



## **Monthly Economic and Financial Developments April 2023**

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:**

**2023:** July 3, July 31, September 4, October 2, October 30, December 4, December 27



**APRIL 2023 SUMMARY**  
**MONTHLY ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENTS**

***Overall Economic Activity***

During the month of April, indications are that the domestic economy sustained its growth trajectory, albeit at a moderated pace, as the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic neared completion. Tourism output continued to register strong growth, reflective of ongoing gains in both the high value-added air segment and sea traffic, as the demand for travel in key source markets was sustained.

***Inflation***

Average consumer price inflation—as measured by changes in the average Retail Price Index (RPI) for The Bahamas—rose during the twelve months to March, 2023 led by the pass-through effects of higher prices on fuel and other imports.

***Monetary Sector***

Monetary sector developments for the month of April were marked by a slight reduction in banking sector liquidity, as the growth in domestic credit surpassed the rise in the deposit base. Further, the accumulation in external reserves slowed during the review month, as inflows through the private sector moderated.

***International Economies***

Global economic performance varied during the month of April, as developments continued to be impacted by the protracted geopolitical tensions in Eastern Europe and elevated inflation. Against this backdrop, the major central banks maintained their monetary policy tightening stances, in an attempt to lower inflation and encourage economic growth.



# Monthly Economic and Financial Developments (MEFD) April 2023

## 1. Domestic Economic Developments

### Overview

Preliminary economic indicators suggest that the domestic economy sustained its growth momentum, albeit at a moderated pace, as the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic neared completion. Tourism output continued to register healthy growth, supported by gains in the high value-added air segment and sea traffic, as the demand for travel in key source markets was retained. In price developments, average consumer price inflation—as measured by changes in the average Retail Price Index (RPI) for The Bahamas—increased during the twelve months to March, 2023, attributed to the pass-through effects of higher prices on imported oil and other goods. Monetary trends for the month of April were marked by a slight reduction in bank liquidity, as the rise in domestic credit exceeded the increase in the deposit base. Further, the buildup in external reserves slowed, as inflows through the private sector moderated.

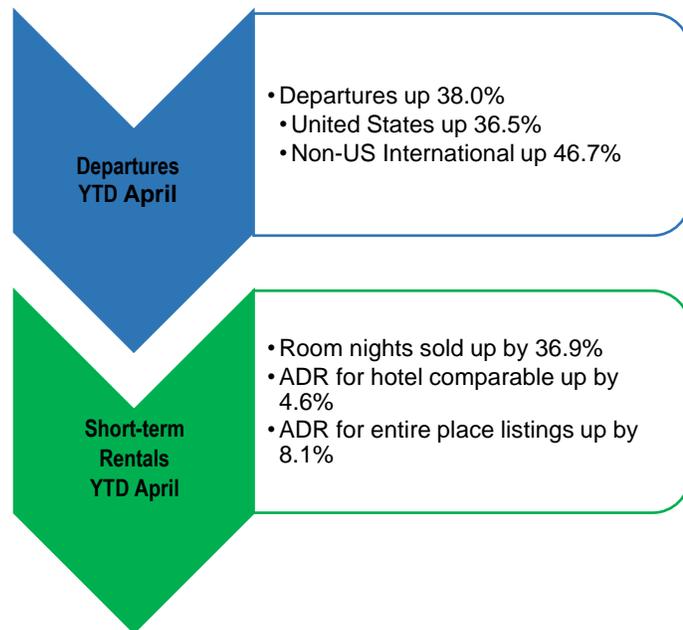
### Real Sector

#### Tourism

Tourism metrics indicated that the sector’s monthly output maintained its positive momentum in April, with buoyant gains in both the high value-added air traffic and the sea component.

The most recent data provided by the Nassau Airport Development Company Limited (NAD) revealed that total departures in April—net of domestic passengers—rose by 21.6% to 152,037, relative to the comparative period in 2022. Specifically, U.S. departures advanced by 21.6% to 129,851, while non-U.S. departures expanded by 21.3% to 22,186, compared to the same period last year. On a year-to-date basis, total outbound traffic grew by 38.0% to 552,101 passengers. In particular, U.S. departures expanded by 36.5% to 467,100 visitors, compared to the prior year. Likewise, non-U.S. departures increased by 46.7% to 85,001, vis-à-vis the corresponding period last year.

Chart 1: Tourism Indicators at a Glance



Sources: Nassau Airport Development Co. & AirDNA

In the short-term vacation rental market, data provided by AirDNA revealed further positive trends in tourism output. In particular, the growth in total room nights sold rose in April by one-third to 192,209. Reflective of

this outturn, the occupancy rates for both entire place and hotel comparable listings rose to 65.5% and 62.2%, respectively, compared to 61.0% and 55.6% in 2022. Further, as depicted in Graph 1, price indicators showed that year-over-year, the average daily room rate (ADR) for entire place listings appreciated by 8.1% to \$556.02 and for hotel comparable listings, by 1.8% to \$199.76.

### Prices

Average domestic consumer price inflation—as measured by the All Bahamas Retail Price Index—rose to 5.7% during the twelve months to March, from 3.6% in the comparative 2022 period, led by the pass-through effects of higher global oil prices and other costlier imports. Specifically, average costs increased for recreation & culture (16.9%) and miscellaneous goods & services (0.7%), after posting reductions in the previous year. Further, average inflation accelerated for food & non-alcoholic beverages (13.4%), restaurant & hotels (11.4%), health (4.8%), and housing, water, gas, electricity & other fuels (4.5%). Providing some offset, average costs declined for transport (9.5%), communication (3.9%), clothing & footwear (3.8%), education (1.4%), alcoholic beverages, tobacco & narcotics (2.3%) and furnishing, household equipment & routine household maintenance (1.2%).

