28)	(53.74)	(55.95)	(56.90)	(34.35)	(36.40)	(35.47)	(8.73)	19.30	(2.46)	(2.21)	(0.96)	22.55	(2.05)	0.92
i) Loans	1.88	1.88	1.88	1.88	1.88	1.88	1.88	1.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ii) Bonds/Securities	5.09	5.09	5.09	5.09	5.09	5.09	5.09	5.09	-	-	-	0.00	-	-	-	-
iii) Deposits	77.54	58.24	60.70	62.91	63.87	41.31	43.37	42.44	8.73	(19.30)	2.46	2.21	0.96	(22.55)	2.05	(0.92)
C. Loans to/Deposits with Banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D. Other Items (Net)*	(627.69)	(628.22)	(656.79)	(624.49)	(623.45)	(624.90)	(623.57)	(639.31)	(3.47)	(0.53)	(28.57)	32.30	1.05	(1.45)	1.33	(15.74)
III. Monetary Base	2,183.60	2,206.03	2,219.62	2,275.79	2,279.34	2,297.49	2,319.84	2,320.96	(19.22)	22.42	13.60	56.16	3.55	18.15	22.35	1.11
A. Currency in Circulation	536.25	522.97	514.41	516.48	517.15	506.03	508.74	508.46	(10.91)	(13.27)	(8.56)	2.07	0.67	(11.12)	2.71	(0.28)
B. Bank Balances with CBOB	1,647.36	1,683.05	1,705.22	1,759.31	1,762.19	1,791.46	1,811.10	1,812.49	(8.30)	35.70	22.16	54.09	2.88	29.27	19.64	1.39

(% change represents current period from previous period)

(% change represents current period from previous period)

[illegible]

* Includes Net Lending to Public Corporations
 ** Debt figures include Central Government only, unless otherwise indicated
 p - provisional