## 2. Monetary Trends

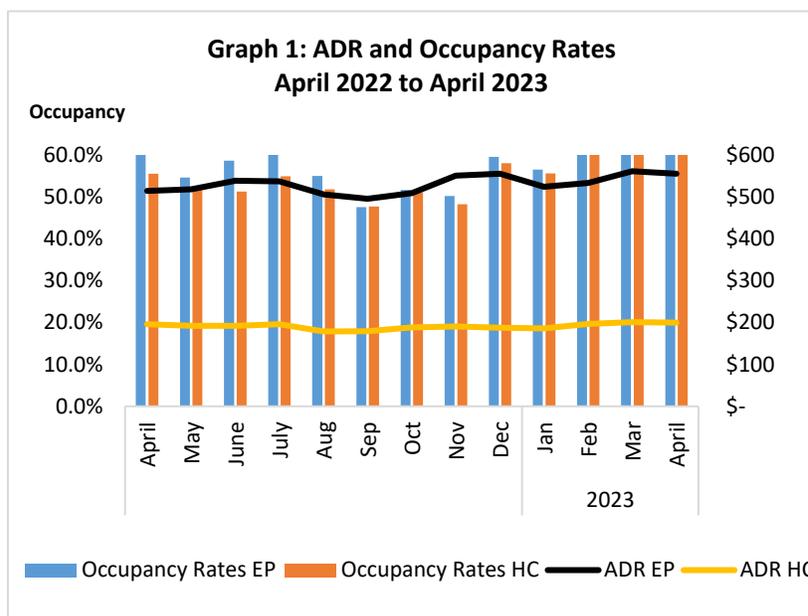
### April 2023 vs. 2022

#### Liquidity

Monetary developments for the month of April were marked by a slight reduction in the narrow measure of bank liquidity, as the growth in domestic credit outpaced the rise in the deposit base. Specifically, excess reserves—the narrow measure of liquidity—decreased by \$0.9 million to \$2,008.9 million, a switch from a \$125.8 million accumulation in the prior year. Further, the buildup in excess liquid assets—a broad measure of liquidity—moderated to \$6.9 million at \$2,876.0 million, following an \$85.6 million expansion a year earlier.

#### External Reserves

During the review month, external reserves grew by \$39.1 million to \$2,714.0 million, albeit lower than the \$92.6 million increase in the preceding year. Underpinning this development, the Central Bank's net foreign currency purchases from commercial banks narrowed slightly to \$127.4 million from \$131.1 million in 2022. Likewise, commercial banks net intake from clients slowed to \$104.2 million from \$118.3 million in the previous year. Meanwhile, the Central Bank's net sales to the public sector expanded to \$117.1 million, from \$36.3 million a year earlier.



Sources: AirDNA

## Exchange Control Sales

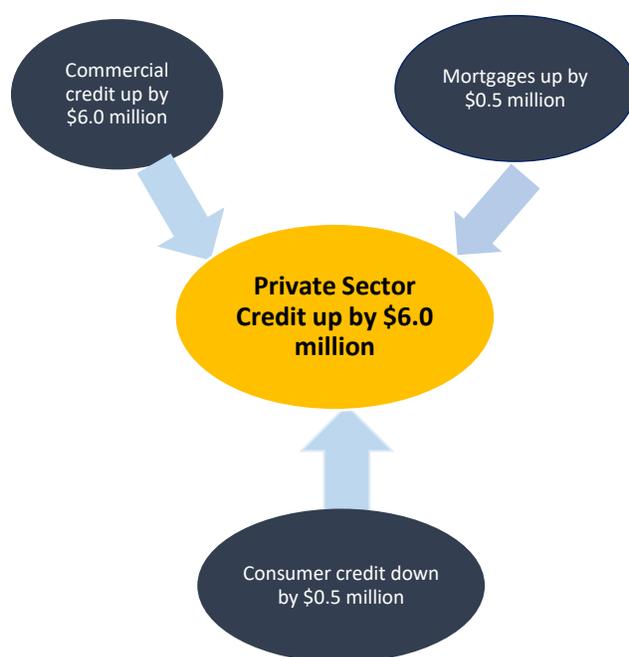
Preliminary data on foreign currency sales for current account transactions revealed a \$119.8 million growth in outflows to \$638.9 million in April, in comparison to the same period last year. Specifically, “other” current items—primarily credit and debit card financed imports—grew by \$75.0 million and oil imports, by \$68.6 million. Further, transfer payments moved higher by \$4.6 million and for travel related outflows, by \$3.5 million. In contrast, payments for non-oil imports and factor income declined by \$21.5 million and by \$10.3 million, respectively.

## Domestic Credit

### Bahamian Dollar Credit

Total Bahamian dollar credit grew by \$67.6 million in April, a reversal from a \$108.5 million contraction in the prior year. Underlying this outturn, net claims on the Government rose by \$63.0 million, a shift from an \$80.3 million reduction a year earlier. Likewise, credit to the private sector increased by \$6.0 million, a reversal from a \$27.2 million decrease in the preceding year. In particular, commercial credit recovered by \$6.0 million, after a \$17.9 million falloff in 2022, while mortgages increased incrementally, again, by \$0.5 million. Meanwhile, the decline in consumer credit moderated to \$0.5 million from \$9.4 million in the previous year. Conversely, credit to public corporations reduced by \$1.4 million, extending the \$0.4 million downturn in 2022.

Chart 2: B\$ Private Sector Credit



Source: Central Bank of The Bahamas

### Foreign Currency Credit

Domestic foreign currency credit reduced by \$15.0 million during the review month, exceeding the \$3.2 million decline a year earlier. Net claims on the Government decreased further by \$13.2 million, vis-à-vis \$4.4 million in the prior year. In addition, private sector credit fell by \$1.7 million, as opposed to a \$1.3 million gain a year earlier, owing to a \$1.9 million retrenchment in commercial credit, following a \$2.6 million increase in 2022. Meanwhile, similar to the previous year, credit to the rest of the public sector was unchanged.

## Credit Quality

Commercial bank's credit quality indicators improved during the review month, amid reductions in both non-performing loan (NPLs) and short term loan delinquencies. Total private sector arrears decreased by \$2.6

million (0.4%) to \$586.4 million, with the accompanying ratio narrowing by 6 basis points to 10.9% of total private sector loans.

A disaggregation by average age of delinquency revealed, that NPLs reduced by \$1.5 million (0.4%), to \$401.3 million, corresponding with a 3 basis points decline in the attendant ratio to 7.5%—with decreases in the NPL rates for mortgages, by 5 basis points to 9.8%; commercial loans, by 3 basis points to 4.6%; and consumer loans, by 2 basis points to 5.8%. Similarly, short-term arrears (31-90 days) fell by \$1.1 million (0.6%) to \$185.1 million, lowering the associated ratio by 2 basis points to 3.4%.

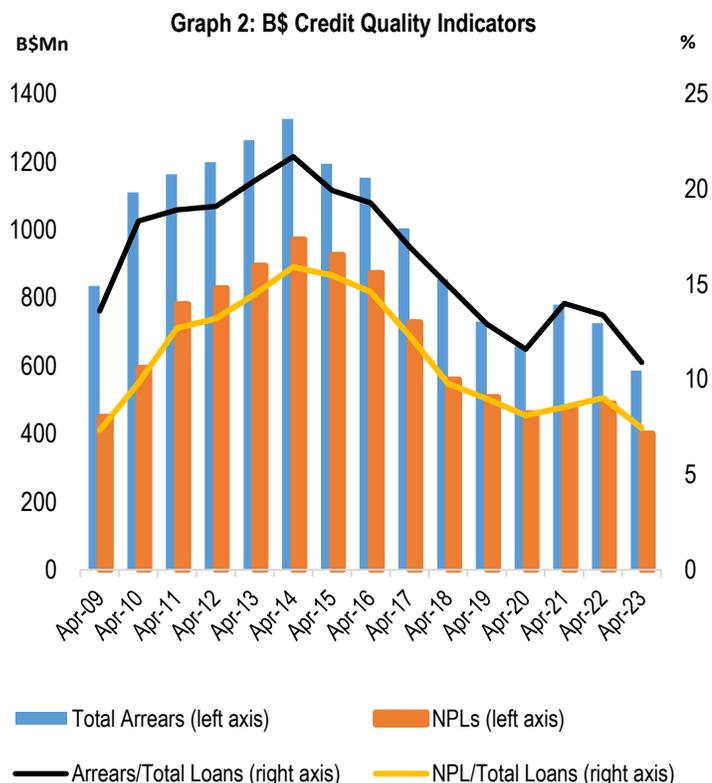
An analysis by loan type showed that the falloff in total delinquencies was led by consumer credit, which moved lower by \$1.1 million (0.7%) to \$165.9 million, as both the short and long-term segments decreased by \$0.9 million (1.7%) and by \$0.2 million (0.2%), respectively. Likewise, mortgage arrears declined by \$0.8 million (0.2%) to \$364.1 million, owing to a \$1.0 million (0.4%) falloff in non-performing loans, versus a \$0.1 million (0.1%) uptick in the short-term component. Further, commercial delinquencies reduced by \$0.6 million (1.0%) to \$56.4 million, divided equally between the falloff in short-term arrears and the non-accruals segment.

Given these developments, banks decreased their loan losses provisions by \$5.4 million (1.5%) to \$362.3 million in April. As a result, the ratio of total provisions to non-performing loans fell by a 1.0 percentage point to 90.3%. Further, the ratio for total provisions to arrears softened by 64 basis points 61.8%. During the review period, banks also wrote-off an estimated \$7.7 million in bad loans and recovered approximately \$2.6 million.

In comparison to April 2022, the total private sector arrears rate contracted by 2.5 percentage points, reflecting reductions in both the long-term (1.6 percentage points) and short-term (0.9 percentage points) components. Further, by loan type, delinquency rates declined for consumer credit, by 3.4 percentage points, mortgages, by 2.0 percentage points, and commercial credit, by 1.8 percentage points.

## Deposits

The growth in total Bahamian dollar deposits slowed to \$64.7 million in April, from \$91.5 million in the preceding year. By components, fixed deposits decreased by \$22.2 million, a reversal from a \$13.0 million gain in 2022. Further, the buildup in savings deposits tapered to \$19.1 million, from \$32.0 million in the previous year. In contrast, demand deposit balances grew by \$67.8 million, exceeding the \$46.6 million



accumulation in the prior year. Meanwhile, foreign currency deposits of residents expanded by \$29.8 million, a switch from a \$3.0 million falloff a year earlier.

### **Interest Rates**

During April, banks' weighted average loan rate decreased by 54 basis points to 10.69%. Likewise, the weighted average deposit rate narrowed by 8 basis points to 0.44%, with the highest rate of 3.75% offered on fixed balances over 12 months.

### **3. Domestic Outlook**

Expectations are that the domestic economy will maintain its positive growth momentum in 2023, bolstered by the ongoing gains in the tourism sector. However, the pace of expansion is anticipated to moderate, as indicators return to pre-pandemic levels. Further, downside risks to the tourism sector persist, related mainly to exogenous factors, such as elevated global oil prices, which could constrain the travel industry's competitiveness. In addition, major central banks' counter-inflation policies could curtail the spending capacity of key source market consumers. Nevertheless, new and ongoing foreign investment-led projects are anticipated to provide support to the construction sector, which will also contribute to the growth matrix.

In the labour market, the unemployment rate is projected to stay above pre-pandemic levels, with additional job gains concentrated mostly in the construction and tourism sectors. As it relates to prices, inflation is estimated to remain elevated in the near-term, on account of higher international energy prices, increased costs for other imported goods and supply chain shortages, associated with geopolitical tensions in Eastern Europe.

On the fiscal front, the Government's net financing gap is anticipated to trend downwards, as conditions become favorable for more consolidation. However, spending requirements should remain elevated for public infrastructure, including investments in the health sector. The recovery in revenue is expected to remain significantly correlated with tourism-led improvement in taxable economic activities. Meanwhile, the estimated budgetary gap is projected to require both domestic and external borrowings, though with a higher proportion of the total funding from domestic sources.

Monetary sector developments should continue to feature high levels of banking sector liquidity, as commercial banks sustain their conservative lending stance. Further, external reserves are forecasted to remain buoyant in 2023, remaining above international benchmarks, supported by anticipated foreign currency inflows from tourism, and other net private sector receipts. Consequently, external balances should remain more than adequate to sustain the Bahamian dollar currency peg.

### **4. Monetary Policy and Financial Stability Implications**

In light of the prevailing outlook, the Central Bank will retain its accommodative policy stance for private sector credit and 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*

Global economic performance varied during the month of April, as developments continued to be impacted by the protracted geopolitical tensions in Eastern Europe and elevated inflation. Against this backdrop, the major central banks maintained their monetary policy tightening stances, in an attempt to lower inflation and encourage economic growth.

In the United States, economic indicators were mostly positive during the review month. In particular, real GDP increased by an annualized rate of 1.1% in the first quarter of 2023, although a slowdown from the 2.6% growth in the previous quarter, underpinned by gains in consumer spending, exports, non-residential fixed investment and Government spending. Retail sales grew by 0.4%, a turnaround from a 0.7% decline in March, owing to heightened demand for cars and online purchases, while industrial production rose by 0.5%, following a flat outturn a month earlier, due to increases in manufacturing and mining. Further, in the labour market, the jobless rate edged down to 3.4% in April from 3.5% in March, as total non-farm payroll employment rose by 253,000, owing to gains in leisure & hospitality, health care, professional & business services and social assistance. In terms of prices, the consumer price index (CPI) rose by 0.4% in April, extending the 0.1% increase in the prior month, bolstered by price gains in gasoline and used cars and trucks. On the external front, the trade deficit contracted by \$6.4 billion (9.1%) to \$64.2 billion in March, reflecting a 2.1% rise in exports, combined with a 0.3% falloff in imports. In this environment, the Federal Reserve retained its target funds rate range at 4.75%-5.00%, in an effort to combat inflation.

Developments in the European economies varied during the review period. The United Kingdom's real GDP fell by 0.3%, after registering a flat outturn in the previous month, attributed to a slowdown in the services sector. Further, retail sales declined by 0.9% in March, contrasting with a 1.1% rise in the previous month, on account of decreases in non-food store sales driven by weather-related challenges. However, industrial production rose by 0.7% in March, following a 0.1% falloff in February, due to increases in manufacturing, water supply & sewerage and electricity & gas. On the labour front, the jobless rate increased by 10 basis points to 3.9% in the three months to March. In the external sector, the trade in goods and services deficit narrowed by £0.5 billion (21.9%) to £2.9 billion in March, as the 1.8% reduction in imports, outpaced the 1.2% falloff in exports. In the euro area, real output grew by 0.1% in the first quarter of 2023, following a flat outturn in the previous quarter. Meanwhile, retail trade fell by 1.2% in March, exceeding the 0.2% decline in the prior month, as a result of a decrease in food, drinks and tobacco trade. Likewise, industrial production reduced by 4.1%, a reversal from the 1.5% gain a month earlier, owing to a falloff in the production of capital and intermediate goods, energy and non-durable consumer goods. The annual inflation rate firmed to 7.0% in April, vis-à-vis 6.9% in the preceding month; while the jobless rate edged down to 6.5% in March, from 6.6% in the prior month. In external developments, the euro area recorded a trade surplus of €25.6 billion in March, vis-à-vis a deficit of €20.0 billion same period last year—marking the first surplus since September 2021—on account of 10.0% reduction in imports, combined with a 7.5% growth in exports. Given these developments, the Bank of England maintained its policy rate at 4.25%, while the European Central Bank retained its interest rate on its main refinancing operations at 3.50%, the marginal lending facility, at 3.75% and the deposit facility, at 3.00%.

Performance indicators in the Asian economies were mixed over the review period. In China, the annual consumer price index fell by 0.1% in April, from 0.7% in the prior month, supported by a decrease in the cost of food. Retail sales firmed by 18.4% in April, extending the month earlier increase of 10.6%, buoyed by a rise in sales of food, jewelry, sports, recreation and cosmetics. Meanwhile, industrial production fell by 0.5% in April, a switch from a 0.1% uptick in March. In the labour market, the unemployment rate declined by 10 basis points to 5.2% in April, as compared to the month earlier. Further, China's trade surplus expanded to \$90.2 billion in April, from \$49.5 billion in the corresponding period of 2022, as exports rose by 8.5%, while imports declined by 7.9%. In Japan, retail sales grew by 7.2% in March, marginally lower than the 7.3% growth in the previous month, on account of gains in auto sales, pharmaceuticals & cosmetics, other retailers, food & beverages and textiles & clothing. However, the unemployment rate increased to 2.8% in March, from 2.6% a month earlier. In this environment, the People's Bank of China kept its reverse repo rate at 2.0%, while the Bank of Japan maintained its policy rate at -0.1%.

The major equity markets reported positive movements during the month of April. Specifically, in the United States, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) and the S&P 500 grew by 2.5% and by 1.5%, respectively. Likewise, in Europe, the United Kingdom's FTSE, the French CAC 40 and the German DAX, firmed by 3.1%, 2.3% and 1.9%, respectively. In Asia, Japan's Nikkei 225 and China's SE Composite registered respective gains of 2.9% and 1.5%.

In foreign exchange market developments, in April the US dollar reported mixed movements relative to all of the major currencies. In particular, the US dollar strengthened against the Japanese Yen, by 2.6% to ¥136.30, the Chinese Renminbi, by 0.6% to CNY6.9126 and the Canadian dollar, by 0.3% to CAD\$1.3552. Conversely, the dollar weakened vis-à-vis the Swiss Franc, by 2.3% to CHF0.8946, the British Pound, by 1.8% to £0.7957 and the euro, by 1.6% to €0.9075.

During the review month, outcomes varied among commodity markets. In particular, the cost of crude oil fell by 4.9% to \$79.74 per barrel, despite OPEC's crude oil production declining by 191,000 barrels per day, to an average 28.6 million barrels per day in April. In contrast, the price of silver grew by 4.0% to \$25.05 per troy ounce and the cost of gold, by 1.1% to \$1,990.00 per troy ounce.

# Recent Monetary and Credit Statistics

## (B\$ Millions)

April					
Value		Change		Change YTD	
2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023

### 1.0 LIQUIDITY & FOREIGN ASSETS

1.1 Excess Reserves	1,931.99	2,008.88	125.79	-0.85	391.68	80.76
1.2 Excess Liquid Assets	2,772.88	2,876.01	85.60	6.85	334.03	103.24
1.3 External Reserves	3,066.63	2,713.97	92.63	39.12	607.47	119.29
1.4 Bank's Net Foreign Assets	95.94	23.30	14.87	10.10	128.27	35.62
1.5 Usable Reserves	1,612.36	1,232.02	31.22	24.78	347.01	81.01

### 2.0 DOMESTIC CREDIT

2.1 Private Sector	5,517.15	5,522.64	-25.90	4.30	-71.18	-6.35
a. B\$ Credit	5,401.42	5,332.11	-27.15	6.02	-59.50	-0.88
of which: Consumer Credit	1,950.92	1,895.20	-9.42	-0.47	-51.60	-8.41
Mortgages	2,731.72	2,691.79	0.20	0.54	10.19	-15.60
Commercial and Other Loans B\$	718.77	745.11	-17.92	5.95	-18.09	23.13
b. F/C Credit	115.73	190.53	1.25	-1.71	-11.68	-5.47
of which: Mortgages	60.10	92.80	-1.37	0.20	-8.93	0.89
Commercial and Other Loans F/C	55.64	97.73	2.61	-1.91	-2.75	-6.36
2.2 Central Government (net)	2,693.07	3,177.55	-85.34	49.73	-252.31	-28.14
a. B\$ Loans & Securities	3,005.68	3,181.12	-63.60	61.16	-146.64	-2.80
Less Deposits	410.04	310.37	17.33	-1.82	36.91	3.96
b. F/C Loans & Securities	102.17	310.64	-6.19	-19.90	-67.80	-22.72
Less Deposits	4.75	3.84	-1.78	-6.66	0.97	-1.34
2.3 Rest of Public Sector	315.36	344.78	-0.39	-1.38	-1.25	-3.88
a. B\$ Credit	285.36	316.28	-0.39	-1.38	-1.25	-3.13
b. F/C Credit	30.00	28.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.75
2.4 Total Domestic Credit	8,525.58	9,044.97	-111.63	52.66	-324.74	-38.37
a. B\$ Domestic Credit	8,282.43	8,519.14	-108.47	67.61	-244.30	-10.78
b. F/C Domestic Credit	243.15	525.83	-3.17	-14.95	-80.44	-27.60

### 3.0 DEPOSIT BASE

3.1 Demand Deposits	3,683.55	3,911.48	46.55	67.83	300.97	37.14
a. Central Bank	66.39	81.45	-32.89	-3.74	5.03	-11.73
b. Banks	3,617.16	3,830.03	79.44	71.57	295.94	48.87
3.2 Savings Deposits	1,975.47	2,190.06	31.98	19.13	94.66	87.00
3.3 Fixed Deposits	2,172.12	2,057.51	12.99	-22.22	-6.06	-17.01
3.4 Total B\$ Deposits	7,831.14	8,159.06	91.52	64.74	389.57	107.13
3.5 F/C Deposits of Residents	480.64	531.57	-3.00	29.82	38.79	63.46
3.6 M2	8,221.14	8,573.82	95.72	64.87	390.33	82.28
3.7 External Reserves/M2 (%)	37.30	31.65	0.70	0.22	5.90	1.10
3.8 External Reserves/Base Money (%)	116.00	97.79	-2.48	0.59	2.06	1.86
3.9 External Reserves/Demand Liabilities (%)	105.44	91.57	-1.32	0.44	2.44	1.70
	Value		Year To Date		Change	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	Month	YTD

### 4.0 FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

4.1 Central Bank Net Purchase/(Sale)	94.79	10.34	617.71	83.86	-84.45	-533.85
a. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Banks	131.12	127.44	343.61	256.38	-3.69	-87.23
i. Sales to Banks	14.40	9.50	116.30	168.67	-4.90	52.37
ii. Purchase from Banks	145.52	136.94	459.91	425.05	-8.59	-34.87
b. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Others	-36.33	-117.09	274.10	-172.52	-80.76	-446.62
i. Sales to Others	104.42	163.09	393.18	499.70	58.67	106.52
ii. Purchase from Others	68.09	46.00	667.28	327.19	-22.09	-340.10
4.2 Banks Net Purchase/(Sale)	118.26	104.20	384.27	228.74	-14.06	-155.53
a. Sales to Customers	461.58	518.72	1948.08	2307.22	57.13	359.15
b. Purchase from Customers	579.84	622.92	2332.34	2535.96	43.07	203.62

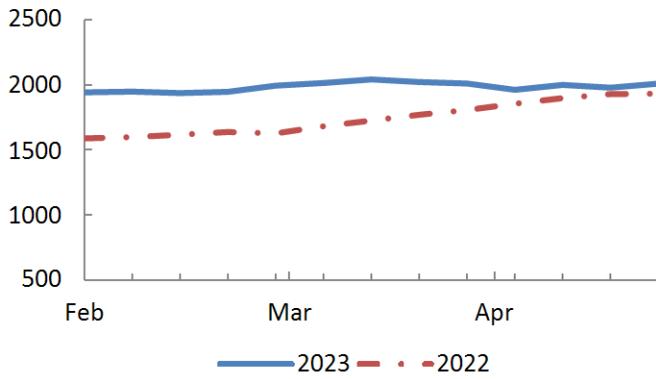
### 5.0 EXCHANGE CONTROL SALES

5.1 Current Items	519.06	638.88	2,060.54	2,435.64	119.82	375.10
of which Public Sector	104.16	159.67	281.61	364.35	55.51	82.73
a. Nonoil Imports	144.77	123.25	594.70	643.33	-21.52	48.63
b. Oil Imports	64.39	132.94	230.47	317.04	68.56	86.56
c. Travel	10.98	14.51	44.33	59.37	3.53	15.04
d. Factor Income	72.09	61.76	170.60	152.36	-10.33	-18.24
e. Transfers	7.81	12.42	52.39	60.58	4.62	8.19
f. Other Current Items	219.02	294.00	968.04	1,202.95	74.97	234.91
5.2 Capital Items	28.14	33.76	211.04	291.05	5.62	80.01
of which Public Sector	10.10	24.24	127.03	167.95	14.13	40.92

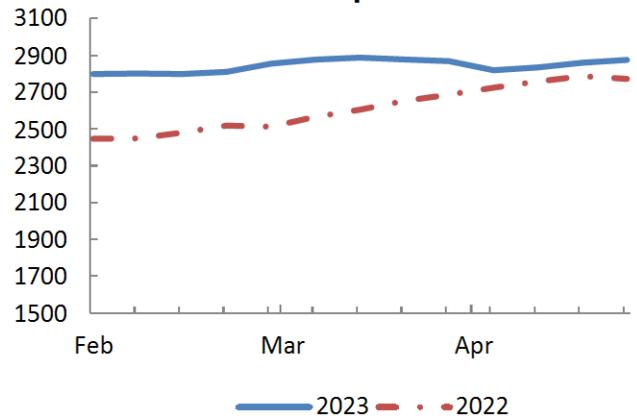
## SELECTED MONEY AND CREDIT INDICATORS

(B\$ Millions)

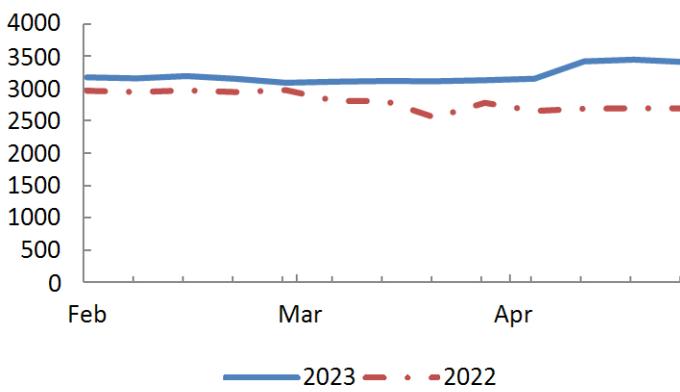
### Excess Reserves



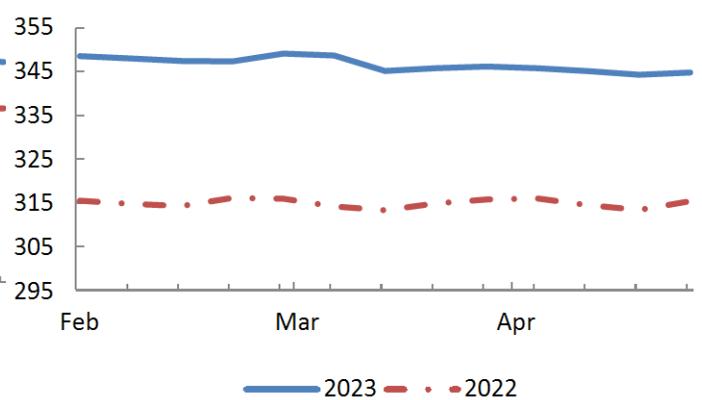
### Excess Liquid Assets



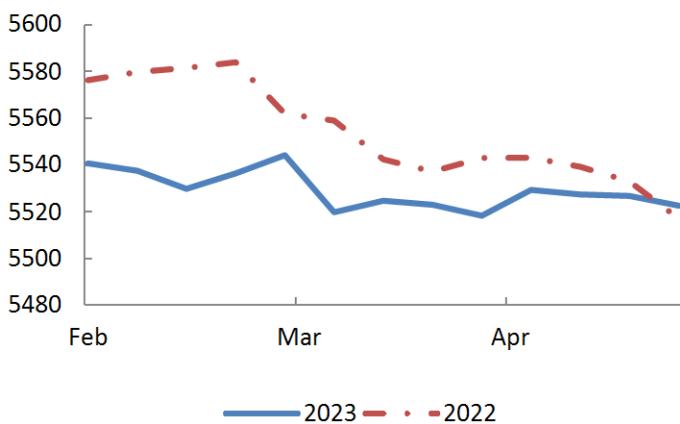
### Central Govt. Credit (Net)



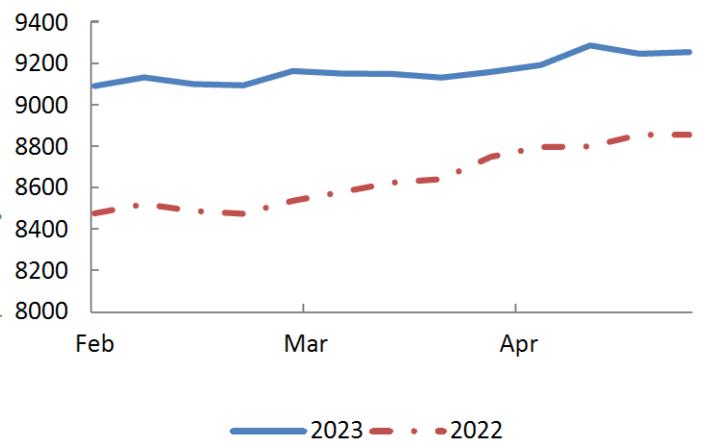
### Rest of Public Sector Credit



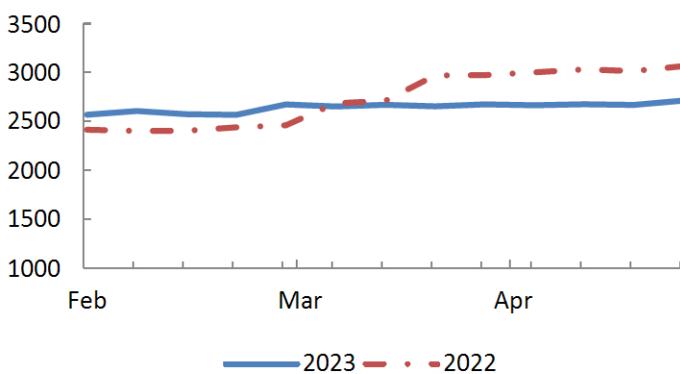
### Private Sector Credit



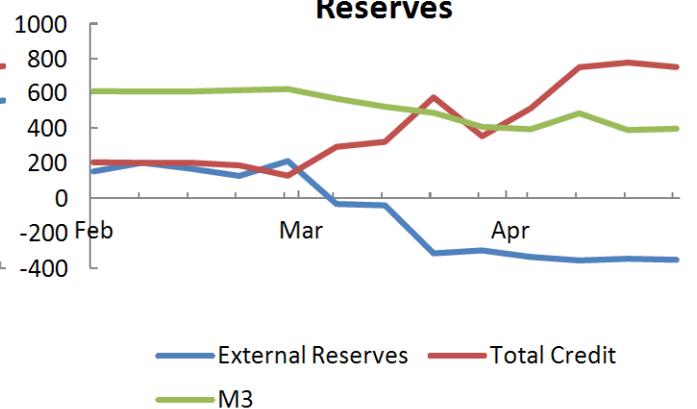
### M3



### External Reserves



### Changes in Money, Credit & Ext. Reserves



## Selected International Statistics

<b>A: Selected Macroeconomic Projections (Annual % Change and % of labor force)</b>						
	<b>Real GDP</b>		<b>Inflation Rate</b>		<b>Unemployment</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Bahamas	11.0	4.3	5.6	4.5	12.3	12.0
United States	2.1	1.6	8.0	4.5	3.6	3.8
Euro-Area	3.5	0.8	8.4	5.3	6.8	6.8
Germany	1.8	-0.1	8.7	6.2	3.1	3.8
Japan	1.1	1.3	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.3
China	3.0	5.2	1.9	2.0	4.2	4.1
United Kingdom	4.0	-0.3	9.1	6.8	3.7	4.2
Canada	3.4	1.5	6.8	3.9	5.3	5.8

*Source: IMF World Economic Outlook April 2023*

<b>B: Official Interest Rates – Selected Countries (%)</b>					
<i>With effect from</i>	<b>CBOB</b>	<b>ECB (EU)</b>	<b>Federal Reserve (US)</b>		<b>Bank of England</b>
	<b>Bank Rate</b>	<b>Refinancing Rate</b>	<b>Primary Credit</b>	<b>Target Funds</b>	<b>Repo Rate</b>
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
March 2022	4.00	0.00	0.50	0.25-0.50	0.75
April 2022	4.00	0.00	1.00	0.75-1.00	1.00
May 2022	4.00	0.00	1.75	1.50-1.75	1.25
June 2022	4.00	0.00	1.75	1.50-1.75	1.25
July 2022	4.00	0.50	2.50	2.25-2.50	1.25
August 2022	4.00	1.25	2.50	2.25-2.50	1.75
September 2022	4.00	1.50	3.25	3.00-3.25	2.25
October 2022	4.00	2.00	4.00	3.75-4.00	2.25
November 2022	4.00	2.00	4.00	3.75-4.00	3.00
December 2022	4.00	2.50	4.50	4.25-4.50	3.50
January 2023	4.00	2.50	4.50	4.25-4.50	4.00
February 2023	4.00	3.00	4.75	4.50-4.75	4.00
March 2023	4.00	3.50	5.00	4.75-5.00	4.25
April 2023	4.00	3.50	5.00	4.75-5.00	4.25

## Selected International Statistics

<b>C. Selected Currencies (Per United States Dollars)</b>						
Currency	Apr-22	Mar-23	Apr-23	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change	12-Mth% Change
Euro	0.9483	0.9226	0.9075	-1.63	-15.22	-4.30
Yen	129.70	132.86	136.30	2.59	3.95	5.09
Pound	0.7953	0.8106	0.7957	-1.83	-13.93	0.06
Canadian \$	1.2848	1.3516	1.3552	0.27	-0.01	5.48
Swiss Franc	0.9718	0.9153	0.8946	-2.26	-3.23	-7.94
Renminbi	6.6085	6.8736	6.9126	0.57	0.20	4.60

*Source: Bloomberg as of 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2023*

<b>D. Selected Commodity Prices (\$)</b>					
Commodity	Apr-22	Mar-23	Apr-23	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change
Gold / Ounce	1896.93	1969.28	1990.00	1.05216	9.09968
Silver / Ounce	22.7768	24.099	25.0545	3.96489	4.59204
Oil / Barrel	107.67	83.89	79.74	-4.94695	-3.13411

*Source: Bloomberg as of 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2023*

<b>E. Equity Market Valuations – April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (% change)</b>								
	BISX	DJIA	S&P 500	FTSE 100	CAC 40	DAX	Nikkei 225	SE
1 month	1.96	2.48	1.46	3.13	2.31	1.88	2.91	1.54
3 month	-7.38	0.04	2.28	1.27	5.78	5.25	5.60	2.08
YTD	-7.59	2.87	8.59	5.62	15.72	14.36	10.58	7.58
12-month	7.24	3.40	0.91	4.32	14.66	12.94	7.48	9.06

*Sources: Bloomberg and BISX*

<b>F: Short Term Deposit Rates in Selected Currencies (%)</b>			
	USD	GBP	EUR
<b>o/n</b>	4.8110	4.2100	2.9350
<b>1 Month</b>	5.2400	4.4700	3.1750
<b>3 Month</b>	5.0780	4.8150	3.4100
<b>6 Month</b>	5.4750	5.0700	3.5700
<b>9 Month</b>	5.4700	5.1750	3.7350
<b>1 year</b>	5.2600	5.2700	3.7500

*Source: Bloomberg as of 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2023*

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

	VALUE									CHANGE								
	Mar. 01	Mar. 08	Mar. 15	Mar. 22	Mar. 29	Apr. 05	Apr. 12	Apr. 19	Apr. 26	Mar. 01	Mar. 08	Mar. 15	Mar. 22	Mar. 29	Apr. 05	Apr. 12	Apr. 19	Apr. 26
<b>I. External Reserves</b>	<b>2,673.85</b>	<b>2,652.94</b>	<b>2,670.35</b>	<b>2,654.92</b>	<b>2,674.85</b>	<b>2,666.15</b>	<b>2,675.93</b>	<b>2,668.92</b>	<b>2,713.97</b>	<b>106.26</b>	<b>(20.91)</b>	<b>17.41</b>	<b>(15.43)</b>	<b>19.93</b>	<b>(8.70)</b>	<b>9.78</b>	<b>(7.01)</b>	<b>45.05</b>
<b>II. Net Domestic Assets (A + B + C + D)</b>	<b>73.86</b>	<b>105.47</b>	<b>94.35</b>	<b>99.28</b>	<b>77.27</b>	<b>38.14</b>	<b>64.67</b>	<b>67.42</b>	<b>61.47</b>	<b>(44.84)</b>	<b>31.61</b>	<b>(11.12)</b>	<b>4.92</b>	<b>(22.00)</b>	<b>(39.14)</b>	<b>26.54</b>	<b>2.75</b>	<b>(5.95)</b>
<b>A. Net Credit to Gov't (I + ii + iii -iv)</b>	<b>781.25</b>	<b>821.77</b>	<b>816.41</b>	<b>798.91</b>	<b>799.78</b>	<b>770.30</b>	<b>770.58</b>	<b>791.22</b>	<b>762.02</b>	<b>(23.51)</b>	<b>40.51</b>	<b>(5.36)</b>	<b>(17.50)</b>	<b>0.86</b>	<b>(29.48)</b>	<b>0.28</b>	<b>20.64</b>	<b>(29.20)</b>
i) Advances	582.98	582.98	582.98	580.48	580.48	564.76	564.76	564.76	564.76	-	-	-	(2.50)	-	(15.72)	-	-	-
ii) Registered Stock	311.32	311.38	312.24	305.53	305.68	291.06	291.13	292.74	292.88	12.28	0.06	0.86	(6.71)	0.14	(14.62)	0.07	1.61	0.15
iii) Treasury Bills	2.74	2.74	2.74	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.14	(1.97)	(0.00)	0.00	(1.48)	-	-	0.00	(0.00)	(0.12)
iv) Deposits	115.79	75.33	81.55	88.36	87.64	86.78	86.57	67.54	96.76	33.82	(40.46)	6.22	6.81	(0.72)	(0.86)	(0.21)	(19.03)	29.22
<b>B. Rest of Public sector (Net) (i+ii-iii)</b>	<b>(78.87)</b>	<b>(88.45)</b>	<b>(95.37)</b>	<b>(72.40)</b>	<b>(78.45)</b>	<b>(96.57)</b>	<b>(76.43)</b>	<b>(82.73)</b>	<b>(74.69)</b>	<b>(12.08)</b>	<b>(9.58)</b>	<b>(6.92)</b>	<b>22.97</b>	<b>(6.05)</b>	<b>(18.12)</b>	<b>20.14</b>	<b>(6.30)</b>	<b>8.03</b>
i) Loans	1.63	1.63	1.63	1.63	1.63	1.63	1.63	1.63	1.63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ii) Bonds/Securities	5.12	5.12	5.12	5.12	5.12	5.12	5.12	5.12	5.13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.01
iii) Deposits	85.62	95.20	102.12	79.15	85.20	103.32	83.18	89.47	81.45	12.08	9.58	6.92	(22.97)	6.05	18.12	(20.14)	6.30	(8.02)
<b>C. Loans to/Deposits with Banks</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>								
<b>D. Other Items (Net)*</b>	<b>(628.52)</b>	<b>(627.85)</b>	<b>(626.69)</b>	<b>(627.24)</b>	<b>(644.06)</b>	<b>(635.60)</b>	<b>(629.48)</b>	<b>(641.07)</b>	<b>(625.86)</b>	<b>(9.24)</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>1.16</b>	<b>(0.55)</b>	<b>(16.82)</b>	<b>8.46</b>	<b>6.11</b>	<b>(11.59)</b>	<b>15.21</b>
<b>III. Monetary Base</b>	<b>2,747.71</b>	<b>2,758.41</b>	<b>2,764.70</b>	<b>2,754.20</b>	<b>2,752.12</b>	<b>2,704.28</b>	<b>2,740.60</b>	<b>2,736.34</b>	<b>2,775.43</b>	<b>61.42</b>	<b>10.70</b>	<b>6.29</b>	<b>(10.50)</b>	<b>(2.08)</b>	<b>(47.84)</b>	<b>36.32</b>	<b>(4.27)</b>	<b>39.10</b>
A. Currency in Circulation	553.51	554.88	547.10	550.74	551.39	572.53	577.01	557.97	559.11	8.50	1.38	(7.78)	3.64	0.66	21.14	4.48	(19.04)	1.13
B. Bank Balances with CBOB	2,194.20	2,203.52	2,217.60	2,203.46	2,200.73	2,131.75	2,163.59	2,178.36	2,216.33	52.92	9.32	14.08	(14.14)	(2.73)	(68.97)	31.84	14.77	37.96

